



Taroona News

Circulation 1450, distributed to your letterbox by over 30 volunteers.

Email: taroonacommunitynewsletter@gmail.com

The end of the year is nearly upon us which brings with it the busy-ness of the end of school year, preparations and anticipation of Christmas, and the relaxation of summer hols to sit down and read a good book or two! (Find a range of recommended locally authored books inside).

This is our last issue of *Taroona News* for 2019 delivering to your doors lots of pre-Christmas info about what's been going on and what is planned in the coming year for Taroona. Taroona is just bubbling with community life; there is news from our sports clubs, the popularity of Transition Streets Taroona setting a strong vision of a sustainable and resilient Taroona, TEN, the Scouts, Churches, Fire Brigade, Possums, and more.

A hearty congratulations to the Taroona Primary School Association for organising the highly successful Taroona Seaside Festival at the end of November. It was a great hit with more than 3000 people enjoying the food, music, displays, buying hand-made crafts, and having good fun – and only two bags of waste to landfill generated too!

Additional accolades to two talented Taroona residents, Eric Mitchell, renowned pianist and piano teacher who taught many generations of children, has recently been awarded an OAM for his contribution to music; and to Dr. Simon Grove, Senior Curator of Invertebrate Zoology at TMAG, who was awarded the Australian Natural History Medallion for 2019.

Please take note of the Taroona Volunteer Fire brigade's message to **prepare and plan now for the fire season**. This spell of December cold weather is deceptive – the dry conditions are to persist with a warmer than average summer forecast.

The Planning Scheme Amendment decision was announced by the Tasmanian Planning Commission in November for the IMAS/University 30 Nubeena Crescent site upholding the applicant's submission. This will now allow commercial development on the previously owned Crown Land recently purchased by the University for integration into the IMAS site, but will restrict the development to the Ornatas pilot rock lobster hatchery. We anticipate a planning application in the New Year and will keep you posted.

Wishing you all a peaceful, enjoyable and relaxing holiday season in our beautiful beachside suburb.

Jill Hickie, President, TCA

Ho ho ho! Santa's coming!



The Christmas truck – a tradition in Taroona for over 60 years!

Watch out for Santa and the Fire Truck on Saturday 21 December. He'll be delivering Christmas treats to the good children of Taroona! Rain, hail or shine. Don't miss him!

Taroona Coastal Rowing

Summer rowing season commences

Sunday 8 December 10am

@ Taroona Beach



New rowers welcome!

For more information please contact crew coordinator **Damian Devlin** on **0400 875528** or **damianmdevlin@gmail.com**

Calendar

December

- Wed 4 – Fri 6 Taroona High School Production – *The Wizard of Oz*, Taroona High
- Sun 8 TEN: end of year BBQ, 12 noon, Taroona Park
- Sun 8 Taroona Coastal Rowing: summer rowing season commences, 10am, Taroona Beach
- Sat 14 Scouts Christmas Tree and produce sale, Truganini Bend
- Sun 15 Taroona Neighbourhood Garden Working Bee, 2–4pm
- Sun 15 *Community Carols On the Lawn*, Free BBQ 5pm, Carols from 6pm, St Luke's Church
- Sat 21 Santa Truck
- Wed 25 Christmas Day traditional communion family service, 9am, St Luke's Church

February

- Sat 1 Taroona Sippers and Purlers, Timeless Way, Kingston, 2–4pm

Taroona High School Association seeks Community Member



The THSA is seeking a Community Member to represent the local school community at Taroona High

School for a three year term, subject to election by the current Committee. The Community Member cannot be the parent of a student enrolled at the school. Attendance at monthly meetings (third Monday in the month) is required. Interested candidates can contact the school on **6227 7700** or email the THSA Secretary at **taroonahigh.assoc@gmail.com**

Transition Streets Taroona is up and running



A Taroona Food Verge Scheme walk-and-talk at Seaview Ave on 24 November

So far there are more than 70 households in Taroona participating in Transition Streets Taroona and we are very excited about what is coming up for this group. An introductory meeting was held at the Taroona Bowls Club on 6 October, with about 40 people in attendance. There was much discussion about the things we love about Taroona and some of the things we could envision for Taroona under a sustainable future. The Transition concept focuses on improving sustainability and local resilience in five main areas – food, energy, water, transport and waste. We want to address all these areas eventually, but we plan to start small, with manageable activities that are inclusive of the whole community and that are fun to do!

In late October, a small organising team got together and hatched a vision statement and plan of activities. Having a vision for the Taroona we'd like to see in ten years' time, makes it easier to plan activities now that will support our

community towards that. Our vision for Taroona is:

"Taroona is a place where everyone feels safe and included. Gardens and public spaces are laden with fresh produce, and surplus food is shared with neighbours and those in need. We have regular events, markets and workshops. This creates a vibrant village feel that helps us feel connected to each other. We are resilient. We are not wholly reliant on the mains energy grid for power. We have back up water storages, and there are accessible and safe alternative forms of transport besides petrol-fuelled cars. We are confident to call on each other for support, and our skills and knowledge are valued. Our beaches, native bush and wildlife are well conserved and appreciated. We support each other to reduce the ecological footprint of our households and community."

The main activities for the next six months include setting up a Food Verge Scheme, a Passata Making Day, increased access to food in the local area, and running some skills workshops on waste-free living, composting and more. We held an informal walk-and-talk event with households in Seaview Ave, and chatted about converting some of the nature strips to areas of productive food, colourful flower displays and low maintenance gardens. We plan to organise working bees for the Food Verge Scheme from early-Autumn onwards.

Oberon and Lauren also presented to the Taroona Gardening Forum and the Taroona Community Association, and are happy to speak with other groups about how to work together towards a healthier, happier and more environmentally-friendly Taroona! To contact the group, or join and hear about upcoming events, please email Oberon Carter at transitionstreetstaroona@gmail.com or see our website for more information: <https://transitionstreetstaroona.org/>

Taroona biologist wins national honour



Congratulations to Dr Simon Grove, who has taken out this year's Australian Natural History Medallion, Australia's top honour for services to natural history. Simon is the Senior Curator of Invertebrate Zoology at the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery (TMAG), and has spent much of his life studying insects and molluscs

while also working as an amateur naturalist in his spare time.

"This award is, for me, an affirmation of how I've chosen to spend much of my five-and-a-half decades of life, including the past two here in Tasmania," Simon said. "I feel that never having lost that instinctive childhood delight in the natural world has been a real gift, and one that keeps on giving in that I also derive great satisfaction from sharing my enthusiasm and knowledge more broadly."

Many local residents have seen that enthusiasm and knowledge up close. Over the last 15 years, Simon has led a number of the Taroona

Environment Network's natural history walkabouts on a diverse range of subjects (from molluscs to insects to birds) – which have been enjoyed by participants ranging from young children to great grandparents. And our local young people have been inspired too by the many sessions he has run at Taroona Primary School, Taroona High School, Possums Playgroup and community events.

As TEN noted in their supporting nomination: *"We can't think of anyone who more thoroughly embodies a Natural Historian than Simon – nor anyone who so generously and enthusiastically contributes his knowledge and passion to community events"*.

* Check out Simon's beautiful photo of Hinsby Beach on the back page, and if you're interested in buying his *The Seashells of Tasmania: a Comprehensive Guide* see page 9.



Taroona
SEASIDE FESTIVAL
SATURDAY 30 NOVEMBER 11AM - 3PM



An exciting and entertaining day was shared on Saturday 30 November at the local Taroona Seaside Festival. In excess of 3,000 people passed eagerly through our magical bush setting that is Taroona Primary School, to join with the local community for this shared festive experience! Thankfully the rain held off for the event and we were blessed with blue skies.

The community united to sample an array of fine food and produce. Ranging from gourmet salmon barbeque, handmade sushi, locally produced BBQ sliders and chilli sauces from Richard Angus, fine wines, Cashew Creamery ice-creams by Jen Bruyn, locally made cakes, and Krispy Kream donuts organised by Amy Webb and her team meant there was something to entice every palate.



The Hive of Entertainment commenced with the favourite Busking Stall, run by the talented Maggie Sakko and Anna Holbrook. Local children took to the microphones with confidence and enthusiasm while the audience sat and filled busking trays with coins and basked in the sunshine. The Taroona High School Stage and Concert bands played in the heart of the school to the hungry crowd. In addition, our students and community performed the 'Big Sing

Event' under the guidance of TPS Music Teacher Janelle Stowe, with a humorous and enthusiastic rendition of 'the Drunken Sailor'.

The Community and Marine Stalls were engaging for young and all, so a big thank you to Jacqui Rogers and Sheila Curtain for their diligent organisation of these stalls over the past months. The Possums Playcentre & craft stall, the Taroona Volunteer Fire Fighters & Fire Truck, IMAS, Taroona Football Club, Taroona Scouts, Kingborough Council Landcare, Taroona Community Association and Taroona Environment Network all delivered interesting and educational stalls.

The Taroona Primary Class Stalls provided a wonderful opportunity for locals to purchase Christmas gifts, handmade by our extremely talented students. Succulents and plants with Fiona Carey, The Handmade Badge Making Stall with Tania Manning and Rebecca Brammall by Year 1/2 were all wonderful displays of local talent, while the ever favourite Beeswax Wraps with Emma Nuttall was in full swing and the "make your own shell wall hanging" were further examples of the immense creativity in our community.

Congratulations to the book stall organisers Yuko Massom, Esther Murphy and Jessica Grant for their hard work and organisation. Lifting and relocating books is a heavy and demanding tasks and the number of donated books was phenomenal. In addition,

a special mention to Demelza Rafferty for the creation of her fabulous buntings, and Penny Brodribb and Andrea Ostberg on the Treasure Stall, and Kristen Wall on puzzles.

A big congratulations goes to Alex Terhell and The Green Team for their planning and implementation of the "Green" projects with a number of students. It was inspiring to witness the care and concern for the school environment shown by the students and a passion for caring for their learning space.



Emma Abbott and her team created a wonderful Pre Loved clothes stall and are to be congratulated on the sorting, collecting and organisation that this involved. Thank you also to Selina Hagan for providing massage and Larissa Richardson and team for painting nails in our beauty area. The "Pandemonium" area on the shared oval area was a buzz with excited children who raced between the

Jumping Castle, Tea Cup Rides and Rotary Train. The excitement was heightened as the festive season approaches with the novelty of Pete and Penny's cycling adventures providing many laughs for all.

On behalf of all members of the Taroona Primary School Association I would like to thank the community for joining us to help make the Seaside Festival a memorable day and huge success. Due to the wonderful response and fundraising efforts, the TPSA are able to plan and implement further educational and environmental opportunities for the students in our School Community.

– Susan De Paoli, Committee Member TPSA



Taroona Volunteer Fire Brigade says Prepare Now!



Packed school hall at the Bushfire Ready Neighbourhood session

Thanks to all those residents who attended the Bushfire Ready Neighbourhood session at Taroona Primary on 12 November. More than 220 people pitched up, double what we had last year! Next year we will focus on specific actions residents can take in the event of a bushfire emergency impacting Taroona.

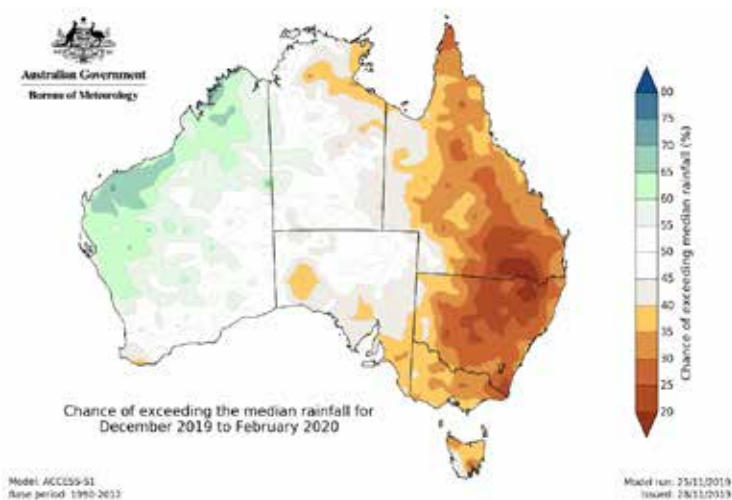


Under severe, extreme or catastrophic fire conditions, ember attacks may cause bushfires to jump 10–30km ahead of the fire front. In such conditions, bushfires in South Hobart can impact Taroona almost immediately

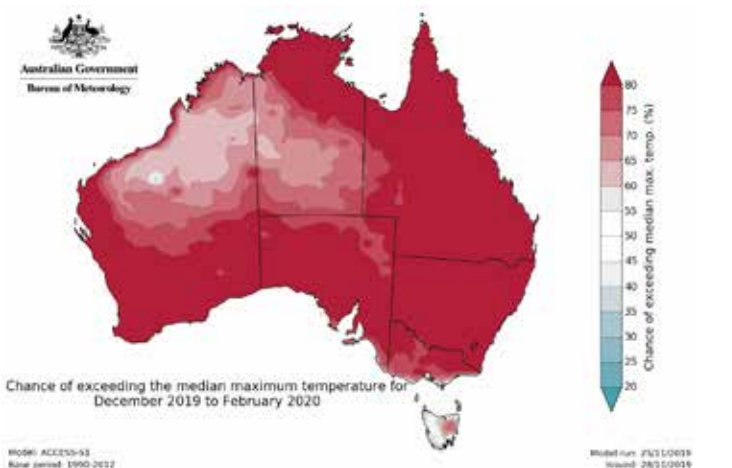
Deciding when to leave remains a vexed question. This decision depends on the fire danger rating, current wind conditions, and fires burning around kunanyi/Mt Wellington. **Fires in catastrophic conditions can spot 20km to 30km ahead of the main fire front. In severe conditions, fires can spot between 5km and 10km ahead of the main fire front. On a catastrophic day with strong winds blowing, people should leave if there is a significant fire 30km upwind of Taroona. Likewise, on a severe day, people should leave early if there is substantial fire 10km upwind of Taroona.** Leaving early is the preferred option. Remember, escape routes may be congested or blocked the longer you leave it.

The seasonal outlook remains pretty grim. According to the Bureau of Meteorology, we can expect a drier than normal

summer for Eastern Australia. Very dry conditions will persist in the Hobart District. Much of Australia will be warmer than average this summer. The warmer and drier conditions are being driven by a strong positive IOD (Indian Ocean Dipole) that is forecast to persist until the end of 2019. While the western half of Tasmania will experience cooler temperatures due to stronger westerly flows, the north-eastern part of Tasmania remains a tinderbox.



Seasonal rainfall outlook.



Seasonal temperature outlook.

Three members of the brigade were deployed to Queensland in the last half of November to assist with the bushfire emergencies there. The members were part of 20-person Tasmania Fire Service strike teams that operated out of Boonah, a small country town approximately 90km south-west of Brisbane. The Beechmont Tarome fire in the Scenic Rim region of the Great Dividing Range has been burning for several weeks now. Due to the prolonged drought, fires are burning through tropical rainforests, something that is quite unprecedented. The strike teams were kept quite busy during their deployments. Local firefighters were very grateful for this assistance.



Members of Taroona Volunteer Fire Brigade were deployed to Queensland to assist local fire crews. Photo of the Beechmont Tarome fire from the Cunningham Highway, Queensland. Note how parched the grass is. The Queensland drought is shocking.



Taroona Volunteer Fire Brigade will be getting a second Seek Thermal RevealFirePro camera thanks to a \$1000 grant from Kingborough Council.

The brigade received a \$1000 community grant from Kingborough Council to procure a second Seek Thermal RevealFirePro thermal imaging camera. This means both our vehicles are equipped with these state-of-the-art thermal imaging cameras. The cameras are incredibly useful for ensuring tree stumps and logs are properly extinguished during blacking out operations.

Please make sure your bushfire survival plans are updated and well-understood by everybody in your household. Many people discount the impact of smoke on physical well-being. This is something else that needs to be factored into your bushfire survival plans. We need to remain vigilant this summer. Note that backyard burns are not permitted ever on properties smaller than 2000m². We are incredibly fortunate to have such a supportive community. The Taroona Volunteer Fire Brigade wishes everybody a great festive season. Stay safe.

If you leave, what will you take? Develop a list of items your family will need, and prepare an Emergency Kit well in advance. Here are some ideas:



**EMERGENCY RELIEF
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Some of the roles include:

- basic repairs
- removing damaged items
- removing debris from gardens
- assisting with clean-ups
- assisting with paper-work
- evacuation centre support



Kingborough

Interested in joining us?
Call us on 6211 8208 or send us an email at kc@kingborough.tas.gov.au

Jointly funded by the Commonwealth and Tasmanian Governments under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements



Red Cross Kingston Store
Cnr Church & Hutchins Sts

SHOP • DONATE • VOLUNTEER

Discover a treasure trove of fashion finds and giftware

20% off your next purchase with this voucher
Valid till 31/1/2020



Grab and Go/Emergency Kit

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> wool/cotton clothing (full body protection) <input type="checkbox"/> plenty of water <input type="checkbox"/> food <input type="checkbox"/> first aid kit <input type="checkbox"/> medications & prescriptions <input type="checkbox"/> battery-powered radio, torch & spare batteries <input type="checkbox"/> mobile phone & charger <input type="checkbox"/> gloves, goggles to protect eyes from smoke & embers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> woollen blankets (1 per person for radiant heat protection) <input type="checkbox"/> toiletries <input type="checkbox"/> jewellery & other valuables <input type="checkbox"/> family photos <input type="checkbox"/> wallet <input type="checkbox"/> drivers licence <input type="checkbox"/> passport <input type="checkbox"/> will <input type="checkbox"/> insurance papers <input type="checkbox"/> computer hard drive/USB with important files <input type="checkbox"/> mask/handkerchief to filter smoke |
|---|--|

Don't forget to organise household members and make arrangements for pets!!

Season Opening for TOSSA Swim



What a kick off to the TOSSA Season! 20 swimmers had a beautiful morning on Sunday November 3rd in blue skies and flat water. A fantastic turnout followed by fabulous fodder at the TOSSA outdoor mess. Anyone who is a confident swimmer is welcome to the Sunday TOSSA ((Taroona

Ocean and Sea Swimming Association) swims. **Check the Facebook page: Taroona Ocean and Sea Swimming Association or @TaroonaTOSSAs**

Push for safer routes to schools

On the 3rd of May 2019, a child was struck off their bicycle by a vehicle on Flinders Esplanade, Taroona. Luckily he was not badly hurt, but the incident has highlighted the traffic issues around the streets surrounding Taroona Primary and High Schools. Labor MP Ella Haddad is so concerned she is taking a petition to parliament calling on the government to take action on pedestrian safety by:

- Improving pathways along Flinders Esplanade to ensure adequate crossings for children riding and walking to and from school
- Creating a school zone in the proximity of the school entry point on Flinders Avenue, reducing the speed to 40km/hr.
- Implementing traffic calming measures, such as informal pedestrian crossings, street trees, lane deflection and modal filters to reduce through traffic.
- Placing a 'give way' sign and add road markings at the intersection of Flinders Esplanade and Meath Avenue.

You can sign the petition online at

<https://www.ellahaddad.com/campaigns/safer-routes-to-school>

or contact Ella Haddad at ella.haddad@parliament.tas.gov.au or 6212 2286.

Compostable dog poo bags

Those of you who follow posts on the Good Karma Network may have noticed a conversation there between Andrew Terhorst and others and our mayor, Dean Winter re compostable dog poo bags. With the current focus on reducing single use plastic, it is timely to be considering alternatives to the current black bags, especially as there are now a number of brands of compostable dog poo bags on the market. Dean's response to Andrew was encouraging. He thinks he has found a suitable bag and is prepared to ask the General Manager to bring the item to Councillors for a discussion and decision in the New Year. However, the price of these bags is much higher than the current stock and will likely cost around \$20,000 per year more.

If we are to move to compostable bags there are a two main issues to consider.

Firstly, how are you/council going to dispose of the bags? They should not be going to landfill as conditions will not be suitable for compostable bags to break down. Ideally dog poo bags should be



Home Compostable

AS 5810
ABAX 9999

home compostable (bearing the logo shown opposite). This means dog owners can either compost them themselves or put them in their green waste bins provided Kingborough Council moves to a FOGO (Food Organics and Garden Organics) scheme like that of the Hobart City Council. If you need

more information about safely home composting dog and cat poo go to:

<https://www.hobartcity.com.au/Residents/Recycling-and-rubbish/FOGO-and-compost>.

Secondly, how can we offset the additional cost? One solution would be for dog owners to buy their own bags and only use the council provided ones when they are caught short.

If you have strong opinions on these issues, we encourage you to write to Dean Winter.

Taroona Sippers and Purlers

Our December get-together will be our Christmas lunch at Succulent in early December. We will re-commence on the first Saturday in February in 2020 at Timeless Way, in Channel Court, Kingston, on Saturday 1 February from 2pm to 4pm, and continue on the first Saturday of each month, across the year. We welcome you to join us!

For more info email thestoddarts@gmail.com

Taroona's Community Website



Taroona.tas.au aims to record 'everything about Taroona'. The site acts as a community noticeboard, publishing advance notice of events and activities happening in Taroona. Over the ten years since the website was first launched, a large archive of information about Taroona has been amassed.

The site was recently expanded when The Taroona Environment Network (TEN) requested the move of their site from a private host to the Taroona site, and with this addition **taroona.tas.au** now comprises 123 separate pages organized under 20 top level sections.

Taroona.tas.au draws between 1200–1700 unique visitors each month. There have been 14,900 visitors this year (January to mid-November 2019).

Consistently over the years the History/Shot Tower page has been the top hit after the Taroona home page. This is followed by Garden Forum pages, Neighbourhood Garden pages and the Community Association pages. Other popular pages are About (Taroona) and the page giving information about facilities including Community Hall and Community Cottage.

Most popular downloads of pdfs are the Taroona Book chapter on the Shot Tower and David Stephens' Organic Calendar of 1991!

This has been consistent over many years! In recognition of this popularity I am about to publish David Stephen's 1988 calendar online. (It recently turned up in a friend's cupboard.)

Taroona 1808-1986 (aka The Taroona Book), long out of print, is reproduced in full, as are nearly* all of the *Taroona News* editions from 1999-2012. Since 2012 *Taroona News* has been hosted on an external site with a flip-page viewer providing an enhanced experience for the reader of this now greatly expanded and full colour publication.

There are still some community organisations and businesses which I would love to publish on the site, but in order to maintain a high standard of accuracy and currency, they will need to provide the information. There is no cost to clubs and groups adding their information to the website, which is sponsored by the Taroona Community Association. It is as easy as sending an email to the website manager (**taroona@taroona.tas.au**) or use the contact form on the site. Missing in action are the Bowls Club and Bowls Club Kitchen and Tennis Club. Scouts and Picnic Basket Café have outdated information on their pages. The schools could also use the site to publish to the wider community which does not receive school newsletters and does not belong to the Good Karma Facebook site. 1200–1700 people a month could be reading about more Taroona events.

**The following back issues of Taroona News are missing from the archive, and if anyone still has a copy of any of the following, I would love to borrow it to complete the collection: March & June 1999, March 2000, September 2001, March 2002 March and June 2003.*

– **Deirdre Brown, taroona.tas.au website manager**

News from Taroona Ex-Services' Club



All of the members of our Club send hearty Christmas cheers and healthy times to all the members of other Taroona Clubs, institutions and individuals. Having just held a deeply meaningful Remembrance Day Service with a gathering of over 100 – from the Taroona Scouts and Schools,

Bowls and Tennis Clubs, Taroona Community Neighbourhood Garden, and many individuals including Andrew Wilkie, Meg Webb, Elise Archer, Joe Westwood, police and RAN representatives – we feel a deep appreciation and closeness to the whole Taroona community.

As our Club draws towards Christmas, we have also left behind a recent DVA sponsored sightseeing cruise on the Derwent River, and our last monthly BBQ. But we are looking towards our happy and hearty Christmas Lunch in mid-December. So, from all of us at the Taroona Ex Services' Club – *Happy Christmas!*

– **David Thomson 62244394**





tarooona environment network

a bushcare/coastcare group supported by Kingborough Council.

It's that time of year when most of us are attending end of year functions, reviewing the year that is concluding and thinking about the year ahead.

TEN has had a most worthwhile and productive year. Recently, I attended the final school assembly for the year at Taroona Primary School (TPS) to thank students for a donation and to briefly speak about the work of TEN.

The school parliament, concerned about environmental degradation generally and the fires in the Amazon in particular, wanted to donate the proceeds of their "green dress day" to an organisation that was doing some tree planting. The students decided to act locally and donate just over \$300.00 to TEN.

This will help us to purchase a reciprocating saw to facilitate the removal of woody weeds in preparation for planting native trees and shrubs. On hearing of the student's kind donation, one of our members was moved to say "it is so reassuring that



Taroona Primary School students donated \$300 to assist with TEN's environmental restoration work. Pictured are Jonte (Year 5) and Charlotte (Year 6), members of the Environment Portfolio in the TPS Student Parliament, with Nigel Richardson (TEN).



Photo: Nigel Richardson

Taroona Fire Brigade member Jordan Carter waters plants as part of a joint project with TEN to remove weeds and landscape the grounds of Taroona Fire Station.

our children and grandchildren can see what is needed to be done. What a wonderful thing for them to do!"

Additionally, TEN was able to provide TPS with some advice about treating the embankment above the school and below the highway. Unfortunately, this embankment became infested with valerian, blackberries and other weeds following engineering works to stabilise the landslip. These weeds have now been cut and sprayed and the site is ready to be planted with native shrubs. TEN wishes to congratulate the school in tackling this challenging site and remains committed to helping with planting and on-going weed control and monitoring.

TEN continues to work with the fire brigade to implement a multi-stage plan to landscape Taroona Fire Station by removing woody weeds and planting local native trees and shrubs. As part of this plan a cypress pine tree was recently removed with some of the resulting timber to be utilised by local artisan Duncan Meerding. TEN is grateful to the fire brigade for their ongoing help particularly with watering plants on this difficult site and in a particularly dry season.

TEN also participated in the TPS Seaside Festival with a local weed and native plant display, and 'make your own seedbomb'. We are looking forward to our Christmas barbecue at Taroona Park on Sunday December 8th at 12 noon. TEN members and newcomers are most welcome. TEN also welcomes suggestions for our 2020 monthly working bee program. We will be revisiting several of our work sites including the fire station, schools and foreshore. Look out for our program to be published soon on our web site at <https://tarooona.tas.au/TEN/>

TEN wishes everyone a happy Christmas and looks forward to seeing new and old members alike on the first Sunday of every month beginning March 1st 2020.

– Nigel Richardson, TEN Public Officer



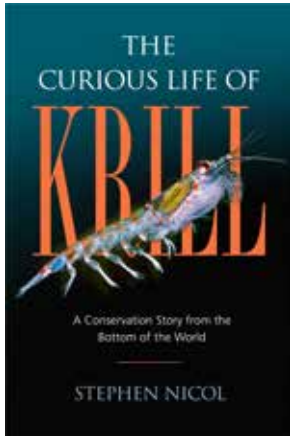
Photo: Nigel Richardson

Taroona Brigade member Alex Potter cross-cutting the cypress pine. Some of the wood is being salvaged by local wood worker Duncan Meerding.

Support our local authors

Looking for a good book to tuck into over the summer holidays? Or a Christmas gift for the relative who has everything? You need look no further. Living and working amongst us in Taroona we have a remarkable crop of talented writers, in fiction and in nonfiction. So let's support them. Because there's certainly something here for everyone!

NON FICTION



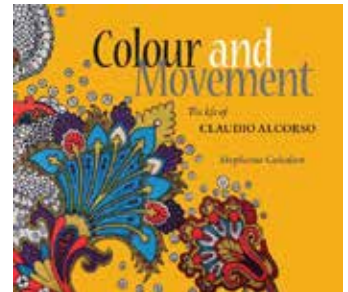
"Makes you feel as if you're part of an engaging dinnertime conversation." —Science News
Did you know that krill has a massive genome – 26 times the size ours? Or that it forms the largest aggregations of animal life on the planet? With infectious enthusiasm Dr Stephen Nicol takes us into their underwater habitat, observing their life and habits first-hand. He uses humour and personal stories to bring the beauty of krill alive, and it is no surprise that the book has been shortlisted for both the UNSW Bragg Prize for Science Writing and the Tasmanian Premier's Literary Prizes. RRP \$34.99



Bernard Lloyd visited every Tasmanian whisky distillery to explore their distinctive ways of Tasmanian whisky making. His pioneering journey shows how Tasmania's native peats and barley strains, its climate and its water, together with its people, combine to make our world-renowned whisky. The book – which describes itself as a road trip in search of an island's spirit – is superb, chock full of glossy photos and intriguing facts. Pair it with a bottle from one of Tasmania's fine distilleries for the perfect Christmas gift. RRP \$54.95.

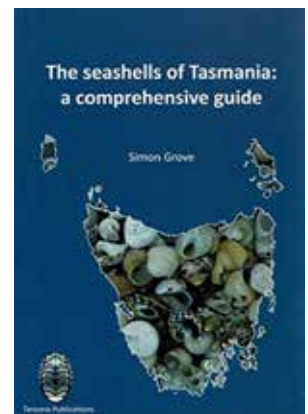


Lauren and Oberon Carter's family-friendly guide to reducing personal waste is a practical and inspiring resource for anyone wanting to live more sustainably. This beautifully illustrated book is full of budget-friendly recipes, projects and tips Available from all good bookshops (RRP \$34.99), with signed copies available for pickup from Taroona at <https://spiralgarden.com.au>



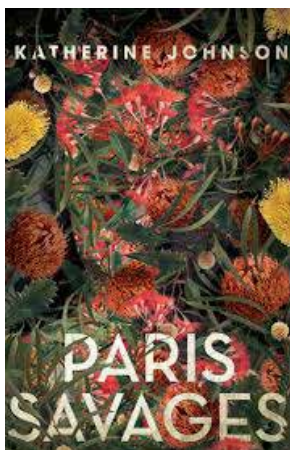
After fleeing fascism in Italy and enduring incarceration in Australia in World War II, Claudio Alcorso became a champion of textiles and the arts, pioneer of Tasmania's cool climate wine industry, and architect of Hobart's cultural precinct. Alcorso was at the leading edge of Australia's twentieth century multicultural and artistic awakening. Stephanie Cahalan's gorgeous book paints a fascinating portrait of Alcorso through personal accounts, letters and rarely seen images.

GUIDES

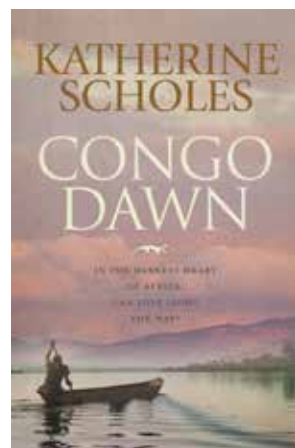


Ever wanted to know more about the shells you've found on our local beaches? Then this field guide is for you! Simon Grove's *The Seashells of Tasmania: a Comprehensive Guide* is now into its second edition, published this month by Taroona Publications / The Tasmanian Field Naturalists Club. It's available for purchase (\$32.95) through the TFNC online bookshop: <https://www.tasfieldnats.org.au/bookshop/>

FICTION

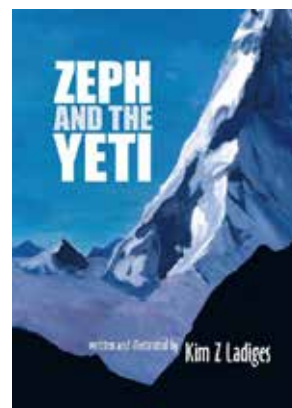


This fourth novel from award-winning novelist Katherine Johnson takes us from Fraser Island to the heart of Europe in 1882, where three Badjala people were taken to perform as mass entertainment. Based on a true story, this meticulously researched book brings a little-known part of colonial history to blazing life. Katherine tells a vivid, moving story of love, bravery, culture, and the fight against injustice. RRP: \$32.99



Katherine Scholes' acclaimed novel, *Congo Dawn*, is an emotionally powerful and evocative novel that transports us from 1960s Melbourne to the jungles of Africa in an epic story of one young woman's quest to find her heritage. African-born Katherine is the author of many international bestsellers including *The Rain Queen*, *Make Me An Idol*, *The Stone Angel*, *The Hunter's Wife*, *The Lioness* and *The Perfect Wife*. She is hugely popular in Europe where she has sold over two million books. RRP: \$19.99

CHILDRENS



Bored with school and humdrum days Zeph dreams of all the faraways Are Yétis real? Could they exist? Now here's a question Zeph can't resist
Zeph longs for daring adventure. He read of explorers daring and bold – and so he sets off to search for a Yeti. Written and illustrated by local mountaineer and guide, Kim Ladiges, this lovely children's picture book is told in rhyming couplets – making it great for reading aloud! For children up to 8 years. Published by Forty South Publishing, it's available for purchase (\$25) through Michala on 0428373515 or email michal_golebowicz@hotmail.com ; or at Find Your Feet

*To any Taroona authors who we didn't manage to track down – our sincere apologies. Please come out from under cover so we can celebrate you in a future newsletter.

Taroona Scout Group: Friendships & Remembering



Scouting provides many opportunities to meet with locals and engage people from across the world resulting in many friendships. Two international examples are the Jamboree of the Air and Internet held over the weekend 19–20 October, and World Scout Jamboree held in America.

For the first time ever, Joeys joined in and had a taste of the 25th Tasmanian Cuboree. The Tasmanian Governor, Kate Warner, opened the Cuboree that was also attended by the Speaker of the House of Assembly, Sue Hickey. Along with other Joey mobs they spent an afternoon enjoying the huge range of available activities. Highlights included rides on the hurdy gurdy (shown below), bush donuts and an adventure hunt. The long list of activities included abseiling, a rock band, billy carts, a campfire, dinosaurs, a music room, visits to the University of Tasmania Geology department geiger counter and uranium, food, flying fox, camping, the freedom, and the company.



Another opportunity to engage across our community occurred on 6 November, when the Taroona Joeys joined other Southern Joey mobs in a return walk from the Botanical Gardens to Cornelian Bay where they enjoyed fun and games on the play equipment and a barbecue.



The Taroona mob has fun with their Joey mates from other mobs (differentiated by the different colours of their scarfs)

In October, fourteen Taroona Scouts combined into two Scout patrols to participate in the Kingborough District Scout Camp. This was a walk and camp in tents with lots of activities such as First Aid and was enjoyed by everyone.



Newly gained expertise in bandaging an obviously damaged hand



A proud Taroona Scouts patrol display their Clark Trophy certificate

On the weekend of 16–17 November Taroona Scouts, along with another fifteen patrols, participated in the Clark Trophy held at Rockton in Oatlands. The Clark Trophy is a State-wide competition covering camping, hiking and survival skills. Our patrol came a creditable 6th, a great achievement for a young group. In addition to these events, Term Four Scout activities included a night walk, beach activities, rock climbing, abseiling, laser skirmish, and a barbecue. New members to Scouting are welcome. The age range is 11–14 years old.



Attending the Remembrance Day Service

We get involved in activities across the community and in continuing our close relationship with the Taroona Ex-Services Club we attended the local Remembrance Day service with representatives from each youth section. Ivy Mayhew, Peri Butler, Adelaide Simpkins, and James Hill all pitched in together to lay a floral tribute. Douglas Hemer was flag-bearer, and Lola Fleming and Adelle Massom read "For the Fallen".

The Scout annual Christmas tree and produce sale has become a legendary event. This year we will be having our sale on Saturday 14th December at the Grange Corner, commencing at 9am. There will be delicious Christmas treats for sale including jam, cakes, and other things. We very much appreciate the support the community has given us in the past that makes this event a huge success.

Over the last few months the Venturers participated in a range of activities including kayaking and swimming. The state-wide competition called the Teniswood Trophy had teams from all

round the state and the Taroona venturers enthusiastically joined in the first urban event which was like the Amazing Race round the streets of Launceston. One of our members was fortunate to be one of the four chosen from our state to attend a special leadership course in Brisbane which she described as "amazing".



Tenniswood fun



The big trip for the term has been a four-day trip to Cradle Mountain where all the weather extremes were experienced – hot weather and T-shirts for day one to snow and 0° on the rest of the days. Our newest venturer was invested on the deck at the BP Lodge. Nearly all the venturer units have put in some hours of work making jam to sell to raise funds for their activities, to reduce costs for their families. One of our members had raised money, including selling jam, to go to the world challenge in China so already had some skills in that department. Coming up is the state-wide event of outdoor activities and we will be sailing and kayaking, and plan for a kayak expedition in the summer holidays.



Cradle Mountain climate challenge



Jam-making

If you would like any information concerning the Taroona Scout Group or are interested in youth membership or a leader role, please contact either **Mike Green 6227 9139** or **Janet 0400 297 646**.

POSSUMS Playcentre



Possums Playcentre Beach Adventures!

Term 4 at Possums has been a busy one with our preschoolers enjoying our beautiful Taroona beaches. How lucky we are to have such a wonderful environment to explore! The children found shells, a variety of seaweed and kelp, small insects and driftwood. One child commented how she loved to smell the fresh air as we wandered along Hinsby Beach.

The outdoor playground is an important part of our program at Possums. **Enrolments are still available for 2020.** Please enrol online at www.possumsplaycentre.org.au or phone **0418390432** for more information.

Best wishes for Christmas and the holiday season!

– Lyn and the team at Possums



Taroona Book Sale 2020

Next year's book sale is planned to be held in early July. Start setting aside any books you no longer want – we'll be accepting them from 1 May.

The re-development of Kelvedon Park has begun!



Years of hard work by the committee has seen the club secure funding from Federal, State and Local Government to enable us to undertake this once-in-a-generation project. For the first time ever we will have a space for club functions, a bar and kiosk area to serve players, supporters and spectators. Importantly there will be four new changing rooms allowing us to meet modern standards for our female, youth and adult players. We gratefully acknowledge our major sponsors; UPC Renewables, Lansdowne Crescent Café, AKA Architects, Ella Haddad MP and The Waratah Hotel (The TAH). We want to thank the community for their support of the club and ask forbearance of our nearest neighbours as we undergo this transformation.

Unfortunately our current level of funding doesn't cover the cost of the fit-out and other essential items. We have partnered with the Sports Foundation to raise money. If you would like to make a small, 100% tax deductible contribution it would be much appreciated. See information on our website: <https://www.taroonafc.org/post/fit-out-fundraising>



Contract signed. Builder ready to go! New clubrooms here we come!



Ozus Coffee at the Truganini Corner is the perfect spot to enjoy the summer weather! There is ample space for kids to play or challenge a friend to walk the track. Enjoy our new range of cold drinks to cool you down on the warmer days.



We are now offering gift vouchers, which can be used for wholesale coffee beans, drinking chocolate powder or a Christmas present.

We would like to extend our thanks to the Taroona community for supporting us since opening. As summer is approaching there are a few exciting additions being made.



Ozus Coffee will be taking a short break between 22 December and 5 January, reopening on Monday 6 January. To keep up with all the new exciting additions to our menu we can be found on Facebook: Ozus Coffee and Instagram @ozuscoffee.

We hope everyone has an enjoyable relaxing time over the Christmas period and look forward to the New Year! – Theo and Maggie

The Year at St Luke's

I can't believe I am coming to the end of my first year serving as Minister at St Luke's Anglican Church. I have really enjoyed getting to know the community, though I know there are more groups and people yet to meet! I feel very blessed to work in such a beautiful location in a caring, friendly environment.

We have begun a few new groups this year and hope that more people will come along and check them out. Our 'Creative Space' has seen some gather from 1–3 each Tuesday to work on their "writing" projects and on Thursday "art" projects. Some have learnt some new skills such as painting and calligraphy.

Playgroup is now running on Tuesday mornings from 10.45–12.15 after the women's exercise class at 9.30! It has been great to meet some of the younger community with parents or grandparents. We have a great time playing, singing and doing something creative.

Activities will be on hold over January and re-commence in school term time.

Community Carols 15th December



I am very excited to be involved with the Taroona Community Carols on the Lawn at St Luke's. We are praying for good weather after a very wet one last year! However, come rain or shine we will sing Carols ... moving inside if we need to.

Starting at 5pm for a free BBQ or BYO picnic while listening to The Southern District Concert Band and featuring some carols by the Augusta Quintet. At 6pm we will start the community carol singing where we all sing our hearts out to well-known carols. There will be a children's spot with stories so bring the whole family and dress up as angels, shepherds or kings! *Hope to see you there!* Our Christmas Day traditional communion family service will be held on Wednesday 25 December at 9am.

– Ruth Hanlon. For enquiries please call 6227 9611.



TAROONA COMMUNITY
Carols on the Lawn
SUNDAY
15 DECEMBER 2019
5pm
free BBQ/BYO picnic

6pm
CAROL SINGING
ANGELS & SHEPHERDS WELCOME!

ST LUKE'S ANGLICAN
 172 Channel Hwy, Taroona 7088
 Enquiries please phone: 6227 9611



Taroona Tennis Club News



From left, Mayor Dean Winter (at back), Simon Lawrence (treasurer) and Jill Bell (life member and past committee member) at the AGM of the Taroona Tennis Club on 16 November.

The Taroona Tennis Club celebrates its 60th Anniversary this year. To mark this important occasion a dinner attended by about fifty people was held at the Kingston Beach Golf Club and a family social day and BBQ was held at the Club. Everyone present had the opportunity to get on court and there was a display of coaching activities and an exhibition of high quality tennis.

At the time of writing the Book a Court online platform which allows casual players to book and pay for a court online was not live. It will be in operation soon and will make it much easier for visitors to access the courts.

A Tennis Australia initiative will be run at the Club early next year. We are trying to give players aged 25–45 who have played tennis in the past the opportunity to start playing again. Eight Monday evening sessions will be offered early in 2020, with modified games and all equipment provided. The sessions will cost \$10 per person and will be held on January 27th; February 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th; and March 2nd, 9th and 16th. All people need to do is turn up!

The Club's AGM was held on November 16th and the following committee was elected. President – Alan Sutherland, Vice President – John Davies, Secretary – Diane Balding, Treasurer – Simon Lawrence, Committee Members – Lynne Buxton, Daniel Kaimatsoglu, Ollie Grant, Rita Van Meer, Roger Kimber and James Heyward. Andrew Etherington as coach will be an ex-officio member of the committee.

Many people are playing social tennis at Taroona, some men represent the Club in the AYC evening competition and some ladies in the Mid-Week Ladies' competition and Andrew Etherington offers coaching to juniors and to adults. There is "Family Fridays" social tennis on a Friday evening from 6.00pm to provide fun and tennis for juniors. Friendship and family groups use the courts. The Club is a great facility and contributes much to the Taroona community. **Diane Balding can be contacted for further information on 6227 9232 or 0488 086 381.**

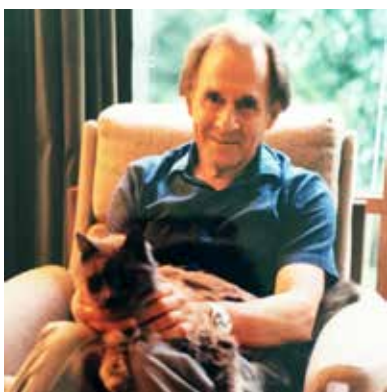
Us: Eric Mitchell

The life-journey of Eric Mitchell OAM, is worthy of at least one film, a book, and given the central role of music in his life, an opera.

Eric and his wife Isa came to live in Hobart in 1954 and moved to Taroona in 1956.

He spent his childhood in Swan Hill and Kyabran, Victoria, where his parents had a dairy farm. Eric says he has no idea where his very early and obvious musical talents came from. At age three, his family tells of him standing in his cot and calling out to his sister, seventeen years his senior as she played their piano, 'Wrong note sis!' At age five he commenced piano lessons.

Eric won an academic scholarship to Geelong College where he says he was 'brain-dead' at Mathematics. He studied music at the University of Melbourne Conservatorium of Music. Five years later in Australia he began a concert tour with two international artists which then proceeded to London and then on to Italy. He went to Paris for post-graduate studies and then returned to Victoria, determined, above all else, not to become a piano teacher. However, as his former piano teacher commented, 'You like to eat!' so he accepted a position as piano teacher to the two talented daughters of the then Governor of Tasmania, Sir Ronald Cross. He was also told, by his former teacher, that as a musician he would probably starve for a while in Hobart!



Eric has now taught several generations of Taroona students

So piano teaching happened. Eric realised that he loved communicating with students about how to learn and how to play. Seeing things from the students' perspective, along with a sense of humour, underpinned how he taught. He has taught at least two generations of a number of Taroona students. He taught his grand-daughter, Katerina Mitchell, now a world-class violinist based in London. Katerina played at the wedding of

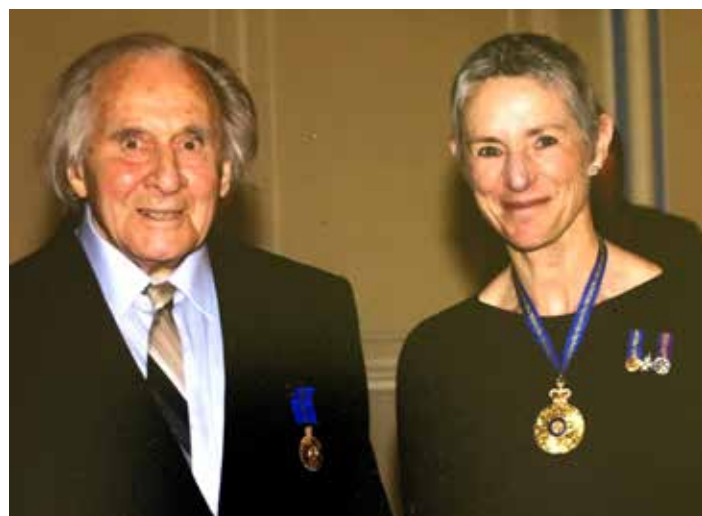
Prince Henry and Megan Markle. He has also travelled widely. He's been to the Antarctic, to Iceland and walked in the Himalayas twice. He recalls that Taroona was 'mostly bush' when they first built their



Two of Eric's great loves: the piano and Antarctica

home, and that there was very little traffic! The 1967 bushfires are still a strong memory. Eric and his wife fought the flames around their home for some hours.

In 1970 he was awarded a Travel Grant by the Australian Council for the Arts which enabled him to research piano teaching for children in the U.S., Hungary, the Soviet Union and Japan, where he met Dr Suzuki, creator of the now world-wide approach to music education. He then co-founded this approach with the Tasmanian violinist Peter Komloss. Eric helped develop the Suzuki approach to teaching in Finland, and has been Guest Lecturer at various universities in the U.S.



Newly minted OAM Eric Mitchell with Tasmanian Governor Kate Warner

Eric recently celebrated his 90th birthday with a musical afternoon tea at his home. His grand-daughter Katerina travelled from London to perform with him a Mozart Sonata. Eric's first Hobart students, those two teenage daughters of the Governor of Tasmania, and now in their 70s, came from Sydney for his 90th.

Earlier this year Eric was honoured with the Medal of the Order of Australia in recognition of the years he has contributed to the musical education of young Australians. At his investiture, Eric sat next to the same piano where he had taught those daughters of Sir Ronald Cross, over sixty years ago.

This is a life encircled by his talent for teaching and his love of music.

If you would like to share your story, or provide a name of someone who could, please email Ros at thestoddarts@gmail.com

– Environmental Weed Profile –

Cotoneaster

Cotoneaster is another one of TEN's top target species for control. **Cotoneaster can be very persistent and hard to kill and can be spread far and wide by birds.** TEN is currently working with the Taroona Volunteer Fire Brigade to undertake a staged removal of cotoneasters from the grounds surrounding the Fire Brigade building and replacing them with native species.

Cotoneaster is a genus in the rose family *Rosaceae* which has about 300 different species. In Tasmania six species have become naturalised.

Status

Cotoneaster is not a declared weed in Tasmania nor is it currently listed as a Weed of National Significance. However, DPIPW, Landcare Tasmania and Private Forests have concluded that Cotoneaster has the potential to become a serious invader of bushland areas. The need for initiating control measures is rated as high to critical depending on its location.

What does it look like?

Cotoneaster is a large evergreen shrub up to 5m with oval leaves that are lighter green to grey underneath. It produces large clusters of strongly scented small white/cream flowers which produce clusters of bright red berries.

How did it get here?

Cotoneasters are native to temperate Asia, Europe, north Africa, with a strong concentration of diversity in the mountains of southwestern China and the Himalayas. They were brought into Australia as a garden plant and many have escaped from cultivation and become invasive weeds where climatic conditions are suitable for them.

Many Cotoneaster species have become significant environmental weeds in many parts of the world including California and New Zealand. In Australia they occur in Victoria, Tasmania and the ACT and moderately in New South Wales.

Cotoneasters can be found all over Tasmania, most commonly in urban areas. They can form localized infestations at the edges of native forest, in bush reserves and along roadsides where they have escaped from local gardens.

How does it grow and spread?

Cotoneaster is hardy. It can grow in a range of weather and soil conditions and is drought and frost tolerant. It can produce suckers when damaged.

Cotoneaster flowers in late spring through early summer and produces a prolific number of bright red or orange berries in late summer to autumn with the berries being retained on the bushes for many months. The berries are highly attractive to birds especially pest species such as blackbirds and thrushes. When the fruits are eaten the seeds are distributed in their droppings up to 500 metres from the parent plant in neighbouring bushland where it can quickly become established.

Uses

Cotoneaster flowers are highly attractive to bees and butterflies and can be a valuable source of nectar when bees have little other forage in the winter months and can provide larval food for some butterflies.

They are a popular garden plant and are grown for their attractive habit and decorative fruit and are commonly used for winter colour. An alternative to cotoneaster that can be used in your garden is the native currant or dogwood. The dogwood does not have the brightly coloured berries; however it has rich creamy flowers in spring, is drought tolerant, relatively compact and has low flammability.

Why is it a problem?

Cotoneaster competes with native species in a variety of native bush communities where it forms thickets and shades out native vegetation. Cotoneaster is mildly toxic to humans and in large quantities can cause gastroenteritis. The berries appear to encourage and support some introduced pest species of birds including starlings, blackbirds and sparrows. Removing cotoneaster may help to discourage these birds from coming into your garden.



Photos: Tim Rudman

How can it be controlled?

It is suggested that seedlings and small bushes can be removed using a mattock or spade. However, if you have ever tried to do this you will discover how tenacious this species is. It can become deeply rooted very quickly and can be very difficult to remove effectively this way.

The most effective means is to use a cut and paste method (cut stump or drill/axe cut/inject) with Glyphosate 360 g/L (Roundup®) at a rate of 1 part glyphosate per 1.5 parts of water during summer, spring and autumn. Though the best time is autumn when the plants draw down their sap as they start to go into dormancy.

Always check the herbicide label before use.



What's happening to Taroona's birds?



Photo: Mick Brown

The threatened Grey Goshawk at Taroona. Several of these birds are seen regularly in Taroona, and they may be breeding residents.

Mick Brown and Peter Vaughan's paper, *Changes in Taroona bird species occurrences 1986-2019* has just been published in the 2019 edition of *The Tasmanian Naturalist*.

As mentioned last issue, Mick and Peter have recently re-surveyed the birds of Taroona and looked at the changes that have occurred over the past 33 years. The core composition of birds in Taroona has remained fairly stable, but there are some changes due to invasions/increases in introduced species as well as a decline of two of our most threatened species, the Forty-spotted Pardalote and the Swift Parrot. You can download their paper now from the Taroona website at: <https://taroona.tas.au/data/documents/TaroonaBirds.pdf>

TCA Subscriptions due

Subscriptions to the Taroona Community Association are now due.

They can be paid as \$10 dropped in the letterbox of 11 Jenkins Street or by direct deposit into the TCA bank account **BSB 067 102, account number 2801 1079**. Please email us to notify of deposited funds.

PIC OF TAROONA



Taroona's seashores

Local biologist Dr Simon Grove took this photograph at low tide on Hinsby Beach, showcasing some of the beautiful seaweeds often found there. As Simon explains: *"The extra-low tides of summer are a great time to observe the marine life on our local shores, whether from above or below the water. Meadows of sea-grass just off our sandy beaches act as nursery areas for shoals of baby fish and shrimps, which in turn become food for larger fish. Meanwhile, there's plenty to spot on the rocks among the lush spring growth of cray-weed, strap-weed, Neptune's necklace and other seaweeds. When the tide is in, the jelly-like waratah and white-striped anemones unfurl a ring of tentacles to ensnare their tiny crustacean food; while several species of limpet and top-shell emerge from crevices to graze on encrusting algae. Snakeskin chitons – the mollusc that is said to have given Taroona its name – are also grazers, trundling slowly over the rocks. A host of further animals, from sponges to sea-slaters to half-crabs, can be found by peeping under, or carefully overturning, boulders. Please help in looking after this amazing thin ribbon of nature by returning all boulders to their original position and not collecting live shellfish."*

More of Simon's pictures of Taroona's natural environment can be found at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/simongrovetmag/albums/72157701295722441>

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Email: communityassociation@taroona.tas.au

The committee meets on the third Thursday of the month (Feb–Dec).

Newsletter contributions: taroonacommunitynewsletter@gmail.com

Advertising: 1 column x 2cm deep = \$10, 1 column x 4cm deep = \$20

The Taroona community's award-winning website about life in Taroona can be found at <https://taroona.tas.au/>. Contributions to the website can be sent to Deirdre Brown at taroona@taroona.tas.au

Membership of the Taroona Community Association is \$10 and payment can be made by direct deposit into the TCA's bank account **BSB 067102** and **Account number 28011079**. Please email us to notify of deposited funds. You can also deliver or mail payment to 11 Jenkins Street.

This issue of *Taroona News* has been printed with the support of the offices of Senator Carol Brown and Senator Catryna Bilyk.

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