



From the President

Spring is renowned to be the fickle season, often delivering extreme variation in the weather – but 2006 has taken the gold medal, breaking records for the hottest days, the worst fire weather, strongest winds and very little rain for this time of the year. This does not bode well for the impending summer season and reminds Taroona residents to ready themselves for a bushfire should it arrive. Bushfires in mid-October were a cruel reminder that we need to be prepared for the summer fire season, and that the 40th anniversary of the 1967 bushfires is near.

This edition contains an article informing residents of measures they can take to prepare themselves for bushfires. The Tasmania Fire Service will soon release a DVD that shows householders how to be prepared and how to protect themselves and their property during bushfires.

Additionally, the Kingborough Council is organising a range of commemorative activities for the 40th anniversary of the 1967 bushfires, and the TCA will be participating. We will endeavor to keep residents informed.

Alum Cliffs Track closure

As a result of a recent audit of all Kingborough tracks by the Council, the Alum Cliffs track is to be closed from Hartnell Rd through to Taronga Road. The track is in poor condition, exposing users to a high risk of injury and the council to legal liability. The consultant estimated that this section of track requires approximately \$250,000 to bring it up to Australian standards. Sadly this almost totally closes a once spectacular regional track, with only a small section remaining open in Taroona from Wandella Avenue to Hinsby Beach and another small section at the Kingston Beach end.

The broader issue is that Kingborough Council has not been dedicating resources to the ongoing management of its tracks and trails. TCA is encouraging Council to dedicate resources to the maintenance of all of its tracks, and to continue exploring all funding avenues for the reopening of the Alum Cliffs Track in its entirety.

Crime on the rise

There has been a higher than average number of burglaries of Taroona properties over recent months. Tasmania Police have been asked to attend our AGM as guest speakers.

Jill Hickie

Calendar

November

- *Fri. 10: St Luke's Twilight Vair*
- *Sat 11: Remembrance Day Service*
- *Mon. 20: Historical society 7.30pm*
- *Thu 23: TCA AGM 7.30 pm at Hall*
- *Sat 25: Crag Bake at Bowls Club*
- *Sun. 26: Market 10.00 am to 3.00 pm, Shopping Centre*

December

- *Sun 3: Café Comfort at Baptist Church*
- *Wed. 6: Gardening forum meeting*
- *Sun. 10: Market 10.00 am to 3.00 pm, Shopping Centre*
- *Sat 16: Christmas Truck*
- *Sat 16: Scouts Christmas tree sales*
- *Sat 16: Christmas Dinner - Bowls Club*
- *Sun 17: Carol service at St Luke's 9 am*
- *Sun 24: Kid's Christmas at St Luke's*

Taroona Community Association

Annual General Meeting

7.30 pm, 23rd November, 2006
Taroona Community Hall

Guest Speaker
Inspector Mark Mewis
from Kingston Police

HOME AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

All welcome, supper follows.

MAKE SURE YOU SURVIVE THE NEXT BUSHFIRE....

Given the early bushfire season and record dry conditions in south-eastern Tasmania it is recommended that residents who live near or in bushland take action to prepare themselves for the bushfire season. A properly prepared home is more likely to survive a bushfire than one that hasn't been prepared, and the chances increase significantly if able-bodied people are there to protect your home.

Here are a few tips:

- ◆ **Prepare a written bushfire plan** setting out what you are going to do to prepare your home, and what you are going to do if a bushfire approaches.
- ◆ **Make the decision** – will I stay or will I go? If you go – go early.
- ◆ **Prepare your home – create a defensible space**, divided into two zones ranging from 15-50 metres dependent on slope and construction standard of building.

In the **inner zone**, flammable materials on, under and around your home should all be moved away from the house. Remove fire hazards such as wood piles, rubbish heaps and short fuels; prune lower branches on trees, rake up bark and leaves and keep roofs and gutters clear of flammable debris. Use non-flammable mulch – do not use woodchips up to the edge of houses. It is not necessary to remove all vegetation from the inner zone. Individual trees rarely cause houses to burn in bushfires. It is the windblown embers landing in flammable material that often create fires.

In the **outer zone**, small sized natural fuels such as leaf litter and branches are removed to reduce the intensity of an approaching bushfire. Retain established trees to trap embers and reduce wind speeds; selectively remove small trees and shrubs to create clumps rather than a continuous wall of trees and shrubs.

In your home, clear your roof gutters, paths and doorways of leaf debris.

If you choose to stay to protect your home you need to have **personal protection**. Wear clothing made from natural fibres, long pants and long-sleeved shirt, leather boots, a wide brimmed hat or safety helmet, gloves, goggles or safety glasses and a face mask

- ◆ Provide water for fire fighting – fill buckets, baths, sinks. Buckets and wet mops are excellent for chasing embers.
- ◆ You need basic tools – a ladder, a good strong torch, a hose and fittings, a mop, rake and strong bucket, a battery operated radio, first aid-kit.
- ◆ Remove garden furniture, door mats and other flammable items from around the home.
- ◆ Plug all downpipes (using a sock filled with sand/soil) and fill gutters with water.
- ◆ Close all doors and windows, remove curtains and close window shutters. Plug gaps around windows and underneath doors with wet towels.

As the fire approaches patrol the edges of the inner zone and put out spot-fires. Keep an eye on the house for any embers getting into roof spaces or under the foundations. If the fire is too close and intense, retreat inside and keep watch for any part of the house catching fire.

After the fire front has passed, which is often only 5 to 10 minutes, patrol house and garden to extinguish anything still smouldering. Keep checking roof spaces and other possible ember traps.

This information has been adapted from the TFS Bushfire Prepare to Survive Guide. Copies will be available at the TCA AGM on November 23rd

Taroona High School students showcase drama skills in China

Eight students travelled to China in October to showcase their drama skills. They include former Taroona High students Alexander Duncan (Rosny College) and Robert Hortle (Hobart College), Grade 10 students Niall Maurici, Amy Churchill and Rosie Woolley and grade eight students Joe Humphries, Shane Russon and Ryan North. They were accompanied by Taroona High principal Brendan Kelly and teacher Hingor Chung.

The students were chosen for the tour for their drama skills and contribution to community life.

In the months leading up to their departure, the students have been busy with rehearsals and induction sessions on Chinese language and culture. Their stay in China will start in the more rustic setting of Chengdu in western China. There, students will visit significant historical sites such as the country's oldest irrigation project Dujiangyan, Leshan (largest Buddha 71m in the world), the sacred mountain of Emei (3099m) and the residence of China's most revered poet Dufu. To enhance the group's understanding of Chinese theatrical traditions, the group will also attend musicals and operas in teahouses. A visit to the Panda Breeding Centre has been included.

This tour will be followed with 2 stops on the Chinese east coast, in Jiangyin and Shanghai where the students will perform at Nanjing Senior High and Gao Qiao Senior High. Prepared skits include scenes from the doctor's surgery, the teachers' staff room, the Tasmanian Central Highlands and a puppet theatre. Our contact in Shanghai has been facilitated by family and friends of our Grade 10 student Gu Shiyi (Betty Gu).

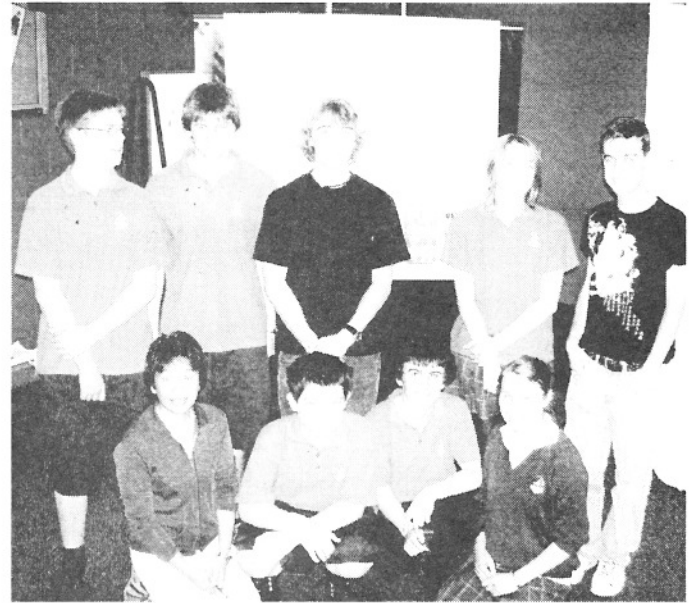
Like Hobart, Jiangyin is set on an estuary but while the Derwent is 120 km, the Changjiang has 6000 km in tributaries and is over 3000 km in length.

Nanjing Senior High boasts a history of 150 years and has 3000 enrolled students. Over 600 of these students arrive every day by bike and 400 live in the student hostel. A student party from Nanjing Senior High will come to Hobart next year.

Education Minister David Bartlett said the school had received a \$7000 grant from the Australia-China Council as well as \$3000 from the State Government to make a drama tour to China possible. He dropped in to his former school to farewell the travellers on Oct 2.

"This trip is a fantastic opportunity for students to form friendships and build relationships between Taroona High and schools in China.

"It's also a great way for students to learn more about the language and culture of another country," Mr Bartlett said.



The students with teacher Hingor Chung.

(As we go to press the group is still traveling. We look forward to hearing about their experiences in a future issue of this newsletter. Ed.)



Taroona Environment Network (TEN)

The bushland above the southern end of Taroona Beach – 'Illawong Reserve' – was weeded and understorey natives were planted during our October working bee. Thanks to the local Illawong residents who came down to help care for their local patch. They received some local native plants in return for their efforts. On October 15th a 'Boneseed Blitz' on the Education Department land near the Archery fields celebrated the annual national Weedbuster Week event. This yellow flowering South African shrub is particularly invasive in Taroona, and it's taken many years to bring it under control along Taroona's foreshore track.

If you support and appreciate the work of TEN and would like to become a member, membership is only \$1 per calendar year.

Enquiries: Jemery Day, Treasurer, 6227 9387

Possum's Playcentre

Possums Playcentre is a community based childcare centre that caters for children between the ages of 3 and 4. It operates from the Taroona Community Hall and is staffed by three local residents. Lyn Long is Playcentre leader, and Kate Vermey and Karin Schaefer are the Playcentre assistants.

The Taroona environment is excellent for stimulating and challenging our pre-school children. We have played "World Cup Soccer" on the Taroona Soccer Field, planted seeds in the Taroona playground, and visited Truganini Reserve with Fiona Rice to talk about bush care.

The Playcentre is taking enrolments for 2007.

For more information about enrolling your child please telephone Lyn on 0418390432 or 62278874.



Little Possums enjoy their own World Cup soccer on Taroona's soccer field.

Soccer Club

Taroona Soccer Club has gone from strength to strength over the past five years. In 2000 the club had only one team in the men's competition, however, during the past season it fielded five senior (three men's and two women's) teams and six junior (under 13 to under 17 boys, under 14 and 16 girls) teams. The future looks bright for the club as most of the junior teams competed strongly in their respective leagues, while several of players gained state representative honours. Next season an under 19 team will be formed.

In August, for the first time in the club's history, the

senior men's team gained promotion to the Premier League and will now compete against the top clubs in Tasmania.

For those who would like to join the club, or require further information, please contact Barry Hagan on 0439314594.

Bowls Club

Budget priced counter meals are still going really well at the Taroona Bowls club, and if you dine on any Saturday night you could win a \$2000 holiday package.

November and December is a really busy time at the Bowls Club, with both ladies' and men's Pennant Bowls now in full swing, Socially there is still plenty on.

On Tuesday November 7, there's our Traditional Melbourne Cup Lunch. If you don't want to play bowls, there are sweeps and competitions as well as champagne and a delicious lunch. Call the club on 62 278243 for more details.

Cray Bake

Saturday November 25 is the Big Cray Bake. This event usually sells out so please book early. You can have half or a full crayfish with plenty of salads. So make up a table and book today. POA

Club Christmas

The club holds its annual Christmas dinner on Saturday December 16. There will be a traditional 3 course Christmas dinner for just \$25. All are welcome so once again, please book early to avoid disappointment.

Tony Riley, General Manager



Players enjoy a late afternoon game at Taroona Bowls Club



Taroona Scouts

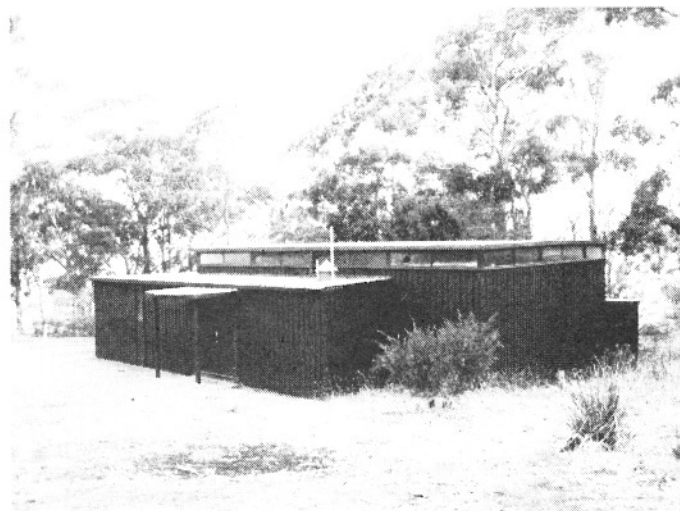
The scout hall, situated in Taroona Park above the beach, is nearing 40 years old. It was built after the 1967 bushfires totally destroyed the original hall. Members of the scouting fraternity will be working hard over the next few months to make improvements and upgrades to the ageing hall.

At the start of January, five scouts from Taroona will be travelling to Elmore in Victoria to take part in the national jamboree with 10-15,000 other scouts from around Australia and the world.

Two fundraising events will assist with these activities – a family portrait day on December 2, and Christmas trees for sale on December 16.

Taroona has Cub Scouts, Scouts and Venturers to cater for both boys and girls aged from 7 – 18 years old. New scouts are always welcome.

Enquiries to Mike Green (6227 9139) or Simon Stephens (6227 8204).



Taroona Scout Hall – renovations planned

About the Taroona Community Association

Please join your community organisation. Membership is only \$10 per annum and your fee will sponsor the printing of this quarterly newsletter which is distributed to every household in Taroona by volunteers.

There is a membership form on the reverse of this page. Why not come along to the Annual General Meeting on November 23rd and join (or rejoin) at the meeting? There will be a guest speaker and supper will follow the meeting.

The centre section of this newsletter has been devoted to providing news from community organisations and institutions. There is no charge for advertisements about local group activities and events, and contributions of local news and matters of interest are always welcome. The deadlines for 2007 newsletters are:

Newsletter deadlines

March newsletter: copy should be submitted by January 31, June newsletter: April 30, September newsletter: July 31, November/December newsletter: October 15.

Copy should be emailed to deirdrebrown@tasmail.com or left at 211 Channel Highway. Enquiries re the newsletter can be made to Deirdre Brown at 62278611

Enquiries about the Association can be addressed to Jill Hickie or other committee members at contacts given on the back of this newsletter.

Stop Press: Kingborough Council Clean-Up Day in Taroona and Bonnet Hill – Tues 21 November

Historical Group

A preliminary meeting of this group found plenty of enthusiasm for reviving activities with historical flavours and invites residents interested in 'exploring the possibilities' to a meeting on November 20 at 7.30pm at 4 Seaview Avenue.

Richard Lord

St Luke's Church

Services are held on Sunday at St Luke's at 9 am and everyone is welcome.

St Luke's also hosts a number of other community events, and some such as the annual book sale have become community institutions. Another, the annual Twilight Fair, has become a Taroona tradition for families who gather on the lawns surrounding the Church for fun and games, bargain hunting and an evening meal.

See the advertisement below.

St Luke's Church is on Channel Highway at bus stop 39.

Other forthcoming events are:

- ◆ Carols service 9 am Sunday Dec 17
- ◆ Kid's Christmas for the young and young at heart at St Luke's Taroona 7 pm Christmas Eve. Children may like to come dressed as one of the people – or angels – in the nativity story.
- ◆ Christmas day service at 9 am.

Taroona Primary School

The 2007 school year for students starts on Thursday 15th February. Your local primary school is growing, but we are determined not to lose the great 'community school culture' we have. Our links with the Taroona Environment Network, Grange Nursing Home, Taroona High School, Possums Playgroup, Seniors in our Community and Landcare Tasmania are just a few of the ways our students have direct involvement with our Taroona community.

Many of our students here are children of parents who went to Taroona Primary School themselves. Parental involvement in our school is welcomed and teachers often utilise parental expertise within their teaching programs.

We have been regularly receiving student enrolments for 2007 and given our class size policy of no more than 25 students per class, we have a school site capacity of around 320 students.

If you know of, or have children that will be enrolling at our school for 2007, my advice is to ensure local children are enrolled as soon as practical. Our 'Class Size Policy' at Taroona Primary is a very positive feature and I would like to reassure all Taroona community members that we do not intend to change this in the near future. "Children Learn More in Smaller Classes".

Grant Robinson, Principal

TAROONA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

I wish to renew/initiate membership of the Taroona Community Association.

Name:

Address:

Phone number: Email:

Membership fees

Single, family or 'corporate' is still only \$10 per annum.

Please return form and payment to the Treasurer

Karl Van Drunen at 15 Norwood Avenue—Ph: 6227 8552 or at the AGM Nov 23, 2006

Remembrance Day

Lest we Forget

Taroona Ex-Services Club invites you to the Remembrance Day Service at the War Memorial in Taroona Park on Saturday November 11.

Please gather at the memorial at 10.30 am, and bring a wreath if you would like to lay one during the service.

Refreshments will be served in the Hall following the ceremony.



The new war memorial in Taroona Park.



Gardening Forum

The Taroona Gardening Forum meets monthly in the Uniting Church, Taroona Crescent. Meetings are on the first Wednesday of the month at 7.30 pm, and there are guest speakers, a trade table and exchange of information and ideas about gardening in Taroona.

Members enjoy regular visits to gardens and places of interest in southern Tasmania, and 2-3 times a year a bus is hired to take members further afield.

On December 6th the monthly meeting will feature Mr Norman Gordon, who will talk about and demonstrate floral artistry.

New members are always welcome – just turn up to a meeting or call Jenny on 6227 8393.

Baptist Church

Our vision statement is

Bringing our church and communities closer to each other and closer to God.

Our desire is to do just this. We hope that our facilities can be used to bring the community, and

the church and community, closer together. We offer a number of activities that enable this.

Worship service is each Sunday at 10 am, and sometimes we do something a little different, such as actively joining in with "Clean Up Australia", or going out to Dru Point together to discuss issues while cooking a BBQ lunch.

Other activities are:

- ◆ Friday night Youth program
- ◆ Sunday Night Youth Discussion
- ◆ Regular Friday mornings for the Mums and children. (Dads are invited too.)
- ◆ 1st Sunday of month, evening, Café Comfort. Food (small donation), music and conversation.

Taroona Baptist Church is located at 124 Channel Highway.

Pastor Steve Mills, on 6227 9258.

At last ...

Work has started on the Taroona Hotel. A small crew is working on the building, deconstructing the 1960s addition to the original art deco building, and preparing it for renovation into a restaurant and apartments.

A liquor licence was granted by the Licencing Board recently, and word is that an operator is signed up to run the restaurant, although as work is progressing slowly it will be some time before the restaurant is open.

Construction of the two new buildings planned for the site, with townhouses and more apartments, is unlikely to start until well into next year.



Taroona Hotel, October 2006



Community library

Run by community volunteers

Welcome to all new borrowers. Come and join the 102 financial members who enjoy our vast range of donated fiction and non fiction reading.

Opening hours

Mon-Thurs: 10.30 am - 2.30 pm

Friday: 10.30 am - 5.00 pm

Saturday: 10.30 am - 12.00 noon

We will also be open for borrowing on Market Sundays
Nov 26 and Dec 10.

Tea and Coffee will be served at the Library,
courtesy St Luke's Church on Market Sundays.

Holiday dates to remember

December closing: Saturday 16th

January re-opening: Monday 22nd

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

*Seasons Greetings to you all from all of our
Library volunteers.*

Support Taroona Scouts

Family portraits

10 am - 4 pm, Saturday 2 December
at the Scout Hall



Christmas trees for sale
Saturday 16 December at the Grange corner.



The Christmas Truck will tour Taroona streets
and highway on

Saturday 16 December

Listen for the bells and the YO HO HO
A Taroona Tradition for over 50 years.....

St Luke's Twilight Fair

Friday November 10th from 5 pm

Well stocked stalls including cakes, biscuits, gourmet foods, fruit
salad and ice-cream, soft drinks, tea, coffee and sandwiches,
craft goods, trash and treasure, plants and produce.

*Bring the family and
have tea with us.*

Taroona Primary School

104 Channel Highway Taroona

A supportive school environment



"Positively Developing Your Child's Potential"

*After School Care available on site

Monday - Friday

*SMALLER THAN AVERAGE CLASS SIZES

Enrolments for 2006 are now being accepted

email: Taroona.Primary@education.tas.gov.au

or ph. (03) 6227 8325 or 6227 9806

Grant Robinson - Principal

Taroona Community Association Inc.

Enhancing Taroona as a place of Residence and Employment

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 and an annual meeting elects a committee to conduct the Association's business.

President: Jill Hickie, 4 Devon Walk, Taroona. Phone 6227 8544

Secretary: Roger Kellaway, 35 Delta Avenue, Taroona. Phone 6227 8374

Treasurer: Karl van Drunen, 15 Norwood Avenue. Phone 6227 8552

Editor: Deirdre Brown. Phone 6227 8611

Contributions to deirdrebrown@tasmail.com or to 211 Channel Highway

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