



Redhead Village Newsletter

No 25, December 2018

Redhead Resident Nominated for Gardener of the Year

Redhead's John Le Messurier says a scouting badge he earned as a child was all the inspiration he needed to dedicate over 40 years to an ambitious project – establishing a native garden at the once-barren Glenrock Scout Camp.

John, 78, is in the running to become *Gardening Australia's* Gardener of the Year. He was selected as the NSW finalist of the television program's competition in recognition of the sanctuary he has created at Glenrock.

"Having gained the environment badge as a scout, and the gardener badge as a cub, I was motivated to do it," he said.

"But the result just spurs me on.

"It's a difficult site because it was an old mine site and had thick heavy clay, no top soil."

Years of voluntary labour, performed in his spare time, have blossomed into half-a-hectare of native garden and a swathe of regenerated bushland.

John has planted 26 individual garden plots on the campsite, all created with the intention of "producing nice colours, flowers and fruits".

He said his favourite was the "wild garden".

"That's a garden that has native raspberry plants. I also planted spiky native vines, a lot of rainforest plants and other tall trees and shrubs.

"The reason I like it is the fact that it protects the little birds. And the little birds that live in there all sing.

"When you get near the garden you hear a chorus of music."

He said he also loved the gardens for the memories of those of who have contributed to its growth over decades.

John's three daughters encouraged him to enter the *Gardening Australia* competition. But he is not looking for recognition, he said.

"I should be paying somebody for doing this work, because I am enjoying it," he said. "It's great for the body, the soul, and great for the environment."

The winner of the 2018 Gardener of the Year will be announced in the *Gardening Australia* Christmas Special on 21st **December 2018**. You can read all about the winner and their garden in the February issue of the ABC *Gardening Australia* magazine on sale **14th January 2019**

No matter the result the people of Redhead are so proud of John's tireless community spirit and love for the environment, and he is a winner in our eyes!

Meals on Wheels

Did you know Redhead comes under the umbrella of Belmont Meals on Wheels?

This means you or someone you know can have access to wholesome, affordable meals delivered straight to their door.

Meals on Wheels provides nutritious food services to frail, aged people, people with disabilities and their carers. They also provide regular social contact and a friendly check in to see that all is well.

This service allows people to continue living in their own homes, where they are happiest.

Meals are delivered on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, with extra meals to cover Tuesdays, Thursdays, weekends and public holidays available.

A collection service is also available from the kitchen at 656 Pacific Hwy, Belmont.

Who can refer someone for Meals on Wheels?

- Yourself
- Family
- Friends
- Doctor
- Hospital
- Community nurse
- Anyone

To find out more contact the Co-Ordinator on 4945 3899 or email at belmontmow@optusnet.com.au

Meals on Wheels Volunteers

You may not require the Meals on Wheels service but would like to help out? We have one Redhead resident volunteer who has worked for more than 20 years as a deliverer and just loves it! She is pleased to look after people and to make sure that they get the help they need and to have a chat along the way. To find out more contact the Co-Ordinator on 4945 3899 or email at belmontmow@optusnet.com.au

Redhead: A Village of Volunteers

In the last newsletter a call was put out for volunteers for a renewed Landcare group and a new Redhead-based Community Action team (CAT) with the SES.

Since the newsletter went out in October, 11 people have volunteered with Landcare and 2 have signed up with the SES CAT.

Thanks to these community-minded citizens Redhead will soon be a more beautiful, environmentally secure and safe place to live in.

Keeping Links to our Coal Mining History

The shape of our community is changing. Redhead is no longer the village with a coal mine and a beach, but has been “discovered” as a desirable place to live. Inevitably, real estate prices have increased, and buildings from the coal mining era are being knocked down and replaced with much larger homes or sometimes multiple homes. We are well on the way to looking like a modern, prosperous neighbourhood.

Apart from the Men’s Shed, there are just three heritage listed buildings tucked away in Redhead, and on current trends, soon they may be the only reminders of the village’s coal mining history. It seems like every month, another older building makes way for something new.

As a community we need to value our past and try to preserve some of these remaining old buildings. The process may be difficult and costly, but there would be a huge benefit for future generations.

Is there any interest in forming an historical group?

To express interest please see our ‘Contact Us’ section on the back page of this newsletter.

Ray Keys Remembered

Ray Keys died on 13 November 2018, he was farewelled at Newcastle Cathedral.

Ray lived at High Street Redhead for around 44 years. Many Redhead residents think that the Christmas season hasn’t commenced until the lights go up on the Redhead Christmas tree.

Since 1978 Ray Keys helped to put up the lights and made possible the High Street Christmas Eve parade. Many generations of children from Redhead and neighbouring areas have great memories of those parades. From what started as Santa simply walking up the street to distribute presents the High Street Christmas parade grew with Santa arriving in so many varied modes of transport. For 36 years Ray supplied, engineered and transformed them all.

Too many to list, they included: Horses large and small, a mini moke sleigh pulled by a reindeer, an E type Jag, a VW beetle car transformed to a Fred Flinstonemobile, and a T-model Ford serving as the cage for the animals from Madagascar. A quad bike became a base for a Sailing Ship, a large trailer served as Shrek’s Onion Coach, and the VW beetle was specially spray painted as the Wiggles vehicle (below).



Ray was instrumental in not only providing the vehicles, but also in helping to engineer in his garage the many ways the vehicles could be decorated and safely used.

Ray did this in his usual quiet and unassuming manner and welcomed many into his home and front yard for High Street Santa’s present giving. Ray will be sorely missed by many but especially by his neighbours in High Street and by the many Redhead children over the years who enjoyed his skills and generosity. Redhead has lost a good one.

It makes us think that we can all celebrate the strength of our neighbourhood and community at this time of the year, if we put a bit of effort in.... just like Ray did, with a smile, with kindness and for no reward.

Welcome to Hunter Valley Martial Arts Centre Redhead!

New owners Sensei Patrick and Sensei Samantha Wong, and Program Director Sempai Rebecca Hunt inform us that their full time centre HVMAC is located at 2/6 Seasands Drive, Redhead. They run a family and community-oriented centre with the view of creating a wonderful learning atmosphere and a welcoming dojo for people of all ages.

Patrick and Samantha say that people pursue martial arts for many different reasons. They may base their decision on their desire to get fit, improve flexibility, breathing or circulation. It may be to become stronger and faster, to develop their will power and ability to act decisively or just to find fun and excitement!

HVMAC’s children’s programmes strive to ensure that children not only learn the ABC’s of self-defence, but more importantly, the ABC’s of life; **Attitude, Behaviour & Character**. Values and beliefs are a central part of their programmes.

One satisfied client Sarah C. reports “*My children’s confidence, self-discipline and balance have benefited greatly from their study of martial arts. Redhead dojo have a wonderful sense of community, excellent teachers and young leaders who provide a sense of positive future and goals to strive for.*”

See HVMAC’s ad for the deals available.

Community acting on Graffiti

Please help as soon as you can and as often as you can to eliminate this problem. Phone the Graffiti Hotline on 1800707125 or Lake Macquarie City Council on 02 4921 0333 or email council@lakemac.nsw.gov.au.

Remember to retain the Customer Service Request Number so that you can follow up the request.

One of the areas of concern is the graffiti at our heritage Redhead Railway Station.

The beautiful new information signs, privacy screens, track surface and access gates at the Redhead Railway Station are valued by our community and need to be cherished and looked after. Residents who live close-by the cycle track and those who ride or walk the track on most days are often upset to see the amount of graffiti in this area.

The Council regularly acts to remove the damage that graffiti causes but constant vigilance, regular reporting and follow up by community members will help to solve the problem and ensure that the clean-up is to the required standard.

COOLTECH
AIR CONDITIONING PTY LTD

**Service
Installation
Design**

Maintenance

1800 CoolTech
www.cooltechAC.com.au



**Delicious Italian cuisine
featuring the best pizzas in
town!**

19 Beach Road, Redhead

4944 7721

**Join us for fresh pasta night
every Wednesday**

Mon-Tue: Closed

Wed-Thur-Fri: 3:30PM—9:30PM

Sat: 8:30AM—9:30PM

Sun: 8:00AM—9:00PM



YOUR LOCAL DENTIST

Comprehensive Family Care
Gap-free Consultation & Clean Packages
(conditions apply)
Bulk Billing for Medicare's Child Scheme
Cosmetic & Restorative Dentistry
Dental Implant Placement
Wisdom Tooth Surgery
Dentures and more...

DR ANDREAS SCHWANDER

48 Cowlshaw Street – Redhead
www.redheaddental.com

4944 8829

HUNTER VALLEY MARTIAL ARTS CENTRE
REDHEAD

We teach skills for life!

- Self-confidence
- Self-esteem
- Self-defence
- Self-discipline
- Attitude
- Focus

Mention this ad to receive a

VIP PASS

Total Value \$289

- Free intro lesson
- Free uniform
- 50% off Registration Fee
- 1 month free training (on enrolment)

We offer martial arts programs for the whole family!



Ages 3-4



Ages 5-6



Ages 6-9



Ages 9-14



Adults Chitokai
Karate



Matayoshi
Kobudo



FightFit



Brazilian
Jiu Jitsu

Unit 2/6 Seasands Drive, Redhead • Ph: 4942 6656
www.huntermartialarts.com.au

Surf Club Kiosk/Cafe Open Before Christmas

It has been a long time coming, but after a devastating 2016 fire, the much improved Beach Kiosk/Cafe will be open again before Christmas. Work on the new cafe is very close to completion and features inside seating as well as outside shade awnings. Utilities have also been brought up to standard with a new water and power supply.

Oral Histories Project

Redhead Sustainable Neighbourhood is working with Redhead resident, Dianne Taylor, to capture some of the oral history of Redhead, collecting memories and stories from the people of Redhead and particularly from those who worked at and/or had some relationship to the Lambton B (Durham) Colliery, Redhead.

We are inviting relevant people from Redhead to be interviewed about memories of their early life in Redhead. The interviews will be recorded, collated and provided to Lake Macquarie City Council Library as part of their historical records.

As a representative of <> and a longstanding resident of Redhead, we would like you to be one of the participants in these interviews.

We expect each interview to last for less than an hour and are proposing the following possible days for the interviews:

Wednesday, 2 January

Friday, 4 January

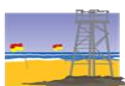
Tuesday, 8 January

Thursday, 10 January

Tuesday, 15 January

The venue is to be confirmed, but we will make sure there is disability access and we will provide refreshments. We will also provide transport to and from the interview if you require it.

Please contact us to let us know if you are willing to participate in an interview



**Redhead
Sustainable
Neighbourhood**

and if so, which times best suit you. (See "Contact Us" section below).

Redhead Developments

Redhead Gardens Retirement Village

The existing aged facility on Redhead Road is getting a 2-storey extension providing 24 new beds and a new 80-bed, 2-storey building will be constructed on the western side.

Kalaroo Road

A new Manufactured Home Estate consisting of 116 Dwelling Sites is being constructed on Lots 62 and 63 Kalaroo Road in stages, by Whirlpush Pty Ltd.

You can have a look at the development applications and environmental controls at the Lake Macquarie City Council website www.lakemac.com.au Track a Development Application.

Redhead SLSC Christmas Fundraising Markets

Friday 7th December

4Pm—8PM

Redhead Beach Carpark

Come and support your local Surf Life Saving Club and eat, drink, be merry and shop for beautiful and unique Christmas presents at this year's Christmas Markets!

Get involved with Redhead Sustainable Neighbourhood

Ever wondered what we do at Redhead Sustainable Neighbourhood?

Our vision is: "To celebrate and sustain our coastal village community, its assets, and the surrounding natural environment for all to enjoy"

There are lots of different ways you can volunteer and help your community, whether you've got a little bit of time to offer, or a lot.

If you'd like to be involved with our group in any way, we would love to hear from you! For more information check out our website or send us an email (see Contact Us section below).

Electronic Copies

If you would prefer to receive environmentally friendly full-colour copies of future newsletters please shoot us an email (see below), including your home address, or call our secretary on 4944 8110.

Newsletter Contributions

All contributions and comments are welcome from anyone receiving our Newsletter. If you have an article you'd like the Redhead Sustainable Neighbourhood to include in our next edition, or would like to learn more about us, please see our 'Contact Us' section.

Advertising

If you'd like to advertise in a future edition of the newsletter please get in touch via our 'Contact Us' section.

Thanks to our wonderful sponsors
CoolTech Airconditioning, Hunter Valley
Martial Arts Centre, 19 Beach Side and
Redhead Family Dental

Contact Us

sustainableredhead@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/RedheadSustainableNeighbourhood
sustainableredhead.wordpress.com