

Mount Stuart News

December 2008

Postal Address: PO Box 116, North Hobart 7002

E-mail: malingrant@bigpond.com

Editors: Marilyn Pinkard Ph 6228 5743
Malcolm Grant Ph 6234 6672

Web: www.mountstuarttas.org.au

David Metcalfe Ph 6228 3463
Lynden Howells Ph 6234 1024

Merry
Christmas

GREETINGS

We extend a special welcome to all new residents of Hobart's premier suburb and hope you enjoy your time in Mount Stuart. To all our readers, wherever you are, we wish you a safe and enjoyable time over the Christmas-New Year holiday period.

FAREWELL

Mount Stuart bids farewell to Hon. Kath Venn OAM, who is moving to Glenorchy. Kath is a long time resident of the area, past member of the Legislative Council, stalwart of the Labour Party and past president of the Progress Association (to cover just part of her vast community involvement). We all wish her well in this move.

Kath's community contribution has been recognised by having Venn Court and one of the houses of Ogilvie High School named in her honour.

GOOD NEWS

Those of you who remember the terrible fire on New Year's Day 2006, which resulted in the loss of the Geason family's home, will be pleased to know that re-building of their home has finally started.



MOUNT STUART HALL

You will know that the local hall is a memorial hall, but whom is it commemorating? Like many halls after the Second World War, it was designated as a memorial for all servicemen and women and in the hall there is a plaque in memory of Pilot Officer Stephensen.

Pilot Officer Cyril Edward (Ted) Stephensen was killed when his plane was shot down on May 4th 1944, near St Messmin in France. Unfortunately the plane was too close to the ground and the parachutes were unable to open.

The connection with the hall is through Ted's sister, Rosaline Stephensen, an accountant, who built a home in Benjafield Terrace and was an early secretary of the Progress Association.

COMMUNITY BBQ - A DATE TO NOTE

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

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



In 2009 the BBQ get-together will be at 6.00 for 6.30 pm on Friday, 30th January And bring the family, of course.

A happy Christmas to everyone

Alderman Eva Ruzicka

Deputy Lord Mayor



Phone: 6239 1317 or 0407 391 317

Fax: 6239 1738

E-mail: eva@ruzicka.id.au

Authorised by E. Ruzicka

699 Huon Rd Fern Tree

WELL DONE

Eddie Ockenden has just been named 2008

WorldHockey young player of the year at the International Hockey Federation's dinner in Los Angeles. Well done Eddie!

Congratulations to Sam Poynter (son of Jim and Robbie), who has just received the gold award, the highest level of the Duke of Edinburgh's Awards.

Sam's award was recently presented at Government House. A great effort!



ERRANDS RUN

Put your feet up!

Phone 6231 2125

0420 701 574

and find out how!!

Getting the person/ business/quote for you
and so much more!

KNOCKLOFTY - ON OUR DOORSTEP

Knocklofty has always played a significant role in Hobart life. In past centuries, Tasmanian Aboriginals of the Mouheneer people would have used the bushland and hill slopes of today's Knocklofty reserve, but activities on the mountain since European settlement have removed any trace of their presence there. Early European Hobart Town settlers cut their firewood from "Woodman's Hill", grazed cattle on rough bush runs and cut Triassic sandstone from quarries on the lower slopes.

The area still contains foundations of sandstone huts and the remains of old farm dams, quarries and borrow pits (areas from which rock and soil, etc were taken for use in other locations). The first landowner on the hill was a Scot, Dr James Ross, a teacher and editor who published early newspapers for the colony.

Early colonial artists, notably Knut Bull and John Glover appreciated Knocklofty's beauty and its views of Hobart. Glover's painting of the view

down Salvator Rosa Glen may be seen in the TMAG - with a little imagination the same view can be observed today from the main fire trail west of the track down to Forest Road.

A network of walking tracks and fire trails gives access to Knocklofty's bushland for a range of users - bushwalkers, birdwatchers, nature photographers, dog walkers, mountain bike riders and picnickers all enjoy the reserve. The area is zoned according to appropriate use, which can be found on the HCC website:
<http://www.hobartcity.com.au>

Several points in West Hobart and Mount Stuart provide access to the reserve. "The Green" with its Frog Dam, accessible from Forest Road, Poets Road, Kirby Court in West Hobart and Fielding Drive in Mount Stuart, is just one popular destination for walks.



There are a number of different activities being run around the area. Check the website to find out just what is available.



SCHOOL NEWS

2008 has once again been a busy and rewarding year for the Primary School. Despite all the difficulties posed by the extensive building programme, the students and staff are all happy with the outcome.

The new classrooms were officially opened on October 31st by Duncan Kerr representing the federal government and Lisa Singh representing the state. The kindergarten classes have settled into their new rooms, so that the whole school is now on the one site. The improved playing fields are also proving very popular - a real bonus.

At a recent meeting the School Association decided that the school's emblem, the thistle, does not seem appropriate and is seeking suggestions for a more relevant emblem. If you have any ideas, please contact the school.



Date: Friday Jan 2nd, Tuesday January 6th

Friday Jan 16th, 9.30 - 11 am.

Age: Suits ages 6 to 14.

Bring: Warm clothes, sunhat, sunscreen, drink and a snack.

RAVAGING REPTILES

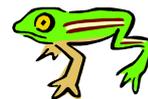
Date: To be announced. Visit the Bushcare website

bushcare@hobartcity.com.au or ring

Hobart City Council for more details.

Age: All ages activity.

Bring: Warm clothes and your very best spotting eyes.



DOUG PARKINSON MLC

Leader of the Government
Labour Member for Hobart
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**



RAINBOW LORIKEETS

Rainbow lorikeets are brightly coloured birds, which are widespread on the eastern and northern areas of the mainland (particularly at Currumbin on the Gold Coast!) but not that common in Tasmania.

Rainbow lorikeets seem to be on the increase in Tasmania, with flocks of 20 to 30 sighted in several areas. Unfortunately they take the food (flowering gum nectar) of our Tasmanian green rosellas (Tasmania's largest parrot) and our swift parrots (smaller, with bright green plumage), so they are helping drive the swift parrots to extinction.



There are fewer than 500 breeding pairs of swift parrots left in the world (fewer than there are polar bears and giant pandas).

Their vulnerability is mostly due to the shrinking of their habitat because of native forest clearing. They only breed in

Tasmania, migrating here from the south east mainland for spring and summer and need older trees for nesting and nectar. As well as this, their main food is blue gum nectar. Consequently, imported species such as the rainbow lorikeets and bumble bees make life difficult because they compete for this nectar.

Mount Stuart residents may wish to help our native parrots by reporting all sightings of rainbow lorikeets to Birds Tasmania, so that they can more accurately estimate how big the problem is becoming.

For more information:

<http://www.parks.tas.gov.au/index.aspx?base=1004>

TRAFFIC MATTERS



At the latest meeting of the Mount Stuart Traffic Committee, it was decided to implement a 10 minute parking limit in Gillon Crescent outside the school during school pickup and drop-off times. This should improve traffic flow and ease parking congestion. Discussions are being held with Metro to relocate bus stops in the area - there are three, all very close to the school.

CHPA

The Council of Hobart Progress Associations has several controversial issues to consider at the moment. At the most recent meeting, which was open to the public, the project team for the new Royal Hobart Hospital presented their case.

Other significant issues are the Sustainable Transport Strategy, council amalgamations and the implications of water and sewerage reform for Hobart ratepayers. These reforms have passed Parliament but have not yet been gazetted.

OPERATION DEADLATCH

Courtesy of Assa-Abloy (Lockwood) Security Products, Neighbourhood Watch still has access to a supply of deadlocks for elderly Tasmanians. They can also be installed free of charge. If you think you might qualify, then call Mount Stuart's Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, Malcolm Grant, on 6234 6672.



HEALTHY KIDS

The Dietitians Association of Australia has just released an informative booklet, *Easy Family Eating For Healthy Kids*, which provides lots of easy tips on healthy eating for kids. There are ideas for quick nutritious breakfasts and "cool" packed lunches, as well as recipes the kids can try (under supervision).

Copies of the booklet are available from the Dietitians Association of Australia at nationaloffice@daa.asn.au or 02 6163 5200.



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.

SICK OF SENDING FLOWERS THAT WILT AND DIE!!

At the heart of our business are the passion for customer service and the making of beautiful hampers that make the senders and their recipients surprised and delighted.

Teddy Bear and Chocolate Hampers.

www.yumeebearhampers.com.au
PH: 04394 74370

Using handmade and recycled products



LIVING WITH SNAKES

Did you know that all Tasmanian reptiles are protected by law? Snakes can be found in the most unusual places in summer when water is in short supply because they are attracted to gardens in search of water, shelter and food (i.e. lizards, frogs, goldfish and mice/rats.)

To minimise their presence in your garden:

- Keep your lawns mowed
- Minimise rubbish and garden waste
- Stack wood away from the house
- Do not have standing water in bowls or ponds close to the house
- Your pet cat may bring a snake indoors to show it off to you - keep cat flaps closed
- Stay calm
- Do not approach the snake and keep children and pets safely away from the area
- Keep the snake under constant observation, if safe to do so, and ring for help.

First Aid for Reptiles

- Snakes and blue-tongues frequently get caught up in strawberry netting. Do not attempt to free them. If it is a hot day, throw a towel over them, keep them shaded, cool and moist (light spray with water) and call an expert snake handler.
- Blue-tongues may be injured by family pets or lawnmowers etc. Carefully scoop the animal into a secure cardboard box with a towel in the bottom to prevent sliding, keep it in a cool, dark place and call wildlife rescue.
- Injured snakes should only be handled by experts. Keep the snake under surveillance and ring for help.

For advice or help with relocating a snake, contact:



Southern Tasmanian Reptile Club on
0408 322 663;

DPIW Wildlife Management Branch on
1300 368 550 or

RSPCA on 1300 139 947

Myths & Legends – True or False?

- A snake's forked tongue is poisonous. **False**
- Snakes are attracted by milk. **False**
- Snakes are slimy. **False**
- Snakes go after chicken eggs. **False** (*They are after mice & rats*)
- Snakes will chase or attack you. **False**
- Blue-tongue lizards keep snakes away. **False**
- The only good snake is a dead snake. **FALSE**

MOUNT STUART NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CRIME REPORT

01/10/2008 – 19/11/2008

Mount Stuart Road: about 10/10/2008, the rear numberplate of a silver Citroen hatch parked outside was stolen. **(348112)**

Paraclete Avenue: between 30/09/08 and 01/10/2008 thieves entered a property and stole a Husqvarna brand chainsaw from a Toyota utility. **(347285)**



Toorak Avenue: about 26/10/2008, a Toyota Camry was stolen from outside a home. The vehicle was later recovered, damaged, in New Town. Items not belonging to the owner were taken by police for forensic examination. **(349378)**

About 30/10/2008 the number plate of a green Audi sedan was stolen. **(349594)**

Hooper Crescent: two letterboxes have been destroyed.

Venn Court: between 01/07/08 and 15/11/2008 a toolbox containing expensive orthodontic equipment was stolen from a trailer at a home. **(351040)**

Crime Stoppers 1 800 333 000 Police 131 444

Mount Stuart News is composed, printed and published on a voluntary basis as a community service. Whilst every effort is made to ensure that information contained herein is accurate, no warranty as to such accuracy can be given and any reader who relies on such information for any purpose whatsoever does so at his or her own risk absolutely.

Happy New Year