

# Mount Stuart News

September 2005

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## COUNCIL BOUQUETS

A bouquet to the Hobart City Council for reconstructing the path from Clift Street to Valley Street through Providence Valley Park. The design and implementation is of high quality and a credit to the Council workers and contractors.



Another bouquet to the Council for repairing some of the internal walls in the Memorial Hall, repainting them and replacing the glass in the doors at the end of the Hall to make them safe.



The Council has also done a great job completing the new footpath from 4 Benjafield Tee up Gordon Ave to Darling Pde. The end result was worth waiting for.

**Need help with any local government concerns or issues?**

**Contact**

**Alderman Eva Ruzicka**

**Deputy Lord Mayor**

Phone: 6239 1317 or 0407 391 317

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E-mail: [eruzicka@courier.tas.gov.au](mailto: eruzicka@courier.tas.gov.au)

Authorised by E. Ruzicka 699 Huon Rd. Fern Tree

## OUR NEWEST QUEEN'S SCOUT

You may recall from one of our newsletters that Jason Turvey received his Queen's Scout Award in England in 2001. As we have just added Jason's name to the Honour Board, we thought we should tell you something about him.

Jason joined Mount Stuart Scouts in February 1993 at a ceremony at The Springs on Mt Wellington. After Scouts, he joined the Lenah Valley Rangers and Venturers Group.

To help him qualify for his Queen's Scout Award, Jason worked as an announcer for 18 months at Radio FM103, doing the Saturday evening shift.



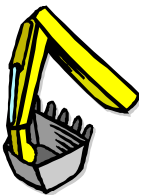
At the end of Grade 12, Jason headed to the UK to do a GAP placement for 6 months at the Raywell Park Scout Centre (similar to The Lea near Hobart) at Kingston-upon-Hull. While he was there, he was able to complete the Expedition section to finish off his Queen's Scout Award. Jason was presented with his award by the Duke of Kent on an exceptionally cold day, at a ceremony involving 500 other Queen's Scouts.



Back in Australia, Jason has continued his love of the outdoors and has worked for a year at Guilford Young College as an Outdoor Education Assistant, studied Outdoor Education in Melbourne and currently works at the Jolly Swagman.

## GAS ROLLOUT

Residents must be wondering what is going on with this. We have tried without success to get information on where and when gas will be available in Mount Stuart.



It appears that the cost of making good the roads will be borne by the Council, which means that we, the ratepayers, will end up wearing the cost.

## WEBSITE

We have added a map of Mount Stuart to our website showing the official boundaries of our suburb, so if you are unsure whether your property is actually in Mount Stuart, check out our website.



[www.mtstuart.hobartcommunity.homelinux.net](http://www.mtstuart.hobartcommunity.homelinux.net)

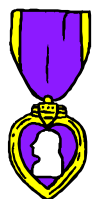


## WOMEN'S BADMINTON

**Wanted:** Ladies of all ages (young or old, all are young at heart) to come along and participate in exercise and fun at the Tuesday morning badminton sessions, 10am – 12 noon. Phone Vicki on 6228 3228

**Need fencing done?  
All timber fencing –  
for a free measure and  
quote call David Wylie  
on 6268 1542**

## MOUNT STUART PIGEON WON WARTIME VC



During the Second World War the Australian Army used a house on Mount Stuart as a radio base and to train homing pigeons for use in the War. A new book, titled *Animal Heroes* by author Anthony Hill, devotes a chapter to the exploits of one of these homing pigeons in New Guinea, which culminated in the pigeon being awarded the animal VC, the Dickin Medal. An article in the 'Sunday Tasmanian' of April 24<sup>th</sup> 2005 related the story of this pigeon.

The bird was based at Madang on the north coast of New Guinea, and was attached to a water transport company, which had the task of ferrying supplies to troops in the front line.



Although each ship had a radio, the crews also carried a pair of pigeons. By July 1945 our pigeon had already flown more than 1,000 miles (1,600km) on 23 missions. On



July 12 the pigeon was travelling with a supply boat which was driven ashore during a violent storm. Radio contact was lost, but the captain managed to scribble a message and release the pigeon, which flew back to base. A rescue ship was sent, and saved the crew and cargo. As a result of its flight, the pigeon was awarded the Dickin medal.

Our thanks to former Mount Stuart resident, Ron Oakes, who played a small part in the training of these pigeons while in the Army during the war, and was able to confirm that this pigeon was indeed a Mount Stuart bird.



## LETTER TO THE EDITORS

*Few people realize the amount of time and effort involved in collecting information, compiling and printing even a simple newsletter such as the Mt. Stuart News. I would like to pass on to you and all those involved in producing the newsletter a sincere thanks; it keeps readers up to date as to what is happening etc. in our area and it is certainly appreciated.*

*Best regards, Derek Logan*

## HOBART CITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Hobart City Council elections will be held in October this year. Seven Councillors are to be elected, plus the Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor. Ballot papers will be delivered by post to your home on 11 October, with the poll closing on 25 October.

## MEET THE CANDIDATES

All aldermanic candidates will be invited to address residents and answer questions at a public meeting at the Lenah Valley RSL on 3 October 2005, commencing at 7.30pm.

*Meet the Candidates* is a joint initiative of the New Town Community Association, East New Town Progress Association, Mount Stuart Progress Association and Lenah Valley Progress Association.

All residents of New Town, Mount Stuart and Lenah Valley are encouraged to attend.

**Doug Parkinson MLC**  
Member for Wellington  
**For electoral assistance**

Telephone: 6233 3069

Fax: 6223 6131

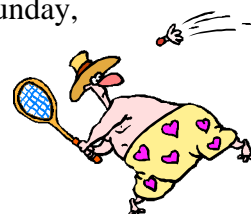
Mobile: 0418 129 773

E-mail:

[doug.parkinson@parliament.tas.gov.au](mailto:doug.parkinson@parliament.tas.gov.au)

## SMASHING SUCCESS

At the recent Tasmanian Badminton Championships played at South Hobart, two former Mount Stuart Primary School students, Rowan Henderson and Brent Munday, played off in the Open Men's Singles final, with Rowan smashing his way to victory in straight sets; 15-6, 17-14.



## JACK JUMPERS By Eric Pinkard

I don't know whether we have jack jumper ants in Mount Stuart as fortunately I have never seen one here.



Perhaps I should say that fortunately I have not been bitten by one, because I am one of at least 4,000 Tasmanians who are highly allergic to their bites.

The last time I was bitten, which was over 30 years ago, I swelled up all over and had to lie down for hours to recover. That was probably my third jack jumper bite, but the trouble is that each time it gets progressively worse and the next time it could be fatal.

Fortunately, there were no jack jumpers where I grew up, so I was not restricted as some children are now, having to wear boots, thick socks and long trousers or jeans when they play outside and carry an epi-pen everywhere to delay the allergic reaction if they get bitten.

Dr Konrad Blackman, a former Mount Stuart boy, is one of the leaders of an internationally renowned clinical trial being conducted at the Royal Hobart Hospital. The trial has developed the only known effective vaccine which can prevent these life-threatening reactions.

Research funding, which has provided this treatment to 60 trial participants over the last 4 years, runs out in December this year. If the programme is discontinued, access to this life-saving treatment will be denied.

The cost to maintain and extend the treatment to other Tasmanians who are at the greatest risk amounts to around \$200,000 per year, but the Tasmanian Government has so far refused to commit to continuing the funding.

The support organisation, *antallergy.org*, got a good hearing from the Minister for Health, David Llewellyn, so I am hopeful that there is relief in sight for me and my fellow sufferers who are allergic to jack jumper stings.

*antallergy.org* is seeking your support to lobby the Government to continue funding the programme by talking to your local politicians and/or by participating in an e-petition at [www.antallergy.org](http://www.antallergy.org).



## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT

**Una Street, 4/8/05:** During the day 2 wooden dining chairs, an antique tapestry chair and a computer (5-wheel) office chair were stolen from the veranda of a residence. (248458)

**Benjafield Terrace, 27/8/05:** During the day a residence was entered by smashing a dining room window. A Sharp mobile phone, Pentax SLR camera, Texas Instruments laptop computer, Aiwa CD Player, Kathmandu fleece jacket, three cuff links, chain with medal, men's Seiko watch & men's Casio watch were stolen (250340)

**Fordham Street, Evening of 26/7/05:** White Toyota Corona station wagon stolen. Later recovered at the Southern Outlet, generally undamaged (247590)

**Keith White Crescent, 27/7/05, 11.10 pm.** Male person described as 175 cm tall, wearing a black jacket and blue beanie attempted to enter premises (248081).

**Benjafield Terrace, 4/8/05:** White 1987 Ford Falcon sedan stolen; recovered in Gordon Ave with minor damage to a door lock. (248400)

**Raymont Terrace, 3-4/8/05:** 1976 Holden s/wagon stolen; located nearby minus a car stereo, fuel cap, tools and tool box. (248451)

**Dale Crescent, between 20 and 25/8/05:** Residence entered and minor damage caused (250228).

**Auvergne Avenue, between 14/8 and 22/8/05:** Red Echo chainsaw stolen from a garden shed (249883).

**Strathern Avenue, Evening of 25/7/05:** 1983 green Ford Laser stolen. The vehicle was unable to be started due to an immobiliser and was located in Fordham Street (247591).

If you have information on these, or any other crimes, please contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 005 555. You may remain anonymous, and you may be eligible for a reward. (The offence reporting number should be quoted in any enquiries, information.)

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## THE ROYAL YACHTS

Neighbourhood Watch's efforts to build our sense of community at Mount Stuart will take a different tack this month. Guest speaker at the next morning community get-together will be Alan Shaw, a former crew member of the Royal Yacht, Britannia. An outstanding speaker, Alan has a fund of stories about life on the Britannia, with or without members of the royal family. He was present when the Britannia, the last of the famous royal yachts was decommissioned in Portsmouth.

All Mount Stuart residents are invited to this neighbourhood morning get-together, followed by morning tea, in the Mount Stuart Hall Supper Room on Friday, 30 September 2005, starting at 10.30 am.

St. John's Park Bowls Club

### NOVICE DAY



**If you would like to try your hand at the great game of lawn bowls, come along at 10.30 am on September 25<sup>th</sup> Friendly free tuition and sausage sizzle**

**Everybody welcome; flat shoes please  
Enquiries 6228 7021**

### MOUNT STUART BUS SERVICE



We have had some feedback complaining about the poor bus services for those who rely on public transport.

The services during the week are OK, with the exception of the early morning.

The weekend services have been described as appalling with only one bus to Mount Stuart (Sat pm) but none to the City all weekend!

It has been suggested that the West Hobart buses continue to Mount Stuart, particularly at weekends. As labour is Metro's biggest cost, and extending the routes would not take much longer, this is definitely worth considering.

### STUPIDITY AWARD (1)

The chef at a hotel in Switzerland lost a finger in a meat cutting machine and, after a little hopping around, submitted a claim to his insurance company. The company, expecting negligence, sent out one of its men to have a look for himself. He tried the machine and lost a finger. The chef's claim was approved.

## TOXOPLASMOSIS

According to wildlife veterinarian David Obendorf, Toxoplasmosis (Toxo) is a hidden disease threat to our environment.

Toxo affects many species of animals and birds and can even affect humans. Cats defecating in children's sand pits, playground areas and gardens contaminate the soil, which can infect humans.



Toxoplasmosis infection of pregnant women can lead to brain and eye damage to the newborn. It can also be fatal to humans who are immuno-suppressed, eg people on cancer therapies.

In rural Tasmania, Toxo is very serious and a common cause of abortion in sheep and goats. It is often found in a variety of fresh meats including mutton, pork, venison and game.



Feral cats and domestic cats that stray into bushland can carry Toxo, which is fatal to many species of marsupials and could be causing local extinctions.

Cat control is the first step in controlling this disease.

- De-sex you cat – so no unwanted kittens.
- Feed your cat on dried or tinned food, as they don't contain Toxo.
- Impose a cat curfew at night.
- Fit your cat with a collar, two bells and an id tag.
- Buy your cat from a local cat centre.



### THE GRAMMAR GESTAPO

We have had a pat on the back about the high standard of our grammar. We commend our eagle-eyed proof readers, Marilyn Pinkard and Malcolm Grant, on their work.

### STUPIDITY AWARD (2)

When his 38-calibre revolver failed to fire at his intended victim during a hold-up in Long Beach, California, would-be robber James Elliot did something that can only inspire wonder. He peered down the barrel and tried the trigger again. This time it worked.....

### LAST BUT NOT LEAST

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

Best wishes to all our readers, wherever you are.