

THE Rosedale ASSOCIATION INC



Newsletter Issue 107 October 2009

THE 2009 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING COMMENCED AT 10:30 AM ON THE CABINS LAWN

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from:

David Boardman, Keith & Mary Boardman, Peggy & John Bright, Ruth Friend, Tim & Katie Friend, Darren Gribble, Paul Isaacson, Rohan Kent, Helmut & Sigrid Loofs, David Mackenzie, Paul & Penny Mlakar, Paul Morrow, David Nicholas, Jane & John Nicholas, Faye Reynolds, Annie Shillington, Richard Skipper, and Ted and Barbara Wilcox. Accepted.

2 REPORTS

2.2 President's report

The President's report was circulated in Newsletter 106, March 2009.

Sue Falk added that she had written to the Eurobodalla Shire Council seeking clarification of the planned changes to the Yowani Road and George Bass Drive intersection. These would turn a T-intersection into a dangerous crossroad. The matter is with the Road Transport Authority.

MOTION: The President's Report be adopted.

Proposed: Jim Bryant. Seconded: Joanna Nicholas. Carried.

2.2 Treasurer's report

The Treasurer's report was circulated in Newsletter 106, March 2009.

MOTION: The Treasurer's Report be adopted.

Proposed: Kitty Tischler. Seconded: Tony Cooper. Carried.

2.3 Landcare report 2008-9

The Landcare report was circulated in

Newsletter 106, March 2009.

MOTION: The Landcare Report 2008-9 be adopted and the Program of Works approved.

Proposed: Ian Holmes. Seconded: Barbara Cook. Carried.

3 MEMBERSHIP

Noel Egan said that membership of the Rosedale Association had fallen away slightly in the last year. Income from subscriptions was now barely covering costs. He said that it was important for membership to be maximised so that the views of all owners and residents could be represented to Eurobodalla Shire Council and treated with due weight.

Noel asked members to encourage newcomers to join the Rosedale Association and to advise the committee of prospective members so that they could be invited to join.

4 SALTWATER CREEK

Emmett O'Loughlin said that Saltwater Creek was a highly degraded waterway even before development. He attributed this to pollution by cattle having access to the creek over the past century.

Emmett said that Saltwater Creek was an important fish nursery. Past construction of dams on the creek allowed pollution to settle when flow rates were low. This sediment would be disturbed following heavy rain leading oxygen depleted and the death of fish. The pollution included the Escherichia coli bacteria, Nitrogen and Phosphorous compounds.

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

There is no letter from the President in this Newsletter because the Presidency is still vacant. As you can see, the committee is continuing to attend to matters of concern to members.

Why not come forward and propose either yourself or someone of your acquaintance for the position? Ideally it would be someone resident in Rosedale, for whom an overview of the precinct would not be a burden, but someone who visits often could well do the job. All that is required is a deep love of and concern for Rosedale, and an interest in the way decisions are made that will impact upon the place - at local, State and Federal levels. Past Presidents will concur that the learning is done on the job, and the committee is there to help.

Traditionally, the committee will next meet early in the New Year. Hopefully someone will take on the Presidency before then.

I draw your attention to Michael Skipper's letter entitled Food for Thought. This is the sort of thing that must concern all of us.

In putting this Newsletter together, we noticed the larger than usual number of red dots needed for unfinancial members. It is possible that most of these belong to people who were unable to make it to the AGM and so overlooked paying their dues for this year. There is a renewal of membership form at the back of this Newsletter. May I remind you all that the financial year for this Association runs with the calendar year. *Sue Falk*

The Rosedale Association Incorporated

www.netspeed.com.au/rosedale

PO Box 4134 Manuka ACT 2603

MINUTES OF THE AGM, HELD ON 11 APRIL 2009 continued

Emmett said that there were presently four developments that should receive attention to ensure compliance with water sensitive urban design requirements:

1. The Marsim development, currently up for sale, on the western side of the ridge
2. The Bruce Edwards development on the eastern side of the ridge
3. The Retirement Village of 140 units excised from the original Bruce Edwards development
4. The 9-block Bruce Edwards development near the corner of Yowani Road and George Bass Drive.

Emmett said that in the long term the increased flow resulting from development could reduce the level of pollution with proper management.

In discussion raised by members Emmett agreed with David Carter that grazing should not be stopped altogether, and only that the livestock should be prevented from access to the creek. He said that in a similar situation in Victoria, Melbourne Water had funded alternative watering sources for livestock.

Bruce Kent asked about the relative amounts of human and animal pollution. Emmett said this was not known. He said that effective monitoring of the creek would be very costly over \$100,000. Septic tanks intended for 2 or 3 people have overflowed into Saltwater Creek when used by large parties.

Greg Tegart asked if opening the lagoon to the sea might achieve better flushing. Emmett said that the role of the creek as a fish nursery carried much weight with authorities and that artificially opening the lagoon would defeat this.

MOTION: The Rosedale Association Inc. requests that the Eurobodalla Shire Council imposes as conditions of development, that the impacts on water quality of any changes in land use in the catchment of Saltwater Creek be minimised by providing fenced buffers along the creek, specifically to exclude livestock. The Association also requests that its nominee writes a letter to Council, expressing its concern for the current degraded status of water quality in Saltwater Creek, the potential for

further degradation, and the critical importance of this water body as a marine habitat.

The nominee to write to the Eurobodalla Shire Council shall be Emmett O'Loughlin.

Proposed: Emmett O'Loughlin.
Seconded: Cathy Falk. Carried.

5 SEWERAGE

Sue Falk said that owners will have received a letter from Pressure Sewer Solutions Pty Ltd which is the contractor to Eurobodalla Shire Council for the proposed Guerilla Bay and Rosedale reticulated sewerage system. This asks owners to make an appointment for a meeting with a company representative if they wish to discuss their own particular installation on-site. Sue said that appointments in the declared period 16-25 April were filling quickly. If an on-site appointment is not made then it is understood that the owner will receive a plan of the proposed installation with the opportunity to object then.

A typical installation will include an on-site holding tank and pump connected to the existing house sewer lines, an electrical control panel on the side of the building and electrical wiring to the pump. A new pipe will connect to the street sewer line with an isolation valve contained in a covered pit at the property boundary. The extent to which the installation of new sewer lines would require open trenches or subterranean boring was not known.

6 HISTORY PROJECT

Sue Falk drew attention to the article Archiving Rosedale's History in Newsletter 106, March 2009. This invites people with photographs of Rosedale to make them available for digitisation. Material could be submitted electronically to any of the persons whose names are listed in the newsletter article. It was suggested that the weekend of the October long weekend might be a suitable time to have a gathering at Rosedale to scan photographs and documents. Details will be provided in the next newsletter. A deadline for submissions of the October long weekend was proposed.

Sue said that she hoped the history of Rosedale could be told with as many voices as possible.

7 OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Newsletter article on Flora and Fauna of Rosedale

A vote expressing appreciation was carried unanimously for the articles on the flora and fauna of Rosedale in the last two newsletters by Max Tischler, John Knight of the ESC Botanical Gardens, and David Mackenzie.

7.2 Subscription payment by bank deposit

Noel Egan drew attention to the procedure described in Newsletter No 106 for renewing membership subscriptions and making Landcare donations by bank deposit to the Association's account.

8 ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

The Secretary and Treasurer were re-elected unopposed as office bearers.

There being no nomination for a President the Executive Committee will seek a President from among its members.

There was no need for an election of ordinary committee members. The committee will comprise:

President - vacant

Sue Falk* – Secretary

Noel Egan – Treasurer

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| David Boardman | Darren Gribble |
| Rohan Kent | David Mackenzie |
| Margot Marshall | Barry Shorter |
| Michael Skipper | Emmett O'Loughlin |

* also the person registered with Fair Trading, as required under the Rules of Incorporation.

9 CHAIRPERSON-VOTE OF THANKS

Anton Cook proposed a vote of thanks to Sue Falk for presiding over the meeting and for acting as President for the year.

Carried with applause.

10 LANDCARE WORKING BEE AND SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Members, families and friends were invited to the Landcare working bee commencing at 2:00pm and the sausage sizzle commencing at 5:00pm.

11 ATTENDANCE

A head count showed an attendance of approximately 74.

ANTON COOK (MINUTE SECRETARY)

RIGHTS OF WAY

The secretary has received an email from David Hawdon, the lawyer acting for Rosedale Farm P/L, about an action to extinguish an old right of way that leads through Rosedale Farm, dating from a time before George Bass Drive was constructed.

Members with land in this vicinity should check to see that they are not affected by this action. If you find you are affected and wish to write to Mr Hawdon, please send a copy of your letter to the committee so that we can offer our support where possible.

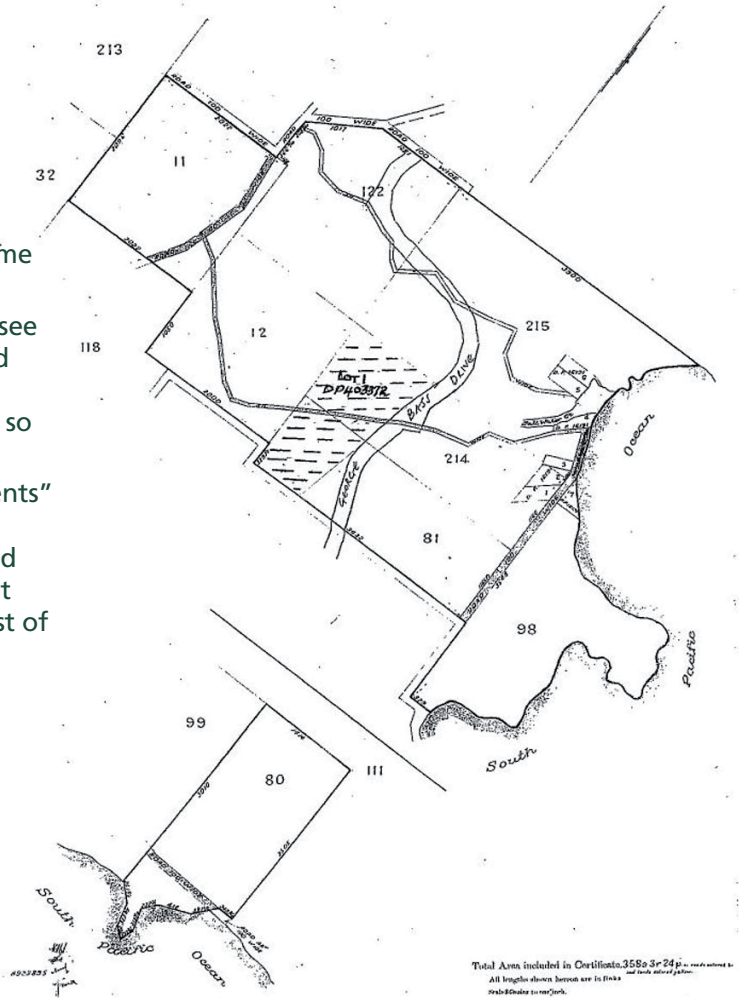
Below is the advertisement regarding the "easements" (rights of way) in question, and a diagram of their positions. As you can see the affected blocks of land are specified in the first paragraph. Remember that the diagram shows the land as at 1930, before most of Rosedale was subdivided.

IN THE MATTER of certain land situate at George Bass Drive Rosedale being the land comprised in Lot 1 Deposited Plan 403372, Lot 12 Deposited Plan 755902, Lot 122 Deposited Plan 755902 collectively described in Folio Identifier Auto Consol 11374-176 ("the land").

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that application ("the application") will be made to the Supreme Court of New South Wales, Queens Square Sydney on 8 July 2009 by Rosedale Farm (NSW) Pty Limited, the registered proprietor of the land, for an order extinguishing the following easements:

1. Rights of Way affecting part of Lot 122 Deposited Plan 755902 shown as Rights of Way 50 links wide in Deposited Plan 16191 and being Dealings B904559, B907463, B990310.
2. Rights of Way 10.06 wide affecting part of Lot 1 Deposited Plan 403372 and part of Lot 12 Deposited Plan 755902 shown as rights of way 50 links wide in Deposited Plan DP16191 being Dealings B914851, B914852, B914853, B914854, B914857, F116322.
3. Rights of Way 10.06 wide affecting part of Lot 1 Deposited Plan 403372 and part of Lot 12 Deposited Plan 755902 shown as rights of way 50 links wide in Deposited Plan 109681 Dealing F58442.

Included with this Notice is a plan as at 1930. This plan depicts the portions of land as they existed at that time, the position of the easements, and the position of George Bass Drive superimposed upon that plan. The land to the east of George Bass Drive has since been the subject of multiple subdivisions and some parts of that land (and Portion 80) may have the benefit of one or both



of the easements sought to be extinguished.

A copy of the Summons and Affidavits in support of the application may be inspected at the offices of:

BHM Lawyers
8 Beach Road
Batemans Bay NSW 2536
Tel 02 4472 6377
Fax 02 4472 5654

Email bbadmin@bhmlawyers.com.au during ordinary business hours.

Any person having any objection to the proposed order may lodge a notice in writing stating the nature and grounds of the objection at the office of BHM Lawyers referred to above on or before 7 July 2009. (See note below.)

If any person want their objection to be considered by the Court they

should attend at their own risk as to costs on the hearing of the application.

The plaintiff in the application will object to the allowance of more than one set of costs, if any are allowed to objectors.

The undersigned will supply to any person who lodges notice of an intention to oppose the application or who is considering the advisability of doing so with the names and addresses of any person who has previously lodged a notice of intention to oppose the application, in order that several objectors may if they wish, arrange between themselves as to which solicitor should act on behalf of all of the objectors in the same interest.

**DAVID FRANCIS HAWDON
SOLICITOR FOR ROSEDALE FARM
(NSW) PTY LIMITED.**

NOTE received from D. Hawdon: The date shown in the published advertisement is a date when the application was first to be heard. The date for final hearing is not known at the date of this publication but will be advised to any interested party to whom a copy of the evidentiary material will be provided.

ROSEDALE LANDCARE REPORT

BANKSIA FLAT

The federally funded project on Banksia Flat begun in 2008 ran to completion at the end of June and the funds have been acquitted. Envirofund granted us \$6089 which was augmented by \$4500 from the Eurobodalla Landcare Management Committee and Rosedale Landcare's in-kind contributions. The total project value was \$12,200. The objective was to make a serious attack on the rehabilitation of the native vegetation of Banksia Flat: weeds had begun to get seriously out of control and required more attention than our community can muster through working bees. A local bush regenerator worked for some months before having to withdraw and early this year Michelle Tribolet, another experienced and competent bush regenerator, was employed to bring the project to its June 30th termination. As part of the project, there were three bush regeneration workshops held during the April school holidays.

Although the project has terminated, the weeds keep going and to maintain the momentum we used the Landcare Fund to re-engage Michelle and her team over the winter. They are operating at a lower level focussing where they can be most effective. We plan to continue this arrangement during the weed-active spring and secure another grant in the near future.

Also, through the Landcare Fund, Michelle's team was engaged to remove a considerable amount of rubbish, including broken glass, from the slopes below Cooks Crescent. This rubbish had been noted as a serious OH&S concern since Landcare began working the Flat about a decade ago and some years ago more than a trailer load was removed. The removal task is incomplete and a deal of broken glass remains to be removed before the slope can be worked safely.

SALTWATER CREEK

The last AGM directed that a letter be sent to Council requesting, in part, that "the Eurobodalla Shire Council imposes as conditions of

development, that the impacts on water quality of any changes in land use in the catchment of Saltwater Creek be minimised by providing fenced buffers along the creek, specifically to exclude livestock." We have subsequently learned in some detail from Council Staff that there is no way in which a landholder can be required to fence out stock except in extreme situations such as catchments feeding domestic water storages. We investigated the possibility of seeking a grant to erect fencing but the list of obstacles to this course made it quite clear that it was not feasible.

The motion directed further that a letter be sent to Council, 'expressing [the Association's] concern for the current degraded status of water quality in Saltwater Creek, the potential for further degradation, and the critical importance of this water body as a marine habitat."

The letter will acknowledge the advice concerning the obstacles to fencing out stock and will express the concerns as directed. Those of us on the unofficial SWC sub-committee have had much discussion in the past with Council Staff on this topic, all of it amicable and we find Staff are sympathetic to our concerns. We will continue this dialogue and, among other things, explore what avenues there are of ensuring water inflows to the lagoon will be of the topmost quality. There will be numerous DA's associated with successive phases of these developments, each offering the opportunity to comment further.

Bill Maher (University of Canberra) has recently enrolled an honours student to do a study on the Saltwater Creek Lagoon beginning shortly. The course of the one-year study remains to be finalised but he expects to test a South African model that attempts to predict the water quality dynamics of ICOLLs at different states of opening and closing. Sensors will be installed in the lagoon providing time series data on such measures as salinity, temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, nitrogen and phosphorus. He also plans to do a fish census at intervals to assess how populations change with different states of

opening. The macro-invertebrates in SWC have been studied a few times previously and this study should be a valuable addition to that data. This work will be invaluable in our discussions with the consenting authorities about the quality of water flowing from the upstream developments. Keep an eye out for Michael, he'll be around the lagoon a lot in the coming year, stop and chat with him about his work, help him if you can. Pray that the lagoon opens for him during his study but do no more than pray, it has to be a natural opening!

WILDLIFE SURVEY

The following is reproduced, with minimal editing, from a circular recently emailed widely across groups in NSW. It will also be posted on our website. I thoroughly endorse this venture and urge you to take the time to participate.

As a follow up to previous work, the NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change is conducting the 2009 internet based Wildlife Survey concerning several important species that you may have seen in NSW. You are invited to participate.

This survey is entirely online and hosted at the Conservation Research web site. All the details are securely stored and all identifying material will NOT be made available to anyone outside the Department of Environment and Climate Change. All data analysis and storage is performed on data with identifying material removed. To start the survey, please use the following link.

<http://ConservationResearch.com.au/NewSurvey.html>

This link will start the survey. After the introduction, the survey will ask you to enter brief contact details. Apart from survey follow up information and broad tabulated summaries, these details will be used to centre the online map near your home. Your personal details will not be used in any other way and no identifying material will be released to other people either within or outside the department.

After you complete the survey we

ROSEDALE LANDCARE REPORT continued

would be grateful if you would in turn encourage friends and/or relatives to also provide us with wildlife sighting data by using this same website.

We thank you in advance for taking the time to fill out the questionnaire and map. We greatly value this community information. It goes a long way to help manage these species across NSW.

One important part of our survey is to confirm or update the locations of the particular species. Your local knowledge as to where you have seen these animals is a very important ingredient in the process.

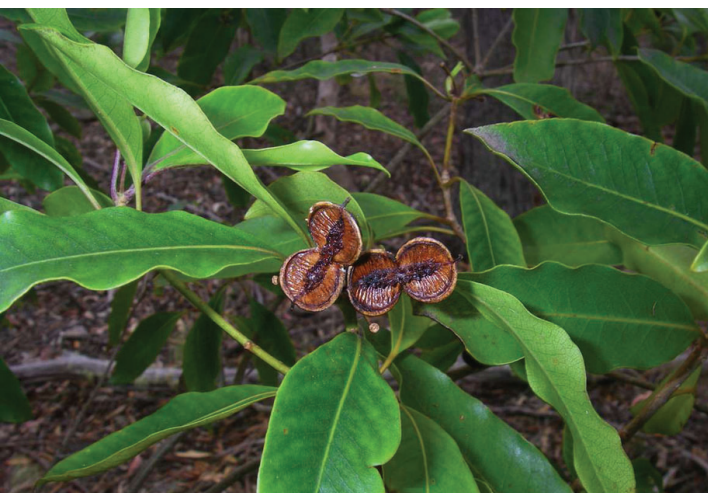
The department's privacy policy (which applies to all aspects of this survey) is further explained on our corporate web site

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/help/privacy.htm> and there is a link to it from within the survey.

- Ian Shannon and Dan Lunney
Wildlife Research Team
- Vertebrate Ecology Unit
Biodiversity Conservation Science Section
- Dep't. of Environment and Climate Change
Phone: (02) 9995 5490 or (02) 9585 6838
Mob: 0428 296 729
email: Wildlife.Research@environment.nsw.gov.au
web: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au>

DAVID MACKENZIE

PITTOSPORUM UNDULATUM: A WEED OR A NICE PLANT?



Some people find *Pittosporum undulatum*, or Sweet Pittosporum, a very useful shrub or small tree; others cannot abide it, considering it invasive, unattractive and not worth bothering with. While generally it is of moderate size, it can grow very large, particularly on the deep basalt soils of northern rainforests (nearer to home there is a huge specimen in Kyla Park, in a paddock on the northern side of the Hector McWilliam Drive from the Princes Highway to Tuross Head).

However, it must be said that this plant has a role to play in revegetation projects, as it will grow in almost any soil type, is resistant to insect and pathogen attack, and requires very little or no supplementary watering once established. As a bonus, it has glossy green new leaves after the winter months are over, as well as masses of creamy tubular sweet

smelling flowers in the spring. The flowers are followed by orange capsules containing sticky seeds, a feature that gives rise to the generic name *Pittosporum* (as well as the family name *Pittosporaceae*); thus, *pittos* from the Greek *pitta* = pitch (as in resin), and *sporos* = Greek for seeds, referring particularly to the sticky mucilage surrounding the seeds within the capsule. The specific

name, *undulatum*, meaning wavy, notes the wavy margins of the leaves.

One scientist considers that, in evolutionary terms, the family originated in Australia, spreading to Africa, South Asia, the west Pacific and the Hawaiian Islands. All told, there are 150 species of *Pittosporum* throughout the world, with nine species present in Australia.

The sweet smelling flowers are creamy white, in few to many flowered clusters at the ends of the branchlets, while the seed capsules are round to oval, yellow-brown to orange, smooth, containing seeds sticky in all Australian members of the genus. The timber is pale yellow, hard and tough, close-grained. It is suitable for making wooden screws, golf and croquet mallet heads (perhaps not in the present day). The bark contains a

dye. In older trees the trunk is often flanged at the base.

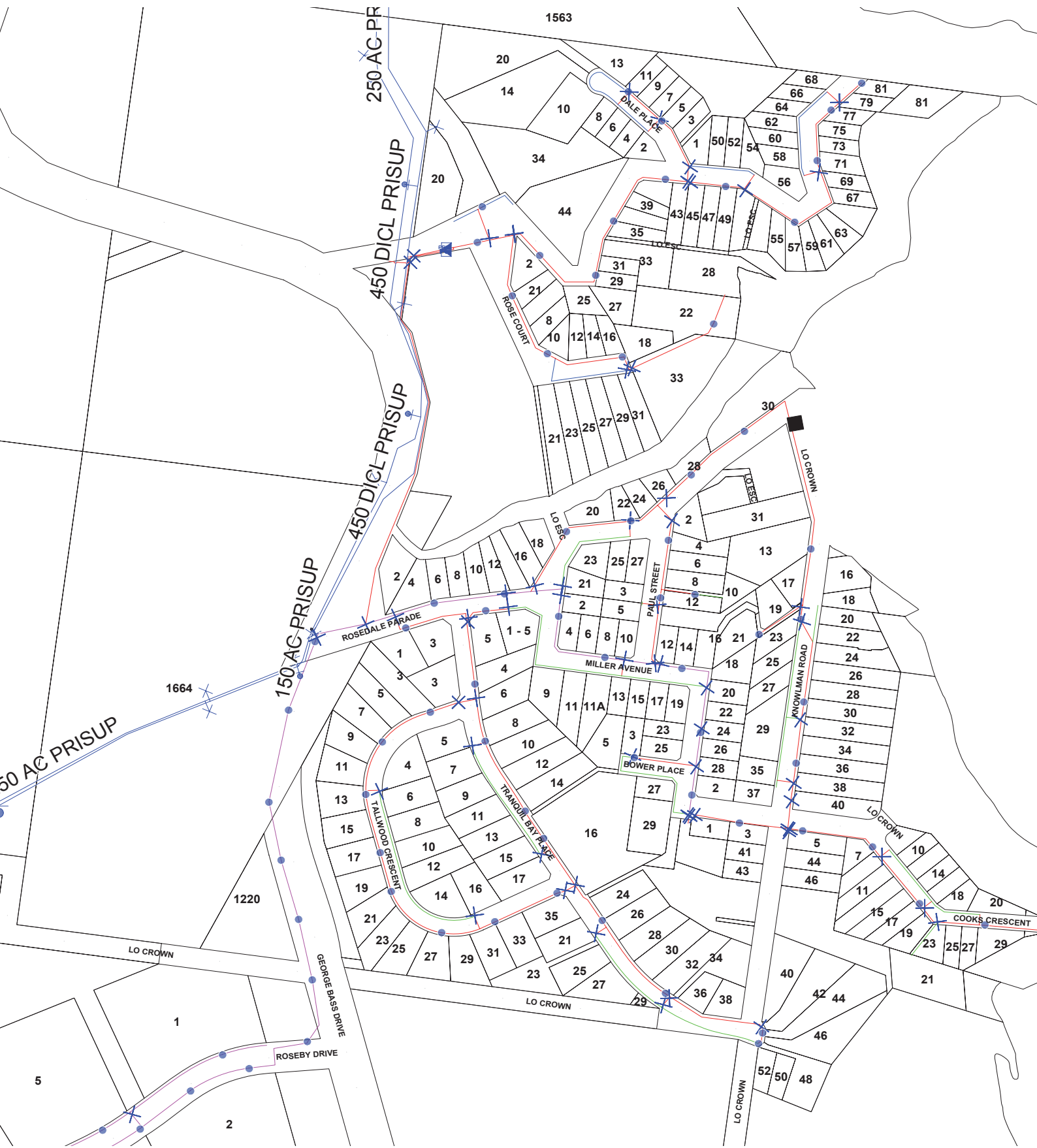
Sweet *Pittosporum* was first described in 1802 by a French botanist Etienne Pierre Ventenat (1757-1808), who published a book on little known flora in the botanical garden of a Jacques Philippe Cels. The original specimen he studied came from the Canary Islands – no mention of Australia in the literature. So apparently it is not known who took it to the Canaries and when.

Pittosporum undulatum is opportunistic in eastern coastal and near coastal areas, frequently invasive in forest and bushland, even within its normal range, particularly in the absence of bushfires. It is this opportunistic habit that gives rise to the dislike shown by some people. However, it can be grown safely in a domestic garden, or even in revegetating projects, because the plant is dioecious; that is, male and female flowers are carried on separate plants. All that has to be done is to remove the female plants; there will still be the attractive green foliage and sweet smelling flowers, though the orange seed capsules will have to be foregone. Of course, it would be necessary to wait until the plant is old enough to flower and set fruit to know whether it is male or female.

In the garden, it is a reliable screening or shade shrub that requires little attention once established.

JENNIFER LINEY

PREPARING FOR THE FIRE SEASON



PREPARING FOR THE FIRE SEASON continued

IS THERE A FUNCTIONING FIRE HYDRANT NEAR YOUR HOUSE?

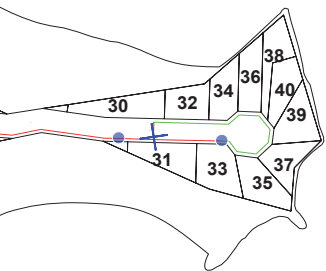
With the fire season well upon us, it is worth making sure that there is a functioning hydrant near your Rosedale house. While you are checking this out, why not check the remaining hydrants in your street? A recent check on the four fire hydrants in Rose Court revealed that one was OK, one was totally un-usable, one was OK but whose marker was nowhere near it while the fourth one appears to have no marker and remains to be found. Not a great score. How does your street compare?

CHECK FOR YOURSELF.

Council has kindly provided us with a map of the hydrants of Rosedale which you can download, print and use to ensure that the hydrants near you (or as many others that you might like to check) are there, are adequately marked and appear to be in good repair. The map has been placed on the Association's website (www.netspeed.com.au/rosedale/). If you cannot access the website, please ask myself (davidmackenzie@grapevine.net.au) or Sue Falk (sue@susanfalk.net) for a copy to be emailed or even posted to you.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR.

1. a blue reflector blister fastened to the centre of the (sealed) road opposite a hydrant
2. a yellow arrow boldly painted at the edge of the road nearest the hydrant
3. a yellow concrete or plastic post near, usually behind the hydrant marked "HP"



4. a yellow hydrant cover and concrete surround over the actual hydrant.
5. general appearance of the hydrant inside the box when opened
6. a space clear of vegetation or other obstructions about 1 m all around the hydrant

Maintaining the serviceability of the hydrant is a Council responsibility. However, if you feel comfortable doing so, you can look inside and note whether it appears to be functional or not. Prise open the cover and clean around the opening, ensuring it moves freely. Check that nothing has fallen in to obstruct access to the hydrant and that the sealing ring is clean but do no more. **WARNING:** wear gloves to avoid cutting yourself and protect against spider bites against neither of which you are insured. Sometimes the sides of the hydrant box collapse or the whole thing has been moved off centre by machinery etc.

Report any deficiencies. Any deficiencies in the above list should be reported to Council. Ring the switchboard on 4474 1000 and ask to lodge a Customer Service Request. They will record it and give you a Request Code number. The system then reminds them at intervals until the request is actioned after which it is removed from the list. Then, please tell Sue Falk or myself which hydrants you have checked, what you found out about each and the codes of any you have reported as deficient. We will try to follow up with the aim of accounting for all hydrants in the Hamlet.

Comment on printing a portion only of the hydrant map: Zoom in on the area of interest and use scroll bars to centre your view, select Print and under Print Range, select Current View, then OK.

Any delays occasioned by difficult to find or unserviceable hydrants could mean the difference between saving a house and not. Remember, house fires result from many more causes other than bush fires and a fire in any house potentially puts nearby houses at risk. So it's in everyone's interest to do what you can to ensure that all the hydrants near you are operational.

IS YOUR HOUSE FIRE-SAFE?

What else can I do to prepare for the fire season? This is also the time to be thinking about making fire-safe around your house, trim back shrubs and trees from the house and remove litter from the asset Protection Zone. The following unedited piece, replete with links to information, is from the Home Page of the Rural Fire Service website (www.rfs.nsw.gov.au):

Prepare your home. Prepare yourself.

FireWise communities experience fewer fires and fewer fire-related deaths, injuries and property losses. For those people living in bush fire prone areas, it is imperative to understand the risks of bush fire, make preparations accordingly, and be Bush FireWise. Deciding to Stay and Defend, or Leave Early is a critical decision as most people who die in bush fires die as a result of unplanned last-minute relocations or evacuations.

I commend your attention to their advice on the "Stay or Go" issue. Remember: (i) all roads out of Rosedale pass through forest and any or all could be cut by a severe bushfire event; (ii) the RFS will only take their vehicles where it is safe to go and some Captains may choose not to enter parts of Rosedale in the event a serious fire; and (iii) there are 46 strikers/ tanker in Eurobodalla, still not enough for Rosedale on a bad day let alone the rest of the shire. On such a day you may not see a fire truck at your fire.

May we all have a safe fire season.

DAVID MACKENZIE

RABBITSCAN

Early residents of Rosedale tell of shooting rabbits for the pot in the mid 20th century when the area we now know as the Hamlet of Rosedale was still mostly dairy farm and Banksia Flat was almost treeless. Rabbit numbers receded as the hamlet grew and a decade ago they were difficult to find. Not quite so today, they are on the increase despite sporadic attempts through the Pasture Protection Board to control them.

Here is an opportunity for today's Rosedale residents to make a contribution on a wider scale than just Rosedale, you can participate in Rabbitscan.

What is Rabbit Scan?

RabbitScan is a nation-wide challenge for community and schools to help scientists map where rabbits are, by asking people to 'scan' their landscape (school, farm, parkland, roadside reserves, ovals etc) for signs of rabbits and their damage, and to load their results online. It's being called the Great Australian 'rabbit census'. RabbitScan Month was originally planned for May 2009 but in response to Australia-wide interest sponsorship has been obtained to extend it to through to the end of Sept 2009. While the website remains accessible, you should be able to put data onto it so if you are looking at this after the end of September, do not give up. This applies to whether your observations are at Rosedale or anywhere else in Australia.

You can participate in Rabbitscan by recording online where you have seen live rabbits, their warrens, their dung or other evidence of their presence (like the lettuce eaten in our Canberra vege garden). It's easy to do, there are instructions on what to do both online and in the field. The Rabbitscan challenge (and yours) is to record rabbit data from at least 5000 sites across Australia.

How do I get into Rabbitscan?

Go to: <http://www.rabbitscan.net.au/joomla/index.php> or simply Google "rabbitscan" and follow the instructions.

There is also a survey, "What concerns you MOST about wild pest rabbits" which is very simple to complete and worth doing even if you haven't any rabbit sightings to report.

I thoroughly recommend that you have a go at Rabbitscan. So far there have been over 3,050 participants registered and over 3000 surveys conducted using the RabbitScan Google Maps data capture tool. They welcome multiple sites by users to give a more accurate understanding of the presence or absence of rabbits and their impacts on your landscapes. You can consult the User Guide for RabbitScan - it has visuals and steps to help you put your sites on the map.

I thoroughly recommend that if you have seen rabbits somewhere (and who hasn't?) you have a go at Rabbitscan.

SEWAGE RETICULATION SCHEME FOR ROSEDALE AND GUERILLA BAY

Surveying and design of the street layout has been completed and is with Council for consideration. Planning for individual domestic blocks remains in progress and owners who have not already done so still have the opportunity of an onsite consultation. Individual block plans ultimately require the owner's signed approval and will be checked again for changed circumstances before construction starts. The sewage scheme for Bodalla will be constructed first with an expected completion date of late 2010-early 2011. A call for tenders to construct the Rosedale and Guerilla Bay schemes should commence toward the end of that with an anticipated completion date of late 2011-early 2012. In the meantime, the annual \$200 sewerage charge (to cover survey, investigation and design) will continue, incorporated into your rates notices until the scheme is commissioned. The normal sewerage rate (of about \$614) will apply at the first rates notice following commission; there will be no pro rata charge for the partial year in which commissioning happens.

VALE ELIZABETH MOREY

Elizabeth Morey, or 'Liz' as her many friends knew her with great affection, died at the end of June in her early eighties. She was a frequent visitor to her holiday house in Rosedale Parade.

When at Rosedale, even in recent years, she would begin the day with with an early-morning swim. Her first skiing began with a holiday at Charlotte's Pass in 1949. Until her last year she was a regular cross-country skier at Kosiuszko.

Liz was active in many fields both in her working life and recreational pursuits. Of her many achievements she would only speak if questioned.

She was trained initially as a nurse. In the 1960s she obtained a degree in Economics at the University of Western Australia. This led to a career change and a position with the Treasury in Canberra.

Liz's recreational interests were many. In the outdoors she was an accomplished horse rider, skier, bushwalker and sailor. The last of these led to one of the great adventures of her life. She studied navigation, and then with friends set sail across the Tasman Sea. An extreme wave resulted in shipwreck and rescue.

Her other interests, in which she became thoroughly involved, included bridge, recorder and early music, theatre, reading, cryptic crosswords, folk dancing, wine-growing, and the National Gallery.

Liz maintained good health until her last year when she developed cardiac arrhythmia. She will be greatly missed by the friends of the many and wide associations of her life. Anton Cook

HUMPBACK WHALES

During the cooler months, usually between May and September, you will often catch a glimpse of whales passing by Rosedale. Typically they're moving quickly up and down the coastline, but sometimes they stop and dwell close inshore, perhaps throwing themselves out of the water (breaching), slapping their tails or basking upside down on the surface. Last year, I was lucky enough to watch a mother and calf spend two days resting off Rosedale, moving slowly between McKenzies Beach and Jimmie's Island.

There are over 25 species of whales known to visit the waters off Eastern Australia, but the two most commonly seen, particularly off Rosedale are the Humpback and the Southern Right Whales. The Humpbacks are the most distinctive and energetic of the two species: they are usually the one's seen breaching and have a characteristic white underside. If you're lucky to get close enough, you can often see an array of knobs covering much of the head: these tubercles are actually hair follicles. Adult Humpbacks have been recorded at over 19m long and weighing more than 40,000kg. It is thought that they live for 50-60 years however, a recent study on a closely related species has discovered individuals to be over 200!

Historically, Humpbacks feature heavily in Indigenous lore. The Yuin people (traditional owners of south coast NSW) had an intriguing use for stranded Humpbacks. In Rene Davidson's book "Whalemen of Twofold Bay" there are photographs of the local aboriginals, naked inside

a rotting carcass with only their heads protruding. Evidently they would stay like this for hours: "The heat of decomposition and putrid smelling oils were claimed to cure rheumatism and other maladies."

Unfortunately in more recent history, Humpbacks were hunted to the brink of extinction. When the Whaling Moratorium was introduced in 1966 it was estimated the global population had fallen by 90%. Since then Humpbacks have partially recovered, and there are thought to be approximately 80,000 left worldwide, which is 65% of pre-whaling estimates.

The Humpbacks we spot off Rosedale are part of the Southern Ocean population. These whales spend the summer months feeding in the southern polar waters. One extraordinary hunting technique they use is to create a 'bubble net': this is where several whales will dive around a school of fish or krill encircling them with bubbles. This herds the prey to the surface and makes for an easy target. Humpbacks can consume up to 2500kg of food every day during the feeding season! They need to accumulate enough reserves to carry them through the winter migration, as they don't (or rarely) feed during this time.

During the winter months (when they pass Rosedale) Humpbacks migrate into warmer sub-tropical waters to give birth and to breed. Along the east coast, this is normally around the southern end of the Great Barrier Reef. Females give birth to calves after an 11.5 month gestation period. The calves are approximately 1000kg

ROSEDALE HISTORY PROJECT

At the last AGM, there was some enthusiasm for scanning members' photographs of Rosedale into the History Project site on the web. If you are in a position to do this yourselves, we encourage you to do so. If you need assistance, keep an eye of the web site for information about the help available. Photos may be sent electronically to Rosedale.assoc@gmail.com.

In the meantime, please prepare short notes about each photo you want to include: where and when the photo was taken, the identity any people in the shot (or requests for help in this area if the people are unknown to you), and your own name, phone number and address, which you should write on the back of every photo to prevent confusion.

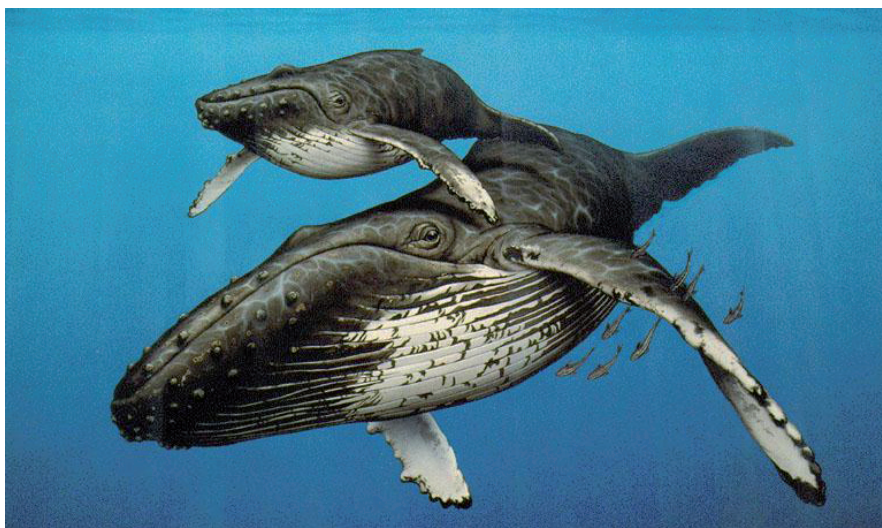
The more of your photos we can include the better!

when born, and are feed on a fat-rich milk for about 6 months. Amazingly, soon after being born the calves will accompany their mothers on the long (up 12,000kms) trek back to the southern ocean, covering about 150km a day.

One of the defining and most stunning attributes of the Humpack whale is its vocalisation. Performed only by males, this 'song' is a complex array of sounds which can last up to 20 minutes in duration, and are often repeated for several hours on end. The purpose of such complex vocalisations is unclear, however, they have been suggested to play a role in mate selection, distant communication, and also in feeding strategies.

Although the cooler months are not the most popular for visits to Rosedale, those who find the frosty morning beach walks invigorating, may be lucky enough to see these whales passing by. And every now and again, much like us, one or two will stop by to relax.

MAX TISCHLER



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

A rather unsavoury incident occurred in Rosedale on the evening of Friday 28th August 2009.

At around 7.30pm it became apparent there was an increasing number of people gathering in Cooks Cres. with vehicles of all sizes and shapes lining virtually the entire road from one end of Cooks Cres to the other. These people were obviously making their way to Smelly or Nuns beach via the access under "The Retreat" and around passing through "Wayushka".

A bonfire was subsequently lit and the very audible tones of a stereo were easily heard along with the inevitable loud voices heralding a party was in progress.

Whilst this did not concern me greatly early on, it became increasingly obvious this particular gathering was growing by the minute with the noise intensity increasing and the fire getting bigger.

At around 9pm the first of 4 Police cars arrived, after numerous calls from Rosedale residents advising them of a party happening on the beach and the large number of people involved, with the possibility of someone being hurt.

I personally spent some time on the beach, in particular watching that the fire was contained as much as possible and attempting to limit the extent in which it could "get away".

For approx 1½ hrs the Police were observing proceedings, about 10.30pm they had decided it was time to move the group from the beach. This in turn only served to move the noise to the street where for almost the next hour alcohol fuelled behaviour including a few fights and scuffles were seen and heard. At least one arrest was made at this point.

At the height of the gathering an estimated 200-250 people were either on the beach, on the tracks or in the street. This was very unsettling for residents and indeed quite frightening for some given the behaviour seen toward the latter part of the evening. One very unfortunate and regrettable part of the whole incident was the fact that "The Retreat" was broken into, windows smashed to gain access to power points with stereos and mattresses removed from the house and taken to the beach. Vandalism of a number of items and assets have also been identified including damaged downpipes and smashed mailbox from "The Retreat", and the destruction of the handrail on the bridge over the creek on the track to the beach. - By the time this newsletter reaches you I hope to have the mailbox and handrail repaired.

From first hand experience, it was not a pleasant situation to be in at the time with a very large group in which

aggression could have easily escalated to higher levels.

A big thank you go to all those involved in cleaning up the beach and environs after the party and help restoring it to a more palatable state rather than the rubbish tip it looked like after the throng had left.

I feel sure the majority of us do not want to see major impromptu party type activities on a large scale as witnessed recently in Rosedale, however it does raise questions including how do we (or can we) as residents restrict objectionable activities within the confines of Rosedale particularly given the fact that roads and beaches are classified as "public space". This would include, how, by whom and under what authority could any restriction take place. I am not sure many of us could feasibly monitor and control a group of this size without extra assistance from the relevant authorities (and even then there would be questions as to how these controls could be administered in any case.)

On a slightly different however somewhat connected note, there seems to have been in the last 12 months or so an increased number of presumably day trippers to Rosedale asking questions and wanting to know how to get to the beach under the house. Whilst I believe the majority are only out for a good day with the family, the word must have been spread regarding the beach and what it can offer. We must understand that access to Smelly or Nuns beach has been graciously provided by both "The Retreat", and "Wayuska", for which we remain extremely grateful, and for which I am sure we would like to see continued. In contrast, it would be a fair to concede that both would be well within their rights to suspend or cancel any access due to the fact all tracks and access to this beach are situated on private property. This is particularly pertinent given recent events.

Some food for thought for future discussion???

Note: The handrail and letter box have since been repaired. Ed.

MICHAEL SKIPPER



MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2010 ARE NOW DUE

If the address label on your newsletter has a red dot your membership subscription for the calendar year 2010 is now due. Subscriptions support the work of your Rosedale Association and are only \$10 per voting member per year.

Please note that you cease to be an Association member if you are unfinancial for two calendar years.

Please include a completed Membership Application, Renewal and Payment Form with your cheque so that we can keep our records fully up to date.

Subscriptions should be sent to:

The Treasurer
The Rosedale Association
PO Box 4134
Manuka ACT 2603

Subscriptions may also be paid by bank deposit. Please see the article Payments by Bank Deposit [elsewhere in this Newsletter] or go to the Membership page on the website.

Please use the Payment by Bank Deposit form on the Rosedale Association Inc website. For this see the Membership page at <http://www.netspeed.com.au/rosedale>.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION, RENEWAL AND PAYMENT FORM

You may use this form to apply for membership, to renew your membership, to make a Landcare fund donation, or to advise a change to your membership details.

The annual membership subscription is \$10 per voting member and subscriptions become due on 1st January each year. Payments may be by cheque.

Application type (Please tick one)

- Membership application
- Membership renewal/Landcare donation
- Change of membership details

Voting members

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____

Name and address for mailing

Rosedale address

Telephone numbers

----- (h) ----- (fax)
----- (w) ----- (m)

Rosedale telephone number

Email addresses (please print carefully)

1 _____
2 _____

Weed notices (Please tick one)

Would you like advice on noxious weeds on your property?
 Yes
 No

PAYMENTS

| | |
|--|----------|
| Membership subscription for _____ voting member(s) for the calendar year _____ | \$ _____ |
| Landcare fund donation (optional) | \$ _____ |
| Total | \$ _____ |

COMMENTS/ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

AN ENCOUNTER IN ROSEDALE BAY

I thought it might be useful to share my recent experience with the local NSW Maritime Inspector when he paid a visit while I was fishing from a "tinnie" in Rosedale Bay. The inspector spotted my companion Harry and me fishing roughly on a line drawn from Pretty Point to Jimmy's Island. He pulled alongside in his boat clearly marked Maritime NSW, powered by 2 x 125 hp outboard motors (cf my 6 hp), dressed neatly in an easily distinguishable uniform and proceeded to conduct himself in a very pleasant manner.

First question was "who is the skipper", which I found a rather flattering manner of address to the driver of a Rosedale tinnie, launched from the beach. He pointed out we were more than 200 metres from the sand beach and therefore required to have certain things in order, particularly in respect of safety requirements such as V sheet, life jackets, drinking water, flares, compass, torch etc

Fortunately I was able to show that these matters were generally at hand although the flares were out of date and the torch missing. He acknowledged that I had made a concerted effort to meet the boating requirements mandated by Maritime NSW. Thankfully, he suggested that he might address my deficiencies in a "letter of warning" rather than by way of the imposition of on the spot fines. The fines are not insignificant

as they could be a minimum of \$100 for each failure to meet a specified requirement.

Although my boat is registered, the registration sticker was not attached to the port side of the boat as I have never been able to get it to adhere. He suggested cleaning the surface with methylated spirit or mineral turpentine which would achieve the desired result.

My advice to fellow fisherman is that you check the Maritime handbook (on the web or available in hard copy from Batemans Bay office) and ensure that you meet the requirements of Maritime NSW when next you go fishing. If apprehended, I suggest you do not argue or complain about the fishing, as it may cost you more than the value of your tinnie. Good fishing

DARREN GRIBBLE

FIRES ON THE BEACH

Regrettably, the last Newsletter gave an incorrect phone number for members to call in case of fires on the beach. To summarise the situation, members are reminded that Council prohibits the lighting of fires on the beach or on Council controlled land throughout the shire. Rosedale has already witnessed the danger of such fires with serious injury resulting to a young girl.

If you see a fire on the beach, or preparations being made for one, you are urged to call, firstly, the police who will deal with the matter, and secondly Council rangers who will visit the site and check for damage that might need remediating. The fire



might, for example, be incompletely doused: sand will not do the job as the fire might well continue to smoulder for quite some time.

Inside normal Council hours, ring 4474 1000 and ask for the rangers. Outside normal hours, call 1800 755 760 and details will be placed on a list for the attention of the rangers.

On the subject of fires, now is the time to clean up around your property. Good advice can be found by putting Rural Fire Service NSW into Google.

If undeliverable please return to:
The Rosedale Association Inc.
PO Box 4134
MANUKA ACT 2603

The Rosedale Association Inc Newsletter
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