

Mount Stuart News

JUNE 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: <http://www.mtstuart.hobartcommunity.homelinux.net/>

David Metcalfe Ph 6228 3463
Lynden Howells Ph 6234 1024

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

It was gratifying to see many new faces at these meetings held on March 27th. Mr Mike Street, Manager of the Hobart City Council Emergency Management Plan gave a very informative and interesting account of the contents of the plan and its implementation.

Malcolm Grant was re-elected president of the Progress Association, with Linley Grant as secretary and Eric Pinkard as treasurer. Other committee members are: Brett Hansson, Heather Henderson, David Metcalfe, Lois Allison, Lynden Howells and Marilyn Pinkard. Retiring members, Lyn Cave, Jeff Ransley and Robbie Poynter, were thanked for their respective contributions to the associations. Lyn, who has moved with her family to another part of Hobart, is a past president of the Community Service Association and served on many committees. She has also maintained our website. Jeff has also served on many committees over many years and has been a valuable member of the newsletter team.

In his report Malcolm Grant commented on a largely positive year, with the main features being the school's 50th anniversary celebrations and the welcome but still under-utilised Metro bus services. The amount of through traffic from northern suburbs and the congestion around the school, where major building works are putting pressure on the limited parking available continue to be a concern. (More on this later in the newsletter.)

Thanks were extended to the HCC for their maintenance of the various parks and the Fiona Allan Walkway on Knocklofty, which is now accessible to almost everybody.

In the Community Service Association Heather Henderson stood down as president

and Lynden Howells was elected in her place. Heather was thanked for her contribution over the past eight years. Committee members are as for the Progress Association as well as Malcolm Grant.

The Community Service Association has improved the heating in the supper room which continues to be used for a wide variety of activities. The HCC was thanked for their ongoing maintenance of the Memorial Hall.

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

ROADWORKS

It is great to see the HCC's work on footpaths in Ogilvie Street and in Darling Parade. It seems, however, that a lot of residents are not happy with the restitution of the roads and footpaths after the gas works. If you feel that the roads near you have been left in an unsatisfactory condition, contact the Progress Association, which supports the HCC in its endeavours to get the gas company to reinstate roads and footpaths to their original or better condition. Ratepayers should not be paying for this restoration.



BEIJING BOUND

Congratulations to Kerry Hore on being selected for her second Olympics where she will represent Australia in the Women's quad scull. Kerry and her squad won bronze medals in Athens. We all wish her well in her event.



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HOBART EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

At our recent AGM, Hobart City Council officer, Mike Street, presented a slideshow and spoke on the HCC's role in emergency management. The aims are to make Hobart a safer place in which to live and work and to provide support for the community in the event of disasters such as flood, fire, tsunami or terrorist attack.

There are three levels of planning; state government, local government and service providers such as police, fire brigade, SES and ambulance officers.



For each type of disaster, one group – e.g. police, has the lead role and develops risk management strategies to deal with it. For example, police recently took the lead for training during a mock terrorist attack. The HCC has responsibility for recovery plans to help survivors and for conducting awareness campaigns. Such was the interest in the topic that Mr Street spoke for nearly an hour. He answered questions on a range of topics, including nuclear warships, traffic flow in emergency situations, communication action to be taken in disasters and emergency preparation. How do residents in an area know if neighbours are at home? How do we know that there are not disabled people confined to their houses? It seems that there is a need for people to become more involved with one another.



Many useful brochures are available – e.g. how do you prepare for severe storms? What is the routine in bushfire situations? How do you cope with a tsunami? These are available from HCC.

SOLAR HOT WATER

Guest speaker at the Progress Association's May meeting was Chris Harries, convener of Waterworks Valley Community which, concerned about the effects of climate change, began to look into the viability of solar hot water in Tasmania and, more particularly, into the bulk purchase of solar hot water systems.



From a modest beginning of a dozen households, the non-profit Solar Acquisition Program has resulted in solar hot water being delivered to over 200 homes. The group's aim was simply to reduce the cost of going solar for those who wished to take up this option.

The cost of installing this form of hot water will vary according to whether a full system is installed or a 'retrofit' (to an existing cylinder), although in most cases the 'payback' period for such a system is five years or less.



Like to know more? Then come to one of the two information meetings the Progress Association has arranged at times it hopes will suit a majority of interested residents. The meetings will be in the Supper Room on Sunday, 6th July at 4.30 p.m and on Thursday, 10th July at 11.00 a.m.

The speaker on each of these two occasions will be Mark Rickards of Eco Tasmania. Information will be available on various aspects of these hot water systems, including specifications, cost, available rebates, ordering and payment, etc. Those interested will be invited to complete an 'Expression of Interest' and a 'Self-Assessment' form.

If you are interested in attending one of these two information meetings, would you please e-mail malingrant@bigpond.com or phone 6234 6672 by **Monday, 30 June 2008?**

DOUG PARKINSON MLC

B Ec (Hons); LL.B

*Leader of the Government, Member of
Cabinet*

**Always available to assist fellow
Mount Stuart residents**

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AROUND THE PARKS

Do you know all the parks in our suburb? There are probably more than you thought.

Everybody knows Mount Stuart Park in Benjafield Terrace and it is proving very popular with its play and barbecue area and the newly completed toilet block. Darling Parade Park, next to Mount Stuart Hall is a pleasant well-maintained play area for young children.

On Montagu Street Creek, between Elphinstone Road and Montagu Street, the walkway and creek area are also well-maintained and contain a variety of very healthy native grasses. Providence Valley Reserve, for which HCC is currently drafting a strategy plan, is a popular walkway between Mount Stuart and West Hobart. We are now awaiting the release of this plan for comment.

The comparatively new Leonard Wall Valley Street Reserve is being maintained by a very enthusiastic Bushcare Group, which is to be congratulated on its gorse eradication work.

As well there are two smaller parks, Rosina Court Reserve and Doyle Avenue Park (right at the edge of Mount Stuart on the corner of Doyle Avenue and Newlands Avenue) which offer well-maintained and safe play areas for children.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I am writing on behalf of the Mount Stuart School Association in reply to the letter in the previous edition of the Mount Stuart News regarding parking and traffic issues in Weerona Avenue. As I am sure you are all aware, the school is currently undergoing major renovations which have not only prevented teachers and staff from parking on site but also added builders and contractors

traffic to the already overcrowded streets. We are conscious of the difficulties caused to locals on the roads surrounding the school during drop-off and pick-up time and are working with the council and Metro buses to try to find ways to alleviate some of the problems. While the pressure will ease a little once the renovations are complete, we hope a walking school bus and adjustments to the bus timetable or stops will free up some space in the future. We applaud your suggestions for 40kph signs for Weerona Ave and perhaps around the roundabout, as well as clearer marking for no parking spaces. We continue to remind parents in the weekly newsletter to park and drive sensibly and to obey all parking restrictions. Please feel free to contact the school with your concerns and suggestions and we will endeavour to work with the community to ensure student safety and resident satisfaction.

Mount Stuart School Association

WALKING BUSES

These buses are almost ready to depart. All they require is that the HCC check and approve the four routes that have been decided.

DOG MANAGEMENT POLICY

The Council has approved a new Dog Management Policy to take effect from Dec 1st this year. Local details are:

Mount Stuart Park: dogs are permitted off-lead from 7.00pm to 9.00am during daylight saving and 3.00pm to 9.00am at other times.

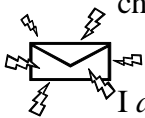
Knocklofty Reserve in the defined area above Poets Rd & Fielding Drive: dogs are permitted off-lead from 6.00am to 8.00pm during daylight saving and from 7.00am to 5.00pm at other times of the year. Dogs must be on-lead at all other times of the day.

Knocklofty Reserve in all other areas: dogs are to be on lead at all times.

For more information regarding these or other areas, contact the Council or refer to the full policy published in *The Mercury* on June 7.

A REAL CHAMPION

Congratulations also to Robert Fahey, son of local residents, Peter and Barbara Fahey, who has just won his ninth Real Tennis world championship in France. This makes him the greatest champion ever in the sport. A magnificent achievement!



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MOUNT STUART NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CRIME REPORT

29/2/08 – 26/5/08

Mortimer Ave: between the 1st and 2nd March unknown offender/s entered a private residence through an unlocked bathroom window. Assorted electrical items were stolen. (329870)

Darling Parade: on the 14th March, unknown offender/s entered a private residence via an unsecured back door. A large quantity of property was stolen, including assorted CDs, a Nintendo game unit and accessories, 2 cameras etc. (330968)

Darling Parade: on the 4th April a timber window to a private residence was jemmied open. All rooms were searched and a small amount of property was stolen. (332742)

Toorak Avenue: between the 22nd and 23rd March unknown offender/s broke into a vehicle parked outside a private residence. The offender/s could obviously see a quantity of small change and assorted property in the vehicle. (331644)

Gordon Avenue: on the 29th March, the back door of a private residence was kicked in. A quantity of cash and electrical items, etc, were stolen. The residence has a security alarm fitted but it was not turned on. (332242)

Always remember to lock your premises and vehicles and keep valuables out of sight.

Anyone with information about any of the above incidents is asked to call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000. Please quote the reference number.

AND ANOTHER THING

Are you one of Mount Stuart's elderly who doesn't have deadlocks front or back? Are you concerned about your home security but can't afford to install deadlocks?

Mount Stuart's Neighbourhood Watch may be able to help you. Phone 6234 6672 or e-mail malingrant@bigpond.com

BUSHCARE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friends of Knocklofty meet on the first Thursday from 9:30 until 11:30 and from

2:00 till 4:00 pm, the third Thursday from 9:30 until 11:30 and the third Sunday from 2:00 till 4:00 pm.

Thursday July 3rd: roving weeding along Mt Stuart track to the Summit Loop/Mt Stuart circuit. Meet at Mt Stuart Lookout.

Thursday July 17th: wayleave weeding. Meet at Forest Road carpark.

Sunday, July 20th: planting preparation at the northern end of the Frog Dam. Meet at the Forest Road carpark or the Frog Dam.

Thursday August 7th: weeding north of the lookout. Meet at Forest Road carpark.

Sunday August 17th: planting at the northern end of the Frog Dam. Meet at the Forest Road carpark or the Frog Dam.

Thursday August 21st: wayleave weeding. Meet at Forest Road carpark.

Valley Street Bushcare group meets on the fourth Sunday afternoon from 2:00 until 4:30.

Sunday June 22nd: general maintenance.

Sunday July 27th: general maintenance.

Sunday August 24th: general maintenance.

Meet at the Reserve entrance, opposite the corner of Mount Stuart Road and Byard Street.

GARDENING WITH DESIGNER FLAIR

Valley Street Leonard Wall Reserve display



garden showcases a number of native gardening techniques that challenge traditional native gardening models. Join native gardening horticulture expert,

Lindsay Campbell, on a foray into the possibilities of gardening with natives. An introductory session will be followed by a hands-on experience at the garden site.

Introductory session: Thurs 26th Jun 7-9 pm

Hands on sessions: Saturday 28th June and Saturday 5th July.

The reserve is an easy walk and you will need to bring warm gardening clothes, a coat and an open mind for native gardening.

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