



Residents Group

# Bay news

## CONTENTS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

FIRE BRIGADE

SURF CLUB

OUR FIRE BRIGADE

MAYOR WITH A MISSION

WATERWAYS

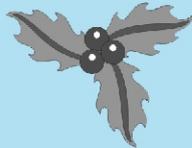
EUROPEAN PIANIST

BRIEFS

“WORKING FOR A POSITIVE LIFESTYLE AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT IN AND AROUND HARDYS BAY”

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

#### SEASON'S GREETINGS



In this issue of Bay News, among other features, we report on the activities of the Rural Fire Service, the progress of the new surf club building and provide some interesting interviews. It has been another busy year with some major development issues addressed including our foreshore plan. We continue to monitor these matters in the Bay. Our various sub-committees continue to work on a broad range of matters, of long and short-term consequence, which are relevant to our community's welfare, and we always look forward to your comments. We commend our website as an ideal communication source. We warmly welcome our many new members and wish to remind everybody that annual memberships are now due. The Hardys Bay Residents Group extends cordial Season's Greetings to all and wishes everybody a safe and happy holiday period.

Sincere good wishes,  
Adrian Williams  
President

## INCREASED FIRE ACTIVITY TIPPED FOR SUMMER MONTHS

As a consequence of above-average temperatures forecast for this summer, Killcare Wagstaffe Rural Fire Brigade captain Steve Farrell has warned of the serious threats posed by the possibility of increased bushfire activity.

“Unlike last year, when we were fortunate in experiencing relatively mild conditions due to particular weather patterns that existed at the time, early indications strongly suggest it could well be a different situation this summer,” he cautioned.

“With this in mind, our brigade members are continuing to train and maintain our operational readiness strategy and are greatly encouraged by a marked increase in recruitments.”

Since the commencement of the spring season, the KWRFB responded to a variety of calls including storm damage, illegal backyard burns, bushfires and, more recently, several suspicious outbreaks in our local area.

One was particularly severe in early November when a large fire burnt through a 55-hectare section of the Hawke Head Peninsula, commencing at about 2pm in bushland and heading towards Tallow Beach, threatening to jump the Box Head on a number of occasions.

Deputy Group Officer, Steve Biddulph, praised the efforts of the National Parks and the Rural Fire Brigade, supported by three helicopters, which water-bombed the fire and assisted in preventing it from heading towards properties above Lobster Beach. The three-day action reportedly had the potential to burn much of the Killcare Peninsula and threaten properties backing onto the beach.

In situations such as this, the brigade asks residents or visitors to report any signs of suspicious activity by phoning Crime Stoppers at 1800 333 000.



*Ready for action ... brigade officers Greg Linnert and Warwick Teasdale*

## OUR SURF CLUB

Finishing touches to a vibrant new Killcare Surf Clubhouse are expected to be in place by the end of February, according to club sources.

Much of the credit for its design has been attributed to the Killcare architect and club member, Karen Burke, who closely collaborated with council officers in ensuring that the plan met the necessary requirements.

Demolition of the old headquarters proceeded throughout April and May of 2008. It represented the end of an era, the demise of a warm and friendly clubhouse which had served its members and visitors so well during a period which embraced the 2-stage openings in 1971 and 1981.

In its place, ground floor features of the new construction will embrace a first aid room, a vastly upgraded gear and storage area, kiosk, cool room, showers and toilets, and a training room, while the upper level will house a restaurant, bar area, kitchen, members' meeting room, an auditorium catering for up to 200 people, and a generous 4.5-metre deck.

A special lift will provide access for the disabled to all clubhouse precincts and 100,000-litre rainwater storage tanks for various purposes will be installed by Gosford Council.

The club had earlier unsuccessfully applied for a solar power grant; consequently, wiring is being installed with a view to accommodating the system at a future date.

According to club officials, public interest in the new clubhouse complex, with its broader range of facilities available, has increased to a stage where a new social membership category has been foreshadowed.



## MAYOR WITH A MISSION

“Ask not what your community can do for you, ask what you can do for your community”.

Chris Holstein may have borrowed a momentous highlight of oratory from

what has been hailed as one of the great speeches that changed the world but there can be no doubting the determination of the Gosford mayor, elected

last September 13, to accept a challenge during what has been freely referred to as a period of



*The Mayor with Adrian Williams,  
HBRG president*

unprecedented public scrutiny.

In a frank, open discussion with members of the Hardys Bay Residents Group, Councillor Holstein light-heartedly revived John F. Kennedy's message of hope from the U.S. President's inaugural address of January 20, 1961, in emphasising his own commitment to the community.

The mayor stressed that he would endeavour to oversee a more transparent council system which returned to providing a more robust focus on accountability, improving the lines of communication with the broader community, and returning to a basic service infrastructure.

In acknowledging the fact that the challenges to be faced during the forthcoming year will be considerably greater than in his previous term as mayor, he said he looked forward to working in close liaison with the other councillors to confront the issues.

Born in Newcastle, Chris Holstein moved to Gosford with his family when he was eight years old. He attended Gosford Primary School, then Gosford High School from 1971 to 1976.

He graduated from a Woolworths Management Program in 1979 as the number one trainee. He managed his first supermarket at the tender age of 21 and attained Senior Management status at 28.

He continued to oversee NSW supermarkets throughout the State before returning to Gosford to establish his own business in 1986.

Standing for Council as an Independent in 1991, he was elected Deputy Mayor in September, 1996, and subsequently served a 5-year stint as Mayor from 1997 to 2001 before his recent re-election.

Married to Mary, they have five children, Gabrielle, Emily, Jacob, Bridgette and Caleb.



**Clarke's Amcal Pharmacy**  
Lance Clarke B.Pharm., M.P.S.  
Shop 4 Peninsula Plaza,  
Woy Woy NSW 2256  
Telephone (02) 4342 2256



**2 Killcare Road  
Killcare 2257**

Open 7 days  
Contact the team: 02 4360 1107

**www.rhkillcare.com.au**

*We'll look after you*

## MOSQUITOES

In its December 2006 issue, Bay News advised that the saltmarsh mosquito issue, and the need for funding a management program, had been referred to the local authorities who, in turn, passed the contentious matter on to State Government with the recommendation that the appropriate action be taken.

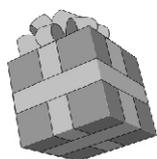
With the mosquito season again upon us, the National Parks and Wildlife Service has refused to issue a licence for a vital Bti spray program designed to control the debilitating menace, despite overwhelming evidence that the spray is a safe, cost-effective and ecologically-friendly solution.

Subsequent to a grant eventually provided to the Australian Catholic University by the State Government for the important research, a recent communication addressed to the Senior Lecturer in Environmental Science at the ACU by the Hardys Bay Residents Group, on behalf of a concerned community, asked, in part: "would you kindly update us on the status of the research to be conducted utilising the grant provided to examine the importance of threatened saltmarsh communities? Our understanding is the research is required urgently to allow NSW estuary managers to seek a balance between controlling nuisance biting of people by mosquito species and conserving important bat habitats."

The response from the ACU contained the explanation that "a PHD student is responsible for the dietary aspects of this project and will be developing techniques using DNA markers and radioisotope signatures to determine the proportion of each bat species' diet that is made up by the saltmarsh mosquito. His research will continue from now until mid-2011. Once it has been determined, recommendations will be made to the NSW Environmental Trust about Bti spraying".

From the ACU's reply, it could be concluded that the investigation involves the impact on the micro bat only, which can be perceived as one which leaves the door open for the NPWS to concern itself with the effect on other species, wildlife, etc. Another concern in this long-running saga is the university's projected time frame for the deliberation which varies alarmingly from the "urgently requested research" inclusion in the grant's provisions.

The Hardys Bay Residents Group will continue to closely monitor this issue.



## WATERWAYS

Despite continued calls for the vital dredging of the narrow Brisbane Water channel, a casting vote by Gosford council mayor Chris Holstein recently

decided against further action being taken at that stage.

It was claimed by council that a Waterways report on the channel was not considered dangerous and no deterioration had occurred between the months of March and September. It was also argued that the State Government should again be advised that the dredging issue was not seen as council's financial responsibility.

However, the council provided a resolution that "council continue to monitor, with Waterways, the channel width and depth. Any changes to conditions to be immediately advised to council".

At the Hardys Bay Residents Group's November meeting, Stephen Black, the Regional Manager of the Hawkesbury-Broken Bay Team, NSW Marine, outlined a number of salient features involved with the channel but his recreational division's powers are restricted and under the supervision of the State Government.

However, he advised that Waterways have placed a number of additional marker buoys and are about to embark on yet another survey of the channel to determine any movement.

On a separate issue, the maritime body will also investigate the number of unused and non-navigable derelict vessels which are absent from their moorings in Hardys Bay and Pretty Beach for more than 28 days.



### FOODWORKS

*Liberty Service Station - Empire Bay  
Supermarket - Fast Food - Quality Fuel  
Carwash - Vacuum - Trailer Hire  
276 Empire Bay Drive (Wards Hill Rd)  
Tel: 4369 8760*

### Woy Woy Veterinary Hospital

152 Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy  
Ph 4341 8146

**R.G.H. Mettal, B.A., B.V.Sc., M.R.C.V.S**  
Veterinary Surgeon & Physician

Cat Boarding Accommodation  
Mon - Fri 9am - 11am 4.30pm - 6pm Sat 9am - 12noon



Continental deli Fresh bread baked daily breakfastlunchdinner

Wed-Sun  
(during summer 7 days)

**Now open for Pizza at night!**  
Pop in for a gander

Shop 3 Killcare road, Killcare

4360 1888

## ACCLAIMED EUROPEAN CONCERT PIANIST ASSISTS LOCAL ARTISTS

Zaga Peshich, regarded as one of Europe's finest concert pianists, has brought her remarkable talents to the Central Coast and is currently providing aspiring local artists with tuition and encouragement.



Born in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, she studied piano and composition at Belgrade University and won numerous prizes at local and state levels for piano and chamber music. During this period, she was awarded the prestigious national "Mokranjac" prize for excellence in the academic and music fields. Her exceptional versatility also enabled her to act as an accompaniment in other departments including the strings, vocal, wind and brass sections.

After graduating from university with a Bachelor of Music degree with High Distinction, she taught at the Belgrade High School of Music where she achieved outstanding results for her students in competitions, radio and television recordings and the various aspects of concert work.

She performed as a soloist and member of her own piano trio and Youth Music Organisation in music halls throughout Yugoslavia and featured regularly on national television, gaining an enviable reputation as an international concert pianist of the highest order.

Since arriving in Australia, she has performed at various eisteddfods throughout the country and given piano recitals for the Sydney Dance Company, the Australian Ballet and the Sydney Opera House.

Now domiciled at Daleys Point, Zaga currently provides music tuition embracing piano, keyboards, music theory and musicianship. She conducts Master Classes for advanced pupils and hosts an annual concert at the Hardys Bay Community Church Hall, the most recent having been held on Saturday, December 13th.

For personal piano tuition, Zaga Peshich can be contacted at 43443 222

## BRIEFS

**PRETTY BEACH BATHS DREDGING ....** The Pretty Beach tidal baths are expected to be dredged and re-netted before Christmas, according to Kim Radford, Gosford City Council's Co-ordinator for Parks, Playgrounds and Foreshores/Open Space and Leisure Services.

"The project was initially delayed as we were having trouble finding a location to stockpile the sand and silt we remove," she explained, in advising Adrian Williams, the Hardys Bay Residents Group's president, of the council's decision which is bound to be welcomed by the local community.

"If we had to dispose of it at the tip, it would have tripled the costs. Our estimated figure for the project is just under \$30,000.

"The majority of the cost involves the new netting and its installation".

### **OPERATION DOGGY BAG ... RAINER TO THE RESCUE ...**

Highly respected Woy Woy veterinary surgeon, Dr. Rainer Mettal, has responded to the Hardys Bay Residents Group's call for assistance in maintaining the bio-degradable dispensers and bags for the collection of dog waste along our foreshores extending from the Yum Yum Tree location to the Pretty Beach boat ramp by providing a financial boost for the operation.

Rainer's generous donation will enable the Group's volunteers to continue to closely monitor this vital community service by servicing the bags on a regular basis and preserving the cleanliness of the delightful area.

The HBRG is indebted to Rainer Mettal for his display of community spirit and generosity with this wonderful support.

For all veterinary matters, which includes cat boarding accommodation, Rainer can be contacted at the Woy Woy Veterinary Hospital on 4341 8146

### **WAGSTAFFE GENERAL STORE**

*Old Style country service - 7 days a week*

Post Office & Newsagent, Commonwealth Bank Agent  
Take away Hot Foods, Cappuccino, Soft Drinks, Ice Creams, Groceries,  
Vegetables, Bait, Tackle, Fishing Licence, Gas refills, Mobile Recharge.

**46 - 48 Wagstaffe Avenue, Wagstaffe**

**Tel/Fax 02 4360 1018**

Close to ferry wharf to Palm Beach

### **Ray White Real Estate**

**60 Araluen Drive**

**KILLCARE 2257**

**Tel: 4360 2222**

**Fax: 4360 1100**

**Email: [killcare.nsw@raywhite.com](mailto:killcare.nsw@raywhite.com)**

**Kerry Ryan**

**0402 858 935**

**Wendy Best**

**0438 602 222**

President.....Adrian Williams  
Vice President.....Bill Egan  
Secretary/Treasurer.....Kay Feltham  
Bay News Editor.....Allan Wilson  
Executive.. Graeme Smith..Terry Feltham.. Fiona Atkinson ..  
Alan Bennett.. Brent Walker.. Robert Hill  
Email: [secretary@hardysbay.com](mailto:secretary@hardysbay.com)