

Taroona Community Association Newsletter



From the President

It is winter. The days are brisk, still and short with darkness enveloping us early in the late afternoon. The autumn leaves have fallen and the Winter Solstice is here. With great celebration we will begin to feel the days begin to slowly lengthen and the light return. It is the natural rhythm of life, the seasons and the planet.

In Taroona life has been buzzing along even though we lack many of the retail services that only two years ago were here to service our residents. Alas there is still no progress to be seen at the shopping centre nor (at the time of writing) the hotel. But thankfully our wonderful Community Library remains operating in the shopping centre, keeping the community flame burning and providing an important service in this near-vacant building.

Late in April, 60 Taroona residents met in the local hall for a TCA public forum to allow people to share their feelings and frustrations about the state of Taroona's commercial zone, and say what some of us want for Taroona.

Overall, it was a productive and positive session with residents given the opportunity to speak about their views on the issue. The general feeling expressed that evening was one of powerlessness and shame about the state of our suburb. Some residents stated that there is no future for the shopping centre given the change in Taroona's demographics and shopping trends. As most people, particularly those who work out of Taroona, tend to carry out substantial household shopping in Sandy Bay or Kingston, it was felt that a general store would better suit the contemporary needs of this suburb. Others expressed the contrary view suggesting that there is a market for a shopping centre that will provide a number of services, café and importantly a social hub where older and younger people can mix and meet in a safe environment. The post office is being sorely missed with some small home-based businesses particularly affected.

Joe Rizk from the Taroona Service Centre spoke at length on his plans to upgrade the service station into a small shop. His business has thankfully stepped into the role of providing residents with basic food lines.

At the end of the session participants were invited to write down their thoughts and feelings. A summary can be found on page 3. The TCA will be forwarding a copy to Kingborough councillors and the owners of Taroona's commercial facilities.

Other items in this newsletter include a new segment on weeds contributed by the Kingborough Council's Bushcare Co-ordinator; advertisements about some exciting forthcoming community events, and updates on recent happenings.

Please read on!

Jill Hickie

Calendar

June

- **Sun 18: St Luke's 50th Anniversary**
- **Sun 25: Taroona Community Market**

July

- **Sun 2: TEN Bee, THS/TPS gullies**
- **Wed 5: Gardening Forum Meeting**
- **Thu. 6: Taroona area meeting, Kingborough Planning Scheme Review**
- **Thursday 27: TCA general meeting, 7.30 pm**
- **Sun 30: Taroona Community Market**

August

- **Mon 1: Newsletter deadline**
- **Wed 3: Gardening Forum Meeting**
- **Sun 6: TEN Bee at Seaview foreshore**
- **Sat 26: Jungala Fire Sculpture Night.**
- **Sun 27: Taroona Community Market**

September

Taroona Community Association

General meeting

Thursday 27 July, 7.30 pm

Guest speaker

Dr. Lorne Kriwoken

Tourism in Antarctica

Taroona Community Hall

(Batchelor Way, behind Shopping Centre)

All welcome

Supper will follow the meeting

Transport to Kingston

If you are elderly, frail or disabled your name can be put on a register for a bus to go shopping in Kingston. This is coordinated by Doug Cooper for the Community Transport Service Tasmania (HACC). The service comprises a trip to the Kingston Shopping Centre on the same day each week, at a cost of \$4 a time (you don't need to go every time).

A minimum of 10 people is required.

For a Registration Form, please ring our Secretary, Fiona Rice on 62279018.

Bushcare

Welcome to a new regular article aimed at raising awareness of the work being undertaken by Kingborough Council's Bushcare team. This first article focuses on tracks and trails, due to the high level of community interest in this issue displayed at the recent Community Consultative Forums.

Tracks and trails

The results of a 1997 *Recreation, Sport and Open Space Plan* listed walking, cycling and horse riding as the three outdoor pursuits enjoyed by the greatest majority of Kingborough's residents. It's no surprise when one considers the wonderful natural heritage features that exist here! The results and list of recommendations from this Plan provide Council with the direction necessary to provide for those facilities.

Council has engaged a Trackwork Contractor to undertake an audit of our bushwalking tracks, to direct Council's Track Maintenance budget and priorities.

Track upgrade works currently being undertaken (or soon to commence) by contractors, Council's Parks and Reserves staff and/or members of our local communities, include:

- ◆ A section of the Taroona Coastal Walking Track between Melinga Place and Taroona Beach
- ◆ The Whitewater Creek Walking Track
- ◆ Suncoast Walking Track from the southern end of Blackmans Bay Beach to Flowerpot Point
- ◆ Snug River walking track.

New track

You might like to try a new walking track, just opened, which winds through beautiful dry and wet sclerophyll forests behind Sandfly Oval, from the old Fire Brigade shed to North West Bay River. The track is approximately 2 km one way. Pack a picnic lunch, take a stroll to the banks of the river and enjoy the views.

Council is also developing a Sign Strategy to provide unified signage for all walking tracks, parks and reserves, and playgrounds and sporting fields. Carefully planned and consistent signage communicates advisory, regulatory and interpretive information and enhances visitor experience.

Richard Greenhill, Bushcare Officer

rgreenhill@kingborough.tas.gov.au



Saturday 26th August
From 5.00 - 8.00 pm

Come and join in the celebrations

Lantern Parade, Fire Sculpture, Community Choir, Taiko Drumming, African Band, School Marimba band, Face Painting, Glow Sticks, Gluwein, BBQ, and more.

Tickets at Taroona Primary School Office from 3rd July
\$2.00 per person and a maximum of \$10 per family

We hope to see you there!
(PS it's at the school!)

Taroona Ex-Services Club Inc.

At dawn on Anzac Day, a record number of more than 150 men, women and children gathered at the Taroona War Memorial in Taroona Park to honour the memory of those who sacrificed their lives or served in defence of their country.

The ANZAC Day Dawn service followed a march to the War Memorial. Here the service was organised and conducted by the Taroona Ex-Services Club under President Roger Weston assisted by Chaplain David Lewis RDF (formerly rector of St Luke's Church, Taroona) and other club officials. Apart from official wreaths being laid, memorial floral tributes were laid by individuals.

In the memorial's beautiful surroundings, the Taroona Ex-Services Club conducts commemorative services which provide a focal point for Taroona residents on ANZAC and Remembrance Days.

Regular and reserve ex-servicemen and women who wish to join the club, are most welcome to make enquiries at out meetings held from 2.30 pm on the third Friday of each month.

John McMahon



MARY'S GRANGE INC.
Reachout Program
Health and fitness for over 55s

Reachout classes are held regularly at Taroona on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and include fitball, aerobics for seniors, cardio strength and fitness and no impact exercise.

\$20 annual membership fee payable on joining Reachout, then \$6.00 per session pay as you go.

For more information and to Register phone:

Program Manager, Joyce Batchelor 6227 9964 (Tues- Fri)

TEN planting day



7 May 2006, 370 coastal heath natives were planted on the Taroona High School foreshore by 55 volunteers at Taroona Environment Network's Community Planting Day.

Next TEN working bee: July 2 – THS/TPS Gullies Planting and weeding. Meet at gullies near oval.

Cotoneaster, weed of the season

There are approximately 300 species and cultivars in the genus Cotoneaster, all hailing from the temperate regions of Eurasia, with a particularly high concentration in SW China and the Himalayas.

Cotoneasters grow well in Tasmania and were given away to households by this Council in the 1950s and 60s due to their attractive clusters of red berries and their fire retarding properties! However, today's common garden plants can become tomorrow's environmental weeds. We need to be vigilant about what we grow in our gardens.

Description

Cotoneasters are members of the large Rosaceae family, and are closely related to roses, apples, pears, quinces, plums, raspberries, blackberries and hawthorns. Cotoneasters are generally small to medium multi-stemmed shrubs, maximum height approx 4 m. Both deciduous and evergreen species are commonly grown in home gardens for their attractive foliage and persistent clusters of fruit. The leaves are generally oval, grey-green to dark green and often hairy and white underneath. Inconspicuous clusters of white flowers in spring produce masses of insect-attracting pollen. All cotoneaster species produce masses of red to orange fruits that persist on the plant often until late winter.

Why are Cotoneasters a problem?

Cotoneasters are listed in the Kingborough Planning Scheme (and many other municipalities) as environmental weeds – non-local plants that out-compete native vegetation and threaten the existence of native plants and animals.

Birds eat the fruits and spread the seed widely into natural areas. Seedlings often out-compete native seedlings for nutrients, water, light and space.

Removal

Small plants may be hand pulled. Larger plants should be cut at ground level and a glyphosate herbicide applied to the stumps to prevent re-sprouting. Alternatively, stumps of larger cotoneasters can be dug out with a mattock or ground out by a stump grinder.

The Taroona Environment Network, Truganini Bushcare Group and other interested landholders have done a fantastic job removing cotoneasters from Council reserves and private properties. We need your help to continue this work to maintain healthy populations of our native flora and fauna.

Cotoneaster alternatives

Local indigenous replacement plants with a similar habit include Hop Bush (*Dodonaea viscosa*), Lancewood (*Nematolepis viscosa*), Native olive (*Notelaea ligustrina*) or Coffee berry (*Coprosma hirtella*). All are available at good local native plant nurseries.

Richard Greenhill, Bushcare Officer, Kingborough Council.

Your views

The following is a summary of what was written on 27 April, 2006 at the community meeting organized to discuss Taroona and current situation with local business. Participants were asked to write responses to three questions.

How do you think Taroona Community Assoc. could help?

- ◆ Help the Service station get a Post Office.
- ◆ Involve Kingborough Council Development Officer.
- ◆ Letterbox a survey to all Taroona residents.
- ◆ TCA to get someone from Taroona to stand for Council.

How could Taroona commercial zone be improved?

- ◆ **Post Office services:** Loss of the Post Office affects small home businesses (eg stamps cannot be purchased locally or parcels remitted, when parcels are delivered and owner is not at home, they must be collected from Kingston PO).
- ◆ **Shopping services:** Many commented that a good quality general/grocery store with Post Office would be sufficient and probably more likely to be viable. Need for café and bakery was also noted often, and for an Automatic Teller Machine. Better location with Channel Highway frontage is essential for viability. Current shopping centre site suffers from location off road, and difficult/dangerous entrance and exit.
- ◆ **Shopping Centre building/site:** Suggestions for re-use included: campervan park, business headquarters, community centre, residential units, child care centre, senior citizens centre, art gallery, aged care facility.

How do you feel about your suburb?

Sample of comments:

The need for a community hub such as is provided by a shopping centre, or by a café, was an oft repeated comment.

- ◆ "We cannot afford to lose the space for the community to gather and share information. We do need basic services, ... but we also need community display space to advertise events, meet friends, have a chat and celebrate community. It's what we love about Taroona!"
- ◆ "Taroona has become a commercial non-entity with a look of general neglect."
- ◆ "Disappointed that... my children can't walk to as many shops as they used to ..."
- ◆ "The future of the library should be a priority."
- ◆ "Living in Taroona is now like living in a slum!"
- ◆ "... a little pessimistic about the prospects for the future. Maybe the "rejuvenation" needs to be reasonably low key (and therefore more realistic)."
- ◆ "Very sad if we lose the shopping centre. It has been a success and can be a success – otherwise we will lose a community meeting place."
- ◆ "Support local businesses. A general store is going forward."
- ◆ "What help/advice/proposals has any Kingborough councillor made regarding the derelict shopping centre?"
- ◆ "Hotel!! A disgrace to our suburb and all who live here...now is the time for some excellent leadership for Kingborough Council."
- ◆ "With a suitable tenant the locals will use the facility...if we have a Hill Street Grocer style shop people will go out of their way to use it...return to a strip development along the highway – but it requires multiple sympathetic businesses to invest all at once for each to survive. It was easily destroyed but it will be very difficult to build back up again."
- ◆ "Oh dear! Taroona looks like a dump.... It's embarrassing to have to explain to visitors."

St Luke's Church 50th Anniversary

You are invited to a celebration of the 50th anniversary
of Taroona's Anglican Church on
Sunday 18th June
10.30am Service of Holy Communion

(Enquiries: Mrs Jill Finch: 6225 4351)



Community library

Still operating in the Shopping Centre!!

Opening hours

Mon-Thurs: 10.30 am - 2.30 pm

Friday: 10.30 am - 5.00 pm

Saturday: 10.30 am - 12.00 noon

New Members very welcome. Call in soon!



A small section of Joe Rizk's shop in the service station. Joe has established a convenience store and has basic grocery items including fresh fruit and vegetables, milk and bread and canned foods. He plans to expand the store into the adjoining bay soon.

Anzac Day Dawn Service

Congratulations to Taroona Apex

With their president James Willey (whose father Steve, carried the Australian ensign in the pre-dawn march) the Taroona Apex crew deserves highest praise for providing a substantial hot breakfast to a record number of 150 locals after the ANZAC Day Dawn Service.

Paul Martin organised catering and cooking and deserves special praise.

A tremendous effort and a wonderful example of a service club in operation.

Another example of unstinting volunteer service was provided by newly married Peter and Lill (nee Cripps) Lidsler, who served over 150 cups of tea and coffee, (including rum for those who felt the need) before the Apex breakfast!

Both Lill and Peter's families have a long record of service to the Taroona Ex-Services Club and the community. Thanks for your support, and congratulations on your marriage.

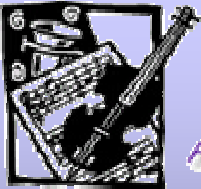
News in brief

Taroona Scouts garage sale

Taroona Scouts would like to thank the community for supporting their sale. \$1200 was raised. Watch for news of another sale soon.

Opening of new BBQ at Taroona Beach: Mayor Graeme Bury opened the new Ian Bender memorial BBQ and shelter on 3 June. Thanks to Apex and Kingborough Council for this fine new community facility.

Kingborough Planning Scheme Review: Second round of community consultations, 7.00pm Thursday 6th July, Taroona Community Centre. For further details ring Community Liaison Officer Lynn Mackrill on 6211 8172.



Come back to music

AUSTRALIAN STRINGS ASSOCIATION (AUSTA)

Violin

Viola

'Cello

Bass

Have you learnt to play one of these instruments but have lost contact with other players? Or do you already play in a chamber music group, and would like performance and tutorial practice?

Send your name, address and phone number to:

AUSTA MUSIC, c/o Box 671, Kingston, Tas 7051

or Email: austamusic@iinet.net.au

A brochure/entry form will be distributed giving full details.

Rosemary Evenhuis, President, AUSTA TAS

Taroona Community Association Inc.

Enhancing Taroona as a place of Residence and Employment

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<http://users.bigpond.com/mickjbrown1/taroonacommunity.htm>