

THE Rosedale ASSOCIATION INC



Newsletter Issue 111 October 2010

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Saturday 23 APRIL 2011

Notice is hereby given of the Annual General Meeting of the Rosedale Association Inc. to be held on Saturday 23 April 2011 at 11 am, either on the cabin lawns or on the Mallett's lawn, 31 Rosedale Pde.

AGENDA

1. Apologies
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Landcare Report
5. Fire Officer's Report
6. Election of Committee members
7. Any other business

NOMINATIONS

Nominations for the Committee are welcome and necessary. Do please consider volunteering.

Nominations should be in the hands of the Secretary by Friday 15th of April, 2011.

Nominations must be nominated and seconded by members of the Association and signed by the candidate. The nomination form is inside the back cover of the March 2010 newsletter and on the Rosedale Association website.

Our financial year is the Calendar year.

**FEES ARE NOW DUE
\$10 PER VOTING
MEMBER**

FROM THE EDITOR

The Rosedale Association stands at a crossroads. Two committee members have announced that they will not seek re-election, and I suspect there will be at least one more before the AGM. One of those stepping down is Barry Shorter, who has held the important position of Fire Officer for the last three years. We all owe him a debt of gratitude for the amount of work he has put in and the information he has provided to all of us. We are more up to date on what is happening at a local, state and national level than we have been before. Please follow his advice, below, and keep yourselves abreast of the NSW Rural Fire Service website (address given in his report).

At a committee meeting held in December two things of note emerged. The first is that membership numbers are down. We all need to encourage new (and old) members to join. If there is discontent with the Association it would be good to hear it, so that frank discussion could contribute to a change of direction. The Association belongs to its members! [When renewing your membership for this year, please fill out the form printed at the back of this Newsletter, so our database can be kept up-to-date.]

The second was some movement in the personnel forming the executive of the committee. I tendered my resignation as Secretary, my reason being that I simply do not have the time necessary. David Boardman put his hand up for the job,. He will be very welcome. He lives on the spot and has known and loved Rosedale all his life. You will find a contribution to the Newsletter from him, below.

I also made clear, as I have hinted more or less broadly several times in previous newsletters, that I found my position as Acting President completely untenable. The upshot is that the Association is now without a president of any kind.

Now is the time for you, the membership, to ask yourselves whether you want a Rosedale Association to continue into the future. If the answer is yes, out of your ranks must come a President and at least two more committee members. Nomination forms are included at the back of the newsletter. It will suffice for you to hand them in before the start of the AGM. If the answer is no, because you dislike the way the association functions at the moment, then please nominate a number of like-minded people so that you can re-direct the deliberations of the committee in the direction you favour. In this way you could watch over the development of a different kind of association, without leaving it to wither and die.

The venue of the AGM this year will be the Mallett's lawn, at 31 Rosedale Parade (close to the car park). This is because the cabin lawns are being dug up and relaid, and will not be usable in time for us. We thank the Malletts for their kind hospitality, and wish the Gassons good luck in their work.

Once again I record my heartfelt thanks to Annie Shillington, Paul Mlakar and Anton Cook. Without them a Newsletter would not be possible.

SUE FALK

rosedale.assoc+Secretary@gmail.com

THE ROSEDALE ASSOCIATION INC TREASURERS REPORT 2010

BUSTED

Police crack million-dollar abalone ring.

This was the headline on the front page of the Bay post on Friday 25th February. In summary Police and Fisheries officers have arrested two local men who have allegedly been heavily involved in trafficking illegal abalone for over a decade.

Hopefully this will mean less illegal abalone fishing at Rosedale especially in the Marine Park areas of Jimmies Island and Tranquil Bay. I believe this no take area has been regularly targeted as a source of abalone for illicit markets in Sydney.

The Marine Park has now been in operation for four years and on a recent dive with my kids at Tranquil Bay I was surprised to see no abalone at all. I would expect some re-generation within that time. The only conclusion I could make is the area is still being fished.

Jimmies Island seems to be showing some signs of recovery especially near the eastern end but I still feel it is being fished.

If the police and fisheries officers continue to prioritise Abalone then I am sure we will see better protection in our area. Rosedale residents can help by continuing to report illegal and suspicious activity.

DAVID BOARDMAN

BANK BALANCE 01/01/2009 \$2114.61

CREDITS

Payments Received 2820.00
Interest Received 0.16
Total 4934.77

EXPENSES

Printing and Newsletter 396.52
Malua Fire Brigade 500.00
P.O. Box Rental 79.50
Sausage Sizzle 177.62
Insurance 350.00
Payment to Landcare 1180.00
Payment to Fair Trading 69.00
Total Expenses 2752.64
Rosedale Account Balance 2182.13
Balance at Bank 2182.13

PERPETUAL CASH MANAGEMENT FUND

Balance at 01.01.09 17324.49
Interest for year 2009 559.36
Balance at 31.12.09 17883.85

ROSEDALE LANDCARE GROUP

TREASURERS REPORT 01/01/09 TO 31/12/10

Opening Balance 6740.04
Deposits 1180.00
Eco Friendly Gardening Services 2150.00
Final Balance 5770.04
Balance at Bank 5770.04

COME TO THE ANNUAL SAUSAGE SIZZLE

The annual Sausage Sizzle will be held on the evening of
Easter Saturday 23 April 2011.

Make this a family outing, bring the kids, bring your visitors, friends -
have a fun time, meet new faces and renew acquaintances

We supply the food, bring your own drinks and seating.

Along with the AGM this outing constitutes the Association's
only organised social event.

6:00 PM ON MALLETT'S LAWN

LANDCARE REPORT

Rosedale Landcare is at a crossroads. Its on-ground activities have been severely curtailed over the last year or so largely due to the indisposition of its Coordinator, Adrian Lewis. Adrian is no longer available to be Coordinator and David Mackenzie is unable to assume that role. Rosedale Landcare is virtually adrift.

In view of this situation we propose a gathering of all interested persons to discuss ways and means of re-invigorating Rosedale Landcare. One of the principal aims will be to form a committee which will organise a re-created Rosedale Landcare.

We would like to have a meeting over the Easter weekend so if you are interested please express your thoughts to Adrian Lewis at this email address: adrianlewis_798@hotmail.com. You will be advised of the meeting venue and time before Easter.

Landcare has in the past made considerable achievements towards its goal of the protection and enhancement of Rosedale's natural environment. Without such work continuing there are several immediate and serious threats apparent:

- o major infestations of asparagus ferns all across the precinct
- o turkey rhubarb going wild on Banksia Flat and already spreading beyond
- o moth vine – almost under control until recently – spreading across the hamlet

Unless these and a number of other threats to our natural environment are dealt with in a vigorous, coordinated and sustained fashion, the hamlet faces a rapid degradation of its native vegetation communities and the birds and animals that depend on them for their habitat.

What does our natural environment mean to us? The natural environment of Rosedale is not as natural as we might like to think, it is highly modified and has a mind of its own. Landcare has managed to direct it in ways that enhance the plants and animals we have come to take for granted around us. It enriches our surrounds and keeps our property values up. It cannot and will not remain so without constant, direct hands on community effort. This is effort that will not be forthcoming from Council and most of it is not the sort of effort that can be done by paid contractors. The Rosedale Community must decide what it wants to do about its environment.

ADRIAN LEWIS
DAVID MACKENZIE
IAN HOLMES

FIRE OFFICER'S REPORT MARCH 2011

La Niña and a wet Spring and Summer seem to have taken care of the fire season, at least in our part of the world. But this does mean there has been significant growth of combustible material. As things dry out, burn-back and hazard removal throughout the shire will be a major activity of the Rural Fire service in months to come. The Fire Service is always prepared to look into particular requests, and to consider useful suggestions.

Past Fire Officer reports have covered in some detail what the responsibilities of the relevant authorities will be and what actions should be taken by individuals (householders) in the event an emergency. I see no need to repeat that material, but I would urge people to look up the internet site of the NSW Rural Fire Service:

<http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au> which has items and links on important things you need to know, from Fire Danger Ratings to post -fire recovery.

Since Black Saturday there have been major upgrades in the warning system (there is ample material on the Internet about the new national Emergency Alert system) and the provision of information generally. In the opinion of many, however, there is still a long way to go, especially in the area of rapidly revised real-time data (voice, text, graphics).

One area under continuing investigation is that of fire detection. As reported in the last newsletter, the Commonwealth, in conjunction with the Victorian and NSW Governments, last year conducted a trial of remote detection camera systems in Victoria's Otway Ranges and the Tumut region of NSW. The Bushfire Cooperative

Research Centre was given the task of comparing the effectiveness of three systems (supplied by private contractors) and the viability of integrating them into existing alert systems. At the end of June the BCRC submitted its report to the federal Attorney General's Department which had authorised the trials. The AG's has now issued a comment on that report's findings—its main conclusions are as follows:

"All the camera systems tested were able to observe and locate fires during both day and night. However, detection ... was slower and less reliable than by a trained human observer. At present it is not possible to rely on cameras as a sole primary detection method and they are not a suitable replacement for staffed fire towers. Cameras could be used in combination with other detection methods particularly at night or in remote locations. The cameras could also be used to aid the development of situational awareness and to add value to other data by integration with agency systems."

It is worth noting that fire towers are not permanently manned even during daylight hours—indeed manpower limitations mean they are unmanned most of the time unless there is a known or suspected threat. Twenty-four-hour-a day surveillance with automatic feedback to fire control centres would seem to have obvious benefits.

Further research and system integration exercises will be carried out, including tests of recent updates to camera technologies.

BARRY SHORTER

DEVELOPMENTS TO THE WEST

Activity in the proposed developments to the west of us has been mixed of late with some interesting changes but mostly slow movement. The Barlings Beach development is included here even though, unlike the others, it is not still under consideration, nor is it in the Saltwater Creek catchment.

“Bevian Park”; Marsim Rosedale. This development has been practically mothballed and on the market for a while. Contrary to rumour it is not in receivership and at the time of writing (mid March) had just been sold but no details were then available. The original Master Plan, submitted in 2002, was rejected by NSW Planning. In 2006, having addressed the Department’s objections, a Preliminary Assessment of the proposal for Concept Approval was submitted to the Department of Planning. This was approved later that year, subject to a number of environmental conditions. Much of this has been reported in previous Newsletters. To the best of our knowledge, there has been little or no progress since in meeting these conditions.

Rosedale Farm. Work is under way to meet requirements and develop the concept plan into workable plans. Few details were available at the time of writing. Some progress is expected in coming months.

Rosedale Retirement Village. A local developer, David Brewer, took over this proposed development from Trumen Corp early this year. The land for the village is under conditional purchase from the Rosedale Farm group. A DA was lodged with Council in

mid-2008 and the developers have since been working to meet Council’s requirements for consent. At the time of the transfer from Trumen much of this work had been completed. One of Council’s concerns was the visibility of the village from outside. This will be reduced by increasing tree screening at the expense of reducing the yield from 114 to 108 units.

“Reflections” Barlings Beach. The original proponents went into receivership and the project was taken over early in 2009 by the Walker Corporation and rebadged. The original concept was changed, problems addressed and sales launched about a year later. Sales have been firm and at present Stage 1 (41 lots) is largely sold, while the recently released Stage 2 (39 lots) is nearly 25% sold. The final development will comprise possibly five stages with about 190 lots in total. The vendor anticipates a modest increase in demand in the near future and estimates the remaining blocks could take about three years to clear.

The Association’s concerns about the impacts of these developments have been lodged with the various consenting authorities as applications were periodically put on public exhibition, starting in 2002. Your Association representatives hope to continue liaison with NSW Planning, Council and the developers to ensure that these developments are first class and sit comfortably into the landscape with minimum detriment to it.

DAVID MACKENZIE

BLUE BOTTLES

It was nice in the ocean at Rosedale over summer (at least on the sunny days). The water was clear, with not too much weed about, and a very pleasant temperature for swimming. There seemed to be loads of fish and birds about too. But unfortunately these conditions came at a price. With La Niña in full swing, many of the sea’s most annoying creatures were also taking advantage of the warm water currents moving along the east coast of Australia. I can’t remember getting out of the surf once during January without scratching the numerous irritations left behind by the rather ‘boardshort invasive’ sea-lice that seemed to be bountiful over that time. And then of course there were blue bottles galore.

The blue bottle (*Physalia utriculus*), also known as the Portugese Man of War is a type of jellyfish. What makes this jellyfish unusual is that it is a colonial organism. A bluey is made up of many highly specialized individual organisms called zooids. Each zooid is incapable of living alone and forms a specific function: some make up feeding cells, some the digestive cells and some (the ones we all hate) the stinging cells, all integrated together to make-up one ‘animal’.

Despite this complexity, the blue bottle has no active means of locomotion. They rely on their prominent air-bladder to float, and are at the mercy of the wind and ocean currents for getting about. They



trailing tentacles, taking advantage of the scraps that fall from above. In turn, these fish lure other unsuspecting fish toward the stingers, thus providing the blue bottle with food and a payback for safe refuge.

are however able to regulate the gas in their air-bladder which can either slow or quicken movement. Out to sea they usually congregate in dense patches, and have been reported in the thousands. They are prone to being beached when onshore winds push them toward the coast. This is why we see so many at Rosedale after a north-easterly breeze.

Very little is known about the life-history and ecology of blue bottles in Australia. Their tentacles, which under a microscope look like a string of barbed hooks, trail many metres (up to 10) beneath them continuously ‘fishing’ for prey. They feed primarily on larval fish and cephalopods (squid etc) amongst other small ocean critters, which get wrapped in the tentacles and are paralyzed by the venom before being ingested. Some fish species are immune to the sting and live amongst the

Blue bottles themselves are an important food source for a number of oceanic animals, including turtles, sunfish and some species of octopus. Interestingly there is one little blue sea-slug called a Glaucus which also preys on blue bottles. These little guys often get washed up alongside blueys on the beach and look like a ‘winged-slug with long feathery feathers’ (sorry that’s the best I can do). Being immune to the blue bottles’ stinging cells, they are able to store the venom and utilise it for their own prey capture!

So you see, blue bottles are (somewhat) useful. They regulate larval fish numbers and provide habitat and food for a number of creatures. All part of the big picture, I guess. But yes, I know...try appreciating that when one’s wrapped around your arm.

MAX TISCHLER

EUROBODALLA PLANTS

Following on from the previous article, here are some more plants which can be used as small trees in home gardens.

If you have room, *Callistemon salignus*, known as Pink Tips or Willow Bottlebrush, is a stout paperbarked tree which occurs along creeks and in swamps, but is very adaptable. It is a fairly fast growing plant, and in moist soils can reach more than 10m, but on heavy, drier sites is usually less. The plant develops a dense crown, with a spread of 5 – 6m. Flowers can be pink or most usually creamy yellow, held prominently outside the foliage. In good years the plant will flower in November= December and again March-April. A feature of the plant is the very attractive new growth which is bright pink, hence the common name. Birds find the plant a useful food source, but equally a good nesting site, as the dense crown provides ideal cover. Smaller birds such as honeyeaters are regular nesters in our trees at the Gardens.

At the other end of the Myrtle scale, we have *Kunzea ambigua* which has the unfortunate common name of

Tick Bush, and for this reason is usually overlooked by gardeners. It occurs in a wide range of habitats, from creeksides to dry rocky ridges, and is a reliable garden plant.

Despite its habit of growing near water, as a garden plant it needs good drainage, but will tolerate full sun or quite a deal of shade. At first bushy, with regular removal of lower branches the plant will develop a most attractive weeping habit, reaching about 4m with a similar spread. The leaves are small, typical of tea-trees which are close relatives, and allow plenty of light through, so it is possible to grow other plants below the canopy. Over time the trunk becomes another feature, developing character and form. Flowers are prominently displayed along weeping branches.

To my mind *Kunzea ambigua* flowers have the best perfume of all the local Myrtles, delightfully reminiscent of a jar of your best honey. When in full flower from late spring, the perfume is carried on light breezes throughout the garden, calling all manner of insects to a feast.

Your imagination can be used to advantage to get the best shape to suit your garden, but the plant will benefit if grown to a single trunk.

Another very tough plant is *Myoporum acuminatum*, Northern Boobialla. Over time this slow growing plant will reach 6m or so with a spread of about 4m. Foliage is bright green and reasonably dense, providing good shade for lower plantings. Generally a coastal species, occurring at the margins of swamps and areas which get temporarily inundated, *Myoporum acuminatum* has proved very adaptable, and thrives in dry clayish soils, happy to receive what nature provides.

The leaves are at first sticky, becoming smooth, growing to about 80mm x 10mm. Small white bell shaped flowers, with purplish spots inside the bell, are borne from late winter, through spring, and are followed by purple berries up to 8mm across. A range of fruit eating birds are regular visitors when the berries ripen.

Older plants have very attractive bark, gnarled and furrowed as an ironbark, usually grey in colour.



ABOVE: *Callistemon salignus*
RIGHT: *Kunzea ambigua*



EUROBODALLA PLANTS CONTINUED

Others worth considering include *Acacia maidenii*, and *Acacia mabellae*, both of which grow to about 10m in natural conditions with heavy canopy providing quite dense shade.

Tea trees are also disregarded by most gardeners, although some species can make very attractive small trees for home gardens.

Babingtonia pluriflora, Tall Baeckea, previously named as *Baeckea virgata*, has attractive dark green foliage, with reddish tips. Small white flowers appear during spring, and continue into autumn, attracting a range of small insects, which in turn attract a range of insect eating birds. The plant often wants to be bushy, growing as an understorey plant along creeks and in gullies, so to grow as a tree you need to gradually underprune the lower branches to lift the crown. The trunk is quite a feature as the plant ages, becoming gnarled and furrowed. Once grown as a tree rather than a shrub, the plant develops a very attractive weeping habit, and provides dappled light below which is ideal for growing

ferns. It might reach about 4 – 5m over time, and is tolerant of quite dry conditions once established, although it appreciates some water during the heat of summer.

There is a range of *Leptospermum* species which can be treated similarly. A good choice is *L. polygalifolium*, known as Yellow Tea Tree, which is usually shrubby in nature, found throughout the region on dry hillsides and along watercourses. When pruned from an early stage to produce a tree shape, it will grow to 6m, again developing a weeping canopy of small dark green leaves, and red new growth. It flowers heavily during October and November, the branches weighed down by the numbers of blooms. Yellow Tea Tree is very tolerant as a garden plant, and once established will need little attention other than pruning to maintain a desired shape.

Also in the Myrtle family is the Callistemons and Melaleuca.

Melaleuca hypericifolia, Hillock Bush, develops into a tree quite early in its

life, and this habit can be accentuated with judicious pruning to enhance the natural tendency to produce a windswept look. This is a strong feature of Hillock Bush, and you need to take care with early pruning not to try to make the plant too regimented. Let it have its head, and just remove lower branches which get in the way of the tree shape. This plant is found in a range of habitats, from wind swept coastal dunes and headlands, rocky hill tops and forested areas. It is very adaptable in cultivation, growing to 6m high, and spreading as far as you care to let it. Bottlebrush flowers of brick red appear during summer, lasting through Autumn, and bringing a range of honeyeaters to the garden.

Any of these plants, and many other local plants make ideal small trees, suitable even to small gardens. All are low water users, and need just a little attention once established.

Why not try something different ?

More in the next newsletter

JOHN KNIGHT



ABOVE: *Myoporum acuminatum*
TOP RIGHT: *Babingtonia pluriflora*
BOTTOM RIGHT: *Acacia maidenii*



MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2011 ARE NOW DUE

If the address label on your newsletter has a red dot your membership subscription for the calendar year 2011 is now due. Subscriptions support the work of your Rosedale Association and are only \$10 per voting member per year.

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

Please include a completed Membership Application, Renewal and Payment Form with your cheque so that we can keep our records fully up to date.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION, RENEWAL AND PAYMENT FORM

You may use this form to apply for membership, to renew your membership, to make a Landcare fund donation, or to advise a change to your membership details.

The annual membership subscription is \$10 per voting member and subscriptions become due on 1st January each year. Please complete and forward this form with your cheque to:

The Treasurer
The Rosedale Association
PO Box 4134
Manuka ACT 2603

You may renew your membership and make payment by bank deposit. Please use the form on the Rosedale Association Inc website. Go to the Membership page at <http://www.netspeed.com.au/rosedale>

Application type (Please tick one)

- Membership application
- Membership renewal/Landcare donation
- Change of membership details

Voting members

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____

Name and address for mailing

Rosedale address

Telephone numbers

----- (h) ----- (fax)
----- (w) ----- (m)

Rosedale telephone number

Email addresses (please print carefully)

1 _____
2 _____

Weed notices (Please tick one)

Would you like advice on noxious weeds on your property?
 Yes
 No

PAYMENTS

Membership subscription for _____ voting member(s) for the calendar year _____	\$ _____
Landcare fund donation (optional)	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____

COMMENTS/ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ROSEDALE ASSOCIATION INC COMMITTEE NOMINATION FORM - 2011

Please print and complete this form and forward it to reach: The Secretary
The Rosedale Association Inc
PO Box 4134 Manuka ACT 2603

by Tuesday 30 March, 2010, or hand it to The Secretary before the AGM on Saturday 3 April 2011.

Nominator, seconder, and nominee must be members of the Rosedale Association Inc.

I nominate: _____ for a position on the Rosedale Association Inc Committee

Nominator: _____ Signed: _____

Seconder: _____ Signed: _____

I agree to stand: _____ Signed: _____ Date: _____

FORM OF APPOINTMENT OF PROXY

I, _____
(full name)

of _____
(address)

Being a member of the Rosedale Association Incorporated
hereby appoint _____
(full name of proxy)

of _____
(address)

Being a member of that incorporated association, as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the annual general meeting and the special general meeting of the association to be held on the 3rd day of April 2010 and at any adjournment of those meetings.

(signature of member appointing proxy)..... (date)

Note: Each member is entitled to appoint another member as proxy by notice given to the secretary before the time of the meeting.

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

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