

MOUNT STUART NEWS

APRIL 2024



The Life and Times of Rob Valentine

Rob, as the present Member for Hobart in the Legislative Council, is not a candidate in the current election for the House of Assembly.

Rather, he is about to retire from Parliament at the conclusion of a second six-year term as our representative.

We have invited Rob to speak at our Annual General Meetings on Thursday 4th May at 7:45pm.

A committed long-term citizen of Hobart, who has served as City Councillor, Lord Mayor – the longest ever, from 1999 to 2011 as MLC and in many other roles, Rob has shown a consistent interest in Mount Stuart and in our associations and has supported the production of Mount Stuart News.

But his talk will range far wider than that – from his varied family history to the way he has approached political life. Come along and hear Rob's reflections on a life of community service.

Annual General Meetings for 2024

**Mount Stuart Residents Inc.
Mount Stuart Hall Inc.**

in the Mount Stuart Hall
on Thursday 4th April 2024 at 7:45pm.

All residents of Mount Stuart are members of these two associations, so please come if you are able, to hear about activities over the past year and to take part in choosing the office bearers and committee members for 2024-25.

The meetings only take a few minutes and will be followed by an address by the Hon. Rob Valentine, MLC.

Nominations for Committees

Please consider offering yourself for nomination, or invite another Mount Stuart resident to do so. Positions open for election are President, Secretary, Treasurer and Committee Member (up to nine positions).

There are committees for the Residents and Hall Associations, and usually they comprise the same people. Meetings normally occur monthly and follow each other, currently on the evening of the 4th Thursday of the month.

Contact the Secretary, Stewart Gardner, at secretary@mountstuarttas.org.au or find a nomination form on the Mount Stuart website.

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

Mount Stuart Facebook Page: @mountstuarttas

Email Mount Stuart Residents or the Hall: secretary@mountstuarttas.org.au

Warm, Sunny Christmas Carols Evening



The 2023 Mount Stuart Christmas Carol evening, organised by the Residents Association and supported by the Hobart City Council, was held in warm, sunny weather.

People enjoyed free sausages (cooked by the Mount Stuart Scouts) and free hot drinks (supplied by Loui's Van). There were activities in the Hall, also organised by the Scouts, and the Lenah Valley Fire Brigade were there with a fire truck for people to inspect. Lots of kids enjoyed talking to the fire station over the walkie talkie! Families and friends picnicked on the grounds and enjoyed meeting up with neighbours and friends as well as meeting newcomers to the area.

The Festive Quartet led the first half of the programme of singing inside the Hall and was followed by the Fuchsia House Ukulele Players. We missed the Mount Stuart Primary School choir, who were unable to attend this year due to circumstances beyond everyone's control. Hopefully, they will be back next year!

It truly was a wonderful evening! Our thanks go to the many people and organisations who helped make it such an enjoyable event.

Tuesday Morning Badminton Valley Street

In Mount Stuart Hall, 10:00–11:30am
All ladies welcomed.
Contact Vicki - 0468 452 115
for more information.

Bushcare Group

Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month
1:00–2:00pm followed by afternoon tea.
We care for the Leonard Wall Reserve
and Providence Gully.
Interested? Contact Vicki Martin
0468 452 115

Grandiflorum Gardens

Garden designer and consultant
Emma Westcott
0409796861

www.grandiflorumgardens.com

IG: grandiflorum_gardens

Ella Haddad MP

Your local Member for Clark

I'm here to support you
and our community

If I can help in any way please get in touch



184 Colins Street, Hobart
03 6212 2286

ella.haddad@parliament.tas.gov.au

[f](https://www.facebook.com/EllaHaddadMP) [i](https://www.instagram.com/EllaHaddadMP) /EllaHaddadMP

 Labor ^{Tasmanian}



Mount Stuart Scouts serve sausages



The Fuchsia House Ukulele Players



‘Snap Send Solve’ (by Phone)

One of our committee members recently phoned HCC using their landline (not being the possessor of a mobile phone) regarding the encroaching of agapanthus and other plants across the walkway connecting Keith White Crescent with the top of Giblin Street, thereby rendering both cycling and walking down or up that path rather difficult.

The path borders were successfully slashed and trimmed within a very few days, as the photo above clearly shows.

Thank you, HCC for the promptness and efficiency you displayed.

But Don’t Forget to Snap, Send and Solve!

Snap, Send and Solve is a way to bring an issue to the attention of the Council or another authority, so please feel free to download the app and start snapping.

Knocklofty Bushcare Update

Knocklofty Reserve is seriously dry after successive dry winter, spring and summer seasons. As a result, weeds have been less prolific, though forget-me-nots, thistles and elderberries are still going strong in Providence Valley. Euryops that flourished in the reserve above Bimbadeen Court are nearly gone, apart from a few on the steep banks of the Weerona Trail.

A Council-employed contractor planted 800 grasses and sedges at the northern end of the Weerona Trail to prevent erosion of the upper slope. Astrid Wright of Friends of Knocklofty observed: “It is interesting to see that the plants that have survived are the same as those that survived from planting we did in 2020 further along the trail. Only Poas and Lomandras seem to make it.”



Twelve to fourteen volunteers – mostly active retired people – turn up on Thursdays for a morning’s work in the bush and a coffee and chat afterwards.

Astrid says: “We still try to sweep through all of the reserve once a year, and remove any gorse, broom, hawthorn, bone seed, Spanish heath, blackberries, foxglove, wild turnip and hemlock and any garden plants coming in from neighbouring gardens.

“We are looking into the possibility of paying professional people to clear the cliff faces of the quarries near the Glover Track and Providence Valley Rivulet.”

For more information about Friends of Knocklofty, or to volunteer with the Bushcare group, see <http://friendsofknocklofty.org>

Time to Re-Shape?

Our Community Associations Face Change

As residents of Mount Stuart, you are invited to join in a re-think of the way our Residents and Hall Associations serve the community.

At present, the functions listed below are carried out by a dwindling, predominantly male group of ageing committee members.

The Residents Association

- Produces and distributes Mount Stuart News to every household with the help of a dedicated team of volunteers;
- Stages the annual Christmas Carols event – with funding from the Hobart City Council;
- Maintains a watching brief on the streets, parks and reserves, planning matters and services provided to the suburb;
- Lobbies, from time to time, on issues that affect the suburb and its residents;
- Actively participates in the Council of Hobart Community Associations.

The Hall Association

- Maintains and continually improves the facilities of Mount Stuart Hall, hiring it profitably to a wide range of groups from the suburb and the wider Hobart Community.

Right now, the position of President of the Residents Association is about to become vacant. It would be great to see a younger, passionate resident nominate for this vital role, and a good cross-section of residents (including more female nominees) for committee positions.

Mount Stuart Residents Inc.

The aim of the Association is to further the interests and community wellbeing of the Mount Stuart area and its residents.

But wait... there's more!

We invite you to participate, as we consider how our organisation can re-shape itself for the next decade.

Here are some questions to get you started:

- Can we be more proactive – initiating relevant services, with less focus on complaints? (Mount Stuart Carols and the recycling service in 2021-22 are two existing and past initiatives.)
- What are the needs and concerns of Mount Stuart residents that an association can make its focus?
- How can a residents' body operate effectively when so many residents are time-poor and committed to family, work and other community activities?
- What is the value of Mount Stuart News, and what purpose do you see it as serving?
- Where might greater use of social media fit?

Please contribute your thoughts – and action – on these matters:

- by nominating committee members and office-bearers prior to the AGMs
- by attending on 4th April
- by sending comments and feedback arising from this article to dareeve@iinet.net.au.

David Reeve
on behalf of the Committee

