

THE Rosedale ASSOCIATION

Newsletter Issue 95 September 2004

NEW CARPARK WILL REDUCE RUNOFF INTO CREEK

The big news is that the carpark Stage I has been completed! The community was approached by Council at the end of the 1980s and, after much consultation, agreed plans were drawn up in 1993. In 2001, we pushed to be allowed to landscape the areas which would not be disrupted by construction. This was done jointly by a Green Corps youth training team and the community. Stage I construction was begun in June this year and was still under way when the planting began. We were fortunate to get the services of a Green Corps team once again to do the landscaping this time. A large number of plants, carried over because of the drought, were available and necessary woodchip mulch was donated. The organisation necessary to dovetail construction and landscaping together has been going on for most of this year and culminated over late June and all of July which was full on to say the least. By Friday 30 it was all done except for some minor works.

The new carpark eliminates the sediment laden runoff into the creek that has been slowly poisoning it for many years. Runoff now is almost sediment free and is absorbed into the sand under the mulch or, in larger storms, under the casuarinas. Only in the most severe storms will runoff go into the creek. This has been the prime

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ROSEDALE ASSOCIATION—MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON 10 APRIL 2004

APOLOGIES

E Stutchbury, B Voce, P&R Isaacson, J&S Newton, J Zubrzycki, M Buchanan, J Lemann, T&B Wilcox, R&S Davey, E Knowlman, A&B Stark, J&J Nicholas, M Tischler, D Levensmith, A de Jong, S Pauley.

PRESENTATION OF THE BEACH SPIRIT AWARD

Andrew Constance MP, the local state member for Bega, presented the Beach Spirit Award trophy to the president on behalf of Keep Australia Beautiful NSW. Rosedale won this award at the local, state and national levels. Andrew noted that the award was for turning challenges into opportunities and said that a challenge for government was balancing coastal development issues with protecting/enhancing the local environment.

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DUNE STABILISATION—A NATURALIST'S VIEWPOINT

David Mackenzie



This is a plea to the community, but first let me give you some background.

Rosedalians of longer standing recall earlier days when the beach was backed by a high, unvegetated dune down which they happily slid as children and some have wondered why their children and grandchildren can no longer do so. With present day awareness of environmental matters this practice is widely known to be detrimental to beach stability and responsible parents minimise or stop their children doing it. I can remember happy times on the Gold Coast when we kids in the 50s slid down huge sand escarpments at Surfers Paradise and Main Beach, we were scolded even then for the damage it did. Look at the plight of the Gold Coast beaches today.

At Rosedale, the seaward side of the dune was bare in a 1964 aerial photo. It suffered further in the damaging storms of the mid-1970s after which it was planted with grasses. The shrubby vegetation that followed and which is

dominant over most of the fenced area is volunteer growth, that is, it grew of its own accord. This is standard rehabilitation practice in drifting dunes and varies only slightly around the world.

If there was a bare dune in the mid 70s and earlier, why was this so? It had to be because something was preventing the growth of a stabilizing vegetation. The most likely factors were one or both of: (i) sand was being moved from offshore onto the beach by the tide and blown up and over the dune by the prevailing winds thus smothering new vegetation; and (ii) human or human-induced factors removed the new vegetation as fast as it sprang up. If (i) was true, there would still be sand being delivered to the beach today, blown inland and the dune would still be growing, maybe progressing toward the carpark. This clearly is not so and the evidence points to a human influence.

Prior to subdivision the beach was not closed to cattle which are reported to have grazed the dune vegetation, but their impact is difficult to gauge. However rabbits were present in sufficient numbers to have made a significant impact on dune vegetation. Direct human disturbance was possibly not significant because beach usage must have been much lower in the 50s through to the end of the 70s than it is today. Cattle and rabbits have gone, humans are mostly herded by the fence and the dune vegetation into reasonably well defined tracks and dune vegetation is generally increasing. Beach stability is consequently increasing and so is the size of any storm from seaward that the beach can absorb without great damage. This seems to be a more natural direction and has to be good for all.

BEACH SURVEY. A colleague and I have done two surveys of beach heights at Rosedale, one in 2002 and the other in 2004. We estimate that, although noticeable quantities of sand have come and gone along the beach front in this time, there has been a net sand accumulation of about 12,000 cubic metres over the area we surveyed (from the cabins to the rocks at the creek mouth and from about mean tide height to the fence around the main dune). This represents an even layer of sand across the area of about 375 mm depth, about a foot for us oldies who remember sliding down dunes. It sounds impressive but it is small biccies in comparison to beach sand movements on other eastern Australian beaches. This is probably not new sand but sand which was on the dunes some time earlier and was taken close offshore during a storm, stored for a while and slowly returned in small lots where the wind redistributed it to where you see it today.

Have a look at the beach next time you are there and note how isolated clumps of sea rocket and other plants closer to the sea, even washed up dead kelp, have trapped sand in mounds. Larger plants drop leaves etc. around them and this too catches sand and other plants in time grow in their shelter. This is the process of beach enhancement, the trapping of sand which builds into new dunes. Look again and see how two new dunes are starting to appear between the beach and the fence; these by my observations have been growing slowly for about 4–5 years. Look soon because any day a half decent storm could take them out, washing the sand offshore and the process could start all over again: the same sand goes back and forth over the decades, build up, wash away. The larger these dunes grow the less likely they will wash away in the short term. This is beach stability on

the increase and the plantings of the last two seasons are designed to enhance this process.

In going between the dune crossings and the beach it is seemingly harmless and of no great consequence to walk diagonally across the dunes.

Unfortunately it is not harmless; each footstep damages some plant or its shallow roots waiting to capture the smallest rainfall that may only penetrate the sand a few millimeters. Multiply this by the number of people who do not walk straight ahead to the beach and the cumulative damage, perhaps still too small to be noticeable, is significant and sets back plant growth. There are often up to five well established bare sand tracks leading out from a dune crossing when only one is necessary and would be better for beach health. Where these cross the small (incipient) dune at the beach front a notch is worn through which the wind often blows sand inland unless there is vegetation to block it, there are examples everywhere at Rosedale when you know what to look for and they are examples of beach instability.

I have been at Rosedale only since 1996 and I knew not those bare dune days of yore that bear happy memories for so many. I rely mostly on anecdotal evidence and try to verify it best I can. My historical comment is based on such material and I am happy to be corrected if I err, please let me know if you recall differently, and please let me know if you can verify what I report.

PLEA. The dune plantings of the last two seasons have been a cause for concern to some in our community. This surprised us for we had made no secret of the beach stabilisation plans and the reasons behind them, they have been aired in past newsletters and at the last AGM and we had heard nothing by way

of objection until during the current planting. We had direct discussions with a couple of concerned people who came forward and after some discussion and a slight alteration to the planting patterns we arrived at a mutually agreeable conclusion.

However, we have been made aware of anonymous threats to remove plants and their guards from the dunes as a reaction to the plantings there. We find it hard to believe that responsible adults would condone such behaviour which can only be described as vandalism and we choose to think that these rumours are without foundation and that the Rosedale Beach Spirit, for which we have become known at a national level, is not a concept but a reality.

Contact us. If indeed you have concerns about dune plantings, or any other Landcare matter, please come forward, make us aware of it and let us discuss it with you. If there are many objections then we need to go back to the community to address the topic anew and if it is the community's wish to stop planting and stabilising the dunes, then so be it. I have tried to outline the long-term consequences of this direction. If on the other hand you are in favour of the dune stabilising project, please also contact one of us to tell us so specifically, it is difficult operating in a vacuum and hearing only whispers. Landcare contacts are on page 7.



CLIFFS IN BAD SHAPE— FUNDING NEEDED

As reported in the last newsletter, our cliffs are in bad shape: the weed situation on these difficult-to-access locations is getting out of hand. This was emphasised recently in a report prepared by the contractors who did the most recent lot of weeding earlier this year, 'Overall the area appears to be worse, more extensive work has to be carried out on a regular basis to control the weeds and allow the natives to dominate,' they said.

The contractors listed a number of weeds, with which many of you are familiar, that we have been battling them with some success on the flatter areas but are all thriving to varying degrees on cliffs. The most serious infestations are from mile-a-minute, moth vine and turkey rhubarb. To a lesser degree, wandering jew, asparagus, bridal veil creeper, cotoneaster, cassia, inkweed and cobbler's peg are all well established and slowly increasing their spread on the cliffs. Bitou bush is the one weed over which we seem to be winning: hearteningly it is getting hard to find a sample to show people! However, the contractors report that weeding carried out over the years has definitely prevented a far worse situation.

We are not prepared to take working bees onto the cliffs: it is too risky. So we rely on contractors and for the last five years we have had grant monies to pay for them. However, the grant money has run out and we have had the last of contracting for now. The future for the cliffs does not look good unless we can find suitable funding sources or a benefactor. Are there any ideas out there?

PRESIDENT'S PIECE

Ian Holmes

The drought continues and Rosedale is not immune. For the last year we have had rain every month, but well below past averages and water restrictions have been re-imposed. Currently we are at level 2, which translates as one hand held hose every second day between the hours of 6–9 am and 4–7 pm.

This is the edition that prints the minutes of the AGM. Most items arising have been dealt with, and we reprint the text of our letter to council about 49 Yowani Road and the text of their reply. I have mentioned place-based planning in past newsletters. This promises to provide a mechanism for selected communities to register with Council how they hope their community will look in the future. This would require ongoing consultation between Council and the community, something that the AGM resolution sought. For this reason we mentioned it to Council and I read their reply to say that we are one of the communities who will be subject to such planning, if and when it is introduced.

The other matters arising (restricting vehicle access at the end of Yowani

Road, pedestrian passage along lower Yowani Road and removal of the log at the end of Knowlman Road) will now be processed as part of Council's capital works program.

With the sale of the cabins, we continue to see a (diminishing) number of gawkers who pull into the carpark and ask for directions. Little do they know that the Knoll and an adjacent block have since been sold to the same buyers. You will have received an invitation to farewell Judith and Gordon, who have now moved to Canberra. This event was very well attended and made for a good send off to them both..

Thank you Sam Boardman for another interesting article with photos.

It will come as no surprise to you that we have re-entered the Clean Beach Challenge for 2004. As a winner last year, and the site for the southern region launch for this year, how could it be otherwise? Judging will be in September and we need rain to bring on the good work that has been done by your Landcare group, Green Corps

and Council. In one month of hard work (July), the carpark stage I work has been done, the old gravelled parking area has been landscaped and planted, and the dune area planted up as David described in the last newsletter and at the AGM. With rain we will have a lot to show the judges—and all of it testimony to the value of Landcare planning and working with others for the good of the community. One of the Clean Beach prizes is for cooperation between councils and communities for the good of the beach. That is the area I want to home in on this year, because the cooperation shown over the carpark was a model and I think that you will all be pleased with the outcome. We have 25 tarred parking places and the Council employees at all levels were then at pains to help our landscape work. We thank them.

Elsewhere in this newsletter we publish a letter of concern over plans—discussed for years now, but awaiting funding—to deal with erosion on the bush track to Pebbly Beach and provide a decent set of stairs. I request feedback on this. So much of the work that we have done—stairs on the track down from Cooks Crescent to Banksia Flat, the dune crossing that the track leads to and the dune plantings of the last two years—are our attempts at dealing with people pressures. Our beach is for people and more are using it. It used to be that I could walk its length in the late afternoon and for months see no one else. Not any more. By this one measure there are more people, and this trend will continue. Indeed when planned local development starts it will accelerate. Do let your committee members know what you think. I hope we are not wasting our time.



NEW CARPARK WILL REDUCE RUNOFF INTO CREEK

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consideration behind the finer points of the final design and Council has worked hard to ensure this outcome within their rather severe budgetary strictures.

Council staff at a number of levels have been nothing less than cooperative with us in bringing about the carpark you see there today and we take this opportunity to express our gratitude for their efforts in listening and responding where they had the latitude to do so. We also acknowledge with thanks the several generous contributions of woodchip mulch from Skyline Tree Services.

Our community has the responsibility for the carpark landscaping and its future maintenance, not Council.

The carpark is the principal gateway to our beaches, it will be seen by a steadily increasing number of visitors so it is incumbent on us to keep it looking good. Community spirit won us the 2004 Beach Spirit Award and will make the carpark landscaping a future community showpiece.



WORKING BEES AND WEEDS

There have been four working bees since last report, March, the Easter Weedathon, May and July. Three of these concentrated on weeding and in July a 9-cubic metre load of mulch was spread over the last of the carpark planting. By way of contrast with previous well attended working bees, it is notable that attendance at the May and July activities were respectively three (two were Landcare committee) and five (three were Landcare committee, one was a visitor).

Meanwhile the weeds are stacking up: with recent rains they will explode once warm weather arrives and we will have our time cut out keeping ahead of their seeding. Please give Rosedale a couple of hours (or more) on the fourth Saturday

of the odd-numbered months (see dates below). Those of you on email, look out for notices of additional working bees in even-numbered months. We will run these when one of us can be there to lead them.

Otherwise, please just find some weeds and pull them at any time for however long you can spare, it all helps.



WORKING BEE DATES FOR REMAINDER OF 2004

Plan to be at Rosedale on one or more of these dates. It isn't a big slice out of your day, 9–11 am in cooler months, 3–4 pm on warmer days so you can fish or surf in the morning. Just remember: the fourth Saturday of odd-numbered months—there aren't all that many left this year, only 25 September and 27 November.

Please let any of us know if you could come to activities on the fourth Saturday of even-numbered months, 23 October and—oops—the next one is Christmas Day! If there are enough takers, like more than four or five, we will try to arrange for someone to lead you.

caring for our ROSEDALE ENVIRONMENT



GREEN CORPS

A Green Corps team of ten trainees came to Rosedale on eight days in four weekly visits of two days each. This year we offered them none of the variety of previous years and they planted around 1100 plants, all locally indigenous and locally raised. All 1600 plants (or the credit that purchased them) were held over from previous years because of the drought and we need to plant them out or forfeit them. The team planted 500 in the new carpark landscaping, 300 on the dunes behind the beach and 300 in the south end of Banksia Flat (approximate numbers). The trainees had varied experience, they planted into soft sand, heavy existing grass (Banksia Flat) and the hardest gravelly clay imaginable (under the old carpark).

COSTS

Capital works by Landcare in recent years include the Banksia Flat dune crossing, the initial carpark landscaping with mound and traffic control posts, and the recent carpark landscaping.

Most of the costs in former years have been borne by Council, Eurobodalla Landcare and grant monies for which we had applied, so the Association had had little call on its assets.

This year has been a little different: we have had to buy additional fertilizer, chemicals and mulch (in addition to the Skyline donations), and we had to get the old carpark ripped (there were layers of hard clay after the old gravel surface was stripped off, not good for planting into). The Association voted at an AGM a couple of years ago to utilise a proportion of its funds for such purposes so the spending has not been irregular, although it could not all have been anticipated. This points up once more the need to win funds by grant application or donation if we are to further our Landcare objectives.

PLANTINGS ON ROSEDALE PUBLIC LAND

Past. As detailed in previous reports, drought has taken its toll on last year's (and some earlier) plantings. Survivors are not all healthy, it will take more rain than we have had recently to boost them enough to survive next summer—they are not all out of danger yet.

Present. Recent nicely spaced but scant rains have put a little moisture into the soil, enough to assist the July plantings but if you were a farmer planting into that amount of moisture you'd be lying awake of nights with worry. They need more rain and we cannot be sure if we can mount a hand-watering effort or not.

Future. There are approximately 500 plants in stock waiting to be set out. There are a few gaps in the earlier carpark landscaping and the rest are destined mostly for Banksia Flat. The next few working bees will need to

focus on this task, most of the plants will outgrow their pots as soon as it warms up and late winter/spring plantings run the risk of running into a dry summer and perishing before establishing properly.

PLANTING STRATEGY

Why do it again? I have been asked a number of times why, given the disappointing results of last year's planting, we are doing it again, or at least why we are planting so many. Several responses. We are in effect practicing dryland farming where you provide the best planting conditions you can, you plant, wait for rain and hope there are no outbreaks of pest or disease. The coming season, while expected to be dry, cannot be predicted with certainty and if we hold off planting we stand to lose an entire crop which might have been a bumper: no planting means no results, some planting increases your chances of a success. We are in the risk business, gambling on the probability of a good season and a significant move towards our goals of enhancing the Rosedale native habitat.

Why so many plants? This was explained above, we use them or lose them and if we have a cracker season we could have a substantial outcome.

Why plant more than we can look after? It is most uncommon that a Landcare planting gets hand watered like ours were in previous years. The usual practice, just like dryland farming, is to plant and gamble on the season. We may be able to weed and fix plant guards; if we can water some of them it will be a bonus but water restrictions may dictate the outcome to some extent.

HELP! ASSISTANCE WANTED

A reminder that we still seek to further build up lists of persons willing and able to assist with the following:

- organizing Landcare whether from the desk and phone or on the ground, not only with working bees
- raising seedlings and plants for Rosedale at locations other than Rosedale (ask me about seed and cutting material if you can help)
- caring for seedlings and struck cuttings to the point of planting out (ask me about pots and trays etc if you can help)
- minding plants that are ready to plant out
- willing to operate hand or knapsack sprayers for applying herbicides to weeds
- willing to do a first aid course in a centre near you (Landcare will pay)
- willing to do a chemical application course in a centre near you (Landcare will pay)

David Mackenzie

LANDCARE CONTACTS

- Gordon Bray:
6161 5177
gordon.bray@netspeed.com.au
- Ian Holmes:
4471 7252
ianjanh@sci.net.au
- Sarah Caines:
4471 7173 or 4871 1066
sarahc@hinet.net.au
- David Mackenzie:
4471 8471 or 6288 6194
david.mackenzie@csiro.au

ADOPT A PATCH

This scheme is for those who simply cannot get to our working bees but genuinely want to contribute at times convenient to them. Call it self-operated working bees if you like. Some areas you could quietly assume responsibility for keeping weed free are:

- the gully leading down to Nuns Beach
- the strip between George Bass Drive and the first house on Rosedale Parade (No. 2)—it has recently been cleaned out and is now easy to keep that way if it isn't allowed to get away again. Give Rosedale more than a clean beach, give it a tidy front door
- the nature strip outside your place, perhaps join with neighbours to do the whole street (depends on which street perhaps)
- the strip of reserve adjacent to your boundary, keep it weed free and nurture the growth of native species or even plant some
- the path you frequently take in your regular walks
- many other opportunities exist.

LET US KNOW ABOUT YOUR EFFORTS

- If you have already adopted a patch, please tell us so we can gradually try to cover the village with adoptors.
- If you are putting in time doing things on the quiet, don't keep quiet—your hours contribute toward larger grant monies for Eurobodalla Landcare which in turn helps us with fertiliser and other materials. So please tell us your tally from time to time
- Want to know more? Ring one of us and talk it over, it really is so easy and we desperately need your additional effort. Landcare contacts are on this page.

ARE YOU GOOD WITH A SPRAYER?

Three of us, who regularly spray weeds at Rosedale, recently attended a one-day refresher course at the Canberra Institute of Technology in pursuit of AQF3 accreditation—this qualification will be required of anyone spraying on public land after 1 July 2005. By the time you read this our results should have been posted.

But we only have four regular spray operators, and as the spraying load is heavy and around the calendar, we desperately need more. If you have any experience at all with horticultural or agricultural chemical application, please contact us about helping out, we are restricted to hand-held or knapsack sprayers. Landcare contacts are on this page.

Don't be scared by the requirement to attend a course, you can legally help at least until mid-2005 and, if you want, we should be able to arrange for you to do the course, at no charge to you, at the nearest convenient TAFE that runs it. The course we attended was well presented and basically followed common sense, we did it and survived.

ROSEDALE ASSOCIATION—MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON 10 APRIL 2004



FIRE OFFICER'S REPORT

Brian Voce was unable to attend but had forwarded literature on bushfire protection, survival and fire hazards for distribution at the meeting. His report was printed in the last newsletter. Adoption was seconded by D Prussak. Carried.

The president put a motion on behalf of Brian once again to donate \$400 to the Malua Bay Rural Fire Service. Seconded by D Mackenzie. Carried.

LANDCARE

Gordon Bray reminded members that we should never walk past a weed and that we should all 'be a puller not a passer'. A refresher was then carried out of common weeds, including fleabane, cobblers peg and cassia (senna spp.). Bridal veil creeper has snuffed out native vegetation at Broulee and could become a similar problem at Rosedale if not managed.

David Mackenzie said that his report was published in the last newsletter. He noted that it was hoped to have more Landcare working bees, adding the even months to the present odd-months program. More people are needed to run working bees, as both James Blogg and Gordon Bray will not have so much time this year. James is retiring from the Landcare committee and he and Suzanne were thanked for their contribution to the Landcare effort. David also noted that the Beach Spirit Award was owed in no small measure to the work of Gordon Bray over many years.

Mary Boardman suggested that members 'adopt a patch' of Rosedale and then keep it weed free. Gordon Bray spoke supporting the idea.

MINUTES FOR LAST YEAR'S AGM

Adoption of the minutes was proposed by the secretary and seconded by D Mackenzie. Carried.

After discussion of a motion put by D Kent, the meeting instructed the secretary to send a letter to Council requesting Council's response to the resolution concerning the construction at 49 Yowani Rd, North Rosedale (carried by 58 votes to 7 at the 2003 AGM). Seconded by D Prussak. Carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The report was published in last newsletter and the president raised the following additional matters.

- A bus shelter for Rosedale on George Bass Drive is still expected to be built during 2004.
- The subdivision of nine lots off Yowani Road, with associated capital works, is expected to commence by mid-year.

- Development of the Manns Nursery land is still being negotiated with the NSW Government and there appears to have been little progress.
- The Association's constitution will be reviewed to ensure clarity and ongoing relevance. Any suggested changes will, of course, be put to the members.
- Deirdre Prussak and Kit Tischler are preparing a history of Rosedale and request stories of times past at Rosedale and photographs.
- The president thanked the many people who contributed to the working of the Association and notably Anton Cook for his outstanding contribution in setting up and maintaining the website.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The report was published in the last newsletter and shows current assets of \$12204.30. Deirdre Prussak moved adoption. Seconded by Jan Holmes. Carried.

There was discussion on erosion at the end of Yowani Road giving access to the Dale Place reserve. Proposed by B Kent and seconded by B Cook that the Association write to the Council asking if a chain could be placed to reduce vehicular traffic to essential services. Carried.

Three sites were proposed for the afternoon's weedathon.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Deirdre Prussak has had contact with Neighbourhood Watch Area 3 (Sunshine Bay to Malua Bay), which is a large organisation with three staff, and she will examine if we could be included in that area which produces a newsletter every second month (last edition showed that they had a relatively high rate of theft and break-in).

Deirdre asked that tenants be informed NOT to leave extra rubbish outside their rubbish bins in plastic garbage bags, as this is not collected and stays in the street. She also requested members to be responsible for dogs and their droppings when they are on the beach, as the privilege of allowing dogs on the beach may be lost.

She said that more Watch volunteers were needed—especially for the Tranquil Bay area.

Adoption of report seconded by K Tischler. Carried.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- A petition from residents has been received requesting that the Association approach the council to clear the nature strip downhill from 25 Yowani Road where one is presently forced to walk on the road. Carried.
- Stage 1 of the carpark at the end of Rosedale Parade continues to be funded for this year but timing depends on the availability of plant

and machinery which is presently engaged in road works for RTA. It is hoped that timing will allow Green Corps to plant up the present gravelled area.

- A member asked if Council could be approached to provide swings and a toilet block at the end of Rosedale Parade. The matter was discussed. A toilet block is many years off, probably depending on Rosedale being connected to the sewer. A play area would be on council land and carried liability for injury. Members felt it more appropriate to site swings in private gardens. Support was measured by a show of hands. Defeated
- There was discussion concerning the desirability of replacing the log barrier at the end of Knowlman Road with a chain. A motion to approach Council to remove the log and replace it with a chain was put. Carried.
- A Shillington spoke of his concern about cats being allowed to roam at night—putting bird life and local fauna at risk.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The president noted that James Blogg and Nicholas Peterson were standing down from the committee. He thanked them on behalf of the committee and members for their contribution.

Nine nominations for the 2004 committee were received by the secretary, and this number is allowed by the constitution. Accordingly the new committee is:

Jane Boardman, Hanni Dickson, Darren Gribble, Ian Holmes, Deirdre Prussak, Andrew Shillington, Brian Voce, Stephen Voce and Virginia Woods.

The improvement in the gender balance was noted by the president.

POST MEETING NOTE

The committee met after the AGM and confirmed the office bearers for 2004 as:

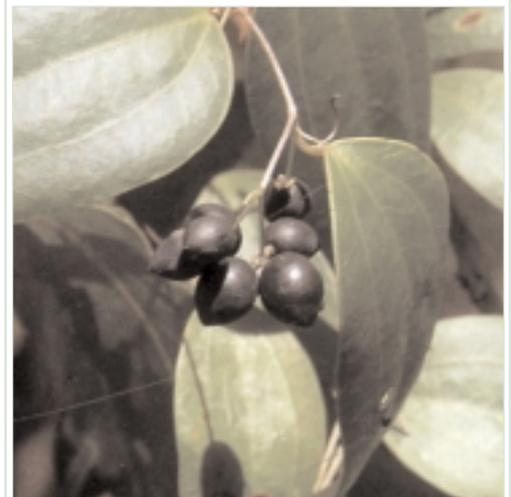
- Ian Holmes, President
- Jane Boardman, Secretary
- Deirdre Prussak, Treasurer

Details for the afternoon weedathon and the evening sausage sizzle were discussed.

The meeting closed at 1 pm.

James Blogg - Secretary

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT



The boatsheds were broken into yet again in May and some youths were seen using boats without permission. Boatshed owners should keep oars, rowlocks and anchors locked away to alleviate some of these problems.

Black plastic bins have been issued for recycled articles. Would everyone please read the instructions which tell us about this service that commenced in August. Some bins were put out in the middle of July which means helpful neighbours had to carry them in again.

*Deirdre Prussak
Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator*

BIRDS AT ROSEDALE

By Sam Boardman, aged 9



For the April school holidays I went to Rosedale to stay with my grandparents. Besides playing on the beach with my cousins Alexander and Finlay, and my friend Ben I love to look at the birds that come and eat seed from our balcony. The cutest and the cheekiest are the Rainbow Lorikeets. They even eat out of my hand. One day my grandma was in the kitchen and she turned around to see one Rainbow Lorikeet sitting on the toaster and one on the couch.

The Butcher bird comes every day to get some meat and the Kookaburras come for meat too. There is a family of

White Headed Pigeons that come every morning for seed as well as the King Parrots and Rosellas. The Wattle birds come for bread. There are also Magpies that come for meat. The Whip Birds and the Bower Birds come but not very often because they are very shy. In January we saw a female Bower Bird sitting on her nest beside the track to the beach.

Sometimes when I am playing on the beach I see the beautiful Sea Eagles soaring on the air currents near the cliffs. One day I went to Jimmy's Island in my uncle David's boat with my cousins, Arthur, Matthew and Robert. I saw a baby Fairy Penguin in a little hole. It was scared when it saw us and went deeper into the hole to hide.

Every spring I see dead Mutton Birds on the beach. These are the birds that are too weak or sick to make the long flight along the East Coast of Australia to Tasmania. There are lots of sea gulls on the beach.

In the lagoon I have seen the grey heron looking for fish to eat.

Really early in the morning and also later in the day after the big birds fly off a family of Red Breasted Finches come and splash happily in the bird bath outside the kitchen window. There is a honey eater that comes most days to the garden to feed from the flowers. We are so lucky to have so many lovely birds at Rosedale.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The cliff track at the end of Yowani Road

This track was already in existence when I first came to Rosedale in the 1950s. Jim Aldridge put in a handrail and retaining risers for the steps in the 1970s, when his wife found the going a bit steep. He also constructed 'Doll's Bench', where many a welcome breather has been taken. The Aldridges were permanent residents in North Rosedale for many years, and together with Hans van Huysen volunteered for the first Neighbourhood Watch in the area.

Those of us living close to the track have undertaken maintenance from time to time and will no doubt continue to do so, involving the younger generation as appropriate.

The state of the track at the moment is entirely satisfactory.

It would be a shame for at least two reasons to change this state of affairs. Firstly, the link with the past and some of its most loved inhabitants would be lost. Secondly, the 'bush' nature of the track is very much an expression of the

desire of locals to leave things in as rustic and natural a state as possible. It is a good example of the Australian genius for improvisation—use the materials to hand and get the job done—so delicately captured by Henry Lawson.

Opinions are frequently and loosely expressed on the subject of legal liability should an accident occur on this track. My own legal understanding is at odds with most of what I hear on the beach. Perhaps the Rosedale Committee could ask the Shire Council

for a statement of its own legal advice on the matter and include this in a subsequent Newsletter.

I welcome the suggestion made to the AGM that a chain be put across the end of Yowani Road to prevent cars from using Council's new fire vehicle access as an approach to the beach and a parking area.

Sue Falk

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS

WHAT WE SAID TO COUNCIL

The General Manager
Eurobodalla Shire Council

Dear Sir,

Re 49 Yowani Road, Rosedale

At its annual general meeting held on 10 April 2004, the members of the Association voted to instruct me to send a letter to Council requesting a response to a resolution that had been passed the previous year by 58 votes to 7 concerning 49 Yowani Road, North Rosedale. This is the letter and the earlier resolution read as follows:

That the 2003 annual general meeting of the Rosedale Association:

- Records its disappointment at the scale of development that the Eurobodalla Shire Council has approved at 49 Yowani Road, North Rosedale.
- Considers that the scale of development at 49 Yowani Road North Rosedale is inappropriate and incompatible with, and detrimental to, the character of the area.
- Records its total opposition to the use of this site for any other purpose other than that of private residence.
- Supports an appeal to the Land and Environment Court by Paul Isaacson of 50 Yowani Road against the

proposed two storey double garage at 49 Yowani Road.

- Resolves to contribute \$500 in the first instance to the cost of any appeal by Mr. Isaacson.
- Requests the Eurobodalla Shire Council to consult the Rosedale Association, as the recognized representative of the Rosedale community, in relation to any further proposals relating to this site and the adjoining area.
- Instructs the secretary to forward this resolution to the Eurobodalla Shire Council.

The then secretary forwarded the next Association newsletter, containing the minutes of the 2003 AGM, to Council. Mr. Isaacson did not proceed to Court.

The issue of inappropriate development continues to simmer, and your comment on the 2003 resolution is requested.

With regard to consultation with the Association, I would note that Place Based Planning, if and when it is introduced, will presumably need an ongoing consultation mechanism between Council and community.

Yours sincerely,

AND COUNCIL'S REPLY

49 Yowani Road Rosedale

Thank you for your letter of 3 June and apologies for the delay in my reply.

As indicated to you previously we have acknowledged the points you raised in the resolution of Rosedale Association 2003 AGM. I am not aware that the matter regarding 49 Yowani Road, North Rosedale, has progressed to any appeal.

Your views regarding perceptions of inappropriate development is also noted and that you are assured that all developments are considered against

s79C of the Environment Planning & Assessment Act and Council's Local Environment Plans and policies. You may be interested to access our web site under Development Assessment as to what objectives are considered in determining applications.

www.esc.nsw.gov.au/mplan/documents.asp?docID=86.

In regard to your comment on Place Based Planning, we have been advised by the Department of Infrastructure Planning & Natural Resource that we are to complete, with the assistance of the Urban Design Advisory Service, the Urban Settlement Strategy. This Strategy will in turn guide the key principles to be included in all of the Place Based Plans for key localities in the Shire. The priority for plans has yet to be determined but at this point includes Durras, Long Beach, Rosedale/Guerilla Bay, Congo, Nelligen and similar villages.

I understand members of your Association who participate on our Scientific Advisory Group recently received a presentation on the background research and directions for planning in our rural and village areas.

If you require further information please contact me on (02) 4474 1347.

Peter Tegart



SNAP YOUR FAVOURITE TREE



The following is taken from a Council press release from late July.

Eurobodalla Shire Council is asking members of the community to grab their cameras and photograph their favourite Eurobodalla Coast tree.

Council is hosting a 'Trees of the Nature Coast' photo competition and

exhibition, with judging and exhibition to take place later this year in October.

The aim of the competition and exhibition is to raise community awareness about the treescape of our area, and to establish a community record of the local trees people consider to be a favourite, special, or of unique character or beauty.

Entry is free and open to all residents and visitors. The photographs entered in the exhibition will become a resource for Council's existing tree management and future planning.

Mayor Fergus Thomson thanked the local sponsors of the event and urged residents and visitors to enter the competition.

'There is no recent official written or photographic record of special trees in the Eurobodalla Shire. This competition and exhibition is a creative, practical way to obtain visual and written records of the amazing treescape here on the Nature Coast,' he said.

To enter the competition and exhibition, send Council a photo of a tree or group of trees in the Eurobodalla Shire in any of three categories—My Favourite Tree, Artistic

Tree or Significant Tree. Entries should be received by 30 September 2004.

The best overall photo will win a 35mm camera generously donated by Photofast on The Bay.

The winning photo in each category will receive a \$100 gift voucher from one of the exhibition sponsors: Narooma Picture Framing; Moruya Photographics; or Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens.

ENTRY CONDITIONS

Photo entries should be minimum 15cm x 10cm (6"x4") mounted on cardboard with details of category, tree type, location and brief history written on front. Write name, address and phone on back.

Photos will be displayed and judged in a public exhibition in October 2004. Entries will be received from now until 30 September 2004.

Photos can be mailed to: Council PO Box 99 Moruya 2537 or delivered to Council Libraries or Works Depots. Please mark envelopes 'Tree Photo Exhibition—Attn Gary Smith'.

Trees must be in Eurobodalla Shire and can be in State Forest, National Park, or private or public land.

Permission must be obtained from landowner to enter private property for a photo.

Council reserves the right to further use of selected photos as a record and/or in print.

Entry is free and is open to all residents and visitors.

All enquiries to Gary Smith on 4474 1258 or gary.smith@eurocoast.nsw.gov.au.

IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP UP-TO-DATE?

Our Treasurer, Deirdre Prussak is still keen to get all records up-to-date and have all membership subscriptions current. Please check your address label on this newsletter. If it has a red dot, your subscription has run out. Subscriptions support the work of your Rosedale Association, and are only \$10 per person, per year. If you haven't already done so, send your payment today.

Please note that you cease to be an Association member if you are unfinancial for two years.

Enclosed is my cheque for \$ _____ being subscription for _____ membership(s) for the 2003 calendar year, at the rate of \$10 per voting member for the persons listed below.

Name(s) _____

Postal address (for newsletter) _____

Postcode _____

Rosedale address _____

Postcode _____

Email address _____

Phone _____

Mobile _____

Fax _____

Rosedale phone _____

Would you like to be sent Landcare notices? Yes | No

Send this slip and payment to The Rosedale Association, PO Box 2015, Malua Bay NSW 2536