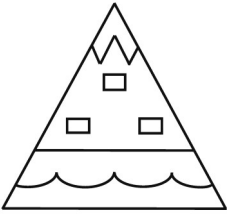


KOOLEWONG AND POINT CLARE-TASCOTT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.

INCLUDING WEST GOSFORD SOUTH OF THE CENTRAL COAST HIGHWAY



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NUMBER 34 OCTOBER 2014

Presidents Report October 2014

Dear residents

I know there have been some recent arrivals in the area and I welcome **new residents** to our small and beautiful part of the Central Coast. The committee and members have been working steadily this year to represent your interests as local residents to all levels of government and agencies. It has been encouraging to see a number of new faces turning up to our public meetings recently, we welcome your involvement in the Progress Association and our community. So far this year we have had a guest speaker at every meeting, with lots of helpful information keeping us all informed on issues that affect our area. If you have been hesitant in attending our meetings, I would encourage you to come along to our very friendly open meetings and get to know other active people in your community and learn about local issues, or raise your own issue.

Our **Treasurer**, John Rossi, who I might add has done an outstanding job so far, has given notice he will not be nominating again in the coming year. This very important executive position will need to be filled. This is a great way to get involved in the local community if you are able to perform this role.

Unfortunately, we had some very serious **road accidents** recently in Point Clare and Tascott. I believe we need to have conversations about safe driving, taking care and slowing down around school zones and also when approaching buses that are dropping off children. Young children have not yet developed their perception to judge traffic and speed, therefore drivers really need to be extra cautious around school buses, crossings, traffic islands and schools where young children cross.

The committee recently made a submission to the parliamentary inquiry into the **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)**. Thank you to Fred Beringer for his contribution to this submission. Although the submissions have now closed, I would still encourage residents who are affected by freight train noise or coal dust, report it to the **Rail Greenline** 1300 656 999,

the **EPA** 131 555 and the **Environline** 1300 550 402. You can also contact your local state representative, Mr Chris Holstein MP on (02) 4342 4122.

We are also making a submission to Gosford Council regarding the draft **Brisbane Water Foreshore Floodplain Risk Management Study** which will be of interest to

most residents in our area. We are extremely lucky that local resident Gary Slack took a great deal of interest in this study and has been involved as our community representative. Information is available on the Gosford City Council website and also from Gary. <http://haveyoursaygosford.com.au/brisbane-water-foreshore-floodplain-risk-management>

All of the submissions made by the committee are available on our website <http://www.kpctpa.com/>

Thanks to Jon Fearon for his continuing weeding work on Goodaywang Reserve. Anyone interested in helping keep **Goodaywang Reserve** looking healthy, please contact Jon.

Do you know a sculptor? We are looking for a sculptor for a bust of Bungaree and hope to have it mounted in **Bungaree Reserve**. Please contact me if you are able to help with this.

Kind regards

Rendall Wagner



MISSION STATEMENT

The Koolewong and Point Clare-Tascott Progress Association Inc. is a non-profit organisation dedicated to improving quality of life, sense of community and pride in our urban environment.

The coverage area is from the Central Coast Highway, West Gosford, south to the Woy Woy Bridge. This incorporates parts of West Gosford and the suburbs of Point Clare, Tascott, Koolewong and Parks Bay.

The Association aims to provide resources for special events and activities that promote community involvement, appreciation of heritage, diversity, education and safety, small business opportunities and effective communication.

Music Tuition

I am a *qualified and accredited* music teacher (BMus/BTeach) taking on students who wish to learn to play **guitar, ukulele or piano**.

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SENATOR DEB O'NEILL REPORTS ON BUNGAREE RESERVE OPENING

I would like to place on the record information about an historic event that happened on the [Central Coast](#) late last year. When I indicated to the people who were in attendance that I thought it was of such importance that I wanted to record it in *Hansard* they were overwhelmed at the opportunity to have their names recorded in association with it, the naming of the Bungaree Reserve on the shores of Fagans Bay near Gosford on the Central Coast of [New South Wales](#).

It may not be widely known to members in this place, but Bungaree was originally a Kuring-gai man whose tribal ancestors lived and descendants today live on the shore of what is now called [Brisbane Water](#). The official naming of the Bungaree Reserve is a very proud initiative of the Koolewong, [Point Clare](#) and Tascott Progress Association. They had a vision for acknowledging Bungaree in a particular way. Over three years, working with his descendants, they were able to realise that vision. The naming of Bungaree Reserve was achieved through the work of [Gosford City Council](#) in concert with the Progress Association and the Geographical Names Board of New South Wales, which supported the naming of Bungaree Reserve.

In attendance, I am very proud to say, was the first female Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the [New South Wales Parliament](#) from the [First Peoples](#), the Hon. [Linda Burney](#), who made some extremely engaging remarks on the day. I acknowledge her presence and her contribution to the event. It is essentially from her work in preparation for the event that I am able to record just a little bit about Bungaree. Apart from being born on the Central Coast in his homeland of the Kuring-gai people, we know that he left and headed down to Sydney. He was there with the first settlers. He was very prominent and, as Linda Burney indicated, his prominence afforded the description of his happy disposition, his intelligence, even his height and good looks. It is appropriate in this visual age that even back then those qualities were admired far and wide. Indeed, he is described as being a diplomat and a mariner. That is very appropriate, considering that we have that wonderful team the Mariners as the Central Coast's spearhead in our attack on the A-League across the country.

Bungaree's very significant claim to fame in the post-settlement period was that he accompanied [Matthew Flinders](#) aboard the *Investigator*, in 1801 and 1802. In doing so he became the first [Indigenous Australian](#) in the modern era to circumnavigate Australia. He was a very skilled spear fisherman and it seems from the records that Flinders was rather dependent upon Bungaree's spear-fishing skills. Flinders wrote in his journal that Bungaree 'is tolerably well acquainted with the country as far as [Port Stephens](#).' We know that many of the words of the Eora people—Kuring-gai words—such as woomera, have entered into [Australian English](#) through conversation with Bungaree.

History records that Bungaree was king plated by Gover-

nor Lachlan Macquarie 1815, earning the honorific 'Bungaree, Chief of the Broken Bay Tribe', or the 'King of [Port Jackson](#)'. We do not know what Bungaree thought of this dubious honour, but there is a plate picture of him, which inspired some of the local art that was on display on the day by students from the local primary school, Point Clare Public School, which is thriving under the brilliant leadership of a former member for Wyong, great Labor man [David Harris](#), who deeply understands the connection between school and community. This is another way for young Australians to learn about the history of the First Peoples and about the context of place. When we acknowledge and honour our First Peoples every time we speak in public our young people better understand their connection to this place too. The artworks they created were absolutely brilliant. One class displayed a beautiful diorama of their version of events and the naming of Bungaree Reserve. But the winner on the afternoon was a collective effort by four young students who created an installation, using natural fibres, of a boat, replete with a small crew on board. It was a beautiful piece of work.

I would like to acknowledge the work of Rendall Wagner and his wife Deidre Howard-Wagner in their leadership of this event. They did an amazing job. I thought that Ren's words were worth recording here today. I quote from him to describe what he felt was happening: 'It symbolises mutual recognition and respect of the land and its history, and acknowledgement of the rights of Aboriginal people as the first peoples and custodians of the land and waters. Before the arrival of the British colonial settlers, Brisbane Water was the home of the coastal Kuring-gai people. Aboriginal sites in the Gosford local government area, including the reserves behind the houses of Koolewong, Point Clare and Tascott indicate that there has been a rich and significant area for the Aboriginal community and a site of cultural development for tens of thousands of years.' He spoke of it as an act of recognition and respect. I thought that was very powerful because that is exactly what happened.

Today I want to read into *Hansard* the names of the people who want to be associated with this event, because they were there when we made history on the Central Coast: Tracey and Kyle Howie, descendants of Bungaree, along with further descendants Trudy, Marc, Reta, Robert and [Joe Smith](#); Laurie Bimson; Neil, Nathan and Anthony Evers; Brett, Todd and Gai Rowlings; Sue and Hanah Shilcock; Lynette Robley; Aylene and Jake Rumble; Tony and [Alison Tyler](#); Elva Redmond; Grahame Redmond; and Matthew Shilcock.

It was indeed a wonderful event. I will close my remarks on that matter with those of Linda Burney, who said: 'Bungaree was the most discussed Aboriginal person of the early 19th century, yet for too long no place has honoured Bungaree. Bungaree was a man of intelligence, warmth and laughter, a man with a unique place as a witness at the meeting of two worlds. It is fitting that this place be named in Bungaree's honour. It is fitting that we again tell his story.' I was very pleased to be a part of that event on the Central Coast.

Hansard, SENATE DEBATES, 09.12.13

NBN ROLLOUT: July Meeting Report from Lucy Wicks, MP for Robertson

Mrs Wicks began her talk with appreciative comments about the Association and its work, and explained that she grew up in Wendy Drive Point Clare and still loves the local area she knows so well.

As to NBN, she indicated that the roll-out to 2800 premises in our area is being expedited and that Fibre-to-the-Premises will be the local option. She acknowledged the strength of community support for the latter, having heard from those who attended the morning tea at Tascott some months ago.

She said the challenges met by the early roll-out in the Gosford-East Gosford-Springfield areas have been largely overcome and should not be an issue here. When asked about timing of the introduction she said that 12 months from "build commenced" could generally be assumed. In our area the start has been listed as April 2014, and that work is now progressing to schedule.

Lucy explained that the "mixed technology" option is being trialled



NBN in action at street level

at Umina and elsewhere and has achieved upload speeds averaging 40 to 45 megabits per second and will be 25 times faster than what is available through current technologies.

A question was asked as to whether the copper remaining in the fibre-to-the-node system could be replaced over time. Lucy said the technology allowed for this. One questioner was concerned that the change to NBN would result in two accounts, one for the land-line and one for the NBN. This would not happen, said Lucy, as a commercial deal had been struck between NBN, Telstra and other providers.

After advising her listeners to contact Tim at the local Robertson office for detailed and technological information about the roll-out, Lucy concluded with statements and responses to questions about other Federal government initiatives.

COMPLETING THE JIGSAW.

We have been advised that Phase two of the rollout will progress from the Koolewong end to West Gosford.

Amazing machinery has been seen snaking, tunnelling and digging to make way for different sizes of cable.

Gradually all components will be in place for home connections.



Feeding cable in

GLENROCK PARADE REALIGNMENT

For many years the Association has been concerned and have been lobbying Council about the narrow and dangerous corner on Glenrock Parade at the Nimala Ave steps. Work began some time ago to widen the road at the corner and provide pedestrian access from Havendale Close to Berala Ave. It has been a long job and seems very close to completion with major walls installed to house the new footpath along with kerbing and guttering and to improve vehicle access to properties where required. Considering the difficult terrain, the construction team is to be commended for its work and while the new path has its ups and downs it will certainly provide much needed safety for its users.

Thank you Gosford City Council and the Roads to Recovery Scheme.



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BRIDGE TO NOWHERE?

Train travellers will be familiar with the cabinets on railway stations that house small bridges for the guards to use while wheelchair and walker users 'mind the gap'!

Life for the disabled becomes easier with each new innovation, but alas, NOT SO AT POINT CLARE STATION.

Each platform has a bridge cabinet, but woe betide any wheelchair driver who seeks safe passage from platform to ground level. On the west is a long flight of stairs, on the east a long ramp with two stairs at the top!

Please, Sydney Trains, install user friendly ramps to both platforms as a matter of urgency. Your disabled 'customers' should not have to wait a life time for lifts that may never be funded into fruition.

Footnote:- Along the line, Tascott station does have ramps, but to get from one platform to the other, four flights of stairs have to be negotiated. A local resident in a letter to the newspaper sums it up as a challenge for a pram, an impossible manoeuvre for a wheelchair!

SHORT NOTES

We are still urging Council to re-open the promised **stairs link** into Couche Park from adjoining Couche Crescent at Koolewong. We have been told that funds will be provided this year.

No word yet on the provision of a **safe footpath** for pedestrians along **Brisbane Water Drive** from Lorraine Avenue to Koolinga Avenue at Point Clare. Our continuing petitions and submissions remain, as yet, unheeded but we will not be giving up.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2014—2015

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BUSH CARE AT GOODAYWANG

Our own special area of bush, at the northern end of Kurrawa Avenue at Point Clare, needs **your help**.

Do join us each Wednesday morning, from 8am to 11 am, when you will be taught by experienced conservationists how to remove **invasive weeds** that threaten to undo all the work we have done there over the years in bush regeneration.

We are currently targeting asparagus fern, crofton weed, bridal creeper, lantana and polygala, as well as removing spring grasses that engulf the young natives planted by the local school children.

Council provides gloves and equipment and you can choose the best activity suited to your own physical ability. **See you there!**

BUNGAREE WITH TRIM

It was nice to see Bungaree taking his rightful place alongside his skipper at the recently unveiled 'bronze' by artist Ashley Taylor.

The occasion was the naval memorial ceremony held outside the State Library to commemorate the bicentenary of the death of Matthew Flinders.

The artwork is yet to find a permanent indoor resting place.



FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

7.30 pm at Point Clare Hall

Thursday 13th November: Danielle Coleman of the Nature Conservation Council NSW.



Thursday 11th December: Christmas Barbecue at 6.30 pm, followed by our informal annual history meeting. Our member Ken Goodworth will present his Pictorial Reflections on old Point Clare.

