



Taroona News

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

Email: taronacommunitynewsletter@gmail.com

Glorious soaking rain heralded the start to autumn and a reduced threat of bushfire. While we're becoming increasingly bushfire aware every year, there's much more we can do to improve our community resilience. Over the next several months, the TCA will begin exploring various initiatives, so please do get in touch if you'd like to be a part of this.

While on the topic of community resilience, should Hobart be as impacted by the coronavirus as elsewhere in the world, we will need to look out for each other more than ever, particularly those amongst us who will be most vulnerable to the illness and/or the effects of being quarantined. There are good ideas about how to care for each other in the article on Neighbour Day (29th March, see page 8).

This newsletter edition – as usual – is packed with the doings of community life in Taroona: a new soccer clubroom for TFC, a new music facility for Taroona High, the wonderful efforts of our volunteer fire fighters interstate, great initiatives by Transition Streets Taroona, the introduction of live music to the Picnic Basket, the daily buzz of Ozus at Truganini, Scouts continuing to push well above their weight, a fresh start for Taroona Garden Friends, busy little possums at Taroona's preschool, new ways to join in social tennis, great classes at St Lukes, and the ongoing care for our reserves by Taroona Environment Network volunteers.

We are a fortunate community indeed.

– Taroona Community Association



Calendar

March

- Sun 15 Taroona Coastal Rowing, 10am, Taroona Beach
- Sun 15 Sunday Lunch Live, Picnic Basket, 12am–2pm
- Tues 17 TEN AGM, Taroona Bowls Club, 7–00pm
- Sun 22 Crosswinds, Classical music at the Picnic Basket, 11am–1pm
- 26 Thurs Taroona Neighbourhood Garden AGM, 7.30pm

April

- Sat 4 Taroona Sippers and Purlers, Timeless Way, Kingston, 2–4pm
- Sun 5 TEN Working Bee: Rotary Park, 10am to 12noon
- Sat 25 ANZAC Day Dawn Service, Community Hall, Batchelor Way, 5.45 am

May

- Sat 2 Taroona Sippers and Purlers, Timeless Way, Kingston, 2–4pm
- Sun 3 TEN Working Bee: Fire Station, 10am to 12noon

June

- Sat 6 Taroona Sippers and Purlers, Timeless Way, Kingston, 2–4pm
- Sun 14 TEN Working Bee: Melinga Place near boatsheds, 10am to 12noon

July

- Sat 4 –Sun 5 Taroona Book Sale, Taroona Shopping Centre, 9am–2pm
- Sun 5 TEN Working Bee: Taroona High School tree planting, 10am to 12
- TBA TEN: National Tree Day planting

Transition Streets Taroona



Passata making day

Passata making is a southern European tradition and a great way to preserve tomatoes while maintaining the flavour of fresh tomatoes. We will be running a passata making workshop on Saturday 28th March from 10.30am to 2pm (approx.) at a resident's home in Taroona. If you are interested in participating, please email us at transitionstreetstaroona@gmail.com. Note, spaces are extremely limited and participants are asked to bring the following: 10kg tomatoes (or let us know if you do not have enough from your garden), a bunch of basil from the garden, 10 x 750ml bottles (Screw top, Fowler or beer style with caps) and a plate to share for lunch, which we will share while the passata is cooking. We are also looking for a fowler electric unit and beer capper to run the workshop, so please let us know if you are able to lend one.



Sustainability workshops

On the 22nd February, Transition Streets Taroona hosted its first in a series of sustainability-themed workshops. Lauren and Oberon Carter presented a workshop on the topic of waste-free living, to an audience of 40 Taroona residents, showing things like how to make your own pet food, toothpaste, household cleaner, scrappy apple vinegar and sesamite (a tasty substitute for vegemite). If you have a topic you would like to present to the Taroona community,

please contact us at transitionstreetstaroona@gmail.com. And email us if you'd like to join our mailing list to stay informed about upcoming events.

Food Verge Scheme

Nature strips are public land spaces that Council defers to residents to manage. But managing these lawns generally involves a fair amount of our time as well as use of fossil-fuel based lawnmowers. We'd love to see better use of these spaces, such that they provide health benefits to Taroona residents. In this Food Verge Scheme, we plan to modify nature strips of willing residents in Taroona, and create productive food gardens of, herbs, flowers and other useful low-growing plants. We are aiming to provide more public food and useful plants for us all to appreciate and enjoy. We are engaging Kingborough Council on our plans and are learning from similar schemes implemented elsewhere in Australia. Stay tuned for our first working bee later in Autumn.



Kids logo competition!

Transition Streets Taroona is running a competition to choose a new logo that encapsulates our vision for a sustainable and locally resilient Taroona. The competition is open to Taroona residents aged 16 and under. Submissions close on Monday 20th April and a winner will be chosen by the organising team before the end of April. The winning artist will receive a \$40 gift voucher to local zero-waste store, Spiral Garden. Please email designs to us as a jpeg file and provide a short description of your logo. See our website at transitionstreetstaroona.org.



Taroona Book Sale 2020

The Taroona Book Sale, now in its 51st year, will be held on the weekend of 4–5 July at the Taroona Shopping Centre, from 9am to 2pm. Start setting aside any books you no longer want – we'll be accepting them from 1 May.

Taroona Volunteer Fire Brigade helps mainland colleagues

As one of the worst fire seasons in Australia’s history draws to a close with drenching rains and floods, we are probably over any more news of despair and destruction. Perhaps this season for us is also drawing to a close so we can enjoy the cooler nights and sunshine without the fear of emergency warnings.

I thought I might share here the experiences of a week-long deployment to support the fire fighting efforts of our mainland colleagues.

Taroona Fire Brigade was represented at least 10 times (from the brigade first officer to one of our newest volunteers), which represents nearly half the brigade volunteering a week of their time. There were more offers, which were knocked back due to oversubscription from Tasmanian brigades. We also helped our local communities in Lachlan, Swansea, Great Lakes and Brighton when fires threatened these communities.

– Chris Allfree, Taroona Volunteer Fire Brigade



I travelled in a team of volunteers and career fire fighters to Boonah in Southern Queensland in mid November. Not one of us had been on deployment before and the enormity of the fire season coming had not yet become apparent so we were wide eyed with the uncertainty of what was to come.

Our first night was in tents. Ear plugs! The advice of a seasoned interstate fire fighter.



We were then sent west to fight the fires near Boonah. It was incredibly dry and the farm animals looked thin and hungry. Nobody was swimming this summer.



I was assigned to night shift on Task force Charlie: The fires crawled through the mountainous areas as we waited in the paddocks below for it to reveal itself in a game of patience, preparedness and cat and mouse. The communities there were on edge and the local fire fighting resources, already tired, were pleased to see some fresh faces to share the burden.



Mt Barney, A rainforest remnant from the days of Gondwana (or so we were told) with the northernmost remnant of the Antarctic Beech. Alight!

A huge back-burn was organised and co-ordinated through Tassie Strike team, Qld Parks and Northern Territory fire crews to save these trees and their habitat. Present for such a long time, here on our earth. It seemed like a very noble way to spend an evening.



My Crew Leader, Pete and I were assigned the task of second to last in a crew of six appliances (fire trucks). Our role was to let the back burn penetrate into the forest sufficiently far (having been lit by one of the earlier appliances) and then extinguish the edges to prevent it jumping the ‘containment line.’



Of course every night is darkest just before dawn. As our shift drew to a close, a large wind fanned the fires threatening our lines. Realising a two-hour turn around for our day crew, our team pressed to stay on to finish the job. “We are Tassie, it’s what we do” was



the reply by the Strike team leader. It sounds cheesy here, but it meant a lot that night.

Here is Pete in action.



Our day crew held the lines we had fought for and that evening we were all in Brisbane. Friendships and experience forged in such an atmosphere are hard to better.



Accidental discharge of plastic from IMAS Taroona research laboratories

In late February, small biological filters were accidentally released from our research laboratories here at IMAS Taroona and were found by locals along the foreshores and beaches.

The incident happened when a water tank, which had been dry for some time, was being cleaned in preparation for research using water straight from the Derwent. Due to operator error, a filter overflowed releasing plastic parts used to remove nitrogen from water.

While most of the released filters were swept up, we believe around 1–3kg went down a drain and washed up on local beaches.

As soon as staff became aware of the incident, a search was organised along nearby beaches and the rocky foreshore, daily searches were conducted until the end of February, and regular searches continue!

Over the first few days, we found five litres of the filters, which dropped quickly over the following days. The filters are designed to be slightly buoyant, so we expect them to have washed up on the beach quickly, rather than remaining in the water column.

The water and filters came from clean flow-through research tanks, which are used for keeping marine animals. There were no chemicals or other contaminants involved. The filters mimic the natural aquatic process of nitrogen cycling that occurs when water flows over rocks and sand (see Nature's water cleaners at work).

We take pride in our world-leading research into the incidence and impact of marine plastic pollution, so an accidental discharge of plastic such as this is extremely distressing. At IMAS, we have extensive procedures to prevent contamination of any kind into the marine environment, but have already put additional measures in place to avoid this happening again.

We sincerely apologise to the local community and beach users for the impact this unfortunate incident has had on the environment, and the concern it has caused. Thank you to everyone who has been collecting them from our local foreshores and beaches.

About IMAS

The Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS) is a centre of excellence for both research and education at the University of Tasmania.

Our research is innovative, relevant, and globally distinctive. Our education delivers first-class programs resulting in highly trained scientists and researchers, serving the needs of academic institutions, industry, government and the community.

Communications Contact: Louise Creely on 6226 8204 or louise.creely@utas.edu.au

Nature's water cleaners at work

Moving Bed Biological Filters (MBBRs) are small plastic filtration media widely used in aquaculture. They are designed to provide a large surface area where natural marine bacteria can grow and do their essential water-cleaning work.



All animals produce nitrogen wastes, such as urine, and in nature this is removed from the water by 'denitrifying bacteria'. In the sea, these bacteria cover all hard surfaces, including grains of sand.

Our research tanks are smooth and scrubbed clean, so there's usually not enough surface area for these important bacteria to grow. That's why we need separate tanks, called biofilters, full of the plastic filters.

Biofilters are used wherever aquatic animals are kept alive, including in home aquariums. Keeping this aquarium water as clean as possible is vital for the survival of the marine animals in our tanks.

At IMAS, seawater straight from the Derwent is pumped through the filter tanks to mimic the natural aquatic process of nitrogen cycling that occurs when water flows over rocks and sand.

Most of the facility uses water that is filtered to be cleaner than the water in the Derwent. This is necessary because some animals we study, including lobster larvae, normally live in oceanic water which is cleaner than the seawater near the coast.

IMAS
INSTITUTE FOR MARINE AND
ANTARCTIC STUDIES



2019 – Taroona’s third driest year ever

ANZAC Dawn Service



Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology

RAINFALL OBSERVATIONS

F71 / Mat. No. 502100
August 2018

AT TAROONA (TAROONA CRESCENT) YEAR 2019

ALL ENTRIES IN MILLIMETRES TO ONE DECIMAL PLACE

Day of the week shown in the left hand column for each month

DATE	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	DATE											
1	Tu	F 0.6	F	M	W	Sat	M 0.2	Th	S	Tu	F	S 0.2	1											
2	W	Sat	Sat	Tu	Th	S	Tu 7.6	F	M 0.4	W	Sat 2.6	M	2											
3	Th	S	S	W	F	2.0	M 3.0	Sat 5.8	Tu	Th	S	Tu 5.2	3											
4	F	M 0.2	M	Th	0.6	Sat	Th	S 0.4	W	F	M	W 2.2	4											
5	Sat	Tu	Tu	F	S	0.4	W 12.8	F	M	Th	Sat	1.4	5											
6	S	W	W	2.4	Sat 7.6	M	Th	Sat	Tu	F	S	W	F 0.4	6										
7	M	Th 29.2	Th	S	Tu	F	S	W	Sat 9.4	M	0.4	Th	0.4	7										
8	Tu	F 5.0	F	M	6.2	W	Sat	M	1.0	Th	S	1.8	Tu	F 1.8	8									
9	W	Sat	Sat	Tu	2.0	Th	0.2	S	Tu	F	0.8	M	1.2	W	Sat 3.6	9								
10	Th	TRACE	S	3.6	S	W	F	0.6	M	1.2	W	Sat 13.8	Tu	Th	2.2	S	0.4	10						
11	F	M	M	7.8	Th	Sat	TRACE	Tu	1.4	Th	2.0	S	9.2	W	F	1.2	M	W	11					
12	Sat	0.4	Tu	1.8	Tu	0.2	F	M	0.2	W	F	5.4	M	1.8	1.6	Sat	0.4	Tu	2.2	Th	TRACE	12		
13	S	W	0.8	W	0.6	Sat	0.8	M	2.8	Sat	2.0	Tu	F	S	W	0.6	F	0.2	13					
14	M	Th	Th	Th	S	Tu	5.0	F	S	8.4	W	Sat	M	0.8	Th	2.0	Sat	14						
15	Tu	F	F	M	W	Sat	M	2.4	Th	S	4.0	Tu	9.6	F	S	10.8	15							
16	W	Sat	Sat	Tu	Th	S	Tu	F	1.6	M	4.4	W	14.8	Sat	0.6	M	0.8	16						
17	Th	S	1.6	S	W	F	M	W	Sat	Tu	0.6	Th	S	TRACE	Tu	17								
18	F	M	M	Th	8.4	Sat	Tu	Th	6.0	S	W	F	0.2	M	W	18								
19	Sat	0.6	Tu	Tu	F	S	W	8.8	F	0.2	M	1.0	Th	Sat	0.8	Tu	Th	19						
20	S	W	W	1.8	Sat	M	Th	0.4	Sat	Tu	2.0	F	S	0.2	W	F	20							
21	M	Th	TRACE	Th	S	Tu	0.4	F	7.0	S	0.4	W	8.8	Sat	M	Th	Sat	21						
22	Tu	F	F	M	1.8	W	Sat	2.0	M	Th	18.0	S	Tu	F	S	22								
23	W	Sat	Sat	Tu	Th	W	S	0.2	Tu	F	0.2	M	0.8	W	Sat	TRACE	M	23						
24	Th	S	S	0.4	W	F	M	W	Sat	Tu	Th	S	0.2	Tu	24									
25	F	M	M	3.4	Th	Sat	0.4	Tu	Th	S	17.8	W	0.4	F	M	W	25							
26	Sat	Tu	1.0	Tu	0.8	F	3.2	S	W	F	0.6	M	Th	Sat	Tu	3.8	Th	26						
27	S	W	W	Sat	1.0	M	0.6	Th	Sat	Tu	0.2	F	S	W	F	27								
28	M	Th	Th	S	Tu	0.2	F	S	W	1.4	Sat	3.6	M	2.8	Th	0.4	Sat	28						
29	Tu	F	F	M	W	0.6	Sat	M	0.6	Th	2.8	S	1.6	Tu	0.2	F	7.2	S	29					
30	W	Sat	2.2	Tu	Th	0.4	S	0.2	Tu	0.6	F	M	0.6	W	Sa	8.4	M	30						
31	Th	0.2	S	0.4	F	0.2	W	Sat	Th	6.4	31													
Totals		1.2	43.8	20.0	31.6	11.2	36.8	40.4	85.6	30.4	35.0	41.6	27.6											
Number of Days		3	9	14	9	13	14	15	16	13	13	16	10											
Totals			45.0	65.0	96.6	107.8	144.6	185.0	270.6	301.0	336.0	377.6	405.2											
Average All Years	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	Year											
Total Number of Days													Year											

Observers with display facilities are requested to exhibit this sheet in a conspicuous position. At end of year retain this sheet with rain register. The rain should be entered on the day it is measured.

Here is the day by day tale of the rain gauge in 2019, as recorded by Taroona’s official Bureau of Meteorology rain measurer Peter Gee.

The 12-month total of 405.2 millimetres was the third lowest since annual records were first collected for Taroona in 1964. The two lower totals were 338.8 in 2006 and 394.2 in 2002.

Other highlights [lowlights] of 2019 were January’s 1.2 mm which is the lowest January total on record and May’s 11.2 which is the third lowest May total ever recorded.

As for 2020, the grand total so far – before the recent autumn rains – was 20mm for February and 34mm for January.



The **Taroona Ex Services’ Club** has commenced planning for this important Service and Breakfast. After the 2019 extremely well supported ANZAC Service, an audience of many dignitaries and over 300 Taroona residents are expected to attend on Saturday 25 April, when the Service Commences at 5.45 am.

Many successful happenings are again planned including: the early morning march of scouts, Club members and a Catafalque Army cadet party, and readings by scouts and students, backed by the dulcet sounds from a piper and a young professional bugler. New Club member Murray Kube will have his WW2 USA jeep available for inspection. The beautiful display of knitted poppies, by the Taroona Community Knitting Group, will again adorn the twin ‘Lone Pines’. Starting this year, and included in the Service, will be an acknowledgement of the Tasmanian Aboriginal Community as the traditional custodians of the land on which the Service is being held and we will pay our respects to their elders past, present and emerging.

– David Thomson 62244394



Taroona Football Club action



Summer Series Results

Our senior Men's and Women's teams have been busy over the past month playing a number of matches as they warm up for season 2020.

In the Women's Summer Cup Taroona had a loss to the newly formed Clarence-Zebras and and bounced back with a strong 3-1 win last weekend over University.



Women's Summer Cup: Taroona FC vs Clarence Zebras

The Men's side went through the Southern Championship Summer Series undefeated, picking up wins against Beachside, South East United and drawing with Olympia.

The Senior Men kicked off season 2020 last Saturday 7 March as they hosted Olympia at KGV.

Development Update

Development of the new club and change rooms is in the final stages of construction – with only about 6 weeks to completion. We can't wait to welcome all our players and supporters to this

fantastic new facility. Join us on the weekend of the 25/26 April as we host our first senior home games for both the men's and women's teams.



Clubrooms are really taking shape. It won't be long before we're standing there watching the action!

From the beginning of autumn, Ozus Coffee will be opening 7:30am - 2pm Monday to Friday, and Saturday 9am - 1pm. We have teamed up with Pigeon Whole Bakery and are now offering a range of fresh bread loaves and pastries.



You can now find us on the Skip app as we upgraded our ordering system, so you can get a coffee on the go.

To keep up with all the new exciting additions to our menu we can be found on **Facebook: Ozus Coffee** and **Instagram @ozuscoffee**.

– Theo and Maggie

Maggie & Theo support The Rotary Club of Salamanca in collecting books for the Club's BOOKFEST (14 -15 March at SOHO Arts Centre 5th Hobart).

Ozus Coffee brings new life to Truganini Park: Saturday morning games



POSSUMS Playcentre

Possums Playcentre, Taroona's preschool, is an early learning centre licensed by the Tasmanian Education Department.

We run three morning sessions from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at the Taroona Community Hall for three to five year olds.

Please come along and join us for a session. *Enrolments are still available.* Email: possumsplaycentre@hotmail.com or phone 0418390432.

This term, the children at Possums have been learning about seeds. They loved searching for seeds and flowers at the Taroona Neighbourhood Garden and creating and painting sunflowers. Thank you to Philip O'Neill for showing how to make your garden friendly for bees.



The children enjoyed a delicious taste of locally grown honey and cooking some yummy seed crackers.



SAVE THE DATE

**Possums Playcentre Ladies Night Out
Saturday 23 May, 7:00pm**

JOIN US
TO
CELEBRATE

*Possums Playcentre's
Ladies Night Out*

Saturday May 23rd
7 p.m.
Taroona Community Hall

Curries, Drinks and Dessert
\$55.00

Please book with Karin
0414321706
Tickets are limited

creativingsland.com



Neighbour Day is Australia's annual celebration of community, encouraging people to connect with those who live in their neighbourhood.

The theme for Neighbour Day 2020 is Social Connection.

Here in Taroona we have a thriving community – the envy of many other Hobartians. So many residents are already actively involved in a diverse range of community groups or connected through neighbourhood networks. You need look no further than the contributions to this newsletter.

Get involved

We can all have a powerful influence on the state of the communities we belong to by becoming involved in the life of that community. Join a local club or a community network – or start one yourself; participate in the community garden or TEN; play football or table tennis with our local clubs; become a regular at the Picnic Basket or Ozus Coffee. Engage. How we contribute to the small things in life – in our own family, street, suburb and city – will ultimately help to determine the quality of our society.

We also encourage you to use Neighbour Day as an opportunity to connect with more members of the Taroona community. If you don't know your neighbours, why not try knocking on the door and introducing yourself?

Community connection in the time of COVID-19

This is particularly timely as concerns about the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) in Tasmania grow. If COVID-19 begins to spread in the community over the coming days or weeks, people with symptoms of coronavirus (such as a cough or fever), or those who may have been exposed to COVID-19, may be asked to self-isolate at home. This may mean staying indoors and avoiding contact with other people for up to 14 days. This will bring with it many practical and logistical challenges, especially for those Taroona residents who are more vulnerable, such as the elderly or those who live alone or in single-parent households. If they get sick, there may be no one around to notice, or to help. So this is a good time to have a conversation with your neighbours. If they are affected by COVID-19, you may be able to help. Perhaps you could check on them daily (by phone, social media, or in person), or make sure they have the food and medicines they need (by leaving 'care packages' at their front door), or call for medical help if their condition deteriorates. Those people who care for others, like single parents, may also need assistance to care for their dependents if they become sick.

"The state of the nation starts in your street" – Hugh Mackay, social researcher

Taroona Coastal Rowing Update



Next scheduled row: Sunday 15th March at Taroona Beach at 10.00am

Dover Easter Regatta: Cat herding to raise a crew over Easter always has its challenges but you are welcome to just roll up for the skiff races on Easter Saturday, 11th April. Whether we take *Chiton* or not, the Dover Regatta is a highly enjoyable event. The format will be the same as previous years – a 1 km race for men, women and mixed. These will have heats first, especially for the women's section as they usually get more crews entering. Don't be put off by all the competitive hoo-ha: Taroona has a well established reputation as a boatload of dreamers that must be maintained at all cost! After lunch, there will be a long row around Hope Island, followed by drinks and dinner. Please contact Damian Devlin to register your interest.

Winter Musings and Warmers: While the skiff is out of the water, the fire crackles and steam rises from gluhwein, you may be interested in collectively dreaming up an improved set of footrests for *Chiton* as a winter project. With over 230 St Ayles skiffs launched across the planet, there are many designs to check out.

Interested in the challenge? Contact Damian at damianmdevlin@gmail.com or 0400875528

Taroona Sippers and Purlers

The Taroona Sippers and Purlers meet on the first Saturday of each month at Timeless Way Cafe, in the Channel Court Shopping Centre in Kingston, from 2 to 4pm. As well as sharing our own, we knit for local charities.

Knitters are most welcomed to join us.

For more information, email thestoddarts@gmail.com.



a bushcare/coastcare group supported by Kingborough Council.

As I write this article I have just emptied 48mm from my rain gauge after one of the best rains in Taroona for many months. In fact Taroona received less than half its average rainfall over this summer. This rain comes on top of 18mm recorded just 3 days ago which makes this one of the best starts to Autumn in many years. Benefits include reduced fire danger, at least partial restoration of subsoil moisture, less moisture stress and wilting in our gardens and native vegetation and a stimulus for fungi and other organisms to aid their role in decomposition of leaf litter and woody debris on the forest floor.



Gustaaf Hallegraeff spreads mulch around plants to help conserve valuable moisture.

The other very direct benefit to TEN is that our volunteers can have a reprieve from hand watering our winter plantings particularly at Taroona High School and at the Fire Station. Thank you to those supporters and Fire Brigade members for their efforts in ensuring that losses due to the drought were minimised. At the first TEN working bee for the year at the Fire Station, volunteers added extra mulch around young plants to help retain valuable moisture. Woody weeds such as cotoneaster were also removed.



Photo: Nigel Richardson

Festival goer making a seed bomb with TEN members at the Taroona Seaside Festival.

Working Bee Program

Our working bee program for the next few months is as follows:

- April 5** Rotary Park
- May 3** Fire Station
- June 14** Melinga Place near boatsheds
- July 5** Taroona High School tree planting
- July 31 or Aug 1/2** National Tree Day planting - to be confirmed.

Please come along and support TEN's efforts to protect and restore the bio-diversity of Taroona's shoreline and adjacent gully reserves. Our working bees are generally on the first Sunday of the month from 10-00 until 12-00, tools and equipment are provided and we enjoy a cuppa afterwards.

TEN AGM

Your attendance at our annual general meeting would be most welcome. The meeting will be held at the Taroona Bowls Club at 7-00pm on Tuesday March 17.



Photo: Mick Brown

The Birds of Taroona

TEN AGM
Taroona Bowls Club
Tuesday 17 March, 8:00pm

Taroona has many talented and knowledgeable residents including botanists, geologists, fungi experts, bat experts and others who generously provide their expertise at events organised by TEN. Following our AGM retired botanist, bird watcher and accomplished photographer Dr Mick Brown will give a presentation on Taroona's birds. Come along and enjoy this free public event at 8-00pm, see some beautiful photographs and hear the results of Mick's studies of the diversity of birds in Taroona.

– Nigel Richardson, TEN Public Officer

US

We continue this series with another short article about some of us!



Anyone driving home to Taroona from the city across December for the last few years will have seen those Christmas decorations as you drive around Cartwright Bend. Let's face it, they're impossible to miss at night! With Santa's red kombi, reindeers, an inflatable Father Christmas and some small, wooden Christmas trees occupying the small area in front, they make an impact!

Jo and Brian Muir decided they wanted to do something special for Christmas for their children and their community. These decorations are their contribution. Brian enjoys installing and keeping the reindeer and Santa inflated, and each of the children has painted one of the Christmas trees to make it 'theirs'.

Last year they invited people to come and enjoy their decorations with a message on the Taroona Karma website. Thirty to forty families came over four nights, dogs and all, some setting up chairs, with Brian really getting into the role of Father Christmas. A game of cricket developed most nights with those who came.

Jo and Brian chose to live in Taroona because they appreciate its schools, facilities and sense of community. They are busy people. The six children's after-school activities include umpire training for junior AFL games, art classes, netball practice, hip-hop dance classes, Little Athletics and Rugby practice.

Come next December, we hope Jo and Brian Muir's decorations are back. – Ros Stoddart



TGF is now 'Taroona Garden Friends'



The Taroona Garden Forum – as we have known it for the past 17 years or so – no longer exists. Instead the members have decided to remain together as a group – now known as Taroona Garden Friends.

It's their intention to meet on a regular basis to visit other gardens, either public or private, gather for social functions but most importantly to exchange plants, knowledge and generally have a good time discussing the 'gentle art of gardening'.

We'd like to thank the Uniting Church for the use of their premises and facilities to hold our regular meetings over many years. We also thank founding members David Stephen and the Stewarts, as well as all the past and current convenors and members for their support, but especially the immediate past convenors Anne Hallam and Peter Barefoot.

Their wonderful enthusiasm and hard work ensured lively monthly meetings with varied speakers, regular garden visits and the much anticipated October/November long weekend – always packed with interest for our appreciative group.

We hope our new name and focus will continue to provide enjoyment for our members. **If you are interested in joining the new group please email TGF@taroonatastas.au.**



@ TAROONA COMMUNITY HALL

There are two new instructors for Zumba classes at the Hall.

Tania Nelson is running a fun zumba dance group on **Thursdays at 5.45 p.m.**

Tammy Bowman is getting everyone moving and grooving on **Saturdays at 9a.m.**

Both sessions run for one hour and cost \$12.00.

Just turn up as there are plenty of spaces in both classes.

Wear comfortable clothes and gym shoes.

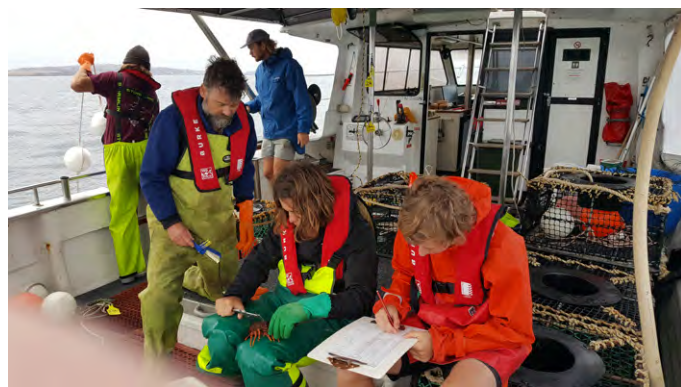
No previous dance experience necessary.

Come along and have some fun while getting fit!

The lobsters on our 'doorstep'

Did you notice the pretty, neat lines of white and orange floats in the marine reserve just off the appropriately-named 'Crayfish Point' – to us land-lubbers, Taroona Beach – in the first week of February? Two boats were bobbing between the lines. Have you – like me – wondered why they are there every now and then? Well, this year I volunteered to help IMAS do some research, so my curiosity was satisfied. Here's what I found ...

It's the annual lobster tagging research, fondly called 'Fishdown' – no idea why ... why not 'Lobsterdown'? These surveys have been going on every February since the 1990s as a part of a long-term monitoring study. We pulled up about 60 pots, and recorded things like the growth-rate, sex and condition of the southern rock lobsters, as well as recording interlopers in the pots like small sharks, fish, whelks, octopuses, starfish and one lonely sea-horse. Lobsters without tags were tagged. They all went back into the briny – some very gently, the sharks a bit more swiftly. I must admit to dreaming of having one on a plate but that's not on in this protected area, nor on a research trip!



Gary Carlos supervising students Kelvin Montinaro and Max Cross

Gary Carlos – a Taroona local – manages the research project for IMAS, using PhD or undergraduate students (and the odd hanger-on like me). It means an early start but we're back to solid ground before lunchtime. I suffered only a minor injury – a large crayfish decided to try flipping backwards out of my hold and scraped my hand on the way out. He didn't get far and was measured and examined before being put back in the water – no fishy kiss for that one! It was amazing to see the number and size of what roams the rocks in front of our homes. Thanks to Gary for the opportunity! By the way – if any of those tagged crusty critters wander outside the marine park and you happen to catch it – phone 0409277140 and they can tell you its history ...

– Maureen Robinson



Maureen Robinson with tagged lobster

THS Redevelopment



Photo: Kingborough Chronicle

From left, THS Director of Music Glenn Schultz and Minister for Education and Training Jeremy Rockliff, with students on the site of the redevelopment

Construction has now commenced on a \$5 million redevelopment at the Taroona High School. The works consist of new music facilities, refurbished learning areas in the former music area, support spaces and student amenities.

THS Director of Music Glenn Schultz is particularly excited about the fit for purpose music facility. "It will be over two levels. The top level will have a band room, 17 metres by 11 metres, with six-metre high ceilings, to give us the acoustic volume that we need. And there'll also be ensemble rooms and practice rooms on the bottom level as well as another band room, a staffroom, and a small deck on the end for students to actually be outside and practice."

With around 1,125 students in Years 7 to 10, Taroona High School is Tasmania's largest high school, and this redevelopment will help provide quality learning spaces for current and future students.



Red Cross Kingston Store

Cnr Church & Hutchins Sts

SHOP • DONATE • VOLUNTEER

Discover a treasure trove of fashion finds and giftware

Good quality winter donations are needed and gratefully received



Taroona Scout Group: Scouting taking you anywhere



Scouting is the world's leading educational youth movement, engaging millions of young people to be active citizens and create positive change in their communities. The World Scout Movement is made up of more than 50 million Scouts connected together through a membership network of 169 National Scout Organizations. Being such a huge organisation, Scouting provides opportunities locally, nationally, and internationally.

Such an opportunity was the National Plastics Summit 2020 hosted in Canberra by the Federal Minister for the Environment, Sussan Ley, and coordinated by the National Waste and Recycling Taskforce. One of our youth members, Lilith Fleming, was selected as one of only ten Cubs across the whole of Australia invited to be part of a youth taskforce to discuss solutions to our plastics waste challenge. The Summit showcased and identified new solutions to the plastic waste challenge and new opportunities to directly address targets under the National Waste Policy Action Plan. For Lilith it was a really rewarding and educational experience.



Taroona Scout Group's Lilith Fleming talks to Minister Sussan Ley (left) and Councillor Bill Harvey, City of Hobart (right).

The Taroona Scout Group is privileged to have a dedicated and enthusiastic youth section leadership team. Not only do they provide varied and exciting experiences to Taroona they also serve on the Tasmanian Branch.

Our Joey Scout Leader, Ruth Henderson, commenced her appointment as State Commissioner for Joey Scouts. She has responsibility for the development and management of the 5–8 year old Joey Scouts Section and has a particularly important job of rolling out the new Scouts Australia programme in that Section. Her appointment adds to the significant contribution made by the Taroona Scout Group (which is the largest Group in the State!). Julian Dermoudy is in his third year as State Commissioner for Cub Scouts, and Janet Stephens has been District Scout Leader for all of Kingborough for many years.

We've also had Leaders gaining their leadership qualifications with two more of our leadership team completing their training and being recently appointed as full leaders. Well done Martin Neumeyer and David Sakko.

Over the years Taroona Scout Group youth have achieved the top awards. That continued with Amina Taylor last year earning the Promise Challenge that is the Peak Award for the Joey Scout Section. In recognition for their contribution to the Cub section, Etta Taylor and Ted Hewitt were awarded the June Flood award. The Janet Stephens' trophy for the best performing patrol in the Scout section was awarded to the shy and elusive Platypus Patrol.



Scouts is in full swing again this year with 18 Scouts (boys and girls) aged between 11 and 14 with room for more. Scouts focused on the outdoors and have spent a few nights on and in the water for kayaking, 'dinghying', and swimming. They had a beautiful night walk from Sandy Bay up to the top of Mt Nelson and back down to Taroona, pictured below. Over the March long weekend, the Group participated in the State-wide Scout and Guide Regatta that is always incredibly good fun.



Scout's night walk: from Sandy Bay, up Mt Nelson and back to Taroona.

A vital part of the Taroona Scout Group's involvement with the local community is its fund-raising activities. The Scout annual Christmas tree and produce sale has become a legendary event with huge local community support and expectations with delicious Christmas treats for sale; including jam, cakes, and other things. The 2019 event was again a huge success thanks to high quality trees kindly made available by Norske Skog.

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**.



March's State-wide Scout and Guide Regatta (photo from 2019).

St Luke's News



I can't believe it is March and we will soon be preparing for Easter! Last edition I was encouraging you all to come along to the Christmas Community Carols in December, and what a wonderful night we had with over 200 people. The weather held up for the BBQ outside and then we all gathered in St Luke's for some rousing carol singing. I'm looking forward to December and our next carols already!



In the meantime, the year has begun in earnest and we hope to see more people engaging with our mid-week activities. Exercise class, playgroup and writing space on Tuesdays, Bible study on Wednesdays or Art on Thursdays. As well as a monthly men's tea on the 4th Friday of the month.



By the time this is printed we will also have begun an Alpha course at 5pm on Sunday evenings. This is an informal space with relaxed dinner (no cost) to ask questions and explore faith and the meaning of life. All ages welcome, kids included. We'd love to see you. Any questions about Alpha or our other activities, or you just want a chat ... **please don't hesitate to call me on 0401 637 071. – Ruth Hanlon**

← From page 12



Venturers

The Taroona venturers have had a very busy summer. Fourteen of them have camped on the Tasman Peninsula for 10 days and did various kayaking trips, a walk at Fortescue Bay, and some blackberry removal for the land-owner and fishing. The windy weather preventing a longer kayaking expedition. They also canoed in the Channel area. Our numbers have now reached 18 which means a very much busier time and potential for even more variation in activities. Everyone is looking forward to the Scout Guide Regatta at Snug on the long weekend.

Taroona Tennis Club News



Margaret Murphy, Barbara Gregg and Caron Hughes before play on a recent Tuesday.

There have been some new initiatives at the Taroona Tennis Club recently. "Open Court" sessions have been held on a Monday evening using modified tennis racquets and balls and smaller court areas to involve adults returning to tennis in games. Three a side tennis has also been played during the sessions and has proved to be great fun. After the completion of this program on 16 March it is likely that a new weekly program for adult beginning players will begin.

Family fun nights designed to provide tennis and enjoyment for children and parents runs each Friday evening and is proving popular. Several Taroona players participated in the recent annual competition at Cygnet and achieved some success.

The online booking system, Book a Court, is now live so members and non-members can check court availability online and book a court at a convenient time. There is a charge for non-members.

The annual Club Championships will be held during the last weekend in March and the first weekend in April. To encourage participation two new events have been introduced this year, a ladies' singles handicap event and a doubles handicap event.

Taroona is represented in the AYC evening competition and also in the Mid-Week Ladies competition. There are also many social tennis groups and coaching opportunities.

Diane Balding is happy to provide information about the Club and can be contacted on 6227 9232 or 0488 086 381.



Picnic Basket turns on live music this March

THE
**PICNIC
BASKET**

Hello Taroona. We have always tried our best to be an organic part of the community, trying in different ways and from different perspectives. We really hope we can be a cool corner for people to meet, eat, drink and have fun.

We are now trying to introduce some entertainment into our community with live music performance in our coffee shop. But due to the limit of budget, we can only organise this occasionally. Before winter comes, we have two upcoming events for you to consider. They are Lil'Kudu on 15/03 and Crosswinds on 22/03 – and are both on a Sunday during lunch time. For details please refer to the introduction below and to our social media (Facebook and Instagram). Come along with your family, enjoy some beautiful live music on a warm Sunday afternoon together with your favourite drinks and meals here in The Picnic Basket. Don't miss out!! – **Liam and The Picnic Basket**



Sunday March 15th, 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Lil' Kudu:

Lil' Kudu are the little duo version of Kudu Joy, an Alt-Pop/RnB band based in Hobart. Power duo Sabine Bester (guitar, voice) and Sasha Gavlek (bass, voice) bring you smooth, jazzy vocals and groovy original tunes mixed in with some classic 90's RnB covers.

Zoe Merrington:

Zoe Merrington has you entranced with her intricate finger-picked guitar and velvety voice. She sings with honesty and ease, leaving you mesmerised.

Rudymn:

Rudymn also known as Rudy Roo, originates from Townsville. His mob are the birrigubba nation and TSI (Senpaul village). His gorgeous sound is influenced by soulful gospel hymns and traditional dance from the Torres Strait Islands. He is now based in Hobart, studying at the Conservatorium of Music in Tasmania. You can expect effortless groove, a soulful voice, and a cheeky attitude.

Sunday March 22nd, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Crosswinds

Crosswinds formed six years ago as a community chamber ensemble, who also perform at weddings, functions and eisteddfods. We play an eclectic selection of popular songs and classical music: ranging from Bach and Handel to Radiohead, Queen and Massive Attack - also with some original compositions in the mix!



Want to Give Your Wellbeing a Boost?

Your Wellbeing Project is a series of three workshops to help you create your own personalised wellbeing roadmap in an interactive, fun and supportive environment. Using the most up-to-date research and tools from the field of positive psychology (Prof. Martin Seligman's PERMAH framework), this program will give you specific strategies to feel more energised, reconnect with what's important to you and use your unique strengths to achieve your goals.

Your Wellbeing Project includes:

- Pre-program online PERMAH, strengths and values surveys
- ½ hr 'discovery phonecall' to help clarify what you want out of the program
- 3 x 3 hr workshops (Taroona Community Hall, 1-4pm on Sun 17 May, Sun 31 May and Sun 14 June)
- Email support between workshops
- All assessments, tools, resources and materials

Earlybird price: \$189 for bookings made before 31 March 2020, and \$240 thereafter.

Interested? Go to <https://your-wellbeing-project.eventbrite.com.au> to find out more and to book.

Questions? Call Anna Tayler on 0401 449 218 or email anna@yourwellbeinghub.com.au

– Environmental Weed Profile –

Sweet Pittosporum

Pittosporum undulatum

The Weed profile for this TCA newsletter is for Sweet Pittosporum. **This is a very common plant in gardens around Taroona and is one of the woody weeds that TEN focus on controlling in the Taroona bushland.** Consider removing this plant from your garden and replacing it with a more bush friendly alternative.

Status

Undeclared weed in Tasmania.

What does it look like?

Pittosporum undulatum is a large shrub to small tree growing to up to 15 m tall with a spread of up to 7 metres. It has coarse grey bark.

The **leaves** are elliptical, about 75 mm long, glossy, dark to light green with toothed margins, and characteristically wavy (undulating) edges. They are either arranged alternately along the stem and/or clustered at the ends of branches.

The **flowers** are small bell shaped, sweetly scented, creamy-white and form clusters at the ends of branches.

The conspicuous **fruits** are globular, orange, fleshy, about 1 cm in diameter and contain many seeds. With age the fruit hardens, becoming woody and dry causing the valves to open, revealing the sticky red globular seeds.

It is commonly mistaken as a native in Tasmania and appears to hybridize with the Tasmanian native *Pittosporum bicolor*.

How did it get here?

Sweet Pittosporum was brought into Tasmania for use as an ornament garden plant.

Where is it?

Pittosporum undulatum is native to south eastern Australia. Its natural distribution ranges between the Great Dividing Range and the sea from southern Victoria, through NSW to southern Queensland. Since European settlement the range of this species has increased beyond its natural distribution in these states.

Sweet Pittosporum has also been introduced to other parts of Australia outside its natural range including, South Australia, Tasmania and Western Australia, as well as to many other countries including New Zealand, South Africa, Brazil, and the USA, where it has become well established and invasive.

It occurs in a variety of climates and habitat types, from moist sub-tropical to dry temperate, including wet and dry forest environments, riparian and coastal communities, rocky gullies and on bluffs and cliffs within range of severe salt spray.

In Tasmania it occur more commonly near urban areas but extends along the east and north coasts.



Photo: Naomi Lawrence

Photo: B Walter

How does it grow and spread?

Sweet Pittosporum is a long-lived fast-growing tree. It is hardy and adaptable, preferring moist, acidic granite derived soils. It thrives in moist environments, where it tends to be more invasive, but can tolerate extended dry periods once established. Pittosporum also does well in disturbed areas. Trees mature and become reproductive when about 5 years old. Flowering occurs from October to November with the likely pollinators being honeybees. The fruit are orange berries which ripen in autumn to winter and remain on the tree for several months. They contain a sticky red seed and are eaten by many birds and some mammals which disperse seed widely via their faeces. The seed is also spread via dumped garden waste, contaminated soil and the sticky seeds adhering to vectors such as humans. The seeds have short to medium longevity in the soil and germinate easily. They will often germinate in abundance after fire or disturbance and grow quickly outcompeting other species. The stems of the tree will coppice when cut.

Uses

The species is used in horticulture as a popular garden plant because of its pleasantly perfumed flowers. It is also used as a hedge or windbreak.

The seeds can be boiled to produce a gum which can be used as a safe herbicide on weed seedlings, and the wood is used in the manufacture of golf clubs.

Sweet pittosporum contains saponins which can be toxic to some creatures, such as fish, and hunting tribes have traditionally used this substance by putting large quantities of it into streams and lakes in order to stupefy or kill fish.

Why is it a problem?

Sweet pittosporum has become a serious weed problem in areas of Australia where it is not indigenous. This species should not be grown anywhere near native vegetation (even within several kilometers of natural bushland) because it aggressively invades and dominates native bushland. It can rapidly replace native vegetation in a wide range of bush types, including wet forest and coastal dry coastal vegetation, heathland and heathy woodland, lowland grassland and grassy woodland, dry sclerophyll forest and woodland, damp sclerophyll forest, wet sclerophyll forest, and riparian vegetation.

How can it be controlled?

Removal of trees before they reach reproductive maturity (flowering) can help to prevent spread. **TEN prefers to use manual methods of weed removal wherever possible to reduce the need for herbicides.** Manual removal of seedlings and small shrubs can be easily achieved. Ensure all roots are removed.

Larger trees can be removed during spring, summer and autumn by cutting and immediately painting the stump with neat glyphosate. Stem injection with glyphosate can also be effective. Residents need to be aware of the potential toxicity of herbicides and the importance of safe application procedures. **Always check the herbicide label before use.**

Fire can be used to remove trees, but follow up control to remove seedlings may be needed for some years. This is an important principle in weed control.

Biological control is not an option because there are other native Pittosporums in Australian that are closely related to sweet pittosporum.

Replant bushland areas with native species that will produce a dense understorey to prevent the re-establishment of sweet pittosporum.

Replace sweet pittosporum in your garden with Tasmanian native alternatives such as Cheesewood (*Pittosporum bicolor*) native laurel (*Anopterus glandulosus*) which has similar foliage; or Christmas bush (*Prostanthera lasianthos*), which has a similar shape and mass.

PIC OF TAROONA



Hinsby Beach

Hinsby Beach has long been treasured by local families and holiday-makers from further afield.

"We used to travel from Mt Nelson to Taroona for our holidays. Our milkman ... had some "rustic shacks" which he rented out at Hinsby Beach. We used to go on trams, carting all the bedding and crockery – heavy china and pots and pans – and we'd go on the tram to town then get the Webster's bus to Taroona Post Office then make our way down to Hinsby Beach and spend a wonderful summer at the beach.

Us children would catch crayfish in silk stockings with a bit of meat. We would catch 60 crayfish a week and fresh mussels and fish galore and at night the children would be bundled off to bed and the parents would have beach parties with a bonfire and songs from the First World War and we would sneak out in the dark and listen".

– Margery, recalling holidays at Hinsby Beach between the wars, from *Tasmanians remember, 1900-1969*, by Nicola Goc (1999)

This superb photo was taken by professional photographer **Mike Calder**. Mike is a Taroona local and produces a number of products featuring his photography, including a range of books, cards and calendars. You can find these on his website at www.mikecalder.com.au

Taroona Community Association Inc.

President: Jill Hickie, 4 Devon Walk, Taroona, 6227 8544
Secretary: Janette Power, 8 Earlwood Court, Taroona, 6227 8387
Treasurer/
Public officer: Anne Parrott, 11 Jenkins Street, Taroona
Newsletter Editor/
Designer: Liz Haywood, 43 Hinsby Road, Taroona, 0438622799
Committee: Alison Phillips, Damian Devlin, Maureen Robinson, Roger Kellaway, Fiona Rice, Dal Andrews

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.

Disclaimer

The Taroona Community Association accepts no responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of any material contained herein and recommends that users exercise their own skill and care with respect to its use. The listing of a person or organisation in any part of this newsletter in no way implies any form of endorsement by the Taroona Community Association of the products or services provided by that person or organisation. The Taroona Community Association accepts no responsibility for any loss, injury or inconvenience by any person resulting from information published in this newsletter.