

MOUNT STUART NEWS

AUGUST 2021

Keeping On

Annual General Meetings of Mount Stuart Residents Inc. and Mount Stuart Hall Inc.

Some 25 residents attended our AGMs for 2021 on 22nd April. They were held only seven months after the 2020 meetings, which were postponed because of COVID-19 restrictions.

The presidents of the two associations reported continuing work on behalf of our community, even though carols in the hall had not been able to be held. There had been “bounce back” in use of the hall when restrictions eased in the latter half of 2020.

Residents re-elected ongoing committee members: Scott Faulkner (residents president), Lynden Howells (hall president), Eric Pinkard (treasurer and public officer), Stewart Gardner (secretary), Linley Grant, Rosemary Gardner and David Reeve. It's great to see these people “keeping on keeping on” – but there are still places available on the committees for volunteers!

Those present were keen to see and hear the presentation by our speaker, Lauren Jakob, on the wildlife of Knocklofty, further reported below.

Mammals on the Edge

Some of the findings reported by Lauren Jakob, speaker at our AGMs.

How do bandicoots, eastern quolls and Tasmanian devils respond to human disturbance in Hobart's bush-edge reserves such as Knocklofty? Lauren Jakob made this the focus of her 2019 honours degree investigation. Do animals avoid areas where cats, dogs and humans invade the bush, and do they prefer areas further away from the urban edge?

Lauren set up 40 camera locations in Knocklofty, the Domain and the Cascade area.



A Tasmanian devil exploring a ground level camera.

What did the cameras show? Less disturbed sites were preferred by quolls, Bennett's wallabies, and bettongs. In more disturbed sites, and closer to the urban edge, pademelons, echidnas, and eastern barred bandicoots appeared more often. Tasmanian devils and potoroos ranged across both areas.

Cats, dogs, and humans were, of course, detected mostly in the high disturbance areas. There were more cats in the Cascade area than at Knocklofty. Brushtail possums were detected at every camera location. The Domain was different from Cascade and Knocklofty in that it had more introduced species such as rats, mice, and rabbits.

..... continued on Page 2

Mammals on the Edge (continued)

Of the three species Lauren examined in more detail, eastern quolls showed the most avoidance, staying further away from disturbed areas and avoiding cats. This may reflect a high intelligence and suggests that young quolls learn to recognise the threat posed by cats and dogs, and to avoid them.

Tasmanian devils, by contrast, were slightly more common in more disturbed areas and made no attempt to limit their activity to times of day when the threat is less. As a larger predator they may not find the presence of cats and dogs a significant threat to their survival.

Bandicoots had similar patterns to devils. However, due to their small size, bandicoots are highly vulnerable to predation by both cats and dogs. Lauren attributed their lack of avoidance to naivety.

How can we respond to these findings?

We can rejoice in good numbers of many native species close to Mount Stuart. We can work to protect and enhance the natural ecosystem and recognise that for some of them our gardens and nature strips are a valuable source of food. We need to take all steps we can to ensure that cats are confined and that their escape to become feral is avoided.

New to Hobart!

EURO NAIL STUDIO

Nail Services for Everyone

European technology, techniques and quality artistry for Manicures and Pedicures, distinguished by:

- *non-toxic, high-quality nail care products*
- *modern technologies for perfect cuticle outcomes*
- *100% sterilisation of all tools used*
- *medical pedicure for treatment of the foot with PodoDisc (without blades, water, or brushes)*
- *treatment & removal of cracks & other foot issues*
- *customised treatments*
- *a range of customised options and varieties.*

<https://www.instagram.com/euronailstudio>

92 August Road, Lenah Valley

Wednesday to Saturday, 9:00am to 5:00pm
(after-hours by agreement)

Bookings: 0469 872 462

Mt Stuart Venturer Unit is looking for new members!

We are a bunch of like-minded young people who meet weekly to engage in fun, adventurous, and sometimes challenging activities. We are looking for new members who would like to come along, meet new people, gain new life skills, develop their outdoor expertise, and most importantly, have fun!

No scouting experience is necessary. We welcome anyone aged 15-18 years, and there are similar opportunities within the group's other scouting sections for other people aged 5-25!

We meet on Tuesday nights from 7:00-9:00 pm at the Mount Stuart Community Hall. If you are interested, please contact our Group Leader, Ed, at gl@mtstuartscouts.org.



Venturer Scouts

Saturday Morning Recycling Continues Hard to Recycle gets Easier!

On the first Saturday each month, 10:00am to noon, Mount Stuart Hall is open for residents to deposit hard-to-recycle items. This trial is for June to December this year, and an encouraging response means it is likely to continue next year.

We collect:

1. Batteries (but not lead acid or car batteries)
2. Light globes
3. Mobile phones
4. Reusable CDs and reusable DVDs
5. Dental products, such as tubes and brushes
6. Writing implements such as pens and textas
7. Beauty product containers.

We are unable to collect plastic bread tags. We take items to the Waste Transfer Station or Tip Shop at McRobies Gully or post to Terracycle interstate, who will reuse them or their components.

Mark Your Calendar! Sunday 12th December – Christmas Carols in Mount Stuart

The Mount Stuart Residents group has begun planning to hold a Christmas Carols evening this year. We were disappointed that we were unable to organise one last year but with the increasing vaccination rates and the stable situation in our state, we are optimistic that we can hold the event this year.

There will be restrictions on capacity and the committee is considering ways to manage this and other measures needed for the event to go ahead.

More details in the next edition of the newsletter, due out late November, as well as on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Mountstuart>



Cr Anna Reynolds

Working for your community

Please don't hesitate to call or email me if I can assist you with Council matters, or to sign up for my monthly community email newsletter.

cr.reynolds@hobartcity.com.au
0423 222 149

Gentle Yoga

Strength, Flexibility, Balance and Inner Calm

Wednesday 10 am - 11.15am
Mt Stuart Hall, supper room
Bring mat and blanket
6 classes, \$100

**FOOD
& BODY**
Australia

clare@foodandbody.com.au
www.foodandbody.com.au
Contact: Clare Sullivan
0478 035 415

Why the name Mount Stuart? A Ship... A Person... A Hill... or All Three?

How did our suburb get its name? The answer is surprising... and unclear.

Local oral history has told us that both Mount Stuart and Elphinstone Roads were named after a convict transport ship, the Mountstuart Elphinstone, which is said to have visited Hobart Town in 1836. The story is that as well as bringing a new batch of convicts, it brought news that Governor Arthur was being recalled. Local newspaper *The Courier* reported this with respectful regret, but many locals in Hobart Town celebrated the exit of a governor who had introduced several unpopular measures and had resisted modest democratic reforms such as a representative legislative council and trial by jury. Elphinstone and Mount Stuart Roads gained their names around that time.

But in fact, the ship that visited in 1836 was not the Mountstuart Elphinstone, but another convict transport simply called the Elphinstone. The Mountstuart Elphinstone did indeed bring convicts to Hobart Town, but not until 1845 and 1848, by which time the names of our roads were well established.

Another possibility is the Honourable Mountstuart Elphinstone (1779-1859), nephew of Lord George Elphinstone for whom the ship Elphinstone was named.

But why is the name separated into two words? Perhaps they had the hill in mind right from the start. In fact, by the time maps were produced in the 1840s, and later in the 1890s, the name may have been applied not just to the ridge where the present suburb is located, but to the hill above that we know as Knocklofty.

The name of the district stuck, whatever its origins, as landholdings, roads and houses gradually extended across the hill. In 1891 the Town of Mount Stuart was gazetted, ironically with Elphinstone Road as part of its northern boundary and Arthur Street as the southern one! It was not financially viable as a separate local government area and was absorbed into the City of Hobart in 1908.



"I am available anytime by phone or email to discuss current legislation or assist with any government issues you may have"

Hon. Rob Valentine MLC

Your *Independent* Member for Hobart

Office: 03 6212 2344

Email: rob.valentine@parliament.tas.gov.au

Mobile: 0418 127 323

Website: www.robvalentine.com.au

Gentle Hatha Yoga

Mondays 7:15 – 8:30 PM
in the Supper Room

*Nourish your body with gentle
movement, breathing and meditation*

Prepare for a peaceful sleep/

All equipment provided

\$15 casual (\$10 concession)

or 4 classes for \$40

Details Pia (piaomyoga@outlook.com)

or Elise (tulayogahobart@outlook.com)

or visit 'Tula Yoga Hobart' on Facebook

TULA YOGA

OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

facebook.com/Mountstuart

OUR WEBSITE

mountstuarttas.org.au

Mount Stuart News is composed, printed and published on a voluntary basis as a community service. We do our best to be accurate, but if you rely on this information you do so at your own risk.

Thank you to all our contributors and deliverers of the newsletter.