

THE Rosedale ASSOCIATION INC



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2017 AGM SUMMARY

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR MARGOT MARSHALL

When preparing this newsletter I was struck again by how much our kids and grandkids adore Rosedale - they turned out in droves at Easter to plant out the dunes, loved the sausage sizzle and were intrigued by the beach safety demos (especially the unexpected rescue, p 3). Here's to a fabulous and safe summer for them all on the beach!

On that note, a word of caution. We've had two known dog attacks on the beach this year, scary and nasty for all involved. Please check out the signs at the beach entrances and respect the times and leash rules. Council tells us that rangers will be patrolling, so be warned!

On a sad note, long-time and much-loved Rosedale resident Deirdre Prussak passed away in May this year - see our tribute on p 3.

We all have sewerage at last - no more exiling visitors to outside cold showers this Christmas! A reminder that we are expected to fully decommission old tanks to minimise public health and environmental risks. Council will be inspecting in the new year - see [HERE](#) for what to do. Maybe turn your old tank into water storage (see p 5).

Thanks to everyone for photos - especially Roz Clarke-Walker.

Happy Christmas!



**ROSEDALE
ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE**

[committee@
rosedale.org.au](mailto:committee@rosedale.org.au)

President
David Boardman

Secretary
Vicki Smith

Treasurer
Noel Egan

Members
Tim Brown
Melissa Gribble
Daniel Long
Margot Marshall
Robin Oldham
Dugald Stewart
Peter Ward

Please pass this newsletter on to your friends and neighbours – we'd be delighted to have more members.

Application form is at <http://www.rosedale.org.au/membership.html> - and it's only \$10 a year.

SAFER BEACH ACCESS

Following your endorsement at the Easter AGM, the Rosedale Association Committee has continued to press Eurobodalla Council for progress on the Yowani stairs project and for steps from the viewing platform to Nuns Beach. Council is making another submission to the Fishing Recreation Trust for the Yowani stairs, with a supporting letter from us, but we have also asked them to fund the Yowani stairs directly from their public works budget and to add it to their works program. As agreed at the AGM, we have confirmed Association member support for both projects, including willingness to make a financial contribution, but we will not specify an amount until members have voted.

DEVELOPMENTS TO THE WEST

The owners of Rosedale Farm have advised

that in 2018 they'll begin constructing the access road through their property and Bevia Park. This road will intersect with George Bass Drive in the south just above the sewerage works and in the north opposite Rosedale Parade. It will involve the construction of a roundabout at that intersection, so that vehicles travel at reduced speed as they enter Rosedale.

TRAFFIC SURVEY

Council has surveyed traffic volume and speeds on Rosedale Parade and will report back to us. They have also agreed to inspect blind spots at Miller Avenue and Tallwood Crescent. In the past they have undertaken some clearing of the verge on the Miller Avenue hairpin. Their aim is to improve safety for both vehicles and pedestrians.



DRAFT RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE STRATEGY 2017

Earlier this year Council engaged consultants to advise on the shire's future needs for recreation and open space. See the draft strategy [HERE](#). We were disappointed that the draft strategy makes no mention of our safe beach access projects, let alone allocating a high priority to them. Yet it makes significant findings that support our needs:

- It identifies the benefits of open space to personal health, to communities, to the environment and the economy. Safe accessibility is fundamental to achieving these benefits for residents and visitors.
- Residents completing a community survey in the Northern precinct (of which Rosedale is a part) value the natural setting of the area and how they can interact with the natural environment.
- Respondents identify bushwalking, swimming and walking as the most popular activities. The strategy

recommends that Council focus its resources on upgrading the facilities that support these activities.

- New and/or upgraded walking paths are highlighted by survey respondents as an open space priority for the next 10 years.
- Our community is ageing - by 2036, more than one-third of residents will be aged over 65 compared with one-quarter in 2016, making safe access increasingly important.

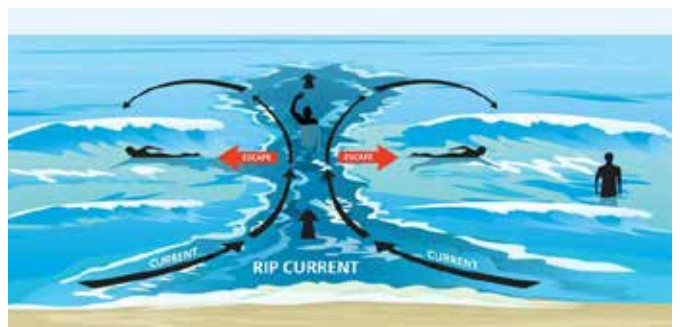
On behalf of the Association we lodged a submission calling for the strategy to be amended to make our access path projects in Rosedale a high priority. (See the Rosedale Association website). We urged them to provide safer walking and access to recreational spaces within Rosedale, and enhanced environmental protection of the Yowani and Nuns Beach bushland reserves.



We had a great rip safety demo on Easter Sunday, with more than 100 people gathered on Rosedale beach. Anthony Bellette and his team from Batemans Bay Surf Life Saving Club inserted green dye into the rip – you can see it clearly in the drone picture above. Take a look too at the drone video on our Rosedale Facebook or our website [HERE](#).

It was lucky the team were there – a local teenager got caught in the rip and we all watched the unexpected drama as the lifesavers sped off to rescue him. Quick-acting locals have rescued many people from Rosedale rips in the past few years. (See our March 2016 newsletter). Here again (right) is the diagram showing how to survive a rip. Experienced lifesaver Tim Brown gave a demo of our new defibrillator.

Remember, the defibrillator, a first aid kit and a rescue tube are located on the western wall of the log cabins and there are two Angel Rings (life buoys) on the beach.



If you see someone in trouble in the water, call 000 and ask for Police for a coordinated rescue.



Deidre and Anna Russell

FAREWELL DEIDRE PRUSSAK

Deidre was a colourful, much loved and active member of the Rosedale community. She was generous and hospitable and instinctively involved in everything that was good in Rosedale and the broader community.

Deidre volunteered her time over many years to support the Rosedale Association, including as Treasurer, Fire Officer and Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator, and helped with the annual Sausage Sizzle. Fellow Committee members said that Deidre never left them in any doubt about what position she held on any issue. When Deidre spoke, they listened! She was knowledgeable about local affairs and had her 'ear to the ground', so her contribution was highly valued.

Deidre first came to Rosedale in 1942. She described her holidays at Swanee Lodge in Knowlman Road as the "happiest ever".

She went onto purchase the property in 1982 and moved permanently to Rosedale in 1990, following a varied and highly successful career. She continued to write her weekly health and beauty column for a national magazine and regularly travelled to Sydney to record her segment on the 'til Ten' show.

In 1998 famous Concert Comedienne Anna Russell, who had been like a mother to Deidre, formally adopted her. Anna later moved from Canada to live with Deidre in 2004 and Deidre cared for her at Swanee Lodge until she died in 2006.

Deidre passed away on 5 May 2017 at home, surrounded by all her beautiful keepsakes and memories, and with her beloved pets beside her. Her friendship and sense of community ran deep and she will long be remembered for this by her many friends within and around Rosedale.

SHARKS OFF ROSEDALE? PETER WARD



Shark attacks attract enormous publicity in Australia, but at Rosedale you're much more likely to be caught in a rip than attacked by a shark. And of the hundreds of different shark species living in the oceans, only a handful are known to attack humans.

So what types of sharks live in Rosedale waters?

Not the adult great whites, which grow to enormous size—at six metres and over two tonnes, they are bigger than a family station wagon. Those large adults are encountered off SA, WA, northern NSW and southern QLD. Some may follow the annual migration of humpback whales, but great whites don't seem to feed off our beaches. Young great whites of two or three metres are believed to be more common in coastal waters off the far south coast.

Short-finned mako - a very fast and aggressive version of a great white - are an oceanic species that don't usually venture into shallow coastal waters. Tiger shark sightings are extremely rare in these waters too. However tigers three to four metres long are caught by anglers at great depths (500 metres) off the far south coast in early winter and a couple of four metre tigers were seen attacking a whale washed up on South Broulee rocks in 2015. And while smaller but ferocious bull sharks do favour shallow coastal waters, Wollongong is their 'official' southern distribution limit. Their appearance in our area might increase with warm water temperatures.

Occasionally in early summer, large numbers of hammerhead sharks are seen just beyond the breakers at several south coast beaches. Luckily these sharks are pupping and unlikely to attack. Bottom-dwelling wobbegong are more common. They grow to over three metres and will bite divers if cornered or swimmers who happen to step on one. However, the wobbegong's blunt teeth will do you little damage. The paddleboarder bitten on the ankle (presumably by a wobbegong) at Mackenzies in 2015 apparently drove himself off to hospital!

Although appearing fearsome, the critically endangered grey nurse sharks are quite harmless. Montague Island and the Tollgate Islands off Batemans Bay have been declared marine sanctuaries to protect the grey nurse.

Bronze whalers are the most commonly encountered shark in our area. Local surfers occasionally report being buzzed by aggressive bronze whalers at reef breaks, such as Pink Rocks (Broulee Island). Fortunately, bronze whalers larger than two metres are uncommon and attacks are rare. Sadly, a lady was taken by an exceptionally large bronze whaler during a regular swim off Tathra in 2014. Apart from that, there hasn't been a verified fatal attack by a shark on the far south coast for well over 50 years.





ROSEDALE'S COMMUNITY PROTECTION PLAN (CPP)

Recently, David Boardman and I met with Dominique Toldi, NSW Rural Fire Service Community Protection Planning Officer, to begin updating Rosedale's CPP - our bushfire awareness and preparation programs. Dominique spent time around Rosedale becoming more familiar with the area, with the help of some of local RFS district officers and residents.

The renewing of a CPP can be quite a long process, which aims to engage all stakeholders so the whole community is safer. This ball is now in motion and we expect to see a revised version in coming months which will be circulated within the Association and also placed on the carpark noticeboard.

A mere 13 days into the official fire season, Rosedale had a bushfire scare with a fire on Dunns Creek Rd to our northeast. The fire burned for three days and the main front came within 3,000 metres of us. There were also ember attacks much closer with one at the quarry between Rosedale and Mackenzie's beach.

The weather conditions did not signal fire danger - the temperature was mild at best, it was only early September and whilst we had not had any large falls of rain it did not seem to be overly dry.

Nevertheless a fire started in difficult terrain and grew quickly once a strong westerly wind took hold late in the first day.

RFS brigades from Malua, Broulee, Batemans Bay and Moruya among others fought the fire – our thanks to all those who helped control the blaze.

The Dunns Creek Fire was on top of an incident a few days earlier. A small fire was reported in Annie's Lane, North Rosedale at around 8pm and controlled quickly by the Malua Bay RFS. The ignition source appeared to have been dumped and discarded ash and coals from a residential wood heater – a careless misjudgement, hopefully not deliberate.

This is the first time in years where fires have been on our back doorstep. Despite the recent downfalls, it will only take a few days of 30 plus to dry out the understorey fine fuel again, particularly dry gum leaves that seem to be dropping in increased quantities.

So it's important for all of us to remain vigilant and to remove any fire source from around the house block so that we can remain safer from any fire risk.

STATIC WATER SUPPLY (SWS) – WHAT AND WHERE ARE THEY?

For some years Council has required many homebuilders and renovators to install static water supply – dedicated water tanks, repurposed sewerage tanks or 'Storz' type fittings to their pools – to allow the RFS access to enough water in bushfire prone areas.

I was surprised to find that Council says they have no benefit in keeping a database of who has static water supply units, their location and their capacity. As many of us have

been required to install these SWS systems (at considerable expense), we will now need to develop a database ourselves that is relevant, up to date, and able to be accessed by the RFS if needed.

The Rosedale Association will soon begin collating information from residents and see if we can obtain the SWS signs to place on the property boundary. Your old septic tank may be repurposed and be a great water source for firefighters when the mains don't have enough water to fight a fire.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS
To report a fire
000
ABC local radio
103.5 FM

KIDS plant out

Grandparents, parents and loads of kids rocked up on Easter Saturday to plant more than 200 grasses, pigface, saltbush and other native species on the sand dunes affected by last year's big storms. The kids had a ball! Digging holes in the sand, squirting hydrating gel in the hole and planting natives, all in record time. It was food for thought for lots of news reports back in the classroom after Easter – and hopefully spawned a new generation of environmentalists!

One of Landcare's most inspired community events – thanks to Daniel Long and Rosedale's Landcare and Emma, Heidi and the Council crew for helping and providing the plants – and to those who did the less exciting job of pruning and weeding the car park. The planting will help protect the dunes against the next inevitable storms.



The sand dunes





To read the full AGM minutes, click [HERE](#) or go to www.rosedale.org.au and click on documents. Here's a summary of the meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

David Boardman advised that sewerage installations were progressing well and that plans were underway to commence the main sewer line through Rosedale farm and Bevan Park, which indicated some movement on part sub-division and an increased likelihood of a roundabout at the end of Rosedale Parade. He circulated Council's draft plans for the Yowani road steps project for discussion later in the meeting. On Nuns Beach access, David advised that Fiona Lodge, with Council assistance, had completed a wheelchair path and viewing platform at the southern headland, saying we could look at how best to connect to this path from Cooks Crescent and improve beach access down the cliff.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Members were asked to complete the membership form and be clear on how they wanted their money distributed between RAI and RL. In response to a question about why insurance was still being paid for RL, since it now came under Eurobodalla Landcare, it was agreed the Committee should consider the issue.

LANDCARE

Council funding for Rosedale projects, included a three year commitment

to maintain Banksia Flat and a weed control project on the cliff leading down to Boatshed Beach. Council had also responded positively to a request for planting of endemic species to screen the sewerage pump station; the Green Army would reinstate the dune fencing damaged by storms last year; and Council would do a sand fill to repair the lower stairs at the southern end of the beach.

FIRE REPORT

A hazard assessment reduction program would continue in Rosedale and Malua Bay Rural Fire Service (RFS) had worked with Ledonne to remark all watering and hydrant points on Rosedale roads.

BEACH SAFETY

It was confirmed that a defibrillator, first aid kit and rescue tube had been installed on the log cabin's western wall.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

10 nominations were received for the 10 Committee positions, so a ballot was not necessary. The elected RAI Committee for 2017 is as listed on page 1.

YOWANI ROAD STEP PROJECT

David Boardman explained that certain standards had to be met and Council would not consider cheaper options that they would need to maintain. The project was recognised as a joint RAI and RL project. Discussion on the cost of the project, and the priority of the project over steps to Nuns Beach followed, with

David Boardman saying the Committee felt that both projects could be pursued. At this stage, he said it was up to members to say whether they wanted that type of structure at the end of Yowani Road. Members voted confirming their agreement to it. Members also voted in favour of the Committee advising Council of the community's in principle commitment to contribute funds to the Yowani Road stair project, without specifying an amount.

David Boardman reiterated that access to Nuns Beach had to be through public land, with possible track access via the corner of Miller Avenue and Cooks Crescent. Maps showing the narrow strips of public land behind Cooks Crescent were distributed to the meeting. He said that Fiona Lodge also wanted access to the beach. He said his intention was to continue to pursue Council and Fiona Lodge to improve beach access and asked whether members wanted steps down the cliff. Members voted in favour of the Committee pursuing options to access Nuns Beach via public land, including steps down the cliff.

OTHER BUSINESS

Traffic issues were discussed, with the Committee undertaking to seek Council advice and to establish if extra garbage collections were possible during school holidays.



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