

REDHEAD VILLAGE NEWSLETTER JUNE 2013



Redhead Surf Club Building Improvements

Mike McKey, president of the Redhead Surf Club is very proud of the improvements to the surf club building currently taking shape. Growing use of the surf club facilities for weddings and other celebrations, plus the increasing popularity of the surf club cafe, and the need to cater for growing membership, particularly little nippers, has meant that some changes are needed to the building.

Improvements include a separate clubroom entrance and staircase which doubles as a fire stair, a new facade, a larger, new commercial kitchen to cater for the function area, and upgraded wastewater facilities. The work is now proceeding and is planned to be finished in a few months.

The club has been able to fund the building work through grants from NSW Dept of Sport and Recreation and from Community Building Partnership program. "We are really grateful for the work that Duncan MacDonald and local representatives have put in to secure these grants for the club" Mike said.

Plans also show a covered area over the front of the cafe, however this work is part of the next stage of improvements and won't be started just yet. Other future improvements that the club is working on include better emergency access to the beach south of the club house, providing more council waste bins for visitor use, and erection of a visual screen around the large waste skips next to the toilet block.



What the Surf Club will look like after all work is completed

Rocking Rock Quiz 25 May 2013

It was a big Saturday night at Redhead School Hall as over 100 people rocked to a great band "the Tradgics" and smiled and talked and met new people and everyone said they loved it and wanted to do it again next year!! So put Saturday 3 May 2014 in your diary and don't miss Rock Quiz next year.

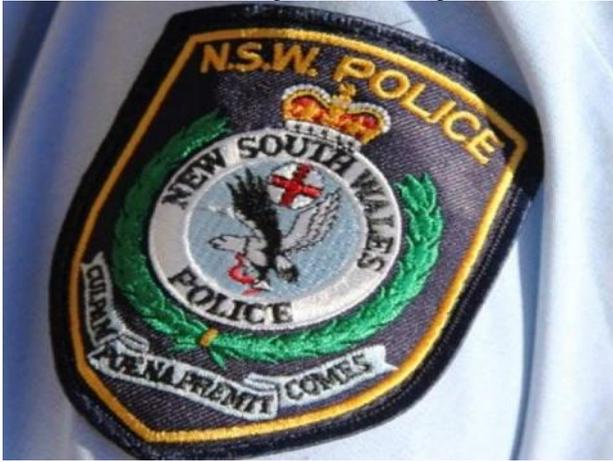
The dancers and quizzers who turned up for a great time were also generous and raised about \$1600 for the Redhead Public School P & C and for Sustainable Neighbourhood community projects.

A big thank you to our local community businesses listed on **page 4**. They are so ready to help and we are grateful for their contribution.



The winning RockQuiz team "Eagles Up the Bluff"

Make sure that you lock your car!



The police report for Redhead for the three months to the end of April 2013 shows 6 break and enters, 5 malicious damage, 10 stealing offences and 7 stolen vehicles. Vehicle theft has increased along with stealing from motor vehicles.

Senior Constable Sharmala Whitehead, our crime prevention officer has asked: "Could Redhead residents please remember to lock your cars and remove any valuables. Also be mindful of where you keep your car keys as there has been a trend in stealing keys during break and enter offences and then stealing vehicles".

It can be very easy to steal keys from an unlocked house while you are home. For more information on how to reduce the risk of your car being stolen, please have a look at the National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council website at www.carsafe.com.au

Attention Third Age Travellers

It was through a recent **Redhead Community Library** contribution to this newsletter that I first heard about the "University of the Third Age" or U3A. U3A is worth mentioning in the newsletter, because there is a growing number of retired and semi retired people in Redhead, (the 2011 census counted 700 people aged between 60 and 79 in Redhead) and U3A is for them.

In the four modern "ages of life", the third age, "Retirement", offers an opportunity for people to catch up on interests that they never had time for in the first two ages; "Childhood" and "Employment". U3A is there to help with that.

There is an Eastlakes branch of U3A based in Belmont. They currently run about 75 classes a year, a selection of which is held in our **Redhead Community Library**. The group offers people a range of low cost activities and educational opportunities in a friendly setting and people are free to take up any of the leisure and study activities offered. Course Leaders are volunteers who donate their time and expertise.

Things you can do: There is a range of courses in the program for 2013, including: various forms of basic art and sculpture; exercise; many styles of dancing from Belly dancing and Middle-eastern dancing, to Latino and Line dancing; Pilates and wellbeing; cards and other games; basic computer skills and the Internet; Current Affairs; Languages; Books and Movies; Photography; and more academic pursuits like psychology and philosophy.

There is also a walking group, an investment club, a luncheon club, and a theatre club. So the U3A caters for a wide range of interests. Courses at **Redhead Community Library** include Art, Book Club, Relationships, and Writing. For information about Eastlakes U3A courses, ask at the Library, google their website, or phone 4946 6389
The Editor.

Freshwater Creek Restoration

Over the last three months, several schools have been involved in planting events to help revegetate the stream bank with native plants. Schools involved are : St Mary's High School (Gateshead) – Year 10 Lakeside School , Charlestown Public School – Years 4, 5 and 6 and Lake Macquarie High School.

Body Shop workers from Charlestown did several hours of bitou weeding and St Marys High School are coming back on Tuesday 25 June with 20 students.

Special 'thank you' to Brian Hilton for all the hard work and organisation, and Chris Hilton, Leo Grezl and Nigel Williams for moving three truckloads of mulch to prepare the site.



Charlestown School Planting Day at Freshwater Creek

Freshwater Creek Water-watch

The Redhead Sustainable Neighbourhood (RSN) Group's Water-watch team are continuing testing of Freshwater Creek. The results show that the water quality in Freshwater Creek is generally OK, but low Dissolved Oxygen levels are still a bit of a concern. "We are looking forward to expanding our testing in the spring to include faecal coliforms," Neil Forrester said. "This will provide an accurate measure of how safe the water is for swimming".

Training of volunteers in sampling and testing has been arranged for 9 am at Webb Park on 18 June 2013. If you are interested in helping with testing, you are most welcome to come along.

Climate Change Forum. Allan Jones gets us thinking.

Colin Mondy who heads up the Redhead Sustainable Living project, organised for 12 Redhead residents to attend the Climate Change Forum along with about 100 people, held on Friday 31 May at Warners Bay.

The forum was organised by Newcastle University and Energy Futurist, Allan Jones, was the main presenter. He used to head up London's climate change agency and gave us some great insights as to how Sydney, and the Hunter Region can head for a Sustainable Low Carbon Future.

"The City of Sydney has a plan to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 70% and all future energy and water needs will be met by renewable resources by 2030." Colin said. " They are on track now and when it occurs, it will be an amazing achievement. We can also aim for similar future goals in Redhead." Check the Sydney website at www.sydney2030.com.au

National Tree Day this year is on 1 August.
Don't miss the opportunity to plant a tree.

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For more details, go to the AniPET website www.anipet.com.au or the AniPET Facebook page or phone our friendly AniPET team
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Doggie Doo Dealt With?

The "Doggie Doo" article in the last newsletter drew a record response. Many people wrote about their problems with doggie doo on the beach and the access tracks, and offered suggestions about how to deal with it. The SNG committee then put together a basic action plan. It includes:

Education: The Council's signposting of the dog exercise area needs to be improved. Signs with maps showing exactly where dogs can be exercised would help. Existing signs are faded and unclear to many dog owners.

Convenience: Council bins could be located closer to the exit from tracks and the beach but fill up quickly in summer. Council needs to get the bin collections right.

Regulation: We need to encourage more regular ranger visits to Redhead beach.

In April, Committee members met with the LMCC Chief ranger, Stephen Barry, who offered to support these measures and in the last few weeks, new signs have been erected along the Ken and Audrey Owens walkway. Hopefully the Council bins will be relocated and there will be more ranger activity to support the other parts of our plan. Let's then see whether these measures have a beneficial effect.



New sign on the Ken and Audrey Owens Walkway

Damaged Dunes

Redhead CARE Landcare are involved with dune protection work between Freshwater Creek and Second Creek. LMCC received a grant from Dune Care NSW for the work.

Dunes in this area were up to 10 metres high before the sandmining operation in the 60's and 70's. Extensive restoration work was done in the 80's, to stabilise the area and this allowed some re-forming of dunes, but fencing fell into disrepair and with vehicles and walkers making tracks through the area, further restoration work was needed.

Access from Webb Park to the beach has been formalised with new walkway fencing and matting that limits pedestrian access to the dune area. Also fencing and signs near Second Creek will discourage vehicle access.



New Pedestrian access to the beach

Damaged Dunes Cont: This will allow newly planted vegetation to be established. "We are planning to plant more new vegetation on these dunes on National Tree Day in August," Grahame Cook, one of our local volunteers from Redhead CARE Landcare, said.



Fence at Second Creek to discourage vehicle access

Redhead Sustainable Neighbourhood Group Dinner Meeting 2 July 2013

**6:30pm to 8:30pm at Redhead Bowling Club.
\$15 per person set menu. All welcome**

This invitation is to both Redhead Sustainable Neighbourhood Group members and non members to enjoy dinner at the bowling club and briefly catch up on what the Group has been doing.

After dinner there will be a presentation entitled "Following Charles Sturt" by Lindsay Black and Charlie Unwin, who last year retraced Charles Sturt's 1830 expedition down the Murrumbidgee and Murray rivers.

This meeting is open to anyone in Redhead to attend, but numbers are limited. Please RSVP with numbers by Thursday 27 June to 4944 8110 or email to sustainableredhead@gmail.com.

Newsletter Contributions

This newsletter is published by the Redhead Sustainable Neighbourhood Group for the benefit of the Redhead Community. There are four editions per year. 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. See the email address below.

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

Thanks to our newsletter sponsors for this edition; **Truevision, Anipet, Redhead Self Storage, and Robinson Property**

Thanks also to the people and local businesses who contributed prizes for Rock Quiz. They are:

■ Anglican Church of Australia Shop Redhead; ■ Cardiff Greyhound Social Club Ltd; ■ Anipet and Redhead Supplies; ■ BMR Auto Repairs and Service; ■ Greg and Vicki Krempin; ■ Kuta Lines Pty Ltd; ■ Lautan Hair Design Unisex Salon; ■ Oz Tukka; ■ Neil Bowd; ■ Poppys Garden Centre; ■ Redhead Cellars; ■ Redhead Deli Mart; ■ Redhead Pharmacy; ■ Redhead Seafood and Takeaway; ■ Redhead Service Station; ■ Redheads Hair Art; ■ Redheads Quality Bake; ■ Seaview Malayan Kitchen; ■ Third Creek Cafe

Redhead SNG needs members and

volunteers. If you would like to volunteer for any of our projects, and/or join the Redhead SNG. Phone the Secretary on 4944 8110.

Website: www.sustainableredhead.wordpress.com