# Pittwater Online News



April 15 - 21, 2012: Issue 54

Past Features Archives

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## Sweet Mid-Autumn Swells

There's something about the middle of autumn in Pittwater that brings home how vitality fills life here. With air and water still warm, despite a few south boding middle of winter winds this week, it's a wonderful part of this season and a great time of year. There are a few clean swells, the sea has a mellower crystalline quality, and quietness settles a soothing lulling over the beaches and bays. Golden hues, more alike metal brasses and gold itself then the watery bubbling golds of Spring, brim from earth, plant, water and the sky. On Saturday morning(14.4.2012), air filled with so much salt it makes you want to dive into the ocean, slough off the last of the end of Summer skin, those out and about were mostly in or beside the water. A few colours from them…

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# Pittwater Online News



**April 15 - 21, 2012: Issue 54**

## This Weeks Articles

Sweet Mid-Autumn Swell

The Historical Aircraft Restoration Society restore a new plane

I Remember My First Easter Egg by Huang Zhi-Wei (aka Reg Wong)

**Profile:** In April it's Pittwater Gents who all have Autumn's crystal qualities; Paul Wheeler, former Manly lad, bass player in Billy Thorpe and the Aztecs, with a passion for Japan.

### Previous Profiles:

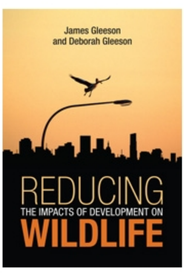
Barton Lynch Shane Withington Commodore Sloper Herminie Swainston Teresa Cutter Joanne Brigden-Jones Tamara Sloper Harding Katie Spithill Chris Salisbury Doug Crane Henry MacPhillamy Ben Baillie Aim for the Stars Foundation Broken Bay Marine Rescue Pittwater Environmental Foundation Rotary Club of Pittwater Sophie Haythornthwaite Joan Fisher Mark Ferguson Veteran Carolyn McKay Christine Hopton Ian White Jack Elsegood Robert Grace Colin Casey Bob Waterer The Surfers Group The Palm Beach Yacht Club Pittwater Natural Heritage Association Pittwater Friends of Soibada Pam Bayfield Denise Casey Lynda Hill Belinda Grundy Paul Christie Neil Evers Andrew Holder Ian Curlewis Lange Theory Phil Colman-Peter Mitchell and Exploring tidal waters on Australia's temperate coast Geoff Clarke Palm Beach Sailing Club The Populaters Pittwater Camera Club Dragonfly Environmental Pittwater Community Hub Pittwater Community Arts Hayley Turner Samantha Shaw Danielle DuBois Mumpreneurs Neil Johnston Simon Hyland

**History**: Ladies of the Bays in April: Neva Carr-Glynn of Bongin Bongin Bay, radio star, actress, with a love of surfing and boats

### Previous History Pages:

Marie Byles Lucy Gullett Kookoomgiligai Frank Hurley Archpriest JJ Therry Sir Patrick Gordon Taylor Bowen Bungaree W. Bradley 1788 Journal Midholme Loggan Rock Cabin La Corniche La Corniche II Lion Island Bungan Beach Botham Beach Scarred Trees Castles in the Sand Dame Nellie Melba lunches at Bilgola Spring, 1914 First to Fly in Australia at North Narrabeen Mona Vale Golf Club's Annual Balls Governor Phillip camps on Resolute Beach Ruth Bedford Jean Curlewis Mollie Horseman Charlotte Boutin May Moore Neville W Cayley Leon Houreux Frederick Wymark Sir Adrian Curlewis Bilgola Heron Cove Mullet Creek Shark Point Woodley's Cottage A Tent at The Basin Collin's Retreat-Bay View House-Scott's Hotel Bilgola Cottage and House The First Pittwater Regatta Women Cricketers Picnic Filmed In Pittwater Governor Phillip's Barrenjoey Cairn Waradiel Season The Church at Church Point Governor Phillip's Exploration of Broken Bay, 2 – 9 March 1788 Petroglyths: Aboriginal Rock Art on the Northern Beaches Avalon Headland Landmarks Steamers Part I Pittwater Aquatic Club Part I Woody Point Yacht Club Royal Motor Yacht Club Part I Dorothea Mackellar Elaine Haxton

**Park Bench Philosopher**: **Bird Planes -** *People are weary of meaninglessness, and this weariness goes soul deep.*




**Books**: **From CSIRO: New Books for April + Harper Collins April Releases: New Sally Wise Cookbook, Days Like These by Kristian Anderson, and Youth Not Wasted, a tale of the Outback**

**Old Books**: **DEVISES ET EMBLEMES ANCIENNES & MODERNES, TIREES DE PLUS AUTEURS (1699)** by Daniel De La Feuille and **Chinese Buddhism : a volume of sketches, historical, descriptive, and critical (1880)** by Joseph Edkins; Art, Culture and how we once thought.

**Events:** Mumpreneurs May speaker, Anzac Day Memorial Services, Richard Clapton at the Arms, SurfAid Concert at Avalon RSL, Book Talks @ MV Library, New Council Environment Fun, Chicken Town ! Art for Animals, Kids on The Coast School Holidays Activities, Poetry Comp. from PCA, ABFE Workshops, Humph Hall classics, Canning Track Art, History Comp., Council Events and more.

**News From our Inbox**: **A Day on the Beach from 1956; guess where?!**, strategically placed sticker, April Trains in Oz, Mistakes to avoid when using Social Media for marketing

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**Community News**: Guringai Festival 2012, Bushcare at YHA, Free Lighthouse Tour for green thumb-smiths, Let there be light, Meet Glenn McGrath, ADSO needs our support, Monotones, Adopt a frog, MVPS ask help to find missing time capsule, Bush Care Notices for April, Council's 20th Celebrations, Folk and Dance Concert, Our Council's Notices, Fed. Govt. Media Releases.

**Environment**; New Birdlife Australia website, Assessment of Australian Birds - Report, 30years of saving Tassie Forests, PNHA at YHA, local Environment groups and organisations.

**Lynda Hill**: **Update 3.4.12**: Truth*Justice*Freedom Vs Arrested Development: April's Libran Full Moon

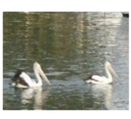
**Pictures:** Currently out: Australian wildflowers bloom in every season and Autumn, in Pittwater, has its share

**Youth**: School Hols. Bemusement: ZOO - Bert Haanstra (1962), Funny short movie about the Dutch Zoo called ARTIS, Wiggle on in to the Powerhouse Museum, Local Gigs for Local Musos, Taronga Zoo, No Drama @ MV Library, School Holiday FUN from Council, FREE Anti-Bullying Workshop, **Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Comp.** Links for local websites for, about and by Youth.

**Seniors**; RMS Titanic 100th Anniversary today (15.4.2012); Australian Maritime Museum's Exhibition (free to pensioners) and 1912 videos for you, + link to Seniors Online Newspaper, Information and links to local Support and Education Activities.

**Community Clubs:** Updates on Activities and links to sites.

**Artist of the Month: April 2012**: Ben Baillie - Artist, Teacher



**Reflections** by George Repin. **This week; Medical Pioneers in Australian Wine Making**

**DIY Hints: Clever Ideas to make life Easier** C/- Irene and John Anderson; easy, simple and recycling in some cases !

**Collector's Corner**: Bendigo Pottery, makers of Australian ceramics for 154 years

**Food**: Mushrooms, Autumnal constitutional; some facts, health benefits to fight pancreatic cancer and a great soup recipe to ward off Autumn chills

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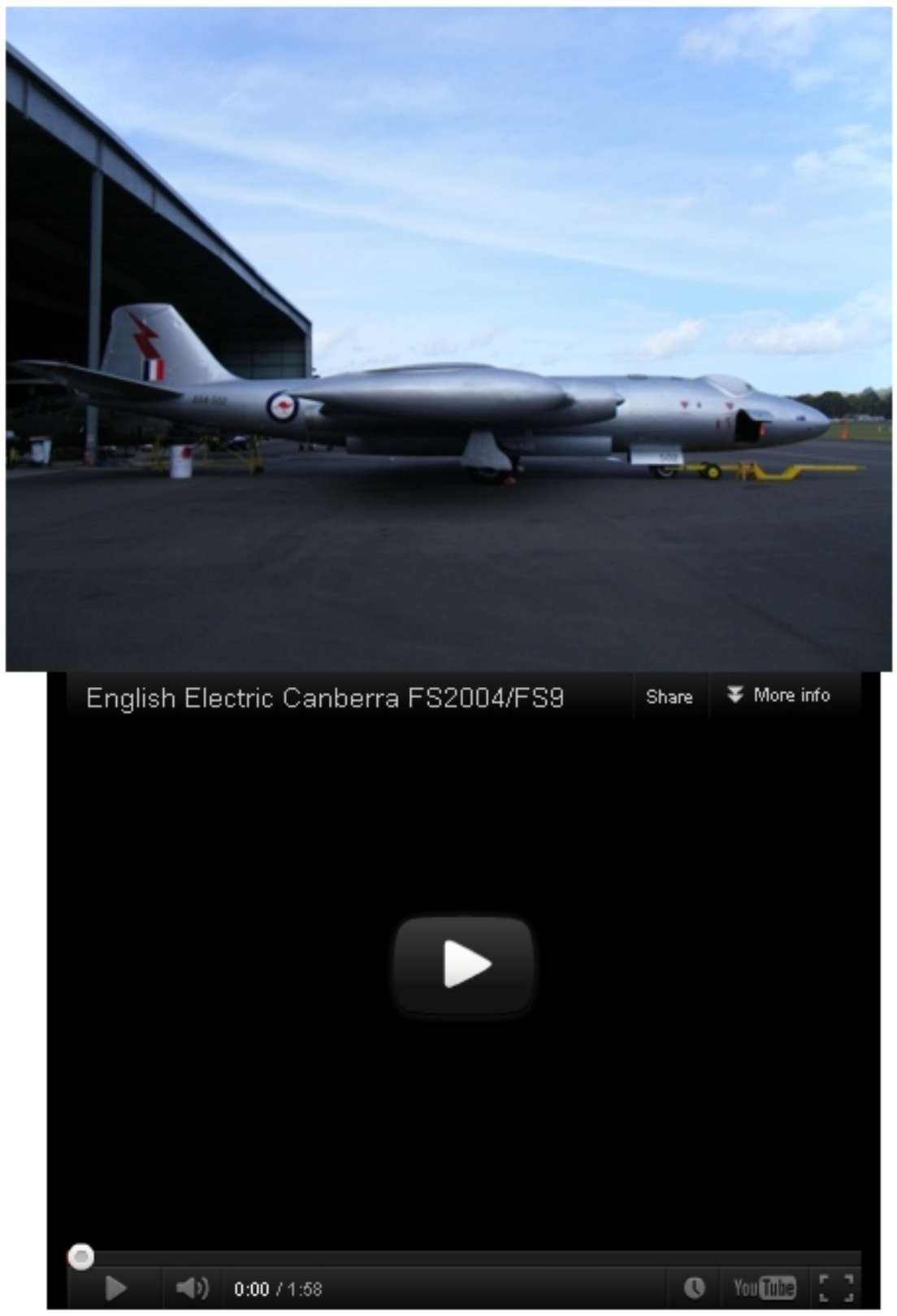


**Further:**

MUSEUM TIMES & BOOKINGS
HISTORICAL AIRCRAFT RESTORATION SOCIETY
Location: Cnr Airport Road and Boomerang Avenue
Albion Park Rail NSW 2527, Australia
t. (02) 4257 4333, f. (02) 4257 4388
Opening hours
Monday – Sunday: 09:30 am – 3:30 pm
Entrance fees: Children: $5.00, Adult: $15.00, Family: $25.00
Concession: $12.00
To arrange group bookings please call the HARS reception desk in advance on 02 4257 4333 between 9.30am and 3.30 pm any day.

Photo Permissions courtesy HARS

English Electric *Canberra*. (2012, April 8). In Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia. Retrieved from http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=English_Electric_Canberra&oldid=486305025

## Historical Aircraft Restoration Society's new plane

**At; http://hars.org.au/**

*Following a lengthy recovery, reassembly and restoration, our English Electric Canberra trainer is now on public display in our museum. Come visit us and sit in the restored cockpit.* HARS, 8th of April, 2012

In New South Wales, at Albion Park, a group of gents and ladies, one of whom resides in Pittwater and dedicates a lot of his time, energy and thought to this voluntary service, find and restore aircraft that have been significant to Australia's history. The Historical Aircraft Restoration Society (HARS) announced on Easter Sunday the restoration of a Canberra T4 A84-502, as a static display, has been completed.

The Canberra is an important type, the first (and only, and probably the last) jet bomber built in Australia, and one of the last Australian built aircraft to see combat service. They were the first jet bomber into RAAF service. The one at Albion Park was built by English Electric, an industrial manufacturer who commenced building planes during WWII. Delivered in 1956 and used mostly for training, this was a first-generation jet-powered light bomber manufactured in large numbers through the 1950s. The Canberra could fly at a higher altitude than any other bomber through the 1950s and set a world altitude record of 70,310 ft (21,430 m) in 1957.

The Canberra had its origins in a 1944 Air Ministry requirement for a successor to the de Havilland Mosquito – a high-altitude, high-speed bomber with no defensive armament. Although several British manufacturers submitted proposals, it was English Electric, who had built bombers since the early years of the Second World War, who won the contract. Originally known as the English Electric A.1, the aircraft was named Canberra after the capital of Australia by Sir George Nelson, chairman of English Electric, because Australia was the first export customer for the aircraft. They were ordered by the Australian government shortly after WWII as part of the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) Plan "D" for a post-war structure to develop a small, agile air arm employing leading edge technology and replace the Avro Lincoln. The first Australian-built Canberra had her maiden flight on 29 May 1953 at Avalon (Victoria) and was delivered to the RAAF a few weeks later. A total of 48 were built in Australia. These planes entered Australian service in December 1953, flew in the Malayan Emergency and the Vietnam War and were in use until 1982. There were 27 versions.

The Historical Aircraft Restoration Society Inc (HARS) is a not-for-profit organisation and was formed in 1979 by a group of aviation enthusiasts interested in the preservation of Australian aviation history. It was in this capacity that our members virtually traversed the Australian continent from Tasmania to Kalumburu in North Western Australia and from Cape Llewellin to Cape York in search of aviation artefacts. These expeditions resulted in providing considerable assistance to many restorations including many outside of the HARS itself. their mission;

'*To recover, and where possible restore to flying condition, aircraft or types of aircraft that have played a significant part in Australian Aviation History both in the Civil and Military arenas*'.

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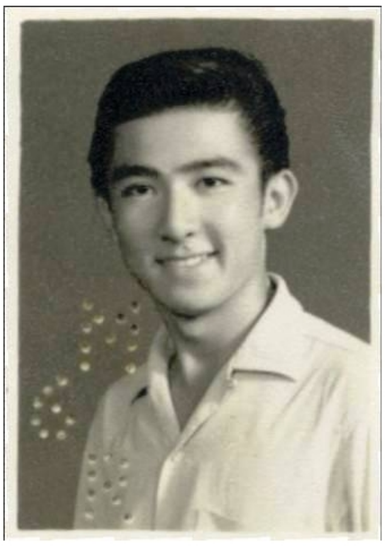
**April 15 - 21, 2012: Issue 54**

Above: Reg as A New Arrival, passport photograph

Above: 1954: The St Bernard's College in the snow, courtesy of Michael Burke, from: http://stbernardskatoomba.com/about.htm

Below: The Imperial Guest House, Lurline Street, Katoomba, circa 1946, courtesy the Library of Blue Mountains.

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## I Remember My First Easter Egg

**by Huang Zhi-Wei (aka Reg Wong)**

Prologue

Last Wednesday evening at St Joseph's in Narrabeen I attended a work shop facilitated by charismatic American teacher Brother Loughlan Sofield. Mid-way through the course of the workshop, he asked, "Who has experienced ministry and is willing to share?" I responded with my story of half a century ago when I was fresh arrival from Malaya and felt trapped in a boarding school in Katoomba.

* * *

It was already four o'clock in the afternoon of Holy Thursday. All the students had already vacated St Bernard's College, their boarding school, and made their way to Katoomba Station by midday to catch their trains to Sydney or other towns in inland New South Wales for the four-day Easter long weekend. Still languishing in the school grounds, however, was one boy - a fifteen year old overseas student without a guardian or a new friend who might offer him the much-needed digs for the Easter break. Even if he knew someone in Sydney, he still didn't have the train fares for the 96-km journey. I was that student.

Ten weeks earlier I had left my jungle clearing in Seremban (capital of Negeri Sembilan in the-then Malaya), taken a train bound for Singapore and then boarded the Dutch cargo ship SS Blue Gorgon to set sail for Fremantle. When it was still operating, this cargo ship plied the ocean route between these two ports, carrying timber from Singapore to Fremantle and cattle on the return trip. Although not fitted out to cater to ocean-going passengers, the SS Blue Gorgon had sufficient spare quarters which offered no-frills passage to forty students who didn't mind travelling rough. I took advantage of the offer. To me a passage was a passage, frills being something to which I hadn't grown accustomed.

The sea journey lasted seven days, five of which I spent in the top bunk in my shared cabin. Not surprisingly, the huge seas of the Indian Ocean tossed the little ship about like a toy boat and made nearly every student sea-sick. On the first night of our voyage, the tiny dining room required three sittings to cater to the forty students. By the second day when we entered the Indian Ocean, two tables were more than ample for the students' needs. I myself prayed for a quick end to my suffering and while I waited for deliverance the smell of cooking butter – something which I had never tasted - from the galley adjoining my cabin merely added to my agony.

When I enrolled as a boarder at St Bernard's College, it was my understanding that I was to remain on the premises from the beginning of the school year to the end of the school year. For that reason I had made no provisions, monetary or otherwise, for the Easter break or the June and September holidays. When it became obvious that it was mandatory for every student to vacate the boarding school at these times, I found myself unprepared. That's why I was still on the school grounds late on Holy Thursday even though every student had already left the premises.

On his rounds to ensure every student had indeed left, the headmaster found me. In spite of the fast-fading daylight of The Blue Mountains, I could still make out he was in utter disbelief to find someone – anyone – still on the college grounds.
"Why are you still here?" he asked, urgency pulsating in his voice.
"I am staying at the college, sir," I answered timidly.
"What do you mean you're staying at the college? We are closed for the next four days."
"I have nowhere to go, sir."
"You can't stay. The whole place is closed for the entire long weekend."
We looked intently at each other, engaged in a Mexican standoff without the promise of a resolution.
"I'm sorry. You can't stay here." With that, he turned away. It was clear he had just washed his hands of me.

As he disappeared into the enveloping Blue Mountains mist, there emerged another figure, a large boy. I recognised him straight away. It was Gerry Velavecius, my classmate. I was relieved to see someone I knew.
"I've come to see if you're still here" he said matter-of-factly.
"I have nowhere to go."
"I suspected that. Mum said that if I found you still here I was to bring you home for the weekend."
'Home' was the Imperial Guest House in Lurline Street, Katoomba and the owners were Mr and Mrs Velavecius, World War II refugees.

* * *

Epilogue

By their act of kindness, the Velavecius family showed me concern, gave me care, and displayed compassion to another human being in need - and I experienced ministry, the kind that, perhaps, only refugees practise instinctively. Their hospitality was my first Easter egg, disguised and packaged in the most attractive way.

Mr and Mrs Velavecius would not accept any payment for the four days I was at their guest house. During my stay I met Mr Frank Lilley who invited me to stay with his family for the June and September holidays. From then on, I was always invited to some country home during my holidays from school and from university. Was I merely a lucky boy or are Australian country folk just plain hospitable?
Today I am, by choice, an Australian. At Christmas I am always on the lookout for a few overseas students who might like to feel at home and experience some true-blue hospitality. My siblings who are still in the old home-town emulate my behaviour and maintain an open-door policy : any Australian friend or acquaintance of mine who visits Malaysia is entertained like a long-lost sibling - as a befitting pay-back for my own good fortune. One stayed for four months!

# Pittwater Online News

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Community Directory | Boating | Clubs | Dining | Entertainment | Fishing | Lifestyle | Maps | Pittwater Online | Sailing | Shopping | Surfing | Weather

**April 23 - 25, 2010: Issue 34**

## Articles This Week:

Sweet Mid Autumn Sand

Pre-historical Aboriginal Habitation Society receives a new stone

Waymarking Mt Ku-ring-gai Trail to be Hueng By Hiro (aka Ring Ding)

Profile of Ray Wonder - 2010 NYC Comic Con Guest

Bob Thomas and the Aztecs, is an an Manly lad and has developed a cult following in Mexico

Review - Letters of Pittwater's Born in Bath Rose Cain Cain of Pittwater

**April** are available here for you now, as well as **Issue 33** - March 2010 and all issues from 2009 and 2008 are archived and searchable. Just click on the publication and happening in the areas adjoining Pittwater too, listed in this header.

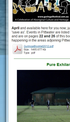

Pittwater Online News

Pittwater Online Newsletter Update 10/4/2012: click on Logo. Also has an Extensive Local Directory.

Pittwater Online Newsletter

To contact Julian: editor@pittwateronline.co.au


## Gurungai Festival 2012



The Gurungai Festival is an annual celebration of Aboriginal culture held at Bayview Park, Bayview, in the Pittwater area of the Northern Beaches Council area, NSW, Australia. The festival is held on the first weekend in April each year. The festival's name is Gurungai, which is the local Aboriginal word for "meeting place". The festival attracts around 10,000 people during the festival weekend. The festival is organised and run entirely by volunteers. It is one of the largest free Aboriginal festivals in Australia. The name Gurungai Festival was chosen by the Aboriginal Elders Council of Pittwater. Gurungai is the name of the Aboriginal people living in the Northern Beaches area. The Gurungai Festival is a celebration of Aboriginal culture. It features Aboriginal music, dance, art, craft, food and storytelling. The festival also includes a number of sporting events, such as the Gurungai Cup, a rugby league match between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal teams. The festival is a great opportunity for people to learn about Aboriginal culture and to meet Aboriginal people. It is also a great opportunity for people to support Aboriginal businesses and artists.

The Gurungai Festival was first held in 1988. It was originally a one-day event, but it has grown over the years to become a three-day festival. The festival is now one of the largest Aboriginal festivals in Australia. It is also one of the most popular festivals in the Northern Beaches area.

The festival is held on the first weekend in April each year. The festival's dates for 2012 are Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th April. The festival is open from 10am to 5pm each day.

The festival is free to attend. There is a small charge for some of the events, such as the Gurungai Cup.

The festival is held at Bayview Park, Bayview, in the Pittwater area of the Northern Beaches Council area, NSW, Australia. Bayview Park is located on the shores of Pittwater, a beautiful waterway that is popular for boating and fishing.

The festival is easily accessible by car, public transport, or bicycle. There is plenty of parking available at Bayview Park. There are also bus stops and train stations nearby.

The festival is a great opportunity for people to learn about Aboriginal culture and to meet Aboriginal people. It is also a great opportunity for people to support Aboriginal businesses and artists.

## Pure Exhilaration

## FREE LUNCHTIME TOUR FOR BUSINESSES

Pittwater Council, Natural Parks and Reserves Manager, Ken Haseler will lead a free lunchtime tour of Careel Bay Wetland Reserve on Wednesday 14 April 2010 at 12.30pm.

Ken will discuss the history of the reserve and the work Bushcare Rangers Kingsley Bell and Kate Lawrence undertake to maintain the reserve.

Careel Bay Wetland Reserve is located on the corner of Barrenjoey Road and Careel Bay Avenue, Avalon Beach.

Meet at the Careel Bay Wetland Reserve sign on the corner of Barrenjoey Road and Careel Bay Avenue, Avalon Beach at 12.30pm on the same day. Bookings are essential as numbers are limited to 15 people.

**ADULTS CAN HAVE FUN TOO!**

Seasonal commemorative services are planned at Pittwater to mark the Anzac Day.

From 11.30am on Sunday 25 April the Narrabeen RSL sub-branch will commemorate Anzac Day with a Dawn Service at the Narrabeen Lakeside Memorial Park, Wakehurst Parkway, Narrabeen.

At 12.30pm on the same day Pittwater RSL sub-branch will hold a commemorative service at the Mona Vale Memorial Park, Park Street, Mona Vale.

Mayor Rose will attend the Pittwater House Schools ANZAC Day Service at the Avalon Beach Memorial Park commencing at 10.30am on Friday 23 April 2010.

Deputy Mayor Ian White will attend the dawn service on ANZAC Day at the Newport Memorial Park at 6.00am.

Mayor Rose will also attend the Mona Vale Memorial Service starting at Avalon Primary from 10.45am and concluding with a wreath laying ceremony at the Mona Vale Memorial Park at about 11.45am.

A community service of remembrance will also be held on ANZAC Day at the Church Point Reserve.

**A NEW CHAPTER FOR NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK**

A 'reader's theatre' will introduce Year 5 and 6 students to the wonderful world of science when Australian Science Week is launched by drama teacher Helen Rosenbrock free of charge into a Pittwater Council school holiday program on Tuesday 13 April.

As librarians Michael Uhl explains, the reader's theatre gives students the opportunity to read and perform a short play or poem to an audience while the children's book is displayed on an overhead screen.

"They'll learn how to project their voice, the importance of using appropriate facial expressions, how to work together as a team and how to perform in front of an audience. Hopefully it will encourage them to read more and generate an interest in science," Mr Uhl explained.

The hour-long performance will be held in the Mona Vale Library at 10.30am on Tuesday 13 April. Bookings are essential as numbers are limited to 30 per session.

**Classes are Open at Surf Life Saving Clubs**

The Boss Shows on SEEK 104.5 for information on what is happening in the area. Tune in to hear the latest news and events.

Mona Vale Library is located at 1 Park Street Mona Vale. For more information please call Library Services on 9970 1111.

**FALL IN LOVE WITH A BOOK**

Pittwater Council is looking for wonderful writing to entitle Fall. The Council is seeking submissions from poets, story writers and artists that enlighten/share their parts of Australia were catching a fish is a special event and a memorable experience.

Fall is the season of change, when the leaves turn colour and the days become shorter. They can be the chief fun things which is a special event and a memorable experience.

The Council and the arts administration team are looking forward to the hugely in caring homes wishing to keep them in a secure enclosure. Fall is a time of change, when the leaves turn colour and the days become shorter. They can be the chief fun things which is a special event and a memorable experience.

Next prospective Tequestrian must join the Frog & Tadpole Study Group. Fall is a time of change, when the leaves turn colour and the days become shorter. They can be the chief fun things which is a special event and a memorable experience.

Fall is the season

# Pittwater Online News





**April 15 - 21, 2012: Issue 54**


## Bird Planes

People are weary of meaninglessness, and this weariness goes soul deep. The planes these women guided through other realms in another time, that was only a short time ago, have come to represent an era when it was clear we knew what we were fighting for, what we were fighting to have still exist. It is timely that we cherish them still, to recall what we are fighting for, which now can become a gentler striving for, with the same determination to reach and create a world where such peace and gentleness, and all its archaic knowing, which only comes with the loving softness, can exist. These women are disgusted at anyone who 'quotes the war' for private or public political agendas. These women joined the fight not just to live, but to live as we dream we can. We've come to live, LIVE!, and in this living we are predestined and determined to be creatures who are beaming, who can speak in degrees of light.

You all want to get to the Garden you see. I know you do, it's all over you…all over all of you, all the time. And it is time; the path stretches out before us, all the way to Melchisedek, and Spirit, and through all the 'time' before us too. There are rare supposedly extinct flowers blooming all over the earth again, along the ley-lines of ancient and ever and brand new energies. Take these as a certain sign.
I am come, I am come… I am here dear darling ones… it is time.

Nancy can't get out of the plane. Even when asleep her breath catches at the way her plane is flying.

"I used to take off at dawn, and the land was flat to all horizons, red and brown, the light blue and red line before the sun, before another long hot day. And Inland, in open seats, years before the closed cabin days. It was cold then, before the sun was up." she tells us.
"Biplanes…" Maude smiles fondly.
"Gypsy Moth." Nancy grins.

Barnstorming at the regional Agricultural Shows, Race Meetings for more joy flights in between. Horses, dust, kangaroos, and fifteen year old Nancy dreaming.
"Bird." Marge calls her.
"Just hand me that spanner…" Milton asks Nancy.
"Just hand me the sun…" Dravida hums under his breath, joining his song with theirs.

You all want to speak your mind and hear the peace after you finally get to exhale. You want all others to see the beauty in you, the same beauty you see in them. You were all born as princes and princesses together and know, in the heart of you, life is for being and becoming and this person you are being and becoming may get to do but it is how you do that resonates and the person you want to be that counts.

By midnight Nancy is weary, so we tuck her up in the huge old armchair, drag it into the corner of the shed and allow one of the lions to snuggle up next to her, just for some extra heat. I become almost competent with wrenches and spanners and the like so that by dawn we have a purring plane glinting in the first rays of the sun. The sound of its coughs becoming a long stream of small flatulence brings Nancy out of her dreams, her big eyes sparkling.

"Oh good, you got it working." she smiles, clapping her hands then rubbing them together. She walks around the plane, inspecting it, running a hand over its patchwork sides, kicking at the wheels.
"Now all we need is a runway." Nancy announces and peers to the long flat paddock beside the old shed.
"We'd best do an inspection, get the furrows out of this lea." I am told, and stroll beside her over the slightly misting morning ground.

I show her where the creek runs through, and the small one room church down the end of the top paddock, including where the swallows nest in due season. We walk following the path the cows and horses have trodden down into the green, stamping down the small bumps and marking where the field begins to slope towards the creek. The sun, streaming through the close to ground morning mist, lights an arcade of gold and white beams around our steps.

It is a pungent morning, the dew has been kind to the earth. All around us scents and sounds of another bright blue day wakening rise. Bird has a slight rolling in her walk and brings to mind images of those quietly confident leaders whose reserved seriousness inspires us yokels to victories. We begin strolling with a slight rise and relax loll in our stride, a gait alike birds seeking the first seeds across the lawns of morning. We are acclimatising our bodies to how it will feel to swoop up and then dive through the air, to breast up and coast over headwinds, to veer with tailwinds.
'Fly me to the moon' she begins humming under her breath, wetting and sticking her index finger up into the slight low running breeze bumping over the hills around us.
"Fine, fine day for it." she pronounces.

Women test all the resonances, they don't encase their minds in steel mazes of supposed clear concise thought or ignore the memory in smell, the returning late summer breeze that still carries a lingering tang of one like this from fifty years ago. Women know that with resonances there is a point where one more element will cause fission to take place, a fusion transmutation into what it longs to be becoming. They discern the gethering, their reckoning echoes to sound out all of each, a sonar knell discerning the shapes of metaphysical dolphins. They sense everything everywhere has long been straining under the suppression fisted first against them, had to defend its right to be free, to become, protecting its spiritual right to be, and in succeeding kept bright this small flame so all could discern, sense, see what all, as instinct, aspire to be. Now everyone everywhere wants to be free and the meaning of this freedom is really to be true, to be as they actually are. In their hands they carry herb and berry tonics of their immortal fertile place, a symptom of our return to leaning through clouds to the brilliant planes of unfolding archetypes and into a metaphysical garden.

These women go whooping through the blue when flying. They are also immersing themselves for a while in a state of being aware of the invisible planes, the layers of air in sky, and the way air swoops through air, leaving ripples. Something calls them to dance a wingful glee through sky, above trees, beyond mountains, over oceans where the seasons in the universe seem to catch up the rhythms of a planet and send them in birdsong ever upwards.

Extract from *Seeing Things*. Ch.4. Flights On Planes Through Realms. 2008.

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## Park Bench Philosophers

**We welcome contributions from all Pittwater residents in the form of anecdotes, memories, stories, poems or even matters you'd like to see addressed or changed in our area.**

**If you have something you'd like to share, something you'd like to start a discussion about, or even just a poem or story from yesterday or today we want to hear from you.**

Contact us at: pittwateronlinenews@live.com.au

**Please note that Pittwater Online News does not endorse any of the content of works contributed. Articles which contain swearing or may offend others will not be accepted. Please note that all works are posted unedited; you are the author, this is your page. Word Limit: 1500.**

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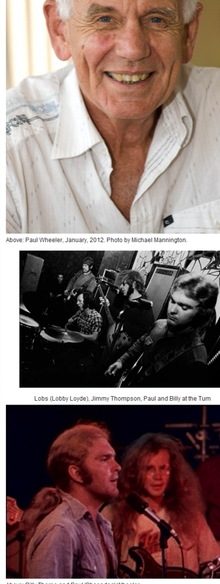
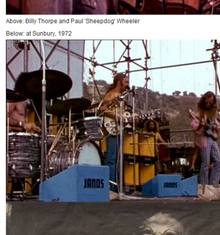
**April 15 - 21, 2012: Issue 54**

## Paul Wheeler



Above: Paul Wheeler, January, 2012. Photo by Michael Mannington.



Lobs (Lobby Loyde), Jimmy Thompson, Paul and Billy at the Turn

Above: Billy Thorpe and Paul 'Sheepdog' Wheeler

Below: at Sunbury, 1972

Above: Paul yesterday and Below: today.

**Copyright Paul Wheeler, 2012. All Rights Reserved.**
**Images Copyright Paul Wheeler and Michael Mannington.**


During January this year we brought you a profile on the Boppulators as part of our Summer mix. Some of you may have noticed that their bass player, a former Manly lad and current Pittwater gent, is part of Australia's rock and roll coming of age. Paul Wheeler was bass player with Billy Thorpe and the Aztecs when they were on their rise (and rampage according to some) during the late 60's and early 70's. Paul moved to Melbourne with Billy and Jimmy Thompson (drums) in 1968, was contributing when the band was dubbed 'the loudest' in Australia, and until Billy left for the States and the group was dissolved in 1975. This period of the band's history saw them playing Sunbury, constantly touring and releasing what is considered an Australian classic, 'Most People I Know (Think That I'm Crazy)". Softly spoken, with sparkling eyes, an infectious smile and a dedication to and love of music that still makes him practice daily, we are very privileged to bring you this week a few insights courtesy of the gent himself.

You started playing at 16 years of age and professionally at 19 years of age. What was it like being a teenager on the music circuit during the mid sixties in Australia ?

Well it was difficult for my parents and as an earner it was a little sporadic at first but the band that was the booster for me was "The Gino Affair" which featured Gino Cunico from Long Reef, Jimmy Kelly from Dee Why and Tony Bolton from Fairlight all of whom went on to bigger and better things. Gino went to the States with the Execs and became a successful songwriter with Ray Burton, Tony toured North America with Greg Quills country radio, Jimmy featured with S.C.R.A and is now guitar guru in chief at Northern Rivers Uni. We played from Cronulla to the Canopus room and out to Lithgow and we learnt what works and what doesn't, no original songs in this line up but you gotta start somewhere. The most important aspect to being a teenager is that basically you don't know what you're from your elbow and negotiating that field of ignorance is a dangerous thing. But we drove here and there and set up our gear and rehearsed our songs. There was, even in Sydney, plenty of work if you could get yourself plugged in, and that was the most important thing and the best teacher you could find. These days the kids have so very many resources and so many people willing to teach but they don't have the gigs and the bottom line as far as I'm concerned is that if you've got the bottle to do it the resources and the teachers are very nice but without the gigs and the audiences you are going nowhere. I guess you have to like driving around late at night and eating in taxi driver hamburger bars and getting up late the next day, a sort of teenage heaven I suppose.

We went through a front man change to a Geordie called Derek Fitton, nice guy…good singer and then I heard that through an audition I'd done for a band I loved, Python Lee Jackson…(I didn't get the gig Duncan McGuire from the Questions and later Doug Parkinson in Focus did) that the Guitarist from Python Lee, Mick Lieber was looking for me, to get me to join himself and Billy at the Whiskey Au Go Go in William street. There was a certain amount of controversy going on within The Affair, as it was now known, which resulted in me being told by the management to stop being friendly to somebody who had been very good to us as a band at exactly the same time as a great singer was about to join the band, 'Kerrie Bidell', and unfortunately just before she joined I decided to jump ship, got in touch with Mick, was accepted into Billie's band and despite a few little hiccups along the way ended up in Melbourne with Billy and a drummer named Jimmy Thompson to start the process that ended up for me in a band known as 'The Aztecs' and the mad ride around the country at the top of that very very greasy pole .

What was Manly like back then?

Manly was magic for me. I arrived in Australia when I was 14 and to be living 2 or 3 minutes away from the beach was Fantastic. Queenscliff lagoon was clean still, Manly was a lot less crowded. The Corso had real shops in it and you could drive all the way down it. I joined Queenscliff surf club and was accepted by the older clubbies and got into the gang of guys my age. We used to swim all day, play touch footy on the beach. Fibreglass boards had just arrived and there was a big divide between Surf and Board Clubbies and I never did get to ride a board. I was fairly hopeless in the surf but I gave it my best shot and rowed in the boats and did the R and R and stuff like that. It was very nice because I was pretty much exposed to undiluted Aussie culture and it was a good culture in the main to be in. 99.999% of the older guys were pretty much Mates of Natures Gentlemen and a lot of kindness and support was extended towards me. I didn't realise until much later that the leader of our gang was a (half/quarter I don't know cast) boy who was named after his older brother who was called Nama (short for Namatjira, a little joke there). He could swim better than us, tackle better, do everything better really as far as the physical was concerned. His older brother played front row for the Sea Eagles firsts. I was fourteen so I certainly wasn't noticing finely nuanced racism but as far as I was concerned there was a lot of respect for the Walkendons and I certainly shared in that. I guess I'm trying to say that Manly back then was free society where a person was respected for what he was. I guess it wasn't perfect in that respect but I loved it straight away and I was certainly privileged to be there at that time.

Did you have tutors to help you hone you craft ?

No, not back then, I went once to a guy in Lindfield who was known as a good bass player in town but he'd just split with his wife and was a trifle distraught in a very lonely house and I guess it wasn't a process I wanted to repeat. What you did was you bought a record you put the needle on the start of the song you want to learn you run it through the first couple of bars, you lift the needle up put it back at the start and do it all again till you get it . That was my tutor. I'd probably been playing for ten years before the first bass guitar centric piece of literature came out, thank you Carol Kaye, she was the bass player on most of the beach boys and west coast pop in the sixties. Before that the closest book you could get was Ray Brown's double bass Jazz method I think it was called. Very good if you wanted to play double bass in a modern jazz band, pretty useless if you wanted to play Rock bass guitar. You learnt from your peers as well but that could be a fraught process too, as you had to wonder if they knew what they were talking about too.

What is one stand out moment you remember from the Sunbury Festival ?

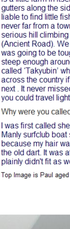
There isn't one, we'd been building and building in Melbourne, we were getting around to the festivals, going interstate more and more, going over better and better and getting more relaxed and competent(ish) in the studio. It was just an upward trend that was realised around the time of Sunbury plus of course there was an… ah abstraction from reality that was certainly part of the festival process as the Aztecs knew it. The most stand out memory for me for that period was the 3XY Meyer music bowl show later on that year. All sorts of numbers have been bandied about re attendance. Lets just say I've never seen so many people there. There used to be trees around the edge of the area and there were so many people in the branches that the trees were moving in rhythm with the music. We were a very loud band but when that set was played back at us it was the loudest thing I've ever heard, I think it was in 747 take off territory and it was totally intimidating. Gil Mathews, the Aztecs drummer at that time and now an owner of a record company "Aztec Music", nothing to do with me, has done a lot of re-releases of 70's Ozrock bands, he remasters them beautifully and he released the Aztecs at the Music bowl and also some stuff from the Festival hall before we went to London. It's worth a listen.

One or two treasured memories from being part of the Aztecs ?

Spilling two drinks over Billy in the first week I joined him at the Whiskey(Whiskey Au Go Go), he was sharp dresser, I can still see the look on his face after the second one. Going to Brisbane from Melbourne after Lobby joined. He wouldn't fly so we caught a sleeper up. Lobby was going through a no shoes Phase as well and he had to wear shoes to get on the train so he went to a bootmaker, bought two rectangles of soft leather and sewed them around his feet . They looked like strange black flippers, it was totally hilarious for us, don't know about anyone else though. The Ourimbah festival at er Ourimbah was the first rock festival in Oz . It was fantastic, beautiful country, very hippy.

How does it feel to have contributed to Australian Musical culture when it was finding its own voice?

At the time of course we were too busy going around the place doing our thing, and if you'd told me at the time that we were contributing to a culture and that Australia Post would commemorate us in a stamp issue, I would have thought you were off your trolley. A transit van at 3 o'clock in the morning on the Hume going up to Sydney . "Hey man we're contributing to Australian Culture" "Hahaha LOL, stop bogarting that thing." I suppose we did in a funny sort of way. A few rules got rewritten for the better ultimately I think, the blue meanies are always trying to come back of course. We all tried hard at the craft. There were some geniuses out there. I suppose it feels good to have done it the way it was done. There's always a few cringeworthy things in the picture but overall I don't think we have to hide in shame.




Above: Billy Thorpe & The Aztecs' Sunbury triumph commemorated in Australia Post's 1998 Australian Rock stamp series

You have recently travelled to Japan. What was the main difference you noticed between the city precincts and the rural areas ?

Japan, at least where we have been, is a country of valleys that people live in and steep steep hillsides. So you are heart pushed to find too much open space as in rural, what open space there is that's flat enough is farmed and there are so many people that along the valleys there is almost continual development. There are just about the same amount of people in Tokyo as in Oz I think . That is a pretty impressive statistic. The Japanese are such brilliant garden designers that you can be in downtown Kyoto and go into a temple garden and it feels like the most peaceful environment you can imagine and a million miles away from town. The whole place is an interminging of the ancient and the ultra modern, totally practical and whimsically magical. The country is writ small in the city and places you would think of as country towns are highly sophisticated with a rich history all of their own. Just about every domestic garden is a little farm in itself, people grow their own rice, and in the deep gutters along the sides of small roads in small communities you are liable to find little fish farms. We did find solitude although you are never far from a town or a road but to find it we had to do some serious hill climbing and walk along part of the Kumano Kodo (Ancient Road). We could see from the elevations in the maps that it was going to be tough and we trained for it but we just don't get steep enough around here. They have a very good system in Japan called 'Takyubin' where you can send your luggage ahead, right across the country if you have to, from one Ryokan or hotel to the next . It never missed a beat, just like everything else in Japan, so you could travel light .

Why were you called 'sheepdog'?

I was first called sheepdog by Wranga, famous Queenscliff and Manly surfclub boat sweep. The full title is English Sheepdog because my hair was slightly, very, long and I had just arrived from the old dart. It was at first interchanged with british lion but that plainly didn't fit as well as Sheepy.

Top Image is Paul aged 6, Redbridge Primary Schhol picture.

Above, March 7th, 2005, Melbourne Blues Festival. Left to Right: Paul Wheeler, Gil Mathews (Rattboy), a guy called Phil Chen, a U.S. bass player who was a mate of Billy's and who was playing with a U.S. band at the Tsunami concert, I think he played with Rod Stewart and some other big names, Billy (Billy Thorpe), Barnsey (Jimmy Barnes), Warren Morgan our keyboard player also known as Pigboy or Pig

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Above: Neva Carr Glyn Principal Girl Fullers- Theatre magazine **1926. Below; 1952**

Miss Neva Carr-Glynn as she appears in the role of Portia in "The Merchant of Venice."

NevaResearchTROVE2012.pdf
Size : 49.135 Kb
Type : pdf

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## Neva Josephine Mary Carr-Glynn

**10th of May, 1908– 10th of August, 1975**

A vivacious lady who lived at Bongin Bongin Bay, Mona Vale (the Basin) and was a legend in Australian radio, film and theatre was Vera Carr-Glynn. Named 'Neva' for a great-aunt, a contralto of some quality, who sang many times throughout Australia, our Neva was born in Melbourne to Adolphus Benjamin Carr Glynn (d.1923), an Irish-born vaudevillian known professionally as 'Arthur Glynn', and his wife Marie Dunoon, née Senior(stage name 'Marie Avis'), a singer from Scotland. Her parents were with the Fred Niblo company touring the J. C. Williamson circuit at this time and some sources state Neva's theatrical debut was four months later, in New Zealand, when Fred Niblo carried her on stage. By age 4 she was playing the young William to her mother's Lady Isabel Vane in East Lynne, a very popular play of then based on the 1861 book by Ellen Wood. From age five to twelve Neva was boarded in convent schools, ending in Sydney (Parramatta). At eight she was at the Minnie Hooper School of Dancing also and at eleven dancing in a revue called 'The Queen of Sheba' at the Sydney Town Hall. By age thirteen her dancing skills won her a place in the chorus line of a Fuller Brothers pantomime Dick Wittington and His Cat at the Majestic Theatre, Newtown then in 1925 toured with the Band Box Revue, now a whole 18 years of age. In **1926** she entered the Miss Australia contest and came 10th!

Constantly working, by 1929 Neva and her mother toured South Africa in 1931 where she was, by now, playing lead roles in comedies. From South Africa she went to London and worked in theatre and also made four movies with luminaries such as Ann Todd and Sydney Howard. While in London she married Australian grazier Arthur John then promptly left him when he insisted she give up her stage career.

Neva came home to Australia in 1937 and worked in pantomimes by day and revues with Jim Gerald and Ella Shields at night. The following year she was working for the Australian Broadcasting Commission doing radio plays with Peter Finch. The family's high qualities of voice paid off here as she became known as one the queens of Australian radio in the era when everyone listened, when this was what evening family entertainment was, almost two decades before the advent of television.

In 1940 she married fellow actor John Tate (of Russian descent). In 1942 their son Nick Tate was born. Nick is an internationally renowned Australian actor with a string of entertainment credits longer then both your arms. It was soon after that this small family purchased a simply cottage near Bongin Bongin Bay, Mona Vale, and spent their more relaxing times surfing, or as Neva once put it 'messing about in boats'. In an interview with Nick by ABC's Simon Marney, taped for his Sunday Brunch radio series in 2009, this now mature gent recalled these times with fondness and stated he still plays golf at Bayview when he can.

*Radio Star Returns To The Stage: ...; She (Neva) is enjoying enormously her return to the live theatre with the John Alden Company, and the challenge of Shakespearean roles. In private life, as Mrs. John Tate, she has a permanent home at Mona vale. NSW, where with her husband and son, nine-year-old Nicholas, she enjoys the vigors of boating and surfing.*
Radio Star Returns To. (**1952, March 14**). *The Advertiser* (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), p. 11. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article47373940

As technology developed television, this versatile lady, who definitely followed all thespians creed of 'get work, keep working' appeared in the Homicide series, Skippy, and played Mrs Gillipop for four years in the children's television show, 'The Gillipops'. While doing all this she was still working hard in theatre and Australian films, and lived, from 1954 when she and her second husband divorced (John Tate returning to England) full time at Mona Vale.

Acclaimed during her lifetime for her contributions to her craft, adaptability, professional attitude, with a clear love of Pittwater and everything Australian, this lady of our bays enriched and entertained thousands and was considered by her peers one of the best in both drama and comedy.

Tweet Like +1

Above: Bongin Bongin (means 'many shells') Bay, Mona Vale, also known as The Basin, Mona Vale.

# Pittwater Online News



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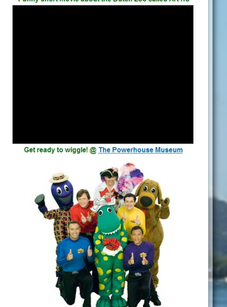
**School Hols. Bemusement: ZOO - Bert Haanstra (1962) - Funny short movie about the Dutch Zoo called ARTIS**



Get ready to wiggle! @ The Powerhouse Museum

## RE-RUN OF CHILDREN'S THEATRE - NO DRAMA AT LIBRARY!

A 'reader's theatre' will return to Mona Vale Library next term for budding dramatists aged between 10 and 12. The sessions are hosted by drama teacher Helen Rosenkranz free of charge once a fortnight at the library, **starting next term on Wednesday 2 May 2012.**

As librarian Rebecah Vick explains, the reader's theatre gives children the chance to read aloud plays and enjoy other dramatic activities under the direction of an experienced drama teacher.

"They'll learn how to project their voice, the importance of using expression to add emotion and tips on speaking clearly and more slowly to get their audience's attention," she said. "Overall the reader's theatre classes are designed to improve children's confidence in public speaking."

"We had a lot of interest in the reader's theatre last term, so are delighted that we can offer the sessions again. They start again on Wednesday 2 May and run every fortnight on a Wednesday between 4pm and 5pm, " said Ms Vick.

Classes are free-of-charge but bookings are essential; to book phone the library on 9970 1600. For more information call Rebeccah on 9970 1622. The reader's theatre is just one of several events planned to celebrate 2012 as the National Year of Reading.

Mona Vale Library is located at 1 Park Street Mona Vale. For more information visit www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/library

## Local Music from Local Musicians

**Wednesday 18th April**

Lizottes, 629 Pittwater Road, Dee Why, 7pm, $15
Drum Media And Lizottes Presents Live And Local.
Al-la-carte and bar menu available.
Bookings: 9984 9933 www.lizottes.com.au/live/index.asp
Artist inquiries email: lizottesmonicadreeh@gmail.com

Mona Vale Hotel, Cnr Park St and Barrenjoey Rd, Mona Vale
Open Mic Night, host: Jamie Kaye
www.facebook.com/groups/147495429955 or contact Jamie
jamie.kaye@hotmail.com 0466 26 76 56

**Friday 20th April**

The La Bar Avalon, 41 Old Barrenjoey Rd, Avalon 7.30pm - 11.30pm
Avalon's Alive - Music's Right! www.sonsoftheisle.com.au
Contact Keith keith@keitharmitage.com Keith Armitage (02) 9452-3219

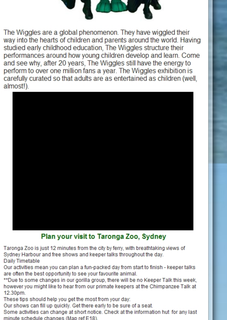
**Saturday 21st April**

Radio Northern Beaches 90.3 and 88.7 fm streaming from www.mtb.org.au 2-5pm
(replayed on Monday 1-4pm)
Stress Free Saturday Afternoon with Lawrence Atkinson. Special guest (4-6pm): Ben Osmo

Terrey Hills Tavern, 2 Aumuna Rd, Terrey Hills, 7pm-11pm FREE
Sat 21 Apr, 7.30-11pm: Terrey Hills Tavern, 2 Aumuna Rd, Terrey Hills
Songs:Ortifage: Suspect Behaviour, Neville K, Carolyn Woodoth (host)
Contact Russell Hall songsinortifage@hotmail.com or just turn up!

**Friday 27th April**

The La Bar Avalon, 41 Old Barrenjoey Rd, Avalon 7.30pm - 11.30pm
Avalon's Alive - Music's Right!
www.sonsoftheisle.com.au Contact Keith keith@keitharmitage.com



The Wiggles are a global phenomenon. They have wiggled their way into the hearts of children and parents around the world. Having studied early childhood education, The Wiggles structure their performances around how young children develop and learn. Come and see why, after 20 years, The Wiggles still have the energy to perform to over one million fans a year. The Wiggles exhibition is carefully curated so that adults are as entertained as children (well, almost!).

## Plan your visit to Taronga Zoo, Sydney

Taronga Zoo is just 12 minutes from the city by ferry, with breathtaking views of Sydney Harbour and free shows and keeper talks throughout the day.
Daily Timetable
Our activities mean you can plan a fun-packed day from start to finish - keeper talks are often the best opportunity to see your favourite animal.
**Due to some changes in our gorilla group, there will be no Keeper Talk this week, however you might like to hear from our primate keepers at the Chimpanzee Talk at 12.30pm.
These tips should help you get the most from your day:
Our shows can fill up quickly. Get there early to be sure of a seat.
Some activities can change at short notice. Check at the information hut for any last minute schedule changes (Map ref E16).
10.00 am Koala Talk
10.00 am Aussie nocturnal house opens
10.30 - 11.30 am KidZoo at Backyard to Bush
11.00 am Ausgrid Seal Show
11.00 am – 2.45 pm Koala Photo (booking required)
11.30 am Backyard Buddies
11.30 am **Gorilla Keeper Talk
11.30 am Reptile Keeper Presentation
11.30 am Tasmanian Devil Talk
12.00 pm QBE Free Flight Bird Show
12.00 pm Reptile Photo (booking required)
12.30 pm Chimpanzee Talk
1.00 pm Koala Photo (booking required)
1.00 pm Elephant Keeper Talk
1.00 pm *Ausgrid Seal Show
1.30 pm Bush Bird Trail
1.30 pm Giraffe Keeper Talk
1.30 – 2.30 pm KidZoo at Backyard to Bush
1.45 – 2.15 pm Giraffe Photo (booking required)
2.00 pm Ausgrid Seal Show
2.00 pm Farm Yarns
2.15 pm Big Cats Talk
2.40 pm Penguin Talk
3.00 pm QBE Free Flight Bird Show
3.00 pm Spider Talk
3.30 pm Koala Talk
* The 1pm Ausgrid Seal Show is on during weekends and school holiday periods only.
It is only a few minutes from the CBD, but with its vast collection of animals and awe-inspiring views, Taronga Zoo is a million miles from the everyday.
Book Online and save 10%

## Love Food, Hate Waste Cookbook

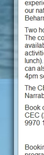
Our own Pittwater Council has joined with other councils in our area to produce an online cookbook especially for children. This 'flipbook' Program allows you to read through and get some great ideas on how to use leftover veggies to make great pasta or make mini pizza. Yum !

Love food hate waste book HERE

## PITTWATER COUNCIL

## FUN APRIL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS

Pittwater Council's Coastal Environment Centre (CEC) has announced the release of its exciting autumn holiday program for kids. Kids on the Coast offers healthy and fun outdoor activities for 5 to 12 year olds from Tuesday 10 April to Friday 20 April. Activities include Art Rocks by the Sea, Reptile Romp, Bush Creature Creations, Coastal Capers and new activities such as Aboriginal Heritage & Song, Hermit Crab Mania and Crazy about Cetaceans.



Council's Natural Environment & Education Manager Mark Beharrell said the program encouraged children to explore beaches, rock platforms, headlands, bushland, wetlands and the Narrabeen Lagoon foreshore. "Kids on the Coast is the ideal school holiday experience. The program gives children the chance to learn about our natural environment in a fun and interactive way," said Mr Beharrell.

Two hour sessions are held from 10am to 12pm and 1pm to 3pm. The cost is $22 per child per session, with full-day sessions available from 10am to 3pm at $55 per child (for standard activities), which includes supervision between sessions (BYO lunch). Working parents may require extended care for their children can also take advantage of a 9am to 10am session and/or a 3pm to 4pm session. These sessions are an additional $10 each.

The CEC is located at Pelican Path, Lake Park Road, North Narrabeen, book online from the North Narrabeen beach entrance.

Book online at www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/ceckids or call 1300 000 CEC (232). For further inquiries please call Bianca Springford on 9970 1313 or email bianca_springford@pittwater.nsw.gov.au

## EASTER HOLIDAY FUN

Bookings are now open for Pittwater Council's Vacation Care program running from Tuesday 10 April until Friday 20 April inclusive. Council's vacation care program offers a wide variety of activities for children from kindy to year seven, with the centre operating between 7.30am and 6pm. The vacation care is based in the main hall of Mona Vale Sports High School on Narmona Street, North Narrabeen.

Pittwater Council's Children's Services Manager, Merron Howard, said children would have plenty to choose from to keep them amused these holidays. "As well as our popular movie and pyjama day, we've also organised a trip to the Easter Show, Taronga Zoo, The Quarantine Station and a paddling/kayaking trip on Narrabeen Lake," said Ms Howard.

For full program details visit www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/children

The cost for vacation care is $57 per child per day, which includes all excursions. Rebates are available through the Family Assistance Office. Parents are reminded that a late fee does apply to bookings made after the closing date. Bookings can be made online or at Council's customer service centres at Avalon and Mona Vale. **Bookings close on Wednesday 4 April 2012.**

## Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards Optional Theme for 2012: Wheel and Wings and Marvellous Things

**The oldest and largest poetry competition for school aged children in Australia**. The Awards optional theme for the 2012 is 'Wheels and Wings and Marvellous Things' - celebrating the vivid images poetry creates as we read and ponder the written verse.

**The competition dates for this year are from 1st March to 30th June 2012**. More Information and Entry at:

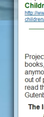
http://www.dorothea.com.au/

Above: Dorothea Mackellar dressed as one of the Graces for Mrs T.H. Kelly's Italian Red Cross Day tableau at Her Majesty's Theatre, 25 June 1918 (Photographer: Glen Broughton. WWI Fundraiser. Courtesy State Library of NSW. Image a928963

## Bus Pass Replacement

HERE

## National Year of Reading 2012:



For teens, we (Federal Government) will be running the National Year of Reading Creative Reading Prize. It's an expansion of something that already happens through the Centre for Youth Literature (http://www.insideadog.com.au/blog/inkys-creative-reading-prize-2011)

Young people will be asked to nominate the one book they think their peers must read in 2012 and then to provide a convincing argument in the form of a creative response to the story. This will be a book review, but it could be in the form of words, pictures, film, song, or something even more avant garde. We'll be partnering with insideadog.com.au, spineout.com.au and Madman Entertainment to create a fantastic competition with some really great prizes. More at: http://www.love2read.org.au/

As part of this: **Bedtime Stories: Downloadable Tales for Children** Available right now AT:
http://www.australianwomensonline.com/bedtime-stories-downloadable-tales-for-children/

## Australian Stories Online

Project Gutenberg Australia, has a great list of old legends and books, filled with stories, that you may not be able to access anymore as some of them are a few hundred years old and either out of print or in museums where it can be even more difficult to read these words. You can access them online though. Project Gutenberg Australia is at: http://gutenberg.net.au/

**The Internet allows us to store and access Old Books, Films and photos that may not be accessible elsewhere.**

**For works now archived and available to all, please visit: http://www.archive.org/**

**No charge for mobile phone calls to Lifeline from anywhere in Australia;** Mobile phone calls to **Lifeline** made from anywhere in Australia will be free of charge from **1 July** under an agreement made between the three major phone carriers.

## Send In Your Stuff

Pittwater Online News is not only For and About you, it is also **BY** you. We cannot publish knowingly or the maligning of others (this is the opposite of what we stand for). If you have a poem, story or something you want to see addressed, let us know or send to: pittwateronlinenews@live.com.au

## *All are Welcome, All Belong !*

## Bullying; NO WAY !!!

This website has many different items and guidelines on how to deal with bullying. If you can't find it there, ask someone in school or talk to mum and dad. **Make sure you are heard**. We are here to lift each other up, not tear each other down. Anyone who tries to tell you otherwise is wrong.

## Storm Surfers 3D – The Movie!

The Catalyst Program (22/3/2012) on the ABC introduced the audience to some new camera technology and overcoming problems to make things work when making a 3D Surfing movie. Currently in production, it features Tom Carroll and Ross Clarke-Jones, Pittwater and Central Coast respectively, and takes you inside the waves and into the water in ways only 3D can. You can check out a preview and more info at

Catalyst Story and the Storm Surfers website.

## FREE! EASTER HOLIDAY MARTIAL ARTS WORKSHOPS FOR KIDS!



Hoshin Australia runs anti-bullying workshops for kids most school holidays; but we know sometimes kids just want to cut loose and have fun - so THIS EASTER, we have TWO free workshops you are going to LOVE!

**April 15, 9am - 12pm MET/SIBU/SHI Seminar! Kids 8 - 12 years**

Learn how Ninja Warriors made themselves "Disappear" in Ancient Japan! Learn tactical thinking skills playing games like "capture the flag" Have a great time making a HUGE MESS and getting dirtier than ever before! YES! It is our Ninja Holiday Workshop and it's FREE!

**April 16 1pm - 3pm Kids 4 - 7 years**

Learn how Ninja Warriors threw Shuriken! Improve your eye-hand coordination, focus and posture! Learn how to throw things and hit your target!

YES! This is our school holiday workshop for the littlies and we are going to THROW STUFF AROUND!

Information regarding items needed for Holiday workshops will be emailed out to families on confirmation of booking. Books are compulsory, please visit www.hoshin.com.au and go to our contact form, please ensure you include a contact phone number. Alternatively, TEXT your details and number of participants to 0413376356

Are You up to the Red Belt Challenge!? by Hoshin Australia

SINGING FOR KIDS
• Singing coaching, individuals / groups
• Voice production coaching, presentation / public speaking etc
• Audition and performance coaching
• Holiday workshops
OUT LOUD!
Singing and Voice Coaching
0401 343 569
$30 individuals 30 mins
$10 p/p group (min. 4) 45 mins (3-7yrs & 8-10yrs)
MORE INFO AND CONTACT DETAILS FOR KIDS AND ADULTS SEE OVER
The Coaching promotes listening skills, musicality, rhythm, pitch tone and encourages CONFIDENCE whilst having FUN.
Performance and audition preparation can be included if desired.
Individual coaching sessions for public speaking skills
(school/corporate presentations etc) are also available.

# Pittwater Online News



**April 15 - 21, 2012: Issue 54**

Warringah Council | Pittwater Council

## Super Seniors Directory

A massive directory for all northern beaches seniors is hitting the streets for Seniors Week. The Services, Activities & Housing Directory 2012-2013 is a one-stop-shop for all northern beaches seniors thanks to a successful partnership between Warringah, Pittwater and Manly Councils.

"We have a vast array of services available for seniors on the northern beaches and now, for the first time, they're all in one, easy to read publication," said Warringah Mayor, Michael Regan.

Mayor Harvey Rose said the directory contained everything from information on retirement planning to fun ways to keep fit. "It's a handbook on healthy ageing," he said.

"It's a collaboration between the three councils on the Northern Beaches, so wherever you reside from Manly to Palm Beach, there are contacts in the guide for your social and everyday needs" said Manly Mayor Jean Hay.

The directories can be found at Council's Customer Service; Libraries, Community Centres or online at the council websites.

If older people with mobility problems have difficulty assessing the directory - contact Aged Services and you will be sent a copy.

## Senior Movers

Senior Movers is a wonderful resource for the Pittwater senior community who are thinking about downsizing from their property. Senior Movers want you to stop worrying about downsizing from the family home and let us take care of you. Senior movers gives you peace of mind during stressful times of downsizing and moving to a smaller home. No retirement living plan is too large or too small. We are glad to help whether it is a move to a loved one's home, assisted living or to a seniors apartment.

We want you to we help you gracefully downsize with our experience and care. Click on logo to visit website.

www.seniormovers.com.au

Also see Belinda Grundy's Profile other great Business; www.bgpropertystyling.com.au

### Pittwater Community Hub

Our recently opened office at Mona Vale is ready for service. We are located in Shop 17 on the ground floor of the Peninsula Plaza at 20 Bungan Street. We are open Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 4.00pm. The new Hub is fully 'manned' by our professional staff and local volunteers who can answer enquiries and provide personal assistance to meet the needs of residents of the northern beaches.

**Click on logo to visit their website for more**

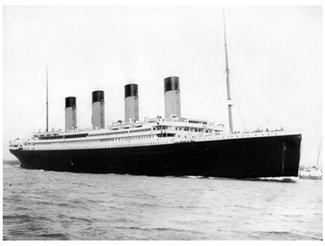
Northside Community CONNECT

### Independent Website for Elders:

**http://www.agedcarecrisis.com/about**

About us: We are an independent group of Australian citizens, who are deeply concerned at the provision of aged care in Australia, specifically the delivery of quality care for our elderly and frail citizens, including those who are residents of aged care facilities. We do not receive any funding. We are not affiliated with any government body. We are not affiliated with any religious body . We are completely independent
www.agedcarecrisis.com provides a voice for elderly and frail citizens in Australia

## Titanic Anniversary



Above: RMS Titanic departing Southampton on April 10, 1912, Source http://www.uwants.com/viewthread.php?tid=3817223&extra=page%3D1 Author: F.G.O. Stuart (1843-1923): Francis Godolphin Osbourne Stuart was a Scottish photographer.

Today, 15th of April, 2012, is the 100th Anniversary of the loss of the RMS Titanic (RMS= Royal Mail Ship). All over the world, and especially in New York, Belfast, (where she was built) Southhampton, England (where she sailed from) and even mid-ocean where she sank, memorial services are taking place. In Australia the Australian Maritime Museum is currently offering an exhibition titled *Remembering Titanic – 100 years.* The exhibition will run until November 11th, 2012 and entrance is free for Australian pensioners. The museum is at 2 Murray Street, Darling Harbour, Sydney NSW 2000, Australia. Getting There. A little bit about this must see exhibition from:
http://titanicexhibition.anmm.gov.au/ ;

Titanic was to be the greatest ship afloat, shining proof of the industrial power of the modern world. But tragically, this vision was shattered on its first voyage when it struck an iceberg and sank on 15 April 1912 with the loss of over 1500 lives.
The exhibition Remembering Titanic – 100 years presents the history of this epic tragedy from construction to fateful sinking and rediscovery, and the controversy surrounding it.

Drawing on replica objects, ship models, memorabilia, newspapers, and graphics the exhibition concentrates on the human stories behind the disaster from the 'unsinkable' Molly Brown to the unsung heroes like junior wireless operator Harold Sydney Bride and Arthur Henry Rostron, Captain of the Carpathia which came to Titanic's aid.

Visitors to the exhibition will see a large memorial wall at entry to the exhibition, which lists the names of all the known survivors and victims of the sinking and provides a dramatic visual of the size of the disaster.

The exhibition also looks at the impact of Titanic on popular culture from books to films culminating in the 1997 James Cameron blockbuster Titanic. On display will be nine costumes and selected props from the film including outfits worn by Kate Winslet, Leonardo DiCaprio and Billy Zane.

Controversy has surrounded Titanic for decades…from the shocking number of deaths, particularly among third class passengers, to the scarcity of lifeboats on board. And in more recent years the salvaging of the wreck site and recovery of objects have been likened to grave robbing. The exhibition looks at these issues, the basis for them and the differing viewpoints.

**TICKET INFO FOR All ages**
WHEN Open daily, 9:30am to 5:00pm
COST Part of Galleries and Exhibitions Ticket
Adults $7.00
Child/Concession* $3.00
Family (2a + 3c) $17.50
Members, **Australian Pensioners**, ICOM & Museum Australia members, children under four **enter free**. CONTACT; 02 9298 3777

More at: RMS Titanic. (2012, April 14). In Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia. Retrieved from http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=RMS_Titanic&oldid=487265394

**Contact Community Care Northern Beaches by clicking their logo:**

CCNB COMMUNITY CARE (NORTHERN BEACHES) LIMITED

### Avalon Computer Pals for Seniors

AVPALS is a volunteer organisation dedicated to helping seniors improve their computer skills. Started in 2000 it now has 20+ trainers and many hundreds of students. At a really low cost (about $30 a school term) they can provide one to one training on most matters connected with computing. From the smallest problem (how to hold the mouse!) to much more serious matters, there is a trainer who can help.

The training rooms are under the Catholic Church in Avalon and training is conducted Monday to Friday from 9am to 4pm. For more information visit AVPALS web site www.avpals.com or or phone 02 8064 3574

**Article on their Seminar**

**The Senior Newspaper Online**
**Click on logo:**

Australian Senior PUBLICATIONS

HEARTMOVES | Heart Foundation

**Heartmoves is a low-moderate intensity exercise program. Regular participation in Heartmoves will help to:**

- Better manage weight, blood sugars, blood pressure and cholesterol
- Improve fitness, balance, co-ordination and flexibility
- Enhance your quality of life and meet other people

Ingrid Davey is a qualified Older Adult Instructor and accredited Heartmoves Leader who will guide you through an exercise program that is fun, safe and modified to suit you. Tuesday 9.30am and Thursday 10.30am at Nelson Heather Centre, 4 Jackson Road Warriewood. New people welcome every week. $8.00 casual Phone Ingrid to secure your spot on 0405 457 063.
www.heartfoundation.org.au

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# Pittwater Online News



April 15 - 21, 2012: Issue 54

## Birdlife International Updates for April

Australia's voice for birds since 1901

## The new BirdLife Australia website is live!

www.birdlife.org.au is the place to go for everything about Australia's birds and their conservation. Whether you want help to learn more about our native birds, wish to find out about some of the important conservation work we do, or perhaps want to get involved with those who share your passion for birds in your local area – it's all ready and waiting for you.

A few tips and facts about the new site:

Navigating our new website is easy with large white drop down boxes that give you all of our content at a glance.

Look out for the incredible All about Birds section – it's been developed just for the new site and we think it's great!

This is phase 1 of the new website development and phase 2 will come later in the year with even more to offer. The new website brings together the work of Birds Australia and Bird Observation & Conservation Australia (BOCA), the two organisations that have now joined forces to create BirdLife Australia (BirdLife Partner).

Thank you for being part of our truly motivated community of bird lovers, and helping us to create a bright future for Australia's birds. Explore, Learn, Discover, Enjoy!

## National assessment shows Australians must work abroad to save their birds

A newly published study shows Australians must work with international partners if they are to save all of Australia's birds.

Charles Darwin University Research Fellow Dr Judit Szabo and lead author said research showed that the status of Australian birds was declining faster than elsewhere in the world. "The main reason is a rapid decline in migratory shorebirds coming here from Asia and ongoing threats to oceanic seabirds."

The Australian Research Council funded study, done in conjunction with BirdLife Australia and published in the journal Biological Conservation, reports on changes in the Red List criteria for all Australian species and subspecies of birds since 1990. The Index is used by the world's governments to assess performance under the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Millennium Development Goals. The new study is the first time the Index has been applied at a national level.

BirdLife International's Dr Stuart Butchart and developer of the Red List Index said that the status of birds in Australia would have been much worse if it weren't for the work being done to prevent extinctions.

"Nearly 30 species are better off than they would have been if it weren't for effective investment of time and money into threatened species conservation," Dr Butchart said. "The analysis shows that targeted investment can produce measurable improvement."

The analysis also compared States and Territories. While the Index has declined in all jurisdictions, the Australian Capital Territory has the best score and Tasmania the worst. Tasmania is also the place where bird status is declining fastest.

Regent Honeyeater is the subject of an extensive conservation programme, photo copyright Peter Ross

## Fijian local conservation group receives global award

A local group working to conserve the Natewa Tunuloa Important Bird Area in Fiji has won the prestigious Equator Prize for 2012. The Sisi Initiative stood out among more than 800 entries as a remarkable demonstration of local development solutions for people, nature, and resilient communities", said Eileen de Klerk – manager of the Equator Initiative.

The Equator Prize shines a spotlight on outstanding local and indigenous groups from across the world working towards sustainable development. The winners were announced at a special UNDP ceremony in New York last Friday, and representatives of winning communities will receive their prize – of between $US 5,000 and $US 20,000 – at an award ceremony at the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), which will be held in Brazil in June 2012.

Establishment of the community-based Sisi Initiative was supported by the BirdLife Fiji Programme in 2006 in response to illegal logging, forest fires, encroaching agricultural encroachment and invasive alien species around the Natewa Tunuloa Important Bird Area. Important Bird Areas are sites that are of critical importance for the survival of wild birds and nature in Fiji and around the globe. Natewa Tunuloa covers large tracts of old-growth rainforest which support globally threatened birds such as Shy Ground-dove and Silktail.

## Thirty years of campaigning for Tassie's forests has lead to this moment...

The next eight weeks will determine the future of Tasmania's forests. The Wilderness Society will be meeting with other parties to the Tasmanian Forest Agreement to undertake the final, critical stages of negotiation. We'll be giving it everything we've got, and we'll need your help to get the Agreement – and our forests – over the line.

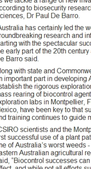
Join our forest action group so we can carry the voices of thousands into the negotiating room. Our campaigners on the inside will update you weekly on the process, and tell you how you can take action to help secure the world-class protection our forests deserve.

For thirty years, the Wilderness Society has been fighting to stop the destruction of Tasmania's ancient forests at the hands of the government and the logging industry.

Two years ago, conservationists, industry representatives and timber communities sat down to talk with an aim to end this decades-old battle and protect Tasmania's last wild forests, and the Tasmanian Forests Agreement was born.

We've seen trials and setbacks, but the Agreement is the best chance Tassie has ever had to protect iconic forests like the Styx, the Weld, and the Upper Florentine. This opportunity won't come again.

If you're one of the thousands of Australians who've spoken up for Tassie's forests in the past, then please – **we need your voice now.**




Includes: Aquatic ecosystems in inland Australia: tourism and recreational values, economic, ecological impacts and imperatives for management. The proteomes of Sydney rock oysters vary substantially according to environment to acid sulfate soil. A foraminiferal proxy record of 20th century sea-level rise in the Manukau Harbour, New Zealand

## Biological control - a natural solution in the war on weeds

### From CSIRO Media Releases

Biological control has an outstanding history and great future potential in the battle to control the invasive weeds that impact Australia's landscapes, biodiversity and agriculture, according to CSIRO.

Australia's impressive 100-year history in biocontrol of weeds is recorded and celebrated, and the importance of future biocontrol is highlighted by CSIRO, state, national and international authors in the book, Biological Control of Weeds in Australia, published by CSIRO Publishing and launched in Canberra today.

"Using the natural enemies of foreign or invasive weeds has proven to be a key weapon in the war on weeds and is still front and centre as we tackle a range of new invasions in the 21st century," according to biocontrol research leader with CSIRO Ecosystem Sciences, Dr Paul De Barro.

"Australia has certainly led the world over the past century with its groundbreaking research and introduction of biological control – starting with the spectacular success against prickly pear cactus in the early part of the 20th century and gaining speed from there," Dr De Barro said.

Along with state and Commonwealth agencies, CSIRO has played an important part in developing Australia's expertise and helping establish the rigorous testing and screening processes and the mass rearing of biocontrol agents. CSIRO's biological control and exploration labs in Montpellier, France, and formerly in Hong Kong, Mexico, have been key to that success, and Australian research and training continues to guide many international activities.

"CSIRO scientists and the Montpellier lab were instrumental in the first successful use of a plant pathogen or rust to massively reduce one of Australia's worst weeds - skeleton weed – from south eastern Australian agricultural regions over 15 years," Dr De Barro said, "Biocontrol has delivered 10s of 1000s of 1000s to reach full effect, and while not all efforts succeed they invariably complement other measures and the cost benefits are indisputable. For every dollar spent on biocontrol research and development, it has been shown that $23 of benefits flowed to the agriculture and health sectors, and the environmental benefits would be on top of that. Weeds biocontrol represents exceptional bang for buck but requires commitment across the short and long-term horizons and across jurisdictions to deliver its full potential. CSIRO sees weeds biocontrol research as an important part of the contribution we can make to Australia's biosecurity and it is a key element of CSIRO's effort targeting pest and disease threats to be coordinated through our developing Australian Biosecurity Flagship. For a book that will serve as an invaluable guide and reference source for anyone involved in biological control, I commend the editors Mic Julien, Rachel McFadyen and Jim Cullen, and all the Chapter authors who have made it possible."

More facts from the book: Biological Control of Weeds in Australia

Published by CSIRO Publishing and launched today, Biological Control of Weeds in Australia provides a comprehensive review of the biological control activities undertaken against weeds in Australia over the last 100 years.

Edited by Mic Julien, Rachel McFadyen and Jim Cullen, the 648-page book demonstrates the far-reaching economic, environmental and scientific benefits that biological control has provided Australia, and the importance of its role in the future of the country. From 1903 and 2010, a total of 73 weeds have been targeted for biocontrol in Australia, and more than 200 insect and pathogens have been released as biocontrol agents against these weeds.

By the 1980s Australia was a world leader in weed species targeted and new agents introduced, and also led the world with the first deliberate introduction of a plant pathogen as a biocontrol agent, the rust Puccinia chondrillina, released in 1971 to control skeleton weed Chondrilla juncea.

## Pittwater's Environmental Foundation

Pittwater Environmental Foundation was established in 2006 to conserve and enhance the natural environment of the Pittwater local government area through the application of tax-deductible donations, gifts and bequests. The Directors were appointed by Pittwater Council. Our PROFILE

About 33% (about 1600 ha excluding National Parks) of the original pre-European bushland in Pittwater remains in a reasonably natural or undisturbed condition. Of this, only about 400ha remains in public ownership. All remaining natural bushland is subject to encroachment, illegal clearing, weed invasion, feral animals, altered drainage, bushfire hazard reduction requirements and other edge effects.

Within Pittwater 38 species of plants or animals are listed as endangered or threatened under NSW Threatened Species Act. There are two endangered populations (Koala and Squirrel Glider) and eight endangered ecological communities or types of bushland. To visit their site please click on logo above.

**For tips on how to be more energy efficient, visit Climate Action Pittwater at:**
**http://www.climateactionpittwater.org.au/**

Florabank recognises and shares the best available knowledge from research and practice in native species seed management. More at http://www.florabank.org.au/default.asp?V_DOC_ID=1 Click on logo above for Index to the most extensive list of fact sheets on every Australian plant.

## April Friday 20-Sunday 22
## Asparagus Fern Out , Pittwater YHA at Morning Bay

A bargain weekend in return for two mornings of bush regenera-tion removing Asparagus Fern in Spotted Gum forest. Guests have exclusive use of the hostel & can enjoy talks, & guided walks in Ku-ring-gai Chase NP.

birdwatching, friendly swamp wallabies,

free use of hostel kayaks, fantastic scenery, peace & quiet

accommodation & meals (2 dinners & 2 lunches) at reduced rates,

subsidised transport from Morning Bay Wharf to the hostel. BYO breakfasts. No dogs in National Park please. **There is space for only 30 people to enjoy this wonderful place, so bring your friends & book early. Costs: $15 as a contribution (a $50 booking fee applies with $35 refund on arrival)** Option: come for one day & stay for BBQ lunch. Bookings essential. Contact Pittwater YHA email: pittwater@yha.com.au Ph: 9999 5748

## Coastal Environment Centre

**The Coastal Environment Centre (CEC) is a multi-award winning regional community centre, environmental learning centre, and Pittwater Council's environmental flagship. CEC is celebrating its 20th year this December**

**More at:** http://www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/cec

**Monthly Coastal Newsletter below! Would like to receive Council's environmental newsletter via email, please contact jodi_harvey@pittwater.nsw.gov.au**

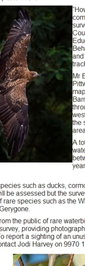
## April 2012 Newsletter includes information on: BushCare Planting Activities (volunteers needed), Workshops and Events, and more

HERE

## PITTWATER-WIDE SURVEY OF WATERBIRDS

Pittwater Council has received a $12,000 grant from the NSW Office of Environment & Heritage to conduct the first comprehensive survey of Pittwater's waterbirds. The survey, which will measure bird numbers and their species, is also intended to map the potential effects of climate change on waterbirds' habitat.

The survey will build on data obtained from earlier ones carried out between the late 1990s and 2007 in Pittwater, as well as a waterbird survey recently completed by Hornsby Council within the Hawkesbury catchment.



However this is the most comprehensive Pittwater-wide survey of waterbirds," said the Council's Natural Environment Education Manager Mark Beharrell. "We are using boats and land-based observations to track the birds," he said.

Mr Beharrell said the entire Pittwater estuary would be mapped by the survey, from Barrenjoey Head in the north through to McCarrs Creek in the west and Winnererremy Bay in the south. Pittwater's offshore waters will also be surveyed.

A total of ten surveys of waterbirds will be carried out between January and June this year, five by land and five by boat.

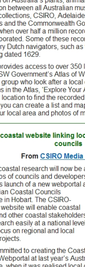
Common species such as ducks, cormorants, herons, ibis, pelicans and gulls will be assessed but the survey team are also hoping for sightings of rare species such as the Whistling Kite and the Mangrove Gerygone.

Sightings from the public of rare waterbirds will also be counted as part of the survey, providing photographic evidence can be supplied. To report a sighting of an unusual waterbird or their location, contact Jodi Harvey on 9970 1366.

Above: Mangrove Gerygone (Gerygone levigaster); Top: Whistling Kite (Haliastur sphenurus)

## 17th Century Dutch explorers help the Atlas reach a major milestone - 30 million records!

### From CSIRO Media Releases




The **Atlas of Living Australia** added its 30 millionth species occurrence record last week; making it the largest collection of rich information on Australia's plants, animals and fungi. The Atlas, a collaboration between all Australian museums, herbaria and biological collections, CSIRO, Adelaide and Southern Cross Universities and the Commonwealth Government, reached this milestone when over half a million records from Birdlife Australia were incorporated. Some of these records come from the diaries of 17th Century Dutch navigators, such as the record for a Brush Bronzewing recorded 1629.

The Atlas provides access to over 350 large and small datasets, from the NSW Government's Atlas of Wildlife to the records of a community group who look after a local creek. One of the applications in the Atlas, 'Explore Your Area', allows you to enter an address or location to find the recorded species nearby. At the click of a button you can create a list and map of species that have been found in your local area and photos of most of them.

## New coastal website linking local research with local councils

### From CSIRO Media Releases

The latest coastal research will now be at the fingertips of councils and developers, with today's launch of a new webportal at the Australasian Coasts and Ports Conference in Hobart. The CSIRO-developed website will enable coastal councils, and other coastal stakeholders, to find research easily at a single location and then focus on regional and local research projects.

CSIRO committed to creating the Coastal Research Webportal at last year's Australian Coastal Councils Conference, when it was realised that councils lead a low awareness of the range of coastal research available.

Dr Andy Steven, from CSIRO's Wealth from Oceans Flagship said, "By creating a central webportal to access the latest research data, decision makers will be able to better evaluate proposals for their communities".

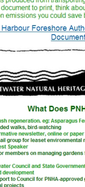
The webportal has short, plain English, acronym-free research summaries and it provides further links to freely available data and research, under the Creative Commons license. The webportal, which uses a Google Maps interface, was developed in cooperation with TERN – the Terrestrial Ecosystem Research Network, which will now manage the website.

The webportal can be found at: http://coastalresearch.csiro.au/

This is an Australian Coastal Ecosystem Facility (ACEF) project under the Australian Government by ACEF and CSIRO. TERN is supported by the Australian Government through the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy and the Super Science Initiative.

Tweet | Like | +1

## How Green is a Spotted Gum when Wet?



Think before you print . A kilo of recycled paper creates around 1.8 kilograms of carbon emissions, without taking into account the emissions produced from transporting the paper. So, before you send a document to print, think about how many kilograms of carbon emissions you could save by reading it on screen.

Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority Carbon Footprints Document

## What Does PNHA do?

**On ground bush regeneration, eg: Asparagus Fern Out Days**
**Activities: guided walks, bird-watching**
**Quarterly informative newsletter, online or paper**
**Members email group for leasel environmental news and events**
**AGM with Guest Speaker**
**Free advice for members on managing gardens for Native Vegetation and fauna habitat**
**Lobbies Pittwater Council and State Government on inappropriate management practices and development**
**Provides support to Council for PNHA-approved grant applications for environmental projects**
**Publications: Introductory Field Guide to Birds of Pittwater, Wetlands & Ironwing Reserve, $20.00/ea, attractive cards with photos of Pittwater scenes, flora and fauna $2.00**

Email: pnhainfo@gmail.com Or click on Logo to visit website. PROFILE

*"I bind myself today to the power of Heaven, the light of the sun, the brightness of the moon, the splendour of fire, the flashing of lightning, the swiftness of wind, the depth of the sea, the stability of the earth, the compactness of rocks."*

*from the Prayer of Saint Patrick*

## ONLINE BIODIVERSITY CALENDAR A FIRST

Pittwater Council has launched a unique online calendar designed to educate the community about the coastal environment and wildlife, and encourage ecotravel. The calendar, which is web-based, works through hundreds of images of Pittwater's flora and fauna. Many of the images were provided by local residents and collated by staff from the Council's Coastal Environment Centre at North Narrabeen.

The calendar has been coordinated by Pittwater Council on behalf of the Pittwater, Hornsby and Gosford councils and was funded by a $50,000 grant from the Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Management Authority, through the federal government's Caring for Country grant program.

Representatives of the D'harawal people have provided their knowledge for descriptions of some of the images and the Guringai, Darkinjung and Dharug people are also providing input into the calendar. Other information in the calendar includes details of environmental events and community groups, weather patterns and hazards to the environment, such as weed species.

Pittwater Council's Natural Environment and Education Manager Mark Beharrell said the calendar was a work in progress and was designed to be interactive. "We hope that the public will contribute images and other information to the calendar. It's a living atlas that will help us measure changes to the coastal environment and increase awareness of native birds, animals and plants throughout the seasons," he said.

The calendar can be viewed at www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/environment/biocalendar To submit photos for the biodiversity calendar email coec@pittwater.nsw.gov.au

**April 15 - 21, 2012: Issue 54**

## Mushrooms

Autumn was the season we used to walk through the fields gathering bread-plate sized mushrooms to cook simply in fresh butter, with a dash of pepper and salt and thick slabs of toast. For breakfast, for Sunday dinner, they were and still are a favourite. There's something about the smell and taste of these earthy vegetables that still reminds of the crisping season and plumes of white breath in the early evening or early morning air.

Packed with vitamin B essentials they are, once again, appropriate to seasonal physical balances. The range of B vitamins not only enhance your immune and nervous systems as we head into cold and flu season, they also increase your metabolism, promote cell growth and thus guard against anaemia. They also cited as a guardian against pancreatic cancer when ingested in a food source. Some sources state they are promoted as a way of reducing the symptoms of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. Vitamin B also helps your body to 'unlock the energy' in all other foods you consume. Sounds a bit like an Autumn tonic itself… so, a quick and easy soup recipe, to keep out the evidence of coming chills felt this week.

### Mushroom Soup

40g (2 tbs) butter
1 tbs olive oil
500g mushroom flats, thinly sliced
1/4 cup plain flour
2 cups vegetable stock
2 cups water
1/3 cup chopped fresh continental parsley
Salt and pepper, to taste

Method
Heat the butter and olive oil in a large saucepan over medium heat until the butter has melted and starts to bubble. Add the mushrooms and cook, stirring occasionally, for 10 minutes or until softened. Add the flour and cook, stirring, for 1 minute. Gradually add the stock and water, stirring constantly until all the liquid has been added. Bring to the boil over high heat, stirring. Reduce heat to medium-low, cover and simmer, stirring occasionally, for 10-15 minutes. Add the parsley and season well with salt and pepper. Serve hot with crusty bread.

Card Illustration of Toadstool: Postkarte mit Zwerg und Fliegenpilz, Date 1900s, Nain (créature fantastique), Zwerg (Mythologie)

Field mushroom photo; *Agaricus campestris*. Photo taken by Nathan Wilson in the Mar Vista region of Los Angeles in November, 1994. Identified by sight, smell and lack of staining reaction.

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A mushroom is the fleshy, spore-bearing fruiting body of a fungus, typically produced above ground on soil or on its food source. The standard for the name "mushroom" is the cultivated white button mushroom, Agaricus bisporus; hence the word "mushroom" is most often applied to those fungi (*Basidiomycota, Agaricomycetes*) that have a stem (stipe), a cap (pileus), and gills (*lamellae*, sing. *lamella*) or pores on the underside of the cap. *Agaricus campestris* is commonly known as the field mushroom. It is a widely eaten gilled mushroom closely related to the cultivated button mushroom Agaricus bisporus. This species was originally noted and named in 1753 by Carolus Linnaeus as Agaricus campestris. It was placed in the genus Psalliota by Lucien Quelet in 1872.
Typical mushrooms are the fruit bodies of members of the order *Agaricales*, whose type genus is Agaricus and type species is the field mushroom, Agaricus campestris. However, in modern molecularly-defined classifications, not all members of the order Agaricales produce mushroom fruit bodies, and many other gilled fungi, collectively called mushrooms, occur in other orders of the class Agaricomycetes. For example, chanterelles are in the Cantharellales, false chanterelles like Gomphus are in the Gomphales, milk mushrooms (Lactarius) and russulas (Russula) as well as Lentinellusare in the Russulales.
Within the main body of mushrooms, in the Agaricales, are common fungi like the common fairy-ring mushroom (*Marasmius oreades*), shiitake, enoki, oyster mushrooms, fly agarics, and other amanitas, magic mushrooms like species of Psilocybe, paddy straw mushrooms, shaggy manes, etc. The term "mushroom" and its variations may have been derived from the French word ***mousseron*** in reference to moss (mousse). The toadstool's connection to toads may be direct, in reference to some species of poisonous toad, or may just be a case ofphono-semantic matching from the German word. The term fungophobia was coined by William Delisle Hay of England who noted a national superstition or fear of "toadstools." He described the "fungus-hunter" as being contemptible and detailed the larger demographic's attitude toward mushrooms as "abnormal, worthless, or inexplicable." Fungophobia spread to the United States and Australia where it was inherited from England. The underlying cause of a cultural fungaphobia may also be related to the exaggerated importance placed on the few deadly and poisonous mushrooms found in the region of that culture.

**Toadstools:** The terms "mushroom" and "toadstool" go back centuries and were never precisely defined, nor was there consensus on application. The term "toadstool" was often, but not exclusively, applied to poisonous mushrooms or to those that have the classic umbrella-like cap-and-stem form. Between 1400 and 1600 AD, the terms *tadstoles, frogstooles, frogge stoles, tadstooles, tode stoles, toodys hatte, paddockstool, puddockstool, paddocstol, toadstoole*, and paddock stooles sometimes were used synonymously with *mushrom, mushrum, muscheron, mousheroms, mussheron, or musserouns*. Others have proposed a connection with German "Todesstuhl" (lit. "death's chair"). Since Tod is a direct cognate to death, in that case it would be a German borrowing. However, there is no common word akin to "Todesstuhl" used in German referring to mushrooms, poisonous or not. In German folklore and old fairy tales there are many depictions of toads sitting on Toadstool mushrooms and catching, with their tongues, the flies that are said to be drawn to the "Fliegenpilz". ("Fliegenpilz" being a German name for the Toadstool, meaning "Flies' mushroom") This is how the mushroom got another of its names, "Krötenstuhl" (a less used German name for the mushroom.), literally translating to "toad-stool"

**Growth:** Many species of mushrooms seemingly appear overnight, growing or expanding rapidly. This phenomenon is the source of several common expressions in the English language including "to mushroom" or "mushrooming" (expanding rapidly in size or scope) and "to pop up like a mushroom" (to appear unexpectedly and quickly). In reality all species of mushrooms take several days to form primordial mushroom fruit bodies, though they do expand rapidly by the absorption of fluids.

**Nutrition:** Mushrooms are a low-calorie food usually eaten raw or cooked to provide garnish to a meal. Raw dietary mushrooms are a good source of B vitamins, such as riboflavin,niacin and pantothenic acid, and the essential minerals, selenium, copper andpotassium. Fat, carbohydrate and calorie content are low, with absence of vitamin C and sodium . When exposed to ultraviolet light, natural ergosterols in mushrooms produce vitamin D2, a process now exploited for the functional food retail market.

**Medicinal mushrooms:** Medicinal mushrooms are mushrooms or extracts from mushrooms that are used or studied as possible treatments for diseases. Some mushroom materials, including polysaccharides, glycoproteins and proteoglycans, modulate immune systemresponses and inhibit tumor growth. Some medicinal mushroom isolates that have been identified also show cardiovascular, antiviral, antibacterial, anti-parasitic, anti-inflammatory, and anti-diabetic properties. Currently, several extracts have widespread use in Japan, Korea and China, as adjuncts to radiation treatments and chemotherapy. Historically, mushrooms have long had medicinal uses, especially in traditional Chinese medicine. Mushrooms have been a subject of modern medical research since the 1960s, where most modern medical studies concern the use of mushroom extracts, rather than whole mushrooms. Only a few specific mushroom extracts have been extensively tested for efficacy. Polysaccharide-K and lentinan are among the mushroom extracts with the firmest evidence. The available results for most other extracts are based on in vitro data, effects on isolated cells in a lab dish, animal models like mice, or underpowered clinical human trials. Studies show that glucan-containing mushroom extracts primarily change the function of the innate and adaptive immune systems, functioning as bioresponse modulators, rather than by directly killing bacteria, viruses, or cancer cells as cytocidal agents.

**Edible mushrooms:** Known as the meat of the vegetable world, edible mushrooms are used extensively in cooking, in many cuisines (notably Chinese, Korean, European, and Japanese). People who collect mushrooms for consumption are known as mycophagists, and the act of collecting them for such is known as mushroom hunting, or simply "mushrooming". Most mushrooms that are sold in supermarkets have been commercially grown onmushroom farms. The most popular of these, Agaricus bisporus, is considered safe for most people to eat because it is grown in controlled, sterilized environments. Several varieties of *A. bisporus* are grown commercially, including whites, crimini, and portobello. Other cultivated species now available at many grocers include shiitake, maitake or hen-of-the-woods, oyster, and enoki.
Mushroom. (2012, April 12). In Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia. Retrieved from http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Mushroom&oldid=486971186

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**Mid-Autumn Flowerings;** taken during strolls beneath the skies and trees.

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# Pittwater Online News



April 15 - 21, 2012: Issue 54

**Pittwater Online News receives a lot of information from various sources each week. For Your Interest and Bemusement:**

### A Day At The Beach - Guess Where ?

Made by The National Film Board 1956. Directed by Malcolm Otton. Part of the Junior Social Studies series. Original synopsis: A city family spends a day at a beach; they fish, swim and play in the rock pools. The part played by lifesavers in keeping the beaches safe is also included in the story.

### Sticker of the Year

### From Harper Collins Australia

PAPER BLISS PACK COMPETITION: We've got 2 PaperBliss packs to giveaway, including a copy of the beautiful book by Skye Rogers and stationery from Skye's range Skyesthelimit. Email us at promotions@harpercollins.com.au by **30/4/12** and tell us how you like to get crafty for your chance to win one! (Sorry, Australian residents only )

### HOME

Pittwater Council's CEC are offering a Free showing of the Documentary/movie HOME to celebrate Earth Day on Sunday **22nd of April**. For those of you whom cannot make it this exceptional film is available to watch in full online at HERE.

From this Page:

We are living in exceptional times. Scientists tell us that we have 10 years to change the way we live, avert the depletion of natural resources and the catastrophic evolution of the Earth's climate. The stakes are high for us and our children. Everyone should take part in the effort, and HOME has been conceived to take a message of mobilization out to every human being.

For this purpose, HOME needs to be free. A patron, the PPR Group, made this possible. EuropaCorp, the distributor, also pledged not to make any profit because Home is a non-profit film. HOME has been made for you : share it! And act for the planet.

Yann Arthus-Bertrand

HOME official website: http://www.home-2009.com

Tweet Like +1

### GWA / GWU locomotives Delivery Run - PoathTV Australian Trains and Railways - April 2012.

Genesee & Wyoming Australia (GWA) operate freight trains in South Australia and the Northern Territory. To help with their growing need for motive power a number of new diesel locomotives have recently been purchased. The GWA and GWU class locomotives are currently being built by EDI & UGL Rail respectively, with 5 of the locomotives being transfered from NSW to South Australia via Victoria in early April 2012. In this scene we are lucky enough to not only catch a glimpse of the 5 new locomotives but also get the added bonus of seeing them running parallel with a broad gauge Pacific National freight train.

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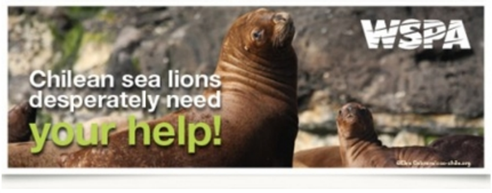
### Social Media Marketing: Three Mistakes to Avoid in 2012 - by Brett Relander

**Social Media Marketing Mistake #1: Ignoring Your Followers**: Social media marketing is all about interacting with your followers, as well as with others in your niche.

**Social Media Marketing Mistake #2:** Disregarding Successful Market Trends: Ignoring what is working for others in your niche could be detrimental to your financial health.

**Social Media Marketing Mistake #3:** Accepting Your Niche's Current Limits: If you're selling all-natural supplements, for example, you might do well to look at the yoga niche. If you try three things they're doing in their niche that no one is doing in yours, there's a good chance that at least one of them will work like gangbusters.

**LINKED IN Blackboard**: Directory of Companies, Concepts and people. **HERE**




**Taking action helps! 100,000 people around the world, including you, have supported the SOS Sea Lions campaign.**

This campaign showed the Chilean government that the world is watching and will not accept a needless cull of sea lions. We're also working to stop sea lion hunting for exhibitions in aquariums and the sale of their body parts - giving these social mammals the protection they deserve.

**Protecting sea lions right now: Your help has allowed us to stop 92 sea lions from being captured - these poor animals were destined for a life of misery and captivity in zoos and aquariums, but now remain free.**

The government is listening: WSPA and Ecoceanos presented 100,000 signatures (including yours!) to President Piñera, and Felipe Alessandri, Chile's Head of Citizen Affairs. As acknowledgment of the petition, President Piñera said he will be talking with relevant Chilean government ministers about the sea lion issue.

Next steps for sea lion safety: The sea lion action is now closed but the fight to protect the sea lions is not over. WSPA and Ecoceanos are keeping pressure on the Chilean Parliament to ensure that a Bill is passed that will remove the existing loophole that allows the capture and killing of sea lions to occur.

**Thanks for your support, it really makes a difference.**

Rachel Alcock, Campaigns Manager, WSPA UK

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## Mornings Practical 2012

Mornings Practical 2012 is a free workshop for parents and carers of children with a disability. Topics include: Behaviour Management, Sensory Integration, Transition to School, Toilet Training, Speech and Language, Social Skills, Inclusion and Siblings. Mornings Practical 2012 is a free workshop for parents and carers of children with a disability. Topics include: Behaviour Management, Sensory Integration, Transition to School, Toilet Training, Speech and Language, Social Skills, Inclusion and Siblings.

**When:** Tuesday 8 May, Wednesday 9 May, Thursday 10 May, Friday 11 May
**Where:** Mona Vale Public School
**Time:** 9.30am – 12.30pm
**Cost:** Free
**Bookings:** Essential
**Contact:** Jenny Hall 9979 7799 or Jenny.Hall@det.nsw.edu.au

## Rivergum Festival

**Rivergum Festival**
**Friday 18 May**
**Time:** 6.30 – 9.30 PM
**Where:** Mona Vale Memorial Hall, Park St, Mona Vale
**Cost:** $10 per person
**Bookings:** Essential
**Contact:** Jenny Hall 9979 7799 or Jenny.Hall@det.nsw.edu.au

## Aboriginal Heritage of the Narrabeen Area

**Aboriginal Heritage of the Narrabeen Area**
**Saturday 19 May**
**Time:** 10.00 AM – 12.00 PM
**Where:** Narrabeen Lakes Reserve
**Cost:** $10 per person
**Bookings:** Essential
**Contact:** Jenny Hall 9979 7799 or Jenny.Hall@det.nsw.edu.au

## Bilgola Plateau Art Show

**Bilgola Plateau Art Show**
**Saturday 5 May, Sunday 6 May**
**Time:** 10.00 AM – 5.00 PM
**Where:** Bilgola Plateau Community Hall
**Cost:** $10 per person
**Bookings:** Essential
**Contact:** Jenny Hall 9979 7799 or Jenny.Hall@det.nsw.edu.au

## Recognition of Indigenous Australians

**Recognition of Indigenous Australians - Will the Dog Fight?**
**Tuesday 22 May**
**Time:** 6.30 – 9.30 PM
**Where:** Mona Vale Memorial Hall, Park St, Mona Vale
**Cost:** $10 per person
**Bookings:** Essential
**Contact:** Jenny Hall 9979 7799 or Jenny.Hall@det.nsw.edu.au

## Pan The Narrabeen

**Pan The Narrabeen**
**Saturday 26 May**
**Time:** 10.00 AM – 12.00 PM
**Where:** Narrabeen Lakes Reserve
**Cost:** $10 per person
**Bookings:** Essential
**Contact:** Jenny Hall 9979 7799 or Jenny.Hall@det.nsw.edu.au







## Sydney Guitar Show 2012 Adelaide and Tyrrells Vineyards



**Sydney Guitar Show 2012 Adelaide and Tyrrells Vineyards**
**Where:** http://www.sydneyguitarshow.com.au
**When:** Saturday 28th April 2012 10am to 5pm
**Cost:** $10 Adults, $5 Concession, Kids Free
**Contact:** Phone: 0412 222 222 Email: info@sydneyguitarshow.com.au

## Fun April Holiday Activities for Kids

**FUN APRIL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS**

Pittwater Council is offering a great range of activities for children during the April school holidays. Activities include Bushcare, Rockpool Rambles, Bush Tucker Tours, Creek Critters, Bush Adventures, Bush Survival

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Above: Don Bradman Toby jug. Top: small crock, circa 1980.


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## Bendigo Pottery

The story of Australian ceramics is alive and well thanks to the oldest pottery works in Australia, Bendigo Pottery. Begun in 1858 by a young Scottish migrant who was already a master potter, George Duncan Guthrie, formerly of Sydney's Camperdown (as a ginger beer bottle maker), went through a few personal and business tragedies in the years he landed in Australia (1950) before marvelling at the fine white clay beside a Bendigo creek whilst prospecting for gold and returning to his first trade. Initially The Epsom Pottery works, Mr Guthrie provided an alternative to everything in ceramics being imported during the first era of this business.

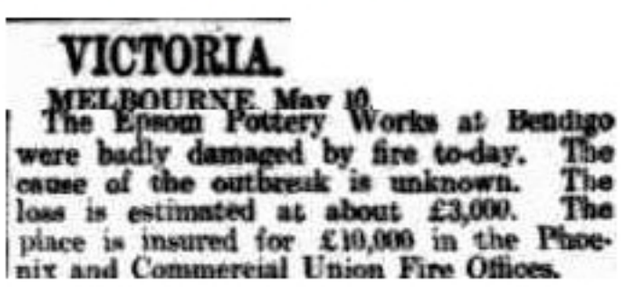
Bendigo was known as Sandhurst in those days; *The current name dates to the Victorian Gold Rush as a shortened form of Bendigo Creek goldfields, simply "Bendigo Creek" or "Bendigo's Valley". The creek was named after a famous local boxer and shepherd who had earned the nickname Bendigo in reference to the Nottingham prize-fighter William Abednego Thompson, generally known as "Bendigo Thompson". Its first official name was Castleton after the mining town Castleton, Derbyshire, England. Sandhurst, after Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, became the official designation for the settlement in 1854 although the nickname Bendigo remained popular and after a plebiscite in 1891 the city was renamed to the popular 'Bendigo'.*
*Almost every home in Australia has at least one piece of Bendigo Pottery and vaster collections are kept in museums in Victoria. Bendigo Pottery, in Epsom still, has one of the most significant collections of historic wood fired kilns in the world and is open for tourists, still, year round.* (From Bendigo, Wikipedia)

Some pieces, as part of a collection, are worth more then others. Older and rarer and in prime condition, as with all collecting, commands higher prices from those seeking to add to, expand, or complete their collection. Some of those most valuable currently are the series of Toby jugs commissioned from Melbourne cartoonist John Frith, fetching around $500 in 2001. This series of salt-glazed stoneware of Australian characters, including Sir Robert Menzies, Ned Kelly, Sir Donald Bradman, Albert Namatjira, Henry Lawson and Sir Charles Kingsford-Smith, was in a Limited Edition run of 3000 each and sold from 1974.

Collecting smaller pieces makes Bendigo ceramics a viable hobby as so many, of so many kinds were and are made, that there is something for everyone. Bread crocks, plates, goblets, water filters, you name it if it's in ceramics and they've created an Australian alternative. Pieces can be purchased second hand from as little as $5. Beautiful, functional and Australian; how could you go wrong?

### Further:

MARRIED. At 511, George-street, Sydney, on the 24th February, 1853, by Mr. Joseph Kemish, Baptist Minister, George Duncan Guthrie, of Camperdown, potter, to Agnes, third daughter of the late Mr. Robert Craig, of Edinburgh, shawl manufacturer. Family Notices. (**1853, February 25**). *Empire* (Sydney, NSW : 1850 - 1875), p. 2. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article60135684



**VICTORIA.**

MELBOURNE, May 10.

The Epsom Pottery Works at Bendigo were badly damaged by fire to-day. The cause of the outbreak is unknown. The loss is estimated at about £3,000. The place is insured for £10,000 in the Phœnix and Commercial Union Fire Offices.

More in Research File: below.

Bendigo PotteryResearch2012.pdf
Size : 727.704 Kb
Type : pdf