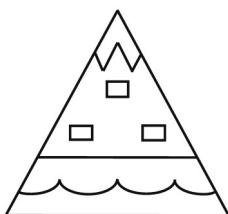


KOOLEWONG AND POINT CLARE-TASCOTT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.



INCLUDING WEST GOSFORD SOUTH OF THE CENTRAL COAST HIGHWAY

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NUMBER 36 AUGUST 2015

From the President to the Residents.

Welcome to our new members of the Progress Association and new residents of Point Clare, Tascott and Koolewong. For those of you reading our newsletter for the first time, we have an active local Progress Association made up of local residents who volunteer their time, knowledge and skills to help our local area in various ways. We have regular **bi-monthly meetings** at the Point Clare Community Hall and we welcome any new residents or members who would like to get involved. We also have a record of impressive and interesting guest speakers at each general meeting who have given us information on a diverse range of issues. **Membership** of our Association is cheap and easy; it helps our community and it will keep you in the loop of local issues and activities that affect your local area. Of course, part of that is the production of this handy newsletter which is hand delivered to you several times a year.

I am so glad to see so much enthusiasm from our membership in getting involved in local issues, supporting local businesses and also supporting local initiatives. We have representation on Neighbourhood Watch, the Gosford City Council Status Of Women Committee, the Northern Rail Noise Committee and regular contact with local politicians and authorities.



Rendall receives the certificate from Cr Hillary Morris

The Association recently received a certificate for the **Gosford City Council Heritage Awards** nomination on naming Bungaree Reserve. Speaking of the reserve, you may have seen me in the Express Advocate in April in relation to the vandalism to the new bridge. My criticism of the bridge work was the aluminium fence section used was so weak it was vandalised within two weeks of the bridge's completion. We waited a

while with the bridge fences looking like giant orange waffles (plastic safety mesh), but I'm glad to see it has been finally fixed with solid steel fence sections.

I have been spending a lot of time on our foreshore over the past year, walking and riding around with my youngest child. I wish to thank the kind residents who consistently clean off graffiti that appears regularly, especially on our interpretive signage at various points along the foreshore. The consequences of getting caught for graffiti is covered well on the website http://www.lawstuff.org.au/nsw_law/topics/Graffiti.

Our Vice President Jon Fearon is organising, in conjunction with Gosford City Council, for our own local **Bushcare Group** to have a grand beginning at Goodaywang Reserve on the 3rd Saturday in October with the whole community. Check details below and on page 2 of this newsletter.

Finally, I'd like to mention that the Point Clare Community Hall will be holding their AGM on 29 August 2015 and the hall will be closing mid-September to undergo renovations for several months (probably until the new year). We have found a replacement venue for our meetings during the renovations and members are advised that we will meet for our November and December meetings at the Fagan Park Guide Hall

Kind regards
Rendall Wagner

BREAKFAST IN THE BUSH

Mark the date:
SATURDAY 17th OCTOBER

from 08.45

Come and enjoy

BACON AND EGGS

as we launch

BUSHCARE GOODAYWANG

Council's Bushcare Team will be there to introduce the scheme and show us the areas we will be caring for. Activities will be outlined and an opportunity will be given to **sign up** for the programme planned for the 3rd Saturday morning of each month.

For catering purposes please contact Jon Fearon on 4323 1849 with names and numbers. Families welcome.





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WHAT IS BUSHCARE?

The Bushcare Program is a partnership between council and volunteers from the community. The purpose of this collaboration is to assist in restoring areas of degraded bushland. The program supports many groups who find reward in contributing to positive change in their local bushland area.

What is bush regeneration?

Bush regeneration involves the gradual removal of weeds to allow the native plants to regenerate naturally. Unfortunately, removing weeds once is not enough, as they soon reappear in the cleared spaces. So regular follow-up weeding is completed by Bushcare teams.

The changes that result from bush regeneration are best measured over months and years, rather than days and weeks. Success occurs when an ongoing commitment to removing weeds is made to a site over time.

There is a video to find out more about the Bushcare Program in Gosford City. It may be found on the Gosford City website under *Environment and Waste, Bushcare Program*

Where are our sites?

Generally, people like to restore the bushland close to where they live. This makes it easy for them to get to and from the Bushcare site.

However, other bush carers travel to locations some distance from their homes because of friendships they've formed at Bushcare workshops, or because they prefer to volunteer in a particular bushland location.

Whether your preference is for rainforest, wetland, creek line or dune, there is a place to suit you, and you may swap sites or visit different sites whenever you would like to.

Who can volunteer in the Bushcare Program?

Everyone aged from 16 to 90 years old is welcome to join an existing group or form a new group.

Within each team, there are activities to suit everyone, from physical to moderate impact work - for example, your role may include making the ever-important morning tea!

Everyone can find something to do to help rescue their bushland.

When do Bushcare volunteers meet?

Most groups meet on a designated day each month, and usually for a period of two to three hours.

Other groups meet more often, such as every fortnight or even every week. The Bushcare Program is very flexible and group members can decide on how often and for how long they meet.

A Bushcare team can be a great community hub

The Bushcare Program can be a lot more than just pulling

out weeds; the social and health aspects of volunteering should not be overlooked.

When Bushcare volunteers commit to their site, they see it as a chance to get outdoors, to be active and to socialise. Long-standing friendships are often formed and people enjoy the opportunity to discuss issues with some like minded new friends.

Aside from enjoying your meeting days, there are also other opportunities to assist the Bushcare Program, such as promoting your group at community events or festivals, taking photos, writing grant submissions or preparing morning tea.

How do I become a Bushcare volunteer?

Joining the Bushcare Program is very simple. For residents in the Koolewong, Tascott and Point Clare area Bushcare is located at Goodaywang Reserve, at the northern end of Kurrawa Avenue, Point Clare. To register contact the Secretary, KPCTPA at kpctpa@bigpond.com.au

At the official launch of the group, the date and details for which are outlined on the front page, a Bushcare Officer will discuss the operation of the program at Goodaywang Reserve.

After formally registering and becoming an active volunteer, your registration and activity within the program entitles you to start participating in all the activities that our Bushcare volunteers enjoy.

Throughout the year, a series of free educational workshops are offered to active volunteers. The workshops provide an enjoyable way for you to learn more about conserving our local bushland.

For more information on workshops, see the [Bushcare Program Fact Sheet](#) This also can be downloaded from the Council website.

This article has been adapted from the one found on Gosford City Council's Website.

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KARIONG HIEROGLYPHS EGYPTIAN or FICTION?

Come along to our next Progress Association Meeting and find out all you need to know about this fascinating site and the folklore that has built up to explain its origin.

DENIS GOJAK will speak about his research on this and other sites across Australia which suggest non-indigenous pre-European visitors to our country. **Visitors most welcome.**

Thursday, 10th September at Point Clare Hall, 7.30 pm.



CEMETERY CENTENARY

Point Clare Cemetery, as we said last time, 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**. Sadly, the occasion passed without commemoration, but we issue a challenge to those with a penchant for research.

Is there anyone out there in our community who would like to investigate the lives and times of some significant people buried at Point Clare? Out of this could come a **Historic Walk** and an accompanying map and brochure for local residents and visitors alike.

Contact the Newsletter Editor, **Jon Fearon**, on 4323 1849 if you would be interested in a project like this.



ADVERTISE HERE

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NEW BRIDGE REPAIRED AND STRENGTHENED

We are pleased to report that after strong lobbying by our President and others, and general community concern for safety, the damaged fencing on the new bridge over Coorumbene Creek at Bungaree Reserve has been replaced with stronger material. Thank you, Council.



WEST GOSFORD INTERSECTION

Our guest speaker at the May meeting was Mr Chris Dransfield, the Roads and Maritime Project Manager for the **WEST GOSFORD INTERSECTION UPGRADE**

It was good to look again at the simulation display of the new intersection and to see how traffic will move easily through the junction when all traffic signals are in operation. One questioner was concerned that sufficient time would be allowed for the more elderly to use the pedestrian crossings. The main one of these, at the Central Coast Highway itself will be ten lanes wide and controlled by three sets of lights.

The audience was amazed at the complexity of the infrastructure that had to be relocated or realigned as an ongoing process while the intersection has remained in daily operation.

We are looking forward to early 2016 and the end of gridlock.

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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.

BRISBANE WATER DRIVE

The Association had asked Roads and Maritime Services how the committed \$2 million would be used on the safety improvements on Brisbane Water Drive.

Their response in a letter late last month included the following: 'There will be a **route study** on the Drive from Pont Clare Public School to Manns Road at West Gosford this financial year. The study will include the intersections at Penang St, Lorraine Ave and Jirrah Ave and the focus will be on road safety and efficiency'

It is pleasing to know that the Association's comments would be included for consideration when priorities are determined. Our concern remains however- is it traffic or **pedestrian safety?**

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

7.30 pm at Point Clare Hall,

Thursday 10th September: Denis Gojak: *Kariong Hieroglyphs*

7.30 pm at Guides Hall, Fagan Park

Thursday 12th November: Speaker: *TBA*

Thursday 10th December: Christmas Sausage Sizzle at 6.30 pm

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CENTRAL COAST MARINE DISCOVERY CENTRE

At the Association's meeting in July we were able to welcome once again, Jayne Smith, the CEO of the Community Environment Network which is based on the Ourimbah university campus. Jayne had two special topics that she shared with the members, both of them, as she said, close to her heart.

The first is the **MARINE DISCOVERY CENTRE** beside the lagoon at Terrigal which was officially opened in March 2010. An outline was given as to how the centre came into being and found its home in the no longer used Terrigal Tourist Information Centre,

It is open at weekends and during school holidays when special programmes are arranged and teachers are available. During school terms some excursions are arranged for school groups to learn about issues of sustainability, understanding and enjoyment of our coast's catchments and oceans.

Of recent interest has been the amazing biodiversity that is developing at the *HMAS Adelaide* dive site.

The Discovery Centre is recommended particularly for children and at \$3.00 per child is surely an ideal place for parents and grandchildren to visit with their youngsters.

COASTAL OPEN SPACE SYSTEM

Jayne's second topic of great interest and concern is the **COASTAL OPEN SPACE SYSTEM**. The COSS has been much in the news of late as it is believed that some development proposals are before local government authorities .

Members were given an outline of the system and learnt that the network of natural reserves was delineated and declared in 1984. It has always been hoped that Council, which has already acquired 65% of the area, would be able to gain control of the remaining 35% and thus prevent these reserves being handed over for other development.

FRIENDS OF COSS are eager to see these places protected and that the skyline of Gosford, particularly, remains green and without built structures. The Friends conduct bushwalks and family nature clubs and are involved in bush regeneration and research. Some of their number are animal friendly and all maintain strong community links. Visit www.cen.org.au to sign up.

Community concern has been expressed recently due to a changing focus in Council's environmental committee structure and the mooted removal of the COSS levy. Those with a love of the great outdoors don't want to see roads and urbanisation encroaching onto our city's much loved green mantle.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2015

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