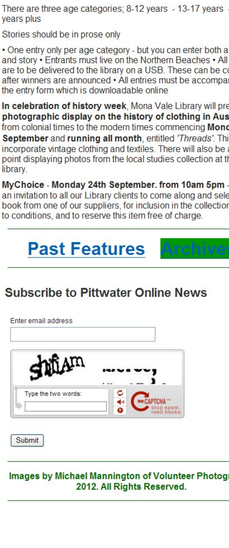
September 2 - 8, 2012: Issue 74

SEPTEMBER 3rd 2012 - MONA VALE LIBRARY CELEBRATES 40 YEARS OF PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICES IN PITTWATER

Mona Vale Library People, Left to right: Cathy Howie, Catherine Buddin, Sally Turansky, Rebeccah Vick, Helen Manfield, Robyn Phillips, Sarah Thompson, Jane Smith, Zora Drazic, Janine Weiss, Jared Hansen, Sharelle Ravenscroft. Below: Mona Vale Library Entrance 2012.



Melanie Allison, Sonja Pulvermacher, Madi Creecy

The Knitters' Guild NSW Inc – Northern Group meets at Mona Vale Library each Wednesday afternoon. The group is open to all ages and all levels of expertise from absolute beginners to those with advance skills. Guild members will be on hand to teach, guide you through a project or simply to knit and chat. Materials will be available for beginners. Experienced knitters can bring their current work along. No bookings required. No charge involved. The group meets between 1-3pm.

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Events taking place in celebration of the 40th birthday of Mona Vale Library.

Civic Reception on Thursday 6th September from 6.30pm with guest speaker James Valentine and Paella cooked fresh in situ. This is an invitation only event to incorporate a staff reunion.

'Read to Me' on **Monday 10 September at 10.30am to 11.30am** This is an intergenerational event celebrating the imminent start of the first Bookbabes' school careers and a lifetime of reading by our Home Library Service clients and Volunteers. Bookbabes should bring along a favourite book to share with a senior buddy. Again this will be invitation only.

A short story writing and photography competition, entries opened Monday 20 August and closing Sunday 16 September. Write a story of up to 1000 words or take a photo with your interpretation of the theme 'Threads' and be in the running for great prizes!

There are three age categories; 8-12 years - 13-17 years - 18 years plus

Stories should be in prose only

• One entry only per age category - but you can enter both a photo and story • Entrants must live on the Northern Beaches • All entries are to be delivered to the library on a USB. These can be collected after winners are announced • All entries must be accompanied by the entry form which is downloadable online

In celebration of history week, Mona Vale Library will present a **photographic display on the history of clothing in Australia** from colonial times to the modern times commencing **Monday 3 September** and **running all month**, entitled '*Threads*'. This will incorporate vintage clothing and textiles. There will also be a power point displaying photos from the local studies collection at the library.

MyChoice - Monday 24th September. from 10am 5pm - This is an invitation to all our Library clients to come along and select a new book from one of our suppliers, for inclusion in the collection subject to conditions, and to reserve this item free of charge.

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SEPTEMBER 3rd 2012 - MONA VALE LIBRARY CELEBRATES 40 YEARS OF PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICES IN PITTWATER

On a sunny afternoon fourty years ago tomorrow, Mona Vale Library, that bastion of great books and local histories, opened its doors. A place where children laugh as stories are read to them, where our elders sit quietly together and peruse that day's papers while students meet among reference books, and now computers, to fine tune the facts backing up the details in essays, this library has served all as a meeting place, knowledge bank and history record keeper.

Our libraries keep redefining themselves in pace with societal needs and wants. Accessibility to written word, music and movies, keeping ourselves up to date, connection with like minded people, attending the launch of a new book or a Speaker's Address on a new work in these spaces has become the norm. Each library is unique to the area it serves in addressing what the community expects and what it wants to find in it's library; namely a clearly catalogued data bank that will enable them to know their area, where it has come from and where it is going to. Each thread, woven together, presents a tapestry that enriches, is fathomable and leads to further inspired investigations. Mona Vale Library, often resorted to for missing threads in our own history pages, has been and is a dynamic hub of quiet activity on The Green in Mona Vale's Park Street. The spot where, incidentally, people have been meeting to exchange knowledge, enjoy culture and mix in age groups from baby to great-grandfather's for at least a hundred years.

Interview with Cathy Howie, Library Manager of Mona Vale Library by Michael Mannington

How many books does Mona Vale Library hold?

About 70 thousand books, cds, dvds. We collect standard reference books, books about Pittwater; we have an extensive collection of books on Pittwater, Jervis Sparks's books on Barrenjoey Lighthouse as well as original materials. George and Shelagh Champion have donated historical books written by them on many aspects of Pittwater.

Is the Mona Vale Library still a repository for this kind of material?

We would be the main repository for Pittwater records; anything related to a local area, particularly if it's one of a kind, we'd definitely like to have in our library. People who wish to do research like to have anything on a subject all in one place and that's why we strive to add such items to our collection.

How long have you been at the library?

I started in 1986 at Dee Why Library and worked at Mona Vale once a week.

How many staff are there here?

About 25 altogether. A lot of these are part time, and work two days as we're open seven days a week.

How is modern technology changing Mona Vale Library?

It has changed the library quite a bit. A lot of our available space is now used providing computers. Visitors come in with their laptops looking for a wireless connection and the WiFi service is the one we provide. We also provide online databases for those looking for information that's more indepth on a certain subject that they cannot find in a book.

We have a catalogue online, people may do reservations online. We also have e-books and e-audio books.

Books and reading them is still popular but we don't use them as reference points as much as we used to.

The other thing is we're digitising a lot of the maps and photographs we have in the database so people can look at these online rather then coming in to look at the actual photographs. Pittwater History and keeping a database of these records will remain a mainstay of the library.

Who are the biggest users of the library?

The 40 to 55 year olds. A lot of parents of young children use the library as well as parents of very young children. We also have retirees of 65+ who access the resources. The teenage group, the 18-25 year olds don't come in as they're generally doing other things and utilise the online functions.

How do you see the library in ten years from now?

I think the library will be a lot more like a community space; we have a lot of bookshelves now and I see some of this space being used for and by community groups, so more comfy chairs. People like to come to the library because it's a quiet place where they can read a book or a magazine when they want to be around other people.

The other thing is electronic books. People can buy these but it's a lot cheaper to borrow them from the library. I think in 10 years time there may be a lot of that but the way technology changes, you never know what else may be around in 10 years time; we might all be microchipped and downloading material automatically.

Besides books, what else does the library do?

We have Author Talks, people coming in to do conversations in other languages; Italian, French and German from time to time. We have a wide range of groups that utilise the spaces and rooms; such as the knitting group you see meeting here today.

Do you feel Mona Vale Library is up to date with all that's happening in contemporary libraries?

Yes, it is. We've come a long way since we first opened. And even in the eight years since we moved into this building, the structure and set-out promotes it being a community space.

Do you think a library such as this is, in a way, **the heart of a community?**

Yes, I think it is; anyone can come here. It's not restricted to groups or even age groups. We also have starting next month a Mobile library service for those who are at home and not mobile enough to get to the library. To me it's a cradle to grave service.

Even with being able to download e-books there will always remain information you cannot access other then going to the local library and reading it in a book or seeking assistance, as there's a network between libraries, to help you track down that information.

How does the library fit into the council structure?

We're part of Community Services. Community Services covers a range of things to connect the community with all it needs so the library fits in with that.

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Articles This Week:

Mona Vale Library is 40 on 3.9.2012: help Celebrate!

Big Air School at Avalon

All Previous Articles

Profile: Spring Ladies 2012; women who have an undeniable 'font' within; Sonja Elwood, Environmental Education and Fauna expert who is passionate about our native animals

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 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 Paul Wheeler Ian McGiffen Brian Friend Pittwater Council Zonta Club of Northern Beaches Sydney Northern Beaches Symphonic Wind Ensemble Bei Loon Dragon Boat Club Margaret Molloy OAM Patricia Giles OAM Doreen Cherry Cindy Goode Milman Stephen Marr Bob Hamilton Simon Abbott Peter Rumble Graham Spong Sailability Pittwater Mona Vale Hospital Auxiliary Avalon Active Seniors Group Northern Beaches Orchestra

History: The Spring tides of Ocean and Estuary and who has long been in them; Pittwater Sailing clubs and Surf Life Saving Clubs: Avalon Sailing Club by Norm Field

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 Neva Carr Glynn Margaret Mulvey Jean Mary Daly Walter Oswald Watt Wilfrid Kingsford Smith John William Cherry George Scotty Allan McCarrs Creek Narrabeen Creek Careel Creek Currawong Beach Creek Bushrangers at Pittwater Smuggling at Broken Bay An Illicit Still at McCarr's Creek The Murder of David Foley Mona Vale Outrages Avalon Camping Ground Bayview Koala Sanctuary Ingleside Powder Works Palm Beach Golf Course

Park Bench Philosopher: Spring is: *Dew Gathering Time*; an ancient way to make flower essences

Books: The Small Food Garden - Growing Organic Fruit and Vegetables at Home, Birds of Prey of Australia - A Field Guide, Sustainable Coastal Management and Climate Adaptation, The Cochlear Story - Bright Ideas Series + Two Greedy Italians from Antonio Carluccio and Genarro Contaldo, 9th Edition of Field Guide to Birds of Australia, Kokoda Front Line by Neil McDonald, The story of Damien Parer Australia s greatest war photographer, and Lighthouse Bay.

Old Books: My Garden in Spring (1914) by Edward Augustus Bowles. Publisher: London, T. C. & E. C. Jac = **Gaelic names of beasts (Mammalia), birds, fishes, insects, reptiles, etc. in two parts:** (1905) by Alexander Robert Forbes. + **Shakespeare's greenwood : the customs of the country : the language, the superstitions, the customs, the folklore, the birds & trees, the parson, the poets, the novelist** (1900) by George Morley, of Leamington, Eng. Publisher: London : David Nutt

Events: 132nd Birthday Celebrations at The Arms, Guringgai Aboriginal Tours, SNBSWE Music from the Movies Concert, Fathers Day in Pittwater, Threatened Species Day Nightstalk, ASGMWP Info Evening, PCC Events, Native Plant ID Workshop, Wildflowers at Elvina, Tanzanian Safari, Sidney Nolan & Patrick White at State Library, Bobbysox at AvRSL, RMYC Ladies Lunch, Train Museum Celebrating 50th this year, U3A Events, New AvPals Courses, Weed Botham Beach, Dive into the Deep Ocean, FoNLC Paddles and Walks, Dance in Chicken Town, Poetry, Books & Playreading @ MV Library, Council Events and more.

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Community News: The ELECTION Edition, BULLDOGS - Grand Final Winners, New Cricket Pitch, Storm Surfers nominated for Award, VALE, Unity Walk, Nippers 2012, Your Say 2025, Small Bang Theory, Fox Baiting at Ingleside commences August 20th, 2013 Pittwater to Coffs Entries, Dog Day by The Bay 2012, Artfest 2012, MVPS Centenary, Our Council's Notices, Fed. Govt. Media and more

Environment; September is Save the Koala month, Australian shipping emissions identified, Galahs, **Save the Places You Love Campaign,** Attracting Birds to your Yard, Going Solar on Sustainable House Day Workshop, Cooee September Issue, local Environment groups and orgs.

Lynda Hill: Update 26.8.12: Getting Your Spurs On And Getting Going: The Pisces Full Moon

Pictures: From hill top to bay; what's flowering in Pittwater as Spring 2012 begins

Youth: Superman's Cave, New MALO EP, ASO + Great old Martin Place with Trams footage, THINK, Spring Blossoms - Children's Poetry Book from 1835, Pizza at MVL,Peats Ridge 2012, **BL's Blast Off 2012 Entries OPEN**, Mona Vale Library Photo and Short Story Comp, RUOK?Day 2012, Are We There Yet Comp., Study Tools 101 - Mind Maps, Library Story-times for Littlies, ArtFest 2012.

Seniors; Oh Our Papa's; to us You Are So Wonderful; words about and for dads both young and a bit older then that, 2013 Seniors Week Achievement Awards now open, Grants for Seniors Week too, New AvPals Courses, U3A Lectures, Lumosity, local Support and Education Activities.

Community Clubs: Updates on Activities and links to sites.

Artist of the Month: September 2012: Eric Martel has a passion for yachts, Sydney Harbour and streetscapes

Reflections by George Repin. **This week; SARGENT'S TEA ROOM, PIE SHOPS and STREET PHOTOGRAPHERS**

DIY Hints: Father's Day 2012: some great gift ideas, all under $20.00 + Yates Seeds; 125 years in Australia Commemorative Tin

Collector's Corner: Reel Mowers - great for a backyard cricket pitch, good exercise and petrol-free

Food: Lunch at The Terrace on Pittwater - a mid-week treat of fresh seafood in the Newport Arms Hotel

News From our Inbox Giant Jellyfish, **Paper Run - Pittwater in 1956,** 1930's Women Cyclists, Seasons of Saturn, A Steam Train Passes by David Haythornthwaite, The Oirgin of Father's Day

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Big Air School Pros (l to r): David, Callum, Daniel and Sean

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Big Air School – Youth Engagement Program Visits Avalon

Sunday 26th of August, 2012

BAS motto: 'Enjoy. Engage. Inspire.'

Last Sunday at Avalon Skate rink the big Air school held an event for skateboards, scooters and bmx bikes. Although mostly local enthusiasts attended there were also a few from the other side of Sydney, such is the success of a relatively new venture in providing our next generation with what they enjoy and understand. With music provided by Aussie rapper Morganics – Bent Box rap, a Big Air sky above them and cool sea breezes to smoor all that sweating, the sixty plus in the rink practicing before the real action was underway were clearly enjoying themselves and quite serious about honing their skills.

While watching the headlong and confident dives up concrete and into air only one word sprang to mind 'fearless'.

What is the Big Air School though? From their website;

Big Air School is a youth engagement program which delivers action sports entertainment and workshops throughout Australia. The sessions primarily cater for four disciplines – scooter, skate BMX and parkour; with lessons, clinics and competitions facilitated by some of Australia's best known action sports athletes.

Through these confidence building exercises there is a strong emphasis on mental focus, overcoming inner doubt, concentration and respect – all of which are important principles of action sports. No two events are ever the same, as it depends on the student's skill, focus AND the natural environment. The event is supported by a high profile DJ who also offers DJ/mixing/scratching lessons to interested participants.

The program is delivered throughout Australia and brings young people of both genders, all ages and all backgrounds to express and enjoy themselves. Big Air School's main objectives are social inclusion, safety and community pride.

Big Air School also offers event management services in relation to scooter, skate and BMX competitions and also offers entertainment packages for large events.

Jemima, the lady in charge, hopes they will return to Avalon in August. Well worth looking at should you be around while the next Big Air School visit is happening.

Website: http://bigairschool.com.au/

September 2012 - Eric Martel

Eric Martel is a well known artist who sells locally and internationally. He has a passion for painting his signature sailing yachts as well as Sydney Harbour and its street scenes. These exquisite works are thickly textured acrylic paint with a lot of movement and energy created from both palette knife and thick brush strokes. He includes freehand splashes of colour that add contrast and draw the viewer's eye to the scene.

Eric was born in Whangarei, New Zealand, growing up in a family of artists, making the most of painting and drawing the lush New Zealand landscape he so loved.

Moving to Australia in 1968 with his young family, Eric eventually settled on Sydney's Northern Beaches, attracted to its mix of Australian bush, sand, surf and waterways. Continuing his love of painting whenever the opportunity arose, he was a part of classes with Sir Eric Lanker, New Zealand artist Ben Ho and attended classes at East Sydney Tech.

More recently a large part of his portfolio has gained inspiration from Sydney's magnificent waterways. His friend and mentor, artist Martyn Webb from Port Stephens has greatly encouraged his love of painting and he is currently taking classes with local artist Debby Waters.

Eric has only been painting seriously for three years and has won 1st prize at Lane Cove, St Ives and at the 2011 FDAA exhibition at Darling Harbour.

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End in Sight

My City

Heading for Home

Through the Heads

Wild Day

Great Breeze

Pittwater Online News

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History: **The Spring tides of Ocean and Estuary and who has long been in them**; Pittwater Sailing clubs and Surf Life Saving Clubs: Avalon Sailing Club by Norm Field

Artist of the Month for September 2012: Eric Martel has a passion for yachts and streetscapes

Pictures: From hilltop to bay edge; what's flowering in Pittwater this early in Spring

Collector's Corner: Reel Mowers, great for small lawns, petrol-free; thre original Australian versions

Pittwater Council Election Special

Council elections are to be held next Saturday 8th September

Pittwater Online News has invited the Pittwater candidates to provide a profile to assist our readers before next Saturday. All candidates have been given a maximum of three hundred words and their contributions are published as received by us. **Candidates have not been charged for their profiles.** Click on the candidate's name to view their profile.

North Ward

Selena Griffith (The Greens) Group A

Stewart Matthews (Independent) Group B

Bob Grace (Independent) Group C

Alex McTaggart (Independent) Group D

Central Ward

Kylie Ferguson (Independent) Group A

Sue Young (Independent) Group B

Ian White (Independent) Group C

Jim Colbeck (Independent) Ungrouped

South Ward

Kay Millar (Independent) Group A

Julie Hegarty (Independent) Group B

Jacqui Townsend (Independent) Group C

RPAYC to host the University Force 24 Fleet Racing Championships this week-end - Thursday 30 August 2012

The Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club, on Pittwater, will play host to the 2012 University Force 24 Fleet Racing Championships this week-end 1-2 September. Six teams from four universities will be represented and will compete in up to eight races, sailed on the clubs custom built Force 24 keel boats with a crew of up to five.

"The Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club has become the home for university sailing competition, hosting a number of national events over the past few years bringing life back into University racing. The clubs support means so much to the University sailing community not just in Sydney but around Australia. The yacht club along with Australian University Sport are leaders in attracting University students to participate in sailing, and to compete at a variety of levels – from social, fun fleet races, to highly competitive national match racing events" says Ajay Rau, University Student and sailing club organiser.

The most important aim of the Australian University Sailing Association is to create an active University racing culture which will give more opportunities to more young sailors from Sydney and across the country and will also introduce university students to the sport at a college level.

"Without the support of the Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club, the university racing culture would be non existent. The yacht club conducts the best organised university based events in Australia and has definitely become a home for University Racing in Sydney. After this regatta it plans to host the University National match racing championships and introduction to offshore sailing university event. It has already firmed up plans to host the university fleet racing championships next summer," commented Rau.

The fleet racing event boasts some quality sailors. In all, there are 30 top sailors confirmed to participate on the week-end representing four universities including Sydney University (Scott Sydney), UNSW (Ajay Rau and Tom Mallet), UTS (Scott Cotton and Daniel Watson) and Macquarie University (James Burman). Australian University sport Male athlete of the year 2011 and World University Silver medallist, James Burman is representing Macquarie University whilst London 2012 sailing Olympian Elizabeth Yin from Singapore, will be representing Sydney University.

University regattas has seen some amazing sailors who have gone on to represent their country and university at World Championships and Olympic Games including 2012 Olympians Lucinda Whitty (silver medallist Women's Match Racing), Krystal Weir (12th in the laser) and Elizabeth Yin (24th laser) and Colin Cheng (15th laser), representing Singapore. RPAYC member Josh McKnight, who was just won the 2012 Moth Worlds has also competed at University championships.

In the upcoming University World Match Racing Championships, many on the Australian team have competed at the RPAYC in past university events including Jay Griffin , Tara McCall ,Sasha Ryan, Katie Webb, Jack Dawson, Jack Breislin and Jackson Cranfield.

The crew weigh-in will commence at 0830hrs and following the boat draw and briefing racing will commence at 1100hrs on Saturday and Sunday.

RPAYC members welcome the University sailors to their Club for another exciting regatta. We hope that the University sailors enjoy sailing on fabulous Pittwater, and become involved in some of the many other sailing activities offered by the RPAYC.

Thanks to the supporters of the event Harken Australia and Quantum Sails.

Report by Damian Devine

Photo: University match racing regatta on Pittwater - photo by Ben Staples www.flickr.com/bstaples1

Sunday 2nd of September - LA BAr Avalon, 6-9.30pm

ALRC seeks input into Copyright law reform - Published on 20 August 2012.

The Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC) today released the first consultation paper for the Inquiry about Copyright law—*Copyright and the Digital Economy* (ALRC IP 42, 2012). Under the Terms of Reference for this Inquiry, the ALRC is to consider whether exceptions and statutory licences in the Copyright Act 1968 are adequate and appropriate in the digital environment and whether further exceptions should be recommended. The Inquiry recognises the emerging digital economy and the need to ensure copyright law provides incentives for investment in innovation and content while also allowing appropriate access to that content so that Australia's needs in the internet age are met, both domestically and internationally.

ALRC Commissioner for the Copyright Inquiry, Professor Jill McKeough, said "Copyright law is an important part of Australia's digital infrastructure and is relevant to commercial, creative and cultural policy. The questions we are asking in this Inquiry go to whether our current copyright laws are properly aiding the development of opportunities for Australian creators and not unduly hindering the development of new business models while at the same time ensuring appropriate protection for copyright. At the same time, the expectations of a global community to access and use material for a whole range of creative, community, educative and commercial purposes also needs to be considered. We are aware that, in formulating any proposals for reform of copyright law, the costs and benefits to the community must be taken into account."

The Issues Paper forms a basis for consultation and asks more than 50 questions relevant to how the current copyright framework is affecting both commercial and creative enterprise and how current exceptions and statutory licences are working in the digital environment. The Issues Paper provides background information, highlights the issues so far identified in research and consultations, and outlines the principles that will shape the ALRC's proposals for reform. The ALRC invites individuals and organisations to make submissions in response to the questions contained in the Issues Paper, or to any of the background material and analysis provided. This community input will help inform the development of draft recommendations for reform to be released in a Discussion Paper due in mid 2013.

The Issues Paper is available free of charge from the ALRC website. **The ALRC prefers submissions via the ALRC online submission form:** www.alrc.gov.au/content/copyright-and-digital-economy-online-submission. Written submissions can also be posted, faxed or emailed to the ALRC.

Postal address GPO Box 3708 Sydney NSW 2001.

Closing date for submissions is Friday 16 November 2012.

For more information about the ALRC inquiry or to subscribe to the Copyright Inquiry e-newsletter please go to www.alrc.gov.au/inquiries/copyright.

The Final Report is due to be delivered by 30 November 2013.

PITTWATER COUNCIL — Celebrating 20 Years 1992-2012

BUSHCARE MAJOR DAY OUT

Residents are invited to explore the idyllic surrounds of Ingleside Chase Reserve to celebrate Bushcare's Major Day Out on **Sunday 9 September**. The Day Out will begin at 9am and conclude at 12.30pm. Activities include guided nature walks along the newly constructed walking track, tree planting and a delicious morning tea. The event kicks off an overall project for the Ingleside Chase Reserve, made possible by grant funding from the NSW Environmental Trust totalling $250,000. The grant will be used to eradicate weeds in Epworth Park and Irrawong Reserve areas.

This is one of the largest Bushcare projects hosted by the Pittwater Environmental Foundation and Pittwater Council. Pittwater MP Rob Stokes will make a guest appearance at the Major Day Out on 9 September to announce details of the grant funding and how it will be used.

Bushcare Officer Helena Dewis said the Major Day Out would be a chance for residents to explore this little known and picturesque location near the Irrawong waterfall. "The reserve is rich in native wildlife and is habitat for rare and threatened species such as the Powerful Owl, Regent Honeyeater and Giant Burrowing Frog," she said. "As well as the walks and planting, residents are invited to bring along weeds (or photos of weeds) they don't know, learn what they are and how to remove them.

The Council's General Manager Mark Ferguson acknowledged the work done by the Pittwater Environmental Foundation in gaining the grant. "Over the next five years, we'll work with the Pittwater Environmental Foundation to restore the native vegetation in the reserve to the benefit of wildlife, residents and visitors to the area" he said.

The meeting point for the event on Sunday 9 September is at Irrawong Reserve Waterfall, with parking available at the end of Irrawong Road, off Garden Street Warriewood. Signs will be in place directing visitors. Participants should wear sturdy covered shoes, a hat, sunscreen and bring along a water bottle.

For more information visit : www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/all_events.

HELP EXPAND OUR LIBRARY COLLECTION!

Mona Vale Library is inviting residents to choose a book for their collection on Monday 24 September. Library Manager Cathy Howie said the 'My Choice' event was part of the library's 40th birthday celebrations and would give members a chance to choose from a selection of over 200 new books.

Ms Howie said it was a great opportunity for library users to choose a favourite read that's not currently on the library shelves. "There will be a wide variety of books on offer including fiction and non fiction as well as many new releases. All you have to do is choose a book from the 'My Choice' display located in the Pelican Room and take it to the registration desk, with your library card."

"Staff will check that the book is not already in our collection or currently on order. You may also reserve the book at that time should you so wish," said Ms Howie.

The 'My Choice' event is on Monday 24 September from 10am to 5pm, with a display of the chosen books on Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 October. The books will be released for borrowing from Monday 29 October, with all reservations free-of-charge.

For more information call 9970 1600. Mona Vale Library is located at 1 Park Street, Mona Vale.

PITTWATER COMMENDED IN MANAGEMENT AWARDS

Pittwater Council has been recognised by the NSW Local Government Managers Association this week, with two High Commendations in the Association's Management Excellence Awards for 2012. One commendation was for sustainability, in particular the Council's creation of a revolving energy fund to minimise fossil fuel use and the installation of energy-efficient devices. The other was for the development of Pittwater's social and economic plans which were adopted by the Council earlier this year.

General Manager Mark Ferguson said the high commendations underlined the Council's commitment to cutting greenhouse gas emissions and engaging the community in long-term planning. The sustainability commendation recognised Pittwater's efforts to reduce its use of energy produced by the grid. This has been replaced by renewable energy sources such as solar power.

The Council has also installed a range of energy saving devices in public buildings, sportsfields and rock pools. These include lights that switch themselves off when an office is empty, solar panels and low energy lights. Solar hot water systems have been installed at Currawong and the Council depot at Boondah Road, Warriewood.

"Overall the organisation is reducing its reliance on the grid as power bills escalate," Mr Ferguson said. "By reducing energy consumption Pittwater is being financially and environmentally sustainable."

Pittwater's social and economic development plans also received a high commendation for their 'integration, responsiveness and innovation' according to the citation. The Council used a range of ways to engage the community in the planning process, including online forums with younger residents and face-to-face consultation with residents and businesspeople conducted over several months. The social and economic development plans will be used by the Council to help better plan community service delivery in the future and assess its ongoing support for local businesses.

SCIENCE CLUB FOR JUNIOR RESIDENTS

Mona Vale Library is offering a special four week science club for Pittwater pre-schoolers in October. Known as the 'Little Bang Discovery Club,' the science club begins on Tuesday 9 October. The course has been designed by the Children's Discovery Museum and is suitable for children aged 3 to 5 years and their accompanying parent or caregiver.

Library Manager Cathy Howie said the course would encourage ideas and skills among young children, inspiring them to get interested in the scientific principles of exploration and discovery. Ms Howie said the course was designed for experiential learning, including at home.

"The intention is for children to experience each concept, rather than simply talk about it," she said.

The course will run each **Tuesday from 9 October to 30 October from 1.30pm to 2.30pm**, culminating in a science fair and graduation at the last session when each child will receive a certificate. Each child will also receive a 'Discovery Club' passbook which is stamped after each session.

The four sessions include:

Collecting and classifying – discover how to match objects from around the home including those from a loaned 'discovery box'.

Measuring and recording – learn all about weighing and measuring, one of the most important skills for early discoverers

Experimenting –design your own experiment to find the answers

Science fair and graduation – explore the exciting table-top science toys and participate in a graduation ceremony.

The cost of the four week course is $20. Bookings are essential on 9970 1600, with payment required at the time of booking. For more information call Rebeccah on 9970 1622. Mona Vale Library is located at 1 Park Street, Mona Vale.

SEMINARS FOR TECH SAVVY SENIORS

Avalon Computer Pals will host a series of low-cost seminars on a range of portable electronic devices throughout September at Newport Community Centre. The two-hour courses will cover topics such as Android tablets, slates, e-readers, smart phones, basic computing and a three-week introduction to iPads. Course coordinator Paul Purvis from Avalon Computer Pals said the seminars were perfect for older residents to get acquainted with the range of technology available.

"For example our session on Android tablets, slates and E-readers on **Tuesday 4 September** shows you how to download and use apps," he said. "Also on that day will be the first in a three-part series called Introduction to iPads. This will cover the models and sizes available, how to set up your device using control buttons, as well as deciding on the best model for your needs."

Mr Purvis said they were also holding the ever-popular beginner's introduction to computing on Tuesday 11 September.

"Our trainers provide information on hardware attachments, software and give you an introduction to emailing and Googling. And a must for anyone who wants to keep up to date with phone technology is the Smartphone /Cheap Phone Calls workshop on Tuesday 18 September. You'll learn how to install apps, change your ring tone and customise your phone, as well as choosing the right phone plan to minimise costs," added Mr Purvis.

The workshops are open to participants over the age of 50 and are at the Newport Community Centre, 11-13 The Boulevarde, Newport. Courses run on Tuesdays throughout term three between 1.30pm and 3.30pm. The cost is generally $10 per person per session.

For a complete list of course times and locations and more information about Avalon Computer Pals visit www.avpals.com Bookings for seminars are essential due to limited spaces; call 8064 3574.

FOX CONTROL TO PROTECT NATIVE WILDLIFE

Pittwater Council will undertake a fox control program in early spring to help protect native wildlife during their breeding season. Baits using Foxoff 1080 will be laid at Ingleside Chase Reserve in the Warriewood escarpment **from Monday 20 August to Sunday 9 September**.

Reserves and Recreation Manager Les Munn said foxes are a feral pest that pose a major threat to the survival of many species of native animals. "Ground-nesting birds and small to medium-sized mammals are especially at risk from foxes. To combat this we conduct regional fox control programs to reduce fox numbers over a wide area," Mr Munn said.

He cautioned pet owners not to allow their animals to enter Ingleside Chase Reserve as the baits are lethal to dogs and cats. "Signage will be placed to warn people when the baits are laid and bait sites will be closely monitored."

In addition to feral pests, domestic animals can also impact on our native fauna. Pet owners need to keep their pets under effective control and out of sensitive habitat areas. The fox control program includes coordination between local councils to carry out monitoring, baiting, scientific surveys of native animals and community notification. More information on foxes in Pittwater and the steps being taken to protect native wildlife can be found at www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/foxes

CAPTURE A PIC OF YOUR POOCH!

Pittwater residents are invited to submit photos of their beloved pooch in the 2012 PetO Dog of the Year photo competition. The winner of the competition will be announced at the Dog Day by the Bay event on Sunday 23 September.

Event coordinator Rennae Projceski said that the winner of the competition will take out the title of Pittwater Dog of the Year as well as receiving a great prize. "We had an excellent response to the competition last year, with over 60 entries received," she said.

"We're hoping to get some equally cute and creative photos from our residents this year."

Entry to the competition is for Pittwater residents only, with the **competition closing on 7 September 2012**. All photos submitted will be available for viewing at the Dog Day by the Bay event. They will also be available at www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au.

Dog Day by the Bay, sponsored by PetO, runs from 10am and 3pm and includes demonstrations of canine skill and training, education talks, a jumping castle in the kids corner and competitions to enter such as the perennially popular 'Canine Fancy Dress Parade'.

Other highlights include TV vet Dr Katrina Warren and her 'Wonder Dogs' – a team of border collies who will be performing tricks along with a training demonstration. A variety of food & drink stalls will also be at the event. Proceeds raised will be donated to local branch of the Animal Welfare League. Entry and parking are free. For further information about Dog Day by the Bay and how to enter the competition visit www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/dogday

GO SOLAR AND SAVE!

Pittwater Council's Coastal Environment Centre at North Narrabeen will hold a **free 'Solar Energy Options' workshop** as part of **Sustainable House Day on Sunday 9 September from 1pm**. Council's Natural Environment Manager Mark Beharrell said with energy prices rising steeply, it was a great time to explore your options and consider going solar.

"Installing solar energy can save you money as well as reduce carbon emissions, but it can often seem a confusing option," said Mr Beharrell.

The workshop which will be presented by Greg Harris from Smart Water and Energy Solutions and Council's Joanne Tulau will shed light on both solar water heating and solar electricity (PV) panels.

"There are many systems available and the workshop will explain the differences between them, the advantages and disadvantages of each, and associated costs," said Mr Beharrell. "The prices of solar systems are becoming more competitive all the time and government financial incentives are still available to help offset the cost of your investment," Mr Beharrell added.

The workshop will be followed by an optional tour of the sustainability features at the multi-award winning environment centre. On display will be the centre's solar panels, solar hot water system, energy efficient lighting and water tanks that flush the toilets and water the veggie garden.

The workshop will run from 1pm to 3pm. Bookings are essential for the workshop; to book online visit www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/cecbookings or for more information call 1300 000 232. The Coastal Environment Centre is located at Lake Park Road, North Narrabeen.

SHORT STORY AND PHOTO COMPETITION

Pittwater residents with a flair for writing or photography are invited to enter a competition to celebrate History Week. The competition which is run by Mona Vale Library is open to children as well as adults and asks participants write a short story, submit a photograph or both.

Competition organiser Sharelle Ravenscroft said entries should be based on the broad interpretation of the word 'threads'. "Which, for example may include vintage clothing and textiles; the thread of a story, or a spider's web," added Ms Ravenscroft.

Entrants need to submit their short story with a 500 to 1000 word limit, or one photograph to be submitted per entry. Ms Ravenscroft said that the competition was open to three age groups, including 8 to 12 years, 13 to 17 years and 18 years plus.

"Prizes, including book vouchers, will be awarded to entrants in the three age groups," she said.

The competition will open on Monday 20 August, with entries closing on 16 September.

All entries must be brought to the library on a USB. These will be available for collection at the library after the competition ends. All entries must be accompanied by an entry form.

For more information about the competition and to download an entry form visit www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/library

Reminder – Send In Your Ticks !

Dr Ann Mitrovic of the University of Sydney is still asking for assistance from our bushcare volunteers to collect ticks for a research project being conducted at the University of Sydney.

The University of Sydney researchers are currently investigating the presence of Borrelia bacterium in Australian ticks. They have already received support from several veterinary clinics and WIRES carers and would really appreciate your continued assistance. This collection should only occur within your normal volunteer activities. Do not put yourself at deliberate risk of tick bite. Continue to take preventative measures to avoid tick bite such as using DEET containing insecticides, wearing appropriate clothing and conducting thorough inspections for ticks on return from outdoor activities. For more information about the project please contact Lavinia Schofield on 9970 1365

Bushcare Notices - September 2012

Bushcare at Warriewood

The Warriewood bushcare group managed by Pittwater Council needs more volunteers on 4th Wednesday morning of the month – Can you help? Please contact Mary Johnsen at 9999 2020.

Bushcare at Careel Bay

Every 4th Saturday 8.30am - 11.30am; supported through a Caring For Our Country Grant and Hawkesbury-Nepean Catchment Management Authority.

Sun September 2
Avalon Dunes 8:30-11:30am
Crown of Newport 9-12pm
Saltpan Cove 8:30-11:30am
W'wood Wetlands 9-12pm
Bungan Bch 9-12pm

Mon September 3
Rocky Point 9-12pm

Tue September 4
Browns Bay Res 9-12pm

Wed September 5
Kanimbla Reserve 9-12pm
Bothams Beach 8:30-11:30am

Fri September 7
Norma Park 9-12pm

Sat September 8
Elanora Road 9:30-12:30pm
Coopers Point 9:30-12:30pm
Mona Vale Dunes 8:30-11:30am

Sun September 9
Catherine Park 10-12:30pm
Bushcare Major Day Out - Irrawong Reserve 9am - 12:30pm

Sat September 15
Toongari Res 9-12pm
Old Wharf Reserve 8-11am
North Palm Beach 9-12pm
Pathilda Res 9-12pm

Sun September 16
Angophora Reserve 8:30-11:30am
Crescent Reserve 9-12pm
McCarrs Creek Res 9-12pm

Tue September 18
Porters Reserve 9-12pm
Bothams Beach 8:30-11:30am

Thu September 20
Mona Vale Dunes 8:30-11:30am

Fri September 21
Bilgola Beach 9-12pm

Sat September 22
Nth Newport Beach 8:30-11:30am
Pindari 8-11am
Careel Creek 8:30-11:30am
Kywong Reserve 8:30-11:30am

Sun September 23
Winnererremy Bay 9-12pm

Wed September 26
Warriewood Beach 8-11am

For further information on bushcare and/ or to check if your group is working this month, please contact our bushcare officer below. Bushcare is a great way to help your local bushland and make new friends! Helena Dewis 9970 1367

Pittwater Council's COOEE Newsletter September 2012

Submit your Event

Name of Event

Date of Event

Address of Event

Description of Event

Contact Name

Contact Phone Number

Website or Email

Type the two words:

Submit

LEGO AT THE LIBRARY

Local children will have the chance to join a club specialising in one of the most enduring playthings of childhood from May. Mona Vale Library is starting up a Lego club on the first Sunday of each month from 2pm to 4pm. **Next is September 2nd, 2012.**

The club is open to children aged between seven and twelve years of age, with younger children welcome with parental supervision. If you are interested in attending a Lego at the Library session contact the library on 9970 1622 or book in person at the library, 1 Park Street, Mona Vale.

Tweet | Like | +1

Aboriginal Support Group Manly Warringah Pittwater
asgmwp.net

Click on logo above to visit their website.

The Sumba Foundation Australia

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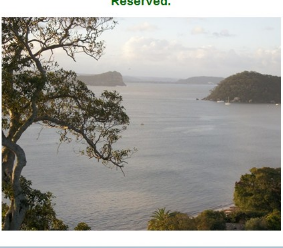


Vale - Les Vaughan of Avalon Sailing Club

Les Vaughan, 1915 to 2012, died on the 21 August. Les was a keen sailor and one of the founding members of the Avalon Sailing Club with whom he kept in contact. His father J.G. Vaughan, officially formed Avalon Sailing Club in 1938, sailing off Clareville Beach, and their meetings were held in the Vaughan boatshed, with the lighting provided by a car battery. As the Club grew the later meetings were held at the old Clareville Post Office, seating on the floor.

J.G. was the first President, Les was made Club Captain and Harold Vaughan won the V.J. Championship and his is the first name engraved on the silver cup, still at the Club. The Vaughan family is still mentioned in sailing circles, with John, son of Les, a vexillographer, or expert on flags.

A History of the Avalon Sailing Club, as compiled by former Commodore Norm Field, opens our Spring celebration of clubs with a definite love of Pittwater in September's History pages.

GRAND FINAL WINNERS from Brian Friend (Friendly).

It has been lean years for the Avalon Bulldogs for premierships but I am proud to say we have victories in the Under 11's and Under 14 years.

Avalon U11 - Premiers 2012

President Michael Birtwhistle was on hand to congratulate both teams last saturday. A large team of supporters travelled down to Manly to support these teams and from what I've heard, celebrations went long into the night back at the 'Doggy Dome' clubhouse.

Avalon U14 - 2 Premiers 2012

Presentation Night for these teams will be held at Manly Leagues club this friday night....bookings essential through Avalon Bulldogs executive.

New Cricket Pitch for Hitchcock Park

Spotted this week; Pittwater Council workers forming up, pouring and screeding a brand new cricket pitch at the Tennis Courts end of this green. Spring and Summer in Pittwater; it just *IS* cricket !

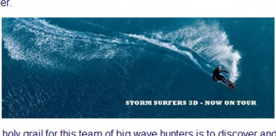
Storms Surfers 3D nominated for AFI AACTA prize

Congratulations to all who have worked on this epic film on this great news; Nominees for the AFI AACTA Award for Best Feature Length Documentary (announced this week).

A Common Purpose. Mitzi Goldman; The Curse Of The Gothic Symphony. Veronica Fury; Dr Sarmast's Music School. Beth Frey; **Storm Surfers 3D. Ellenor Cox, Marcus Gillezeau**

This year's nominated feature documentaries are characterised by real life drama and high passion, both within Australia and beyond. About this doco:

STORM SURFERS 3D is an epic documentary following Aussie tow-surfing legend Ross Clarke-Jones and two-time world champion Tom Carroll on their quest to hunt down and ride the biggest and most dangerous waves in Australia. The two best friends enlist the help of surf forecaster Ben Matson and together they track and chase giant storms across the Great Southern Ocean. Braving enormous waves, freezing conditions and near-death experiences, the film follows all of Ross, Tom and Ben's adventures over the 2011 winter big-wave season, all in stunning 3D. Along the way they join forces with big wave chargers Paul Morgan, Mark Mathews and Paul 'Antman' Paterson to conquer waves in Western Australia, on the east coast and in Tasmania, with a special appearance by the greatest surfer of all time, Kelly Slater.



The holy grail for this team of big wave hunters is to discover and ride new waves that have never been surfed. This year, Ross, Tom and Ben get the chance of a lifetime when they embark on the biggest and most dangerous mission of their lives to a wave that has never been ridden, 75km from land. See more at:

www.stormsurfers.com.au/

The 2nd AACTA Awards will be held in Sydney in early 2013.

From: http://aacta.org/the-awards/2nd-aacta-awards/non-feature-film-nominees.aspx

Pittwater people at Unity Walk - By Michael Mannington

Mike, Peter and Debbie Barton from Mona Vale participating in the Unity Walk at Sydney Olympic Park in aid of Parkinson's.

Seen at Homebush on Sunday, Mike, Peter and Debbie Barton from Mona Vale participating in the Unity Walk at Sydney Olympic Park. The walk in aid of Parkinson's NSW seeks to make a positive contribution to the provision of treatment and professional support for people with Parkinson's disease. The Parkinson's Unity Walk is staged by the Parkinson's organisations in each state. It began in Australia in 2008 and, so far, has raised more than $900,000 to fund important research and increase the support services we provide for people living with Parkinson's, their families and carers. Participants walked around the scenic Sydney Olympic Park precinct, including through the fantastic Sydney Athletics Centre.

High and Dry off Lobster Beach, Umina

From Marine Area Command - NSW Police Force

Broken Bay Water Police assisted this trawler yesterday (28.8.2012) after it had run aground thankfully in good conditions the night before. All safe and well. The channel's pretty narrow through there but it's well marked.

Weed specimen required!

Our Bushland Management team are looking for a specimen of Asparagus Falcatus. They have reports it has been seen growing in the Narrabeen or Fern Creek area of Warriewood. The specimen needs to have roots attached and preferably fruit and or flowers. It will be pressed and sent to the herbarium. If you manage to find this specimen please call Lavinia Schofield on 9970 1365.

Pittwater Offshore Newsletter Update 2/9/2012: click on Logo. Also has an Extensive Local Directory.

Scotland Island - Western Shores - Mackeral Beach
Pittwater Offshore Newsletter

To contact Julian: editor@scotlandisland.org.au

2012 Hawkesbury Nepean River Source to Sea - 5th to 9th September

Join us for Landcare Week on the Hawkesbury Nepean River! We will make our way over 5 days from Navua Reserve to the Sea stopping along the way joining Landcare / Bushcare groups, agency staff and farmers as they tell their story of the River. You can join in on Source to Sea by:

Paddling the river for half a day, a whole day, or all 5 days!, If you don't want to paddle but would love to see the River, join us on the house boat (numbers limited), Meet up with the paddlers along the way by coming to one of the many planned events

To paddle some or all of the river or come on the house boat contact: Jeff Cottrell, Willow Warriors; Ph: 02 9686 6972, Mobile: 0418 210 347 Email: jeffcottrell@optusnet.com.au Web : www.willowwarriors.org.au

To book in to attend an event or lend a helping hand contact: Vanessa Keyzer, Regional Landcare Facilitator, Hawkesbury-Nepean Catchment Management Authority. Email: : vanessa.keyzer@cma.nsw.gov.au Ph: 02 4725 3041. Web: www.hn.cma.nsw.gov.au

PITTWATER2025
YOUR VOICE. YOUR VISION

This is where you can give voice to your ideas on how Pittwater should look by the year 2025. Work's just about to start on Pittwater's Community Strategic Plan. What's that got to do with me you might ask? Put simply, it's your chance to tell us your hopes for the Pittwater you'd like to live in by 2025.

In 2006 you gave us a vision to work to in Pittwater's first plan. This vision is '***to be a vibrant sustainable community of connected villages inspired by bush, beach and water***'.

We need your voice now to refresh that vision. What sort of landscapes and facilities do you want to see? What kind of vibe would you like in your local village? How important is a sense of community and good government in your life? We know you're concerned about the everyday details such as roadworks and getting your garbage picked up on time. The strategic planning process is your chance to broaden that outlook. To really think about the community you live in and the big ideas that will make a difference to your future – and your children's.

Visit www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/pittwater2025 to see the ideas we've got and add yours!

Be involved by joining an online discussion and attending a community workshop. Add your comment online and see what others are saying. Got questions? Post it to us online and we'll publish the answer on the website. Check out the results of our most recent community survey completed in July 2012 about what our residents are thinking and feeling. Still got questions or just want to talk to someone about your ideas? Contact Us to find out how to get in touch.

Workshops to get your ideas: 16 October - Mona Vale, 23 October - North Narrabeen, 24 October - Avalon

Nipper's Registration Weekends 2012 Season

Please note: Bungan, North Palm Beach and Palm Beach SLSC and Whale Beach do not have Nipper's Programs. Surf Life Saving Sydney junior activities caters for more than 5700 young surf lifesavers. Commonly known as 'nippers', these members learn all there is to know about staying safe at the beach. They learn about:

Surf safety and awareness, including how to identify rips, Surf sports skills, such as how to catch a wave when swimming, Personal development and leadership skills, including teamwork and improving self confidence.

Making up over one third of our membership, nippers are not only our future but they are our 'now'. To find out how to become a nipper, get in touch with your local surf life saving club.

Registration times

Avalon – September 9th and 16th 9am – 12pm

Bilgola - September 9th and 16th 10am- 12 start date October 7th, 2012

Mona Vale - September 9th and 16th 9 -12, start date October 7th, 2012

North Narrabeen - September 9th and 16th 9am – 12pm start date October 14th 2012

Warriewood - September 9th and 16th 11am – 1pm start date October 14th, 2012

More information on all clubs HERE

Centenary of Anzac 1915 - 2015

Mackellar & Warringah Federal Electorates - A Community Commemoration

The Organising Committee for the commemoration of the Centenary of ANZAC on the Northern Beaches in 2015 has already begun planning the major event. The Committee representing local councils, federal electorates, ex-service organisations, and supporting organisations, has contacted all schools in the Northern Beaches and Mosman areas inviting participation by the youth of our community in this milestone event.

Retired RAN Commodore Graham Sloper from Avalon who chairs the ceremonial committee, will take responsibility for the March and Service to be held at Pittwater Rugby Park on Sunday 19th April 2015.

Graham Sloper is well known as the President of the Avalon RSL sub-Branch and responsible for the organisation of the very successful Avalon Tattoo held in June each year.

"This will be truly a community event and all members of the community, whether they are representing community groups or the general public are invited to attend. We expect 5,000 marching on the day with up to 20,000 spectators. All facilities are available with plenty of buses and car parking." Commodore Sloper said.

Organising Committee: Chairman: Bill Hardman FIPA MAICD MICM JP, Secretary: Eric Ralphs – RFD ED JP

The Pittwater Mens Probus meets at the Mona Vale Golf Club on the second Tuesday of each month. Visitors are welcome at 10.30am. Please visit the link below to view the digital magazine of Active Retirees: http://probus.realviewdigital.com/

Pittwater Artfest 2012

Pittwater Artfest is now in its 7th biannual year and with support from local businesses has been able to remain a free community event celebrating our area and the artistic pursuits of the children who live here. The festival encourages children to put down their digital devices, turn off their televisions, get off the computer and pick up a paint brush, pencil, pen or musical instruments and create something based on this year's theme.

Pittwater Artfest encourages self esteem by exhibiting the work of every child that enters. It not only encourages children but engages families and local artists to participate together in the local community. Pittwater Artfest attracts thousands of people to the area during its two week duration. There are two parts to the event:

Art Prize and Exhibition: **Opening night Friday 21st September 6pm-9pm - Exhibition runs until 27th September Avalon Recreation Centre.** All **entries must be received by 6pm, 8th September at Avalon Recreation Centre**. An art exhibition where kids get to have their paintings hung and judged.

The theme for 2012 is 'Our Community'

You may submit any 2-D Media including Painting, Drawing, Collage, Printing, Digital Arts, Photography and Mixed media in the following sections:
Pre-school,
Infants – Kindergarten, yrs 1, 2 (open to Pittwater Schools Only)
Primary – 3, 4, 5, 6 (open to Pittwater Schools Only)
Junior High – years 7, 8, 9, 10 (open to all High Schools)
Senior High – Years 11, 12 (Open to all High Schools)
Group – Work by 10 or more students.
Conditions of Entry:
• Pre-school, infants and primary entrants must live or go to school in the Pittwater area.
• The high school section is open to all students from any geographical area.
• All works to be submitted framed (no clip frames excepted).
• Paintings can be submitted on canvas stretcher that can be hung.
• Individual artwork no bigger than 90 x 70cm.
• High School & Group artwork no bigger than 90cm x 120cm
• One entry per child.
Entry fee $10 per entry payable on delivery of work to collection point.

Art in the Park: Saturday 22 September 9am-1pm Dunbar Park Avalon

A free community event in Dunbar Park Avalon, where local artists give up there time and expertise to teach children across all mediums, including painting, music, sculpture, illustration, mosaics, chalk, print making craft, knitting, and much more. If you would like to get involved and help out with Artfest please let us know. For further information contact: Artfest Coordinator Stephanie Brown Mob: 0407 270 365 email: pittwaterartfest@gmail.com www.pittwaterartfest.com.au https://www.facebook.com/PittArtFest

Mona Vale Public School Centenary Celebrations- Share Your Stories and Photos

Mona Vale Public School is celebrating 100 years with a Festival Day to be held in September this year. They are currently asking people to share their stories and photos and memories of their school years at MVPS. Details HERE

Federal Government Media Releases this week:

BER funding improves facilities for students with disability - PORTFOLIO: Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

SNIPPET: Students with the most complex learning needs at some of NSW's special schools will receive improved Building the Education Revolution (BER) facilities through an agreement between the State and Federal Governments. This will include replacing demountable classrooms with permanent classrooms, providing customised facilities for students with special needs, expanding student activity areas, improving disabled access to buildings, hydrotherapy facilities and accessible toilets and showers. **The $16.2 billion BER program** is delivering over 23,000 projects in nearly 9,500 schools across Australia.

Key conditions released for significant investor visa - PORTFOLIO: Immigration and Citizenship

SNIPPET: Minister for Immigration and Citizenship. The full conditions for a new visa designed to encourage significant migrant investment into Australia were released today by the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship, Chris Bowen MP. Australia is offering a significant investor visa to provide a boost to the local economy and to compete effectively for high net worth individuals seeking investment immigration on an international scale.

Scammers target job seekers - PORTFOLIO: Treasury

SNIPPET: So far this year the Australian Taxation Office has received more than 10,000 reports on a wide range of scams including fake job advertisements, emails and bogus phone calls. 'Bogus job ads are being posted on recruitment websites by scammers where people are being asked to provide their tax file numbers (TFN) as a part of their job application. You can also report suspected email scams to the ATO by forwarding the email to.

Get the music facts - PORTFOLIO: Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport

SNIPPET: Enriching Australia by supporting the practice and enjoyment of the arts. You are here: Get the music facts. The music industry itself is going through a consumer-lead digital revolution, with spending on digital music set to overtake CD sales in 2012 as fans buy more music online, and embrace subscription services

Aussie Paralympians take centre stage- PORTFOLIO: Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

SNIPPET: Minister for Multicultural Affairs. Minister for Disability Reform Jenny Macklin, Minister for Sport Kate Lundy and Parliamentary Secretary for Disabilities and Carers Jan McLucas today wish our 161-strong Australian Team all the best for a successful Paralympic Games in London. Australians around the nation will be cheering on our Paralympians as they enter the stadium today to officially mark the start of the Games and take on the world.

Better Scrutiny of Regulatory Proposals - Australian Productivity Commission

SNIPPET: This media release accompanies the draft report which was released on 31 August 2012. In Regulatory Impact Analysis: Benchmarking - a report requested by COAG - the Commission compares the regulatory impact analysis processes of the Commonwealth, States and Territories and COAG, and identifies leading practices. The Commission seeks comment on this draft report in order to develop its final report to the Government by the end of November.

Australia Post Chairman David Mortimer to step down - Australia Post - PORTFOLIO: Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy

SNIPPET: Thursday, 30 August 2012. Long-serving Australia Post Board member and Chairman David Mortimer will stand down as Director and Chairman on September 12 following the expiry of his term as Director. Mr Mortimer has served 11 years on the Australia Post Board - six of those as Chairman - and his term as Director expires in line with guidelines limiting the terms of all Board Members on Government Business Enterprises.

NSW acts on housing supply and affordability reform - PORTFOLIO: Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

SNIPPET: Minister for Housing and Homelessness Brendan O'Connor today welcomed the release of a new report which recommends ways to enhance housing supply and affordability. 1.The HSAR Working Party recommends that COAG agree that:. 7.The HSAR Working Party recommends that COAG agree that the Commonwealth could consider reforming its own housing programs to improve their efficiency and effectiveness as a part of a broader housing reform strategy that is informed by more clearly defined government objectives and the roles and responsibilities of each tier of government.Government programs to tackle housing affordability include the **$4.5 billion National Rental Affordability Scheme which is building 50,000 new affordable rental properties, the $100 million Building Better Regional Cities program, the Housing Affordability Fund and the Social Housing Initiative.** Housing Supply and Affordability Reform Report Recommendations:.

WorldSkills showcases 500 of the best Aussie tradies - PORTFOLIO: Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education

SNIPPET: Five hundred of Australia's most talented tradespeople will battle it out in the country's ultimate skills competition for the chance to represent Australia on the world stage as a Skillaroo next year. The young people competing at WorldSkills Australia are proof of the opportunities that having a qualification can deliver. WorldSkills allows the community to see for themselves how rewarding a qualification can be and motivate them to take up training themselves, Senator Evans said.

Government and NRL partner to tackle apprenticeship retention - PORTFOLIO: Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education

SNIPPET: Eleven experienced mentors will be employed by the NRL to help support Australian Apprentices complete their training in key trades, thanks to a grant of more than $2 million from the Federal Government. The mentors will be able to use their first hand experience to teach Apprentices how to manage the competing demands of a football career, an apprenticeship workload and a family, Senator Evans said. With training and support, Australian School-based Apprentices may be close to completing their trade qualification by the time they are picked up by the NRL or Toyota Cup, meaning they already have the skills they need for a rewarding career after rugby.

Post offices placed on Commonwealth Heritage List - PORTFOLIO: Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities

SNIPPET: Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities. 'The inclusion of 15 new post offices on the Commonwealth Heritage List will ensure these important local places are recognised, celebrated and protected for future generations.'. The 15 new post offices being placed on the Commonwealth Heritage List are:.

Eureka Prize 2012 - PORTFOLIO: Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

SNIPPET: The Rural Industries R&D Corporation has congratulated Dr Dana Cordell and Professor Stuart White from the Institute for Sustainable Futures at the University of Technology after being awarded the 2012 NSW Office of Environment and Heritage Eureka Prize for Environmental Research. The Rural Industries R&D Corporation has supported Dr Cordell's and Professor White's research through funding studies that track the flow of phosphorus through the Australian food system. 'Dr Cordell's and Professor White's research into the flow of phosphorus through the Australian food system found that despite being a net food exporter, Australia is a net importer of phosphorus, with a net of 80kt of phosphorus imported into the country each year.

Funding boost for legal assistance services nationwide -PORTFOLIO: Attorney-General's

SNIPPET: A boost in funding for legal assistance services will help to ensure access to justice isn't limited to those who can afford to pay. This funding boost recognises that many of these legal assistance services are experiencing significant demand. 21 community legal centres at the coal-face of providing legal assistance to those who need it most will be benefit from this much needed funding boost.

VA070 - PORTFOLIO: Defence

SNIPPET: The Minister for Veterans Affairs, Warren Snowdon, today expressed his sorrow at the passing of Sir Richard Kingsland, AO, CBE, DFC, a highly respected man who had committed a lifetime to his beloved country, both during his time in the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) and as a senior public servant. Sir Richard was a leader to those around him and an inspiration to his colleagues, Mr Snowdon said. Media Note: A photograph of Sir Richard Kingsland during his time with the Department of Veterans Affairs is available from the DVA Media Centre:.

ABS conducting largest survey of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health - PORTFOLIO: Treasury

SNIPPET: These documents will be presented in a new window. Commonwealth of Australia 2012.

Commission calls for nominations for the Law Award (2012 Media Release) - PORTFOLIO: Attorney-General's

SNIPPET: Sponsored by the Law Council of Australia, the Law Award is awarded to an individual or an organisation with a proven track record in promoting and advancing human rights in Australia through the practice of law. Nominations are also being called for all of the Award categories including the Human Rights Medal and Young People's Human Rights Medal and specific categories such as the Business Award, Literature (non-fiction) Award and the Community Organisation Award.

Australia and European Commission agree on pathway towards fully linking Emissions Trading Systems - Think Change

SNIPPET: The Australian Minister for Climate Change and Energy Efficiency, the Hon Greg Combet MP, and the European Commissioner for Climate Action, Ms Connie Hedegaard announced on Tuesday 28 August 2012 that Australia and Europe will be linking their emissions trading systems. Under this arrangement, businesses will be allowed to use carbon units from the Australian emissions trading scheme or the European Union Emissions Trading System for compliance under either system. In recognition of these changes and while formal negotiations proceed towards a full two-way link, an interim link will be established, whereby Australian businesses will be able to use EU allowances to help meet liabilities under the Australian emissions trading scheme from 1 July 2015 until a full link is established, i.e.

National dialogue with employers on the future of childcare and national productivity- PORTFOLIO: Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

SNIPPET: Some of Australia's largest employers are meeting today to discuss the future of affordable and flexible childcare for working parents.. Ms Ellis said it was important for employers to contribute to the debate on the future of child care. Ms Ellis said the evidence was growing on the high return on investment in quality early childhood education and care and it was a vital policy area to meet Australia's long term productivity goals.

Sweet deal for Clean Technology upgrades at Mackay Sugar - PORTFOLIO: Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education

SNIPPET: Australia's second largest sugar milling company, Mackay Sugar, will use a $9.1 million grant from the Gillard Government's Clean Technology Food and Foundries Investment Program to support a $27 million project aimed at boosting the company's overall efficiency. The Clean Technology Investment Programs which are funded by carbon price revenue, are part of the Government's plan for a Clean Energy Future. Mackay Sugar's Clean Technology project description can be found at

Federal Dollars Help Turn Community Vision into a Reality -PORTFOLIO: Infrastructure and Transport

SNIPPET: Today I joined local residents and community leaders to celebrate the officially opening of Cloncurry's new $11 million Community Precinct, which together with the new truck bypass represents a significant investment by the Federal Labor Government in this historic North West Queensland town. I am proud that we were able to provide $2.4 million to help turn the Council's vision of a modern, vibrant community hub into reality. The final product is a first-class facility comprising a library, gallery space for local artists and touring exhibitions, a function centre with multi-media facilities, commercial kitchen and open spaces. Over the past 128 years, Cloncurry has played a major role in Queensland's extraordinary transformation from colonial outpost to a modern, prosperous society-and with the right support from both Brisbane and Canberra there's no reason why its role in the State's future can't be just as significant. Cloncurry Shire Council Mayor. 'After more than a year of detailed planning, community consultations and preconstruction activities, we have today pressed the `start' button on a project which will make this historic North West Queensland town an even better place to live, work and raise a family,' said Mr Albanese. 'The bypass is no longer just an aspiration or a line on the map. It will soon be a real road delivering real benefits including safer, quicker driving conditions and up to 350 fewer trucks a day rumbling through the town,' said Cr Daniels.

Landcare community comes together for National Conference - Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

SNIPPET: Landcarers from the country to the city will join together in Sydney for the National Landcare Conference and awards, which will take place from 3 to 5 September. Michelle Lauder , Assistant Secretary, Landcare branch, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, said the growing interest in sustainable living and food security around the world meant this year's conference theme, `Landcare-the future in our hands', is more relevant than ever. The conference, supported by the Australian Government, will include the National Landcare Awards and the inaugural Bob Hawke Landcare Award, which will recognise individuals who have contributed significantly to the Landcare movement.

Australian Parents Council celebrates 50 years of advocacy - PORTFOLIO: Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

SNIPPET: The role parents play in the provision of education in this country was celebrated last night at the 50 th anniversary of the Australian Parents Council (APC) at their annual conference in Sydney. 50 years ago today on 25 August 1962 nearly 200 parents from across Australia met in Goulburn to form the Australian Parents Council, Senator Collins said. The Australian Government has something in common with Caz and parents in general.

Child care more affordable under Labor - PORTFOLIO: Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

SNIPPET: An unprecedented number of families are using child care since the Australian Government introduced new measures to make it more affordable. Never before have there been more children in Australian child care or more Government assistance subsidising their fees, Ms Ellis said. The Child Care Update shows over 704,000 families were using approved child care services in the September quarter 2011, the latest figures available from the Government's child care assistance system.

New Season Begins in September

Sailability Pittwater is a volunteer organisation which provides sailing for people with a disability. Our main recreational sailing activities are at Rowland Reserve, Bayview, and we run competitive sailing for people with a disability out of RPAYC Newport.

We are currently looking for new volunteers for our Saturday morning program at Rowland Reserve and Tuesdays at RPA. Visit our website for more information at www.sailability.org/au/pittwater or call John on 99825656 / 0409391065

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Dew Gathering Time

This is the Dew Gathering times. These come during the turning over from the snow verses to the long warm tides. The second full moon's dew is sung to be most potent, filled with the essences of early blooming flowers and their quickening breaths. Dew is gathered three times during these verges, at the moonrise, at the full midday light, when sun warms the dew, and at brimming dawn, until the last gathering on the third full moon night. Thus there are three types, the moonlit ones, named 'green breath' as breath is being made beneath the moon, during the deep blue turns of night, the dawn one, known as 'white breath', and the midday alchemy, called 'gold'. Half of these types are blended together into one kind of dew. The other half of these types are kept in their gathered states, for joining the skin of the gatherers with the skins of the earth when they are supped. The gatherers thus become the Gathered.

Reverence is in their hands as they gather. In their hearts is a hallowed chanting, a willing the properties in the plants that dew imbues, and is imbued by, to be kept in the liquid gathered. This practice of wholeness keeping, which is also a spiritual raising of the holy cup, renews divinity. The gatherers can taste the temperament of the coming seasons, right through to the cold times, in the dews gathered in the first turning of the moon. The gatherers and their families, filled with natures' spirit, and thus spiritual in nature, reverend, are merged with the earth as keepers of the temple and can turn any bad rains coming into good rains, disperse maligning threads in bad seeds, and bloom sweeter knowings. These gatherers make a golden hue when with the earth, are part of its gold aura. They know why we take pure water in, along with the pure spirit in water. Similarly they smile for the gift of air, for breath, and the spark air is in blood, embraced fully in, and embraced by. With them rest the keys for all these other pure threads that should be enthreaded through beings, opened in season.

Murruh is near the well preparing the women for the gathering of this first blue-green dew, as this is the hour of dew, and this dew, that is cool and thick with the forests' breaths this early in spring, is a powerful ingredient in all her remedies.

NB: *what is described here is known as the original way to make flower essences or plant curatives.* See Hildegard Von Bingen for first European recorded instance of this ancient practice.

Extract from The Meeting Age. Village Green. Copyright A J Guesdon. 1985 - 2012. All Rights Reserved.

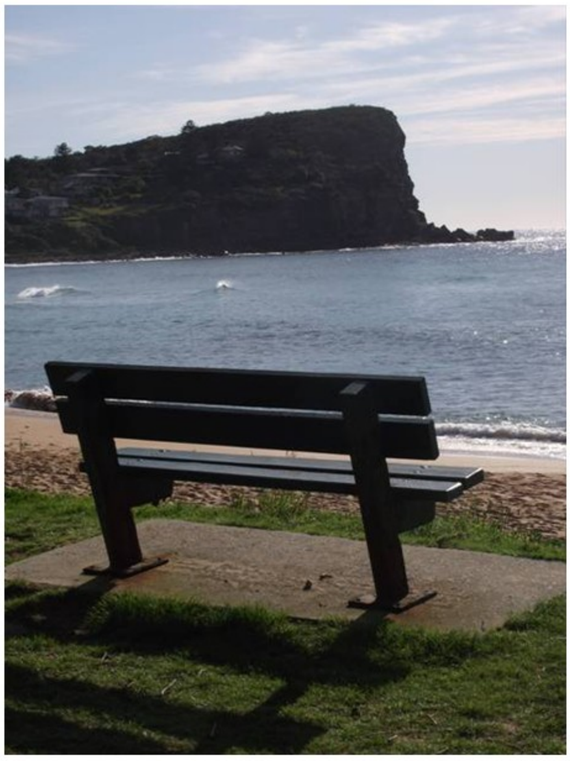
Park Bench Philosophers

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: 2000.



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Sonja Elwood

When thinking of bush regeneration we may see people sweating hard in shimmering heat hazed days pulling out choking thorny lantana while pushing in eucalypt saplings. We don't hear the laugh as a tinkling music of victory that must be in these regenerators; we just see it in the billowing of tree crowns or 'feel' it in the fast and busy shimmering of a million eucalyptus leaves. When we ponder nursing a sick or injured native animal back to health we envision their bounding back home into sunlit bush, a little twirl of legs or tail in mid-jig salutation, we don't see long nights fretting over a tiny creature that won't eat or stay warm; we don't see the sad doe eyes, frightened and confused.

There is something very special about those who give their time, energy and innate self to wrest the bush back from the brink and regenerate it back to its original and glorious balance. Equally unique are those who tend native animals that are injured by others until they may be released back into their habitats. The level of dedication, deep deprivation experienced and education required denotes a passion and focus that must be, in part, an aspect of a person's existence and nature. A Fauna Expert and Environmental Education Officer with Pittwater Council, a finalist who received a certificate of appreciation in the 2012 Pittwater Volunteer Award for 20+ years service in May this year, a lady who gives up weekends to take others on informative community Walk and Talks and is always smiling each time we attend a Bushcare Regeneration morning is bubbly Sonja Elwood. Gentle, kind, steady and passionately serious about her works, this lady puts 'lifelong learning' and celebration of our natural garden and its creatures into action, proving that 'nature' or one's own truths, can very successfully and in a way that enriches all, out. Where does all this Spring from?

In Vietnam, 2010

I was born in Dunedin (South Island of NZ) but moved to Auckland (North Island) of New Zealand at around two years of age where I was raised by my mother and grandparents. My grandmother had an enormous influence on my life and was a truly incredible lady. An only child, hyperactive and very sensitive I was the bane of my mother and grandmother's life - constant questions, very busy and born with a love of all things natural. My grandfather was a market gardener so I was very fortunate to be raised on organic foods straight from the garden and spent hours wandering the gardens and orchards. My grandmother bought only the minimum from shops preferring to make her own clothes and household necessities. She baked a variety of goodies weekly and preserved every type of fruit and veggies annually. She also made every type of jam with fruits picked from our orchards. Even today I do not buy jam ... it just doesn't make the grade... lol.

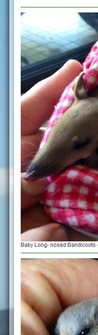
With Barrenjoey High School students doing the Community Service part of the 2012 Duke Of Edinburgh Award.

My grandparents also owned lands on the west coast at Piha, a wild black sand beach surrounded by bushland and dunes where a great deal of my childhood was spent. My grandmother's family have owned lands in the area since European settlement and the area has meant a great deal to all of us. I realise looking back I knew that land well ... the tracks, trails, creeks, birds. I still return there every year when I visit home and the beach and area still provide a deep feeling of comfort and home. It is a huge untamed landscape and still, thank goodness, largely protected.

View from Musgamurra Nature Reserve when on a Guided Walk earlier this year.

My family and ancestors on both sides of my family are compassionate, kind and gentle people .... it seems to be genetic. To my mother/grandmother's horror when a toddler I would bring dead animals home that I found (birds or hedgehogs) and put them into the hot water cupboard in the belief if I could just warm them up they may come back to life. I desperately tried to raise chicks on several occasions in my childhood with no success and upon reflection can still feel the sadness of failure.

Of great impact on me were two primary excursions in my first couple of years at school - one to a battery farm where chickens were kept in an enormous shed in cages for egg production. I can still recall this - the images, the smell, the filth, the lack of freedom..... were burnt into my memory - I was absolutely mortified and felt terribly worried and sad for these animals. I somehow felt there was somehow terribly wrong. The second excursion I remember vividly was to a pine plantation and mill where we were taken for a walk through a mature pine forest. Again my childish impression was of a monoculture of trees on a floor of deep pine needles where no other plants grew and no sound could be heard.....nothing .... the silence was deafening and again my overwhelming feeling was horror. Even at that young age I recognised there was no life in this forest and even the trees were waiting to die.



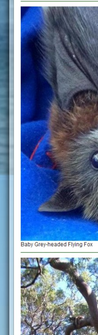
Baby Long- nosed Bandicoots - separated from their mother by a cat

I was a fairly bright student and upon completing high school wanted to go to Uni but to my and my family's dismay was deemed too young and refused admission. I was only 15 and due to advances in my childhood years finished school earlier than most. I bummied around for a year travelling and spent some months in the far north of the north Island where quite by chance and most fortunately I spent some months living with a very aged Maori Tohunga (a Maori medicine/spirit man). This experience introduced me to Maori culture and indigenous lifestyle. Grandpa, as I called him, (he called me his 'blue-eyed Mokopuna'... grandchild) lived entirely off the land ... no running water, no power and so on ... and knew every native plant and its use. It was an amazing experience and gave me a real taste of what has been lost through European settlement and farming.

Sub- adult Feathertail Glider, August 11th, 2012

Upon my return to Auckland I joined a publishing company in sales and a year later was offered a transfer/promotion to Brisbane in Australia ... which I took. Well Australia has had a profound effect on me... so much so I haven't gone home. It took me some years to love the land (which I now adore!!). It appeared harsh and lacked colour and detail to my eyes for some time in such contrast to the colours I was used to in NZ. But it was the wildlife that got me.....I was wowed by the enormous variety of native animals.

I spent a year in Brisbane and then transferred to Sydney where in my first few months heard of a group that had just formed that rescued injured/orphaned native wildlife. They were holding their very first training course and were looking for people who might be interested in helping and their name was WIRES. I spent 12 years with WIRES and during this time learnt a lot about Sydney's beautiful wildlife and held various positions in the organisation. During this time I also completed a Diploma in Microcomputer Technology and Programming and worked for a computer company for a few years before having my beautiful son Callan.



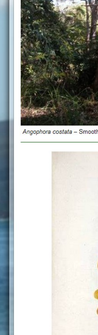
Baby Grey-headed Flying Fox

When I returned to work I joined WIRES as an employee working in the Rescue Office and assisting the management committee. In these couple of years I also completed the Bush Regeneration Course which gave me the names of all the native plants I had been using for some years with my animals. **In 1997 I founded Sydney Wildlife** and began working in the Bush Regeneration industry. After a couple of years of this I enrolled at Macquarie University in a degree in Environmental Science part time. Whilst studying I joined the Coastal Environment Centre of Pittwater Council teaching high school and primary school children about the local environment and leading community biodiversity tours and events. After completing my degree I have joined Pittwater Council full time between two departments ... Natural Environment and Education doing fauna related work and continuing with teaching and community events and with the Reserves and Recreation department doing bushland management. I am also currently half way through Master of Wildlife Conservation at Macquarie University which I am completing part-time.

Angophora costata – Smooth Barked Apple trees

The environment and caring for wildlife is not just a job and voluntary work, - it's my life and what makes me happy. I suppose I should add I am terribly worried about the animals and the environment especially in Australia. We have an awful lot of unique biodiversity to protect.

Australia has the biggest extinction rate in mammals in the world and is right up there behind South America overall. Australia has slid backwards in the past couple of years ... logging last forests, threatened species habitats and potential world heritage sites. Mining proposed in the Kimberleys and Barrier Reef. CSG Fracking everywhere which has terrible long term environmental and health consequences to humans, wildlife, soil and water supplies. Shooting in National Parks, culling of Flying foxes, many species of which are already threatened and these animals are THE primary (if not only) pollinator of trees in both eucalypt and rainforests, removing sustainability as a subject in the school curriculum, river health not improving and sliding backwards, climate change and sea level rise, the imminent arrival of superfreighters in our marine environment that have nets large enough to hold 13 jumbo jets ...and so it goes on.



John Hunter, 1737-1821. Broom bossiaea (Bossiaea scolopendria), [between 1788 and 1790. Part of Birds & flowers of New South Wales drawn on the spot in 1788, '89 & '90 [picture] 1788-1790. nla.pic-an3149751. Courtesy National Library of Australia.

Our Government needs to act ... and we need to make them act. We will all suffer in the end as ecosystems start collapsing.

You formed Sydney Wildlife. When was this?

Sydney Wildlife started operation in May 1997 after three of four months of to-ing and fro-ing with the Government. We opened with about 300 people on our books.

What does Sydney Wildlife do ?

Very similar to WIRES - we are a large group of volunteers licensed by the Office of Environment and Heritage who rescue, care and release native orphaned/injured/sick wildlife in the greater Sydney Basin. The difference between us and WIRES is we have no paid staff and we operate 24 hrs/day, 7 days per week. We also do a lot of educational talks to schools, community groups etc.

Once you have your Masters in Wildlife Conservation, what will this enable you to do ?

Maybe earn more money. I honestly don't know where it will lead me and I am sure it wont be the end of my education. I love learning.

What is your favourite indigenous plant ?

Australia has such beautiful plants and so many of them and I haven't even been to WA yet (which has 4-5 times as many plants as NSW)!!! I do love *Angophora costata* – Smooth Barked Apple trees. There bark is so lovely to the eye and they are so iconically the Northern Beaches. On the ground layer I love the heath and my favourite would be *Bossiaea scolopendria* - a most unremarkable looking little plant most of the year until it flowers (Aug-Oct) delightful little pea flowers directly from its stem - amazing!!

If you could be a native animal for a day what would you be, do?

Oh - all of them!! Mmmm - probably a Grey-headed Flying-fox!! I would love to feel the freedom of flying; I just adore these animals and they are so misunderstood and much maligned. They're 4-5 times more intelligent than dogs, THE primary pollinators of our eucalypt and rainforest canopy trees and sadly threatened with extinction. They are a delight to care for, friendly, loving, funny .... I am so afraid for them.

What is your favourite place/s in Pittwater and why?

Warriewood Escarpment, now called Ingleside Chase Reserve and of course Ku ring gai National Park particularly those areas of bushland that meet the sea - I am a water baby :) Why? Because I love the animals and large pieces of bushland is where I can find them living undisturbed. I like the feeling when you are out in the bush standing perhaps on a sandstone ledge looking out over the bush to the sea that you are small and nature is much bigger than you ... Pittwater has a lot of those places, it's fantastic!

What is your 'motto for life' or a favourite phrase you try to live by?

I like the expression **"I'd rather die on my feet than live on my knees"**

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Warriewood Escarpment Waterfall, photo courtesy of Ika Dalby-Ball, Dragonfly Environmental

Looking across South Piha Beach to Lion Rock, Auckland, New Zealand. Photo by Avenue.

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Avalon Sailing Club

By Norm Field
Commodore 1998-1999

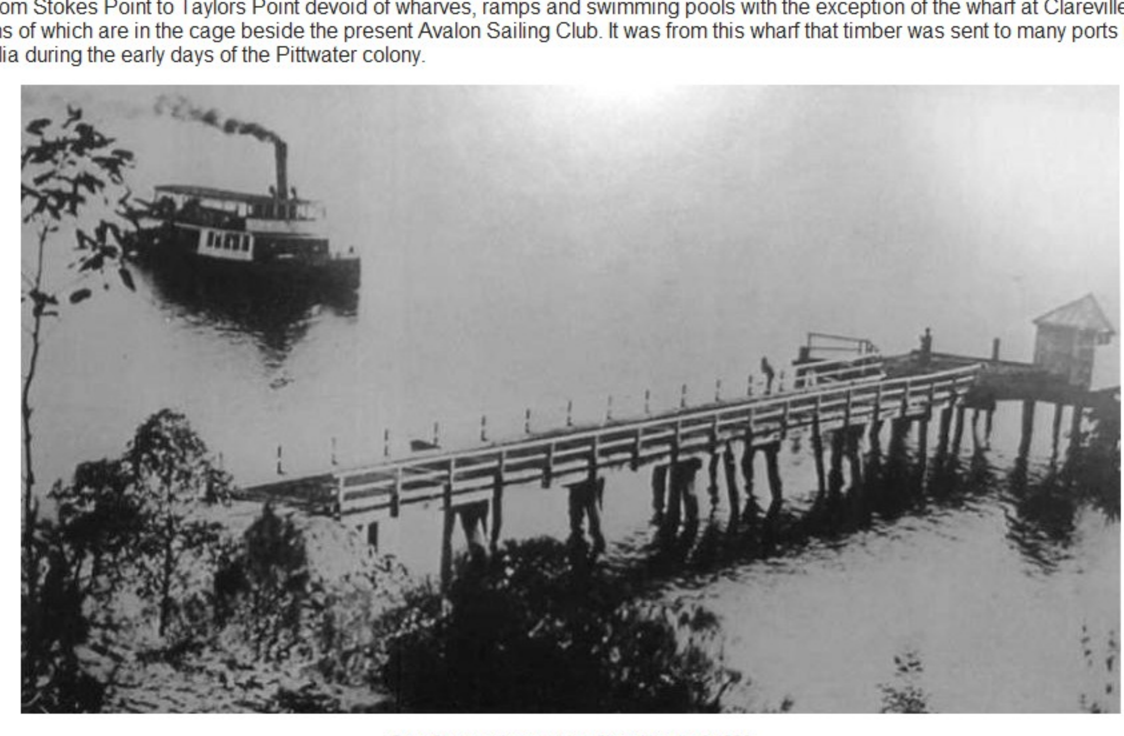
The majority of this story of Avalon Sailing Club I have interpreted from the minute books Ian Craig (our secretary) and I discovered in the club office during our regular working bees. I felt it would be a disaster to leave this history to be eaten by silverfish (they have now moved to my house) so I started the project. In the process I was privileged to meet a lot of people who made the club possible, and they helped me keep the record straight as well as providing photographs and names of people in the photographs. Many thanks to Les Vaughan, Bill Toft, Bill Davidson, John Lingard, Ken Hudson, Phil Rudder, David Forbes, Tony Bellingham, Don McLachlan, Mary Ifould, June Ryves and that walking encyclopaedia from Royal Prince Alfred, Jack Gale.

A.S.C. has always provided a great ab initio training for young sailors to introduce them to the joys of the sport before they move on to more competitive arenas. Just a few names from more recent times are Grant Simmer, Phil Bate, Tony Bellingham, Glen Attrill, and James and Katie Spithill. Our current patron is Iain Murray and he and his wife Alex have contributed greatly to our junior training programme.

The early patrons from the Clareville Beach start days H.G. Bellingham, H. Gregory Foster and Phil Goldstein (yacht *Archina*, 3rd in 1947 Hobart Race) provided permanent trophies which are still with the club. They were friends with a lot of the local residents including Stan Fox who owned the house just around the corner south of Taylors Point. You can still see his house from the Taylors Point Mark. His cruiser the Miss Eve used to follow the races and he donated the Miss Eve trophy to the club. The club is still a family affair and the annual replacement of the boards on the deck still occurs and yes, the nails still pop up. The V.J.s have gone to be replaced by M.J.s, Flying 11s, Spirals, Nippas, Lasers, 29'ers, and there is now a large yacht racing and cruising division, sailing every Sunday through summer and once a month in winter.

The Formative Years

A promotional gazette by Sydney city auctioneers Robjohn and Associates in the 1920's proposed introducing "the city businessman" to the beauties of Pittwater. Proposed development of the area assured prospective buyers of regular ferry services between Newport and wharves in Pittwater and the Hawkesbury as well as a tram service to Taylors Point and Palm Beach, "in the process of construction". Barrenjoey Road had only just been upgraded from a cart track and surfaced with macadamite at this stage. A 1922 photograph shows the area from Stokes Point to Taylors Point devoid of wharves, ramps and swimming pools with the exception of the wharf at Clareville, the remains of which are in the cage beside the present Avalon Sailing Club. It was from this wharf that timber was sent to many ports in Australia during the early days of the Pittwater colony.



Ferry Steamer Approaching Clareville wharf, 1920

The price of a block of land on the waterfront averaged out at 150 pounds for a 50 foot wide block in the area extending from the beach at Taylors Point to Hudson Parade.

Mr. J.G. Vaughan, an engineer with the Wakefield Oil Co., had the weekend use of a house just to the south west of the Clareville Park and in 1932 introduced his family to the unspoilt beauty of the area. His teenage sons, Les, Harold and Ken were keen sailors with the Middle Harbour Skiff Club and equally keen to sail on Pittwater. However he was concerned that the boys could not be supervised on the waters off Clareville Beach especially as the dinghies of those days were non righting and had to be towed or paddled home.

His concerns were alleviated with the Vaucluse Junior, or V.J., which had first appeared upon the scene in 1931. Designed by a young naval draughtsman, Charles Sparrow, with a lot of enthusiasm and support from Sil Rohu, a Sydney businessman and keen sailor, the V.J. could be built at home from the comprehensive set of plans that cost 10 shillings. The most important aspect of the boat was that apart from a small canvas well she was completely decked in, unsinkable and could be righted by the crew without external help.

The Vaughan family built their first boat, *Defiance*, in the boat shed and bought the next one, *Flash*, second hand, in 1933. The two older boys, Les and Harold, set up their own race course in the area to the north of Taylors Point and to supplement their pocket money would stage mock pirate landings and sword fights at Clareville on a Sunday, to the delight of the local residents. The "donations" were then collected and placed in the treasure chests which were the canvas wells of the V.J.s. The Vaughan's nearest neighbours were the O'Connor family, who owned the Sir Walter Raleigh Hotel at Kings Cross and also owned a motor cruiser, the M.V. *Raleigh*. The two O'Connor daughters joined in the pirate jousting not only as damsels in distress but assistant collectors of the booty.

The local families combined to share a jig frame for the V.J. construction and by 1935 there were six boats sailing off Clareville Beach all made with cedar planking and with either home made or professionally cut cotton sails. By 1937 Mr. Vaughan decided that his boys were either making too much money as entrepreneurs or on the road to ruin so he made a set of marks and laid out a course, starting off Clareville and using the area between Taylors Point, Paradise Beach and Long Nose Point. A system of coloured flags was used representing minutes to start in a handicap start system so in theory all boats should finish together. Entry fee was two shillings and the prize money was divided proportionally among the first three boats. (Maybe some of Australia's best known sailors lost their amateur status in those early years.)

Les approached his father to help with the purchase of a car and received the profound advice that a car was a poor investment, son, and he should look to the future and buy a house. An adjacent house with views north to Lion Island and a reserve to the beach was for sale and Les approached the owner, a teacher at Chatswood school, and offered a deposit of one Pound which was accepted. This house and the next door boat shed were where the family laid the foundations of Avalon Sailing Club.

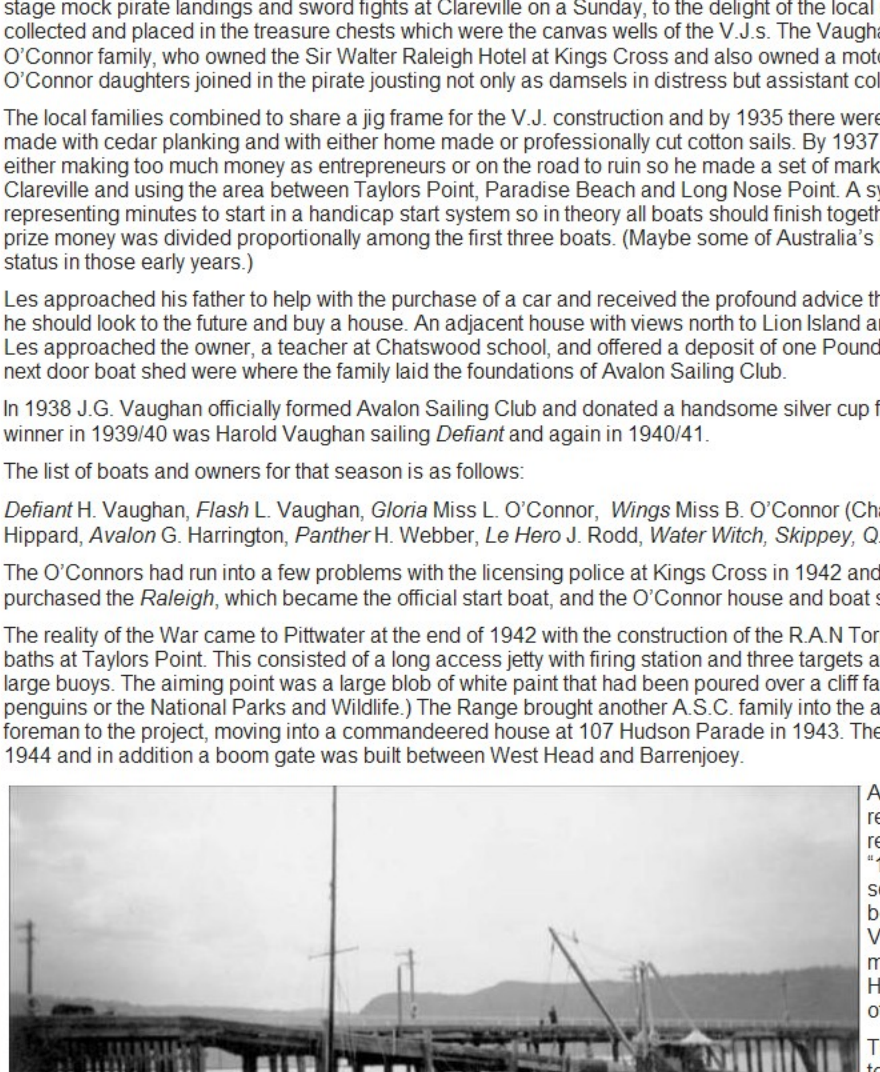
In 1938 J.G. Vaughan officially formed Avalon Sailing Club and donated a handsome silver cup for the annual V.J. Championship. The first winner in 1939/40 was Harold Vaughan sailing *Defiant* and again in 1940/41.

The list of boats and owners for that season is as follows:

Defiant H. Vaughan, *Flash* L. Vaughan, *Gloria* Miss L. O'Connor, *Wings* Miss B. O'Connor (Champion 1942/43), *Spray* Miss J.P. Hippard, *Avalon* G. Harrington, *Panther* H. Webber, *Le Hero* J. Rodd, *Water Witch, Skippey, Q.E.D.*

The O'Connors had run into a few problems with the licensing police at Kings Cross in 1942 and to help out financially J.G. Vaughan purchased the *Raleigh*, which became the official start boat, and the O'Connor house and boat shed.

The reality of the War came to Pittwater at the end of 1942 with the construction of the R.A.N Torpedo Range on the public reserve and baths at Taylors Point. This consisted of a long access jetty with firing station and three targets at 1000 yard intervals held in position by six large buoys. The aiming point was a large blob of white paint that had been poured over a cliff face on Lion Island. (No consultation with the penguins or the National Parks and Wildlife.) The Range brought another A.S.C. family into the area with the arrival of Frank Lingard as foreman to the project, moving into a commandeered house at 107 Hudson Parade in 1943. The torpedo testing commenced in January 1944 and in addition a boom gate was built between West Head and Barrenjoey.



A Defence order requiring all boats to be removed from Pittwater within 24 hours is recorded on the Championship Trophy as "1943/44 Activities suspended due war service". The V.J.s were stored in various boat sheds and back yards and Les Vaughan, in the Naval Reserve at this stage managed to move the *Raleigh* to Middle Harbour where she remained until the end of the war.

The High Command must have relented towards the end of 1944 as the Club re-opened on the 14th October that year and at the meeting held in the Vaughan's boat shed the new office bearers unanimously decided the club should be named the Avalon Sailing Club. J.G. Vaughan was elected President (just as well, as it was his original idea, his boat shed and he also provided the car battery for the lighting in the shed) and Les Vaughan was made Club Captain.

Above: Harold Vaughan and his sinking Jubilee class off the Torpedo Wharf

Annual fees were set at 2/6 for boat owners and 2/- for social members and crews. A handicap start from between the centre of Clareville Beach and a launch to the south was to be used and a roster drawn up for laying of a mark at Long Nose Point by a V.J. and a similar retrieval roster. (Fuel was still rationed.) The first race was held on the 15th October and there were 16 V.J.s competing.

Although the war in Europe was slowly grinding to an Allied victory towards the end of 1944, the Pacific war was still in full gear. The gloom of the early years had lightened and, despite the shortages and rationing, people made the most of what was available. All the houses around Clareville Beach were family-built holiday homes so the weekend residents would save their petrol ration (or those with gas bags attached to the car roof the cars burnt coke for the gas) and drive north to Pittwater from the Sydney suburbs.

Another big family group joined the Club in late 1944. The Gravenors, two brothers and their families (four sons) moved into their father's house at 28 Delecta Avenue, Clareville. The four boys within six months had V.J.s sailing at the Club called *Astra, Altair, Aloha* and *Aurora*. The Vaughans and the Gravenors were to be the mainstays of the Club over the coming ten years. Ken and Alan Gravenor were given the responsibility of designing and manufacturing the first club pennant which they managed in two weeks and handed to the committee in January 1945 for which they received the princely sum of 25 shillings.

The Club's first dance was held on Anniversary night in January at Amorey's cafe/hall at Avalon with the cost of the hall being donated by Mr. Amorey, who was similarly benevolent to the Avalon Lifesaving Club. Two other firsts appeared the same month. This was the introduction of a monthly helter skelter race where the V.J.s were rigged and ready on the beach and the skipper and crew had to race to their boats from a starting line. (What would now be called a Le Mans start?) The other first was the introduction of a ladies day race where, under the rules, the owner could take over the boat in an extreme emergency but must then retire from the race.

Avalon delivered a challenge to Vaucluse Sailing Club in March 1945 with four boats representing the Club on the Harbour and Vaucluse reciprocated on Pittwater two weeks later, results unknown unfortunately. The members of the club must have been a well liked group at this stage (this changed with the first attempt at a clubhouse) as the local residents donated trophys and cash for prizes. There were 16 V.J.s sailing, all locally registered with different sail colour patches such as blue lion, southern cross, flying horse etc, and as most races were handicap start the finishes were hotly contested. The first official prize giving and dance was held in May 1945 at the Chatswood Town Hall (the Vaughans lived at Chatswood) with nearly 100 people attending.

September 1945 saw another local family join the Club. Rick, Boyd and Beris Corben together with Ken Humphries who joined at the same time were all to become active members and champion sailors. The Forbes family also had a holiday home at Palm Beach and Rick built a V.J. for Esther Forbes, who shortly after joined the club. He also taught her brother, David, how to sail on this boat. David then built his own V.J. and said that it was probably good for him sailing the modified V.J. single handed from Palm Beach to Clareville and back at the end of the day's racing. It must have done something for his later renowned, international expertise. There was a notice board on the beach listing the sailing days and Ken supplemented this with a sketch of the courses and colour cards showing the various boats, sail emblems and names as there was such spectator interest. Who said watching sailing was like watching grass grow!

The three torpedo targets which had been installed in 1943 and were so convenient as marks of the course had now become a menace as the six large buoys fixing each target were waterlogged and a hazard to all surface craft. A Lieutenant Pettigrew of the R.A.N. was approached to improve the marking of the buoys and a month later prior to the 1946 Pittwater Regatta another letter was sent to the Naval Board with a similar request to clear the fouled buoys. (The targets were finally moved in 1970.)

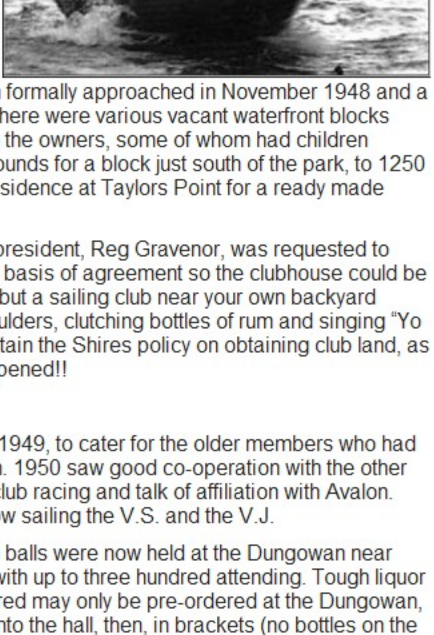
January 1946 nearly saw the demise of Avalon Sailing Club. The Club publicity committee moved that the name be changed to the Broken Bay Sailing Club. Luckily this was postponed until the next season and thankfully went away. One good aspect of the committee was that the race results were now appearing in Tuesday's Manly Daily.

Two new trophies were donated in 1946 which are both still held by the Club. Mr. H.G. Bellingham donated the Bellingham Shield for the handicap champion and Gregory Foster the Clareville Cup for inter-club competition. The latter caused some ill feeling as the Vaucluse Club was in charge of the Vee Jay affiliated clubs and Avalon was in the rogue group which allowed slightly larger spars and sailing one up due to the lack of forward hands. Consequently Vaucluse, Connell's Point and the River Club refused the invitation unless all clubs became affiliated with the V.J. Association. The first Clareville Cup race was therefore sailed regardless of other clubs and affiliation, and of course won by Avalon.

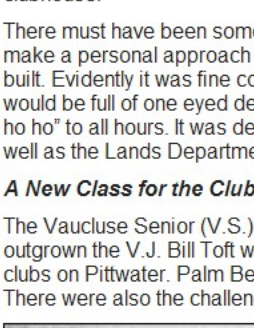
Either the Club membership was growing or Mr. Vaughan's 12 volt battery that provided the lighting for the boat shed meetings had died, so the September 1946 A.G.M. was transferred to Wickham's Store at the corner of Old Barrenjoey Rd. and Avalon Parade. Around this stage plans had been drawn up for the construction of a clubhouse and they were submitted to Warringah Council. (Twelve years later the clubhouse was opened after years of frustration, but more of that later.)

Discussions were also held with the Elwood Sailing Club in Victoria regarding an additional Class to the V.J. The two Class boats investigated were the Seahorse and the International Star with Harold Vaughan (returned from Army service) to obtain the information. The extra Class eventually was the Vaucluse Senior (V.S.) but five A.S.C. Members were to become Australian Star class champions and one Olympic gold.

By 1947 there was a great influx of family members into the Club. One of the Gravenor brothers, Reg, a local builder who owned the house beside Clareville Beach park and was involved in constructing a number of the waterfront homes along the beach as well as Careel Bay, introduced many of the new residents to A.S.C. Some notables among the new members in 1946/47 were the Toft brothers, and the Forbes brothers.



Avalon has always provided a training ground for some of Australia's greatest sailors and these early days were no exception. The club was frustrated for ten years in its attempt to build a clubhouse and as the members grew in size and age they were on the lookout for an international class boat to further their ambitions. The favoured boat in those days was the International Star, a tweaky brute of a boat with a huge mainsail, designed back in 1911 especially for one design racing, but unfortunately it had to be kept on the hardstand. Eventually in the sixties some of our members moved on to the R.P.A.Y.C. to sail Stars with a very impressive record.



1947: There were now 29 V.J.s registered with the club and most of the races were still handicap starts. Avalon was still the renegade V.J. Club allowing one up racing and bigger rigs. Note the 1947 photo of Bill Toft sailing *Comet* (left), with the Taylors Point torpedo station in the background and NO lifejacket. Every Easter from 1947 the club held a carnival at Clareville Beach with raffles, chocolate wheel prizes, cake stalls, mock pirate attacks and the Avalon belles, displaying the latest fashions to the assembled crowd. The purpose was to obtain money for the intended land lease from Warringah Council to erect a clubhouse.

Left: The Avalon belles at Clareville in 1948 - Bob Hanson, Peter Docket and Bill Toft

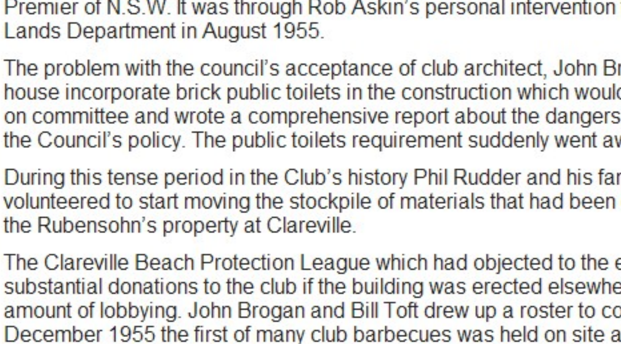
The Battle for the Clubhouse

As well as the carnivals at Clareville, theatre parties were organised by the then secretary Don Hudson (Ken's cousin) to raise money for the land lease. Warringah Council was again formally approached in November 1948 and a new set of plans presented as the Council appeared to have lost the previous application. There were various vacant waterfront blocks between Clareville Beach and Taylors Point and Reg Gravenor was authorised to approach the owners, some of whom had children sailing, with an offer. In today's terms these offers may seem ridiculous. For example 700 pounds for a block just south of the park, to 1250 pounds for Herbie Lee's mother's land, to an offer (undisclosed) for the Seaton and Duffs residence at Taylors Point for a ready made clubhouse.

There must have been some opposition from the previously friendly neighbours as the club president, Reg Gravenor, was requested to make a personal approach to the residents to ascertain their objections and find a common basis of agreement so the clubhouse could be built. Evidently it was fine coming to the park to watch the races on a Saturday and Sunday, but a sailing club near your own backyard would be full of one eyed desperados, wearing three cornered hats and parrots on their shoulders, clutching bottles of rum and singing "Yo ho ho" to all hours. It was decided to again approach Councillor Berry at the council to ascertain the Shires policy on obtaining club land, as well as the Lands Department. Getting closer, only eight years to go before the clubhouse opened!!

A New Class for the Club

The Vaucluse Senior (V.S.), a slightly longer V.J., was introduced into the club at the end of 1949, to cater for the older members who had outgrown the V.J. Bill Toft was the first V.S. Captain and David Forbes was the V.J. Captain. 1950 saw good co-operation with the other clubs on Pittwater. Palm Beach Sailing Club, B.Y.R.A. and Pittwater Sailing Club had inter club racing and talk of affiliation with Avalon. There were also the challenges against the Harbour and Northbridge clubs, most of them now sailing the V.S. and the V.J.



The annual presentation balls were now held at the Dungowan near Martin Place in the city with up to three hundred attending. Tough liquor laws then. Liquor if desired may only be pre-ordered at the Dungowan, no liquor to be brought into the hall, then, in brackets (no bottles on the table).

The local families continued to join the club. The Bate family (H.C., George, Ted and Norm), Gordon Ingate, later Australian 5.5 metre champion and to represent Australia in the Tempest class at the Olympic games, and David Forbes nominated June Jensen, later to become David's wife. Mr. J.G. Vaughan was made the club's first honorary life member in 1950 for services rendered and for having the foresight to start the club.

Club Dissension

The continuing battle with council and the Lands Department must have been creating stress on the committee members. At the 1954 A.G.M. Mr. R Davidson was elected President over Doug Gravenor and at the next general meeting Mr. Gravenor accused the President of ballot rigging, branch stacking and seeking the presidency by irregular means. The treasurer, Ken Hudson (later to become Commodore of Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club) mediated an eventual compromise.

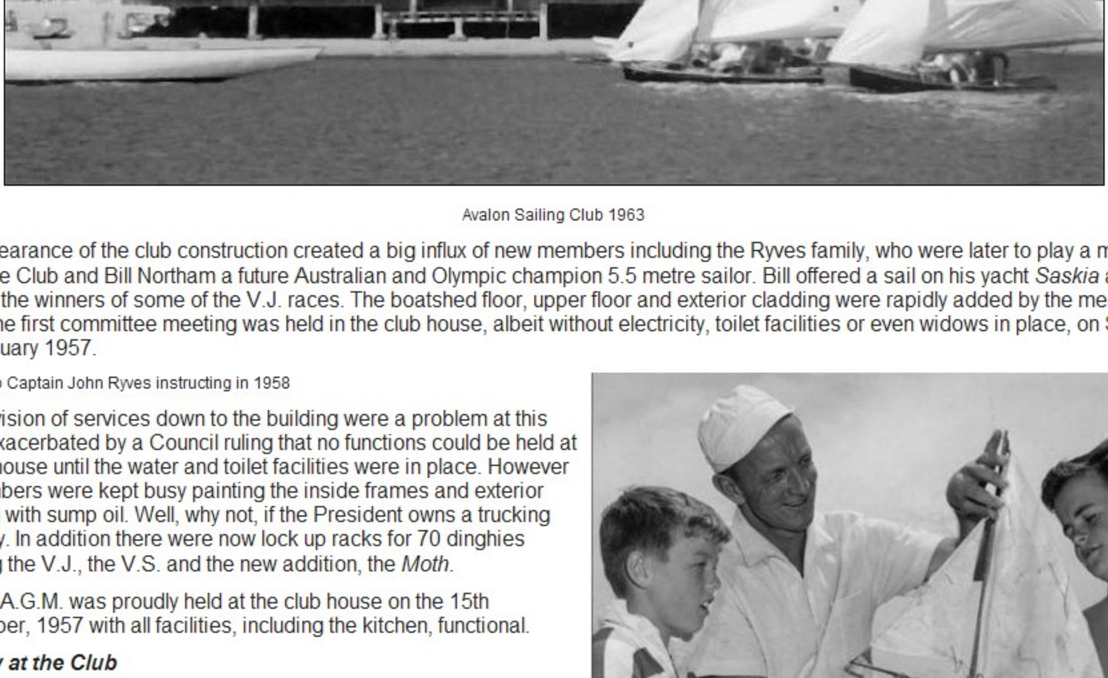
Doug Gravenor had been leading the battle for club land and had personal contact with Rob Askin, the member for Collaroy and later the Premier of N.S.W. It was through Rob Askin's personal intervention that permissive occupancy of the present site was granted by the Lands Department in August 1955.

The problem with the council's acceptance of club architect, John Brogan's plans, now reached an impasse. Council insisted that the club house incorporate brick public toilets in the construction which would be built and maintained by the Club. Luckily, two local doctors were on committee and wrote a comprehensive report about the dangers ,both hygienic and moral, that young children could be exposed to, by the Council's policy. The public toilets requirement suddenly went away.

During this tense period in the Club's history Phil Rudder and his family joined. Phil owned a trucking company and immediately volunteered to start moving the stockpile of materials that had been collected for the clubhouse to a more central location, one of which was the Rubensohn's property at Clareville.

The Clareville Beach Protection League which had objected to the erection of a clubhouse anywhere south of the park had promised substantial donations to the club if the building was erected elsewhere. 100 pounds was donated to the building fund in 1956 after a fair amount of lobbying. John Brogan and Bill Toft drew up a roster to construct the club at least up to the first floor level and on the 26th December 1955 the first of many club barbecues was held on site attended by 200 members, soft drinks donated by "Ecks", the Forbes family company. No gas B.B.Q's in those days and the first floor survived.

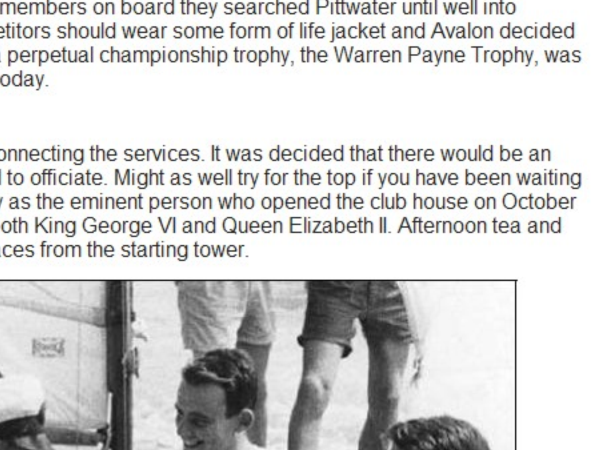
Enthusiasm created great results and by March 1956 the roof trusses were in position, but owing to the late hour finishing they were only tied into position with rope. A westerly gale, blowing dogs off chains, roared through that night and unfortunately blew down the tethered trusses as well. A tough mob in those days, by the end of March the under roof wire mesh was in position and the fibro roof attached to the new trusses that replaced the old twisted ones.



Avalon Sailing Club 1963

The appearance of the club construction created a big influx of new members including the Ryves family, who were later to play a major role in the Club and Bill Northam a future Australian and Olympic champion 5.5 metre sailor. Bill offered a sail on his yacht *Saskia* as a prize for the winners of some of the V.J. races. The boatshed floor, upper floor and exterior cladding were rapidly added by the members so that the first committee meeting was held in the club house, albeit without electricity, toilet facilities or even widows in place, on Sunday 13th January 1957.

Right: Club Captain John Ryves instructing in 1958



The provision of services down to the building were a problem at this stage, exacerbated by a Council ruling that no functions could be held at the clubhouse until the water and toilet facilities were in place. However the members were kept busy painting the inside frames and exterior cladding with sump oil. Well, why not, if the President owns a trucking company. In addition there were now lock up racks for 70 dinghies including the V.J., the V.S. and the new addition, the *Moth*.

The first A.G.M. was proudly held at the club house on the 15th September, 1957 with all facilities, including the kitchen, functional.

Tragedy at the Club

The opening of the club house for general use was marred by the death of one of the senior skippers, Warren Payne, on New Years Day 1958. He had been competing in a V.J. race for the Archina Cup when the fleet was hit by a southerly-buster at Long Nose Point. There were no local water police then and it was not a requirement to wear life jackets. Phil Rudder, the President owned a 48 foot sloop, the *Janet M*, and with club members on board they searched Pittwater until well into darkness to no avail. The V.J. council decided immediately that all competitors should wear some form of life jacket and Avalon decided that 'one up' sailing would no longer be permitted. In memory of Warren a perpetual championship trophy, the Warren Payne Trophy, was donated to the Club and it is still in the trophy cabinet and a valued prize today.

The Opening of the Clubhouse

Most of 1958 was spent organizing the final touches to the exterior and connecting the services. It was decided that there would be an official opening ceremony and that the Governor General would be asked to officiate. Might as well try for the top if you have been waiting twenty frustrating years. The G.G. must have been busy that particular day as the eminent person who opened the club house on October 5th 1958, was Admiral H.J. Buchanan, C.B.E./D.S.O., aide-de-camp to both King George VI and Queen Elizabeth II. Afternoon tea and sandwiches were served and Admiral and Mrs. Buchanan watched the races from the starting tower.

Opening day of the Avalon Sailing Club clubhouse; Phil Rudder, Annette Friend, Admiral H J Buchanan and boys in uniform; Bill Davidson and Hamilton Hunter

The trade off was easy. Both Phil and Admiral Buchanan were involved in the formation of the Outward Bound School which was located at Bar Island in the Hawkesbury and later owned by Knox Grammar School. A.S.C. donated 6 old V.J.s to the O.B. school. They were sailed there by Gawen, David and Philippa Rudder and three other skippers, monitored by John Brogan in a launch.

In 1959 Phil organized some of the older boys who were outgrowing V.J's to keep them interested in sailing to crew on his 47 foot sloop *Blue Water* in the Montague Island race. On their way north they were hit by a 50 knot squall which tore out a headsail winch and in zero visibility they hit an island off Batemans Bay. The A.S.C crew of 18 year olds included Bill Davidson, Hamilton Hunter, John Brogan, David Rudder and Tony Catts. Phil was down below suffering from kidney stones and with great presence of mind the crew remembered him and they all spent the next 16 hours on an exposed rock until rescued by a trawler. Remember in those days no requirement for life rails, no G.P.S., primitive radio comm., and navigation by Astro, D/F. radio and dead reckoning. Phil died in 2004, aged 94, shortly after re-visiting the club and being made a life member.

Most of my information has come from the old minutes of the club meetings and talking to some of the "originals" and the club trophies that are still in the trophy cabinet. We have always had a good proportion of lady skippers and the trophy for the outstanding lady skipper was presented by Mary Ifould, who was an outstanding Flying 15 skipper. Mary was secretary of the club in 1961 and used to drive her children over to the club from the holiday home at Lovett's Bay in a tinnie for the races. The children were safe with the club so she bought an F15 called *Trio*.

The story of Mary and her husband Lister is part of Australian history. Mary's first husband John Frankcomb was a bomber pilot in WW2 flying Short Stirlings and was killed in a raid over Germany. Some time later she married Edward Lister Ifould who had been a navigator on the same squadron and he was chosen to join the elite Pathfinder squadron, flying Avro Lancasters to drop special flares from low altitude on designated targets. The attrition rate for the Lancasters was quite high and luckily along came a small very fast twin engined fighter-bomber, made of wood, the Dehavilland Mosquito, that the Air Ministry did not want. Lister's boss A.V.M. Don Bennett, another Australian and founder of the Pathfinder force, grabbed them with glee. Bennett and Ifould (now a squadron leader) flew as a team for the rest of the war. Lister was awarded the D.S.O, the D.F.C. and Bar and there is an oil painting of him in the A.W.M. in Canberra.

The children were now older so they decided to sail together as a family, bought a Dragon and moved on to the R.P.A.Y.C. Lister was part of the crew that won the Hobart Race on *Struan Marie*. Mary's legacy is the permanent trophy in the club.

The Introduction of the Manly Junior

In 1962 it was decided to introduce a training boat so that young sailors could create a nucleus to continue racing the V.J. Ten parents started the programme by building the first ten boats and a series of lectures was given in November to demonstrate the new boats. To the concern of the President, Paul Hennessy and committee, 65 boys and girls turned up. This explosion in membership forced the club to close its open list until the amenities and racking system could be upgraded. The club hosted the M.J. State championships in 1963 and forty-four boats crossed the line in a brisk nor-easter on a five mile course around the torpedo targets.

The Vaughan Family

The club started with the Vaughan family so it is probably opportune to finish the story with the Vaughans. Les provided a lot of the early history and enthralled our junior members with a talk he gave at an A.G.M. in 1999. His brother Harold was one of the characters of Pittwater and is the first name on the V.J. championship trophy sailing *Defiant* in 1939, the first V.J. on Pittwater. Harold returned from war service in New Guinea and was still a vice-president in 1951. He must have grown out of V.J.s as he was given the task of finding a replacement. This turned out to be the V.S. which never succeeded. The next was the Star which took off on Pittwater and the Olympics.

Harold had also joined R.P.A.Y.C. and started the Jubilee class there. He was world 5.5 metre champion in 1977 and won the Australian gold cup a number of times. He was involved in two of our America's Cup campaigns and was a busy boat deliverer and as part of his crew had a few of our current A.S.C. members.

Left: Harold Vaughan

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September 2 - 8, 2012: Issue 74

Superman's Cave!

If you've watched the scene in Superman where he flies to the far north of America to 'create' his crystal bastion, the 'Fortress of Solitude', then you may wonder if the Naica caves, in South America, were the inspiration. The Naica caves are located in a mine, in the south of the state of Chihuahua, in the north of Mexico.

The Naica mine was first discovered by early prospectors in 1794 south of Chihuahua City. They struck a vein of silver at the base of a range of hills called Naica by the Tarahumara Indians. The origin in the Tarahumara language seems to mean 'a shady place'. From the discovery until about 1900, the primary interest was silver and gold. Around 1900 large-scale mining began as zinc and lead became more valuable.

During the Mexican Revolution the mine was producing a great deal of wealth. Revolutionary troops entered the town and demanded money from the owners. One of them was assassinated when he refused to pay, causing the mine to shut down from 1911 to 1922. Just before the mine was closed, the famous Cave of Swords was discovered at a depth of 400 feet. Due to the incredible crystals, it was decided to try to preserve this cave. While many of the crystals have been collected, this is still a fascinating cave to visit. In one part there are so many crystals on one of the walls, they appear to be like an underwater reef moving in a gentle undulating motion in an ocean current. Richard D. Fisher, Photographer/Explorer, Crystal Cave of the Giants.

Hidden 300 meters below the earth, Naica's Cave of Crystals has waited until now to show its magnificent beauty. A big geode of red walls filled with selenite crystals or "moon stone", is so named because of its color, brilliance, and transparency. Tranquil and silent this womb-like cavity originated the gradual growth of crystals, lulled by the ripples of water in the heat and darkness during **more than one million years.**

The genetic mechanism responsible for the development and formation of the macro crystals, is strictly related to the peculiar geological conditions prevailing in the Naica mine. These crystals formed underwater in the area where sulphide saturated phreatic thermal waters (52°C), came in contact with oxygen-rich cold waters, naturally infiltrating from the exterior. These macro crystals formed underwater in the area where sulphide saturated phreatic thermal waters (52°C), came in contact with oxygen-rich cold waters, naturally infiltrating from the exterior.

The surface and subsurface waters could not mix due to the density of the phreatic mineralized water; oxygen diffused into the lower layer, resulting in the oxidation of sulphide ions to sulphate which caused an extremely light over-saturation of gypsum and therefore a slow deposit. These singular conditions prevailing for hundreds of thousands of years created a mineral wonderland and an extraordinary phenomenon.

This geological system is alive and continues the crystallization process, originating small formations of various minerals, even over the surface area. It is an active system, which has filled the voids of the multi-fractured limestone rock, with selenite crystals of extraordinary shapes and sizes, such as those of the famous Crystals' Cave. Selenite, satin spar, desert rose, and gypsum flower are four varieties of the mineral gypsum. The four "crystalline" varieties of gypsum are sometimes grouped together and called selenite.

All varieties of gypsum, including selenite and alabaster, are composed of calcium sulfate dihydrate (meaning has two molecules of water), with the chemical formula $CaSO_4 \cdot 2H_2O$. Selenite contains no significant selenium; the similarity of names comes from both substances being named from the Ancient Greek word for the Moon.

In 1910, "The Cave of Swords" was discovered. This cavity consists of an approximately 87-meter-long corridor, completely covered in crystals that measured up to two meters long.

Almost 100 years later, in April 2000, at -290 meter level another three caverns were discovered: the "Queen's Eye Cave", the "Candles' Cave" and the extraordinary "Crystals' Cave", a forest of mega formations, which have added a new dimension to the geology of our planet. The Crystals' cave is a true wonder of the underground world. It is one of the most spectacular geological and mineralogical discoveries ever made. It contains selenite mega crystals, some 11m in length and one meter thick. These are much larger than any crystals of this type ever found.

ASO

A great place to explore when you're looking for something to back up your studies on Australia is the Australian Screen Office which is operated by the National Film and Sound Archive (NFSA). The NFSA is the national audiovisual archive, collecting, preserving and sharing the nation's moving image and recorded sound heritage. It is a promotional and educational resource providing worldwide online access to information about the Australian film and television industry. It contains information about and excerpts from a wide selection of Australian feature films, documentaries, television programs, newsreels, short films, animations, and home-movies produced over the last 100 years. It also includes teachers' notes that identify and describe the educational values of many of the film clips. These resources are developed in partnership with the NFSA by Education Services Australia through The Le@rning Federation.

The site brings together material from the vast collections of the National Film and Sound Archive, the National Archives of Australia, the ABC, SBS, and AIATSIS in a unique collaboration. All material is made available with the permission of the copyright holders. The site is freely available.

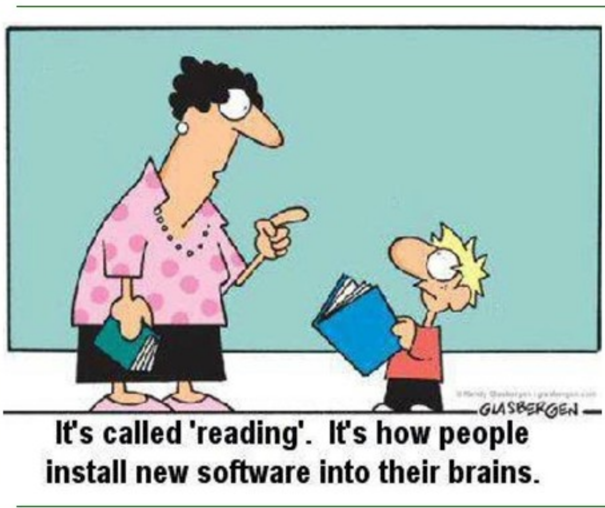
Awards and citations for australianscreen include: Communicator Awards 2011 – Gold Award of Excellence, Cultural Institutions website, Communicator Awards 2011 – Gold Award of Excellence, Movie and Film website, Communicator Awards 2011 – Silver Award of Distinction, Education website. **Educational Australian films at**: http://aso.gov.au/education/

Sample below from their Youtube channel of Martin Place when trams ran through it!

National Geographic online fun For little kids:

Online Fun, games and a magazine they can subscribe to, all vetted by industry experts on this award winning website

HERE



National Skills Week 2012

In a few months some of you will be leaving school and adventuring out into the big bright world. Once you've finished your first little hip hop skip and jump you may want a bit of pocket money, or a wage to secure independence and to embark on a career. Lifelong Learning, a concept that's been around for a few years now, and seeks to encourage all to keep learning, to broaden themselves and their knowledge in any field of interest, and which is not restricted to those of school age, is a way to keep developing you. This may cause a groan we can hear from here among those who think 'I've escaped! I'm free!' but if you think about it, you're going to keep learning something every day anyway and may as well have another think and decide what else you do want to explore, dive deeper into and come up flying from.

THis week could offer some great opportunities to assess your options as National Skills Week, '*a collaborative approach dedicated to raising the status of practical and vocational learning, enabling all Australians to gain a greater understanding of the opportunities, their potential and how they contribute to a successful, modern economy*' will be run nationally. Their emphasis on '**Learning by doing**' as this is as important as academic learning- will appeal to those of you weary of the classroom. The concept of National Skills Week is to provide focus to Vocational Education & Training (VET).

Minister's Message: From Senator The Hon. Chris Evans, Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills, Science and Research

Welcome to National Skills Week. This week is all about showcasing the many career opportunities that are out there - and inspiring Australians to take up training to get the skills they need for the jobs they want. To compete for the jobs of tomorrow, job seekers will need to be increasingly more qualified. The payoff is better wages and more rewarding and interesting work. An Australian with a Certificate III or IV will have improved earnings of more than $324,000 over their working life. A person with a diploma or advanced diploma can earn around $400,000 more over their working life than those with a Year 12 certificate.

The opportunities are not restricted to school leavers and young apprentices, but for all Australians – regardless of age or background – who are looking to join the workforce for the first time, to get a better job or to improve their pay. Learning new skills is one of the greatest investments we can make. During this week, I encourage you to learn more about the career opportunities a new skill could bring you and be inspired. You never know where it might lead.

Places to explore your options; http://www.skillsone.com.au/ http://www.nationalskillsweek.com.au

For further information on Australian Apprenticeships. or NSW

At Manly

Let's Get Wet with InStyle Swimming 27th + 28th August - 11.30am - 2.30pm

Do you love the water? Do you want to help your community and/or local school? Then why not become a swim teacher. Come to Manly pool Balgowlah Road Manly and join our information day with InstyleSwimming Australia. Are you interested in making money? Do you want to help your local community as well as help people be safer in the aquatic environment? It's fun and the course with InstyleSwimming Australia is simple and teacher based. You never know you just might be teaching our future Olympians. Come to Manly Pool on Monday 27th or 28th August between 11.30 and 2.30 and find out how easy it is. Timetable 11.30-12.30 information hour 12.30-1.30pm a 2 x 30minute sessions "Let's get wet"- simple ideas and drills for teaching Swimming. Don't worry you don't have to be a good swimmer to join in!!! (And the water is only 1 metre deep and yes it is heated!!!). 1.30-2.30pm information session. Discounts apply for those who enrol to do a course during National Skills Week. If you have any further queries please email us at info@instyleswimming.com.au

NB You will have to pay pool entry either as a spectator or swimmer. (Check the Manly Council website for fees)

Are We There Yet ?

Alison Lester's book *Are We There Yet?* tells the story of her family's journey around Australia in a camper van. This great adventure captures the essence of the country – the cities and the countryside; the European settlements and the special places of the First Australians. Now it's your turn to tell us about your home town or a special place you have visited in Australia. Just send us a short story or a letter or a drawing of your favourite place (get your parents or a teacher to help) and you could win a fabulous prize. Enter the *Are We There Yet*? competition for your chance to share in $40,000 worth of prizes, including author visits, books, games and more.

Award winning author and illustrator, Alison Lester 's artwork from her book *Are we there yet?* will be part of a beautiful exhibition. The exhibition shows both the original illustrations as well as the preliminary and developmental stages in the making of the book – from Alison's children's actual travel diaries, through text, illustration and design drafts, to the final published book - including a number of folios of developmental drawings.

We want to find out about your favourite place. So please send us your description as a short story, in 200 words or less, or as a picture (your own original work). Our judges will choose the ones they like best and your story or picture could be part of our National Year of Reading children's gallery (and you could win one of our very special prizes!)

There's a separate competition for each state and territory and there are prizes for different ages, so there are lots of opportunities to win.

Our age categories are:

Pre-school (for under five-year-olds);

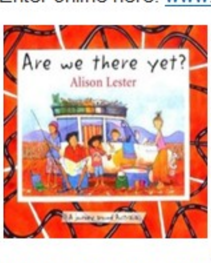
Early primary school (five to eight years);

Later primary school (eight to 12 years).

You can enter by yourself, or you can be part of a school or kinder class entry. Enter the Are We There Yet? competition for your chance to share in $40,000 worth of prizes, including author visits, books, games and more.

	Start and finish dates	Prize announcement
NSW	**16 August - 21 September**	**19 October**

Enter online here: www.love2read.org.au/awty-form.cfm



Are We There Yet? by ALISON LESTER $24.95 from Penguin: HERE

The year I turned eight, Mum and Dad took us on a trip around Australia. Luke, Billy and I missed school for the whole winter term.

Join Grace and her family on their adventurous and sometimes funny expedition. A warm, heartfelt story based on an actual journey undertaken by the much-loved, award-winning author and illustrator, Alison Lester.

Summer vacation scholarships: make a positive impact

Dreaming of summer? This year, you can spend your summer break working on real problems and make a positive impact. Applications have opened for CSIRO's undergraduate vacation scholarships in engineering, computer science, mathematics, statistics and astronomy around Australia. More information here: http://ow.ly/cq7hC

Australian Clearing House for Youth Studies

ACYS provides support youth organisations, youth workers, youth researchers and young people themselves, as well as policymakers, researchers and practitioners in other sectors working with youth. The clearinghouse focuses on information about early adolescence to the early adult years (12 to 25 years).

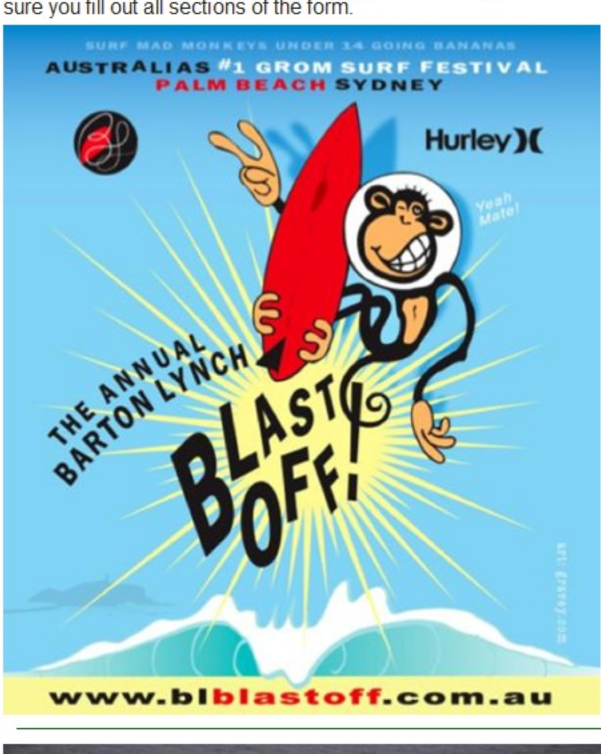
ACYS's mission is to contribute to the wellbeing of young people by providing comprehensive and up-to-date information about key issues and practices in the youth field for access by the community. ACYS achieves its mission by providing information on the complex and wide-ranging issues that affect young people today, and by disseminating news of research and developments on best-practice in the youth field, encouraging networking, discussions and collaboration.

Great Website with daily Updates HERE

Bus Pass Replacement

HERE

IN 2012 BL'S BLAST OFF WILL RUN FROM **MONDAY 24TH TO THURSDAY 27TH OF SEPTEMBER**. THIS IS OUR TRADITIONAL FIRST WEEK OF THE NSW SCHOOL HOLIDAYS AND THERE ARE SOME GREAT PLANS AND NEW IDEAS FOR THIS YEARS EVENT. **Entries close September 7th, 2012.** To enter BL's Blast Off 2012 just download and print out this entry form, sign and mail with your entry fee to PO Box 458 Narrabeen 2101 NSW. You will receive confirmation via your email so please make sure you fill out all sections of the form.



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

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.

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.

Word of the Week

think To have or formulate in the mind. To reason about or reflect on; ponder. A careful, open-minded assessment. To visualize; imagine. To call to mind; remember.

Origin; Middle English thenken, from Old English thencan

Malo's New EP- called 'Ep'

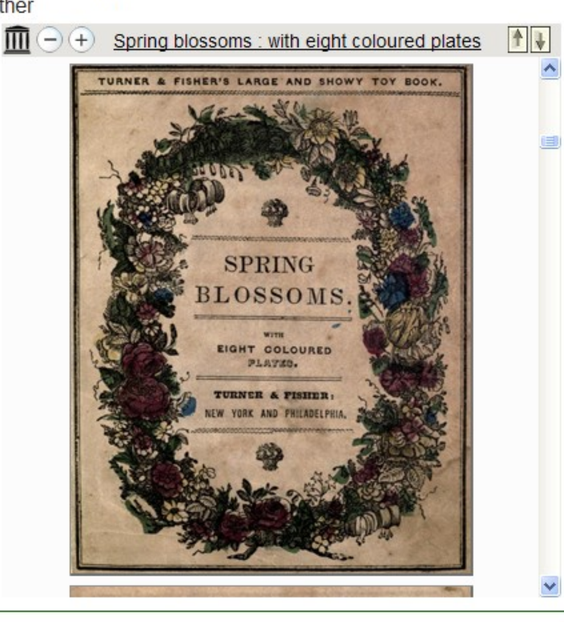
Pittwater and sometime resident of France Malory Legardinier has released his new music on an album called 'Ep' this week. There are six new tunes; Freedom, Dormir dehors, Crazy Mind, Mon coeur de Pierre, Day to Day and Day to Day (Rodolphe Lecat Remix). Listen in at http://itunes.apple.com/au/album/ep-ep/id553709637

Malo has recently signed a five year record contract in France. He has returned to his other home, here in Pittwater, and will attend the Year 12 Formal at Barrenjoey High School this coming Friday. Hopefully he'll do a few shows so we can hear these great songs live soon.

Malo led the great up and coming Barrenjoey High musicians who won this year's inaugural Youngbloods competition as part of the NB Music Festival.

Spring blossoms: with eight coloured plates (not before 1835) Children's Poetry

Includes; Spring blossoms - Man Friday - Jane and her needle - The two doves - My pretty Polly - The new frock - Robinson Crusoe - My mother



I Apologise (LIVE with NB Orchestra) - Lime Cordiale at Lizottes Dee Why - Published on Aug 21, 2012 by LimeCordiale

The Northern Beaches Orchestra was a recent Profile of the Week

PITTWATER COUNCIL — Celebrating 20 Years 1992-2012

HSC 'LOCK-IN' AND FREE PIZZA OFFER RETURNS!

Mona Vale Library is once again offering to 'lock up' HSC students for special after-hours study sessions at the library from 25 September. To make studying for the HSC exams even more palatable, the Library will be offering students free pizza along with Tuesday evening study sessions. **The lock-in and free pizza sessions will be every Tuesday evening from 6pm to 9pm between 25 September and 23 October.**

Early opening hours at Mona Vale Library will also be on offer to HSC students each weekday from 9am to 10am, from Monday 8 October to Friday 26 October. The library normally opens at 10am on weekdays, but HSC students will have access to the library from 9am during this period.

Library Manager Cathy Howie said that the after-hours study sessions aimed to help HSC students to make use of a quieter environment for studying. "We hope the offer of free pizza on Tuesday evenings will also make studying a little less stressful for them," she said. "The only requirement for students to take advantage of the study 'lock-in' is for them to arrive by 6.15pm on the Tuesday evening at the library, or by 9.15am for the early morning sessions."

Mona Vale Library is located at 1 Park Street, Mona Vale.

NSWGR "38 class" Steam Locomotives working a 1960's Newcastle Express - "Steam for the road"

Peats Ridge 2012

69 Cooks Road Glenworth Valley, Glenworth Valley, New South Wales 1 hr north of Sydney Tix go on sale, 10am Monday 20th of August at peatsridgefestival.com.au/

Federal Government Media Release for Youth:

Once a year opportunity for young people to earn a special gong -PORTFOLIO: Attorney-General's

SNIPPET: Australian Human Rights Commission President, Professor Gillian Triggs, is calling for young people to come forward and be recognised for their efforts in protecting and promoting human rights in Australia, in this, the 25th anniversary of Australias premier Human Rights Awards. As more and more young people realise the importance of their human rights, it is important that we publicly acknowledge their efforts to reinforce how important it is that emerging and future leaders cherish equality and the notion of a fair go..

R U OK?Day 2012

R U OK?Day is a national day of action on the second Thursday of September (**13 September 2012**), dedicated to inspiring all people of all backgrounds to regularly ask each other 'Are you ok?'

By raising awareness about the importance of connection and providing resources throughout the year, the R U OK? Foundation aims to prevent isolation by empowering people to support each other through life's ups and downs.To help you start a conversation or to find the courage to ask for help, we've a range of programs and resources. Help stop little problems becoming bigger by getting involved.

Asking 'Are you ok?' or stepping forward to say 'I'm not ok' requires courage but can lead to inspiring stories of friendship and recovery. R U OK?Day does not provide crisis intervention or counselling. For crisis support call 1800 RUOKDAY (1800 7865 329)

Share your story of connection to help others start conversation to change lives. See More at: www.ruokday.com.au/

PITTWATER COUNCIL — Celebrating 20 Years 1992-2012

SHORT STORY AND PHOTO COMPETITION

Pittwater residents with a flair for writing or photography are invited to enter a competition to celebrate History Week. The competition which is run by Mona Vale Library is open to children as well as adults and asks participants write a short story, submit a photograph or both.

Competition organiser Sharelle Ravenscroft said entries should be based on the broad interpretation of the word 'threads'. "Which, for example may include vintage clothing and textiles; the thread of a story, or a spider's web," added Ms Ravenscroft.

Entrants need to submit their short story with a 500 to 1000 word limit, or one photograph to be submitted per entry. Ms Ravenscroft said that the competition was open to three age groups, including 8 to 12 years, 13 to 17 years and 18 years plus.

"Prizes, including book vouchers, will be awarded to entrants in the three age groups," she said.

The competition will open on **Monday 20 August, with entries closing on 16 September.** All entries must be brought to the library on a USB. These will be available for collection at the library after the competition ends. All entries must be accompanied by an entry form.

For more information about the competition and to download an entry form visit www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/library

Murder under the Microscope by Lesley Stevens

Murder under the Microscope is an environmental murder mystery, played by students in years 5 to 10 in every Australian state. Lesley is its creator. This online game is all about environmental science, with a strong focus on the scientific method and team work.

Student teams are asked to sign on as 'investigators' to assist Catchment Headquarters take on a mysterious murder case over a period of 5 or 6 weeks. In that time the investigating teams must research vital information, understand clues, grasp the concept of cause and effect, not get distracted by any soap opera elements, discover the Villain and place an accusation online.

The first to nominate the correct Victim, Crime-site and Villain is named Eco Sleuth for that year. This year's case is called '*Lament in the Lucky Country*'. The game website opens on 23 July. Visit www.microscope.edu.au for the full story.

Study Tools 101 - Mind Maps

If you decide to go to a University once you've finished your High School studies one of the first studt tools you will be introduced to is what is called a 'Mind Map'. These are great tools for every other subject you wish to apply them to in your life, especially as a way of putting all into perspective. A mind map is a diagram used to represent words, ideas, tasks, or other items related to a central key word or idea. Mind maps are used to generate, visualize, structure, and classify ideas, and as an aid to studying and organizing information, solving problems, making decisions, and writing.

The constituent elements of a mind map are arranged according to the importance of the concepts. Elements are classified into groupings, branches, or areas, with the goal of representing semantic or other connections between portions of information. Mind maps may also aid recall of existing memories. By presenting ideas in a radial, graphical, non-linear manner, mind maps encourage a brainstorming approach to planning and organizing tasks.

Author Tony Buzan suggests the following guidelines for creating mind maps:

Start in the center with an image of the topic, using at least 3 colours.
Use images, symbols, codes, and dimensions throughout your mind map.
Select key words and print using upper or lower case letters.
Each word/image is best alone and sitting on its own line.
The lines should be connected, starting from the central image. The central lines are thicker, organic and thinner as they radiate out from the centre.
Make the lines the same length as the word/image they support.
Use multiple colors throughout the mind map, for visual stimulation and also to encode or group.
Develop your own personal style of mind mapping.
Use emphasis and show associations in your mind map.
Keep the mind map clear by using radial hierarchy, numerical order or outlines to embrace your branches.
This list is itself more concise than a prose version of the same information and the mind map of these guidelines is itself intended to be more memorable and quicker to scan than either the prose or the list.

LaunchPad Gymnastics Australia

A new initiative of Gymnastics that includes all age groups from KinderGym to Professional development is seeking to instill more exercise and access to this through promoting gymnastics. Their Launch Pad website can be found at: www.launch-pad.org.au/

Get Involved!: To get involved or learn more about any of the information above, register your interest here.

Tweet | Like | +1

Headspace 'We've got your back' campaign

A groundbreaking national awareness campaign developed by National Youth Mental Health Foundation headspace aims to dramatically increase young Australians' awareness of everyday mental health issues affecting them and their friends. The campaign will run for the next 3 years.

eheadspace is a confidential, free, anonymous, secure space where you can chat, email or speak with qualified youth mental health professionals if you are 12 to 25 years

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/

Send In Your Stuff

Pittwater Online News is not only For and About you, it is also **BY** you. We cannot publish swearing 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 !

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/

Pittwater Online News

September 2 - 8, 2012: Issue 74

A Boy and His Dad
by Edgar Guest

A boy and his dad on a fishing-trip—
There is a glorious thrill
Father and son and the open sky
And the white clouds lazily drifting by,
And the laughing stream as it runs along
With the clicking reel like a martial song,
And the father teaching the youngster gay
How to land a fish in the sportsman's way.

I fancy I hear them talking there
In an open boat, and the speech is fair.
And the boy is learning the ways of men
From the finest man in his youthful ken.
Kings, to the youngster, cannot compare
With the gentle father who's with him there.
And the greatest mind of the human race
Not for one minute could take his place.

Which is happier, man or boy?
The soul of the father is steeped in joy,
For he's finding out, to his heart's delight,
That his son is the future fight
He is learning the glorious depths of him,
And the thoughts he thinks and his every whim;
And he shall discover, when night comes on,
How close he has grown to his little son.

A boy and his dad on a fishing-trip—
Builders of life's companionship!
Oh, I envy them, as I see them there
Under the sky in the open air,
For out of the old, old days ago
Come the summer days that I used to know,
When I learned life's truths from my father's lips
As I shared the joy of his fishing-trips.

Father
by Edgar Guest

My father knows the proper way
The nation should be run;
He tells us children every day
Just what should now be done.
He knows the way to fix the trusts,
He has a simple plan;
But if the furnace needs repairs,
We have to hire a man.

My father, in a day or two
Could land big thieves in jail;
There's nothing that he cannot do,
He knows no word like "fail."
"Our confidence" he would restore,
Of that there is no doubt;
But if there is a chair to mend,
We have to send it out.

All public questions that arise,
He settles on the spot;
He waits not till the tumult dies,
But grabs it while it's hot.
In matters of finance he can
Tell Congress what to do;
But, O, he finds it hard to meet
His bills as they fall due.

It almost makes him sick to read
The things law-makers say;
Why, father's just the man they need,
He never goes astray.
All wars he'd very quickly end,
As fast as I can write it,
But when a neighbor starts a fuss,
'Tis mother has to fight it.

In conversation father can
Do many wondrous things;
He's built upon a wiser plan
Than presidents or kings.
He knows the ins and outs of each
And every deep transaction;
We look to him for theories,
But look to ma for action.

Nominate inspiring seniors for a 2013 NSW Seniors Week Achievement Award - 13 August 2012 - From NSW GOVT. Department of Family and Community Services

Nominations are now open for the 2013 NSW Seniors Week Achievement Awards. Minister for Ageing Andrew Constance said that each year awards showcase the enormous talent there is among seniors in our community. The 2013 awards for individuals will celebrate seniors for their achievements in eight categories. The 2013 award for organisations will acknowledge organisations that are supporting working seniors.

"From business to education, health to the environment these awards celebrate seniors who continue to raise the bar and excel," Mr Constance said. "We encourage nominations for individuals as well as organisations for their commitment in positively shaping their community."

Mr Constance said that eight awards and eight highly commended awards are available in categories of Business, Intergenerational Understanding, Environment, Science and Agriculture, Health and Wellbeing, Lifelong Learning, Community Service and Supporting Working Seniors.

"We believe it is important to give thanks where it is due and these awards are our way of showing our appreciation for these exceptional seniors," Mr Constance said.

One of last year's winners Mr Christopher Mullett is an example of the role and influence seniors play in the business sector. As publisher of the Motoring Matters Magazine Group many of his staff are also aged over 60 years old which he says gives him an edge in a highly competitive market.

"Knowledge comes from experience and our readers rely on the personal experience displayed by our writers to make their purchase decisions," Mr Mullett said. "We employ people based on ability, knowledge and attitude. Age simply doesn't figure into the equation."

The awards also acknowledge the importance of people of all ages coming together. Last year Mrs Margaret Caroll from Molong, NSW was acknowledged for her work in the community sector as well as a writer sharing the inspiring lives of ordinary rural Australians aged 19 to 95 through her books.

"To be recognised through this award was a real thrill," she said. "The other attendees inspired me too with their capacity for living and I'd urge everyone to nominate someone for the 2013 awards."

Nominations are now open and close on Friday, 14 September 2012.

The Minister said the awards would be presented during 2013 NSW Seniors Week to be held between 17-24 March 2013. For details and to nominate visit www.nswseniorsweek.com.au or call Seniors Information Service on 13 12 44 to obtain a hard copy.

Grants now available for 2013 NSW Seniors Week

NSW organisations are invited to apply for funding for their 2013 NSW Seniors Week events. Minister for Ageing, Andrew Constance, said funding is now available for community organisations and local councils across the state to stage events and activities during the week.

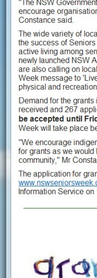
"The NSW Government has made $175,000 available and I encourage organisations to submit their applications," Mr Constance said.

The wide variety of local activities for seniors has become a key to the success of Seniors Week. "Promoting computer literacy and active living among seniors are key areas this year in line with the newly launched NSW Ageing Strategy," Mr Constance said. "We are also calling on local councils to embrace the NSW Seniors Week message to 'Live Life!' and support initiatives which promote physical and recreational activities."

Demand for the grants is high. Last year 441 applications were received and 267 applications were successful. **Applications will be accepted until Friday 7 September 2012**. 2013 NSW Seniors Week will take place between **17 and 24 March, 2012**.

"We encourage indigenous and multicultural organisations to apply for grants as we would like the celebrations to reflect our diverse community," Mr Constance said.

The application for grant funding is available at www.nswseniorsweek.com.au or people may call the Seniors Information Service on 13 12 44 to obtain a hard copy.



Sunday 28 October 2012

Grandparents have always played a valuable role in our society by offering care, love and guidance to their children and grandchildren.

Last year in 2011, the NSW Government officially recognised this contribution with the inaugural Grandparents Day. This year is no different.

The next Grandparents Day will be held on the 28th of October (last Sunday in October). We can all celebrate it in our own way. If you are planning any activities let us know, so we can share it with others.

For more information for activities that are happening around you, visit www.raisingarandchildren.com.au or www.cottarine.com.au

U3A Lectures on Wednesday Afternoons at Newport - Understanding Gemmology - 5th Sep 2012, 1pm - 3pm

University of the Third Age Open Lectures 1st Wednesday of the Month starting 1st August. Learn to appreciate precious gems with presenter Sheila Catterall OAM, President Gemmological Association of Australia (NSW Division).

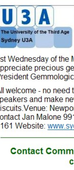
All welcome - no need to book. Just come along hear interesting speakers and make new friends. Cost: $2 includes tea coffee and biscuits Venue: Newport Community Centre, for more information contact Jan Malone 9918 9126 or Mavis Bickerton 9970 7161 Website: www.sydneyu3a.org

Contact Community Care Northern Beaches by clicking their logo:

CCNB COMMUNITY CARE (NORTHERN BEACHES) LIMITED

Internet Relay Calls

Internet relay calls are ideal if you are deaf, can't hear well or have difficulty using your voice. You just need an internet connection. All standard calls are free within Australia. See more at: Relay Service and in video below.



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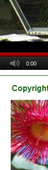


Only a Dad
by Edgar Guest

Only a dad with a tired face,
Coming home from the daily race,
Bringing the hide of gold or fame,
To show how well he has played the game,
But glad in his heart that his own rejoice
To see him come and to hear his voice.

Only a dad with a brood of four,
One of ten million men or more,
Plodding along in the daily strife,
Bearing the weary and the scorns of life,
With never a whimper of pain or hate,
For the sake of those who at home await.

Only a dad, neither rich nor proud,
Merely one of the surging crowd
Toiling, striving from day to day,
Facing whatever may come his way,
Silent, whenever the harsh condemn,
And bearing it all for the love of them.

Only a dad but he gives his all
To smooth the woes of his children small,
Doing, with courage stern and grim,
The deeds that his father did for him.
This is the line that for him I pen:
Only a dad, but the best of men.

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

Newport Community Centre
New Computer Courses for Seniors
Starting 17th July

Avalon Computer Pals for Seniors has a new program of computer courses for seniors over 55 to be held at the Newport Community Centre. There are courses for a range of subjects to assist beginners or those who need to keep up with the new technologies. These include the popular topics such as:

Beginners introduction to computers, Skype, iPads, Social media - Facebook and Twitter, Apple MAC, Digital Photography (extended 5 week course), Android Tablets, Smart phones, Genealogy, Scanning and printing

iPads and tablets are todays big sellers and there are courses for beginners and also a two part course which will extend the users knowledge and working with these exciting devices. Apple MACs are becoming popular due to their ease of use and brilliant displays. If you are a PC user and are tempted by MAC then there is a course just for you. Beginners have a choice of courses with a two part course on computers for beginners and if you have a new iPad there is a beginner's course for you.
Photographers will enjoy the extensive five part Picasa Digital Photography course conducted by our resident expert Brian Hindes. Along with photography, one of the popular uses of a computer is finding your ancestors. Computers are good at genealogy and tracing your family tree can be exciting.
Learning new technologies in a small local group is productive and fun.

AVALON COMPUTER PALS NEWPORT SHORT COURSES 3rd TERM 2012 - Newport Community Centre 11-13 The Boulevarde, Newport. Bookings essential Phone 8064 3574 (for over 55's)

TUESDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER

Room 1: ANDROID TABLETS – SLATES &E READERS (cost $10) -how to use and obtain apps
Room 2: INTRODUCTION TO IPads part 1 (cost for 3 weeks $30) -Different models and uses-what size should I buy?
-set up and using control buttons

TUESDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER

Room 1: BEGINNERS INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTERS (cost $10) -hardware and attachments, -software and uses, -introduction to emailing and Goggling)
Room 2: iPad –part 2 –understanding your iPad, -downloading apps and their useage, syncing with PC's and Apple Macs

TUESDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER

Room 1: SMART PHONES AND CHEAP PHONE CALLS (cost$10)
Room 2: iPads and IPods(music) – part 3
-integrating your computer phone iPad and iPod
-photos on iPads

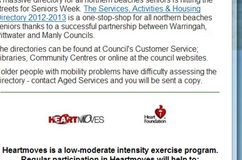
Media Releases concerning Seniors this week from National Seniors Australia

With around a quarter of a million members, National Seniors is Australia's largest consumer organisation for the over 50s and fourth largest group of its kind in the world.

Senior Movers

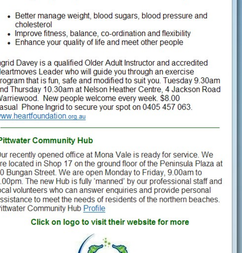
Senior Movers is a wonderful resource for the Pittwater senior community who are thinking about downsizing from their property. Senior Movers want you to stop worrying about downsizing from the family home and let us take care of you. Senior movers gives you peace of mind during stressful times of downsizing 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

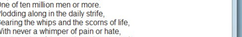
Also see Belinda Grundy's Profile and other great Business; www.bgpropertystyling.com.au



The Senior Newspaper Online
Click on logo:

Australian Senior Publications

Keep your Wits About You



A regular contributor suggests we all look at Lumosity to see if will suit keeping active mentally. Their website states: "Improve Brain Health and performance. Designed by neuroscientists, Lumosity exercises improve core cognitive functions. Researchers have measured significant improvements in working memory and attention after Lumosity training. Dozens of research collaborations help improve the Lumosity training program and its effectiveness." You can visit their website to decide for yourself at: www.lumosity.com/app/v4/personalization

Tweet Like +1

Warringah Council | Pittwater Council | SHP

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.

The directories can be found in 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.

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

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. Pittwater Community Hub Profile

Click on logo to visit their website for more

Northside Community CONNECT

Pittwater Online News

Front Page | Contents | Park Bench Philosophers | Profile of the Week | History | Youth | Seniors | Environment | Food | Lynda Hill | Pictures | Community News | News From our Inbox | Books | Events | Artist of the Month | Reflections | Collector's Corner | DIY Hints | Past Features

September 2 - 8, 2012: Issue 74

September is Save the Koala Month

If you would like to help with Save the Koala Month, register online for a Donation Box to put in your local community; Register here http://bit.ly/TalWUF

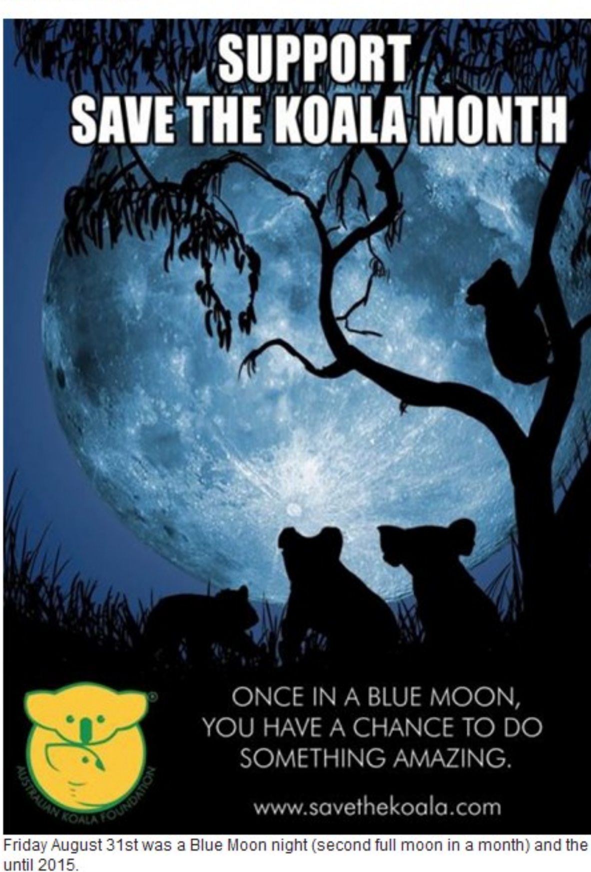
On August 21st 4 Corners reported on the state of the Koala, view the full program here http://bit.ly/R3w0iR. To find out what the Koala Foundation Australia think please read here, http://bit.ly/RxpT90 an opinion piece by AKF CEO Deborah Tabart."

Visit our website: www.savethekoala.com to find out how you can help save koalas.

Company Overview: The Australian Koala Foundation (AKF) is the principal, non-profit, non-government organisation dedicated to the conservation and effective management of the wild koala and its habitat.

Australian Koala Foundation was formed in 1986 and celebrates over 20 years of operation under the direction of Chief Executive Officer Deborah Tabart. During this time, the Foundation has grown from a small group of people interested in researching koala disease, to a well-known, global organisation with a strong track record in strategic koala research, conservation and community education.

Mission: We are a non-profit, non-government organisation dedicated to the conservation and management of the wild koala and its habitat.



Friday August 31st was a Blue Moon night (second full moon in a month) and the last until 2015.

These galahs *Eolophus roseicapilla*, photographed this week are also known as the Rose-breasted Cockatoo, Galah Cockatoo, Roseate Cockatoo or Pink and Grey. They are one of the most common and widespread cockatoos, found throughout mainland Australia. The term galah is derived from gilaa, a word found in Yuwaalaraay (of northern New South Wales) and neighbouring Aboriginal languages. To determine whether you are looking at a male or female by looking at their eyes; the male has a very dark brown (almost black) irises, and the female has a mid-brown/red irises.

Bothams Beach Project

Botham Beach on McCarrs Creek is a little beach backed by endangered Pittwater Spotted Gum bushland. It's the first beach beyond Holmeport Marina, disappearing at high tide. Pittwater Environmental Foundation has received two grants from Hawkesbury Nepean CMA for bushcare and engaging the community with the site. The site was invaded by the usual weeds with the ground layer absolutely invisible. Pittwater Council is overseeing the work.

Stage 1 involved contract bush regeneration resulting in piles of weed material which was burnt to encourage regeneration. As expected the result has been spectacular with many dormant pea and wattle seeds germinating. Spring will be lovely here!

Stage 2, currently underway, involves maintenance weeding and the installation of five nestboxes suitable for Sugar or Squirrel Gliders. A tiny Feathertail Glider was seen last year on the balcony of a neighbouring house, so we are hoping that the regenerating bush will also benefit this little creature. Loss of tree hollows is a problem for all gliders. They nest in family groups and are quick moving as a result of their high energy diet.

This Tweed Valley Wildlife Carers site suggests how to build suitable boxes: HERE
Attracting volunteers to help with bushcare here has not been easy. Weekend parking is difficult, so our future work days will be during the week. **We'd love you to join one (or more) of our bushcare days on Thursday 6 September, Tuesday 18 September from 8:30am – 11:30am. Come on any day that suits. Tools and cake provided.**

Contact Marita on 0439 409 202 or marita.macrae@gmail.com for how to get there. Pittwater Environmental Foundation enables people
to make tax deductible donations for environmental projects in the Pittwater LGA. For more information visit:
www.pittwaterenvironmentalfoundation.org.au
Note our Glider logo!

Places You Love Campaign – from Birdlife Australia

Under the guise of cutting 'green tape' governments have announced an aggressive plan to wind back our environmental laws. The Places You Love campaign is a response to this proposal. The dismantling of Australia's environmental protection laws will result in significant backwards steps for our environment at a time when we need stronger, not weaker protections.

We strongly believe that the reforms proposed will set us back decades, and so have established this campaign to motivate and inspire the community to let the Federal and State Governments know that people care about environmental laws - we intend to fight for them!

We need your help—take part in the national campaign. This is a critical moment in time. It is essential that the Prime Minister hears community support for the laws that protect the places and wildlife that we love. We are asking supporters and members of the public to write to the PM and their Federal member of parliament.

You may want to write a letter yourself. Feel free to include a picture of wildlife you love, and while you are at it post the photo at PlacesYouLove.org. If you use social media you can 'like' the campaign page on facebook, or tweet about it.

CEO of BirdLife Australia, Dr Graeme Hamilton, said Australians would not stand for big business' influence over government.

"This is not just an attack on the environment; it is an attack on democracy. Big business and industry have lobbied behind closed doors to ensure the weakening of our environment laws. Today we call on all Australians to contact the Prime Minister and their federal member of parliament to demand protection for the places and wildlife they love," Dr Hamilton said. For more information visit **www.placesyoulove.org**

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 the Threatened Species Act. There are two endangered populations (Koala and Squirrel Glider) and eight endangered ecological communities or types of bushland. To vist their site please click on logo above.

Australian Native Foods website:
http://www.anfil.org.au/

Tweet | Like | +1

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.

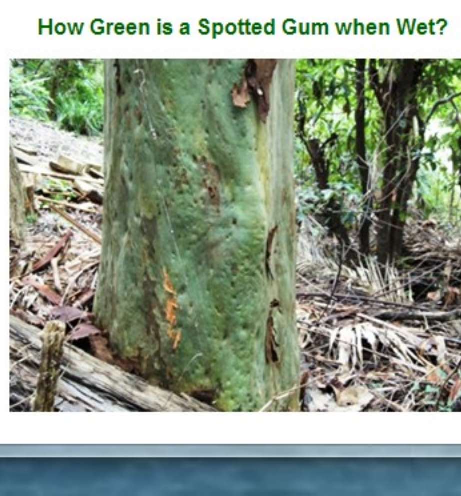
Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority Carbon Footprints Document

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

From CSIRO Media Releases

The **Atlas of Living Australia** a collaboration between all Australian museums, herbaria and biological collections, CSIRO, Adelaide and Southern Cross Universities and the Commonwealth Government, and Birdlife Australia. Some of these records come from the diaries of 17th Century Dutch navigators, such as the record for a Brush Bronzewing dated 1629.

How Green is a Spotted Gum when Wet?



Australian shipping emissions identified - CSIRO Media - 31 August 2012

Ship engine exhaust emissions make up more than a quarter of nitrogen oxide emissions generated in the Australian region according to a recently-published study by CSIRO and the Australian Maritime College in Launceston. Nitrogen oxide is a non-greenhouse gas, unlike similarly named nitrous oxide. The remainder comes from road and air transport, energy generation, and industrial processes. Global studies indicate that shipping emissions of nitrogen oxide and sulphur contribute to the formation of photochemical smog and particles near land and in ports.

The authors, Dr Ian Galbally from CSIRO Marine and Atmospheric Research, and the Australian Maritime College's Dr Laurie Goldsworthy estimate that approximately 30 per cent of anthropogenic nitrogen oxide emissions and 20 per cent of oxides of sulphur emissions generated in the Australian region may come from shipping. These are non greenhouse gases which have the potential to affect the air quality near coastal regions, and have consequences for human health and amenity.

Dr Galbally said around 10 per cent of global shipping freight passes through Australian ports annually. "Shipping is a major driver in the Australian economy, with 753 Mt of international exports worth $202 billion passing through Australian ports in 2008-2009."

"There is limited knowledge about the emissions from ships in coastal regions and ports in Australia, the effects of these emissions on air quality in the surrounding coastal and portside urban regions, or potential effects on human health" he said.

The ports of Perth, Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane are located where seasonally-prevailing onshore winds dominate and the pollutants from shipping frequently will be carried into the air-sheds of these major urban population centres.

"We're seeing increasing regulation of land-based emissions but limited regulation of shipping emissions and expect that in the near-future there will be a need to monitor more closely emissions from shipping," Dr Galbally said.

The authors commenced this study with measurements of ship exhaust emissions on the coastal cement carrier MV Goliath. Dr Goldsworthy said it is possible to quantify emissions generated based on knowledge of fuel type, fuel origin, engine size, cargo, and speed.

"We know from previous studies and the Australian Pollutant Inventory that ship emissions off the coast of Australia are substantially larger than in-port ship emissions. Nitrogen oxide and sulphur oxide emissions at sea are comparable in magnitude with other national sources such as energy generation and industry. They are potentially significant contributors to the air-sheds of major coastal cities," he said.

The study appeared recently in the journal *Air Quality and Climate Change*.

Coastal Environment Centre

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

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

Monthly Cooee Newsletter below. If you would like to receive Council's environmental newsletter via email, please contact jodi_harvey@pittwater.nsw.gov.au

September 2012 Newsletter includes information on: BushCare Planting Activities (volunteers needed), Workshops and Events, and great articles HERE

PITTWATER COUNCIL — Celebrating 20 Years 1992-2012

Great Australian Marsupial Nightstalk

Want to really get close to native animals? Come along to Pittwater's Great Australian Marsupial Nightstalk on **7 September to celebrate Threatened Species Day**. This national series of spotlight walks is conducted throughout Australia to collect information for Perth Zoo about marsupial animal numbers and their distribution.

Pittwater's Nightstalk in Warriewood Wetlands is a unique opportunity to become more familiar with local marsupials and other nocturnal animals. The night stalk is suitable for children over 8 years of age.

When: **Friday 7 September, 6 - 8pm**. Where: Warriewood Wetlands - numbers are limited so book early! What to bring: torch, comfortable footwear, appropriate clothing for weather conditions. Bookings Essential! Online - www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/cecbookings . In person: Coastal Environment Centre, Lake Park Road, North Narrabeen. Phone: 1300 000 232 (Reception - Option 1)

Going Solar on Sustainable House Day

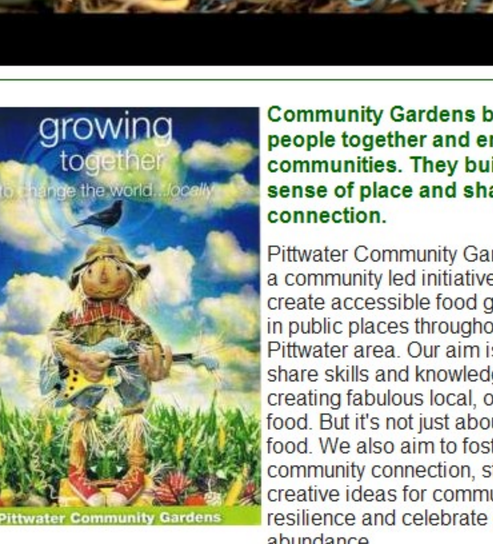
With energy prices rising, now is a great time to consider going solar. Solar energy saves money and reduces carbon emissions, but choosing the right option is vital! The workshop will focus on the two main solar options available to households - solar water heating and solar panels. It will explain the differences between them and the advantages and disadvantages of both. The prices of solar systems are becoming more competitive and government financial incentives are still available to help offset the installation cost.

The workshop will be followed by an optional tour of the sustainability features at the Coastal Environment Centre, the Council's multi-award winning environmental education centre. Features include a 5 kilowatt solar electricity system, solar hot water, energy efficient lighting retrofit and water tanks plumbed to flush toilets and water the veggie garden.

Presented by Greg Harris from Smart Water and Energy Solutions and Joanne Tulau from Pittwater Council.

When: **Sunday 9 September, 1 to 3pm.** Where: Coastal Environment Centre, Lake Park Road, North Narrabeen. Cost: Free! Bookings Essential! Online - www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/cecbookings. In person: Coastal Environment Centre, Lake Park Road, North Narrabeen. Phone: 1300 000 232 (Reception - Option 1)

Attract Birds to your yard



Community Gardens bring people together and enrich communities. They build a sense of place and shared connection.

Pittwater Community Gardens is a community led initiative to create accessible food gardens in public places throughout the Pittwater area. Our aim is to share skills and knowledge in creating fabulous local, organic food. But it's not just about great food. We also aim to foster community connection, stimulate creative ideas for community resilience and celebrate our abundance.

Open to all ages and skills, our first garden is on the grounds of Barrenjoey High School (off Tasman Road). Become part of this exciting initiative to change the world locally.

www.pcga.org.au Contact us info@pcg.org.au

Visit us at facebook.com/pcga.org

image artwork: www.gravey.com

Birdlife Australia - New Website and Quarterly Magazine

Birdlife Australia has begun a quarterly magazine which is available online at: www.birdlife.org.au/australian-birdlife

This organisation, which has been going for over a century now, have been a leading authority and advocate for the protection of Australia's birds, achieved by combining scientific research, nationwide surveys, targeted actions and other activities to create real and positive outcomes. They state that over 200 species of birds in Australia are considered threatened at present. Visit their new website, have a look at all the information collated, and see if you could help them out as a volunteer or donor.

PITTWATER NATURAL HERITAGE ASSOCIATION INC.

What Does PNHA do?

On-ground bush regeneration. eg: Asparagus Fern Out Days
Activities: guided walks, bird-watching
Quaterly informative newsletter, online or paper
Members email group for leaset 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 Warriewood Wetlands & Irrawong Reserve, $20.00rrp, attractive cards with photos of Pittwater scenes, flora and fauna $2.00

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

PITTWATER COUNCIL

ONLINE BIODIVERSITY CALENDAR A FIRST

Pittwater Council has launched a unique online calendar designed to educate the community about the coastal environment, based on traditional Aboriginal knowledge. The calendar, which is web-based, works through hundreds of images of coastal native birds, animals and plants. 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 communities 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.

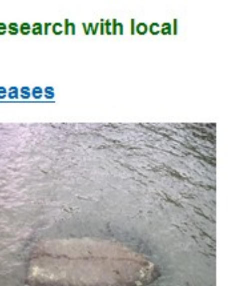
Representatives of the D'harawal people have provided their knowledge for descriptions of some of the images and the Guringai, Darkinyung and Darug people are also providing input into the calendar. Other information in the calendar includes details of environmental events and community groups, weather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

Pittwater Council's Natural Environment and Education Manager Mark Beharrel 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
cec@pittwater.nsw.gov.au

Tweet | Like | +1

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 Australian Coastal Councils Conference in Hobart. The CSIRO-developed website will enable coastal councils, and other coastal stakeholders, to find research easily at a national level, 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 local councils had a low awareness of the range of coastal research available.

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 TERN, funded by ACEF and CSIRO. TERN is supported by the Australian Government through the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy and the Super Science Initiative.

CLIMATE ACTION PITTWATER

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

"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

September 2 - 8, 2012: Issue 74

Lunch at The Terrace on Pittwater, The Arms – Newport

On Wednesday this week we lunched at The Terrace on Pittwater in The Newport Arms. Perfect for allowing yourself a few hours to enjoy being with a loved one, a mid-week lunch overlooking the southern end of the estuary on a sunny early Spring day is hard to beat.

For starters we chose a dozen Pacific Oysters done Kilpatrick on the Daily Specials board, an old favourite which is returning to menus at patron's request. Plump oysters still tender smothered in a thicker worcertshire and strips of smokey bacon. Perfect.

For mains the Fish of the Day, which was Monkfish, pan fried with tomato and chorizo cassolette with steamed mussels, calamari and saffron. Very fresh melt in the mouth fish while the mussels and calamari were tender and perfectly cooked.

Our other main was the Parmesan crusted Atlantic salmon with spiced cauliflower, lime emulsion and preserved lemon. Once again the fish was very fresh and the combination of ingredients enhanced the salmon instead of overpowering this delicate seafood. Our sides of thick chips with Aioli and a salad of rocket, pear and parmesan complemented both seafood choices. The extensive wine list offers a range of options hard to beat in choosing a vintage that matches each dish.

The Terrace on Pittwater in the Newport Arms serves excellent 'fish and chips' seven days a week for lunch and dinner and now, Spring, before the Summer crowds fill every venue to capacity, is the perfect season to indulge every sense and spoil your palette. With the current one main meal of equal or lesser value free vouchers extended to November 30th 2012 it's well worth sneaking off for a few hours to enjoy what life is really about; great food, good company in beautiful surrounds. Ph: 9997 4900 to book.

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Tweet Like +1

Above: Fish of the Day; Monkfish

September 2 - 8, 2012: Issue 74

Hilltop to Estuary - Flowering now

From Hilltop to Estuary edge and in between early Spring brings the first of the new wildflowers as those that overlap Winter and Spring finish. Seen this week at estuary edge and up high are those like the Bush peas *Pultenaea* while along the shorelines the mangroves are budding and flowering.

Between Hilltop and Estuary edge

Pultenea - Yellow Bush Pea species found only in Australia

Tweet Like +1

Hilltop - Stapleton Reserve

Pultenea

Climbing Guinea Flower, *Hibbertia scandens*

Images by A J Guesdon, 2012. All Rights Reserved.

Bayview and Careel Bay Wetlands

In Pittwater wetlands the dominant tree species is Grey Mangrove *Avicennia marina*. River Mangrove *Aegiceras corniculatum*, buds, flowers and fruits are also common on the landward fringes. Shown here are the bud, flower and fruits. Australian mangrove forests comprise 41 plant species from 19 families, which is approximately half the world's mangrove species.

Last of the Winter Wattle

Pittwater Online News

September 2 - 8, 2012: Issue 74

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

Lion's Mane Jellyfish by Samuel Greenberg

A Lions Mane Jellyfish, the largest jellyfish in the world! They have been swimming in arctic waters since before the dinosaurs (over 650 million years ago) and are among some of the oldest surviving species in the world.

Australian Lady Cyclists Breaking Records - 1930's

GIRL'S RECORD ATTEMPT.

Miss Billie Samuels started on her attack on the women's record from Sydney to Melbourne, held by Miss Valsa Barbour, at 10 o'clock yesterday morning. She will ride to a schedule which will bring her to the Melbourne G.P.O. at 2 p.m. on Saturday, a total time of 3 days 7 hours. This is about three hours faster than the present record. Miss Samuels provides for stoppages of about four hours in Goulburn (132 miles), five hours in Holbrook (333 miles), and five hours in Seymour, Victoria (501 miles), in addition to regular meal stoppages of about 30 to 40 minutes every 40 or 50 miles. Miss Samuels arrived at Moss Vale at 4.39 p.m., almost 2 hours ahead of schedule time. She encountered rain from Camden to Moss Vale, but is looking fit. Miss Samuels resumed her ride three-quarters of an hour later. July 5th, 1934; Reported in Sydney Morning Herald.

Billie Samuels broke the record. Then in 1937 another girl broke her record:

HARDY GIRL CYCLIST. Breaks Sydney — Melbourne Record. MELBOURNE, September 28

By 22 hours 33 minutes, Joyce Barry the girl cycling champion of New South Wales, lowered the road record from Sydney to Melbourne, when she arrived at the G.P.O. to-day, taking 2 days, 2 hours, 47 minutes for the Journey. Since leaving Sydney on Saturday, 18-year-old Miss Barry had only three hours sleep. However, she does not agree that women's record breaking cycling Is too strenuous. 'If a girl is properly trained, it is an interesting and enjoyable pastime,' she declared. The previous record was made by Miss 'Billie' Samuels In 1934.

HARDY GIRL CYCLIST. (1937, September 28). Townsville Daily Bulletin (Qld. : 1885 - 1954), p. 6. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article62007890

Photo of Joyce Barry: Joyce Barry advertising for Milk Board, September 1939, courtesy State Library of NSW. Cyclist Joyce Barry was celebrated throughout the 1930s for her many record-breaking time and distances rides.

Tweet | Like | +1

Sydney Opera House Big Moments

The Sydney Opera House turns 40 next year. A short History of this building is here. A Competition launched at the end of June calls for all to share their 'Big Moment' at this Sydney landmark; this can be a concert on the forecourt or simpler moments. You will win a dinner for you and your friends on the Concert Hall Stage if your entry is successful. **Competition closes December 14th, 2012**. Full details HERE

The Origin of Father's Day

Father's Day is a celebration of fathers inaugurated in the United States in the early twentieth century to complement Mother's Day in celebrating fatherhood and male parenting. After the success obtained by Anna Jarvis with the promotion of Mother's Day in the US, some wanted to create similar holidays for other family members. There were other persons in the US who independently thought of "Father's Day", but the credit for the modern holiday is always given to Sonora Dodd, who was the driving force behind its establishment.

Father's Day was founded in Spokane, Washington at the YMCA on June 19th 1910 by Sonora Smart Dodd. Her father, the Civil War veteran William Jackson Smart, was a single parent who raised his six children there. After hearing a sermon about Jarvis' Mother's Day in 1909, she told her pastor that fathers should have a similar holiday honouring them. Sonora encouraged wearing roses on Father's Day in honour of fathers. A red rose was worn for fathers who were still living and a white rose honoured fathers who had died.

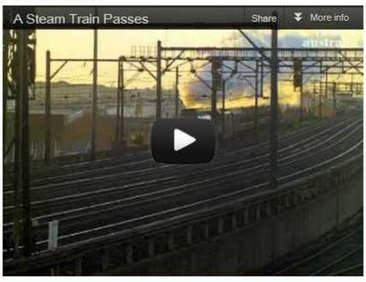
Father's Day. (2012, August 30). In Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia. Retrieved from http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Father%27s_Day&oldid=509863370

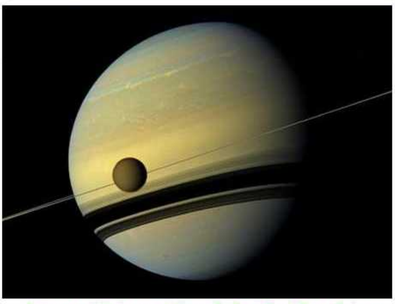
Paper Run - Pittwater in 1956

Uploaded by FILMAUSTRALIA: Made by The Commonwealth Film Unit 1956. Directed by Malcolm Otton. A panorama of scenic beauty unfolds as the newspaper delivery man works his run along Sydney's northern beaches of Newport and the Palm Beach area. Commonwealth Film Unit 1956.

A Steam Train Passes - **Published on Aug 27, 2012 by FILMAUSTRALIA**

Generally regarded as Australia's finest railway film and winner of many awards the world over, A Steam Train Passes is a nostalgic, imaginative essay on one of the majestic but now retired C38 class steam locomotives. This fine locomotive has been restored at the Newcastle State Dockyard. The documentary was filmed on one of its final journeys from Sydney to a series of country railway stations. Made by Film Australia 1974. **Directed by David Haythornthwaite.**





Saturn and Its Largest Moon Reflect Their True Colours

ScienceDaily (**Aug. 29, 2012**) — Posing for portraits for NASA's Cassini spacecraft, Saturn and its largest moon, Titan, show spectacular colours in a quartet of images being released today. One image captures the changing hues of Saturn's northern and southern hemispheres as they pass from one season to the next. Launched in 1997, Cassini went into orbit around Saturn on July 1, 2004. It is in its second mission extension, known as the Solstice Mission, and one of its main goals is to analyse seasonal changes in the Saturn system. A wide-angle view in today's package captures Titan passing in front of Saturn, as well as the planet's changing colours. Upon Cassini's arrival at Saturn eight years ago, Saturn's northern winter hemisphere was an azure blue. Now that winter is encroaching on the planet's southern hemisphere and summer on the north, the colour scheme is reversing: blue is tinting the southern atmosphere and is fading from the north.

The other three images depict the newly discovered south polar vortex in the atmosphere of Titan, reported recently by Cassini scientists. Cassini's visible-light cameras have seen a concentration of yellowish haze in the detached haze layer at the south pole of Titan since at least March 27. Cassini's visual and infrared mapping spectrometer spotted the massing of clouds around the south pole as early as May 22 in infrared wavelengths. After a June 27 flyby of the moon, Cassini released a dramatic image and movie showing the vortex rotating faster than the moon's rotation period. The four images being released today were acquired in May, June and July of 2012.

The above story and photo is reprinted from materials provided byNASA/Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

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September 2 - 8, 2012: Issue 74

Old Books: September 2012

My Garden in Spring (1914) by Edward Augustus Bowles. Publisher: London, T. C. & E. C. Jac

Edward Augustus (Gus or Gussie) Bowles, VMH (14 May 1865 – 7 May 1954), known professionally as E. A. Bowles, was a British horticulturalist, plantsman and garden writer. He developed an important garden at Myddelton House, his lifelong home at Bulls Cross in Enfield, Middlesex and his name has been preserved in many varieties of plant.

Gaelic names of beasts (Mammalia), birds, fishes, insects, reptiles, etc. in two parts: (1905) by Alexander Robert Forbes.

OFFICE: Assistant keeper of the Court of Session Minute Book, Edinburgh. ACHIEVEMENTS: Author of several studies Died: 4 Jun 1924. Father: Rev. John Forbes , b. 1818, Strathglass, Highlands, Scotland , d. 21 Jan 1863

Shakespeare's greenwood : the customs of the country : the language, the superstitions, the customs, the folklore, the birds & trees, the parson, the poets, the novelist (1900) by George Morley, of Leamington, Eng. Publisher: London : David Nutt

George Morley D.D. (1597–1684) was an English bishop.He was born in London, England, and educated at Westminster school and the University of Oxford. In 1640, he was presented to the sinecure living of Hartfield, Sussex, and in the following year he was made canon of Christ Church, Oxford and exchanged to the rectory of Mildenhall, Wiltshire. He preached before the House of Commons in 1642, but his sermon gave offence, and when in 1647 he took a prominent part in resisting the parliamentary visitation of Oxford University he was deprived of his canonry and living.

Leaving England, he joined the court of King Charles II, and became one of the leading clergy at The Hague. Shortly before the Restoration he came to England on a highly successful mission to gain for Charles the support of the Presbyterians. In 1660, he regained his canonry, and soon became Dean of Christ Church

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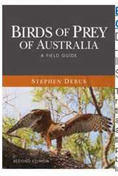
CSIRO Publishing September 2012 Releases:

The Small Food Garden - Growing Organic Fruit and Vegetables at Home by Diana Anthony - Colour photographs, 112 pages, September 2012 - AU $ 29.95

You don't need a quarter-acre section to successfully grow fresh produce; nor does it take a lot of money or effort. Based on organic principles, this practical, well-illustrated guide takes you through all the basics: choosing what to plant and where to put it; advice on organic pest and disease control; watering and plant nutrition; using space-saving containers and raised beds; the benefits of companion planting as well as making your own compost — and that's just for starters.

A combination of previously published companion volumes, The Small Edible Garden and The Edible Garden Planner, the content for this book has been substantially revised and updated to include numerous new varieties of vegetables, fruit and herbs chosen for their suitability for growing in most climatic conditions around the world.

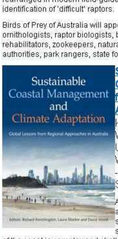


Birds of Prey of Australia - A Field Guide, Second Edition by Stephen Debus, University of New England - Colour plates, Colour photographs, Illustrations, Maps, 208 pages, September 2012, - AU $ 39.95

This book is an illustrated field guide to diurnal raptors, a bird group that many people find among the most difficult birds to identify. Raptors are popular and iconic birds, and important ecologically as well as legislation, with some species listed as threatened. Birds of Prey of Australia will enable people to more easily identify them. It also provides a brief overview of the biology of raptors and an indication of the current state of knowledge on them.

The book has been completely revised and updated, with 15 years of new data, a section on difficult species-pairs (split-images providing direct contrast), and rearranged in modern field-guide format, making it easy to use and enabling rapid identification of 'difficult' raptors.

Birds of Prey of Australia will appeal to a wide range of readers, including ornithologists, raptor biologists, birdwatchers, wildlife rescuers/carers, raptor rehabilitators, zookeepers, naturalists, bushwalkers, ecological consultants, fauna authorities, park rangers, state forestry personnel and students.



Sustainable Coastal Management and Climate Adaptation - Global Lessons from Regional Approaches in Australia - Edited by: Richard Kenchington, University of Wollongong, Laura Stocker, Curtin University of Technology, David Wood, Curtin University of Technology - Colour illustrations, Line Art, 32 pages, September 2012 - AU $ 99.95

Australians are famous for our love of the coast, although in many places this 'love' has caused serious and often irreversible impacts. The sustainable management of our society's many uses of the coast is complex and challenging. While a wealth of knowledge exists about the coast, this is not always brought to bear on decision-making. Coastal management to date has had limited success, and in some cases interventions have made problems worse.

Australia's coast has been shaped by severe events such as cyclones and floods, with climate change now increasing the number and intensity of these hazards. In addition, our coastal populations are growing, and with them our social, environmental and economic vulnerability to such hazards.

This book explores the evolution of coastal management, and provides critical insights into contemporary experience and understanding of coastal management in Australia. It draws on contemporary theory and lessons from case examples to highlight the roles of research and community engagement in coastal management. The book concludes with a chapter of recommendations which can help guide coastal management and research around the world.

The Cochlear Story - Bright Ideas Series by Veronica Bondarew, Consulting Surveyors National Ltd; Peter Seligman, The Bionics Institute of Australia - Photographs, 248 pages. September 2012 - AU $ 49.95

Cochlear Ltd, together with its university partner and many other collaborators, has returned hearing to over 160 000 people thanks to the development of its hearing implant. This book documents the human story behind that development. It delves into the commercial planning and implementation that led to the product's success in an international, highly competitive market, and the human drama that was experienced in achieving it.

Chapters are structured around the development of the science. Woven within that structure are the personal and business stories that have enabled successful outcomes in the relatively new age of biomedical engineering. The Cochlear Story aims to put this Australian development on the world map in recognition of Australian medicine, science, technology and business.

New from CSIRO PUBLISHING, the Bright Ideas series explores the innovation, application and continuing impact of major scientific inventions throughout history. From the compass to the bionic ear, each book will provide a fascinating and accessible story on a single invention that has changed our everyday lives.

Two Greedy Italians by Antonio Carluccio and Genarro Contaldo, ABC Books $39.99.

Over 30 years ago Antonio Carluccio and Gennaro Contaldo separately left their native Italy for Britain where, in time, they met, worked together and established themselves as leading authorities on Italian cooking. In this compelling book - written to accompany the primetime BBC series - the two old friends have embarked upon an amazing journey back to their homeland to reconnect with their culinary heritage, explore past and current traditions and reveal the very soul of Italian gastronomy. Containing over 100 mouthwatering recipes, this extraordinary book goes beyond the cliches to reveal real Italian food, as cooked by real Italians. It includes an intriguing combination of classic dishes and ingredients as well as others showcasing the changes in style and influences that have become a part of the Italy of today. Reflecting the insights of both men into Italy then and now, Carluccio and Contaldo's return captures the essence of its authors - their humour, their wisdom, their curiosity and, most significantly, their shared passion for good simple food. It is an essential book for anyone with a genuine interest in Italian food.

Lighthouse Bay by Kimberley Freeman - A compelling tale of love, secrets, and the power of forgiveness. Hachette Australia. $32.99

1901: Isabella Winterbourne has suffered the worst loss a woman can know. She can no longer bear her husband nor his oppressive upper-class family. On a voyage between London and Sydney to accompany a priceless gift to the Australian parliament, Isabella is the sole survivor of a shipwreck off the sun-drenched Queensland coast. But in this strange new place, she finds she cannot escape her past quite as easily as she'd hoped.

2011: A woman returns from Paris to her beachside home town to reconcile with her sister. But she, too, has a past that is hard to escape and her sister is not in a mood to forgive her. Strange noises at night and activity at the abandoned lighthouse raise her curiosity, and she finds herself investigating a century-old town mystery.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Kimberley Freeman is an established writer under the name Kim Wilkins. She was born in London and grew up in Brisbane. She has degrees in English Literature and Creative Writing. Her book The Infernal won the 1997 Aurealis Awards for Best Horror Novel and Best Fantasy Novel. In 2000 The Resurrectionists won the Aurealis Award for Best Horror Novel, while Angel of Ruin won this award in 2001. Kim lives in Queensland. She is moving her writing talents out of the speculative fiction genre and focusing on commercial women s fiction. She published DUET in 2007, GOLD DUST in 2008 and WILDFLOWER HILL in 2010 under the pen-name Kimberley Freeman.

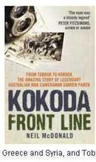
For Birders:

The Field Guide to the Birds of Australia, Author: Graham Pizzey, Frank Knight, Editor: Sarah Pizzey. Available: 1st September 2012 Booktopia: $35.95. Ninth Edition.

The definitive and most respected guide to Australian bird identification, this book is a must for both experts and amateurs. First published in 1980, Graham Pizzey's Field Guide to the Birds of Australia combines a depth and breadth of knowledge with beautiful, full-colour illustrations by Frank Knight.

Comprehensive and fully updated, this 9th edition of the Guide is more user-friendly than ever before. Species entries have been re-ordered and updated to reflect the new taxonomy, and the book has been expanded to include eighteen new species as well as a new section on vagrant species. It also features new information on bird family groups; more than 750 distribution maps based on the most recent bird atlas data, as well as a new Quick Find Index, to assist with quick identification of birds in the field. This is the essential reference for every bird enthusiast.

About the Author: Graham Pizzey, who died in 2001, was a member of the Order of Australia and an Honorary Associate in Ornithology at the Museum of Victoria. He was also a council member of the Australian Conservation Foundation and of Birds Australia (the Royal Australasian Ornithologists' Union).



Kokoda Front Line by Neil McDonald. Hachette Australia; $35.00

The story of Damien Parer Australia s greatest war photographer, whose legendary1942 documentary on Kokoda broke the news to a shocked Australia of the desperate fighting to the north. Damien Parer was without doubt Australia s greatest war photographer. He helped create the Anzac legend and many, many of our iconic war images are his photographs.

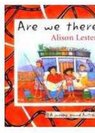
He served his apprenticeship as a stills photographer on the famous Chauvel film, Forty Thousand Horsemen, and was appointed Official Photographer covering the Australian fighting in the early days of World War II in Greece and Syria, and Tobruk.

His most famous documentary is Kokoda Front Line! , made during the darkest days of the campaign in mid-1942 (it went on to win Australia s first Academy Award). His photographs and films brought the war home to Australians and are now an integral part of our military history. He died in action shot by Japanese machine gun fire, as he filmed an American advance on Peleliu. This is a colourful and authoritative story of a great Australian and includes many of his most iconic photographs.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Neil McDonald is a well-known film historian and authority on the Kokoda campaign. He collaborated with the best-selling writer Peter Brune on 200 Shots, a pictorial record of the Australian fighting in Papua New Guinea in World War II. He lives in Sydney.

Children:

Also have a look on our Youth page for a great new 'Are we There Yet?' competition as part of the National Year of Reading.



Are We There Yet? AUTHOR: ALISON LESTER $24.95 from Penguin: here

The year I turned eight, Mum and Dad took us on a trip around Australia. Luke, Billy and I missed school for the whole winter term.

Join Grace and her family on their adventurous and sometimes funny expedition. A warm, heartfelt story based on an actual journey undertaken by the much-loved, award-winning author and illustrator, Alison Lester.

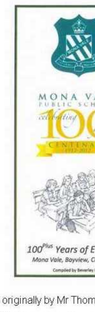
The Hobbit, Author: J. R. R. Tolkien, Booktopia Price $11.95, Available: 30th August 2012

Bilbo Baggins is a hobbit who enjoys a comfortable, unambitious life, rarely travelling further than the pantry of his hobbit-hole in Bag End. But his contentment is disturbed when the wizard, Gandalf, and a company of thirteen dwarves arrive on his doorstep one day to whisk him away on an unexpected journey 'there and back again'. They have a plot to raid the treasure hoard of Smaug the Magnificent, a large and very dangerous dragon...

The prelude to The Lord of the Rings, The Hobbit has sold many millions of copies since its publication in 1937, establishing itself as one of the most beloved and influential books of the twentieth century.

About the Author: J.R.R.Tolkien (1892-1973) was a distinguished academic, though he is best known for writing The Hobbit, The Lord of the Rings and The Silmarillion, plus other stories and essays. His books have been translated into over 30 languages and have sold many millions of copies worldwide.

New Books from Locals:



Packed with great tales, beautifully illustrated with images by Noela Cunningham, a local artist and illustrator of books and many wonderful photos from the decades, this is a must have for your library. This book will make a great keepsake for all students and teachers, past and present.

Inside the covers, pages are full of colour illustrations, class photographs, tables and lists as well as the school's history as published originally by Mr Thomas Le Sueur and carefully reproduced here.

Make sure you secure your copy of the History of Mona Vale Public School by downloading an order form today, or contact the author, Bev Lewis bevlewis2089@gmail.com

Children's Storytime at Mona Vale Library

Mona Vale Library offers storytime for pre-school children every week during school terms. Children and their carers come and participate in a fun sing-a-long with our story teller as well as listen to several stories in each session, followed by some craft. Storytime is held in the Pelican Room of the library in front of the service desk. Storytime is free and no bookings are required. Storytime Sessions

Tuesdays 10.00am - 11.00am
Wednesdays 10.00am - 11.00am
Thursdays 10.00am - 11.00am

Avalon Library Hours
Monday to Friday 10am to 5pm
Saturday 10am to 1pm
Sunday 2pm to 5pm
59a Old Barrenjoey Road
Phone: 9918 3013 Fax: 9913 7046
Email avalonlibrary@bozemail.com.au
Web Address www.avalonlibrary.org.au

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Tweet Like +1

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Pittwater Online News

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September 2 - 8, 2012: Issue 74

The Arms Family WEEKEND + 132ND BIRTHDAY +
GET THE FAMILY TOGETHER TO HELP US CELEBRATE OUR 132ND BIRTHDAY!!!
Free Activities
SATURDAY 8TH SEPT 10:30AM-1:30PM | JUMPING CASTLE • FACE PAINTING • BALLOONS ROVING ENTERTAINER • KIDDIE ANIMAL FARM | SUNDAY 9TH SEPT 10:30AM-1:30PM
BREKKY MENU 9:30-11:30AM Bistro Open All Day
NEWPORT ARMS HOTEL, 2 KALINYA ST, NEWPORT • PH 9997 4900 • WWW.NEWPORTARMS.COM.AU

Next Market Sept 8th
MONA VALE ARTISAN MARKETS
Now The 2ND Saturday of each Month
10am til 3pm
Inside at 20 Bungan St
Face Painter
Come to see Artists, Designers, Photographers and Textile artists, all hand made items, Jewellery and more.
Plus great coffee and Brazilian snacks by BECO.
All taking place at Painters Gallery in the new location inside the Plaza at 20 Bungan Street, Mona Vale (Beside Mona Vale Art Shop).
The new ARTISAN Market. Unique to Mona Vale & the Northern Beaches.
http://www.facebook.com/#!/MonaValeArtisanMarkets
Painters Gallery www.paintersgallery.com.au 99976607
Great Coffee

Spaghetti WESTERN AT THE FIRE SHED
SATURDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER at 7PM
ENTRY FEE $20
CHILDREN 12 & UNDER $5
VEGETARIANS CATERED FOR

Guringai Aboriginal Tours

GUIDED TOURS

The Guringai Aboriginal Tours start at 10.00 am and go until about 2pm at the Basin Track on the West Head Rd Ku-Ring-Gai Chase National Park, NSW 2083. Guiding you through the site will be Aboriginal Ranger Les McLeod and Guringai descendent Laurie Bimson.

At the site you will have explanations as to how the rock carvings were made and be told stories of times long gone by. Lunch will be provided at about 12.00pm with barbecued marinated Kangaroo and Emu, fresh made Damper with tea and coffee.

Then after lunch, it is off again this time for a short exciting Guringai ...

Spring Racing wear.

When: Friday 7th September at 7:00pm.
Where: Fresh Start Health and Fitness Centre, 1525 Pittwater Road, Narrabeen. (inside Pittwater Sports Centre). Easy parking and bus stop right outside PSC.
Cost: $25 includes a flute of Chandon NV on arrival and lucky door prizes. We will also have a silent auction
RSVP: By 31st August. Purchase tickets from Fresh Start reception in person (cash only please), or by calling 9970 8400. Phone reservations will incur a credit card hold to secure the booking. Limited seats available.

Proceeds from this evening support the Zonta Breast Cancer Cushion Project.

Bring along an item of clothing you are unsure about and you may be chosen to be styled live!

Supported by freshstart CHANDON

epic PRIVATE JOURNEYS
Presents
'A TANZANIAN SAFARI'
On Sunday September 9, safari guide and wildlife photographer, Richard Field will be sharing images and stories from his most recent safari into northern Tanzania. Come and join Richard for a relaxed and entertaining afternoon.
Where: The Boatshed, The Royal Motor Yacht Club, Newport
When: Sunday September 9, 3.45-7.00pm
Numbers are limited, so please RSVP to Richard by Wednesday September 5.
M: 0405 454 921
E: rfield@epicprivatejourneys.com

The Sapphires - trailer

ROYAL MOTOR YACHT CLUB BROKEN BAY NSW

"WELCOME TO THE OUTBACK" - RMYC LADIES LUNCHEON - WEDNESDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2012

The Royal Motor Yacht Club is pleased to announce that Sue Williams will be the guest speaker at their next Ladies Luncheon to be held on Wednesday 19 September 2012. Come along and enjoy an afternoon of fine wine and fabulous food whilst taking in the breathtaking views of Pittwater. The Luncheons are a wonderful opportunity for friends to get together and learn more about one of Australia's great authors and adventurers.

Sue Williams is an award-winning journalist and columnist who's written for all of Australia's leading newspapers and magazines. She also appears regularly on TV and on radio, and has had her own TV segment on SBS TV's popular Hotline program. Born in England, she has worked in print and TV in the UK and New Zealand, too. Sue spent many years travelling extensively around the world, alone with her backpack. She wrote about some of her most terrifying – and triumphant – journeys in her *Getting There: Journeys of an Accidental Adventurer*.

Her latest book is another travel odyssey, this time around Australia's Outback, ***Welcome to The Outback***. It's a funny, irreverent and often very fond look at Australia's own backyard, full of incredible landscapes — and amazingly colourful people.

Sue's first best-selling biography was *Peter Ryan: The Inside Story*, the tale of Australia's most colourful, and controversial, police commissioner, the top British police officer brought over to stamp out corruption in the country's most rotten forces, NSW.

Mean Streets, Kind Hearts: The Father Chris Riley Story was her second best-seller, which went into reprint an astonishing five times in the first three months of publication.

Sue has also co-authored a motivational women's health guide, *Powering Up*, and contributed to a collection of short fiction stories, *Love, Obsession, Secrets & Lies*. Her next major book, an in-depth look at the property market, and Australia's first guide to apartments, came out in July 2004. Called *Apartment Living: A Complete Guide to Buying, Renting, Surviving and Thriving in Apartments*; it was written with Jimmy Thomson and published by ABC Books.

Then Sue wrote a book about medical ethics, *Death of a Doctor*: how the medical profession turned on one of their own, a chilling true story about how one of Australia's leading alternative practitioners was destroyed by the health complaints process.

Next came *World Beyond Tears: The Ongoing Story Of Father Chris Riley*, about the priest's incredible efforts to help children in devastated Banda Aceh after the Boxing Day tsunami. He also launched projects in East Timor, the Philippines and Albania for impoverished children who had no one else to turn to – and enlisted his Australian kids to help him.

Just after Christmas 2005, *And Then The Darkness: the Disappearance of Peter Falconio and the trials of Joanne Lees* was released, a frightening book about one of Australia's most bizarre true-life crimes; the killing of a British backpacker and the attempted abduction of his girlfriend on a lonely stretch of road in the Northern Territory's Barrow Creek. It was the result of three years of intense research in the UK and all around Australia, and reads just like a psychological thriller – except that it happens to be true! It was shortlisted for the prestigious Golden Dagger award, for the international true crime book of the year, and for the Ned Kelly, the top Australian crime-writing award.

Shortly before Australia Day 2006, came *The Spirit of Australia*, written with Selwa Anthony. A celebration of everything Australian, it's an inspirational guide for the nation, which shows how people can make a difference – to themselves, their community and their country. Late in 2008 *Women of the Outback*: inspiring true stories of tragedy and triumph was published, the stirring stories of 14 incredible women living in Australia's vast outback, who've overcome tremendous hurdles to build lives for themselves and their families in some of the world's most inhospitable terrain.

In 2009 *Love Is In The Air* was released, the story of a group of incredible dancers who achieve against all the odds. They're the Merry Makers, a dance troupe made up of children and young adults with disabilities, both physical and intellectual, who've thrilled audiences across Australia. They're to make their debut in the US, dancing at Disneyland in Los Angeles in September 2010.

Sue's next book was *Outback Spirit*, a sequel to Women of the Outback, which came out with Penguin on October 1 2010, about a group of people who are pouring all their love, time and energy into helping the outback and those who live there. Her next book was *No Time For Fear: How a shark attack survivor beat the odds*, the story of navy diver Paul de Gelder, who lost an arm and leg after being mauled by a shark as he took part in an anti-terrorism exercise on Sydney Harbour. That book, also published by Penguin, was released on May 2 2011.

Her most recent book is ***Welcome To The Outback***, which was released in April 2012. Sue lives in Sydney with her partner Jimmy Thomson and their two cats.

Find out some more of Sue's journeys in September. Bookings for the Ladies Lunch are essential by contacting the RMYC on 9997 5511. Cost is $65 for two courses including wine and coffee and starts at midday. After lunch Sue will be available for book sales and signings.

The Sox BOBBY SOX
Plus Special Guests
Supporting SURFAID INTERNATIONAL
Saturday 29th September 2012
Avalon Beach RSL Club
Doors Open 7pm Tickets $20 Limited Numbers
Tickets available @ Reception
For more details contact the club 9918 2201

The Pittwater Mens Probus meets at the Mona Vale Golf Club on the second Tuesday of each month. Visitors are welcome at 10.30am. Please visit the link below to view the digital magazine of Active Retirees: http://probus.realviewdigital.com/

Social Media for Home & Business - Short Introductory computer course for women - 20th Aug 2012, 10am - 1pm

The course is designed to improve and update many aspects of your computer abilities in a friendly and casual environment. Topics covered: The why and how of social media such as Facebook and Twitter, how to protect your privacy, managing your profile and data, and uploading images.

5 Mondays August 20 to September 17 2012, Cost: $180 Registrations are essential, Venue: **Mona Vale Library**. Contact: Robyn Woolley 9448 4429 or robyn.woolley@tafensw.edu.au for bookings

SYDNEY LONG THE SPIRIT OF THE LAND
OPEN 17 AUG – 11 NOV 2012 | CANBERRA ONLY

At the National Gallery of Australia an exhibit of works by Sydney LONG; Australia 1871 – London 1955. Palm Beach 1926; The wooden boathouse, originally used as a shed for sail making, sits out from the curve of the sandy shoreline in Long's composition, with a ramp leading down to shallow ripples at the water's edge. Long sketched the scene sitting on the sand looking towards the mouth of Pittwater as it opens out to the Tasman Sea, opposite West Head and Resolute Beach. The view encompasses the dense shrubbery of Barrenjoey Headland, which divides the opposing sides of the peninsula. Long did not invert his drawing before etching the plate, and consequently the image is in reverse.

A copy of Palm Beach was first exhibited in 1926 at the 'Sixth annual exhibition of the Australian Painter–Etchers' Society', Sydney, June–July (43). An artist's proof is held by the Art Gallery of New South Wales. It was previously dated 1927, and this has been revised on the basis of the work's first exhibition date. Emma Kindred

Barrenjoey Lighthouse Tours

Every Sunday, throughout the day, from 11am to 3pm. Tours take approx 30 mins. Phone 9472 9300 on the day to check tours are going ahead. Meeting place: Meet at the top (steep and hard 20-minute walk on uneven ground) at the keeper's cottage. Cost: $5 adults, $2 children.

North Fort Tours
Sunday, August 12, 2012, 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM

Enter through the main gate on North Fort Rd, from North Head Scenic Drive, Manly. Phone: 02 8969 2100. Take a 45 minute tour guided by former soldiers and learn about the history of Sydney's defences. See WWII tunnels, gun emplacements and magnificent harbour views. **The tours run every Sunday at 10:30am, 11:30am, 1:00pm and 2:00pm** and cost adult $7, child/ conc $5 and a family (2a, 3c) $20. Bookings on site on the day.

The Rotary Clubs of NSW 2012 Police Officer of the Year Awards
Friday 2 November 2012
Doltone House, Darling Island Wharf

Friday 2 November 2012 - Doltone House, Darling Island Wharf

Come and celebrate the 3rd annual Rotary Clubs of NSW Police Officer of the Year Awards to give state-wide community recognition for excellence in Police service to officers and unsworn employees throughout NSW. 2012 brings a very important anniversary for the NSW Police Force. Celebrating 150 years of policing in New South Wales, this year's Rotary NSW Police Awards promises to be the best ever!

You will be entertained by 2GB's Ray Hadley OAM, Australia's leading morning broadcaster, as the Master of Ceremonies for the evening ensuring a lively and entertaining program.

Enjoy beverages on arrival whilst admiring the fabulous views of the Sydney Harbour Bridge and city skyline. Offering delicious food and beverages coupled with an entertaining program, the Rotary Clubs of NSW 2012 Police Officer of the Year Awards is not to be missed!

Book your tickets now online: www.sydneyrotary.com/policeawards

Ticket price: $95.00 per person $2,000.00 per Corporate Table

PITTWATER COUNCIL 20 YEARS 1992-2012

Great Australian Marsupial Nightstalk

Want to really get close to native animals? Come along to Pittwater's Great Australian Marsupial Nightstalk on **7 September** to celebrate **Threatened Species Day**. This national series of spotlight walks is conducted throughout Australia to collect information for Perth Zoo about marsupial animal numbers and their distribution.

Pittwater's Nightstalk in Warriewood Wetlands is a unique opportunity to become more familiar with local marsupials and other nocturnal animals. The night stalk is suitable for children over 8 years of age.

When: **Friday 7 September, 6 - 8pm**. Where: Warriewood Wetlands - numbers are limited so book early! What to bring: torch, comfortable footwear, appropriate clothing for weather conditions. Bookings Essential! Online - www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/cecbookings . In person: Coastal Environment Centre, Lake Park Road, North Narrabeen. Phone: 1300 000 232 (Reception - Option 1)

Going Solar on Sustainable House Day

With energy prices rising, now is a great time to consider going solar. Solar energy saves money and reduces carbon emissions, but choosing the right option is vital! The workshop will focus on the two main solar options available to households - solar water heating and solar panels. It will explain the differences between them and the advantages and disadvantages of both. The prices of solar systems are becoming more competitive and government financial incentives are still available to help offset the installation cost.

The workshop will be followed by an optional tour of the sustainability features at the Coastal Environment Centre, the Council's multi-award winning environmental education centre. Features include a 5 kilowatt solar electricity system, solar hot water, energy efficient lighting retrofit and water tanks plumbed to flush toilets and water the veggie garden.

Presented by Greg Harris from Smart Water and Energy Solutions and Joanne Tulau from Pittwater Council.

When: **Sunday 9 September, 1 to 3pm.** Where: Coastal Environment Centre, Lake Park Road, North Narrabeen. Cost: Free! Bookings Essential! Online - www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/cecbookings. In person: Coastal Environment Centre, Lake Park Road, North Narrabeen. Phone: 1300 000 232 (Reception - Option 1)

CAPTURE A PIC OF YOUR POOCH!

Pittwater residents are invited to submit photos of their beloved pooch in the 2012 PetO Dog of the Year photo competition. The winner of the competition will be announced at the **Dog Day by the Bay** event on **Sunday 23 September**.

Event coordinator Rennae Projceski said that the winner of the competition will take out the title of Pittwater Dog of the Year as well as receiving a great prize. "We had an excellent response to the competition last year, with over 60 entries received," she said.

"We're hoping to get some equally cute and creative photos from our residents this year."

Entry to the competition is for Pittwater residents only, with the competition closing on 7 September 2012. All photos submitted will be available for viewing at the Dog Day by the Bay event. They will also be available at www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au.

Dog Day by the Bay, sponsored by PetO, runs from 10am and 3pm and includes demonstrations of canine skill and training, education talks, a jumping castle in the kids corner and competitions to enter such as the perennially popular 'Canine Fancy Dress Parade'.

Other highlights include TV vet Dr Katrina Warren and her 'Wonder Dogs' – a team of border collies who will be performing tricks along with a training demonstration. A variety of food & drink stalls will also be at the event. Proceeds raised will be donated to local branch of the Animal Welfare League. Entry and parking are free. For further information about Dog Day by the Bay and how to enter the competition visit www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/dogday

Palm Beach Market
23rd September 2012, 9am - 3pm
Governor Phillip Park

Come and browse the numerous stalls at the Palm Beach markets. You will find fashion, jewellery, shoes, food, furniture, hats and lots more. Open from 9am to 3pm on the 4th Sundays of Feb, March, April, May, September, October and the 2nd Sunday of December. Council's Local Markets Website page: HERE

A BIRD'S EYE VIEW

In a must for bird lovers, the Coastal Environment Centre is hosting an all-day **Birding Essentials Workshop on Sunday 21 October 2012.** The comprehensive workshop will include field trips and presentations from birding experts Dr Tony Saunders and Marita Macrae.

The workshop is suitable for all levels of birding enthusiasts including beginners and will cover topics such as birding skills; feather colours; nesting and camouflage as well as tips on creating bird habitat in an urban environment. The field trips will visit local birding hotspots on the northern beaches including the Warriewood Wetlands, Deep Creek Reserve and Jamieson Park on the foreshore of Narrabeen Lagoon.

The Council's Natural Environment & Education Manager Mark Beharrell said the field trips would show the diversity of local birdlife along with an understanding of the impacts of climate change. The cost for the all-day workshop, which includes morning and afternoon tea is $65 per person. A resource folder and guidebook is also included in the cost.

Participants are asked to bring their own picnic lunch, a sunhat, sunscreen, insect repellent, sturdy shoes and comfortable clothes. They should also bring a notepad and pen, water, a small backpack, towel, as well as a camera and binoculars if preferred.

Registration is at 7.30am at your chosen field trip site. Details will be given on booking. To book visit www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/cecbookings or call 1300 000 232 for further details.

Storytime for preschoolers
Held every Wednesday morning at Avalon Library 10:30am - 11am

Avalon Library Storytime is held every Wednesday morning from 10.30am at the Library. Hear stories, listen to music and enjoy craft activities. Sessions run for between 30 and 40 minutes. Suitable for preschoolers, 3 to 5 years of age.
Venue: 59A Old Barrenjoey Road, Avalon (above the Recreation Centre). Cost: Free however bookings are essential. Bookings: Phone: 9918 3013 or email avalonlibrary@ozemail.com.au

Storytime at Mona Vale Library
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday Mornings, 10- 10.45am

Mona Vale Library Storytime is held three mornings per week during school terms. Hear stories, sing songs and enjoy craft activities. Sessions run for approximately 45 minutes. Suitable for preschoolers, 3 to 5 years of age. Venue: Mona Vale Library, 1 Park St, Mona Vale. Cost: Free. No bookings required

18TH BIENNALE OF SYDNEY 27 JUNE – 16 SEPT 2012 BOS18.COM

Mission: Our mission is to engage our audience with bold and innovative contemporary art from around the world, challenge the status quo, promote cultural exchange and inspire audiences to experience art, themselves and their world in new and creative ways. Website

Highlights include specially designed Art Lounges and Learning Zones on Cockatoo Island and Pier 2/3, as well as a range of artists' talks, guided tours, special programs for kids and families and after-dark events. Teachers and schools will be catered for through dedicated publications and guided tours, comprehensive online resources, as well as special educator programs. All Events are FREE.

General Information: The Biennale of Sydney is Australia's largest and most exciting international visual arts event. **FACEBOOK.**

Dive into the Australian Museum's latest exhibition - Deep Oceans - from 16 June- 14 October, 2012 - 6 College St Sydney, NSW 2010 Australia

Enter a dark and dangerous world of giant sea creatures and bizarre fish as you journey below the Earth's surface to discover what lies beneath in Deep Oceans – a new joint exhibition from the Australian Museum and Questacon—The National Science and Technology Centre. Dive in and uncover the secrets of the world's largest habitat as the strange and rarely seen creatures of the deep are revealed.

The family-friendly exhibition features interactive exhibits, multimedia and real specimens collected by Australian Museum scientists.

Highlights include: • See amazing glow in the dark sea creatures from the depths of the abyss; • Discover the deep ocean sponges that contain cancer-fighting compounds; • Escape the jaws of an Anglerfish; • Hop aboard our replica of the Bathysphere, the first submersible to descend beyond light, and experience a dive to the depths; • Come face to face with a five metre model of a Giant Squid— the biggest invertebrate on earth; • Learn about new technology oceanographers are using to map out the 25 million seamounts (extinct undersea volcanoes) lying hidden below the waves; • Follow the special Octonauts themed trail for under 5s.

Deep Oceans opens at the Australian Museum on 16 June 2012 (until 14 October) and at Questacon in early December 2012. Online tickets: www.deepoceans.com.au/tickets/

Rotary Club of Pittwater Annual Spring Concert

SOLD OUT

Tickets for the Rotary Club of Pittwater's Annual Spring Concert have sold out !

POETRY & PLAYREADINGS AT MONA VALE

Mona Vale Library is seeking residents interested in poetry and plays to join a fortnightly session at the library. The free sessions are hosted by retired teacher Valda Jeffcoat and will run once a fortnight on **Wednesday mornings.** Next is **on 12th of September.**

As librarian Rebeccah Vick explains, the sessions offer people the chance to read plays and poems aloud under the direction of an experienced teacher. "The program is suitable for men and women of all ages; the only criteria is to have an interest in poetry and plays and be willing to read aloud," she said. "Participants will also have the opportunity to discuss afterwards the merit or otherwise of the pieces they are reading," Ms Vick added.

The classes run fortnightly from 11am to 12pm and are free-of-charge but bookings are essential; to book phone the library on 9970 1600. For more information call Rebeccah on 9970 1622. Mona Vale Library is located at 1 Park Street Mona Vale. For more information visit www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/library

Aboriginal Support Group Manly Warringah Pittwater asgmwp.net

Monday Sep 10 ASG–MWP Information Night - 7pm-9pm

An interesting night will be had, learning about the food the first Australians cooked. Listen to Aboriginal Ranger Les McLeod explain the ways it was done, taste some barbecued marinated ...

2012-2013 Brochure in File Below: (click on, 'save as')

PittwaterArtistsTrail2012-13.pdf
Size : 742.893 Kb
Type : pdf

Peninsula Historian
Newsletter of the Manly, Warringah & Pittwater Historical Society Inc.

Compiled by Tony Dawson, Editor.

HISTORY WEEK 2012
History Week will run from **8 – 16 September 2012**. History Week is an initiative of the History Council of NSW and this year's theme is Threads - They wore what?!

Events of various kinds will be held throughout the metropolitan area and in regional centres. Exhibitions of clothing and fashion will be on show at Dee Why Library (see What's On for details), at Gordon Library, and at Circular Quay's Customs House, while Camden Library is offering an online exhibition at www.library.camden.nsw.gov.au.

Even the Reserve Bank of Australia in Martin Place is holding an event called Dressed by Bill: Fashion on the Money, the notice for which shows 'Dollar Bill', the character created in the 1960s by former president of our Society, Monty Wedd, who died recently. A full program of events should be available at most libraries or can be found online at http://historycouncilnsw.org.au/history-week/

Manly, Warringah and PittwaterHistorical Society Inc.
Established 1924
President : Jim Boyce
0402 096 080
jimboyce37@gmail.com
Secretary (Membership): Tony Dawson
dragdawson@hotmail.com

MUDGEE WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL
SEPTEMBER 7-24, 2012
in association with Wolgan Valley RESORT & SPA • AUSTRALIA
CELLAR DOOR TASTINGS • LIVE MUSIC • REGIONAL PRODUCE • WINEMAKERS' DINNERS • FARMERS' MARKETS • ANTIQUES • ART • FASHION • STREET LIFE • TOURS • LUNCH AMONG THE VINES

SINGING FOR ADULTS (16+)
• Singing coaching, individuals / groups
• Voice production coaching, presentation / public speaking etc
• Audition and performance coaching
(((OUT LOUD!)))
Singing and Voice Coaching
Bringing your inner voice out
Contact Sam Shaw
0401 343 569
sammeeshaw@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/OutLoudCoaching
$30 individuals 30 mins
$45 individuals 45 mins
$15 p/p group (min. 4)
For Children's Sessions see over
Studio, (under Maria ReginaCatholic Church) Central Road Avalon
With 30 years experience as a professional singer, actor and vocal coach, Sam's lessons are FUN and RELAXED while focussing on technique. Exercises are designed to improve breath control, pitch, tone, articulation, resonance, rhythm, musicality and range, improving vocal quality, developing confidence and the individual personality.

Now and Then
Creating a window into the past

Now And Then is a historical photography project with a twist – an old photo is reframed within a new one to tell a story of past moments and how times have changed. Launched as an online project by ABC Open in October 2010, Now And Then invites people across Australia to share their stories about local people and places. This exhibition celebrates the legacy of both private and public photograph collections cared for in regional towns. The images demonstrate the rich tapestry of history, landscapes and cultures found across Australia. **Look out for our Now and Then photography competition, entries open 16 June.**

Museum of Sydney: **Saturday 16 June - Sunday 4 November 2012**- Free with museum entry; Corner Phillip and Bridge Streets, Sydney, NSW 2000, Contact: 02 9251 5988 ; Admission: Adult $10 l Child/Concession $5 | Family $20 | Members free | Hours: Open daily 9.30am — 5pm | Closed Good Friday and Christmas Day

THE BOPULATERS
(EX BILGOLA BOP BAND + AZTECS)

2012

30th Sept M/V Bowlo
4th Nov M/V Bowlo
9th Dec M/V Bowlo

Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment

Narrabeen Lagoon free activities – bushwalks, kayak trips & tours

Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment has organised a series of spectacular events to celebrate the wonders of this beautiful part of Sydney. **You must register in advance.** Bookings essential. Phone 0432 643 295 or 9451 3231 or email Conny.Harris@warringah.nsw.gov.au

Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment traverse – Sun Sept. 9

Councillor Conny Harris will lead this 4-hour bushwalk, starting at 10am from outside 27 Morgan Rd, Belrose and proceeding into Garigal National Park. It will conclude at Oxford Falls. You'll explore some of the area's best bush tracks, visit the Deep Creek waterfall and identify flora and fauna. Grade Medium with some inclines. Carpool back.

on North Head for celebration, ceremonies and healing.

Jess Relton will talk about Bush Tucker, homemade jams and cheese using native herbs for flavour. He will discuss the tours he does in the area of Cabbage Tree Bay at Manly and also how and why he started "After Dark Nature Tours" and information of the area itself.

Laurie Bimson will be cooking up marinated kangaroo, emu sausages and jonny cakes. Les McLeod, a Discovery Ranger will tell us more about how the Guringai People lived in the local area and "Guringai Aboriginal Tours" can show you the way the First People of Australia did the rock drawings.

A Night to Remember - how it was not so long ago

All Welcome this is a Free night including light supper, sponsored by ASG-MWP. (Donations welcome)

Wildflower Bushwalk

ELVINA BAY TRACK
SATURDAY 15 SEPTEMBER

The Western Shores Grameen Group invites to you join their resident experts on a stroll through the wildflowers on the western slopes of Ku-Ring-Gai Chase.

The all-inclusive cost for ferry ride, morning tea, walk and lunch is $50. Bookings are essential as numbers are limited. Please advise us of your interest by September 7. All proceeds will go to our first Grameen micro-banking project assisting a Kenyan woman start up a small business to support her family.
BOOKINGS: Judy James. T: 99991617. M: 0450 299 964. E: judy.james@hotmail.com

Elvina Bay Track
Wildflower Bush Walk
Saturday 15th September
Ferry ride,morning tea, 2hr walk & lunch - $50
Bookings by Sept 7th essential
Judy James - T:9999 1617
M: 0450 299 964
Email - judy.james@hotmail.com

2013 Pittwater & Coffs Harbour Regatta Notice of Race and Online Entry now available

The Start of the 2012 Pittwater to coffs race by Gavin Ward

The Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club, the organising authority for the 32nd edition of the Pittwater & Coffs Harbour Regatta, has announced the release of the Notice of Race and invites applications for entry. The five race regatta starts with the first ocean race of the New Year, the category 2, 226nm Pittwater to Coffs Harbour ocean race on January 2, 2013 followed by four category 4 races in Coffs Harbour over two consecutive days on January 5 & 6. The five races shall count for the overall regatta score with no discards and points awarded for race one, shall be doubled in value.

There will be five entry categories including IRC, PHS, ORCi, Cruising and Shorthanded. All boats can enter the Australian PHS Championships, a new element introduced to the regatta in 2012. The five race Championship will see boats challenging for a trophy to become the National champion; won for the first time by the Sydney 41 Coffs Harbour entrant, Paul d'Olier 'B52' in 2012. The Shorthanded Division was introduced in 2011 and was warmly welcomed by the shorthanded sailors who don't get many long offshore racing opportunities in Australia. The RPAYC invite and welcome shorthanded sailors to join in the regatta in 2013.

RPAYC Commodore Robert Curtis who will be competing once again in the regatta with his co-owned Murray 42 'Secret Men's Business #1' commented, "The Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club invites all past competitors and indeed newcomers to get a taste of some challenging and spectacular east coast racing in this warm water classic that's entering its 32nd year. Both the RPAYC and Coffs Harbour Yacht Club have put in a lot of hard work into setting up the regatta and we know it will be another great event for everybody. My crew and I are very much looking forward to the race and regatta this year and especially, the turning left aspect towards Coffs."

"With the introduction of the PHS Australian championships in 2012 we hope that such an event will become an established part of this great regatta and provide for some excellent competition in the PHS arena."

2012 Pittwater to Coffs race line honours and PHS Handicap winner Future Shock - photo by Gavin Ward

2012 Pittwater to Coffs race IRC handicap winner Exile, a DK46 - photo by Damian Devine

The 2012 Pittwater to Coffs race offered up a new line honours winner in Craig Ellis' Elliot 57 'Future Shock' in a time of 35hrs 53mins 9secs, the slowest in 16 years, and also picked up the PHS handicap crown in a tough, uphill battle that had the fleet beating into a Nor' Easterly all the way. MHYC's Rob Reynolds DK46 '*Exile*' won both the IRC and ORCi divisions for the race.

The former '*Shogun*', Rob Reynolds acquired her in 2009 and has configured her to achieve the highest performance IRC cruiser/racer. Reynolds has already declared his intention to defend his title and race in 2013.

The 2012 overall regatta winners were the RPAYC's Mark Griffiths Sydney 38 '*Old School*' in IRC, another Sydney 38 Mark Hinchey's '*Wizzard*' in ORCi representing NCYC and the Coffs Harbour based Sydney 41 Paul d'Olier's 'B52' in PHS.

Competitors will only be able to submit their entry online via the event website at www.pittwatertocoffs.com.au and the race will once again feature the Yellow Brick yacht tracking system to assist competitors, spectators, media and families onshore to follow the race with 15 minute updates. You can also follow the race via Twitter and Facebook with frequent updates.

Renowned as a fun, family event there will also be plenty of onshore activity for families organised by the receiving Club, Coffs Harbour Yacht Club. The RPAYC is predicting a fleet of around 60 yachts will make the start line on **2 January 2013 at 1pm**, for the race dubbed the warm water classic.

The Notice of Race for the 2013 Pittwater & Coffs Harbour Regatta can be downloaded from the event website www.pittwatertocoffs.com.au.

Applications for entry close Friday 7 December 2012.
For race enquiries please contact the RPAYC Sailing Office on (02) 9998 3771 or yachting@rpayc.com.au.

Mum Entrepreneurs Pty Ltd

MNBN September 2012 Event - Tuesday, September 4, 2012 from 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM at Innovation Space: Level 2, Unit 6, 10 Rodborough Road, Frenchs Forest, 2086

BLOGGING? AN ABSOLUTE MUST FOR ANY SMALL BUSINESS OWNER AND WE HAVE THE BEST! Corrie from Retro Mummy will be talking how to blog, how to captivate your audience every week and how she translates this to her social media. Book Tickets.

Lewin Wild ART
until 28 October

National Library of Australia - Canberra

If you're in Canberra during the next few months; Rare natural history artworks on show - An exhibition of extraordinary natural history paintings and drawings by Australia's first professional artist, John William Lewin (1770-1819) is on show at the National Library of Australia. www.nla.gov.au/

State Library of NSW

See 20 original aerosol works from ***Sidney Nolan's 1982 'Illuminations' series***, inspired by the radical 19th century French poet Arthur Rimbaud. Artworks selected from the Nolan Collection, managed by Canberra Museum and Gallery. On show until 28 October 2012. New exhibition: ***The Life of Patrick White*** Two giants of Australia's cultural landscape, Patrick White and Sidney Nolan, share the limelight in two new exhibitions The Life of Patrick White and Sidney Nolan: Illuminations, on show until 28 October 2012.

Flashback: 160 Years of Australian Fashion Photos

Discover the glamorous story of Australian fashion photography in this new display featuring 39 beautiful and iconic images from our collections. See stylish portraiture from the mid 19th century through to contemporary catwalk photography, as well as modelling images of June Dally Watkins, Maggie Tabberer and a young Nicole Kidman. On show until December 2012.

All At; State Library of NSW: Maquarie Street, Sydney. See www.sl.nsw.gov.au/ Image: Djamila, 1982, by Sidney Nolan

PITTWATER NATURAL HERITAGE ASSOCIATION INC.

Native Plant Identification workshop
September Sunday 23 - 9.30am to 3pm

What's that plant? Learn how to use a plant key, features of plants, recognise the main plant families. Katandra Bushland Sanctuary then field trip to Ku-ring-gai Chase NP on Chiltern Track. We'll walk along bush tracks identifying plants we see.

Meet: Katandra Bushland Sanctuary, Lane Cove Rd, Ingleside. Bring: drink, lunch, raincoat, walking shoes, camera. Cost: free Bookings: 9918 3368/ 0439 409 202 E: pnhainfo@gmail.com
Photo of *Crinum Pedunculatum* Swamp Lily by Marita Macrae

Rock the Boat 3 featuring Jimmy Barnes with Royal Caribbean Lines - Rhapsody of the Seas 19th of October, 2013

ROCK the BOAT 3
In 2013, join the biggest line up of Australian rock legends at sea
Featuring Jimmy Barnes,

If you are a fan of Aussie Rock or 50's & 60's Rock and Roll music – then ROCK THE BOAT 3 is the cruise for you... sailing from Sydney on 19 October 2013 on board the luxurious Rhapsody of the Seas visiting four exotic South Pacific Islands. Get up close and personal with performances by **Jimmy Barnes, Ian Moss, Joe Camilleri, Glen Shorrock, Frankie J Holden & Wilbur Wilde, Mental as Anything plus bands like the Chevrolets, Fender Benders, Swinging Sixties** and much much more!

Rock the Boat 3 will also have 50's & 60's Rock'n'Roll dancing lessons with experienced instructors as well as performances. Tell all your family and friends and organise a group! This is an EXCLUSIVE charter only available from your Cruiseco specialist - Travelworld Carindale. Cabins are filling fast... call Travelworld Carindale on 1300 13 14 95 or see more here.

Sand & Sea

Craft NSW Gallery, 11th - 23rd September
open seven days 9.30 am to 5.30 pm
104 George Street The Rocks

An Exhibition by Five Craft NSW Gallery, Artists that Exploring The Shapes and Textures of the Seashore: Margo Alexander – Glass, Pat Haywood – Ceramics, Helen Kerrison – Jewellery, Geraldine – Fabric, Helen McGavin-Smith - Knitting Pat Haywood Ceramics Pic

COMPUTER PALS AVALON FOR SENIORS

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

Newport Community Centre - New Computer Courses for Seniors Starting 17th July

Avalon Computer Pals for Seniors has a new program of computer courses for seniors over 55 to be held at the Newport Community Centre. There are courses for a range of subjects to assist beginners or those who need to keep up with the new technologies. These include the popular topics such as:
Beginners introduction to computers, Skype, iPads, Social media - Facebook and Twitter, Apple MAC, Digital Photography (extended 5 week course), Android Tablets, Smart phones, Genealogy, Scanning and printing.

iPads and tablets are todays big sellers and there are courses for beginners and also a two part course which will extend the users knowledge and working with these exciting devices. Apple MACs are becoming popular due to their ease of use and brilliant displays. If you are a PC user and are tempted by MAC then there is a course just for you. Beginners have a choice of courses with a two part course on computers for beginners and if you have a new iPad there is a beginner's course for you.

Photographers will enjoy the extensive five part Picassa Digital Photography course conducted by our resident expert Brian Hindes. Along with photography, one of the popular uses of a computer is finding your ancestors. Computers are good at genealogy and tracing your family tree can be exciting.
Learning new technologies in a small local group is productive and fun.

AVALON COMPUTER PALS NEWPORT SHORT COURSES 3rd TERM 2012 - Newport Community Centre 11-13 The Boulevarde, Newport. Bookings essential Phone 8064 3574 (for over 55's

TUESDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER
Room 1: ANDROID TABLETS – SLATES &E READERS (cost $10) -how to use and obtain apps
Room 2: INTRODUCTION TO IPads part 1 (cost for 3 weeks $30)
-Different models and sizes-what size should I buy?
-set up and using control buttons

TUESDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER
Room 1: BEGINNERS INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTERS (cost $10) -hardware and attachments, -software and uses, -introduction to emailing and Goggling)
Room 2: iPad –part 2 –understanding your iPad, -downloading apps and their useage, syncing with PC's and Apple Macs

TUESDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER
Room 1: SMART PHONES AND CHEAP PHONE CALLS (cost$10)
Room 2: iPads and IPods(music) – part 3
-integrating your computer phone iPad and iPod
-photos on iPads

U3A The University of the Third Age Sydney U3A

The University of the Third Age offers all seniors a variety of opportunities to use their knowledge, skills and experience and to acquire new ones in an informal, friendly atmosphere.

U3A Lectures on Wednesday Afternoons at Newport - Understanding Gemmology - 5th Sep 2012, 1pm - 3pm

University of the Third Age Open Lectures 1st Wednesday of the Month starting 1st August. Learn to appreciate precious gems with presenter Sheila Catterall OAM, President Gemmological Association of Australia (NSW Division).

All welcome - no need to book. Just come along hear interesting speakers and make new friends. Cost: $2 includes tea coffee and biscuits.Venue: Newport Community Centre, for more information contact Jan Malone 9918 9126 or Mavis Bickerton 9970 7161 Website: www.sydneyu3a.org

Every Wednesday from Aug to Nov U3A Northern Beaches: Contemporary Aboriginal Life & Culture in Northern Sydney
2-4pm approx 7 fortnightly sessions of Talk and Q&A – each presented by Aboriginal people who live and work on the Sydney's North Side and the Northern Beaches. Speakers include: Sue Pinckham, Julie Janson, Tony McEvoy, Adam Cryer, Julie Hendicott, Jessica Birk, Dave Watts, Uncle Bob Waterer and members of ASG-MWP
Where: Newport Community Centre
When: **Aug 8 and 22, Sep 12, Oct 10 and 24, Nov 14 and 28**
Contact: Please telephone Nancy on 8919 0243

Full Events for Northern Beaches listed on page 33 of July to December, 2012 Booklet Here

Bothams Beach Project

Pittwater Environmental Foundation

Bothams Beach on McCarrs Creek is a little beach backed by endangered Pittwater Spotted Gum bushland. It's the first beach beyond Holmeport Marina, disappearing at high tide. Pittwater Environmental Foundation has received two grants from Hawkesbury Nepean CMA for bushcare and engaging the community with the site. The site was invaded by the usual weeds with the ground layer absolutely invisible. Pittwater Council is overseeing the work.

Stage 1 involved contract bush regeneration resulting in piles of weed material which was burnt to encourage regeneration. As expected the result has been spectacular with many dormant pea and wattle seeds germinating. Spring will be lovely here!

Stage 2, currently underway, involves maintenance weeding and the installation of five nestboxes suitable for Sugar or Squirrel Gliders. A tiny Feathertail Glider was seen last year on the balcony of a neighbouring house, so we are hoping that the regenerating bush will also benefit this little creature. Loss of tree hollows is a problem for all gliders. They nest in family groups and are quick moving as a result of their high energy diet.

This Tweed Valley Wildlife Carers site suggests how to build suitable boxes: HERE
Attracting volunteers to help with bushcare here has not been easy. Weekend parking is difficult, so our future work days will be during the week. **We'd love you to join one (or more) of our bushcare days on Thursday 6 September, Tuesday 18 September from 8:30am – 11:30am. Come on any day that suits. Tools and cake provided.**

Contact Marita on 0439 409 202 or marita.macrae@gmail.com for how to get there. Pittwater Environmental Foundation enables people to make tax deductible donations for environmental projects in the Pittwater LGA. For more information visit: www.pittwaterenvironmentalfoundation.org.au
Note our Glider logo!

MWPHS - Manly Warringah Pittwater Historical Society - Established 1924

Newsletter edited by Tony Dawson

One of the oldest suburban historical societies in Australia, the Manly, Warringah & Pittwater Historical Society has kept the only continuous record of northern beaches achievements, local historical mementoes, documents and research. **Membership:** here

Pittwater Camera Club
More at: Profile and http://pittwatercameraclub.org/
All Meetings are 7.45 for 8pm - 10pm - BYRA Hall, 1842 Pittwater Road, Bayview

Monday September 3
Our competition this month is all about 'Architecture'. Our members are great travellers, so you will be sure to see some great images from the four corners of the world. **Free for visitors to the club.**

Monday September 17
How to capture the 'Perfect Panorama' is the subject of this months presentation. Well respected photographer and judge Luciano Vranich will let us into the secrets of how to capture the 'Perfect Panorama'. **Free for visitors to the club.**

Monday October 2
The President of the FCC, Alan Hitchell is this months guest judge and he will be drawing on his depth of knowledge when judging this months competition 'Panoramas'. **Free for visitors to the club.**

Monday October 22
Fire up your laptops and bring them along for this FREE 'Hands On' workshop which is all about 'Photoshop'. For those with limited or no skills this workshop is for you. And if you are more experienced there will be something here for you to learn as well. Practice along with the tutors. **Everyone welcome at the FREE workshop.**

Monday December 3
Tonight the very best images of the year will be on display for you to see. One lucky photographer will be awarded 'Photographer of the Year' and the best projected images, colour and mono prints of the year will also be determined by our well respected photographer and judge, Kerry Boytell. A light supper will be served following the judging. **Family, friends and visitors are all welcome.** Contact: secpcc@bigpond.com

SYDNEY NORTHERN BEACHES SYMPHONIC WIND ENSEMBLE

Music from the Movies - Sunday September 16 @ 3pm

The Sydney Northern Beaches Symphonic Wind Ensemble presents a celebration of movie music performed to a visual montage on the big screen:

•Disney at the Movies arranged by John Higgens, •V "Hobbits" from Symphony nr. 1 "The Lord of the Rings" by Johans de Meij, •Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom (Medley for Concert Band) by John Williams, arranged by Jack Bullock, •The Man from Snowy River (Main Title Theme) by Bruce Rowland,arranged by Jay Bocook, •Mission: Impossible Theme by Lalo Schifrin, arranged by Johnnie Vinson, •Night on Bald Mountain by Modeste Moussorgsky,arranged by William A Schaefer, •Pirates of the Caribbean by Klaus Badelt, arranged by Ted Ricketts

with special guests The Monatones Concert Band

Sunday September 16 3pm (Doors Open at 2.30pm) at Pittwater High School Auditorium, Mona St, Mona Vale. Adult $10, Concession $5, Family $20.

Humph Hall
85 Allambie Road
Allambie Heights
http://humphhall.org

PLEASE NOTE: The conditions that Humph Hall is currently operating under mean that sadly, we have to limit the audience to 50 so book early if you wish to attend.

7pm, Fri 7th Sept.: Nick Rheinberger, Sarah Humphreys
2pm, Sun 16th Sept: Hell, Fire, Rain (& a Nut) Stories, music & song (free)
7pm, Sat 13th Oct.: Gregory Page & Liz Frencham

Harvest
BECK
SIGUR RÓS
MONDO CANE
GRIZZLY BEAR
BEN FOLDS FIVE • BEIRUT • SANTIGOLD
CAKE • THE DANDY WARHOLS
THE BLACK ANGELS • CHROMATICS • OZOMATLI
LIARS • FUCK BUTTONS • THE WAR ON DRUGS
DARK DARK DARK ... and many more to be announced!
A DELICIOUS WORLD OF WONDERS & DELIGHTS
SUNDAY 11 NOVEMBER WERRIBEE PARK MELBOURNE
SATURDAY 17 NOVEMBER PARRAMATTA PARK SYDNEY
SUNDAY 18 NOVEMBER BOTANIC GARDENS BRISBANE
TICKETS ON SALE THURSDAY 28 JUNE 9AM

Chicken Town!

'For too long, the Northern side of the Harbour Bridge has been out of the live music game. Sure, if you're a rowdy youth with some cash to splash, North Sydney has for some time boasted some pretty pumping watering holes, but none of these has invited the raw, human touch to grace their bars, instead opting to chuck on a couple of DJs and letting nature take its course.

Does this mean that all the North has to offer is DJs? Does this mean that, while you can get your kicks, you can't be a part of something new and visceral? Does this mean that original, awesome artists have to escape their roots and flee to trendy, inner city hangouts, grow ironic moustaches and speak in faux-English accents about how the North Sydney scene is "soooo high school" with a cigarette hanging limply from the corner their mouths? In short, does this mean there is no room for some kick*ss live music on our side of the bridge?

Luckily, one group of young, frustrated music lovers have decided enough is enough and are dragging live music, kicking and screaming, back home.

Chicken Town band nights are here. Bringing together the very best that the Northern Beaches and North Shore have to offer, Chicken Town is our turn to show Sydney that live music is not extinct in North Sydney… It was just hibernating. Every second Saturday at Alberts, come and check out 3 of our 6 resident bands, who will be bringing you something a little bit new, a little bit different, and ENORMOUSLY fun. '

The bands so far are: Lange Theory, Jimmy L'estrange and the Moonlight Cowboys, Lovers Jump Creek, Bin Juice

And more will be added as the gigs go by.

Chicken Town: $5: NEXT September 8th
Alberts Hotel:
100 Mount St (Cnr Walker St),
North Sydney, NSW.
Phone: 02 9955 9097

THIRLMERE Flyer

Rail Transport Museum 50th Anniversary - Sunday, Sep 16, 2012

In September 1962, the NSW Rail Transport Museum was formed by forward-thinking rail enthusiasts desperate to save the State's most-beloved heritage trains from the scrapper's torch. This special Thirlmere Flyer™ tour will take you on a journey into the past, celebrating the history and achievements of the RTM ...and a journey into the future, to Thirlmere — the once unexpected home of the NSW Rail Transport Museum and now the centre of Rail Heritage in NSW.

Steam out of the city and settle back in 1930s style as double-headed steam locomotives 2705 and 3642 huff and puff through the suburbs — lift up the window by your seat and enjoy the sights, sounds and smells of steam. After a brief whistle-stop at Petersham — the initial home of the RTM — the Thirlmere Flyer continues its journey into the Southern Highlands foothills. **A great family day trip.**

Enjoy a gourmet BBQ lunch on the lawns of Trainworks. Be there for the official speeches and 50th Anniversary ceremony. The gourmet BBQ lunch includes one course of BBQ meat and salad, a soft drink and a serving of anniversary cake — at $15.00 per person. Please call our sales office on 02 9379 1110 to book.

Train Fares - Return Standard Class steam train travel - Entry into Trainworks, Thirlmere; attractive discounts apply for groups of 9 or more. Do you have a question? Read our travel FAQs here or call 02 9379 1110

Boarding at Sydney Central; Adults; $85.00, Seniors; $80.00, Youth (17 to 24 years); $65.00, Children (3 to 16 years); $40.00, Infants; Free (if not occupying a seat) **More here**

HOME FRONT
WARTIME SYDNEY 1939–45

New exhibition at the Museum of Sydney - Saturday 31 March - Sunday 9 September 2012

Free with museum entry - Corner Phillip and Bridge Streets, Sydney, NSW 2000- Admission: Adult $10 l Child/Concession $5 | Family $20 | Members free | - Hours: Open daily 9.30am — 5pm | Closed Good Friday and Christmas Day

World War II changed Sydney and its people forever. For most Sydneysiders life during the war was a strange combination of fear, excitement, opportunity, love and grief.

Home front explores the experiences of Sydneysiders living on the home front. Follow the wartime events that shaped, challenged and changed the lives of generations of Australians.

Convict Sydney - discover convict history at this World Heritage listed site- Hyde Park Barracks Museum | daily 9.30am-5pm |

A Day Out with Thomas the Tank Engine – October 6th and 7th, 2012

Day out with Thomas

Thomas the Tank Engine and his Friends regularly visit Trainworks. On our Day Out With Thomas events you can meet the life-size Thomas the Tank Engine, take a genuine steam train ride and meet Thomas' other friends like Toby the Rail Motor, Henry and The Fat Controller.

Activities usually also include: Mini train rides, Thomas movie station, Jumping castles, Inflatable slide, Face painting, Story telling, Photo opportunities with Thomas, Trainworks entry. A Day Out With Thomas at Trainworks is a great day out for every generation of the family and includes access to ALL of the Trainworks exhibits, use of the BBQ facility, and free parking at Thirlmere. 10 Barbour Road, Thirlmere NSW. For more detailed information and to book tickets: here

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Heather, Ben and Phil Champion in the garden with a push mower, Pine Range, Australian Capital Territory, ca. 1930 [picture]. Part of *De Salis, Farrer and Champion families photograph collection, Australian* Capital Territory and New South Wales [picture]. ca. 1880-1945. Courtesy National Library of Australia. nla.pic-vn4652783

English: A reel lawn mower, adapted from an illustration used in an advertisement in a 1888 issue of Garden and Forest. Source English: Garden and Forest, February 29, 1888 issue (available from the Library of Congress)

Crowe hand mower was 'The Rex' circa 1931-31. http://from.ph/350839 |title=2005/101/3 Photographic prints (3), black and white, lawnmowers, published by The Crowe Engineering Works Pty Ltd, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, 1942-1960 |author=Powerhouse Museum, Australia

The factory floor at Clyde's Granville NSW plant 1952 courtesy of Victorian Railways photos.

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Reel Mowers in Australia

Reel mowers in Australia were imported from England initially. Many local engineering shops made mowers but Clyde Engineering, Qualcast Australia, and Crowe Engineering were the three main engineering firms producing non-motorised lawn mowers in Australia, Crowe from 1922 and Clyde from 1934. The Powerhouse Museum cites two Sydney companies as the origin of Aussie made mowers;

The Clyde Lawn Mower

From its origins in 1855, and founded by English immigrant William Henry Hudson, Hudson and Sons, Redfern as the firm was known from the early 1860s, was the forerunner of the giant engineering firm Clyde Industries Limited, Granville, Sydney, and its predecessors The Clyde Engineering Company Limited, Hudson Brothers Limited. The firm moved from Redfern to Granville in 1881. Eventually, the Granville factory occupied about 22 acres (8.8 hectares) and there steam and diesel locomotives, tramcars, aircraft, cranes, automobiles, batteries, air-conditioning units, and lawn mowers (to name some of the industrial products) were designed and manufactured over a period of a hundred years.

The company was also a major training facility for trade apprentices in many areas of industry. In 1970, a large section of the firm's operation was moved to Bathurst, and by 1972, much of the diesel locomotive plant at Granville had ceased operation, with engineering manufacturing being dispersed to Clyde facilities at Bathurst and Eagle Farm, Queensland.

After the Great Depression of the early 1930s, industry was in general slow to resume full capacity. Clyde Engineering was no exception with production having fallen dramatically with staff capacity slowly regaining pre-Depression levels. A large engineering contract was required to boost Clyde's stalled productivity. The outstanding Australian civil engineering project of the time, and an important economic gain for many Australian firms, was the design and construction of the Sydney Harbour Bridge, for which Clyde Engineering supplied the steelwork for the northern approaches to the bridge.

By 1934, the economy had regained its lost economic activity, and consumer confidence was also on the rise, so it was in this context that Clyde Engineering made a decision to produce a non-motorised lawn mower, which was given the tradename 'The Clyde'. This was a comparatively minor project at Clyde and only occupied the firm for a short period. The number of lawn mowers produced is uncertain, however most likely the numbers were small, thus making 'The Clyde' a 'one-off' production line domestic mower, which is now largely 'lost'. The iron and steel for the product was supplied by the Broken Hill Proprietary Ltd (BHP) company.

Crowe Engineering Works Ltd.

The firm was established in 1910 by Ernest Charles (E.C.) Crowe, first promoting his firm as general and motor engineers manufacturing crank shafts, buffing and grinding machines, automotive spare parts, and cylinders. However in 1922, Crowe Engineering began the manufacture of what was to become their lasting contribution to product design and development, the lawn mower. The decision to branch into the lawn mower business was, interestingly, similar to that of Qualcast Australia (see above), namely, to compete with the lawn mower imports that were considered to be dominating the local market. So consuming was the lawn mower business, that the firm promoted themselves as Lawn Mower Manufacturers. For the next 44 years, Ernest and his son Victor Charles (V.C.) Crowe, ran a very successful business, which produced some of Australian's most well-known brands of non-motorised lawn mowers.

The firm had a factory 31-39 Holmsdale Street, Marrackville, Sydney, and remained there until operations ceased on Monday 28 March 1966, when the remaining plant was auctioned by F.R. Strange Pty Ltd., Sydney, owing to an earlier sale of the factory, the death of Ernest, and the retirement of Victor Crowe.

The most popular brand of Crowe hand mower was 'The Rex' and later the all metal 'Super Rex', the former being made from the early 1930s, economically supported by an Australia-wide regime of high tariff protection for general engineering production. A measure of the success of tariff protection was that by the late 1930s, Crowe was producing ten different models of non-motorised lawn mowers, with names such as 'Al-KRO, 'CLEAN CUT', 'BURNLEY', SENIOR', and 'SUPERB'. One interesting example was the model named 'SIRDAR', which Crowe made for the large Australian engineering trade, retail, and supply manufacturer; John Danks & Son Pty Ltd. Crowe was commissioned to make the the machine, which was then sold and recommended by John Danks and Son.

After the Second World War, Crowe Engineering started to produce petrol and electric mowers, but they were considered to be not as popular as their traditional line of mower. The firm was represented at the Marrackville Manufacturers' Exhibition, which was held in the Marrackville Town Hall during March and April 1935, and photographs of the exhibition indicate the large range of non-motorised lawn mowers being made by Crowe Engineering.

Retrieved from *Powerhouse Museum*. Read more: www.powerhousemuseum.com/collection/database/?irn=350569#ixzz24vakNUUq - Under Creative Commons License: Attribution Non-Commercial

Clyde also made the famed C3801 steam locomotive.

Some sources state that the idea of 'lawns' evolved with tending sheep and prior to the large mowers built for harvesting crops, sheep were installed on many a large property to clear or 'crop' turf. The first patent for a machine for mowing lawns was granted to Edwin Beard Budding (1795-1846) from Stroud, Gloucestershire, on August 31, 1830. Budding entered into an agreement with John Ferrabee, owner of Phoenix Foundry at Thrupp Mill, Stroud, to produce the mower.

This version was a series of blades arranged around a cylinder with a push handle patterned after a machine used for shearing the nap on velvet in a cloth factory. The reel or cylinder mower, as it is called in England, shears grass in the same way a pair of scissors works. The cutting blades are riveted or welded to a series of piders located on a central shaft. As the shaft turns the blades come in contact with the stationary bed knife to cut the blades of grass. This clean cut promotes healthier, thicker and more resilient lawn growth that is more resistant to disease, weeds and parasites.

In 1841 Alexander Shanks of Arbroath, Scotland, built a 27-inch pony-drawn reel lawn mower, and the following year registered a 42-inch horse-drawn mower. The human would have to walk alongside the horse, hence the expression for walking "to go by Shanks' Pony".

Due to their quietness and ability to reach areas inaccessible to larger petrol fuelled mowers they are becoming popular again. They are also collector's items and range in price from $25.00 for those that need a bit of TLC. Brand new versions may also be purchased for not much more but don't have that element of Australian heritage Clydes and Crowes may.

Further:

Old Lawnmower Club