

Mount Stuart News

September 2007

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AN INVITATION

While the Mount Stuart Progress Association and Community Service Association Annual General Meetings are the only advertised open meetings, all residents in Mount Stuart are welcome to attend any of our meetings, which are held at 8 pm on the fourth Thursday of each month, in the Scout den. If there is an issue in which you are interested; if you want to raise an issue or if you simply want to see what goes on, feel free to come along. Meeting agendas will be on our website.

BEST WISHES

The Progress Association wrote to Alderman Darlene Haigh on behalf of Mount Stuart residents, to support her in her fight with her second bout of cancer.



Alderman Haigh has worked for the benefit of the Mount Stuart community in numerous ways over many years, both as the wife of the late Alderman Tony Haigh, as a member of the executive committee of the Progress Association and as a hardworking and supportive alderman.

We appreciate her work as Chairman of the HCC's Mount Stuart Traffic Committee, helping the group achieve worthwhile outcomes resulting in better and safer roads in the area.

We offer Darlene our best wishes and continued thoughts for her recovery.

CONGRATULATIONS

It is very pleasing to see some of our civic minded residents being nominated for awards to recognise their contributions to the community.



The hardworking secretary of the Progress and Community Service Associations, Mrs Linley Grant OAM, was recently added to the

Tasmanian Honour Roll of Women for her contributions to many groups over many years.

Well done

Not to be outdone, Linley's husband Malcolm, who is President of the Progress Association, has been nominated for a Pride of Australia Medal in the True Blue and Community Spirit categories. Malcolm has coordinated Mount Stuart Neighbourhood Watch for more than 15 years as well as being very involved in Scouting and in Rostrum.

While we are debating what constitutes responsible dog ownership, it is good to see Geoff Clarke of Mount Stuart also nominated for a Pride of Australia Medal in the Community Service category. Geoff, President of the Canine Defence League from 1999 to 2004 and the driving force behind all dogs being desexed, micro chipped and vaccinated before adoption, is still active at the dogs' home. His favourite dogs are mastiffs, all adopted from there.



Well done to these hardworking members of our community. Do you know others who quietly contribute so much to the neighbourhood? We know that there are many who are not acknowledged.

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ST JAMES & ST ANDREWS PARISH FAIR

When?

Saturday 6th October, 10.00 am.

Where?

**St James Parish Hall, corner of
Elizabeth St and Rupert Ave.**

Why?

**Pick up a bargain from the many
stalls available**

Fun activities for the children

**Come along and enjoy a delicious
morning tea, pancakes or barbecue.**

TRACKS & PARKS

The Hobart City Council has upgraded the Fiona Allan Track, making it a good (no steps) alternative to reach the top of Knocklofty.

Congratulations to the Council on taking this initiative, as the track had degraded over time.

For those of you who have not been up Knocklofty, this is a good place to start – the track starts at the top of Mount Stuart Road, on the bend below the Lookout.

The Providence Valley park (Clift St – Cato Ave) is a great place for a stroll or for the kids to explore. The Council is preparing a landscape plan to guide the future management and upgrading of the reserve. This plan, which is likely to include revegetation, weed removal, stream bank rehabilitation and the development of a path to Valley Street, is nearing completion and will be available for public comment soon.



Get out and enjoy our parks and tracks!

RAT RUN

If you live on Mount Stuart, you know what's meant by this expression. Perhaps you've benefited by it; more likely you've been inconvenienced by it. Opinions differ. In any case you will be interested in the results of some time trials conducted by members of our traffic committee.



These compared actual journey figures taken in June over two routes, both starting at the Augusta Road / Haig Street junction and concluding at the Melville / Murray Sts corner. The Mount Stuart route is via Doyle and Gordon Aves, Byard, Mellifont, Hill and Melville Sts, and

the arterial roads route via Augusta Road, Elizabeth, Burnett and Murray Sts to the Melville / Murray Sts junction.



The Mount Stuart route (distance 4.26 km)

6:50am Jun 19th – 6 min 38s (38.5 kph avg)

7:30am Jun 19th – 6 min 48s (37.4 kph avg)

8:15am Jun 20th – 8 min 06s (31.7 kph avg)

The Arterial Roads route (distance 3.58 km)

6:38am Jun 19th – 5 min 03s (42.5 kph avg)

8:24am Jun 19th – 10 min 40s (20.2 kph avg)

8:15am Jun 20th – 8 min 10s (26.6 kph avg)

While there cannot be direct comparison with exact time of day and identical conditions, it can be inferred that the time saved by using the "Rat Run" is not that much.

The "Rat Run" is ¾ km longer, within a 50kph speed zone, and through a greater number of mostly open junctions. The arterial roads route, on the other hand, has the protection of traffic signals and give-way signs and only moderate changes in elevation.



In respect of the small savings in time, the relative speed and increased petrol costs, what do you make of it all?

CHILDREN'S MUSIC FUN

**Rhythm making, singing and movement to
music with fun props**

Recommended ages 2-5

Wednesdays, 10.00-10.45

*Mt Stuart Hall (enter through lower
level door, Darling Parade)*

*\$5 per child per session (\$3 for the
second member of the same family)*

PAYG

Ph Sharon on 6247 2347

musicfun@internode.on.net

STOP PRESS

The Council has allocated funds this financial year to replace the floor of the annexe at the Mount Stuart Hall and to create a much needed footpath on Ogilvie Street between Darling Parade and Benjafield Terrace.

The Council has included, for consideration in its 2008/09 Budget, a \$25,000 allocation towards the cost of installing an equal access toilet and entry ramp for the Hall's lower level. This is great news!



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

METRO NEWS

Response to the improved bus services, which include later evening and weekend buses, has been positive, with a marked increase in the usage of peak and weekend services. The Sunday service, however, is underutilised at the moment and there is still plenty of room for more passengers. Check out the timetables available from the Metro Shop at the GPO or on the web <http://www.metrotas.com.au/> Feedback is always welcome and can be directed to either Peter Krup or Kevin Brown at Metro (ph. 6233 4243).



A minor change to Saturday services is being scheduled for the end of September to allow the Hobart departure times on Saturday to be the same as departure times for Monday to Friday. Avoid the "Rat Run". Take the bus!

BONESEED

Seeing that spring is upon us and gardens are demanding attention again, it is timely to have this article on a potentially serious problem.

Boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera* ssp. *monilifera*) is listed as a Weed of National Significance and regarded as one of the worst weeds in Australia because of its ability to spread into native bushland. Originally from South Africa, it was introduced into Australia in the 1850s as a garden plant. It can now be found growing wild in many parts of southern Australia from Perth in Western Australia to the central coast of New South Wales. It is common in northern and eastern coastal areas of Tasmania, and also around Hobart, including the Queens Domain and Knocklofty.



In recent years it has been seen flourishing on roadside banks in Mt Stuart streets and even carefully cultivated in private gardens!

How do you recognise it?

Boneseed is a perennial shrub, growing up to 3 metres high, and the stems become woody with age. The leaves are oval-shaped, with serrated edges, and new growth is covered by white downy cotton-like material. The flowers are very attractive yellow daisies with 6 to 8 "petals", and birds love to eat the round green fruits.

Beware! If there's a new yellow daisy in your garden, and you didn't plant it there, it's probably boneseed!

How do you get rid of it?

Boneseed plants are usually easy to uproot, and this is best done before flowering. Alternatively, herbicides can be used. Be vigilant, as seed can remain viable in the soil for more than ten years. There are sure to be more plants coming up in the same place in future years!

Need more information?

An interesting fact sheet can be found on the National Parks website at:

<http://www.parks.tas.gov.au/factsheets/threats/Boneseed.pdf>

***Errands Run* does your "To Do" List!**

Gets the person/price/business
Is there for the tradesperson
Stands in line/waits on the phone
Picks up/delivers/returns (small) items
Pays bills, prescriptions, banking
Free up your day!
Anything else? Ring and find out.
Janet Walker: 6231 2125
Mob: 0420 701 574

Errands Run = Errands Done

SPORTING UPDATE

Congratulations to Rowan Henderson on again winning the State men's badminton title. Rowan, a graduate of Mount Stuart Primary, New Town High and Elizabeth College (also son of the Community Service president, Heather Henderson) is currently working towards a PhD in chemistry at Utas.



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SCHOOL NEWS



The school anniversary book, *Overlooking Hobart: celebrating 50 years at Mount Stuart Primary School*, will be launched at the beginning of Term 3. The book is generously illustrated with photographs dating back to the school's earliest days resulting from extensive research of school and departmental records, P & F minute books, combined with the stories and memories of former students, principals and staff. It will be available to purchase from the school from Monday 24 September, at a cost of \$20. Order your copy NOW from the School office, ph. 6234 1705.

Two new classrooms are well advanced. A third classroom, to be added in early 2008, will complete the new block. Recently announced budget funding of \$1.65 million is to provide for a kindergarten at the main school campus, refurbishment of the library, and upgrading of staff and administrative facilities. This work is all expected to be completed by July 2008. Meanwhile, a new (replacement) playground has been established and the canteen is to be upgraded during the September holidays.



MOUNT STUART NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CRIME REPORT

In recent weeks there have been several incidents of vehicle burglary and stealing, in some cases with considerable damage.

One car was stolen after the house had been burgled and the keys stolen. In another case, wallets, credit cards etc were stolen from an unlocked car. The other cars were securely locked and parked on the street.

Make sure that your car is always locked and do not leave valuables in it.

Don't forget that you can report crimes to Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

BUSHCARE GROUPS

There are now two very active Bushcare groups in our area – Friends of Knocklofty and Valley Street Bushcare.

Friends of Knocklofty meet on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 9.00 –

11.30 am, the first Thursday from 2.00 – 4.30 pm and the third Sunday from 2.00 – 4.30 pm. The group works for the first two hours and then has morning or afternoon tea (plunger coffee or tea and chocolate biscuits) provided by Friends of Knocklofty.

Scheduled activities are:

Thursday 6 September: 9.00 to 11.30 am

Meet at Fielding Drive entrance or on site for weeding the eastern end of site K15 and site 35, then morning tea. Propagation in the afternoon.

Sunday 16 September: 2.00 to 4.30 pm

Meet at Forest Road car park or the water tank for weeding the western end of site K15, then afternoon tea.

Thursday 20 September: 9.00 to 11.30 am

Meet at Forest Road car park for wayleave maintenance, then morning tea.

Thursday 4 October: 9.00 to 11.30 am

Gorse removal near the junction of the wayleave and the Mount Stuart circuit. Meet at the Mount Stuart Lookout.

Thursday 18 October: 9.00 to 11.30 am

Wayleave pruning. Meet at the Forest Road car park.

Sunday October 21: 2.00 to 4.30 pm

Plant watch, including plant giveaways. Meet at the Forest Road car park.

The Valley Street group meets on the fourth Sunday afternoon from 2.00 – 4.30 pm. In July, this group and interested West Hobart/ Mount Stuart residents met with Sonya Stallbaum of the HCC to discuss the management plan for the Leonard Wall/ Valley St and Providence Valley Reserves for the next five years. Significant progress has been made in eradicating weeds and the area needs to be managed for the future. It was decided to leave the remaining stands of blackberry and gorse as habitat for the endangered Eastern Barred bandicoot until such time as a new understorey is established. It was agreed to use plant species that have previously grown in the area for the new understorey.

As well, the HCC is looking for volunteers to plant out a formal landscaped garden at the Mount Stuart entrance, which will comprise 9 triangular gardens, displaying Tasmanian native bushes, ground covers and grasses.

Contact Simon Clarkson on 6234 5176 for further information.

