

Mount Stuart News

DECEMBER 2007

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GREETINGS

Merry
Christmas

We extend a special welcome to all new residents of Hobart's premier suburb and hope you enjoy your time in Mount Stuart.

We wish all our readers, wherever you are, a safe and enjoyable time over the Christmas-New Year holiday period.

KATH VENN

All residents of Mount Stuart extend their best wishes to long-time resident, Mrs Kath Venn OAM, as she recovers from serious surgery.

For those new to Mount Stuart, Kath is a past president and life member of the Progress Association. She has been active in politics and is still involved in many other community organisations. Venn House at Ogilvie High School is named after her, as is Venn Court.

WEB ADDRESS

If you have tried to connect to the Mount Stuart website lately and have discovered some strange links happening, do not worry. There is now a new address which works perfectly. Why not try it?

<http://mtstuart.homelinux.net>

COMMUNITY CARE

Another Mount Stuart resident has been acknowledged for his community service. Bob Miller retired early from work to care for his incapacitated wife and soon afterwards joined the board of Community Based Support (CBS). After spending seven years as president, he is currently vice-president.

He has worked particularly to get respite care facilities for carers of sufferers of dementia and other incapacitating disabilities. Well done, Bob. Keep up the good work.

The latest CBS project has been Respite House, a four-bedroom house in Sandy Bay which complements its existing house in New Town and which can provide 24 hour support for carers.

CBS provides in-house care for frail older people and people with disabilities, respite services to their carers and help with home modifications.

PARKS UPDATE

Mount Stuart Park in Benjafield Terrace is proving a very popular playground these days. Apparently it is a great place to fly a kite! Why not pack up a barbecue and head there with the kids over the holidays?



If you have looked up at the Leonard Wall Valley St Reserve from Mellifont St, you will have noticed how beautifully rural it looks at the moment with its straw-coloured hill and the fruit trees dotted around the place. After recent concerted efforts, the HCC is now close to finishing the Byard Street entrance. Julie Stoneman's design incorporating many native plants in nine separate beds is impressive. Although it is not yet finished, many people are taking the opportunity to stroll through the park, past the sheep, through the old orchard and to admire the River Derwent as the backdrop. It's well worth a visit!

If you feel like a stroll on the mountain, the Fiona Allan Walkway is also worth checking out. It is well-maintained and relatively easy.

TENNIS COACHING FOR ALL AGES

PAUL HART

Ph 6228 5812



Classes held at St Theresa's Tennis Club
Amy St Moonah

. DOUG PARKINSON MLC

Leader of the Government

Labour Member for Wellington

Member of State Cabinet



Wishes fellow Mt Stuart Residents A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

For assistance phone: 6233 3069

Email: doug.parkinson@parliament.tas.gov.au

Web: www.dougparkinson.net

Your Local Member
in the Parliament of Tasmania



SECURITY LIGHTING AND YOU

Security lighting is intended primarily as a deterrent to those who should not be on your property. However, it also provides a welcome to those you are expecting to call.



Many homes have an outside light that is switched on at the front or back door. To incorporating a motion sensor is relatively easy.

These security lights can be switched on manually, or they will turn on automatically when a movement is detected within the sensor's range. Security lighting is available at most hardware stores and can simply be plugged into the existing outside light socket. The light unit is usually secured with two screws.

Some security light units have two spotlight globes which can be positioned to illuminate a large area.

AND ANOTHER THING...

Are you elderly? Can't afford to install deadlocks? Want to know more about them?

Then call Mount Stuart's NHW Co-ordinator, Malcolm Grant, on 6234 6672.

MORE SECURITY MATTERS

Everything turned off when you leave your house to go away? Maybe not. If you have a wireless broadband computer network and it is not secure, you can be exposed to leeching – theft of your bandwidth. Quite often this will go unnoticed unless there is a big variation on your monthly internet service provider account.

Be aware that leeching can also happen when you are at home.



An unsecured wireless network has the potential to leave personal information, such as passwords, log-in details and bank account and credit card numbers, open to illegal use in identity theft or credit fraud. It could also be exploited to send spam or to infect the computer with viruses.

The two main methods of protecting a network are encryption and authentication. Installing and maintaining a firewall, installing and regularly running anti-virus and anti-spam filtering systems can all help protect your network.

COMMUNITY BBQ

For several years Neighbourhood Watch has been sponsoring a beginning-of-the-year BYO BBQ at Mount Stuart Park.

It's a chance for community members to meet one another informally and to talk about local issues and concerns, e.g. developments on Knocklofty, the new Leonard Wall Reserve, community safety issues and the like.

In 2008, the BBQ get-together will be at 6.00 for 6.30 pm on Friday, 1st February ... and bring the family, of course!

SCHOOL NEWS

Mount Stuart Primary School is coming to the end of another busy and satisfying year. The beginning of October saw the launch of the school's 50th anniversary history book at a special assembly. The book is available through the school office for \$20.00 (\$26.50 if you want it posted).



The new school canteen, LUNCHBOX, which has been awarded Silver Accreditation status, was officially opened in November while the rest of the building program is progressing well. Next year will see the Kindergarten relocate from Raymont Terrace to the site in Gillon Crescent.

PRIVATE SALTWATER POOL

32°

www.lansdownepool.com

Opp. Hill Street Grocer
Ph 6234 1503

Enrol for Learn to Swim



TRAFFIC MATTERS

The volume of traffic through Mount Stuart continues to be a problem as do some parking issues. The dangerous speeding in Montagu Street between Doyle Avenue and Augusta Road should be abated with the installation of speed humps.



Parking continues to be an issue around the school. Road safety is a big concern because of the narrow streets and the number of children around. Be vigilant.

PROPOSED LINK ROAD

The Progress Association has written to the HCC expressing its concern at the proposal to develop a link road between Springfield Avenue and Creek Road, diverting traffic from Glenorchy off the Brooker Avenue and into Lenah Valley Road, in particular from a new subdivision to be built in Springfield Ave. The link road may divert more traffic into Mount Stuart streets, which were not designed to carry their current traffic volume.

Have you recently tried to turn right into Mellifont Street from Summerhill Rd around 8am or 5pm?

BUILDING APPROVAL

The recent Building Approval by the HCC for the construction of 20 houses on Mount Stuart at Ross Place, off Keith White Crescent, has attracted some interest among residents. The development will extend Ross Place along an existing track towards the Giblin Street quarry. It will adjoin the Knocklofty Reserve, which is beginning to recover its natural vegetation for the first time for many years.



Unusually for Mount Stuart, the 20 houses are designed in two blocks, each of ten conjoined residences. They are three storey houses, with either two, three or four bedrooms.

The plans for the development were submitted to the HCC by a local architectural practice, but it is believed that the financial backing, of several million dollars, is from interstate or overseas.

The Ross Place and Keith White Crescent area was at one time pasture land associated with a farm near the end of Giblin Street. By the time of the 1967 bushfire, the area was already degraded by a vigorous growth of gorse. This burned in the 1967 bushfire, when a wall of flame, fanned by a northerly gale, roared up the

hill from Giblin Street, taking one house, the home of the Gobbart family, and damaging several others.

PLANNING AID

Need to find out more about planning approvals? The Planning Institute of Australia offers professional planning advice for groups and individuals with limited means.

How can it help? Planning Aid can assist people to participate in Tasmania's planning and development approval scheme by:

- assisting in understanding the planning and development approval process;
- helping to comment on development proposals and applications;
- advising on preparing and lodging a planning application; and
- explaining how to prepare for and appear at formal hearings



The service is free to groups and individuals who cannot afford to engage a planning consultant but clients may be asked to cover some costs – e.g. purchasing a planning scheme or maps. People can make a donation to the service if they wish.

Planning Aid is accessed through the Hobart Community Legal Service (phone 6223 2500) or visit the Planning Institute of Australia (Tasmania Division) website <http://www.planning.org.au/tas>



FREE LEGAL ADVICE

Hobart Community Legal Service Inc (phone 6223 2500, fax 6223 2510) offers free legal advice at 6.00pm on Monday and Wednesday evenings at 166 Macquarie St. The service can advise on a vast range of legal matters: wills, tenancy, discrimination, compensation, taxation, immigration etc. No appointment is necessary; no advice is given over the phone.

A Peaceful Christmas and Holiday season to All of You!



**Alderman Eva Ruzicka
Deputy Lord Mayor**



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Authorised by E. Ruzicka 699 Huon Rd. Fern Tree

SOUTHERN TASMANIAN COUNCILS AUTHORITY

The Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority (STCA), created under the Local Government Act by twelve municipalities in Southern Tasmania, has come into existence with little or no publicity. The Authority, which has an interesting website at <http://stca.tas.gov.au>, (from where most of this article has been obtained) is under the control of a Board consisting of aldermen and councillors from the twelve municipalities.

The STCA seems to offer the possibility of achieving many of the advantages of an amalgamation of councils without some of the disadvantages. For Hobart residents, one of the principal disadvantages of amalgamation is claimed to be a strong likelihood of a substantial increase in rates. Using the STCA to achieve savings through co-ordination of council activities, rather than through council amalgamation, may therefore be of particular advantage.

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Some of the current agenda items are:

- Continuing to lobby for the Brighton bypass, Bridgewater Bridge re-development and extension of the Auslink National Land Transport Network to include the Brooker Highway to the City and the Tasman Highway to the airport.
- Ongoing implementation of the federally funded Southern Tasmanian Weed Strategy.
- Continuing to seek appropriate outcomes to the State Government's Water and Sewerage review.
- Continuing to develop and implement the Southern Region Economic Development strategy.

One issue of interest is the question of water meters. Should they be installed in all houses?

Readers may already be aware that a State Government Task Force, led by State Treasury, has floated the idea of creating a State Water and Sewerage Authority set up along the lines of the old HEC, which would be a Government Business Entity paying a dividend to State Treasury based on a financial return on the assets – inevitably leading to a significant rise in costs to householders – two sets of rates (council rates and water rates).

The STCA has made a 37 page submission to the Task Force highlighting, among the many comments, problems in the viability and sustainability of the local government sector if it loses water and sewerage responsibilities, and the lack of a business case to support spending millions of dollars on metering and the associated reading and maintenance in many of the areas not presently metered.

MOUNT STUART NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CRIME REPORT 5/10/07 – 15/11/07

5th October: A parked vehicle at Mount Stuart lookout was entered by breaking a quarter vent window. Nothing was stolen. (317814)

8th October: Police apprehended a male and female stealing petrol and other items from vehicles in the Newtown/ Mount Stuart and Lenah Valley areas. All residents are reminded not to leave valuables inside their vehicles.

9th October: A vehicle parked in Gordon Avenue was entered and a large quantity of assorted property stolen. Two offenders were charged in relation to this matter. (318089)

19th October: - Extensive damage to two vehicles parked in Toorak Ave. (319017)

23-24th October: Entry was gained to a private residence through an unlocked bedroom window. All rooms were searched and electrical items stolen. (319300)

23rd October: Entry was forced to the rear of premises in Canning Ct. Electrical items and cash were stolen. (319283)

23rd October: A window was smashed downstairs in a house in Canning Ct and some property was stolen. (319302)

There have also been a number of reports of vehicles in the Mount Stuart area having their tyres punctured.

Anyone with information about any of the above incidents is asked to call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000. Please quote reference no.



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