

# THE Rosedale ASSOCIATION INC



Newsletter Issue 133 March 2022



## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: SATURDAY 16 APRIL 2022

**Notice is hereby given of the Annual General Meeting of the Rosedale Association, to be held on Saturday 16 April at 11:00 am on the grass verge at the end of Knowlman Road.**

### AGENDA AGM 16 APRIL

1. Apologies
2. President's Update
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Fire Report
5. Beach Safety
6. Environment Projects
7. Election of Committee Members
8. Other Business



### LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

It's been another crazy year! Omicron – and now BA2. In the last months, storms have damaged trees weakened by bushfire and heavy rains, and caused erosion problems on tracks and the dunes in the north and south. But our environment volunteers are onto it (see page 6). The wild weather has exacerbated the development impacts on Saltwater Creek (see David Boardman's report page 2 and Vicki Smith and Rory Eame's report page 7).

The good news is that barring an escalated Covid threat, we'll be holding our beloved Sausage Sizzle again on Easter Saturday. Thanks to Kit Tischler and Bardi Carter!

A quick note: before the AGM, please [renew your membership](#) or [apply for new membership](#) online. Payments will only be accepted at the AGM in a sealed envelope, with a note providing details (name of member/s; details of any donations; and contact details, including email address). See you at the AGM!

MARGOT MARSHALL

### EASTER WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

#### EASTER SATURDAY

#### Easter Weedathon, 2:30 pm

Meet in the car park – BYO gloves and basic gardening tools for weeding in the dunes.

#### Annual Sausage Sizzle, 5:00 pm

Where: 23 Knowlman Road

We supply the food – just bring your own drinks and chair, kids and friends!

#### EASTER SUNDAY

#### Beach safety session, 11.00 am.

Where: Rosedale Beach (see page 2).

ROSEDALE ASSOCIATION -  
CURRENT COMMITTEE

committee@rosedale.org.au

**President:** David Boardman

**Secretary:** Vicki Smith

**Treasurer:** Melissa Gribble

**Members**

Tim Brown

Noel Egan

Daniel Long

Margot Marshall

Michael Skipper

Dugald Stewart

Peter Ward

Please pass this newsletter on to your friends and neighbours – we'd be delighted to have more members! Apply for new membership [here](#) and pay by credit card. You'll get an automated receipt.

It's only \$10 a year.

**JOIN OUR COMMITTEE!**

Please think about joining the committee – we need fresh blood! Form is [HERE](#).

Please send the form by Thursday 14 April – any questions email [executive@rosedale.org.au](mailto:executive@rosedale.org.au)

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### ROSEDALE ASSOCIATION INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT 2021

#### INCOME

Members Subscriptions .....	\$ 3,210.00
Interest .....	\$ 110.39
Donations - community .....	\$ 1,440.00
- Stairs (Ronald McDonald) .....	\$ 5,000.00
- Rosedale Environment Fund .....	\$ 1,000.00
	<b>\$ 10,760.39</b>

**TOTAL INCOME .....** \$ **10,760.39**

#### EXPENDITURE

Web Design .....	\$ 1,500.00
Eurobodalla Shire Council – Plants .....	\$ 935.00
Defib Maintenance .....	\$ 383.90
Insurance .....	\$ 188.72
Post Box .....	\$ 136.00
Fair Trading .....	\$ 94.42
Ezidebit Fees .....	\$ 31.40
	<b>\$ 3,269.44</b>

RFS - Member Donations .....	\$ 600.00
RFS - RAI Donation .....	\$ 500.00
BBSLC .....	\$ 500.00

**TOTAL EXPENDITURE .....** \$ **4,869.44**

**EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE .....** \$ **5,890.95**

#### ASSETS

Cash at Bank .....	\$ 49,591.50
Go Fund Me .....	\$ 13,080.67
Term Deposit .....	\$ 11,619.00

**TOTAL ASSETS .....** \$ **74,291.17**

Rosedale Environment Fund .....

\$ 5,793.82
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Image: Roz Walker

Developments to the west are moving along, although bad weather and delays in Council approvals mean they're not as fast as the developers would like!

We've had several site visits and meetings with Rosedale Farm's Project Manager. I also wrote to the new Mayor, Matthew Hatcher, and Vicki and I met with him on 7 February. Matthew had toured the development a few days earlier, so we had a constructive discussion about Saltwater Creek, clear felling of trees, plans for the roundabout and the outdated Master Plan for the Rosedale Urban Expansion Zone. Matthew was also interested to know how our community and rebuilding were going after the bushfire.

Looking back, it's interesting to see that the Rosedale Association has been actively engaged with authorities regarding developments to the west for at least 20 years. We've assessed numerous planning and environment documents and pressed for measures to enhance long-term outcomes. It was 2003 when the Marsim Group first

lodged documents (including a Master Plan) to subdivide and develop Bevan Park (the land that was the old Mann's nursery). Around the same time, developers of Rosedale Farm were working to complete their Master Plan, hoping for construction to start the following year.

By the end of 2008, the Department of Planning had given Marsim 'concept approval' for a 806 lot subdivision. The approval was seen as almost inevitable – in 2006 the Refshauge Report on Sensitive Urban Land Areas had already endorsed, with Council's support, close urban development on the sites to the west of George Bass Drive.

For many years, the Association - particularly Emmett O'Loughlin, David Mackenzie and Bill Maher- continued their surveillance of Saltwater Creek. They pressured developers, Council and the Department of Planning to improve the ecology of Saltwater Creek. If there were proper management, they assessed, increased flow resulting from developments could reduce the level of pollution over the long term. As they noted at the time, the ecology of Rosedale Lagoon had already been severely compromised: farming, dam construction and land clearing of almost the entire catchment had provided generous pollutant loads and altered the frequency of the lagoon opening to the sea. Urban development within the Rosedale hamlet added its own raft of pollutants, carried in by stormwater inflows. These were slowly reduced, including by sealing of the carpark and sewage reticulation.

As developments to the west cover approximately 90 per cent of the catchment of Saltwater Creek, we're continuing to work with all parties to achieve the best long-term outcome we can. We want it to look like the image above! We also need your help (see Rory and Vicki's report on page 6).

## BEACH SAFETY TIM BROWN

With our recent heavy rains there's been a lot of water coming out of the lagoon and off the foreshores as this photo of Vicki's shows. This may have changed the sandbanks, affecting where the water moves back out to sea - and so where the rips are compared to last year. Be sure to assess conditions before entering the water, especially in bigger swell conditions.

Remember if you get caught in a rip, don't try to swim against or across it - this will only exhaust you. The best thing that you can do is relax, float and signal and call for help - this approach greatly increases the chances of a better outcome for everyone.

**Join me on the main beach for a refresher on the defibrillator and how to identify rips - Sunday April 17, 11.00 am.**





Thanks to everyone who responded to our call out for info about the naming of Jimmies Island. I've been sharing leads and information with Helen Moody, who's writing a book on the named islands of the south coast. It seems there are two lines of thought.

Was the island named after Jimmy Friday, who was an Aboriginal fisherman identified with the area? That's what is recorded in a book called *Our Town, Our People - Bateman's Bay Vol 1*. There was a Mr Jimmy Friday, who was known as the 'King of Batemans Bay' in the early decades of the twentieth century (see photo above). Maybe it was him.

Or was the island named after James (Jimmy) Sebbens (Jnr) b.1858 d.1938? This is what Helen was told by the Moruya and District Historical Society and a Sebbens family member. This Jimmy was the fifth of 14 children, born to James Sebbens (Snr) b. 1813 d.1876 and his wife Celia Barling. James (Jnr) and his wife, Wilhelmina Louise Thomsen, cleared and developed Rosedale and parts of Burri/Guerilla Bay. As many of you will recall, Ian Harrison

documented a lot of this Rosedale history. Ian tells me that he understands that Jimmies Island was named after James (Jnr) because it was the island off the point of land then farmed by Jimmy.

By the way, I was surprised to find that the official registration of the name 'Jimmies Island' was only gazetted on 10 December 1982 by the NSW Geographical Names Board. Field verification trips were undertaken by departmental officers at the time. Their field notes dated 26 June 1982 for Jimmies Island state 'name obtained locally, verified, recommended'. Unfortunately, my inquiries with the Board found there were no other details recorded.

It is also worth noting that the registered spelling of Jimmies Island is correct. Some of you have pointed out to us that the correct spelling should be Jimmy's Island but that is not the case. Maybe it was named after more than one Jimmy ... so Jimmies' Island would then be correct! I am still chasing up more leads and hope to have more to report next newsletter.



It's very strange to be reporting on our fire preparedness at Rosedale when I've just tipped another 50 mm of rain out of my gauge – bringing the 2022 total to date to 540 mm (21 ½ inches in old speak!)

So far we've been lucky not to have endured extreme flooding and the damage that comes with it.

While the wet weather and mild temperatures have been a boon to the gardens of Rosedale, we're now seeing a large regrowth of mid-level vegetation and grasses, leading to increased fuel loads. This is particularly problematic in the previously burned areas of the shire to the west and northwest of us - the 'corridor of concern' as many RFS members call it.

But we continue to be more prepared for future bushfires. I'm excited to say we have recently taken delivery of a specially commissioned fire trailer unit that can be hooked up to a four-wheel-drive to provide quick response to fire threats we may see in Rosedale.

The trailer, firefighting pump, hoses and other equipment have been purchased from the funds so generously donated through the GoFundMe page and also from direct donations by many association members and Rosedale residents.

We'll conduct a number of training sessions on this new equipment at Easter and also for some Rosedale residents before then. The training and familiarisation sessions will help us know how the equipment works so we can respond quickly and efficiently to any fire within our hamlet.

I can't thank enough all those who have donated to the Rosedale firefighting fund. We now have a good deal of equipment and the capacity to activate up to four mobile fire units to assist in fire control when the next threat comes our way.



## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

**EMERGENCIES: 000**

**ABC LOCAL RADIO: 103.5 FM**

**WIRES (animal rescue)  
13000 WIRES or 1300 094737**

**ESSENTIAL ENERGY (poles and wires)  
13 20 80**

**FISHERIES WATCH HOTLINE (poachers)  
1800 043 536**

**SEWERAGE (Council): 02 4474 7347**

**NSW MENTAL HEALTH LINE: 1800 011 511**



Bill Legge found this gorgeous seadragon washed up on the northern end of Boatshed beach in February this year. It's the second he's found in a year.

It's a weedy seadragon (*phyllopteryx taeniolatus*), 'weedy' because of its leaf-like appendages which help provide camouflage and allow it to feed on small crustaceans. It's otherwise known as the common seadragon and is the only species of seadragon found in NSW, protected in our waters.

Alert divers may spot this superbly camouflaged fish in kelp-covered rocky reefs at depths from about 3 m to 50 m.

These fish are poor swimmers, which explains the frequent beach strandings.

The breeding season is early summer, with usually one brood per season. Male seadragons carry the eggs fixed to the underside of the tail until they eventually hatch. Incubation time is about 8 weeks with up to 250 young hatching from a single brood.

Thanks to the Australian Museum for the info...for more visit their seadragon page [HERE](#)

# OUR COMMUNITY IN ACTION

Months of storms, heavy rain and fierce winds have changed the shape of the beach and created new erosion problems. Sometimes it seems like two steps forward and one back for our environment volunteers!



Knee deep hole on Yowani track



Erosion in front of cabins



Volunteers positioned ecologs, filled buckets and dumped seaweed



Our planting supports battered

While incredible plant growth helped arrest the flow of stormwater in front of the cabins (above), volunteers will need to gradually fill the hole with more sand and vegetative matter so the roots of existing plants can stabilise the eroded area.

Council has agreed to replace the timber slats on the beach access path which were burned in the bushfires and broke up on the ocean side - leaving a 50 cm drop! This echidna (right) wisely went off track and avoided the drop!

Our main goal for the next year is to maintain plant diversity – and keep weeding. **Please join us on Easter Saturday at 2.30 pm...meet in the carpark but we'll be working on the dunes.**



Echidna off track

# RABBIT CONTROL -VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

FRIDAY MAY 20, 2022, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

We're looking for 10 -12 people across North and South Rosedale to form a rabbit monitoring team. We want to control those pesky rabbits!

Council's Invasive Species Officer Paul Martin will teach us how to use the Trimble (a handheld GPS and data logger).

Let Katy Hamilton know if you can help – [katyoutbackot@gmail.com](mailto:katyoutbackot@gmail.com).

## SALTWATER CREEK UPDATE RORY EAMES & VICKI SMITH

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We're continuing our work on Saltwater Creek, talking with the Rosedale Farm developer, making site visits, and obtaining water quality testing data from the site manager. The developer has installed additional silt and sediment traps and sections of the area are being left largely intact (not cleared) even through the sale process. Council says the developer is meeting requirements, and even exceeding them in some areas, but that there are also areas that can be improved.

### NSW MONITORING

Saltwater Creek is included in the NSW Water Quality Monitoring Program, with the most recent sampling during the 2020-21 summer, where two sites were monitored monthly. Results indicate that algae level was 'fair', water clarity was 'poor', and overall estuary health was 'fair'. Interestingly, since 2014-15 the assessment has always been a consistent 'fair'. We're seeking more data from the Department of Planning and Environment.

### EEL AND FISH DEATHS

After recent observations of dead eels and some fish, Council tested the water and determined that oxygen saturation levels were 'acceptable'. The Association and Council also reported the dead eels to a Fisheries officer, who reviewed Council's sample results and assessed the oxygen saturation levels as 'borderline'. Fisheries say they will work with Council to investigate our community's concerns, including silt runoff during downpours. Council subsequently inspected the development site and identified an overspill at a sediment fence during heavy rain, which was quickly addressed by the project manager.

### MORE MONITORING

Looking forward, we've decided that our own monitoring and sampling program is feasible, and we're currently reviewing a draft Saltwater Creek Monitoring Project Plan. It will likely involve input from experts, other stakeholders and of course valuable community volunteers. Stay tuned!



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The Rosedale Association Inc.  
PO Box 2125  
MALUA BAY NSW 2536

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