



Redhead Community Newsletter May 2012

Restoration Work Has Started on the Lambton Colliery Buildings

The Lambton Colliery buildings are part of the mining heritage of Redhead and the City of Lake Macquarie. The buildings are some of the oldest in Lake Macquarie. They were built in the 1890's and were part of the Lambton Colliery until the mine closed in 1991. Action by the 'Friends of Lambton Colliery' group, whose members included the late Ken Owens, Ed Tonks, Mollie Haynes, Colin Mondy and Ernie Johnson resulted in some of the buildings being saved and integrated into the Grange residential development. However the buildings' condition has deteriorated and they are in need of urgent restoration and maintenance.

The Friends of Lambton Colliery as part of Redhead Sustainable Action Plan have continued to press for the buildings to be repaired. Through their efforts, and with the cooperation and intensive work of Lake Macquarie City Council (LMCC), grant funding from government and heritage sources has been secured, with selected grants being matched by LMCC.

Close to \$400K is now available and work has started on Stage 1 of the restoration. Council's Property Group is looking at options for reuse of the building once work has been completed. A restaurant, gallery or similar development has been suggested.

"This has been a long term project and we are ecstatic that the mine buildings will be available again for the people of Redhead and Lake Macquarie to appreciate in terms of their unique architecture and historical linkages." Ed Tonks, a local historian said.



Photo: Ernie Johnson and Colin Mondy outside Winder House where restoration work has started.

Redhead Community Garden Project

**Would you like to be involved in building a
Community Garden in Redhead?**

Redhead Public School has generously donated land within its grounds for the creation of a community garden. The 300 sq m site is located at the end of Beach Rd between the fence and the kindergarten rooms.

The project is being overseen by the **P&C Association's LearnScapes Committee** and will be created in collaboration with the **Redhead Community of Gardens Project** which works with Permaculture Hunter to run "**PermaBlitzes**" on private properties in Redhead.

The community garden will be built over the next 6 to 12 months using money raised in fundraising events and from grants from organisations including LMCC. Regular working bees will be held on the last Saturday of every month from 12 til 4 unless otherwise advised. To find out more, go to: sustainablethead.wordpress.com

Everyone's Welcome!

Recording Redhead's History

The township of Redhead used to be a small mining community. Many of the town facilities, including the library, tennis club, surf club and the bowling club were all supported and developed by the men who worked at the Lambton Colliery.

Dianne Taylor is an experienced interviewer, oral historian and long term Redhead resident. She's collecting and preserving early memories of the township of Redhead and its people to have them recognized as a historical record of an early Australian mining community. The stories will be included in the LMCC's Oral History Project.

"Because time is getting away very fast, a lot of people who could tell stories about old Redhead are now gone, so we need to record the memories of those who are still with us before those memories and stories are lost." Dianne said.

Do you know of someone with an "Old Redhead" story to tell? If you do, please contact Dianne on 4942 6469. Each person interviewed will receive two copies for their own family's record.

Sustainable Living:

Trip to CSIRO Energy Centre

In February 2012 a group of 19 people organised by the Redhead SN Sustainable Living Project Team attended a conducted tour of the CSIRO Energy Centre at Mayfield West. The excursion was very interesting and informative and was enjoyed by all.

They were impressed with the technology being developed to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and with the simple but effective use of passive solar techniques and management to reduce energy use.

Most came away with the feeling that a lot is being done to put us on track for a more sustainable future. A visit to Club Cafe on the way home was a delightful bonus which they decided was well worth repeating.



Tour participants at CSIRO

anipet



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Bitou Bush Removal

Have you noticed a lot of dead bitou bush along the beach south of Third Creek? LMCC has been doing dune weed removal as part of their **Coastline-Dune Ecosystem Restoration Project**.

The Belmont Wetlands State Park (BWSP) covers 4.5 kms of the beach south of Redhead plus the adjacent wetland areas. Once the bitou bush is gone, the BWSP Trust and Council are hoping to regenerate the park area.

So far over 20 hectares of regeneration of sand dunes, coastal forest and wetlands areas throughout the Park has been undertaken by volunteers under the Friends of Belmont Wetlands banner, and including assistance from Landcare, HCRCA and Conservation Volunteers Australia.

The BWSP Trust continues to seek community support and volunteers in managing this large 550 ha site. They meet at the Kalaroo Road entrance to the park every Tuesday at 9 am. Please contact The Park Secretary on 0428 101 667 for further details.



Village Community Website

This website is administered by the Redhead Sustainable Neighbourhood and its aim is to keep the local community connected and informed.

Does anyone visit the website? Yes, since it was established in 2011, there have been 3,327 views. The highest number on a single day was 66 in June 2011 and so far this month, the highest has been 52. Since February 2012 we've had 689 visitors from Australia, but who would have thought that we'd have visitors from the US, Germany, Brazil and Canada!

Find us at sustainablethead.wordpress.com. If you feel like getting more involved in the local community or you'd like to contact us either email sustainablethead@gmail.com or select the "Contact Us" link and blog us.

We look forward to 'growing' the website into a facility that links us together and keeps us informed about what's happening in our local community.

Save These Dates!

Next Coastal Corridor Planting on 8 July 2012

Native plants have been ordered and will be available to complete the planned coastal corridor area. Come and help with the planting.

Christmas at Redhead on 24th November 2012

Planning has started for this year's event. We invite you to join us for a fun afternoon and evening. For those wanting a Hand-made market stall, the Christmas at Redhead Facebook will be re-activated in July.

Redhead's Music Trivia Night

What a fun-raising night this was! It was organised by the Redhead Public P&C and the local Sustainable Neighbourhood group. Colin Mondy organised the band, "The Tragics" which was made up of regional teachers who are also musicians. They were just brilliant!

There was nothing serious about this evening, it was just fun, fun and more fun! Plans are in place to do it all again next year, so keep an eye out for it because we know tickets will sell fast!

The evening was held in the Redhead Public's School Hall and our thanks go to Colin and to Tracey and the Redhead Public P&C. So start organising a table of 8-10 folk for next year!!

Q: What was the Beatles most successful album?

truevision® studio gallery



Lisa Pollard

Exhibition until 30th June

Mon-Fri 10am-2pm
Saturday 10am-1pm

111 Cowlshaw St Redhead
phone: (02) 4017 1127
mail@truevision.com.au

Redhead Village Newsletter

This newsletter is published by the Redhead Sustainable Neighbourhood Coordinating Group.

We rely on sponsorship to cover printing costs and thank our current sponsors: Anipet Petshop, Truevision Studio Gallery, Anna's Music School and Kuta Lines. If you are interested in being a sponsor/advertiser for future newsletters, please email us at sustainablethead@gmail.com

If you would like to let others know about a local event that's coming up or you have some Redhead news for the newsletter or the website, contact us. Either send an email or post a comment on the website.

Also if you would like to add the details about your business or community group to the **Redhead Directory**, please email or post a comment on the website.

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AGES: 5 years old to adults

PRIVATE LESSONS: -Singing, Guitar, Bass, Drums, Piano

GROUP LESSONS: -Singing and Guitar Group Lessons

FUN STUFF: -Concert nights on our own stage, progress recordings for students, stage performance workshops, public events, mid-year concert, end of year outdoor family fun day and concert.



Music for the whole family

Become a Member of the Redhead Sustainable Neighbourhood

Join a group with common interests in our Redhead community

Join a "grass roots" group that has been able to attract funds for improvements to our neighbourhood

An opportunity to assist and/or support any of the ten current sustainable neighbourhood projects outlined in the Redhead Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan (see the website for details)

Meetings are held at 5:30 pm on the second Tuesday of each month at the bowling club. There is an open invitation to come along.

The Redhead Sustainable Neighbourhood is part of the Lake Macquarie Sustainable Neighbourhood Alliance. Benefits to members include access to capacity building seminars to expand your knowledge and skills. As well, Sustainable Neighbourhood Alliance insurance may be obtained for volunteers

Join now for the 2012/13 year. Membership is \$10.00 per year and applies from 1 July to 30 June. Membership forms are available on the website.

Completed forms can be: emailed to our email address;
posted to The Secretary, Redhead Sustainable Neighbourhood, 10 High Street Redhead NSW; or
handed to either the Chairman, Paul Hubbard, Secretary Colin Mondy or Treasurer, Tim Woicsek

Fees can be: sent electronically with your name to our bank account BSB 062 806 Ac No 1033 8497;
posted with your completed form; or handed to one of the office bearers above.

Cheques need to be made out to "Redhead Sustainable Neighbourhood Coordinating Group".

Thankyou.. For taking the time to read this newsletter. We hope you enjoyed it.