



REDHEAD VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Edition No 12

October 2014

More Gas in Redhead

If you have been driving or walking around over the past few months, you would have noticed workers installing yellow pipes along some of our streets. They have been installing natural gas pipes to enlarge the area served by natural gas. The map below shows the new boundary of the gas system. "All properties within the heavy red outline now have natural gas available to them and residents are welcome to lodge a new connection request." Allie Manuel, from Jemena Gas Networks Ltd, said. "To arrange a new connection, residents can visit www.thenaturalchoice.com.au/connections and complete or download a residential application form. They can also contact Jemena's New Connections Team on (02) 9455 1690 or email them at newhomeconnections@jemena.com.au for further information." "Residents can also visit www.thenaturalchoice.com.au/connections/hot-deals/ to take a look at our latest natural gas appliance rebates to assist with the costs of converting from electricity to natural gas."

When asked about plans for future expansion, Ms Manuel advised: "Jemena doesn't have any immediate plans to expand the network in Redhead any further at this stage but I will be sure to update you if and when there are new plans in place." So if you live in either of the new subdivisions or on Redhead Bluff and would like a gas connection, you need to continue being very patient.



All houses inside the heavy line can be served by gas

Coastal Park Meeting

The Redhead Sustainable Neighbourhood Group's information meeting on 9 September 2014, focussed on the natural bushland areas around Redhead. Speakers included Kate Harrison, the National Parks Ranger responsible for the Awabakal Nature Reserve, Martin Fallding, senior planner from LMCC who discussed the land to our west and the Jewells Wetlands Park proposal, and Greg Wright, Chairman of the Belmont Wetlands State Park.

Coastal Park Meeting Cont.

It was explained that each of these areas includes internationally protected wetlands and habitat for migratory birds. As well, there is a proposal for a combined Coastal Wetlands Park with potential international significance which would include the Awabakal, Jewells Wetlands and Belmont Wetlands Park, with a total area of 1730 ha.



Beach and Belmont Wetlands Park from Redhead Bluff

Kate Harrison explained that the Awabakal nature reserve is being actively managed to reduce weed infestation and to minimise property damage from bushfires. "As most fires are started deliberately, one of the best safeguards against bushfires is community vigilance" she said. To protect native animals, the Awabakal is also a pet(cat, dog)-free zone.

Martin Fallding reported on progress towards the formation of the Jewells Wetland Park and Council's pilot program of bush conservation so that typical costs of conservation throughout the area can be understood.

Greg Wright talked about the huge task of changing the culture of park users, from "anything goes" when the park was effectively a mine site, to getting park users to appreciate the unique coastal environment that is the Belmont wetlands. Greg's group of volunteers have formalised one way 4WD access to and from the beach and have undertaken a challenging program of bush regeneration. They have recently developed walking trails linking the Fernleigh Track to the beach, and these will be open for summer. Greg said that the Park Trust was considering the need for some control on numbers of 4WDs, to avoid the park being "loved to death". The guiding principle is to offer a safe and family friendly experience for all park users. If you wish to help with the volunteer effort on the Belmont Wetlands Park, call 0428 101 667 for details.

This Paradise We Call Redhead

writes our local esteemed nature guru Nigel Williams

Flannel flowers are in bloom in the Awabakal Nature Reserve heralding the return migration of Humpback and Southern Right whales with calves to their Antarctic feeding grounds. This year's mass flowering of plants in the Awabakal has been spectacular after last year's fires and will finish in its major flush by the end of October in time for the summer heat.



Flannel Flowers in the Awabakal

Prepare yourselves and gardens for a very hot summer with the return of El Nino weather patterns for the next three years with some outstanding storms to follow. If you miss the lunar eclipse on 8th October don't panic, there will be another in a few months.

Magpie chicks and Tawny Frogmouth are leading the surge of new bird life in the neighbourhood and should do well this year with the early flush of insects and flowers to feed on. Ticks will proliferate with the next rain. So search your pets and each other hourly after bush walks and squash the little monsters or save them in a jar and when you have a bunch send them off to the people who make tick antivenene. They sometimes pay \$2 a tick!

Reptiles are out and about with goanna, bluetongue young and land mullet crunching any thing they can get their choppers around after a sleepy winter. Snakes (I know you love them so I will say it again) snakes are looking for warm spots to sun bake. Please leave them alone but if you are really not that happy living in their garden call me, Nigel on 49447639 and I'll save you having to use your spade for a purpose it was not intended. 94.132% of people who get bitten by snakes were trying to kill them at the time. Most of them are only trying to eat your other pests anyway. Laugh, love and live long in this paradise we call Redhead.

Dental Practice Opens in Redhead

Dr Andreas Schwander has opened Redhead's first ever dental practice at 48 Cowlshaw Street opposite the Bottle Shop. Called **Redhead Family Dental**, the practice offers a comprehensive range of high quality dental services for families in Redhead and nearby suburbs. Andreas and his family have lived in Redhead for some years, and really enjoy Redhead's village culture and relaxed lifestyle. He is to be congratulated for having the confidence and commitment to the area to set up a dental practice here.




Dr Andreas Schwander

Eastlakes U3A Annual Showcase

Existing and potential new members are invited to attend the annual showcase of Eastlakes U3A (University of the Third Age) at the Salvation Army Hall in Belmont on November 20. There you will have the opportunity to find out what courses Eastlakes U3A will be running in 2015, meet the people presenting the courses, and enrol in any courses that take your fancy.

This year Eastlakes U3A is running more than 70 courses, all aimed at keeping the over 50s fit in mind and body, and expects to offer a similar smorgasbord next year. Courses cover a wide range, including arts and crafts, music, philosophy, current affairs, several styles of dance, Tai-chi, Pilates, languages, digital photography, computer skills, a book club and so on. All are run by volunteers, and once you have paid your membership (currently only \$45 a year) you can enrol in as many courses as you like. Several are at or within easy reach of Redhead. By the way you can still enrol in courses for the final term this year which starts on 13 October 2014.

U3A is a world-wide wide movement aimed at keeping the over 50s active in mind and body. There are no exams (the word "university" is used in its original sense of a group of people gathering to share knowledge). It also functions as a social network, with lunch meetings, outings to visit museums, art galleries and places of historical interest and to attend stage shows. For more information go to eastlakes.u3anet.org.au



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Dr Andreas Schwander
Dr Kirsten Parratt

48 Cowlshaw Street – Redhead
www.redheaddental.com

4944 8829

Redhead Crime Statistics



Over the three months to the end of September there have been:

- Eight break, enter and stealing offences in Beach Rd, CollierSt, Elandale Cl, Geraldton Dr, Redhead Rd, Seasands Dr, Shortland St, and Steel St.
- Two stealing, in Beach Rd and Cowlshaw St.
- Six malicious damage/graffiti in Alison, Burns, Collier and Wood streets, plus Redhead Road.
- Seventeen stealing from motor vehicles, across Redhead
- No stolen vehicles in this period.

Stealing from motor vehicles has increased once again, even though the reporting period is over the winter months when there are fewer visitors to Redhead, so please remember to put valuables out of sight and lock your car.

Break, enter and steal has also increased, so please keep your things safe by locking your doors when you leave the house.

Walkway Progress Report

You will recall our last newsletter discussed the possible closure of the Ken and Audrey Owens Walkway due to a Council ban on use of motorised equipment by Landcare volunteers. Since then, a public meeting was held at the Bowling Club on 12 August 2014 where Council officers advised that the ban was because of new Workcover regulations and a possible way forward to lift the ban was being considered. In the meantime, assurances were given that Council maintenance staff would do work in response to maintenance requests and the walkway would definitely not be closed. To date, some maintenance work has been done by Council, but the issues around the ban on motorised equipment remain unresolved.

Redhead Library 16 Hutchison Street

Open Thurs. and Fri. 3.00-5.00pm
Sat. am 10.00-12.00. with U3A
Monday: Drawing Group 10.00-12.00 noon.
Digital Photography 1.30-3.30pm.
Book Club 7.30-9.30p.m. (1st Mon. of month)
Tuesday: Pot Luck Book Club 9.30-11.00 (2nd Tues)
Wed.: Porcelain Painting 10.00-2.30pm
Thurs: Writing for Pleasure 9.30-11.00am
Creative Writing 11.15-12.30pm
Friday: Meditation 10.00-11.00am
"Story Time" with Craft 10.30-11.30 am
(1st Friday of the month)
Personal Growth 1.00-2.30pm

Redhead Trivia

- Q. Where did the name Cowlshaw come from?
A. Mr T Cowlshaw was the proprietor of the Ocean Colliery known as Clink Pit
Q. Where is Redhead Lagoon? A. Dudley
Q. What is Freshwater Creek commonly called?
A. First Creek
Q. What is the correct name for Second Creek?
A. Jewells Swamp Creek
Q. Why was Third Creek made?
A. To prevent flooding of Kalaroo Road and stop raw sewage flowing onto Redhead Beach.
Q. What building houses the Redhead Community Pre School?
A. Redhead Memorial Hall



40 Hutchinson Street Redhead

We are committed to helping local families stay healthy.

All treatments are tailored to meet a patient's individual needs, whether a baby, or a great-grandparent. Everyone is looked after and cared for.

We also specialise in paediatrics, and can help with childhood issues such as: colic, irritability, immune system issues, behavioural/learning difficulties, etc.

Call Bianca to book an appointment and have your family checked

Phone 49448354

www.redheadchiropractic.com.au



REDHEAD LOCALS NEED TO GO NO FURTHER FOR HOMEWARES

Chrysalis Interiors and Homewares has been established by Redhead resident Nicole Marshall to satisfy a need in Redhead for beautiful items for the home. It is a one stop shop for gifts and home accessories.

Chrysalis Interiors also provides an interior design and consultancy service including furniture selection and sourcing.

The range is constantly changing and includes:

Home Decor	Fashion
Jewellery	Cushions, Throws, Rugs
Giftware	Furniture
Children's Wear	Candles, diffusers, soaps

Pop in and have a browse around anytime from 10am, Monday to Sunday.

1/18 Steel Street, Redhead

Contact: Nicole 0409 741636

nicole@chrysalisinteriors.com.au

Redhead Men's Shed Update

John McCall, Secretary of the Redhead Men's Shed is rightly proud of the group's achievements so far.

"There's been plenty of activity at the Redhead Men's Shed since our opening day on 2 February this year." He said. "Activities have centred around getting the shed facilities and equipment up and running safely, then using the equipment to make and repair things. Workstations and benches in the main workshop building are now fully operational and electrical upgrade works to the workshop and fan house buildings have been completed. We have created a new office /admin area and a "quiet area" in the upper level of the fan house building as well as a welding and metal workshop in the lower level, and there are now some additional gardens in the old tennis court area."

"So with all this capability, we have undertaken a number of projects such as refurbishing a rocking horse, making a lot of wooden toys for resettled families and their children, restored a dolls' house, built a number of bird and possum nesting boxes, refurbished the local pre-school outdoor furniture, and provided an access ramp for a local sponsor. Lately there have been a couple of wooden folding tables being built for possible sale."



Restored rocking horse

"Our Annual General Meeting was held on September 10th and all committee positions were filled. Coming up we have two fundraising BBQ's, one at Bunnings Belmont, scheduled for Sat.11th October and another at Whitebridge Pharmacy on 17 October in support of Mens Health Week."

The Redhead Men's Shed is open on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9am. Membership is currently open. The group can be contacted by going along to the shed on Mondays or Wednesdays, by phoning 0447 521 446, or Email to redheadms.secretary@gmail.com.

Volunteers

"We need to recognize and appreciate the contribution of volunteers" Gale Hays from the Redhead Library said. "for example, the Redhead Library Committee puts in about 2000 hours of effort each year to operate the library service, and that is just a small part of the total volunteer input in Redhead." "There are huge volunteer contributions by the Surf Lifesaving Club, the school P&C, the Landcare groups, the sporting clubs, the local churches, the girl guides, Meals on Wheels, U3A, the Biggest Morning Tea, the Men's Shed, Community Garden, Sustainable Neighbourhood Group, and many more. You could say that volunteers are the backbone of our community."

Why do people volunteer? Because they find that it is very satisfying doing something for others. With all those local groups above, there are lots of opportunities in Redhead to contribute in some way, and if you can make the time available, your effort would be rewarding and appreciated.

REDHEAD BOWLING CLUB
Burns St Redhead Phone 4942 6022



Bowls Calendar
Tues. Men's Gala 9:30 am
Wed. Ladies Day 9:30 am
Thurs. Ladies 9:30 am
Retired Bowlers 1:00 pm
Fri. Men's Gala 9:30 am
Sat. Mixed Gala 1:00 pm



Friday 6:30 pm	Mon 5:00 – 7:00 pm	Wednesday 12:30 pm	Thursday 7:00 pm
Sunday 12:00 pm	Thurs 7:00 pm		



\$3 Schooners
Happy Hours
Sunday Monday Tuesday

May Star Restaurant
Fabulous Asian Cuisine
\$7.50 Lunch Specials
Daily
Open for Lunch and
Dinner Tues to Sunday



Enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime experience, volunteer today!

Lake Macquarie City Council is seeking volunteers to assist with the 2014 **Lake Macquarie International Children's Games** this December. The Games provide a unique opportunity for you to show your passion and pride for Lake Macquarie City and to be part of this momentous occasion. To apply to become a volunteer, visit:

www.icg-lakemacquarie2014.com/volunteers

The 2014 Lake Macquarie International Children's Games will be held from 6-11 December.

Newsletter Contributions

This newsletter is published by the Redhead Sustainable Neighbourhood Group for the benefit of the Redhead Community. Anyone receiving the newsletter can contribute an article, comment on any issues or send a letter to the editor. Your contributions would be most welcome. Thanks to our contributors for this edition; Allie Manuel, Gale Hays, Alan Dick, John McCall, Lindsay Black, Nigel Williams and Sharmala Whitehead.

Electronic Copies: If you would like to receive your newsletter by email and in colour, and save some paper, let us know by sending us an email and include your home address or call the Secretary on 4944 8110.

Our email address is sustainableredhead@gmail.com

Website: sustainableredhead.wordpress.com

Thanks to our newsletter sponsors for this edition
Redhead Family Dental, Chrysalis Interiors, Redhead Family Chiropractic and Redhead Bowling Club.