

Mount Stuart News

December 2009

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Merry Christmas

GREETINGS

It's that time of the year again. 2009 has raced past and once again we prepare for the holiday season. We hope that the year has been good to you and extend a special welcome to all new residents of Hobart's premier suburb. To all our readers, wherever you are, we wish you a safe and enjoyable time over the Christmas-New Year period.

LONG TERM RESIDENTS



Our request for information about people who have lived in Mount Stuart for more than 50 years produced some very interesting responses. From our information, the title must go to Allan Irving, who was born 87 years ago at his parents' house in Gordon Avenue. He bought a vacant block facing Benjafield Terrace, over the back fence of his parents' house and built the house in which he still lives. Any challengers?

Our long term residents can give us a wealth of information about Mount Stuart's history. More in future editions.

VALE

The Mount Stuart Community recently lost a valued resident when Jeff Ransley passed away peacefully on 12 November 2009.

Jeff was born in Hobart in 1925, the youngest of three children. After he left Hobart Technical College, he became an apprentice motor mechanic with H C Heathorn. In 1943 he joined the RAAF, training as an air-gunner/ radio operator on Lancaster bombers. The end of World War II meant that he was not sent overseas, but he stayed in the RAAF for another two and a half years, with the aim of becoming a commercial pilot, but ill health prevented this. He remained in Sydney until 1952, when he returned to Hobart to work with the Hydro, where he remained until his retirement in 1989.



Jeff had many interests: he was a life member of Hobart Sporting Car Club, a founder of the Institute of Advanced Motorists Tasmania, one of the founders

of Targa and a Senior Racing official of CAMS.

Another aspect of Jeff's life was a love of music and theatre. He was a fine singer and acted in and produced several plays at the Theatre Royal.



Jeff was a strong supporter of the Progress Association. He represented the Association very capably on the HCC Mount Stuart Residents Traffic Committee and made considerable contributions to the newsletter committee. He also took an active interest in the Council of Hobart Community Associations, where he helped in formalising the transition of the former Council of Hobart Progress Associations to the new Council of Hobart Community Associations Incorporated.

Jeff will be missed by many people and we extend our sympathy to his wife Dawn and daughter Jay.

TRAFFIC ISSUES

The November meeting of the HCC Traffic committee was postponed until early in the New Year. Pressing issues in the Mount Stuart area continue to be the speed limits (or lack thereof) in Weerona Ave above the school and the speed and volume of traffic along Gordon Avenue.



The wet winter has really damaged Mount Stuart road surfaces. Report potholes to HCC so that they can be repaired.

A happy Christmas to everyone

Dear Residents

It's been a challenging year for all of us I look forward to representing you as Alderman in 2010. Merry Christmas and a Peaceful New Year for All.

With best wishes

Alderman Eva Ruzicka

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Authorised by E. Ruzicka 699 Huon Rd Fern Tree

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



THE ORIGINS OF CLIFT STREET

(In memory of Adam Clift, died 26/11/1959)

In the 1950s the southern side of Mt Stuart Road was subdivided by Messrs. Robert Chandler (stockbroker and Chairman of the Hobart Stock Exchange), and Eric Cuthbertson (shoe shop proprietor). Robert Chandler had two daughters, Margaret (Peggy) who married Adam Clift and Elizabeth (Libby) who married Mike Fitzpatrick. Both husbands, originally from Sydney, were engineers who worked for the Hydro Electric Commission. Libby and Mike built their first home (the first in their street) in

1953-54 at what is now No 9 Weerona Ave. Soon afterwards Peggy and Adam built at No 7 Dewrang Place (accessed along a short street off Upper Jordan Hill Rd.)

At the time, the HCC invited the few residents of the area to submit suggestions for street names for their area and the names Fitzpatrick and Clift were put forward. In due course the HCC (which at the time preferred Aboriginal names) advised that the new name for the Fitzpatricks' street above the school would be Weerona Ave and the Clifts' street would be Dewrang Place. However, the Clift family were surprised and delighted to learn the short street which they travelled along to access Dewrang Place would be Clift St.

Shortly after the Clift family had settled into their new home, Adam was tragically killed on the 26th November 1959 (just 50 years ago). He was travelling along the Midlands Hwy at night, on his way to Mole Creek to investigate a proposed power scheme for that region. At the time he was a senior engineer connected with the Future Planning & Investigation Section of the Hydro, having been on the staff for 10 years as a planning engineer in the Civil Branch. He had also been stationed as

engineer-in-charge at Wayatinah just prior to building his home in Mt Stuart.

As the subdivision grew, Clift Street continued around the hill to connect up to Hillside Cres. It now follows the route of the original entrance driveway off Summerhill Rd into Paraclete Homestead and the orchards in the Dewrang Place area. These were destroyed by bushfire in the late 1940s.

Shortly after their terrifying experiences of the 1967 bushfires, which burnt along Weerona Ave, threatened the school, damaged part of the Fitzpatricks' home and burnt out the house adjacent to them, the Fitzpatricks and Adam's widow and two sons decided to relocate away from the Mount Stuart area.

BUSHFIRE: PREPARE, ACT, SURVIVE

If you live in or near the bush (which includes bushland, scrub, grassland, farmland, heath, marram grass and buttongrass), your home is at risk from bushfire. If you plan to remove bushfire fuels by burning them during a Fire Permit Period, you



will need to obtain a permit from a Fire Permit Officer (call 1800 000 699). If it is a Non Fire Permit Period, contact your local council for information about local

restrictions. Further information is available at www.fire.tas.gov.au

Christmas Trees

Lenah Valley Volunteer Fire Brigade will be selling Christmas Trees on Saturday 12, Sunday 13, Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 December from 9 am to 5pm. Trees are available from the station in Kalang Avenue, Lenah Valley (next to the Roy Fagan Centre). Funds raised go towards buying equipment for the brigade.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWS

- At the October national conference of Neighbourhood Watch, the organisation created the *Malcolm Grant Award for Volunteers*, for excellence in volunteering. A well deserved tribute to Malcolm in recognition of the time and energy he has devoted to NHW over many years. Congratulations Malcolm.
- The annual NHW calendar is available for a gold coin donation from Malcolm Grant on 6234 6672.
- The annual NHW barbecue will be held on Friday, 19 March at Mount Stuart Park, so put the date, in your 2010 diary now.



nstech.com

SCOUTS GOLDEN JUBILEE

When Polly Cutcliffe started the Cub Pack at Mount Stuart in July 1959, there were 15 Scout Groups within the HCC boundaries, including two in North Hobart, one in West Hobart and one in nearby New Town. All of the latter have disappeared, although the church halls in which they met are still there.

On Sunday, 30 August, 2009, following some good work by Chris Ballard and Hannah Morgan (Richardson), the current Joeys, Cubs & Scouts, together with their leaders, parents and friends and a good showing of past members – many of them wearing their red & white Scout scarf – gathered at the hall for a “50 years of Scouting at Mount Stuart” celebration. It was the largest gathering of Scouts at the hall for some considerable time.



Queen's scouts (L to R): Mike Quon, Bronwen Pinkard, David Chalk and Jason Turvey

The celebrations began with an opening parade in the Annexe conducted by Hannah, one of the Group's first female Scouts, and at which the Deputy Lord Mayor also spoke. Present at this stage were the group's second Cub Leader, Cynthia Lynch, and the first Scout Leader, John Thorne.

This was followed by a BBQ lunch, a range of youth activities, much nostalgic reminiscing over the display of photos and memorabilia in the former kindergarten, and the video recording by Jason Turvey, Mount Stuart's newest Queen's Scout, of some of the memories of Scouts, Leaders and parents who had gone before.



Former leaders (L to R): Barry Lewis, John Henderson, Lynden Howells

All of this culminated in afternoon tea and the cutting of the '50 Years of Scouting at Mount Stuart' cake in the Supper Room. Most of those

present agreed that the Group need not wait another 50 years for the next big celebration.



Malcolm Grant, Dean Maddock, Thomas Beswick (nearly obscured - look hard), Peter Richardson and Geoff Lockhart cut the celebration cake.

(Photos supplied by Heather Henderson)

MOUNT STUART NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CRIME REPORT

01/9/2009 – 29/11/2009

Mount Stuart Road: 11-12/11/09. A Nissan Pulsar was stolen from in front of the house. (380189)

Fordham Street: 9-11/11/09. A Nissan Navarra was stolen from the front of the house. (380168)

Gordon Avenue: 20/9/09 - 1/10/09. Attempted theft of a Holden Rodeo from the car port. The door was forced and locks damaged. (376885)

Darling Parade: 27-28/10/09. The panels of two cars in a driveway were scratched and a boat and driveway were spray-painted. (379051)

Una Street: 7-8/9/09. A Wheelie bin was stolen from in front of the house. (375146)

Keith White Crescent: 10/09/09. A Dell laptop, Guilford Young school ipod nano, usb key and software (\$150) were stolen. The offender/s were interrupted. (374216)

Waverley Avenue: 27-28/9/09. Attempted theft of a Holden ute on the street. Locks were damaged but a steering lock prevented the theft. (376612)

Ogilvie Street: 16/9/09. A stereo Face Plate, Vnet Amplifier and Amplifier were stolen from a Nissan Skyline in a driveway. The offenders were observed by the owner. The arrival of police prevented the theft of the vehicle. (375591)

Police are anxious to hear from any member of the public who may have witnessed any of the above incidents or who have observed any suspicious activity in the neighbourhood. Police would also like to remind the public not to leave valuables in the vehicle when unattended.



Police Phone numbers: Non urgent matters 131444. Crime stoppers 1 800 333 000.

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.

VALLEY STREET BUSHCARE

The Valley Street Bushcare Group meets at the Leonard Wall Reserve main entrance (Mount Stuart Rd opp Byard St) on the 4th Sunday of each month from 2-4pm (except December). In October the HCC Bushcare Group put on an interesting "What's in Your Backyard" day which many enjoyed. Gorse 'islands' are being created for the native wildlife to use until new plantings have developed enough before the gorse/briar rose/hawthorn etc are eliminated altogether.

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Securing our future. 

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

HCC has a wonderful range of activities for the kids and for adults over the summer holidays. Here are just a few local ideas. For the complete list and booking details, go to:
hobartcity.com.au/bushadventures

Activities for 4-7 Yrs

Bush Puppet Workshop - Knocklofty Reserve

If you like making wild stuff then come and create your own bush animal puppet and learn about some of the special features of our local creatures along the way! Wednesday 13 January, 9.30 - 11.00am

Activities for 5-10 Yrs

Story of a Seed - Knocklofty

Seeds are tiny but powerful little packages, just waiting for the big day when they can start growing up. Carrying all their own supplies, they sometimes journey far and wide to find just the



right place to put down their roots! Come on a seed hunt, hear a seed story, meet the seed postmen and plant your own little seed! Monday 4 & 18 January, 9.30 - 10.45am

Activities for 8-14 Yrs

Spectacular Spiders - Knocklofty



How do spiders live for so long without eating? Why don't spiders get caught in their own webs? When is a spider an ant? Come on a discovery tour of the fantastic and intriguing world of spiders and make your own spider to take home! Monday 4 & 18 January, 11.30am - 1.00pm



Fantastic Froggy Fun - Knocklofty Reserve

Soggy, boggy tadpoles and froggies! What fun can be had with our amphibious friends! Come and learn about the intriguing lives of our Tasmanian frogs. Thursday 28 January, 10.00 - 11.30am

Bush Detectives - Knocklofty Reserve

Are you a clever spotter of intriguing things? Can you find the secret signs that tell you who or what has been around? Go on a walk with our clued up Adventurer and see what you can find out! Thursday 28 January, 1.00 - 2.30pm



And some adult outings:

Introduction to Habitat Gardening and Plant Propagation - Knocklofty Reserve

Make your thumbs a little greener with this introductory workshop on the techniques of native plant propagation and the advantages of creating your own habitat garden at home. Try your hand at cuttings, seed sowing and plant division. Monday 4 & 18 January, 2.30 - 3.30pm

Stories of New Town

Explore Hobart's oldest suburb. New Town was given its name in 1805, and this exploration of the early settlement around the New Town Rivulet will provide an insight into the area's fascinating history. Trace the original shoreline and wander past the old farms and factories; catch a glimpse of one of Tasmania's oldest bridges - hidden by the progress of time. Join Brendan Lennard (HCC's Senior Cultural Heritage Officer) on this morning of discovery.

Meet at the sportsground pavilion in Queen's Walk (opposite Graham Family Funeral Home) Sunday 31 January, 10.00am - 12.00noon

Bookings are essential for these programmes.

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