

Mount Stuart News

August 2011

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FAREWELL



We were all saddened to hear of the passing of Alderman Darlene Haigh after a long battle with breast cancer. Darlene, who lived in Mount Stuart for many years with her late husband, Tony Haigh (for whom the roundabout above the school is named) was a tireless supporter of causes for Mount Stuart, including many years on the residents' traffic committee. Our sympathy to her daughters, Mandy, Joanne and Emma and their families. We will include a more comprehensive tribute in our next edition.

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

Human Rights Day is celebrated every year all over the world to mark the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (the Declaration) and in Tasmania we celebrate with Human Rights Week (HRW). The HRW Organising Committee invites you to mark these dates in your calendar: the **HRW Launch** will be on **Friday, 2nd December 2011**, at the Hobart Town Hall and the **HRW March** will be held in Hobart on **Friday, 9th December 2011**. In this week there will be various events to celebrate and to educate about the Declaration and human rights issues around the world. Please consider hosting an event! For more information, enquiries or support for your event please contact the Human Rights Organising Committee by emailing: HRWTasmania@gmail.com

WHERE TO FROM HERE?

The former kindergarten, which holds so many memories for Mount Stuart residents, still sits empty. Over the past three or more years, it could have been used by the community as a drop-in community centre for a number of suitable activities – but the Education Department did not listen. It was built by the community, for the community, next to the Mount Stuart Hall with such enthusiasm, generosity and community spirit in the 1960s. It could still be leased out by the Government, for a



trial as a community centre. We in Mount Stuart need our social inclusion heart just as much as, say Collinsvale or any other small community.

Despite letters to the *Mercury*, petitions, meetings, radio interviews, questions in Parliament and letters to the Minister for Education, our request has fallen on deaf ears.

There seems to be only one way left for Mount Stuart residents to receive any sort of fair hearing - that is for 200 or so of us to assemble outside 11 Raymond Terrace, or Parliament House, with our banners and loud hailers as the primary schools destined for closure have done.

What would you like us on the Committee to do? Give up or persevere?



Need help with any local government concerns or issues?

Contact

Alderman Eva Ruzicka

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GUERRILLA KNITTING

'Yarn bombing is improving the urban landscape one stitch at a time'

Who are the mystery knitters responsible for the colourful graffiti which has made its appearance around posts, poles or mailboxes in Mount Stuart? You might have spotted some flowers or ladybirds or simple cosies, but they all add to the colour of the neighbourhood.

'Yarn bombing,' described as 'an amusing form of artful anarchism' appears to have originated in Houston, Texas and has spread worldwide. Apparently it is still technically illegal but no one pursues it particularly vigorously. Is there a tree near you that needs a sweater?





MOUNT STUART SCOUT GROUP

Scouts meet regularly at Mount Stuart Memorial Hall and provide activities for 6-15 year olds. 2011 has been a packed year so far for all the crew at Scouts! Early this year we held a group triathlon which saw Joeys, Cubs and Scouts running, cycling and swimming at Bellerive Beach, followed by the Scout Guide Regatta at Snug which our group attended and enjoyed immensely, joining in all the water activities and fun. Each section has had a packed program, putting the 'OUT' in Scouting.

The Cubs held a camp at Woodfield Lodge; Scouts enjoyed a tramp camp at the Lea where they built and slept in cardboard shelters, a district camp, and a two-night pack walk at Freycinet. The Joeys recently joined the whole group at Woodfield Lodge for our Group Camp based on a medieval themed 'Quest'. Our most recent Winter Fun Night was another enjoyable opportunity for our families. Coming up soon is a Snow Day, a Cuboree, Jamboree over the Air / Internet at Meadowbank Dam and the Clark Trophy competition. The fun never stops!!

There have been some great achievements amongst our group this year. Sarah Howells has achieved her Scout Medallion award and Ronan Longden his Grey Wolf award. Leaders who have been recognised for years of good service include Chris Ballard and Jenni Pyefinch awarded a Certificate of Merit and Bronwen Pinkard and Jonathan Pyefinch awarded a Silver Arrowhead for consistent contributions to Scouting. Congratulations to these and others in the community who have achieved awards in Scouting this year. It represents a great deal of time and commitment, and a fabulous contribution to the kids in our community. We also congratulate Malcolm Grant OAM on his award in recognition of his service to Scouting and other community groups.

The group has also been successful in gaining grants to purchase kayaks and tents through the Tasmanian Community Fund and the Community Support Levy Small Grants - a big boost to our resources! We will be working to support our older Scouts to go to the 2013 Jamboree in Maryborough, QLD and there will be a few fundraising events going on. The next fundraiser is our Garage Sale. (See the ad on this page.) Lastly, the Group has around 54 youth members, and a good support team of 12 leaders and 6 committee members. We currently have space for 6 year old Joeys to join, so if you are interested, give Suze a call on 6278 7289 or email gl@mtstuartscouts.org There's a lot more to see

on our web site, so take a look at www.mtstuartscouts.org

Mt Stuart Scouts Garage Sale –

TOYS, CLOTHING, BOOKS, FURNITURE!
Saturday November 5th at the Mount Stuart Hall
WANTED: Your no longer needed toys, clothing, books, and furniture.

Call Suze on 6278 7289 or email gl@mtstuartscouts.org if you would like to donate. Storage is limited, so no collections until November.

COME ALONG AND BUY!!

TRAFFIC ISSUES

The Traffic Committee met recently with Alderman Eva Ruzicka and Mark Broadley of the Hobart City Council and as usual the major concern was the volume of traffic on the 'rat run'. The counters in Gordon Avenue last year revealed close to 6000 cars through the area each day, with close to 900 between 8 am and 9 am. The evening peak was slightly smaller than the morning.

The issue of pedestrian safety was raised. It is difficult to cross from east of Byard Street and DIER has approved a pedestrian refuge on Mount Stuart Road between Byard Street and Mellifont Street but it has to await funding from the HCC. Where do you think there should be crossings?

Traffic around the school at pick-up and drop-off times is still an issue. The number of bus stops around the school also needs to be rationalised. Do you favour retaining the stop outside the school or the stop at the roundabout? Should one be moved?

Another matter for feedback from the public is footpath illumination. Are there streets near you where lighting levels make walking at night unsafe? Contact the Progress Association at secretary@mountstuarttas.org.au

SWIFT PARROT DAY

The Leonard Wall - Valley Street Bushcare Group will be participating in the Threatened Species Week with a Swift Parrot Day on the 10th September 2011, in the Leonard Wall Reserve. There will be a Bush Dance with a band and 'caller' in the evening at 6pm until 9.30pm at the Mount Stuart Hall. BBQ and salads will be supplied and all are very welcome to attend.

This newsletter has been printed as a community service by the office of the Hon. Doug Parkinson MLC. Our thanks to Doug for organising this.

MARJORIE WALL - Valley Street Bushcare Group

Q: How did you first become involved in Bushcare?



In 2006 I saw an advertisement in the paper calling for people who were interested in the Leonard Wall Valley Street Reserve to contact HCC. I called Council and they were very pleased to hear from me because the reserve had been named after my late husband, Leonard. Leonard and I moved to Mount

Stuart in 1955. He became involved in the Mount Stuart Progress Association and held various committee positions including the role of President. Leonard was also very involved in the Tasmanian Field Naturalist Club and Birds Tasmania. He wrote a weekly column called 'Nature Notes' for the *Mercury* for about fifteen years.

Q: What are the best aspects of being involved in Bushcare?

I like the fact that the group, with Council's help, is establishing a wonderful patch of bush for wildlife habitat. The reserve is used widely, often by people walking to or from work and who prefer this route to Mellifont Street. I love the outdoors and I am interested in botany.

The Black Tuesday bushfire in 1967 burnt out quite a large area in the gully at the top of the reserve. I remember going up to the school (Mount Stuart Primary School) after lunch that day to check on the children (our two youngest children were there). I was greeted by a group of frightened children running down the hill, their faces smeared in black soot. Luckily no lives and only one house was lost in Mount Stuart on Black Tuesday.

Q: What else do you enjoy doing apart from Bushcare?

I am a life member of both the Field Naturalist Club and Birds Tasmania. I am also a Friend of the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens and I help staff the Friends' Cottage where visitors come to browse the displays and ask questions. I am part of a group who meet weekly at the Moonah Arts Centre to make baskets from bush and garden materials. I have played badminton in the past (our group has been meeting weekly at the local hall since 1967!) and while I no longer play well, I enjoy the social aspect. I am also involved with the St James Church and their mission work and am a life member of Anglicare Tasmania. I enjoy my garden; it is much better than housework!

Q: What is your least favourite weed? Gorse, I hate it, it is so prickly! I target the small plants; the big ones are too hard for me to remove. I can

actually remember my father (an Englishman) planting gorse in our garden when I was growing up!

Q: Were you born in Tasmania?

I grew up in Glenorchy, on our family's orchard beside Humphrey's Rivulet in Tolosa Street. We grew apples, plums and a few peaches and apricots. We didn't get to go to the beach much as kids as we were always helping pick the fruit. However there was one hole in Humphrey's Rivulet where we could cool off on hot days (if we had the energy to walk nearly a mile to it!) I met Leonard through the Field Naturalist Club and we married in 1951. We lived briefly in West Hobart and then moved here where we raised our family. We have been very happy here and I have wonderful neighbours.

This interview is reprinted from the Hobart City Council Bushcare publication 'Bandicoot Times'

**MOUNT STUART NEIGHBOURHOOD
WATCH CRIME REPORT**

25th May to the 31st July 2011

Mount Stuart Rd: Between 25th and 26th May a car was stolen from the street in front of the owner's home and was recovered burnt out in Tea Tree Cr. **(421243)**

Mortimer Ave: Between 2nd and 3rd June a car was stolen from in front of the owner's home. **(422088)**

Auvergne Ave: On 4th June two bicycles, a chainsaw and a whipper snipper were stolen from an open shed. **(422582)**

Mortimer Ave: Between 6th and 7th July a car was stolen from in front of the owner's home. It is yet to be recovered. **(424419)**

Montagu St: Between 17th and 18th July attempts were made to steal a motorcycle from the owner's residence. The ignition was damaged but the bike was found 20 metres away. **(425034)**

Mount Stuart Rd: On 21st July the side mirror of a car was damaged while it was parked in front of the owner's home. **(425483)**

Una St: Between 26th and 27th July a residence was entered through an insecure sliding door and two guitars were stolen. **(425605)**

Canning Ct: Between 28th and 29th July a car was stolen from the street and is yet to be recovered. **(425676)**

Police phone numbers: Non urgent 131444

Crime Stoppers 1 800 333 000

Police are anxious to hear from anyone who may have witnessed any of these incidents (please quote the incident number) or noticed any suspicious activity in the neighbourhood. You are also reminded not to leave valuables in your vehicles when they are unattended!

**Mount Stuart Presbyterian Church now meets
at the Primary School - 10am on Sundays
Check out the church via the website
mspc.org.au**

**We are a family friendly church with a crèche
and Sunday school.
Everyone is welcome.
We want to be a church for the local
community.**

A DIFFERENT AGE

Thanks to John Lennon for these memories of Mount Stuart.

We moved to 3 Dale Crescent Mount Stuart in 1955 (I was nine years old) and as far as I can remember our house was one of the first in the street. It was at the top of the hill near the roundabout below the reservoir – there were no houses on the opposite side of the road and Keith White Crescent was a dirt track that led around to the Giblin Street Quarry. The area between Dale Crescent and Keith White Crescent was a paddock with sheep and cows in it.

Shortly after we arrived, the Baileys (Harold Bailey was a well-known footballer with a Hobart Football Club) moved in next door. We were one of the first houses in the street to have a telephone and it was not unusual to be touring up and down the street, telling people someone was on the phone for them. A corner shop, the operators of which included the Hayleys and the Dabners, was built next door to us at that time.

The site of the Mount Stuart Primary School and the houses to the south and the east was a disused orchard and bushland with a creek (great for building dams) running down the gully. The orchard was a source of pears, blackberries, gooseberries and the odd apple and the blackberries provided an ideal site for building forts. Venn Court, Keith White Crescent, Gillon Crescent and Clift Street did not exist. The grassy slope beneath the school site was ideal for sled races and the trees were made for climbing. Most Saturdays or Sundays, if we weren't in the orchard building forts etc, we would go bush in the Knocklofty ranges beyond the reservoir to build log forts and dams – equipped with a haversack, containing a box of matches, a frypan, sausages and bread, a scout knife and a small axe – we'd be away from early morning to right on dusk. Another favourite activity was billy cart racing – we'd race from the reservoir down to the circle, down Darling Parade, Gordon Avenue, Newlands Avenue, Mellifont street – anywhere there was a hill.

In 1955 the Mount Stuart bus came up Mount Stuart Road and turned right into Byard Street –

some years later it continued past Byard Street up the hill to Hurst Road where it turned right and then right again into Raymont Terrace – I don't think it was until the late 50s or early 60s that the bus came all the way to the circle at Dale Crescent.

In the 50s and 60s I attended school at St Virgil's College, Barrack Street. To get to the school, I would either walk down to Byard Street, get off in Elizabeth Street and walk up either Patrick or Brisbane Street to the school – the other option was to catch the trolley bus that terminated at the bottom of Mellifont Street in West Hobart. In the afternoon the Mount Stuart bus would travel via Argyle Street to Federal Street, Elphinstone Road and Mount Stuart Road, so the option was to walk to Argyle Street and get off initially at Byard Street then later Hurst Road and finally in the 60s (I think) Dale Crescent! This was usually the preferred route to the trolley bus which dropped me off at the bottom of Mellifont Street, leaving an uphill climb to home.

During the 50s on Saturday mornings there were activities in the room underneath the Mount Stuart Hall on the corner of Raymont Terrace and Byard Street – these activities included movies, painting and drawing competitions – there was also a corner shop opposite the hall in Raymont Terrace.

The suburb and lifestyles have certainly changed!

BUSHCARE

Leonard Wall-Valley Street
Reserve Bushcare volunteers



meet on the 4th Sunday of the month, 2pm - 4pm with afternoon coffee/tea/biscuit/cake provided for all willing volunteers! New volunteers are always most welcome. At the October 23rd working bee there will be a plant 'give-away.' Meet at the entrance to the reserve at the end of Byard Street. Gloves and tools are supplied but you need to have strong boots, warm waterproof clothing, a hat and a drink. For more information on this group, contact Vicki Martin on 6228 3228.



STOP PRESS

Interesting to see the replanted roses in bloom already at the Tony Haigh roundabout. By spring they should be quite a sight! It is disappointing that the hoons have not been deterred from there!

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