

Mount Stuart News

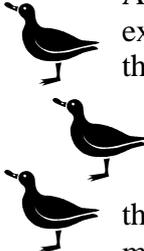
July 2006

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS



At these meetings Dr Heidi Auman gave an excellent talk and Powerpoint presentation on the birdlife of Midway Islands and the threat that the hundreds of albatrosses feeding there face because of picking up all sorts of flotsam, especially plastics. A special thankyou to Heidi – it's a pity there weren't more people there to appreciate it.

Malcolm Grant was re-elected President of the **Progress Association**. Other committee members are: Heather Henderson, David Metcalfe, Linley Grant, Eric Pinkard, Lyn Cave, Lois Allison, Jeff Ransley, Lynden Howells, Marilyn Pinkard and Richard Chuter.

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MT STUART PRIMARY SCHOOL CELEBRATES 50 YEARS



The school is planning to focus its 50th anniversary celebrations in the last week of term II from the 4th to the 8th of September. The foundation stone was laid on 14th September 1956, so the actual anniversary falls in the school holidays. Classes did not commence, however, until the first term of 1957 because of building delays.

A range of activities, including open days, school visits and exhibitions of historical materials is currently being planned.

As the arrangements for the celebrations are still to be finalised, it is hoped to have an article in the *Mercury* closer to the date, as

well as information in the newspaper's reunion column and on the School website.

On a different note, we are pleased to acknowledge that the Government has allocated funds in the recent Budget for building additional classrooms at the school.

GOVERNMENT GRANT

The Tasmanian Government has made a donation of \$1,000 towards the cost of printing the Mount Stuart News for the next 12 months.



We thank the Government for its support, with special thanks to Doug Parkinson MLC for organising the donation.

Congratulations to Doug on his re-election and promotion to Leader of the Government in the Upper House.

MOUNT STUART BUS SERVICES

At the recent AGM, Mr Peter Kruup from Metro outlined the proposed extended bus services to West Hobart, Mount Stuart and Lenah Valley.



During the week the bus would come through West Hobart via Summerhill Rd, to Mount Stuart Rd, to Salier Cr, Doyle Ave and on to Augusta Rd and Lenah Valley.

For evenings and weekends the service would end in Mount Stuart in Salier Cres. The route in Mount Stuart is limited by the topography of the area and the fact that all services must be wheelchair accessible, necessitating the use of the larger buses. Journeys will take longer but be more frequent; between half-hourly and two-hourly.

If you have any comments on the proposed routes, contact Metro on **6233 4240** or email Linley Grant at malingrant@bigpond.com.

COMMUNITY ORCHARD



The Hobart City Council is currently offering the West Hobart/ Mount Stuart community the opportunity to put forward a proposal to develop the Mellifont Street end of Valley Reserve as a community orchard. This is envisaged as a small-scale orchard featuring heritage apple and pear varieties, not only beautifying the site, but perhaps also providing educational opportunities for local primary school children. Besides that, there is the free organic fruit, if the possums do not get in first!



The Valley Street Bushcare group is currently setting up a register of names and addresses of people willing to be involved in establishing and maintaining the orchard. If you would like to add your name to the register, please phone Simon Clarkson on **6234 5176** (home) or **0428 289 247** (mobile).

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

As a resident of the suburb for over a decade, I am writing to ask that you state your purpose the next time you print the news.

Why is it that you have details of Mount Stuart Primary School awards listed in your newsletter when there are many other high achievers living in Mount Stuart but attending other schools, who don't receive any publicity?

Are you listing Mount Stuart Primary because it is in this suburb? Is this newsletter highlighting the achievements of the residents of Mount Stuart? If so, there are many children attending Mount Stuart Primary who do not live in Mount Stuart. (e.g. William Perry and his mother have always lived in West Hobart.)

Regarding the list of donors to the Geasons, we donated to the Geasons but were never asked to give our name. It is very difficult to list everyone so you do a disservice publishing an incomplete list.

I realise that you are providing a voluntary service and have a disclaimer on your newsletter, but would ask that you "think outside the square" and expand your coverage.

The letter was unsigned, but we felt it needed a response:

The Mount Stuart News is intended as a means of informing residents about what is happening in their suburb. If we do not publish news and achievements of Mount Stuart residents, it is usually because we do not know about them. We welcome contributions and endeavour to publish them.

Perhaps the writer would care to become a correspondent or join the editorial committee.

WATCH THIS SPACE

The Hobart City Council is currently drawing up a draft Landscape Management Plan for the Providence Valley Reserve. When the draft is completed, it will be available to the public for comment. There will be more information in this newsletter as it becomes available.

Recently the pathway from Clift St to Cato Avenue through the reserve was upgraded and re-routed above the water course. If you have not already taken in this sheltered valley walk, this may be a great opportunity to do so. It is frequently used by people going to and from the primary school.

The Council has called for tenders for the building of the toilets at Mt Stuart Park.

Need help with any local government concerns or issues?

Contact

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

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Mount Stuart Newsletter aims, among other things, to promote a sense of community at Mount Stuart and to stimulate involvement in it. So, how are we doing in neighbourhood terms?

Community involvement is obviously harder to develop in a suburb which has neither pub, shop nor church. In fact the only common meeting ground 'on the hill', and then only for some residents, is the Primary School.

But unlike some other suburbs in Hobart, including those on either side of it, Mount Stuart does, however, have its own community hall. While regularly used by scouts, badminton players and dancers, it is grossly under-utilised by the John and Jane Citizens of the local community.

In March the Progress & Community Associations held their 2006 Annual General Meetings. Other than the present incumbents, how many nominated for the various office-bearer positions? None. The guest speaker, an ornithologist of international repute, was outstanding. How many of the 2000 residents of Mount Stuart, other than members of the Executives of the Associations took the trouble to turn up? Three!!

During the past year Mount Stuart's Neighbourhood Watch – one of the few community organisations in the suburb – has experimented with morning meetings followed by a cup of tea. Guest speakers have included the director of a nursing home, a crew member of the Royal Yacht Britannia, and the Director of Tasmania's counter terrorism unit – a fairly catholic mix. Including members of the Watch and their friends, the attendance at any of these meetings has never exceeded 20.

Granted, there has never been an age when everyone was a 'joiner', but perhaps in 21st Century Australia something has been lost of the spirit of citizenship?

If architect, philosopher & environmentalist, Paulo Solari, is right when he speaks of 'the dimly alive pseudo-organism called suburbia', then some of the following questions arise : -- how do we tackle the inherent selfishness of modern city living?

- how do we promote a sense of community in suburbia today?
- how do we stimulate urban creativity?
- how do we protect the public rather than corporate interests?
- how do we provide spaces and occasions where people can interact?

Your comments on these and other issues would be welcome. They could be the beginning of some involved citizenship.

Malcolm Grant

HALL USAGE

One of the neighbourhood's valuable facilities is the local community hall which was built in the 1950s as a war memorial. It is used by a wide variety of groups, from scouts to ballroom dancing groups, but it could be used more, so if you are organising a function and need a venue, check it out with the Booking Officer, Lois Allison. (Phone 6228 5133)

Some of the groups who use it are listed here, so if there is something that interests you, contact details are provided.

SOCIAL DANCING with Sherry Lendrum

Ph 6227 8423

Tuesday daytime 10.30 – 12.00

Adult Educ. Thurs & Fri 7.30 – 9.30

Evening & weekend classes

Caters for singles, couples, groups and private classes for Waltz, Quickstep, Latin Rumba, Cha-Cha & Jive etc.



STREET HIGHLAND DANCING

Every Saturday 10.30 – 1.30

Enq: Kelly Street – Ph 6229 7579

I-CHAUN Classes with Mark

Ph 0427 230 157

For Health & Self-defence

“Age no problem”

Daytime classes Wed 11.00 – 12.30



BADMINTON – Ladies

Tuesday mornings

Enq: Betty Hinton – Ph 6228 1000



MOUNT STUART SCOUT GROUP

School Terms

- **SCOUTS** (age 10-14y) Monday 7 – 9pm
Contact: Peter Richardson – 6228 3052
- **CUBS** (age 8-10y) Thursday 7 – 8.30pm
Contact: Jonathon Pyefinch – 6228 6184
- **JOEYS** (age 6-7y) Wednesday 5-6pm
Contact: Jenny Pyefinch – 6228 6184



FOOTPATHS

On our rambles, we have noticed that footpaths are becoming difficult to negotiate due to encroaching trees and shrubbery. Please check your boundaries and trim shrubs where necessary. Don't forget your doggie dropping bags either!



DOUG PARKINSON MLC

B Ec (Hons); LL.B

Your Local Member in the Legislative Council

*Always available to assist fellow
Mount Stuart Residents*

Telephone: 6233 3069

Website: www.dougparkinson.net

Email:

doug.parkinson@parliament.tas.gov.au

STREET NAMES



Does anyone know how Una Street and Mellifont Street got their names?

A correspondent to the Mount Stuart News recently enquired whether we knew the origin of the name 'Una Street'. We didn't know. We tried the Council without success and next spoke to nomenclature expert Wayne Smith on his ABC talkback programme.

Several listeners claimed that the street is named after Una Osborne, the sister of Sir Basil Osborne, one time Lord Mayor of Hobart. Una Osborne was a noted pianist and piano teacher, and the family had lived close by in Elphinstone Road, then in Audley Street. Our recollections are that the Council completely rebuilt the roads, kerbs, gutters and footpaths in Una Street at about the time when Sir Basil was Lord Mayor.

Wayne Smith said there must be some doubt, because Una Street is mentioned in the 1903 Valuation Register.

Mellifont Street was named in the early 1800s, and appears on the earliest maps. On these maps it terminated at Providence Creek, (now buried in a pipe near the bottom of the Mellifont Street hill).

Searches on the computer and in the State Library reference books suggest that today, the name 'Mellifont' is mainly associated with the remains of the Abbey of Mellifont, founded by St Malachy in 1142 as the first Cistercian monastery in Ireland. The monastery flourished until the 15th century.

The name 'Mellifont' came into use as a surname, so there is a possibility of someone with that surname being in a sufficiently

important position in Hobart early in the 1800s. More obscurely, there was a Battle of Mellifont in 1603 in which the Irish were defeated by the English under Lord Mountjoy, leading to the Treaty of Mellifont. Perhaps an army detachment in Hobart in the early 1800s had some regimental connection with these events.

MOUNT STUART NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CRIME REPORT

In the period 28 April to 18 June, 17 instances of crime were reported in the Mount Stuart area. 11 of these involved motor vehicles, six of which were stolen. Five of these were recovered; one of them, shortly after in a routine police check in New Town. Property was stolen from the other five vehicles, parked in different streets; one, while the groceries were being taken inside. Of the house burglaries one was via an unlocked 12 foot high window which had been reached by scaling external plumbing.



For further information about these crimes, please phone the NHW Area Co-ordinator for Mount Stuart, Malcolm Grant (6234 6672). If you see anything suspicious, call the Police.

There is now a nationwide Police phone number for non-urgent calls: **13 14 44**. Police greatly appreciate any information received.



FRIENDS OF KNOCKLOFTY

This group meets between 2-00 pm and 4.30 pm and, if you have an hour or two to help, you would be most welcome. Tools are provided, but bring your own gloves.



July 16: Planting preparation, north of Forest Rd car park. Meet at the car park at the top of Forest Rd.



July 30: National Tree Day planting. Meet at the main car park at the top of Forest Rd.

August 20: Weeding along Mount Stuart Track. Meet at the Mount Stuart Lookout.

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.