

# Taroona Community Association Newsletter



September 2006

## From the President

2006 has brought us a particularly long and cold winter with only a hint of a visit from autumn earlier in the year and little rain. I have enjoyed the brisk clear winter days and am happy to feel the days growing longer. If you look at the night sky you might see a brightly shining Mars – it's the closest it's been to planet Earth in a very long time!

## Hotel news

The good news in Taroona is that work on the Hotel is to commence in mid-August. This is not the first time that we have been informed of such news, so there is some scepticism within the community. I am quietly hopeful that this time round we'll see some progress on the site. In the meantime the TCA contacted the owners and the Council requesting that the site be properly secured and cleaned up.

Two liquor licenses were advertised for Taroona in June – one for the Hotel's restaurant; the other was for a bottle shop at the shopping centre. Hearings resulted in the Commissioner for Licensing granting a license to the hotel but rejecting the application for a bottle shop in the shopping centre.

## Public Open Space Review

Residents recently received a letter from Kingborough Council regarding Council's ongoing review of Taroona's public open spaces and seeking further comment from the community. It took some residents by surprise with concern expressed that the Council is intending to sell off some of Taroona's treasured public open spaces. This is far from the case. This review has been going on for a number of years with consultation with the TCA. If you are interested in viewing the Council document summarising these comments copies are available from the Taroona Service Station or from me on telephone 6227 8544.

## Sign up for transport to Kingston

The last issue of the TCA Newsletter promoted a community bus service to the Kingston shops.

*Continued on page 2*

## Calendar

### September

- Sat 2: Litter Drive
- Wed 6: Gardening Forum Meeting
- Sun 10: TEN Working Bee, THS foreshore, 2-4 pm
- Sun 24: Taroona Community Market

### October

- Sun 1: TEN Bee, Illawong Reserve
- Wed 4: Gardening Forum Meeting
- Mon 16: Deadline for copy for Nov/Dec. TCA newsletter
- Sun 29: Taroona Community Market

### November

- Wed 1: Gardening Forum Meeting
- Sun 5: TEN Working Bee at Crayfish Point, 2-4 pm
- Sat 11: Remembrance Day service
- Thurs. 23: TCA Annual General Meeting, 7.30 pm
- Sun 26: Taroona Community Market

Taroona Community Association

## Annual General Meeting

Thursday 23 November

Taroona Community Hall

(Batchelor Way, behind Shopping Centre)

**All welcome**

Watch for details on board at Big Bend.

Supper will follow the meeting

### *Presidents report continued...*

The service comprises a trip to the Kingston Shopping Centre on the same day each week, at a cost of \$4 a trip. A minimum of 10 people is required but currently only 3 interested folk have registered. Please spread the word to those who would benefit from this service. For a registration form please ring Fiona Rice on 6227 9018.

## Other issues on the boil....

The TCA committee has been keeping busy. A working group involving the TCA has been established with the Council and the Department of Infrastructure, Roads and Energy to get some progress to improving safety on **Channel Highway**.

The **Alum Cliffs Track** issue has not been forgotten with a group being established to continue to investigate options for this important regional trail and tourism asset.

It's great to have the local **Bowls Club** stepping into a stronger role of providing a social hub for the Taroona community. Their weekly meals are promoted in this issue. I have also heard that a Jazz concert is to be held at the club later in August.

*Jill Hickie*

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## Taroona Bowls Club

The Taroona Bowls Club recently started serving Friday and Saturday Counter Meals.

**Counter Lunches** are available each Friday from 12 noon until 2 pm and include special *Seniors Lunches* from just \$6.50.

**Counter Teas** are available Friday and Saturday evenings from 6 pm until 8 pm. Our menu includes soup of the day with bread roll (\$4), club steak and vegetables with choice of sauces (\$12), beef or chicken schnitzel, fish and chips, satay chicken or garlic prawns (\$10). Sweet of the day is only \$4. Children are catered for with a number of choices from just \$5.

Saturday evening diners have the chance to win a "\$2000 Dream Holiday" simply by enjoying a counter tea. Bookings are recommended because of the popularity of the meals. Just call the Club on 62 278243 any day after 3 pm.

For those interested in Lawn Bowls, our excellent Greens will be open for the new season from early September, so if you are looking for a new sport, you will be made very welcome.

"Taroona Bowls club - where its all happening this year".

Tony Riley, General Manager

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## Bushcare update

National Tree Day, organised each year by Planet Ark in association with Toyota and the AMP Foundation, is a celebration of our natural environment and a reminder that we can all contribute significantly to the health of our environment by planting trees.

At last year's event, more than 350 000 volunteers, including children from 2500 schools, celebrated National Tree Day's 10th birthday by planting over half a million plants at 4000 sites around Australia. The ten millionth tree of the initiative should be planted this year.

The benefits to the land of planting trees include erosion control, improvement in water and air quality, reduction in flood heights during large rain events, salinity control, increased habitat for flora and fauna and reduction in the effects of global climate change. There is also increased amenity for the community and health benefits to individuals and the community,

This year's National Tree Day events around the 30th July in Taroona included the Primary School planting 100 trees, shrubs and groundcovers, while the Taroona Environment Network hosted a community planting day and planted 80 coastal plants.

So, help yourself and your local community by getting outside and planting some trees. Apart from the benefits listed above, you can meet new people and make new friends.

Taroona is fortunate to have two community-based Landcare groups - *Taroona Environment Network (TEN)* and *Friends of Truganinni*.

*For further information contact:*

Jemery Day, (TEN) - 6227 9387, Grant Hayward, (Friends of Truganinni), 6227 9245, or me. *Richard Greenhill, Bushcare Officer 0429 011 920*

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## *Taroona Sunday Market*

*In the Shopping Centre*

*Last Sunday of the month, 10 am - 3 pm*

*handmade cards, knitted toys and garments, ceramics, craft supplies, and second hand books, clothing, toys, bric-a-brac and other items.*

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### **Kingborough Council - Proposed tree removal**

Council is planning to remove an old white gum on the nature strip at 183 Channel Highway (opposite doctors surgery) due to its decline and position - adjacent to bus stop, power lines and footpath. A consultant arboriculturalist reports reduced structural integrity and strength due to a large crack, decay and a large cavity inside the tree's heart.

*Further information : Kingborough Council, Parks Manager - Jon Wisbey - 62 118273.*



## Taroona Environment Network (TEN)

Our \$29,000 Commonwealth Government Envirofund grant is nearing completion. By mid September, volunteers and students will have planted a total of 1200 local natives along the foreshore, in the gullies, and at the Primary and High schools. The Aboriginal shell midden under the two pines on the point has been protected and several coastal beds in front of the High School have been created, planted with groundcovers and mulched.

Our June working bee included weeding and planting along the Norwood Avenue foreshore. Volunteers attending our July working bee participated in highly physical activity clearing large woody weeds from the beach end of the school gully. The Taroona Fire Brigade later kindly burnt our weed material as a training exercise. In August we are returning to continue weeding this site. On July 30th 25 community folk participated in National Tree Day and planted 80 coastal natives along the Seaview-Nubeena foreshore. Members of the group also donated plants and materials to the Primary School for Schools National Tree Week to improve bandicoot habitat and provide shade.

We were recently successful in receiving a small amount of funds to assist with our administration from the Department of Environment and Heritage "Grants to Volunteer Environment Heritage Organisations" scheme.

All are welcome to join us at our working bees to remove invasive environmental weeds and restore our coastal and gully native vegetation. Our next working bee is on Sunday September 10th at THS foreshore to weed the new coastal beds, 2-4 pm. 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.

## Weed of the Season

### Sweet Pittosporum (*Pittosporum undulatum*)

is listed as an environmental weed in the Kingborough Planning Scheme 2000.

The *Pittosporum* genus consists of over 200 species and cultivars of evergreen trees and shrubs from Australia, Africa, Asia and the Pacific Islands. Sweet Pittosporums occur naturally in Victoria, New South Wales and southern Queensland, and are common garden ornamentals.

They can grow up to 10 m high and 6 m wide. Shiny, lance-shaped leaves, between 10-15 cm long are attached along the stem in whorls. They have an obvious undulating leaf margin (hence the species '*undulatum*'), and sweet, mandarin-smelling foliage. Small white, bell-shaped aromatic flowers appearing in late winter or spring are followed by black capsules which split to reveal a mass of sticky seeds. Birds spread the seed into bushland and coastal areas where they out-compete local indigenous plants.

### How do you remove them?

Hand pull small plants. Larger plants should be cut off at ground level and the stump painted with a herbicide that contains glyphosate. The stumps of larger trees can be dug up and removed with a mattock, or can be easily ground out by a stump grinder.

### Safe alternatives?

Local indigenous replacement plants with a similar habit include *Pittosporum bicolor* (Cheesewood) or *Bursaria spinosa* (Prickly Box), both of which are in the Pittosporaceae family. Other alternatives include *Pomaderris elliptica* (Yellow dogwood) and *Bedfordia salicina* (Tasmanian Blanketleaf), which grow to a similar height and prefer moist positions.

Reference: Low, T. (2001) *Feral Future: The Untold Story of Australia's Exotic Invaders*. Penguin Books

Richard Greenhill, Kingborough Bushcare Officer

## Taroona Community Association Membership

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

Name: .....

Address: .....

Phone number: .....

Email: .....

Single, family or 'corporate' membership \$10 per annum.

Please return form and payment to the Treasurer

Karl Van Drunen at 15 Norwood Avenue-Ph: 6227 8552

### TAROONA COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Come and borrow from our very special, up-to-date collection, thanks to very generous donations of books by some of the most popular fiction writers.

#### OPENING HOURS

Mon & Tues 10.30 am to 2.30 pm

Friday 10.30 am to 4.00 pm

Saturday 10.30 am to 12.00 noon

**NEW MEMBERS VERY WELCOME - HALF PRICE NOW!**

### Taroona Ex-Services Club

At the May 2006 Annual General Meeting, the following were elected to executive positions in the club: President: James McDermott, Vice Presidents: Roy O'Toole and John Kerr, Secretary: Richard Stops and Treasurer: Lance Burns.

Sadly, two distinguished members of the club have recently died.

GG Jim Hean passed away in June. Jim is remembered for his sterling work for the community and Kingborough Council, where he was warden from 1984 - 1992 and for which services he was awarded the AM. He was our president from 1978 - 1980 and on the committee for many years, with members recalling his many outstanding contributions to the club.

Reg Escott passed away in July, and his contribution to our community is celebrated on this page.

On a happier note we were delighted to welcome Paul O'Brien to the club in May as a new member.

Preparations have commenced for the **annual Remembrance Day Service on 11 November** at the Taroona War Memorial in the park, and all residents are reminded that this is a community event at which all are welcome.

*John McMahon*

### Vale Reg Escott

Taroona mourned the recent passing of Reg Escott, whose family moved into Taroona in the early 1930's.

Reg was a stalwart of the Taroona community, and after returning from war service (spent mainly in Timor) he established himself as a local contractor and built many Taroona houses. He played tennis and was a long term supporter of the local Baptist Church and the Taroona Returned Servicemen's Association.

He and his wife Margaret raised five children in Taroona.

Reg was a keen yachtsman, and sailed in many Sydney Hobart Yacht Races. He built the huon pine yacht, the first Solandra. Always generous in sharing his boat with others he created a vast army of friends and supporters.

Reg's lifelong friend Wesley James summed Reg up with these words, "To meet Reg once meant that you were a friend for life. Reg's life presents a consistent message - *Life is to be lived to the full ... The world is an exciting place where there are many adventures to be had.*"

### St Luke's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday

St Luke's Anglican church celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> birthday with a special service on 18<sup>th</sup> June.

St Luke's Hall was erected in 1956, although records show regular services were held in Taroona in the early 20's. The original Hall was altered in 1969 to form the current church with its striking windows looking eastwards. A new foyer, meeting room, kitchen and toilet facility were constructed at the western end of the building in 1990. In 1999 a memorial lawn was established.

Special guests at the celebration included the granddaughter of the first Parish rector, wife of Guy Lennard who was rector from 1964-1982, and David Lewis, Rector from 1990-2001.

## *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

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