

THE Rosedale ASSOCIATION INC



Newsletter Issue 137 March 2024



NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: SATURDAY 30 MARCH 2024

Notice is hereby given of the Annual General Meeting of the Rosedale Association, to be held on Saturday 30 March at 11:00 am on the grass at 11 Knowlman Road.

AGENDA AGM 30 MARCH

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

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR - MARGOT MARSHALL

Unlike much of the country, we've made it through another bushfire season and Rosedale is now enjoying the balmy days of autumn.

Change is afoot. After 12 years Vicki Smith is standing aside as Secretary of the Rosedale Association. She has been the backbone of the committee, keeping us all in check, building networks and coordinating meetings and time-consuming submissions. We thank her for her enormous effort before and after the Black Summer fires, including our memorial on the bridge over Saltwater Creek. Together with Tim Brown, she spearheaded our awareness of beach safety risks, organising angel rings, the defibrillator and rescue tube. We will miss you Vicki!

We're happy to welcome James Blogg to fill an existing vacancy (see story page 3), but we need more volunteers to help out

for a while. If you have web or writing skills and could take over the website (no html or javascript skills required) or editing the newsletter (Annie Shillington does the layout), please nominate for the committee [here](#). We are also looking for volunteers to organize our environmental work – the rabbit patrols, liaising with Council over weeding, touching base with Council's Landcare coordinator. You'll be joining a great team of Rosedale volunteers!

Thanks to everyone who contributed to this newsletter, especially Di Clark. A big thanks to John and Nikki Wallace for allowing us to use their block for the AGM and Sausage Sizzle, and to Kit Tischler and Bardi Carter for organizing the Sausage Sizzle.

See you at the AGM!

EASTER WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

Easter Weedathon, Easter Saturday, 2:30 pm

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

Annual Sausage Sizzle, Easter Saturday, 5:00 pm

Where: 11 Knowlman Road. We supply the food – bring your own drinks, chair, kids and friends!

Beach Safety and CPR Demo, Easter Sunday, 11:00 am

Where: On the beach in front of the Cabins. All ages welcome.

ROSEDALE ASSOCIATION -
CURRENT COMMITTEE

committee@rosedale.org.au

President: David Boardman
Secretary: Vicki Smith
Treasurer: Melissa Gribble

Members

James Blogg
Sally Edsall
Rory Eames
Margot Marshall
Annie Shillington
Michael Skipper
Peter Ward

MEMBERSHIP

Please pass this newsletter on to your friends and neighbours – especially new residents! We’d be delighted to have more members. Apply for new membership on our website [here](#) and pay by credit card. It’s still only \$10 a year.

Existing members, your fees are due now. Pay online [here](#). If you’re not sure whether your subscription is up to date, please email peteward@aussiebb.com.au

JOIN OUR COMMITTEE!

Please think about joining the committee – we need new energy and some of us would welcome a break!

Form is [here](#).

Please send your application form to executive@rosedale.org.au by Thursday 28 March – any questions, contact us.

TREASURER’S REPORT

ROSEDALE ASSOCIATION INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
STATEMENT 2023

INCOME

Members Subscriptions	\$ 2,520.00
Interest from Term Deposit	\$ 261.43
- Rosedale Environment Fund	\$ 2,463.82
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 5,245.25

EXPENDITURE

Creek Testing Equipment	\$ 3,155.90
Website	\$ 275.40
Sausage Sizzle	\$ 240.25
Ezidebit Fees	\$ 216.42
Insurance - Public Liability & Events	\$ 188.72
Stairs	\$ 185.00
Australia Post Letterbox	\$ 153.00
Life Saving Equipment	\$ 139.00
Jotform	\$ 67.30
	\$ 4,621.89

DONATIONS

RFS	\$ 500.00
BBSLC	\$ 500.00
	\$ 1,000.00

TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$ 5,621.89
NET INCOME/(LOSS)	\$ (376.64)

Cash at Bank	\$ 25,021.36
Term Deposit	\$ 20,000.00
Term Deposit	\$ 11,619.00
Term Deposit – Fire Prevention & Restoration	\$ 9,500.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 67,310.82



A dry summer was the forecast – instead we experienced wet, humid almost tropical conditions. A welcome relief for Rosedale bushland but also an opportunity for Rosedale weeds to flourish!

We desperately need volunteers to help us maintain our natural landscape. Work on the sand dunes continues and they are looking the best they have in a very long time. Volunteers meet in the car park for one hour on the second Saturday of the month at 3 pm. Please come along – you'll help keep the dunes in good shape, you learn about weeds and you'll catch up with locals.

It's great to see members involved monitoring the health of Saltwater Creek but other areas in the hamlet also need attention, so please volunteer and get involved.

Jane Enright has been a tireless volunteer for Landcare for many years. I wish to thank Jane on behalf of the Rosedale community and wish her all the best as she moves from Rosedale.

We have a long-awaited meeting with council's new general manager, Warwick Winn, before Easter and also with the new infrastructure director, Graham Attenborough, to see what we can do to maintain and upgrade tracks. We've been advised that council has

applied for a grant to construct a footpath from George Bass drive to the carpark. This will encourage people to walk or cycle from West Rosedale rather than overloading the parking facilities. We'll let you know when it is ready for public consultation. Council would also like to seal Rose Court so residents on Rose Court: if you have any views, please let me know.

We're continuing discussions with West Rosedale developers and expect an onsite meeting with Walker Corporation in the next few weeks. Expect to see a draft master plan later this year.



WELCOME BACK JAMES

After more than 20 years James Blogg has rejoined the Rosedale Association committee, appointed to fill Tim Brown's vacancy until a new committee is elected on Easter Saturday. He brings with him a wealth of historical knowledge having first joined the committee under Gordon Bray and then as secretary under Ian Holmes in the late 1990s. He remembers sitting on his deck with Ian and Gordon pondering the state of Saltwater Creek - some things never change!

James has worked for NSW Health for over 25 years and is now returning to Rosedale to work as Clinical Director, Alcohol and Other Drugs for Southern NSW Local Health District – a job which stretches from Goulburn and Queanbeyan down to Moruya and Bega. He and his wife Suzanne have been updating their house in Rosedale Parade.



Our defibrillator is mounted on the block wall between 13 and 17 Knowlman Road.

BEACH SAFETY DEMO – ALL WELCOME EASTER SUNDAY 31 MARCH 11 AM, MAIN BEACH

Rosedale's beaches are unpatrolled and prone to dangerous rips at any time. So many thanks to the crew at Batemans Bay Surf Life Saving Club for agreeing to give us a beach safety demo at Easter.

Join us on the beach and learn – or get a refresher – on CPR, how to use the defibrillator, how to spot and escape a rip.

For more on rips click [here](#). Remember – ring 000 if you see someone in trouble in the water.

There is no more scrutinized and dissected job than that of a weather forecaster with the Bureau of Meteorology. These poor people are damned if they do and damned if they don't!

While the general chat early in the fire season was of high levels of bushfire threat across most of NSW, we in Rosedale (and much of the south coast) were again lucky to escape.

In saying that, it's important to realise that in this current fire season in NSW alone, to the end of December 2023, over one million hectares were burnt, 25 homes destroyed and there were four fatalities. And poor Victoria and WA...

Destruction and heartache are ever present, reminding us of our Black Summer devastation.

In some ways 2019/20 seems close in memory, however it's four years since much of our village was decimated. The regrowth of some species, particularly black wattle, has been very quick – it's now the principal vegetation in the low to mid-level range. This is a worry - wattle is quick to catch fire and burns very hot. Given the right conditions we may see threat levels like 2019 very soon.

Whilst we now enter a cooler season, we can't forget that fire can start at any time and burn even quite green fuels. The best options are still to keep flammable materials including firewood piles away from the house and keep yards and immediate areas free from combustible material. This will go a long way to saving a house from catching alight.



This last summer season has probably been one of the wetter ones in recent memory (I can only remember the mid 70's being as wet - you couldn't venture out without coming home with a tick or leech or both!). However while the immediate fire threat is low, the grass and scrub growth has been considerable since mid-January. Yet another reason to get out the mowers, rakes and shovels and clear up.

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**



We have finally spray painted the shipping container which houses our fire equipment to make it less obtrusive to the patient residents of Tranquil Bay Place.

TICKBITE

Unfortunately, blood-sucking parasites, like leeches and ticks, have become more active in Rosedale with this summer's humid, wet weather. Several tick species occur in our area, including bush ticks, brown dog-ticks and paralysis ticks. Pet-owners have long been aware of the dangers of paralysis ticks, having to regularly treat dogs and cats to prevent tick bites that may paralyse within 24-hours.

Paralysis ticks are also dangerous to humans. Their bites may result in anaphylactic shock and a long-term allergy to meat ('mammalian meat allergy'). Some people may react after just a handful of tick bites, while others have higher thresholds or may never develop the allergy. Several Rosedale residents now have mammalian meat allergy, which has no cure (other than to never eat red meat!).

Ticks are arachnids, the same family as spiders and scorpions. They grow through three life stages (larva, nymph then adult), dropping off the host and growing to their next stage on long grass, mulch, shrubs and low tree branches, before dropping onto the next passing victim.

Paralysis ticks are often carried by marsupials such as native bandicoots, echidnas and wallabies. Adults grow to 5 mm. Larvae are tiny – less than 0.2 mm and hardly visible to the naked eye – yet they are highly toxic.

The presence of a tick shows up like an itchy, red mosquito bite. The tick should be immediately removed; application of a freeze spray is recommended, as removal with tweezers is difficult and may leave tick parts in the wound that then becomes infected. Freeze spray applicators are sold by most chemists.

Paralysis ticks are most active from August to April. Prevent tick bites with an insect repellent and by wearing shoes and socks, a long-sleeved shirt and trousers with tight cuffs when gardening or bushwalking.

Did you know?

- In other countries ticks carry Lyme disease. Although the bacteria associated with Lyme disease has not been found in Australian ticks, tick bites here sometimes produce similar symptoms to Lyme disease, such as fatigue, joint pain and headaches.
- Female ticks lay up to 3,000 eggs per month in summer.
- Ticks may stay attached to the host for up to two weeks.
- Adult females don't start injecting neurotoxins until several days after they attach to a host.
- Mature males don't suck blood, but you might find them wandering on your skin looking for a mate.

Ixodes Holocyclus: Females responsible for Paralysis



It is easy to be overwhelmed with all the plant growth that is occurring this summer/ autumn season. In many cases the plants are not invasive weeds as such but may be local native plants that are opportunistically climbing over everything else. One plant like this is the native grape, or *Cayratia clematidea* (top left). This plant is described as a weak climber, which means you can actually just pull it off your garden plants without doing too much damage.

Other types of plants are more problematic as they were either garden escapees or agricultural weeds. The battle with fleabane (bottom left) continues in the dunes. The aim is to remove the plants before they seed, and this means repeat visits to an area to catch the new seedlings that got away last time.



The Formosa lily has found its way to Rosedale. This plant can be seen in late summer all along the highways from here to eternity. It was originally from Taiwan and grows from seeds or bulbs in disturbed sites. This Lily is different from a Christmas lily, and has a purple stripe along the trumpet part of the flower. It's best to remove the bulb by digging and not allowing the flower to go to seed.

BATEMANS BAY COASTAL HEADLANDS WALKING TRAIL

SALLY EDSALL

A great outing for locals and visitors alike is the spectacular Coastal Headlands walk from Observation Point to McKenzies. It's currently undergoing a multi-million dollar upgrade, largely funded by bushfire recovery grants - a pity it doesn't go through to Rosedale!



The already upgraded trail gateway at Batehaven's Observation Point boasts gorgeous views out to Square Head to the north, Snapper Island and the Tollgate Islands. A beautiful six metre walkway (see photo) painted by Indigenous artists Bronwen Smith and Gavin Chatfield celebrates the history of the location as a meeting place for Walbunja people. Gavin told the Bay Post that he remembers family visits as a child because 'Observation Point is a food-gathering place for the Batemans Bay mob.' Look for depictions of native animals such as crabs, stingrays, black cockatoos, abalone and mussels.

The upgraded area opened on Christmas Eve, 2022, with the most recent work at Grandfathers Gully where steps are being built. Further plans for 2024 include finishing walkways and steps, installing seats, viewing platforms, safety barriers, footbridges and interpretative signs – and the creation of a yarnning circle at Wimbie Beach. Toilets will be upgraded at Mosquito Bay and Lilli Pilli as will the

Denhams Beach carpark and trail access at McKenzie's Beach. There will be lots of revegetation work.

While the trail meanders around the south coast headlands, a smaller network of inland tracks will allow access during high tides and adverse swell conditions. You can choose to walk the whole distance in a single day or take advantage of shorter walks.

Dog owners - you can walk your dogs along the trail, however, as parts are along beaches, you do have to comply with dog regulations. Dogs are prohibited at all times at Caseys Beach, Surf Beach, Garden Bay Park, Malua Bay Reserve and Playground and McKenzies Beach. Time share arrangements (like at Rosedale) apply at Denhams Beach, Lilli Pilli Beach, Mosquito Bay, Garden Bay Beach and Malua Bay Beach.

We love our headland walks closer to home (my favourite is Tranquil Bay to Guerilla Bay), but it's great to have improved access to a variety of locations in our wider neighbourhood.



MONITORING SALTWATER CREEK RORY EAMES



Many thanks to Sally Edsall, Bill Legge, Dugald Stewart and Tony Hamilton, our team who join me monitoring the creek and getting hands dirty in the process!

Recent rainfall has seen lots of runoff into the creek, but it appears that some key indicators such as pH (whether the water is alkaline or acidic) electrical conductivity (an indicator of salinity levels) and dissolved oxygen (how much oxygen is available in the water for aquatic organisms to use) are within expected ranges. However we'll need to track these over a long time period to make early readings more meaningful.

GLOBAL WARMING, URBAN INFILL AND WATER TEMPERATURE RORY EAMES

We'll be measuring water temperature, a telling factor in creek health. Water temperature influences the amount of oxygen that can be dissolved in the water and so, the diversity of aquatic organisms that can survive in it.

Temperature also affects the rate of photosynthesis of plants, and the entire life cycles of aquatic organisms, from reproduction, to growth rates, and their sensitivity to toxins, parasites, and disease.



Fish larvae and eggs are less tolerant of changes in temperature than adults. Temperature also affects seed production and release, and growth rates of a number of riparian plants along the creek banks.

Just as importantly, the speed at which the temperature of the water changes can cause stress to many aquatic organisms.

When most of the catchment is grass or bushland, rain which falls and eventually makes its way into the creek is slowed down by vegetation, and so has its temperature moderated (and has also simply been absorbed to the ground) during its journey. There is less water flowing into the creek, it's travelling slower, sometimes underground, and its temperature is more reflective of the surrounding environment.



As the catchment becomes more urban, with hot roads and smooth concrete stormwater channels, rainwater makes its journey much more quickly, and is far less 'moderated' in its temperature – and also a lot more of it as none has been absorbed by grass or bush land.

To put this all in context the Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality considers anything outside of a two degree Celsius change in temperature to have the potential to adversely affect water ecosystems.

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

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