

President's report

Happy New Year to Taroona residents and businesses! This summer has been a beautiful season for enjoying the outdoors. In early February Taroona was in a prime viewing location to witness the most spectacular electrical storm that resulted in 20 wildfires burning in Tasmania. My daughter commented that nature provided far better viewing than fireworks!

Even though summer is traditionally the holiday season, there have been considerable events and issues that have kept the TCA committee busy. A summary of these issues is provided for readers in this newsletter.

1967 Bushfires Commemorative Barbecue

On 10 February, 67 Taroona residents gathered at a barbecue at the Taroona Volunteer Fire Brigade Station to commemorate the 40" anniversary of the 1967 bushfires. It was a gathering that brought some older residents who have since moved elsewhere. back to Taroona. Some extraordinary memories were shared of this tragic day and how it will remain embellished within many people's memories. Dr. Hilary Wallace recalled there were three features that stood out for her on that tragic day - she will never forget the noise of the fires raging down the slopes and through Taroona: the all encompassing darkness that the smoke generated from what was a sunny hot clear day; and the fear - the paralysing fear of not knowing what to do and where family members were all located. Others remembered the generosity between unknown residents as they stood shoulder to shoulder on the beach often knee deep in the sea, and the valour and courage of unknown neighbours attempting to protect others homes.

Many thanks to the Taroona Volunteer Fire Brigade for providing the excellent and appropriate venue for the occasion; the Taroona Bowls Club. Lower Sandy Bay Butcher and 4 Bread Bakery for assisting with catering on the day; and the Kingborough Council. Taroona Hall Committee and Kingston Rotary Club for sponsoring the event.

Read on for more news!

Jill Hickie

Please join the Taroona Community Association.

Membership forms will be available at the meeting and the Treasurer will be happy to receive payment and provide a receipt - \$10 annual subscription.

Calendar

March

- Sat 3: Taroona Litter Drive Clean –up Australia Day
- Sun 4: St Luke's Harvest Festival 9 am
- Wed 7: Garden Forum, 7.30 pm Uniting Church, Taroona Crescent
- Sun. 25: Market 10 am to 3 pm, Shopping Centre

April

- Wed 4: Garden Forum, 7.30 pm
 Uniting Church, Taroona Crescent
- Thu 19: TCA General Meeting
- Wed 25: Anzac Day Services
- Sun. 29: Market 10 am to 3pm, Shopping Centre

May

- Wed 2: Garden Forum, 7.30 pm Uniting Church, Taroona Crescent
- Sun. 27: Market 10 am to 3 pm, Shopping Centre

Taroona Community Assoc.

General Meeting

7.30 pm, Thursday 19 April

Taroona Community Hall

Guest Speaker

Chris Brown

local biologist will give a short illustrated presentation

Macquarie Island and North Rona

sub Antarctic and sub Arctic wildlife and environment

All welcome, supper follows.

Taroona Ex-Services Club Inc. 60 years on

Sixty years ago, when Taroona was a small, somewhat isolated but tight-knit community a few stalwarts started a club to include all men and women who were in the armed forces but had not served overseas, and were therefore ineligible for RSL membership.

This rule still applies and over the years we have had the pleasure of accepting members of Commonwealth and Allied Services, current reservists, members of permanent forces, and those who had completed National Service, both in Australia and their country of origin. The club is a unique organisation and has given much pleasure to many members and families over the years.

Meetings are held on every third Friday of the month, at 2.30 pm in the Harold Suckling Room adjacent to the Community Hall in Batchelor Way. Endeavours are made to present an interesting guest speaker. Alternatively a suitable video may be shown on the large screen.

Social activities include a mid-year and a Christmas dinner, a BBO and bus trips. Traditionally a Dawn Service is held on Anzac Day followed by a cooked breakfast to more than 100 members, catered for by the Taroona Apex Club. A service is also held on Remembrance Day.

These social events give an opportunity for members and wives and new residents to become acquainted and thought is now being given to further involvement in community affairs.

Denis Suckling, the son of our founding president had been given leave of absence due to serious health problems, and we are very pleased that he has been able to return and participate in our "Diamond" Anniversary.

There are many in the community, not only in Taroona, who are reaching retirement and have one Friday per month free in the afternoon, You would be welcome to join us.

The annual subscription is \$10 and \$5 is charged at each meeting to cover the cost of refreshments.

Further enquiries: John Kerr on 6227 8555 or

Ken Graham on 6227 9924.

We look forward to new members in our 60th year celebrations.

Paul O'Brien

Taroona Hotel development progresses

As the Taroona Hotel site has been quiet since before Christmas, bankruptcy rumours have been circulating. Peter Gray, co-owner of the development, has recently informed the TCA that these rumours are untrue. He stated that building works for Stage 1 are proceeding as planned with electrical and plumbing works soon to commence. This stage of the development is programmed to be open in October this year.

The community hopes that they meet their programmed goal too!



Taroona Environment Network (TEN)

TEN's monthly working bees have already started for 2007. Thanks to those people who turned up to weed in Hinsby (or 'Ralph's) Gully on a hot day in February when others were streaming to the beach.

Working bees are held on the first Sunday of the month from 2-4pm and we welcome new volunteers. The enclosed brochure outlines the 2007 program.

Consider joining Taroona Environment Network, membership is just \$1 per calendar year, and 2007 membership fees are now due. If you feel so inclined, include a donation to the TEN Public Fund (donations of \$2 and above are tax deductible).

Most of TEN's income comes with tight spending constraints, so tax deductible donations are a great means of raising money for environmental work in Taroona.

Since it was started in 2002, the TEN Public Fund has received donations of around \$2000 per financial year. Donations have been used to supplement the government funded work that TEN has undertaken in a couple of Taroona gullies. All TEN Public Fund expenditure to date has gone towards contractors working on weed removal and replanting.

One of our major activities over the last couple of years was administering an Australian Government Envirofund grant. This grant has now been fully spent, the finances have been audited and the final report has been approved. This project has produced some very good outcomes and some new interpretive material will be installed along the Taroona foreshore in the near future.

TEN plans to submit an application in the next round of Envirofund grants which has just opened. If you want to contribute to this application process, please contact the president, Gustaaf Hallegraeff (6227 9570). If you wish to pay membership fees, please contact the treasurer, Jemery Day (6227 9387).

Storm brewing over public foreshore access at Seaview Avenue

Lower Seaview Avenue residents were shocked when recently informed by both Kingborough Council and a descendent of the original Seaview subdivision owner, that public access to the coastal foreshore at the end of Seaview Avenue is in question.

Council's programming of the upgrading of the Taroona foreshore track facilitated the need to clarify ownership of certain land titles. According to their research it appears that the land title which covers the "public" access track to the foreshore at the end of Seaview Avenue may be privately owned, and furthermore, could be wide enough to be developed. This led to the "new" owner formally notifying a neighbouring resident of his intention to build on this block. After 70 years of public access, the TCA believes that the ownership of this block could potentially be contested to be public land.

In an interesting twist local research into the old Torrens titles from the 1923 subdivision has revealed that, contrary to Council's advice, many of the original titles show a Right-of-Carriageway over this block which facilitates public access through this block forevermore.

Sadly Council's research has also revealed that the title along the Seaview Avenue foreshore is also still in private ownership. When and how this will be resolved is not known.

The TCA has met with Council officers and it appears the resolution is some way off. We remain a firm advocate for maintaining public access to the foreshore, and will aim to keep residents informed.

Council Planning Scheme Amendments – Phase 1

The TCA formally submitted comments on the Council's proposed amendments to the Kingbrough Planning Scheme – Phase 1 which closed in early January, and we are happy to say that all of the comments were accepted by the Council.

The TCA's comments were on refining the wording of the Desired Future Character Statements, and the reduction of the area that was proposed for multi-unit housing that was proposed to extend along the Channel Highway from the School through to Jenkins Street. The TCA argued that implementing such an expansive zone for multi-unit housing would lead to significant loss of Taroona's inherent character and amenity. This would particularly impact the areas of Taroona Crescent, Jenkins Street and Hinsby Road. A reviewed footprint was presented as an alternative, which reduced the defined boundaries for those streets.

Kingborough Historic Heritage Inventory

In 2006, Kingborough Council engaged consultants to identify historic heritage sites, houses, trees and streetscapes in Kingborough that might qualify for heritage listing. The draft inventory was available for public comment until the end of February.

Amongst the 84 features recommended for heritage listing or further investigation, there are three houses in Hinsby Road, six houses in Oakleigh Avenue, one tree in Belhaven Avenue, a row of pines on Channel Highway, part of Taroona Crescent streetscape ..., and dozens more properties, historic sites, trees and streetscapes have been identified.

The TCA has made a formal submission to Council on the process and various aspects of this project. However, even though the comment period has closed, the consultants will still accept comments, and will also be holding public meetings in several locations before Easter. Following that, they will prepare a final report. Council will then consider a schedule to the planning scheme covering heritage. Once the Heritage Schedule is certified it will be subject to normal statutory submissions and Resource Planning and Development Commission hearings.

Copies of the inventory have been left at the Taroona Primary School and Taroona Community Library.

Taroona Fire Brigade 60th Birthday

On the 2nd of December the Taroona Brigade threw open its doors to the public to celebrate its 60th birthday.

The Day included hose drill demonstrations, fixed displays of both structural and bushfire response equipment, a historical display, the community safety trailer and appliances both old and new. But by far the most popular activity with the young (and not so young) was simulated firefighting with props made by firefighter Nick Enman, requiring participants to knock down the flame props from a distance before attacking the main fire in a nearby tree. Sufficient to say that the trees won't need a water for a long time to come!

At 1415 the brigade was presented with certificates and a small momento by the mayors of the two councils, Cr Graeme Bury (KCC) and Ald Rob Valentine (HCC), parts of which are in the Brigade's response area. This presentation was followed by the first of the Life Membership presentations made during the day, with David Lees a more than worthy recipient for his years of ongoing dedication to the Brigade.

Following the presentation members of the brigade performed two further hose-drills for the invited guests and the public during which members of the Museum Brigade arrived with two of their display appliances, a Dennis Pumper, similar to an ex-Taroona appliance, and, the Bedford ex-aerial appliance from Hobart Station. Many thanks to the museum brigade for their attendance.

Just following the completion of a set of hose drills and with members of the public asking what procedure occurs at a fire, thick smoke was spotted further up the river and the 5.1 was dispatched to deal with what turned out to be a resident burning very green garden waste, allowing the public to see first hand our response procedure.

The final act of the day was to present an elusive Rod Finlayson with Life Membership of the Brigade in recognition of his support to the brigade and its officers during his time. Rod is still an active volunteer with the TFS in the Southern Logistics Brigade.

A big thankyou to all those brigade members who helped to organise the day with a special thankyou to Chris Arnol, Gavin Freeman, Ian Cawthorn, Brendon Burridge, Gary Loe and the Southern Region Staff for their efforts, and to the mayors for their support and willingness to assist.

Sister Josephine celebrates 70 years as Sister of Charity

Sister Josephine celebrated her platinum jubilee (70 years) as a Sister of Charity on 25 January 2007. The Catholic Church in Taroona, St Pius X, was the setting for the celebration.

It was fitting that the Mass and festivities occurred only a short distance from the site of the cottages on the Channel Highway, statue of St Joseph (Villa Units) where Sister dedicated herself to children in care. This was the Tasmania phase of her dedicated life in New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania.



Community library

Run by community volunteers

We have lots of NEW BOOKS kindly donated from Christmas presents. OPENING HOURS Monday 10.30 to 2.30 Tuesday 10.30 to 2.30 Friday 10.30 to 4.30 Saturday 10.30 to 12.00

> Feel free to come and browse. We look forward to your company.

2007 is Readers' Heaven!

Piano lessons

Would you like to learn the piano? You're never too old or too young to begin!

We welcome beginners to advanced and those returning to the piano. Relaxed and encouraging atmosphere in Taroona studio. Emphasis on tun and enjoyment from music. Experienced and qualified teachers present a variety of styles. Tuition and preparation for AMEB practical exams.

New in 2007 - Music Craft theoretical syllabus - individual and small group lessons are offered to students of all instruments.

Also now offering Singing lessons
Vacancies now available for 2007.
Ph. Rosemary Cordy 6227 9334 mobile 0424 824 539

About this newsletter

Produced quarterly - circulation 1350.

We welcome articles and advertisements from community groups, or submissions about local events and issues (no charge.)
Back page ads (approx 4 cm x 1 column width), are only \$10 per issue, and we also ask advertisers to join the Association (only \$10 per year.)
13 classifieds or 13 new memberships is all that is needed to fund the production and distribution of an entire issue, thanks to our team of dedicated volunteers and kind help from our printer.

June Newsletter deadline

Submit copy by April 30 to the Editor (contact details below)

Taroona Blue B & B

If you have guests coming....
Consider Taroona Blue at 30A Channel Highway.

Modern accommodation with river views in a garden setting.

Special rates apply. Please call 0418 991767.

Suzanne H Morton BA DipEd AMusA

Are you interested in piano lessons for yourself or your children?

Some places available this year with experienced teacher happy to teach piano and theory at any level in a friendly environment,

Phone Sue Morton 6227 8632 or 0438 124 576

Lutine Ballet Academy

Classes at Taroona Community Hall

- RAD Exams children's and majors
- · RAD Pre-school curriculum
- Drama training for Eisteddfods Excellent results

Registered RAD teacher - Ph. 6225 3135

Lady Gowrie Taroona

At Taroona Primary School Lady Gowrie provides:

After Kindergarten Care - Takkers:

For children currently attending Kindergarten at Taroona Primary School. Tue - Thursday 12.20 pm-3.00 pm \$16.00 per child per session (Child Care Benefit not available) After School Care:

Age: 5-12 years - For children attending Taroona Primary School (and 4 year olds with special approval). 3.00 pm-6.00 pm school days - cost \$10-\$14 *

Vacation Care:

Open to all children aged 5-12: 8.00 am - 6.00 pm \$38.00 *

Please contact Shannon Gall (OSHC Cluster Manager) for further information on 62306864. (*Child Care Benefit Available)

Taroona Community Association Inc.

The Taroona Community Association is a non-profit group established on 14 June 1996 to serve and represent the community of Taroona. Meetings are open to all residents. An annual meeting elects a committee to conduct the Association's business.

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The Taroona Community Newsletter is produced quarterly and printed by Whatsinaname Tasmania
Circulation 1350, distributed to your letterbox by volunteers.