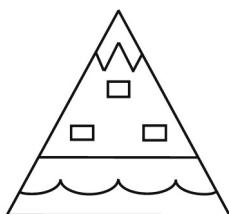


KOOLEWONG AND POINT CLARE-TASCOTT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.



INCLUDING WEST GOSFORD SOUTH OF THE CENTRAL COAST HIGHWAY

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NUMBER 35 APRIL 2015

President's Report April 2015

The committee has been working steadily in these past twelve months for our local community, widening our community partnerships, continuing representations to government agencies and politicians on important local issues. This year was busy for our area, with the West Gosford interchange upgrade and the numerous achievements outlined below undertaken by our committee and members.

Achievements

Point Clare Heritage Trail Proposal.

Continuing to advocate to State Government departments for residents re Freight Train Noise and coal dust.

Facebook presence and information continuing to grow.

Representations to Gosford City Council re Glenrock Parade upgrades.

Representations to Gosford City Council re Couche Park pathway/steps.

Representations to Gosford City Council re kerb & guttering.

Representation of association with Hall renovation meetings.

Representations to Gosford City Council re Goodaywang weed control.

Representations made to RailCorp re disabled access.

Representations to Gosford City Council re skateboard and BMX track.

Advising residents of NBN progress.

Submission made to Parliamentary Enquiry on EPA.

Submission made to Brisbane Water Foreshore Floodplain Risk Management Study

Representation on the Gosford Neighbourhood Watch Committee.

Submission to EPA re railways system activities.

Letter to NSW Government opposing CSG activities.

Representations to Gosford City Council & Chris Holstein MP re Point Clare footpath.

Produced 9000 newsletters.

Guest Speakers

We had a year full of guest speakers and they were all interesting and informative for our community.

Detective Senior Sergeant Vivienne Crawford – 8 May 2014, Brisbane Water LAC.

Lucy Wicks MP – 10 July 2014, Federal Member.

Gary Slack – 11 Sep 2014, BW Floodplain Risk Management Study.

Danielle Coleman – 13 Nov 2014, Nature Conservation Council of N.S.W

Ken Goodworth – 11 Dec 2014, Old Point Clare.

In Closing

We farewelled our assistant secretary and her family, Lisa Hagarty this year. Lisa's presence and professionalism will be missed.

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to the many new members we have gained in the association this year. I hope you find being a member of such a dynamic community organisation rewarding and paraphrasing JFK, ask not what your community can do for you, but what you can do for your community. Together, we can make a difference and make our community one of goodwill, friendship and a nice place to live. I think the Progress Association isn't just about improving our amenity, but also about building lasting relationships and connections in our community, and I think that is just as important to our general well-being and happiness.



Thank you to our outgoing treasurer, John Rossi for keeping the books for the past year and welcome to new member and treasurer, Brooke Stanford. I also extend a warm welcome to new and continuing members of our committee. I look forward to working with you all for the future well-being of our beautiful community.

Rendall Wagner

Annual General Meeting: 12 March 2015

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.

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WAR SERVICE NURSE REMEMBERED

Sister Mary Katherine Curtain, of the Australian Army Nursing Service, is buried at Point Clare Cemetery and because of this the Association has decided to honour her in this our Anzac issue.

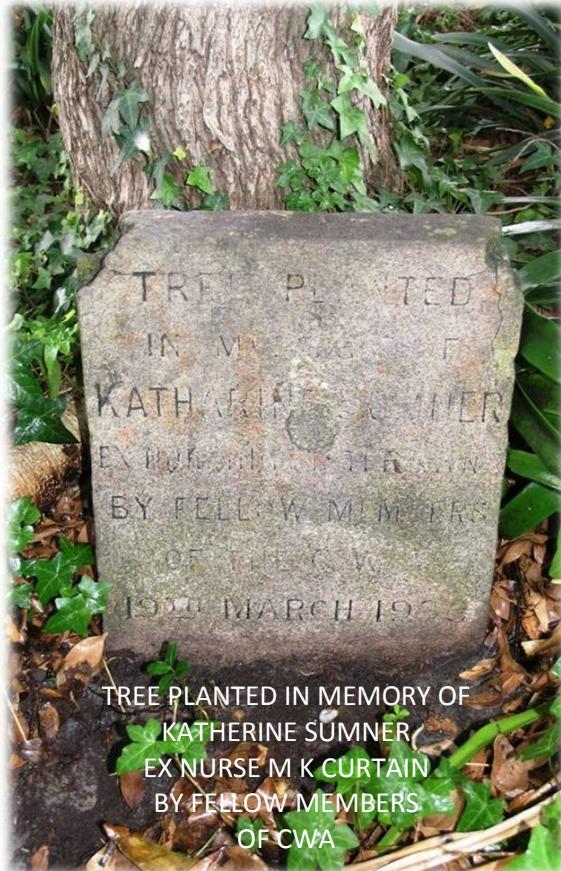
Born in 1876, Kate was one of three daughters of David and Maria Curtain of **Elderslie, Tasmania**, who joined the AANS for voluntary war service. The *Zeehan Herald*, 21.01.1921 commented that she was 'one of a large family which has rendered quite remarkable war services in various spheres of activity.'

Formerly a member of staff of Queenstown District Hospital and subsequently matron at Campbell Town Hospital, she enlisted on 5th May 1915 and served in **Egypt, France and England** for a period of 2 years. In France she was attached to the No 26 Ambulance Train.

After returning to Tasmania on the *Nestor* in 1917 she was at the Hobart Base Hospital for a considerable period. Throughout 1921 she was again on active service, this time at the Naval and Military Hospital at Namanula, Rabaul, **New Guinea**.

At the time of this appointment the *Herald* described her as having 'not only an exceptional qualification as a nurse, but also a splendid administrator and a very fine woman into the bargain.'

Nurse Kate Curtain later married **Ronald Sumner** and they lived at Terri-gal. She died on 3rd November 1932, and is remembered with a **headstone** at Point Clare, RC section 1, row 5, plot 4. A eucalypt was planted at the **Gosford Memorial Park** in 1936 to honour Kate for her role as a nurse during WW1.



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CEMETERY CENTENARY THIS YEAR

Point Clare Cemetery is a real gem in our midst, a place of quiet contemplation and the final resting place of over 10 000 former residents of Gosford.

The first burial, of 21 year old Cecil William Morris, took place on 6 August 2015, so this year marks the **centenary**. We have asked Gosford Council if there are plans under way to commemorate the centenary. If so, the Association would be keen to be involved and hopes our community would be as well.



Headstone at Point Clare Cemetery after cleaning

POPPY MAKING FOR THE ANZAC BICENTENARY

Many of our residents will have seen, heard and perhaps heeded the Council's call for volunteers to make poppies for their landmark project, a commemorative Anzac display, a field of handmade poppies at Rotary Park Gosford to coincide with 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli landings in 1915, and as a symbol of community unity and to show our gratitude to all those who made sacrifices during WW1

Pictured here at Point Clare Hall is our Association's contribution to the cause, a



happy band who spent a recent morning craftily cutting, twisting and forming the poppies into the required shape.

'The poppy was selected as a symbol of remembrance, loss and hope stemming from its traditional association with the battlefields of Gallipoli, France and Belgium. The Flanders poppy grew profusely in the trenches and craters of the war zone. Artillery shells and shrapnel stirred up the earth and exposed the seeds to the light they needed to germinate.'

GLENROCK PARADE REALIGNMENT NOW COMPLETED

For many years the Association has been concerned and has 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 apart from a shuddering bump near Berala Ave as a vehicle such as a bus moves up to the final surface level it is **now complete**.

Major walls have been installed to house the new footpath along with kerbing and guttering and to improve vehicle access to properties where required. **Off-street parking** has been provided as well.

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. This major project is a pleasure to use, whether for drivers, cyclists or pedestrians.

FINE NEW BRIDGE AT BUNGAREE RESERVE

After two weeks' closure during construction, pedestrians and cyclists are delighted to see and use the new bridge over Coorumbine Creek at West Gosford.

We trust the members of the **Ralph Mortimer** family, in whose memory the original 1993 bridge was dedicated, will be similarly thrilled with the upgrade.

Residents and users have been disappointed to see that vandals only gave the bridge a couple of days before damaging the safety fences. May stronger measures be put in place!



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NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

At the Annual General Meeting two new members were elected onto the Management Committee.

Our new **Treasurer** is **Brooke Stanford** of Tascott.

 Brooke has been living on the central coast for the last two and a half years and has a strong interest in community engagement and appreciation of heritage.

Brooke has a legal background and has worked in both the private and public sectors. She is passionate about corporate governance and is currently completing postgraduate studies in this field.

This is Brooke's first election to a management committee position and she is looking forward to helping our association achieve our goals in 2015.

The Association now has a new **Assistant Secretary**, also a resident of Tascott. **Ken Janson** is a recently retired TAFE Head teacher of Humanities in Prevocational Programs at the Sydney Institute, Ultimo campus.

 Ken is a member locally of The Lions Club in Gosford City, Woy Woy branch of the ALP and Gosford Anglican Church. He has an interest in Economics, Education, Human Rights and Environmental issues.

Ken Janson has researched his family tree and has verified linkages far back on his father's side to the Buruburongal clan of the Darug Nation of the Hawkesbury River valley. He also has ancestors who were English convict pioneers and their offspring who lived in the Windsor – Wilberforce area and he shares a common ancestor with Malcolm Turnbull.

His *Norman* derived surname comes from a convict ancestor John Janson, who was the youngest son of a doctor and was transported for the crime of larceny – stealing a women's clothes and shoes.

On his mother's side, his English born grandfather was a World War 1 soldier who luckily survived four years in the trenches in northern France. He also has an ancestor called Eleanor Gillerd perhaps related to the French aristocracy who fled to England at the time of the French Revolution and married an Englishman.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

7.30 pm at Point Clare Hall, until refurbishment, venue TBA

Thursday 14th May: Chris Dransfield, Project Manager, West Gosford Intersection Upgrade.

Thursday 9th July: Speaker from Marine Discovery Centre.

Thursday 10th September: Hon Kathy Smith, MLA.



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BUSH CARE AT GOODAYWANG Help urgently needed

Our own special area of bush, at the northern end of Kurrawa Avenue at Point Clare, needs **your help** as **invasive weeds** are threatening to undo all the work we have done there over the years in bush regeneration.

For the last year the Environmental Trust has provided funds for Bangalow Bushcare Management to work with community volunteers to keep the weeds at bay. This project has now finished and their **final report** can be read on our website.

Council would be happy to establish an official **Bush Care Group** to take over weeding. Only one of the volunteers is available to continue under the Bush Care banner. We will need many more to make a Bush Care group viable.

Please contact the Association if you are willing to assist and indicate what days would suit you. Goodaywang has been our special project. It would be a shame now for it to fail.

SHORT NOTES

We are still urging Council to re-open the promised **stairs** link into Couche Park from adjoining Couche Crescent at Koolewong. We had been told that funds would be provided this financial year but are currently unsure of the state of play.

The outgoing local member, Chris Holstein, advised, before leaving office, that \$2 million has been earmarked for work on **Brisbane Water Drive**. We trust that this will be used for the provision of a **safe footpath** from Lorraine Avenue to Koolinga Avenue at Point Clare and that work will begin soon.

Recent small upgrades of line markings at the **Penang St** intersection should improve night safety there.

The Hall Committee, from whom we hire the hall for our meetings, advises that Council will be closing the **hall** for a major **refurbishment** some time this year. We will pass on any update that affects the Association as it comes to hand.

We understand the **Koolewong Marina** is still in the pipeline.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2015

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