

THE Rosedale ASSOCIATION INC



Newsletter Issue 104 May 2008

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 22nd March 2008

The 2008 Annual General Meeting commenced at 11:00am on the Cabins Lawn.

MINUTES

1. PRESIDING MEMBER

Sue Falk presided as chairperson in the absence of the Emmett O'Loughlin. Sue announced that Emmett has resigned as President owing to family circumstances. She acknowledged Emmett's contribution in many areas: the Marsim development, the Saltwater Creek environment, and representations to Council. She proposed a vote of thanks. Affirmed with applause.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from: David Boardman, Peggy & John Bright, Brian Egloff, Cathy Falk, Ruth Friend, Deirdre Graham, Richard and Catriona Graham, Nick Hopkins, Peter Isaacson, Bruce Kent, Rohan Kent, Helmut & Sigrid Loofs, Paul Morrow, David Nicholas, Joanna Nicholas, Emmett O'Loughlin, Greg & Sallie Ramsay, Annie Shillington, Bruce Stark, and Ted and Barbara Wilcox. Accepted.

3. REPORTS

3.1 President's report

The President's report was circulated under the heading President's Piece in Newsletter 103, March 2008.

3.2 Treasurer's report

The Treasurer's report was circulated in Newsletter 103, March 2008.

MOTION: That the Treasurer's Report be accepted. Proposed: Bill Coupman. Seconded: Tony Cooper. Carried by show of hands.

PAPERLESS NEWSLETTER

At the recent Annual General Meeting some members indicated that they would like to receive their Rosedale Association Newsletter by email.

If you would like this for yourself please reply to:

rosedale.assoc@gmail.com

with a Subject heading: Paperless Newsletter please

Please include your name in the body of the email.

Of course, you are free to reverse this instruction at any time by email to the above address.

The Rosedale Association Incorporated

www.netspeed.com.au/rosedale

PO Box 4134 Manuka ACT 2603

3.3 Landcare report

The Landcare report was circulated in Newsletter 103, March 2008.

David Mackenzie addressed the meeting on:

Saltwater creek, formation of subcommittee

David Mackenzie described some factors affecting water quality in Saltwater Creek. He emphasised that relative to others like it, the creek was healthy. However this was not to say that from time to time it has not been affected by sewage leakages which are a cause for concern. It is costly and technically difficult to track sources of pollution.

David said that he and Bill Maher are attempting to set up inflow and water quality monitoring equipment with the objective of compiling sets of data before, during, and after the residential developments to the west of George Bass Drive.

The Association views the health of Saltwater Creek as a critical matter. A subcommittee comprising David Mackenzie, Bill Maher, and Emmett O'Loughlin will, on behalf of the Association, prepare a report to Eurobodalla Shire Council covering water quality in Saltwater Creek and in particular the potential threats to it from the new developments.

Fish kill event

In the second week of February many fish died in Saltwater Creek following a break-out of the creek a day or two earlier. A committee member contacted Council, a Health Officer subsequently investigated but was unable to pinpoint the exact cause of fish

death. David explained that the most likely cause was de-oxygenation of the creek water resulting from any one of or a combination of factors. Fish kills following an opening, natural or artificial, are not uncommon but we should be concerned if it happened frequently. Sewage overflow can lead to de-oxygenation but he did not believe that had occurred, at least on this occasion.

Landcare Plan of Works

The Plan of Works for 2007 was not presented for approval at last year's AGM. The Plan of Works for 2008 presented to this meeting is unchanged from the Plan of Works for 2007.

MOTION: That the Landcare Report and the Plan of Works for 2008 be accepted. Proposed: Sue Falk. Seconded: Jo Calaby. Carried by show of hands.

MOTION: That a subcommittee be formed to prepare a report on Saltwater Creek water quality and any other relevant matters

for submission to the Eurobodalla Shire Council. Proposed Sue Falk. Seconded: David Mackenzie. Carried by show of hands.

ENVIROFUND

Our contractor, James Paull, has begun work on Banksia Flat. The work, funded by our own Landcare Fund, Envirofund and Eurobodalla Landcare, is the first of three or four major attacks on the weed problem. We will be continuing our own efforts with occasional working bees as well, this is part of the partnership agreement, that we also participate in the work. In coming months you should notice more evidence of sprayed weeds as the long path back to a native dominated vegetation progresses.

3.4 Fire Officer's report

The Fire Officer's report has not been prepared. Sue Falk said that she will endeavour to obtain a report to be included in the next newsletter. She said that the Committee would like to have the annual donation capped at \$500.

CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS AUSTRALIA COMING TO ROSEDALE

By the time you read this we will have had a team of five or six young volunteers visit us for a day and a half in early May.

They will have augmented the work of the contractor on Banksia Flat as part of our own participation in the Envirofund work. In the carpark area, they will have tended overgrown paths and done some general tidying up.

Thanks go to the team and to the organisers for directing them to us, we hope they found it an interesting experience and wish them luck in their future travels..

4. OTHER BUSINESS

4.1 Marsim development

The attention of the meeting was drawn to the Environmental Assessment Bevan Road Concept Application which is open for public submissions until 6 April. This document includes the requirements of the Director General of the Department of Planning (NSW) and an assessment of many key issues.

David Mackenzie said that he and Bill Maher propose to make a submission. If practicable they would also consult with Guerilla Bay Association submitters. David invited interested members to make their own submissions and to forward copies to himself and Emmett O'Loughlin.

Peter Graham said that he was concerned that a vehicular access road to the Rosedale Farm development might be created as a prolongation of Rosedale Parade. This should be drawn to the attention of Council and RTA

MOTION: The Rosedale Association Incorporated opposes the development of land to the west of George Bass Drive (Marsim and Rosedale Farm) with vehicular access via a prolongation of Rosedale Parade. Proposed: Adrian Lewis. Seconded: Peter Graham. Carried by show of hands.

4.2 History projects

Two projects to record the history of Rosedale are in progress.

General history project

Sue Falk said that she will coordinate a project to gather material for a written and illustrated history of Rosedale to be published, at least initially, on the Association's web site. In

answer to a member's question she said that publication in print may follow. A show of hands indicated that simple submission of material to the coordinator was preferred to an Internet blog site.

Contributions were solicited. Sue requested that material be forwarded to her at the Association's PO Box 4134, Manuka ACT 2603 or to sue@susanfalk.net. She requested that material be marked clearly with the sender's name and address. A full description should accompany photographs, etc.

Oral history project

Gordon Bray said that he, Jane and Martin Lemann have been preparing an oral history of Rosedale. He said that the Lemanns had experience in producing oral histories. Gordon said that he had photographs from 1928 and extending though the 1970s to the 1990s.

Sue Falk said that the Committee unanimously agreed to thank Gordon and the Lemanns for their efforts. Members present applauded.

4.3 Tree management

David Carter said that he wished to submit a paper on tree management in Rosedale for the next newsletter after consultation with David Mackenzie.

4.4 Acknowledgements

Sue Falk acknowledged the assistance to the Association of Annie Shillington (newsletter design and preparation), Paul and Penny Mlakar (newsletter printing), Anton Cook (newsletter distribution, and web site), Deirdre Prussak, Kit Tischler, and Bardie Carter (Sausage Sizzle). In

4.5 Newsletter by e-mail

A show of hands indicated that about one-fifth of those present would be prepared to receive their Rosedale Newsletter by e-mail.

Sue Falk said that it was the Committee's intention to produce 3 newsletters between this and next AGM.

5 ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

There being no need for an election the new committee will comprise:

Sue Falk – Secretary

Noel Egan – Treasurer

David Boardman

Anton Cook

Darren Gribble

Rohan Kent

David Mackenzie

Bill Maher

Emmett O'Loughlin

Deirdre Prussak

The office of President is presently vacant.

6 CHAIRPERSON – VOTE OF THANKS

Darren Gribble proposed a vote of thanks to Sue Falk for presiding over the meeting in the absence of Emmett O'Loughlin.

Carried with applause.

7 ATTENDANCE

An attendance register was signed by 58 members and a head count showed an attendance of approximately 63.

ANTON COOK
(Minute secretary)

1 PREAMBLE

A Special General Meeting was called to consider the following special resolution which was notified to members in Newsletter 103, March 2008 and on the Association's web site:

That the constitution of the Rosedale Association Incorporated be amended as follows:

36 (3) The assets and income of the Association shall be applied solely in furtherance of its objects and no portion shall be distributed directly or indirectly to the members of the Association except as bona fide compensation for services rendered or expenses incurred on behalf of the Association.

36 (4) In the event of the Association being wound up, the amount that remains after such winding up and the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities shall be transferred to another organisation with similar purposes which is not carried on for the profit or gain of its individual members.



2 BACKGROUND

Noel Egan said that when Rosedale Association became incorporated it was desirable to obtain an Australian Business Number (ABN) so that tax exemption could be claimed for income derived from the investment of the Association's funds with Perpetual Investment Management Limited. The proposed amendments to the Association's constitution would satisfy necessary conditions for the allocation of an ABN.

MOTION: That the amendments to the constitution proposed in the notice be accepted. Proposed: Noel Egan. Seconded: Sue Falk. Carried by the required majority.

Committee meeting held on March 21

Apologies were received from Rohan Kent and Emmett O'Loughlin. Otherwise the entire committee was present.

Arrangements for the AGM were discussed, especially as Emmett O'Loughlin was unable to be present. It was resolved that Sue Falk would preside in his place.

The position of President of RAI is vacant. Efforts must be made to find someone able to fill this position. That person would preferably be a permanent resident of Rosedale. The terms of our Incorporation require that the President be a resident of New South Wales - but it is possible to apply for a variation of this rule if necessary. In the meantime, Sue Falk is the Public Officer.

The committee has, in the past, maintained a reciprocal relationship with the Guerilla

Bay Progress Association. It was determined that this should continue, and that a member of each group should attend the other's AGM. We are indebted to Anton Cook for the notes on the Guerilla meeting elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Various functions of the committee were allocated: Sue Falk to edit the Newsletter, David Mackenzie and Bill Maher to oversee environmental concerns and liaise with Guerilla Bay on the Marsim submission; David Boardman to take charge of liaison with the Council, in addition to the role already played by Emmett, David and Bill on scientific matters.

The committee discussed the annual donation made by RAI to the Rural Fire Brigade, and agreed that the present sum of \$500 is generous in the light of the Association's annual income. The sum should remain unchanged.

Members will have seen the Marsim submission made in the name of RAI, and will, hopefully, agree that it is an excellent piece of work. We are fortunate to have members capable of such a response. The detailed consideration of Saltwater Creek upstream from Rosedale is particularly valuable. The committee happily accepted that Emmett, Bill and David would form a sub-committee to continue to hold a watching brief on the creek.

It was agreed to canvass opinion on receipt of the Newsletter by email. Details of how to sign up are given elsewhere.

I attended the Guerilla Bay Association 2008 AGM by invitation to represent the Rosedale Association Incorporated. These notes record the business of the meeting that might be of interest to RAI.

The meeting was chaired by Bill Packard and attended by about 40 of their members.

Bill Packard said that the Guerilla Bay Association had become incorporated since the previous AGM.

Lyndall Hatch said that GBAI landcare was 'in crisis'. The Landcare fund had \$921 of which \$500 had been spent. Of particular concern is Arrowhead Vine (*Sagittaria montevidensis*). She said that working bees had been poorly attended. I was asked to speak on Rosedale Landcare and gave a brief account of our activities and methods. The meeting suggested that donations should be sought and there was discussion of a suggested amount of \$30 per household. Lyndall said, in answer to a question, that grants could be obtained, the amount being matched by community effort or donations.

Bill Packard described the proposed Marsim development.

Sandy Gordon said that submissions on Marsim's Environmental Assessment must be made by 7 April. He said that he thought the assessment was flawed, giving as an example the traffic study. He said it was unclear exactly when this was conducted. He will make a submission addressing the traffic study, electricity and sewerage.

Hugh Southon said that he would

like the meeting to note that the Bevia Road and Caravan Park developments were very much in Guerilla Bay's area. He said that these developments would impact the beach and said that GBAI should take a very active interest.

I was invited to speak. I said that our 2007 AGM had passed a motion advocating that the Guerilla Bay and Rosedale Associations consult and cooperate to produce a joint submission. I said that David Mackenzie and Bill Maher were working on a submission.

Lyndall Hatch said that at GBAI's last meeting a similar, reciprocal, motion had been agreed. John Hodges had volunteered to liaise with Emmett O'Loughlin. [John Hodges was unable to attend the meeting.]

Sandy Gordon suggested that GBAI's submission 'piggyback' on RAI's submission.

Bill Packard said that individuals could make their own submissions. He said that the overall plan had been approved by the State authority and that submissions could only ameliorate the plan and not stop it. He said that submissions could address schooling and lack of public facilities.

Lyndall Hatch said that she was interested in commenting on environmental matters. She read from a communication from John Hodges who wrote:

... pointless to object. Can only go for good development. Believe that the proposal is on the whole satisfactory. Seems that the developer has tried to do the right thing. The site cannot be

seen from George Bass Drive. The high ground can be seen from Broulee and probably the Tomakin headland. Rosedale Association has already made serious objection to the main entry to the site near the western edge of the Bevia wetland mainly on environmental grounds. The reply to the submission addressed this objection and compares it with one on the eastern side of the wetland. This reply, which was agreed to by the ESC, was that the western entry was environmentally preferable to the eastern entry.

Lyndall responded. The reason given for rejecting the entry on the eastern side of the swamp was that it would pass through two endangered ecological communities. She had been to inspect these. One endangered community was the casuarina glauca forest. It had been assumed that the road would bisect this. Lyndall argued that could be avoided by putting the road 10m toward the sewerage pond. The other objections to the eastern option was disturbance to a secondary growth of young melaleucas and grassy woodland containing 3 red gums. This area is degraded farmland in Lyndall's view and the notion of 'endangered ecological communities' was disingenuous.

Bill Packard concluded the discussion by suggesting that submissions be assembled by the GBAI committee and copied to RAI

BY ANTON COOK

In the last 50 years Rosedale has moved from a relatively cleared farm in many areas, where new growth was suppressed by cattle. Since then we have had uncontrolled growth resulting in many ageing large trees. These are great to have around us in controlled numbers but when let grow willy-nilly, become a threat both from falling timber and fire. I believe we should consider safety - what if a limb or tree on my block falls on the house next door or worse, on someone.

Is it fair to increase your neighbours fire risk 50 fold so you can live in a total bush setting? It is all very well to say if it burns, you are insured - but what of your neighbour who may have retired and may have all their precious possessions in their house.

People buy on the coast to be near the sea and also to see it. I am not suggesting a scorched earth policy but there must be a balance where people can have light, warmth and view but also shade and protection. Some areas of Rosedale are well beyond this. I believe we should work towards a balance of old and new native vegetation, trying to keep our Rosedale environment. This should be done by planned culling and replanting, considering our neighbours as well as ourselves.

Having done a small web search, the following may be of some help:-

HAZARD REDUCTION

Landholders are responsible for fire safety and hazard reduction. If this is not complied with, Rural Fire Service (RFS) can issue a Bushfire Hazard Reduction notice requiring landholders to comply. The RFS can provide advice regarding preparing

your property against bush fires and what to do in the event of one. This advice is free and can be arranged by contacting your local RFS centre at Moruya: 4474 2855.

If you are concerned about the build up of vegetation on a nearby property, you can contact your local fire control centre and fill in a Bushfire Hazard Complaint form. RFS will then inspect and if necessary issue a Hazard Reduction Notice which if not followed can be carried out by RFS staff at the owners expense.

For a better understanding of hazard reduction, go to www.rfs.nsw.gov.au and follow these links: For the Community > Preparing Property > Hazard reduction.

ASSET PROTECTION ZONE (APZ)

All buildings, new or existing, are required to have an Asset Protection Zone where fuel (ground litter, undergrowth, tree or crown cover) must be minimised to reduce fire hazard.

For a better understanding of APZs, go to www.rfs.nsw.gov.au and follow these links: For the Community > Planning for Bushfire Protection > Asset Protection Zones.

FIRE RISK ASSESSMENT

For existing dwellings you may be required to obtain a Bush Fire Hazard Reduction Certificate or other environmental approval first, see their website. New structures, classed as new developments, require a Development Application (DA): this includes any building operation such as alterations or extensions. For every DA a Fire Risk Assessment has to be done and this is set out in some detail in the RFS publication:

Planning for Bush Fire Protection - Single Dwelling Application Kit (2007), downloadable from: http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/file_system/attachments/State/Attachment_20071101_F80A043B.pdf

You may self assess or retain the services of a professional.

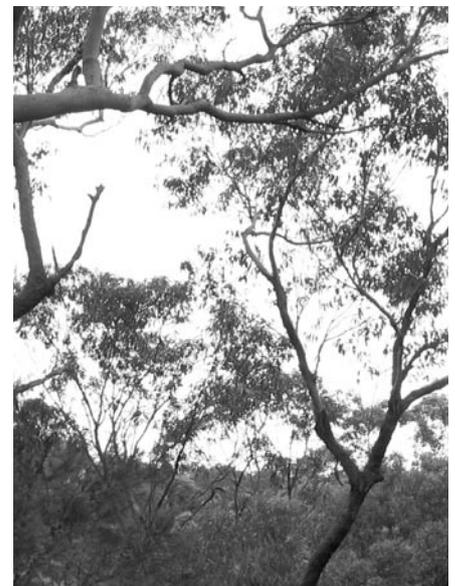
These documents should be read in conjunction with two Eurobodalla Shire Council documents:

TREE PRESERVATION ORDER

(<http://www.esc.nsw.gov.au/Publications/Reports/TPO.pdf>) and Guidelines for Tree Management

(<http://www.esc.nsw.gov.au/Publications/Reports/>

We have asked this be included in the Newsletter to encourage landowners to try and picture their holdings in another twenty years if we continue the way we have in the last era. A bush environment should be based on continual replacement plants-- why not remove some of the older mature dangerous trees and replace with young controlled chaps --it happens with humans!!



TREE REMOVAL & PRUNING – some rules & regulations

David and Barbara Carter elsewhere in this newsletter have put a very well thought out point of view concerning the type of trees, and their density, that might be appropriate in a suburban block in regard to fire hazard reduction. After hazard reduction, safety from falling limbs (or even trees), views, power lines and access to sunlight are the most common considerations in assessing the tree density in a garden. They talk about the replacement of oversized trees with younger stock that will take a good number of years before the cycle of pruning or removal begins again. With replacement stock you might consider whether or not the tree is invasive and likely to grow rapidly to fill your garden or worse, to become a weed in other peoples' garden or nearby bushland reserves.

The Carters refer to the Rural Fire Service (RFS) for guidance on what you are required to do for fire protection and some links have been provided for further reference. They also refer to Council's Guidelines for Tree

Management and Tree Preservation Order, links are again provided.

If you find the array of rules and regulations somewhat bewildering, here are some additional comments that may assist you. However, if you plan to remove or prune any trees, check with Council first to ensure you meet all requirements.

On receiving a DA for a new building or an extension, Council refers it to the RFS to check the Fire Risk Assessment that must accompany every DA. In this way, the potentially conflicting requirements of these two agencies are reconciled. Note that you may not have to clear every tree from an Asset Protection Zone but may nominate specimen trees and perhaps discrete clumps of trees, provided there is a minimum crown separation of 2.5 m; seek clear advice on this matter, ring 4474 1000 and ask for Rangers.

Council's Tree Preservation Order. The basic provisions of the Order are that you cannot without a permit remove any tree that:

- (i) is 3 metres or more in height; or
- (ii) has a trunk circumference of 500 mm or more measured at ground level (a diameter of about 16 cm or 6¼"); or
- (iii) has a crown/branch span of 3 m diameter or more.

There are many other conditions and a number of exclusions including a list of tree species exempt from these requirements, some of which are native species. You may also prune without permit to no more than 10% of your block's total crown cover per annum. In some cases necessary thinning can be effected by judicious crown pruning without tree removal.

A reliable tree removalist can advise you what to do to get the necessary approvals and will not go ahead with a removal if you do not have them.

You cannot clear vegetation on a neighbour's property or on lands administered/owned by National Parks, the Crown or under the management of your local council without written consent from the

ROSEDALE HISTORY PROJECT

People's memories are gradually being collected. This is a long-term project, so you are invited to keep an eye on the website and as time goes by new items should appear.

If anyone has photos of the dunes so many of us seem to remember, that would be a valuable contribution. Likewise photos of what we used to call "the Lagoon", where it seems a good number of people learnt to swim, or to keep a kayak upright.

Photos would of course be returned.

Can anyone contribute the story of Andrew "Boy" Charlton's connection with Rosedale?

Members would surely be interested.

Memories of Rosedale from all generations are welcome. Successive waves of the children of Rosedale have grown up on our beach. It would be great to hear from them, and thus get some sense of generational change and continuity.

TREE REMOVAL & PRUNING cont..

owner. Council is the designated manager of all the reserves in and around Rosedale. If you see the need to remove or prune vegetation of any kind on any reserve, ask Council. In the case of a dangerous tree they may do a risk assessment and agree to its removal or pruning.

A recent Council press release noted that unlawful removal and poisoning of trees is occurring both on private land and public reserves. Apart from the tree poisoning on reserves, it noted an increasing incidence of residents illegally clearing and poisoning trees on private urban lands without the consent of council. Offences relating to the poisoning of trees start at \$600 per tree and can escalate to \$110,000 if the offence goes to the local court.

The press release goes on to say that even if tree vandals manage to dodge a fine, there are other effective means of penalising offenders. Council installs signs at the site of the illegal tree removal and may even erect large screens that will not only block the view but remain until the vegetation has regenerated.

ENDANGERED ECOLOGICAL COMMUNITIES (EEC) & THREATENED SPECIES HABITAT (TSH)

EECs are areas of remnant vegetation that are in danger of being eliminated from our dwindling suite of vegetation types by activities such as clearing. Some vegetation communities are habitat for threatened plant or animal species. Without special permission you may not remove or prune any plants in an EEC or a TSH. Heavy penalties apply. There is no obligation on any agency to advise you if your property is in an EEC or contains any TSH. There are online maps of EECs but beware, they are revised regularly and the information may not be up to date. Further the boundaries are indicative only and it is your responsibility to check with Council that there is not one on your land. Try: www.esc.nsw.gov.au > Environment > Threatened Species and look for Rosedale on Map 7. At this site also there are directions for finding out which threatened species occur in the Rosedale area, surprisingly there are many (including whales!) However,

there's no cause for alarm, the likelihood of either of these situations affecting your request to remove or prune in urban Rosedale is low and Council's staff should check out your block for this sort of thing before issuing you a permit.

There is a large body of rules and regulations covering pruning and removal only some of which are mentioned here and by The Carters. Between us we have attempted to provide an entrée for you into this complex milieu. Please note that the information we provide is not an official interpretation of these rules and regulations, if you are planning any tree pruning or removal you are strongly advised to seek an official opinion by contacting the Shire Council's Rangers (4474 1000) or the Rural Fire Service at Moruya (4474 2855). They will steer you through the necessary stages and RFS staff are able to give some free on-site service or perform certain assessments.

Contact Council and RFS before going ahead with any tree removal or pruning.

DAVID MACKENZIE 30 April 08

If undeliverable please return to:
The Rosedale Association Inc.
PO Box 4134
MANUKA ACT 2603

The Rosedale Association Inc Newsletter
Print Post approved No: PP229200/00009

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