

# MOUNT STUART NEWS

JULY-AUGUST 2023

## **Fifty years and still going! Badminton at Mount Stuart Hall**

Badminton at the hall began on Tuesday 7th February 1967, when a group of mothers met after dropping their children off at the then adjacent Mount Stuart Kindergarten in Raymont Terrace. Little did they know as they played that southern Tasmania's worst-ever bushfires were building rapidly – fires that were to result in wide-ranging destruction and 62 deaths!

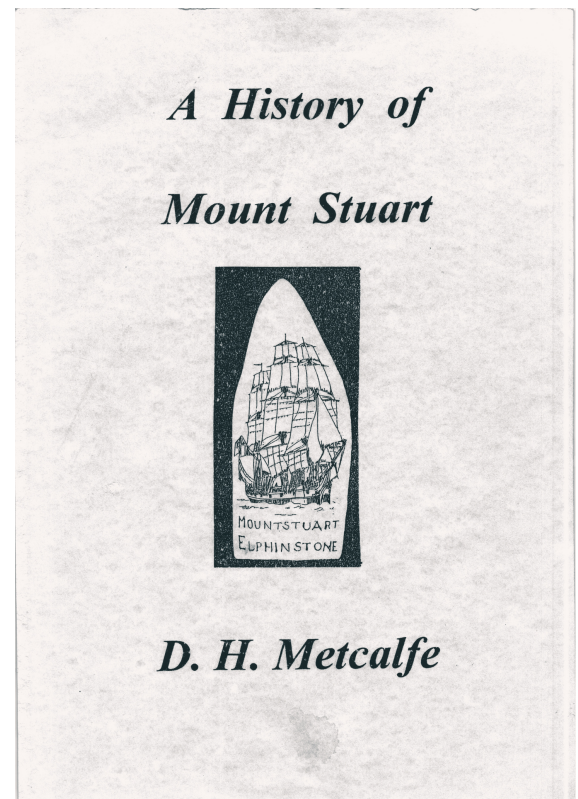
Fortunately, the fires didn't burn the hall, although Mt Stuart lost some houses higher up the slopes. Players have kept meeting from then until the present day.



Vicki Martin, who facilitates the group, reports that badminton nearly folded just before COVID, when there were only three women attending. Now there are five to eight women every Tuesday morning from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. Many players did not know one another before they joined.

There is a feeling of optimism for the future, and a continuing keenness for new people to join. They contribute a small fee each week to cover hall hire.

There is no need to have played badminton before: some tuition is available; doubles are played; the court is out of the weather and the floor has some 'give' in it.



## ***A History of Mount Stuart Back in Print***

Mount Stuart Residents Inc has facilitated a PDF reprint of David Metcalfe's publication, *A History of Mount Stuart*. Digital and/or printed and bound copies are available for \$10.00 and \$26.00 respectively. To order your copy(ies), please email Eric Pinkard at [treasurer@mountstuarttas.org.au](mailto:treasurer@mountstuarttas.org.au).

Although most players are of an age 'consistent with retiring from work', people of all ages are welcome on any Tuesday and there is no need to commit to weekly attendance to give it a go!

Vicki Martin can be contacted on 0468 452 115.

**Mount Stuart Website:** <https://mountstuarttas.org.au>

**Mount Stuart Facebook Page:** @mountstuarttas

**Email Mount Stuart Residents or the Hall:** [secretary@mountstuarttas.org.au](mailto:secretary@mountstuarttas.org.au)

## More About Nature Strips

Hobart City Council's new approach to the maintenance of nature strips kicked in on 1st April this year – just after Heather Huxley, Acting Program Leader Parks and Reserves with the Hobart City Council, spoke at our Annual General Meetings on 23rd March.

A keenly interested audience of 25 put their questions and concerns to Heather, and in most cases her answers both clarified changes and reassured residents.

Heather outlined the main reason for the change in policy: to redirect funds previously required for regular mowing to the maintenance of street trees and other green spaces around Hobart. If those residents who are able to do so maintain the grass or garden on their nature strips, Council is better able both to maintain nature strips that are too difficult for residents to look after, and to give attention to trees.

This enhances our suburban environment in line with community expectations and Council goals.

### **Lawn grass nature strips**

We are required to maintain these adjacent to our property. If we don't, the Council will mow unkempt grass once a year rather than the previous quarterly arrangement.

Those of us who are physically unable to mow our nature strip can use a form available on the Council website ([www.hobartcity.com.au](http://www.hobartcity.com.au)) to apply for assistance. A number of residents have already done this. You can seek this assistance on a permanent or temporary basis.

The Council also provides suggestions for planting of drought-tolerant native grasses that are easier to maintain.

### **Nature strips with existing trees**

We are not permitted to prune, remove or plant trees within nature strips, which remain city assets. The Council employs a team of trained and experienced arborists to carry out this work. They undertake regular inspections and respond to residents' concerns about tree safety. We are also able to request Council to plant or replace trees on nature strips.

### **Low-growing shrubs, ground cover and mulching**

This is a real alternative, and some residents happily embrace it. However, we need to understand that Council will not contribute to the cost of establishing or maintaining nature strips modified in this way. And you must "dial before you dig" to make sure you will not be interfering with services.

Shrubs should not be allowed to grow higher than 600mm (300mm on corners), but Heather assured us that Council will not be monitoring shrubby nature strips with a tape measure! What is important is that lines of sight are not interfered with.

Documents currently accessible on the Hobart City Council website ([www.hobartcity.com.au](http://www.hobartcity.com.au)) are well worth reading:

Nature Strip Policy  
Nature Strip Guidelines



*"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

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### Gentle Hatha Yoga

Wednesday 6:30-7:30 PM

12 July to 9 August, in the Supper Room.  
Nourish your body with gentle movement,  
breathing and meditation.

All equipment provided.

\$17 casual (\$12 concession) or 5 class pass for  
\$60.

For booking & details contact Elise

([tulayogahobart@outlook.com](mailto:tulayogahobart@outlook.com))

or visit 'Tula Yoga Hobart' on Facebook,

TULA YOGA



### Your Mount Stuart Committees

Any resident of Mount Stuart is warmly invited to attend any meeting of our two committees, held on the fourth Thursday of the month in the Lower Hall at 7:30pm. If you have a particular matter to raise, please let our secretary know.

Your committees for 2023–24 were elected at well-attended Annual General Meetings in March.

#### Mount Stuart Residents Inc.

President Scott Faulkner  
Secretary Stewart Gardner  
Treasurer Eric Pinkard

Other committee members:

Rosemary Gardner, Lynden Howells, David Reeve

#### Mount Stuart Hall Inc.

President Lynden Howells  
Secretary Stewart Gardner  
Treasurer Eric Pinkard

Other committee members:

Rosemary Gardner, Scott Faulkner, David Reeve

All Mount Stuart residents are members of the two associations. The committees have the power to co-opt members during the year.

Nick Campbell is one resident who has recently joined our meetings. Welcome, Nick! The Residents Association is a member of the Council of Hobart Community Associations (CHCA), and currently provides its President: Scott Faulkner, and Secretary/Treasurer: Eric Pinkard.

### Wildlife in Mount Stuart

Bonorong Wildlife Sanctuary offers a free service to tend to injured wildlife, whether hit by a car or through other issues. They have a 24-hour phone line that anyone can contact: 0447 264 625.

Signs to educate drivers to be mindful of wildlife can be purchased through the Friends of Summerleas Wildlife group (Facebook). Another option is to purchase directly via Gwen, a local resident. Please text her on 0478 983 624 if you'd like to avail yourself of this offer.

The signs measure 600 x 900 x 5mm and are on printed Corflute. They can be purchased for \$16 each.





## Mount Stuart School So much to celebrate

Well, here we are at the end of another busy term for our school community and at the half-way mark of the school year. Again, we have so much to celebrate!

It is always heartening to see how our students support and encourage each other and observe the amazing improvement in their learning.

This year we have a focus on reading, and as staff we are challenging ourselves to ensure growth in outcomes for all our learners; even those who are reading very well already. We also strive to ensure that our students have opportunities to be engaged, capable and motivated learners; we do this by providing all students with exposure to inquiry pedagogies where they have opportunities to question, research and collaborate. These foci make sure that we offer a balanced and engaging program for all.

Our students continue to take advantage of our unique position between the Knocklofty Reserve and Providence Gully. All classes visit these spaces regularly. This develops a strong sense of connection to our community and a growing sense of respect for the traditional and original owners of the land.

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It has been great to have COVID restrictions relax and be able to welcome our community fully back into our school and to enjoy some larger community events. We are all looking forward to our Dark MOSO event on 11th August which will see some exciting temporary additions to our school grounds: firepits for toasting marshmallows and telescopes to explore the night sky.

We are always keen to welcome new families to our community so please let your neighbours with school-age children know they can call anytime for a tour of our school and an enrolment pack.

Kindest regards,

Louise.  
Principal



**Cr Anna  
Reynolds**

*Working  
for your  
community*

Please call or email me if I can assist you with Council matters, and to receive my monthly community newsletter.

**[cr.reynolds@hobartcity.com.au](mailto:cr.reynolds@hobartcity.com.au)  
0423 222 149**

## Weerona Ave Fire Trail Stabilising the Embankment

The top embankment on the trail on the southern side of the steps from Bimbadeen Court was beginning to erode badly. In an endeavour to stop the erosion, the City of Hobart has hired a contractor to pin down 180 m<sup>2</sup> sheets of weed matting and plant a total of 800 grass plants, which are a mixture of *Poa labillardierei* (tussock grass), *Lomandra longifolia* (mat rushes), *Austrostipa stipoides* (coast spear grass), and *Dichelachne crinita* (long hair plume grass).

The contractor is required to water the area for three months, then look after it for nine months.

