Pittwater Online News

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June 16 - 22, 2013: Issue 115

2013 Avalon Tattoo Brings Scotland the Brave to Pittwater

Just one of the wonderful bands that performed yesterday at the only Annual Tattoo in NSW - the NSW Fire & Rescue Band and Marching Team. Picture by A.J Guesdon.

This year's Avalon Tattoo was a celebration of community, our upcoming generation and wonderful music made by wonderful people.

More HERE

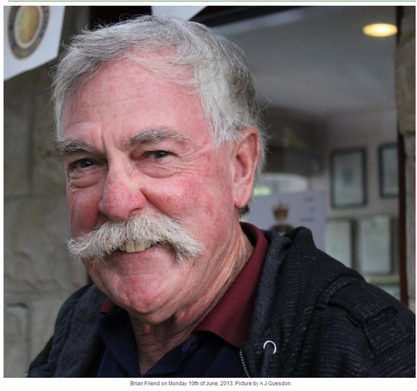
Premier's 2013 Community Service Award for Pittwater - Michael Mannington, Volunteer Photography

Michael Mannington, 'photographer at large' at Woody Point Yacht Club's annual Putt Putt Regatta, January 2012, with Cheeky 'pooch at large'. Picture by A.J Guesdon.

This photo of a photographer 'at large' who remarked moments before it was taken "*here we are again ..pretending to work..*", captures a little of the essence of a gentleman who has supported hundreds of community organisations and their volunteers over many years and for countless hours by providing a keen eye and clear lens to capture their events and peoples. What makes Volunteer Photography a success in our community, like the thousands of others here who devote their time and energy to investing back into community, is that money is only worth so much and cannot buy all things. Some other worth applies. Providing the shot without cost, an acknowledgement that we should keep a record and get the message out, bothering to get it as it actually is by not standing outside and looking in but engaging with what is happening are just a few earmarks of what MM, and those who work alongside him, bring with them.

More HERE

Brian Friend - OAM



Brian Friend on Monday 10th of June, 2013. Picture by A.J Guesdon.

Brian Friend has 47 years of giving to the children and adults on the Northern Beaches as either a coach, instigator of off season activities like touch footy, by raising thousands of dollars for charities and community organisations or saving lives while on duty as a water policeman. He, along with two other Pittwater residents, were acknowledged for their contributions last Monday.

Pittwater's OAM's 2013

Ivor Arthur Davies (Iva) - *For significant service to the music and entertainment industry as a songwriter and performer, and to the community*

Shirley Phelps - *For service to the community of Pittwater*

Brian Friend - *For service to touch football, and to the community of Manly Warringah*

More HERE

Community Consultations of the Independent Local Government Review Panel at Dee Why - the Transcription

Time is running out to 'have your say' on both the **proposed changes to Local Government**, **The White Paper** and the **Metropolitan Strategy for Sydney**. **Submissions to the 28th of June** is the date for the three. Instead of trying to make you look in three directions at once or refer to *Background* ***Terms of Reference*** *Briefing Papers* prior to trying to work out what the succinct definitions of parameters and limits may be, we provide what has been said by those representing Pittwater community groups at Dee Why on June 4th, 2013 at the Community Consultation by the Independent Local Government Review Panel as a permanent record of their words.

In **Issue 116** we will run the plain words of what we have heard from you during past weeks on the **White Paper** and the elements of this that seem to be apparent already in state government initiatives such as the Joint Regional Planning Panel, which has overridden Pittwater Council on Stage 2 of the Oceanvale development at Warriewood, and granted a go-ahead for a construction that **equates to 55.8 dwellings per hectare**. Reasonable consideration of which parts of the White Paper you may object most strongly to will be our aim.

On Warriewood Valley: Pittwater Council published on Thursday (13.6.2013) the Warriewood Valley Strategic Review meaning up to 32 dwellings can now be built on undeveloped land, up from the previous maximum of 25. Council has rejected a request by the Director General of NSW Planning & Infrastructure Sam Haddad for flexibility on higher densities. The Review will allow properties in Fern Creek Road and Orchard Street to be rezoned to residential, providing local infrastructure can still be delivered to allow for the population increase. No change is proposed to the Southern Buffer area between Boondah and Jacksons Roads. Read the report in full here.

We would like all to know that the community group People for Pittwater will host the Better Planning Network on **Tuesday 25 June at Mona Vale Memorial Hall between 7pm and 8.30pm.** Speakers from the network will outline the proposed changes to NSW planning law and answer questions from residents. The Better Planning Network is an affiliation of nearly 400 community groups concerned about the changes to planning law that are due to come into effect by the end of this year.

All at Pittwater Online News would like to thank the many who have made our phones run hot and helped us with their insights into the many documents we have been scrutinising in past weeks. Please continue to contact us should you have anything you wish to contribute to next week's Issue.

Perhaps some of you are a little like us by now and can still see Ted Mack, slightly weary, with an occasional wry smile, defiant and departing, by choice, mere hours before..., via his own personal 'policy' of an Integrity Clause that is ever, and ever after.

Is there a better model...a better 'concept'?

Up or Out or an O that overshadows all else ?

Better yet ...o-o-o ... has been the firm and undeniable message to Macquarie street from Pittwater, and... state wide ... would a vision to be *a vibrant sustainable community of connected villages inspired by bush, beach and water*... where we can still turn to see each other, look each other in the eyes, be closer to bearing good fruit... from a good tree...planted in living ground?

Community Consultation at Dee Why Transcription

Past Features

Archives

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June 16 - 22, 2013: Issue 115

Articles This Week:

Front Page Issue 115

Avalon Tattoo 2013 - Avalon Tattoo 2013 Pictorial

Transcription of Speakers at Independent Local Government Review - Dee Why, 4th of June, 2013

RPAYC Match Racers Take Bronze at Match Racing Worlds

Premier's Community Service Award for Pittwater 2013

Brian Friend - OAM

Pictures: **Mona Vale Hospital Palliative Care Upgrade begins**- we asked Michael Mannington to go out in the thunderous lightning on Wednesday to get a few pictures of the upgrades to MVH - since these are historic images past this issue they warrant their own page.

Reflections By George Repin: **Alcohol in Restaurants before 1955**

Artist of the Month for June 2013: **Gemma Rasdall**- Marine Artist Extraordinaire ! Exhibiting at **RMYC Annual Marine Art Show June 6-16**

All Previous Articles

Profile: June 2013 - Pittwater Ladies- Christina Stewart, working mum with a passion for environmentally friendly cleaning!

Previous Profiles:

Barton Lynch Shane Withington Commodore Sloper Herminie Swainston Teresa Cutter Joanne Brigden-Jones Tamara Sloper Harding Katie Spithill Chris Salisbury Doug Crane Henry MacPhillamy Aim for the Stars Foundation Broken Bay Marine Rescue Pittwater Environmental Foundation Rotary Club of Pittwater Sophie Haythornthwaite Joan Fisher Mark Ferguson Veteran Carolyn McKay Christine Hopton Ian White Jack Elsegood Robert Grace Colin Casey Bob Waterer The Surfers Group The Palm Beach Yacht Club Pittwater Natural Heritage Association Pittwater Friends of Soibada Pam Bayfield Denise Casey Lynda Hill Belinda Grundy Paul Christie Neil Evers Andrew Holder Ian Curlewis Lange Theory Phil Colman-Peter Mitchell and Exploring tidal waters on Australia's temperate coast Geoff Clarke Palm Beach Sailing Club The Populaters Pittwater Camera Club Dragonfly Environmental Pittwater Community Hub Pittwater Community Arts Hayley Turner Samantha Shaw Danielle DuBois Mumpreneurs Neil Johnston Simon Hyland Paul Wheeler Ian McGiffen Brian Friend Pittwater Council Zonta Club of Northern Beaches Sydney Northern Beaches Symphonic Wind Ensemble Bei Loon Dragon Boat Club Margaret Molloy OAM Patricia Giles OAM Doreen Cherry Cindy Goode Milman Stephen Marr Bob Hamilton Simon Abbott Peter Rumble Graham Spong Sailability Pittwater Mona Vale Hospital Auxiliary Avalon Active Seniors Group Northern Beaches Orchestra Sonia Elwood June Lahm Valerie Vickers Karen Draddy Betty King David Hanley Les Ball Paul Webb Malo Legardinier E G Constructions Integrity Candles Monatones The Narrabeen Lakes Ladies Probus Club Inc. Nina Curtis Robyn McWilliam Gretel Pinniger Ted Blackall Edwin Barnard Doug Elliott Anthony Patrick Chandler Walter 'Wal' Wardle Avalon Beach RSL Fishing Club Avalon Voices Surfing Mums Inc. Northern Beaches Social Riders Stephanie Brown Judith Bennett Gemma Rasdall Gwynneth Ross Peter Verrills Tom Gilbert Tony Carr Gwenyth Sneesby Bobbie Squire Philip Bond Save Mona Vale Hospital Committee Southern Cross Wildlife Care Wingala Lapidary Club Surfers Against Suicide Tracy Ponich Katerina Cosgrove Christina Stewart

History: June 2013 - Pittwater Ferries Round II - The Erringhi- affectionately called 'the guy' this vessel is a great example of our sea channels as highways prior to roads to get produce to market

Previous History Pages:

Marie Byles Lucy Gullett Kookoomgiligai Frank Hurley Archpriest JJ Therry Sir Patrick Gordon Taylor Bowen Bungaree W. Bradley 1788 Journal Midholme Loggan Rock Cabin La Corniche La Corniche II Lion Island Bungan Beach Botham Beach Scarred Trees Castles in the Sand Dame Nellie Melba lunches at Bilgola Spring 1914 First to Fly in Australia at North Narrabeen Mona Vale Golf Club's Annual Balls Governor Phillip camps on Resolute Beach Ruth Bedford Jean Curlewis Mollie Horseman Charlotte Boutin May Moore Neville W Cayley Leon Houreux Frederick Wymark Sir Adrian Curlewis Bilgola Heron Cove Mullet Creek Shark Point Woodley's Cottage A Tent at The Basin Collin's Retreat-Bay View House-Scott's Hotel Bilgola Cottage and House The First Pittwater Regatta Women Cricketers Picnic Filmed In Pittwater Governor Phillip's Barrenjoey Cairn Waradiel Season The Church at Church Point Governor Phillip's Exploration of Broken Bay, 2 – 9 March 1788 Petroglyths: Aboriginal Rock Art on the Northern Beaches Avalon Headland Landmarks Steamers Part I Pittwater Aquatic Club Part I Woody Point Yacht Club Royal Motor Yacht Club Part I Dorothea Mackellar Elaine Haxton Neva Carr Glynn Margaret Mulvey Jean Mary Daly Walter Oswald Watt Wilfrid Kingsford Smith John William Cherry George Scotty Allan McCarrs Creek Narrabeen Creek Careel Creek Currawong Beach Creek Bushrangers at Pittwater Smuggling at Broken Bay An Illicit Still at McCarr's Creek The Murder of David Foley Mona Vale Outrages Avalon Camping Ground Bayview Koala Sanctuary Ingleside Powder Works Palm Beach Golf Course Avalon Sailing Club Mona Vale Surf Life Saving Club Palm Beach SLSC Part I - The Sheds Warriewood SLSC Whale Beach SLSC Flagstaff Hill Mount Loftus Pill Hill Sheep Station Hill SS Florrie SS Phoenix and General Gordon Paddlewheeler MV Reliance The Elvina Florida House Careel House Ocean House and Billabong Melrose The Green Frog The Small Yacht Cruising Club of Pittwater Canoe and I Go With The Mosquito Fleet - 1896 Pittwater Regattas Part I - Dates and Flagships to 1950 Shark Incidents In Pittwater The Kalori Church Point Wharf Bayview Wharf Newport Wharf Palm Beach Jetty - Gow's Wharf Max Watt Sir Francis Anderson Mark Foy John Roche Albert Verrills Broken Bay Customs Station At Barrenjoey Broken Bay Water Police Broken Bay Marine Rescue - Volunteer Coastal Patrol Pittwater Fire-Boats Prospector Powder Hulk at Towler's Bay Naval Visits to Pittwater 1788-1952 Pittwater's Torpedo Wharf and Range Naval Sea Cadets in Pittwater S.S. Charlotte Fenwick S.S. Erringhi

Park Bench Philosopher: Clapping Trees - Makers of the Blue Breath and Keepers of the Green Wing

News From Our Inbox, **Speed boat racing-Palm Beach, Florida 1920s, Warringah Mall Blue Moon Flash Mob,** Whales swimming next to Queenscliff - Sorrento Ferry, Paramedic, Modern Humans Did Not Settle in Asia Before Eruption of Sumatra Volcano 74,000 Years Ago, Sydney Ferry Race Australia Day 2013, Parasailing, Mysterious Monument Found Beneath the Sea of Galilee, Great Wall, Cruising In The South Seas 1934, Top Secret Drum Corps, Pilot Smile, **Health papers published this week:** Easy and Effective Therapy to Restore Sight: Engineered Virus Will Improve Gene Therapy for Blinding Eye Diseases; Post-traumatic Stress Disorder Treatment: Genetic Predictor of Response to Exposure Therapy; First Comprehensive and Prospective Characterization of a Genetic Subtype of Autism; New Details of Natural Anticancer Mechanism Uncovered; Understanding the Heart's Rhythm; Scientists Discover New Layer of the Human Cornea; Frequent Soccer Ball 'Heading' May Lead to Brain Injury; Men With Prostate Cancer Should Eat Healthy Vegetable Fats

Events: Soup for Soibada, Marine Art Show & Wine and Beer Fair at RMYC, Surfrider Foundations Solstice at DY, AVALON TATTOO 2013, Sausage Fest., Avalon SLSC Boot Sale, Unique Car Show at RMYC, COOL JAZZ FUNDRAISER, Sly Dogs at Church Point, Sydney Film Festival, Paddling-Walking, ANMM Exhibitions and Kids Events, Pittwater Camera Club, FoNLC Activities: if it's happening here it's probably listed HERE.

Food: Winter Pear - Packham's Triumph - the Australian Pear: some history, facts, recipes and a little about our Marie Byles speaking up for the Woody Pear

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Community News: RMYC Wine and Beer Fair on Today!!, Warriewood Valley Plan Adopted, Beeby Park Update, RFS INfo Evening, Pool Registrations, NSW IRB Championships at Newport, Better Planning Network at Mona Vale, Community Building Partnership Program To Open Shortly, Funding For Improved Waste and Recycling Initiatives, 21st Annual Pub2PUb, MONA VALE HOSPITAL AUXILIARY STALLS FOR JUNE TO DECEMBER 2013, Historic Photo puzzler, Avalon Craft Cottage At St Ives, **BUSINESSES CAN CONNECT AT JOBSHED**, World Environment Day 2013, Screening in Avalon for REFUGEE WEEK, Our Councils Notices and more

Environment: Plunging Fish Numbers Linked to Dam Releases, Avalon Dunes Bushcare, Save Pittwater.com + People for Pittwater.com.au , Plastic Facts, Bird Shower, Lightning, Leakage of Carbon from Land to Rivers, Lakes, Estuaries and Coastal Regions Revealed, Iron Fertilization, Process of Putting Iron Into Ocean to Help Capture Carbon Could Backfire, African Starlings: Dashing Darlings of the Bird World in More Ways Than On, PNHA Activity: Birdwatching & monitoring, Warriewood Wetlands: Winter Birds, **COOEE JUNE 2013**, **FishMap**, New App for Gardeners, local Environment groups, and organisations.

Lynda Hill: Update 25.5.13: **Keeping One's Counsel Versus Letting It all Out: May's Partial Lunar Eclipse**

Pictures: Mona Vale Hospital Palliative Care Upgrade begins- we asked Michael Mannington to go out in the thunderous lightning on Wednesday to get a few pictures of the upgrades to MVH - since these are historic images past this issue they warrant their own page.

Children: For you this week: Seeing Stars SKA Art Prize 2013, Cotton Candy Flower, Little Kids and Big Kids at the Avalon Tattoo, How to Make Your Own Environment: how to grow a Grass Head, **How to Make Your Own Terrarium, How Whales Sleep, World Oceans Day 2013- The Four Australasian ocean currents, I'm A Little Teapot with Lyrics, Boys and Girls Day on Brookvale Oval, Would you like to fly?, Laughing Quadruplets, Peninsula CommUNITY of Schools Art Exhibition, Aboriginal Cultural Performance for Children, Logo Design Competition Aboriginal Heritage Office, OUT LOUD for Children, Sydney Youth Writing Competition, Sydney Youth Cup, The Animal Sounds Song, Childrens Marine ART at RMYC, Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards - 2013, NONSENSE BOOKS By Edward Lear. E-BOOK, The Owl and the Pussycat Video of Real Owl and Pussycat + The Owl and the Pussycat 1870 and The Duck and the Kangaroo , Nutty Story and Rhyme Time at May Gibbs' Nutcote,** LET'S READ NATIONAL EARLY LITERACY CAMPAIGN, **Picture Books Online, Children's Storytime at Mona Vale Library**

Youth: Shorter and Taller Young People at the 2013 Avalon Tattoo, Pittwater Ferries Round II - The Erringhi, Seeing Stars SKA Art Prize 2013, The perfect wave...in a Basque mountain valley, The Dalai Lama speaks on education, Young Endeavour – celebrating 25 years, Flight Radar 24.com, Surfrider Foundation Solstice Jam at DY, Rugby League Day on Brookvale Oval for YOU, Enquiring Minds - Models of Achievement, The Physics of Sailing, Splendour in the Grass 2013, INAUGURAL NATIONAL YOUTH AWARDS NOW OPEN!!, Luminosity youth conference, National History Competition, Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards - 2013, Surfing Goat, **Year 13: have questions? Get answers, The ECO. Clean Beach Initiative is looking for Australia's most passionate ECO. Warrior to be the face of its movement! Interested? New Facebook Page for young bands on the Northern Beaches, The Line, Mona Vale Library - Duke of Edinburgh Awards.**

Seniors; National Consumer Fraud Week "Outsmart the Scammers!" - 17 - 23 June, Health papers published this week: Exercise for Stroke Patients' Brains; Body Clocks Linked to Osteoarthritis **2013 COTA NSW Survey, Term 2 2013 - Computer Classes for Seniors at Newport,** How to make symbols using your keyboard, National Seniors Literary Prize 2013, local Support and Education Activities.

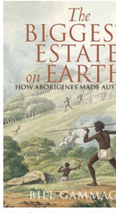
Community Clubs: Updates on Activities and links to sites.

Artist of the Month: June 2013 - Gemma Rasdall- Marine Artist Extraordinaire ! Exhibiting at RMYC Annual Marine Art Show June 6-16

Reflections: by George Repin. **This week; Alcohol in Restaurants before 1955**

DIY Hints: Annual Trade Day Notice

Collector's Corner: **Chinese Ginger Jars** – ancient storage receptacle, the customs of giving as gifts, decorative art after you've eaten the ginger!!



Books: For Children: Come to School Too, Blue Kangaroo! and Giggle and Hoot Deluxe Colouring Book, BONE ASH SKY by Katerina Cosgrove - read first chapter, The Biggest Estate on Earth (read first chapter), Conspiracy of Silence - Queensland's frontier killing times, The Baby Farmers, David Rivett - Fighter for Australian Science - FREE DOWNLOAD, Australian Native Plants - The Kings Park Experience, Linking Australia's Landscapes - Lessons and Opportunities from Large-scale Conservation Networks, Australian Bird Names - A Complete Guide, Allan Sparkes on What Makes A Hero

Old Books - June 2013: Thomas Alexander Browne - novelist 'Rolf Boldrewood'; A Sydney-side Saxon (1891), Robbery Under Arms (1920 film) + Robbery Under Arms: A Story of Life and Adventure in the Bush (1889) and in the Goldfields of Australia (1889), **READ THESE WORKS ON THE SITE- ONLINE**

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Avalon Tattoo 2013

The Salute during the March Past was taken by Major General Brereton accompanied by Commodore Geraghty.

Avalon Tattoo – 15th of June, 2013

The MC for this year's Avalon Tattoo, Andrew MacGregor who has performed this duty since the first, welcomed all to the Dunbar Park with *Cead Mile Failte – One hundred thousand welcomes* ladies and gentleman, ladies and lasses to the 2013 Avalon Tattoo. I am Laird Andrew MacGregor of Glencoe, your MC for today.

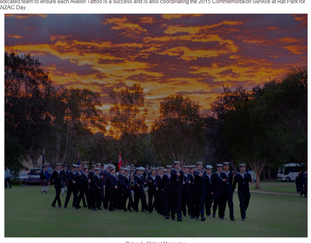
This year's Avalon Tattoo was a family fun day from beginning to end that brought together many of our local groups and organisations as well as being a great way for our younger people to learn about what options there are in the cadets to invest in and grow themselves while physically growing tall. The Tattoo is a significant event on the Northern Beaches and increases each year. It remains a free, not for profit, non-commercial activity and relies on the support of the volunteer participants.

This year, in keeping with the established traditions of this annual Northern Beaches of each service taking a turn to be the focus, 2013 gave all a chance to see our Royal Australian Navy and Cadets from Training Ships Condamine, Sirius, Tobruk, Hawkesbury and Sydney. The Challenge and Freedom of Entry was theirs to exercise this year. Inspector Graeme Pickering, Northern Beaches Local Area Command, NSW Police addressed the Challenge this year beside Pittwater's Mayor, Cr. Jacqui Townsend. The Salute during the March Past was taken by Major General Brereton, Head of Cadet, Reserve and Employer Support Division.

A highlight besides all the wonderful Pipes and Drum bands, was hearing the RAN Concert Band under the baton of Steven Starke. This band was formed in 1973 and the first concert band came into Sydney on HMS Australia in October 2013. A great reminder of the International Fleet Review on Sydney Harbour later this year.

A full list of all participants is listed below

This year we share Commdore Graham Sloper's (Rtd.) address as part of the Sunset Ceremony. Graham works tirelessly with a dedicated team to ensure each Avalon Tattoo is a success and is also coordinating the 2015 Commemoration Service at Rat Park for ANZAC Day.



Picture by Michael Mannington

AVALON 2013 TATTOO — DIRECTOR'S ADDRESS – Cmdr. Graham Sloper (Rtd.).

That was a magnificent Ceremonial Sunset and please join me in acknowledging the Cadets under Parade Commander LCDR Lois McKinney and the wonderful Royal Australian Navy Band under Bandmaster CPO Mark Ham.

We are trying something different with ground/click now being distributed. Please do not activate them until the massed pipe bands commence and, on completion, if not being taken home, please place them in the rubbish bins at the rear of the seats.

The RSL of Australia is an organisation of men and women who have undertaken military service for Australia, the Commonwealth or its Allies. There are sub-Branches in local areas which are separate to the commercial RSL Clubs but are usually co-located with them. The Avalon sub-Branch is proud to be able to host the Avalon Tattoo as a community service and especially in supporting our local youth and community support groups and organisations.

It would not be possible without the support and cooperation of the Pittwater Council which has enabled the annual Tattoo to be a major Northern Beaches event.

Before moving to thank those who have made the Tattoo such a success, I'd like to mention the Cadet Units on the Northern Beaches. There is the Australian Air League and then what are known as Community Cadet Units in 201 Army Cadet Unit, 2 Navy Cadets and 1 Air Force Cadets. The Navy Cadet Unit Training Ship Force Cadets who have only missed one. The Navy Cadet Unit Training Ship CONDAMINE has had mixed fortunes over the last few years with lack of Staff and a base. A study is being undertaken to determine the feasibility of re-establishing Navy Cadets on the Northern Beaches, possibly even here in Avalon. I have been advised that there may be flexibility in renaming the Navy Cadet unit and it might be TS PITTWATER or TS AVALON.

Names of potential staff and cadets can be given to the RSL sub-Branch, details are in the flyers being distributed.

And now a plug for the ANZAC Centennial. It is now less than two years to the Federal Electorates of Warringah and Mackellar combined March and Commemoration Service on the Sunday before ANZAC Day 2015 from Warriewood to Rat Park. All schools, community services and groups and sporting organisations are invited to attend and be involved in the planning. Warringah will have over 5,000 of the 20,000 at the Service. There will be massed school bands and choirs in the park for the Service and all the cadet units will participate. I often say a volunteer is someone who didn't understand the question so I volunteered to coordinate the Centennial Ceremonial. Please feel free to contact me about the Commemoration.

Youth Career Options. A welcome result from the Tattoo is the provision of career information to our youth. While the ADF gives advice on options and how to keep them open, other Community Services including RFS, Police and SES have had a number of enquiries.

Now for a few acknowledgements:

To the VIPs and special guests. Thank you for allocating time from your busy schedules. I would particularly welcome Mrs Ana Gutierres, representing His Excellency Abel Gutierres, Ambassador for Timor Leste, who sends his apologies as he had to be in Dili this weekend. In doing so I acknowledge the great work of Pittwater Council and the Pittwater Friends of Soibada in their cooperation program. Australia seems to have forgotten that nearly 40,000 East Timorese lost their lives in World War II supporting a small force of Australians. For the Defence and Community Service representatives thank you.

To the Crowd. The sub-Branch offers its thanks for your to enjoy and I hope today has been successful.

To the Participants. None of the performers nor the displays receive any financial assistance so their attendance is exceptionally generous noting these times of financial paucity. This is particularly applicable for the returns of the Federal Police Pipe Band from Canberra and the Pipers and Drums of the National Servicemen from Brisbane. This is their second year and hopefully, the National Servicemen's Band will be the lead next year as Tattoo 2014 when 201 Army Cadet Unit will exercise Freedom of Entry and the Tattoo will have an Army emphasis. Thanks to the Pipe Bands and the Concert Bands, one being apart from the NSW Fire and Rescue with their precision marching team.

To the Volunteer Workers. Again this year a very small number of volunteer worked tirelessly to make today possible. It is not possible to identify all individuals without forgetting someone but you have my and everyone's sincere thanks. Just to mention a few:

Robert Dodds and his group of Club and sub-Branch members who not only prepared the stage, flagpoles, lighting and awning but have to remove them on completion.
Andrew MacGregor who coordinated the displays and, with Linda, produced all the brochures, and then has been the MC
Peter Wilson, the Northern Beaches Narrhos and the Marshalls who controlled road barriers, vehicle movements and parking
The Navy Cooks and the Two Tanyas who provided the food for today including lunch sandwiches for 750.
The VIP Coordinators or should I say controllers lead by **LTCDL Richard Morgan**
Welcome back to Mark Bradbury after his accident who coordinated the ceremonial
Ted and Ann Noble of the Rural Fire who coordinated the pipe bands
David Willingham for the castle background
The NSW Police for the traffic control for the Street Parade

What is The Future? Some of you may have heard rumours from a small vocal minority opposed to the Tattoo but I can assure you that this great event will continue. Next year will be 201 ACU's Freedom of Entry and an Army emphasis. There is the possibility of a large number of armoured vehicles and even of financial sponsorship which might then allow some reimbursement to participants for their costs in attending. The

participants have been requested to provide constructive criticism on improving the Tattoo and, as something new, comments from spectators to the sub-Branch email on the New Castle fleet, or on Facebook would be welcome.

Finally, Special Mention is made of our Community Service representatives and the youth organisations. We have heard the bands from Mater Maria, Pittwater High and Barrenjoey High Schools. The participation of the RFS Cadets, Sea Scouts and SES in the Street Parade together with the Sea Scouts Fire Display Team complement the Navy, Army and Air Force Cadets and the Australian Air League with the Australian Girls Guides. The sub-Branch is honoured to make this Tattoo commitment to the community, especially to our youth, the future of Australia.

Michael Mannington's Volunteer Photography Public gallery here

Our Annual Avalon Tattoo Pictorial

Hon. Bronnon Bishop, Hon. Rob Stokes, Silvio Di Pietwaller, Cr. Jacqui Townsend and Inspector Graeme Pickering, Northern Beaches Local Area Command, NSW Police.
Picture by Michael Mannington.

The Pipe and Drum Bands
Burwood RSL Pipe Band
Pipes and Drums of the National Servicemen's Association
Australian Federal Police (CCPB) Pipe Band
NSW Rural Fire Service Pipe Band
NSW Fire & Rescue Band and Marching Team
Australian Air League Riverwood 'Hornets' Drum Corps
RAN Band Concert

Cadets and Sea Scouts
RAAF 22 Squadron
Australian Intelligence Corps
205 Squadron AACC
Rural Fire Service and Cadets
Australian air League
NSW Seat Scouts and Cubs
Fire Team Display (Fire Twirlers) by Sea Scouts

School Bands
Barrenjoey High School
Mater Maria College
Pittwater High school

Community Groups, Displays and Information
Australian Navy Reserve Dive Team
ANR DT Five
Pittwater Friends of Timor Leste
NSW Rural Fire Service
NSW Ambulance rescue
NSW Marine Rescue
State Emergency service
NSW Police
Rotary Club of Pittwater
NSW National servicemen's Association
Vietnam Veterans (Northern)
Vietnam Veterans Motor Cycle Club
Vietnam
Skippy 'QANTAS' Squadron
St Johns Ambulance
Warringah Scottish Society
The Clan Gregor Society
David's Larder (Scottish Food)
Scottish Banner (Books and music)
White Heather (Scottish Accessories)

Hon. Bronnon Bishop, Hon. Rob Stokes, Silvio Di Pietwaller, Cr. Jacqui Townsend and Inspector Graeme Pickering, Northern Beaches Local Area Command, NSW Police.
Picture by Michael Mannington.

Lone piper David Browers of Clan Gregor with Hon. Bronnon Bishop, Federal MP for Mackellar.

Pictures by Michael Mannington and A J Guesdon, 2013.

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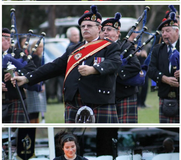

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Pittwater Online News

June 16 - 22, 2013: Issue 115

Transcription of Speakers at Community Consultation by the Independent Local Government Review Panel at Dee Why – June 4th, 2013

Professor Graham Sansom- Chair of the Independent Review Panel attending.

On Tuesday 4th of June 134 people from community groups and residents of Pittwater attended the community consultation session conducted by the state government appointed Independent Review Panel.

The evening opened with Professor Graham Sansom- Chair of the Independent Review Panel, showing graphics to give insights into how the panel were now reaching a "crystallised" stage of what will go into their final report to the NSW State Government.

Professor Graham Sansom then invited the first of 13 people who had applied to speak to give their presentation into matters they wished taken into account when drafting the final report for state government, the follow on from the November 2012 *Better, Stronger, Local Government: The Case for Sustainable Change* and April 2013's follow on from that *Future Directions for NSW Local Government: Twenty essential Steps.*

Professor Sansom requested that all speakers not repeat anything anyone else had already said once their turn came.

Our apologies to the one Warringah resident who attended, Brian Halstead, for omission of his articulate, insightful and succinct submission. We assure you, sir, that we intend to launch Warringah Online News as soon as we can and it will be For, About and By Warringah.

We have also omitted two speakers who spoke on matters not relating directly to the matters in the papers to be discussed.

Harvey Rose former Councillor and former Mayor of Pittwater on behalf of the People for Pittwater:

Thank you very much for your presentation (To Prof.) but I cannot see any reason why that presentation would lead to a recommendation for the merging of our councils. I cannot see in the latest report any reasoning or detail for the recommendation of the amalgamation of our councils. I'm at a loss to see what they are.

I speak for People for Pittwater which was formed late last year which was put together by former mayors and community leaders from the save Mona Vale Hospital Committee and Friends of Currawong members. As you would know we have put in a submission to this forum.

I would stress at this point that the panel has a moral obligation and responsibility in this matter. It's not just economics or some theory about when this model should be employed in Sydney, it's about things that people are connected to, that underpin our everyday life. Most of all it's about community connection, community. The panel must recognise that it has a moral responsibility, I want to stress this because it doesn't get stressed often enough, you're not just playing with people, you're playing with people's lives, and their connections. There's a moral ethos, and if you do the wrong thing, if you undermine the connections we have, as we do have a connection to our councillors most other councils do not have in community structure, in community actions. There is abundant evidence today of overwhelming of community support against amalgamation.

I would like to reiterate the level of community support we have in Pittwater; specifically, I remember how hard our community fought to establish Pittwater Council to ensure the unique and environmental character of the local area was properly represented. I do not think an adjacent council and amalgamation with them would benefit us. I strongly support a local identity and democracy provided by our own council which has served us faithfully and well over the past 20 years. We have 60 thousand people in Pittwater, already an above median population per council.

Our submission also talks about financial liability. Our council, according to recent reports, is among the top 30 of NSW Councils to have financial stability, as seen in the report of May 2013. If the council's among the top 30 as far as financial stability and the council's beside us are finically stable, why would you want to combine us? Why would you want to cause problems?

Why do you want to cause all the financial problems of bringing us together to end up having to then go through what has happened in Queensland where councils that were forced to amalgamate and now having to de-amalgamate once more at considerable cost to those councils on top of their previous amalgamation costs.

Pittwater Council has of course finally been recognised as a successful council with the Bluett Award for most progressive Council and the best council in NSW.

The way forward for our region is what we have suggested before, is to build in all regional areas something similar to what we already have here in the form of SHORAC where we get together on all community issues; on health, on transport. This has worked marvellously for us and millions of dollars have been saved so far, it is already working.

Our shared services will come. All of those things will come. Why interfere with something that's already working? Why would you de-stabilise it ? Why would you upset everybody? Why would you mess up the financial viability of three financially viable councils by talking about amalgamating them? I really do not understand the basis for your current report's recommendation. I ask that the Panel recognise that Pittwater Council is held in high regard and affection by our community and our community, I assure you, will mount a vigorous campaign if there is any move towards a forced amalgamation. I will say in closing on this issue a few paraphrased words from Dylan Thomas;

The people of Pittwater will not go gently, they will rage and rage against the dying of the light!!

Shane Withington on behalf of the Friends of Currawong:
Thank you very much. Firstly; No!, it's a bad idea. (To Prof.)

Pittwater Council, as you would know, was born of the people. We de-amalgamated, we broke away from a council that was sending the high rise ever further north like those you see down here (at Dee Why). We felt more then ignored and abused by the members of the then current council.

Small is good. Pittwater Council is available to the people, the councillors are accessible. You can confront them in the street, they love being confronted in the street. If you call them, they answer their phones. But importantly it is a council that was fought for, a council that is new, and a council that was made by the people to escape a larger council. So no!

Secondly; we are used to bad ideas coming from the state government. The state government though it was a great idea to shut our hospital; what? That's a bad idea…that's a really bad idea. And it took these people, in this room, years and years of dedicated fighting to save our hospital and the people running it and they should be congratulated. That would not have happened, I don't believe, under a super council, because you are then divorced from the seat of power. The further away you are the less power you have. We can access our councillors in Pittwater.

The other bad idea regarding Pittwater that came from state government was to build basically another suburb inside the National Park at Currawong. That was an appalling idea. They wanted MacMansions to be built inside a park that's on the state heritage register. They wanted to destroy the National Trust listed cottages and pick up the heritage listed homestead Midholme and take it away. These are bad idea, but people here fought for 15 years against overwhelming odds, against panels similar to yours.

Pittwater is not a square on a map, it's not Chatswood, it's not Brewarrina, it's not Mudgee. It's the Tasman sea, it's a thin strip of land that has been ecologically sustained. You have Pittwater, then the Kuringai Chase National Park and then the Hawkesbury River, it's not your average council area. It has a lot of very specific issues that must be maintained and we care about them and cared enough about it to fight to secede and so naturally when we are threatened with these kind of things happening or these proposals are raised we will fight. **We don't want to become more of Warringah, we don't want to become Balgowlah by the sea, we want to have what we have now because it is a very successful and a very viable council.**

Council amalgamations failed in New Zealand. I don't believe they were successful elsewhere either.

I think **it's disappointing that you state your ideas have crystallised before anyone has had a chance to speak**. We're coming second already in this debate. It's also nice to see that you've cited the UK as a recipe to follow for council amalgamations here. I'm here to tell you that the UK is not the recipe for here. The map I saw of councils in distress were in western NSW. Maybe we should be talking about amalgamations of council's in NSW because we don't want that here. We like our council as it is.

Robert Dunn, former Councillor and former Mayor of Pittwater:
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission, and for previously, through your chairman, hearing my address. As I then stated, I believe that your paper. "Future directions for NSW local government-20 essential steps," was extremely disappointing in many respects.

To begin with, you seem to have completely overlooked all but one paragraph of your terms of reference. The first four paragraphs of your terms of reference, with respect make no reference to amalgamations whatsoever. They emphasise the need to address future needs of local communities and include the important requirement of the ability for local representation and decision-making. Yet you focus only on point number five-"barriers and incentives to encourage voluntary boundary changes." In the guidelines that follow, you also only focus on the fifth dot point "take into account the Liberal-National's 2011 election policy of no forced amalgamations." You also apparently allow yourself to be dominated by the referral to the "State Plan", which apparently includes some form of lip service to becoming the biggest and/or best state, and or making Sydney, a pre-eminent global city.

Whilst you're supposed to make sure that your recommendations meet the different nature and needs of regional rural and metropolitan communities-you finish up with only the one concept for enormous super councils-a policy which may be summed up as "Enormity by conformity " or one cap fits all.

You start off apparently justifying this approach by reference to the financial sustainability argument suggesting that amalgamations are necessary, because of the financial predicament of many predominantly rural councils. When you come to the metropolitan area, you change this argument by suggesting that western Sydney councils are enormous in size and you suggest the other financially stable but smaller councils have to conform with this size structure-to fit into the concept thus "enormity by conformity."
Although you pay lip service to keeping local government "local"-none of your arguments or recommendations come anywhere near this concept.

You suggest that perhaps having some sort of district forums would fill the void.

You fail to make any distinction between a small local community being able to be self-governing, as distinct from having some advisory role without any actual say in self-determination.

You refer to the New Zealand and the United Kingdom experience of large regional councils and as well as Queensland and Victoria, following their forced amalgamations. You acknowledge that the policy in Queensland has somewhat failed in that there is now a strong move for de-amalgamation, which is an extremely expensive process, and yet some communities still desire to take that course and shoulder that expense. You fail to mention the Victorian example, where there has been little evidence of the cost benefits that were claimed before the process started. You also failed to point out that the New Zealand and United Kingdom examples are within a system of national government, but not State government. Hence the analogy does not have any bearing since the State government itself can be seen as a regional government within the Australian governmental system.

In relation to the argument about financial matters necessitating amalgamations, you fail to take into account the fact that State government policies over many years of rate pegging have probably been the main contribution, rather than mismanagement by the councils themselves to the crisis in sustainability that has occurred.

Perhaps the greatest disappointment is the lack of a intellectual rigour that appears to have been applied to your deliberations so far. Instead of weighing up the "big" options against the "small" options, you have rather simply adopted the "big" option and disregarded the rest. At the time when Pittwater Council was formed, the Boundaries Commission of New South Wales followed a most rigorous process in putting the new proposed Council to the test. One of the intellectual arguments that was considered and debated was encapsulated in the studies of Prof Michael Jones and his book on Australian local government. In that book, Prof. Jones argued strenuously and logically that the advent of modern technology had rendered obsolete, the arguments of economies of scale-simply because these economies are available without adopting the huge bureaucratic administrative structures previously advocated by the "big is better" school of thought.

The councils of Pittwater, Warringah, Manly and Mosman are well served by the SHROC voluntary and cooperative organisation, which allows retention of individuality and local democracy, whilst assisting councils to adopt a collective approach at a business or commercial level.

Furthermore, councils are able to widely sub-contract services directly themselves from larger corporations in the business world without having to adopt the bureaucracy of large management in doing so.

Overseas, there is the example of Switzerland, which rejected altogether, the large centralised governmental approach in favour of a collective of smaller local entities or Cantons. In northern France, there are the examples of many Councils consisting of just a Mayor, and a few personal assistants able to contract for all services and public works without any large or structured bureaucracy at all being necessary.

In defining your concept of "large" fits all-you suggest that (see page 45):
"it should not be so large as to challenge the primacy of the State but have the stature, maturity and skills to be a respected partner and to develop a productive working relationship with state and federal agencies."

One could say that if you are really "an independent" panel, you might well consider that you should be recommending an end to State government rather than pandering to its ego to be number one again. You would not seek to justify your argument at and of amalgamation of the North Shore councils of Sydney simply on the basis of reducing what you refer to as "excessive fragmentation into small or relatively small units", by suggesting that retaining those financially sustainable and efficient small units simply cannot be allowed within the "big model", because it would be inconsistent with the "super council model", as advocated by you.

Far from referring to your terms of reference, you justify your whole approach by harking back some 40 years to the Barnett commission in 1973, and you ignore everything that has come since, including apparently modern technology, and for that matter, the Pittwater experience in becoming the first Council formed in New South Wales by secession in 1992. Pittwater Council although deprived of substantial reserves and having to start from a very thin base has proved to be successful in winning the Bluett award for outstanding local government and continuing to meet the needs of its residents and ratepayers over the period of 21 years since its proclamation. Pittwater Council owed a great deal of course to some of its smaller neighbours such as Lane Cove Council; Manly Council and Hunters Hill Council. To dismiss these small successful councils as simply "fragmentation" , against the reincarnation of the big amalgamation models of 1973 is simply outrageous and insulting and as mentioned requires the unthinking acceptance of your concept of "enormity by conformity" or is it "conformity by enormity".

Either way it is undemocratic and unacceptable.

With respect you should readdress your terms of reference and find a more subtle and intelligent approach to local government "reform". You should allow in your deliberations for individuality and for efficiency from smaller organisations.
Respect comes not from sheer size but from the way you look after your community, from how you put democracy into effect.
You do not have to go back to 1973 to find those solutions.

Peter Mayman on behalf of the Avalon Preservation Society
I am speaking tonight on behalf of Avalon Preservation Association, a community group active within Pittwater for the past 52 years.

Tonight, we want to focus on your paper "*Future Directions for NSW Local Government*" and the issue of amalgamations.
We note that your review is apparently being driven by a requirement that NSW is:
QUOTE "*once more to become Number One* "
and that: QUOTE "*Sydney's population will be around 7 million.*"

We question these assumptions and ask what does Number One mean---is it for example to have the highest number of new building developments per year ?? and do we want to have 7 million people??

We submit that you should be questioning both of these assumptions and seeking the views of the people of NSW.

Your proposal to shrink to 15 councils in metropolitan Sydney is based on:
QUOTE "*There is simply not enough revenue or sufficient numbers of skilled staff to sustain 152 councils across NSW*".
You go on to argue that:
QUOTE "*mergers should be pursued where they can make a substantial contribution to addressing financial problems, reducing fragmentation of resources and duplication of effort, and building strategic capacity for the long term*".

There may be a case for mergers to be pursued in some parts of NSW, but in the case of Pittwater none of these pressures are applicable. Finances are strong [in the top 30 in the state]. There is no problem of fragmentation of resources, which, where appropriate, are dealt with by shared resources, for example the Kimbriki waste facility, and further, Pittwater's long term strategic capacity is assured.

You may be tired of hearing claims of many areas being special or unique BUT some can be more unique than others! and Pittwater is truly unique.

It is truly unique. Why?-because it is the only council in 100 years to be devolved and separated at the demand of the residents in the Pittwater area because Warringah failed to recognise the needs of a socially, environmentally and culturally different area.

Pittwater residents have already paid an additional levy for seven years and now paying a Special Rates Variation of some 30 million dollars, on top of their rates, for the next ten years. This is to rectify the neglect and misallocation of expenditure by Warringah council prior to separation.

This separation has been highly successful and the idea of being forced [or induced] to re-merge after only 21 years is unthinkable to a very large number of Pittwater residents---indeed some are saying it is so ridiculous they are not going to think about it [so they won't be here tonight].

Separation has been successful partly because Pittwater council has been harmonious, non political and non-factional and at every stage has attempted to consult its community and has successfully managed its finances.

Pittwater does have relatively high rates. This is due in part to the need to maintain a large number of beaches, wharves, seawalls, waterways and paid lifeguards. These are special features enjoyed by locals but also by visitors from the whole of Sydney and large numbers of national and international tourists. It is therefore not credible to claim that amalgamation will see a reduction in the rates of Pittwater residents.

We applaud your reference to:
QUOTE "*the importance of keeping the local in local government--the sense of place and community identity so important to the quality of peoples' lives* "", but we see no evidence of this in your proposals. Indeed we see the opposite.

You state:
QUOTE "*Opponents of amalgamation rely heavily on the argument that local identity will be lost in bigger local government units, that larger councils will pay less attention to specific needs of different suburbs or neighbourhoods and will fail to take steps to maintain their character. Certainly people may fear that this will happen.* "

Yes! This is not just a fear, it DID happen. These are the very reasons that led to Pittwater's separation.

You state:

QUOTE "*The objective will not be met by self interest and special pleading.*"

We ask you to reconsider this. Surely the whole point of consultation is to hear local and probably self interested but definitely informed views, remembering the quote "*keeping the local in local government*".

Our special pleading is based on the unusual and one-off history of the birth of Pittwater and its ongoing success.

WE URGE YOU TO WITHDRAW YOUR RECOMMENDATION FOR ITS RE.AMALGAMATION.

Peter Mayman (Chair)
Avalon Preservation Association

Mark Walsh
Thank you; Let's recall these words…*that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.*

Lincoln's words at Gettysburg still crystallise the essence of government. Pittwater Council is measures up to this test, so does Warringah council, so does Manly council. Earlier this year I had the experience of local government in action when a modern day dispute between neighbours came before council. At the fortnightly meeting council gave both sides a full and fair hearing and the benefit of their decision form which no member of the public was shut out. Their dispute resolution was based on a fair decision process took into account the views of the neighbours and interested groups. It was government in action and by our form of local government we entrust to our councillors our plans for our environment. They were elected so we can have a say in who looks after our interests and they are responsible to us. We like this model, we like that our councillors take their duties very seriously and we respect them for their sacrifice and for the time that they contribute to us. For that we thank them.

There's a difference between state and local government, councillors are elected explicitly by voters and it's a form of government that is very different from state government. The state government has a much broader reach; it looks at the allocation of state wide matters such as education or state wide railways whereas local government takes place within our community and is subject to ongoing and constant consultation with our community. That's its genius, that's its success, that small is beautiful, that very point.
The state government has very important business but it's located in Macquarie street essentially and consults with the broader community around the state and that's the difference between the two. An enlargement of council areas will mimic the state government in duplication. Whereas in Pittwater we have access to our councillors; if we see them on the street or at the beach or pool we talk to them, we're not subject to some faceless executive or minister who determines the changes to the community, which in the case of our still recent split, was far from the consultation process or responsible action.
The essence of this is that we live in an environment not an economy.

Eye contact with one's peers, our contact with our councillors and its officers, gives us our sense of community; not having to contact or deal with someone who operates just on numbers. Einstein said 'not everything that matters can be measured and not everything that can be measured matters.'

Spare a thought for the public servant closed in an office making a decision on abstract and theoretical matters on regional government in a rational way and without the benefit of the feedback that councils receive. Larger bureaucracies also become great lobbyists and it is of course a source of great annoyance to a lobbyist that they cannot exist in a municipality or a small region.

We've heard earlier about Switzerland; it's success is due to 'bottom up' processes, by comparison the pharaohs and every government since in Egypt has been 'top down' and spun numerous smaller units.

We know that twenty years ago Pittwater Council became a reality and since that time the residents of Pittwater have determined our planning instrument to project our vision. The heart of that vision is Pittwater Council's mandate and we, the residents of Pittwater, wish to preserve our council for the benefit and enjoyment of the residents and also most importantly for our guests, our visitors, many from overseas.

The amalgamation of our council will reduce the opportunity of council for community consultation and lessen responsible representative government. We are custodians of a great place of national beauty; this we do through our council of Pittwater, through planning policies and protection of the lands that we hold in trust. Finally I would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of our land, the Guringai and other peoples on whose land we now stand. I pay my respects to the elders past and present.

Eunice Raymond on behalf of Save Mona Vale Hospital Committee and Co-convenor of People for Pittwater
Claims that amalgamations will enable economies of scale are spurious. Pittwater Council is a well run and efficient body. It must account for every dollar spent from a tight budget on which many calls are made. Its financial reports are regularly published and are easy to read. The ratepayers can see if there is wastage or inefficiencies (more than what can be said of state and federal regimes). Pittwater Council is also optimum size to enable community input. Local government is primarily about participatory democracy. It is our only chance as state and federal governments are, by their nature and size, representative governments. Consequently, it is imperative that we maintain our independence.

As Chair of Save Mona Vale Hospital Committee we have seen the outcome if, as part of a much larger body, Pittwater matters are ignored. In our fight to save the hospital we were totally ignored by both Warringah and Manly Councils. Indeed, we were actively opposed. Pittwater council must remain a separate autonomous Local Government Area.

Tony Eadie: thank you Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen.

I have a long history in Pittwater, Pittwater has a long history itself. It started out with rum coming into the area via Barrenjoey and a Custom's Station was set up to tax those doing this. My grandparents in the 1940's and 1950's owned the Newport Arms Hotel. I was born in the Hunter Valley and we used to come down here for holidays and stay with them.

I'll make this brief because we all feel the same thing here tonight. Pittwater has for a long time been the a!s! end of the peninsula but it is the best bit of the peninsula and we want to keep it that way and the one thing we can do for this is show solidarity as we have tonight. I fell very humble when I see who is representing us here tonight and how well they have spoken so I want to keep what I say very brief. All I can add that I am one of many who disagree with what has been proposed for Pittwater and that I for one want to see us all keeping Pittwater the way it is. Thank you very much.

Jenny Cullen:
The message that I hope you will take home tonight is that you have come to an area where the people who fought for then elected their council truly love and respect it and wouldn't it be wonderful if all the people in NSW could experience what we have experienced in living with a council that you can access and can work constructively with. I'm sure like many of the people in this room, we are part of many local groups, we are people who give lots of time voluntarily because we can and we're also the sort of people that if we're looking out the window or walking along and see something we don't like, ring up council and write letters.

Tonight would be a night to say thank you to all the councillors I see around here, all the past and present council staff, because when those things have bothered me and bothered lots of you, big things like saving Currawong or smaller things like saving a bit of bush that you care about, when you ring up…someone answers the phone. They do return calls and emails, and they do try to work with you respectfully and constructively.

We, with our joint huge amount of pester power, which we sometimes devote to pestering council, will now devote that time by many many times, to pestering anybody who tries to take that privilege away from us.

I would like you to add a bullet point that I didn't see in your earlier presentation; which to me is a missing link here with the reference to Einstein on things that count but cannot be measured. **What you are seeing here tonight is an involved citizenry and that is the fundamental building block of a vital democracy**. There has been much comment lately about the increasing tendency, particularly regrettably, of the younger generation that is coming along to not be quite as involved in local community groups and political guidance and in the whole process of democratic government. They learn from Pittwater though because what we have learnt form being part of Pittwater council is that anybody and better still, a group, can make a difference. All the people in our local and federal governments are genuine people trying to do a good job. In the case of Pittwater council and its staff we know they really care. It doesn't mean always mean we'll come back to exactly the same solution. When you engage in our process you begin to understand the very complex compromises and advances that anyone here has to make and so you are more engaged at the other levels of state and federal government.

If you want to create a very strong democracy people need to experience their ability to make a difference and experience it at the local level.

The other thing I'd like to add is that in my experience as a local public school primary teacher is that both Warringah and Pittwater councils do absolutely unique and fantastic jobs in supporting schools to educate their children about the local environment and about good citizenry. And again it is at that age that people learn that they can actually make a difference. The sorts of programs that both those councils offer are to my knowledge the best I have ever heard of and they are tailor3d to very specific environments.

One example of this is there is a specific and ecologically endangered community at Duffy's Forest ; Warringah Council has a fantastic program to teach children about that through excursions to our environment centre where education officers are available. There are people who will visit the schools, people who will give you advice on looking after the environment by visiting local schools. The people who help schools look after their local bushland and educate their children are our local governments.

I would love it if you could get that as a model for the whole of NSW where you involve young people and involve citizenry that will then go on to care about other levels of government.

Karen Lambert on behalf of the West Pittwater Community Association
I'm speaking on behalf of the offshore areas of Pittwater tonight. And that is a very very particular and unique aspect that Pittwater has; an offshore community. **To use an appropriate analogy I would say offshore communities would be swamped by amalgamation**.

Pittwater's offshore areas are a very particular…council has 28 wards they have to have to upkeep and maintain and the council, because of our unique situation with the Pittwater (estuary) and the waterways, actually works in partnership with the community there. That is really unique and really important. Many people have already spoken about our access to council so I won't go there. I have had a number of people who dealt with the state government twenty-two years ago say this would be an incredibly backwards step.

The quality of the relationship we have with the council should be supported now and in the future. It's sustainable now and we now it is the model that works for us and it should be taken up by your panel as such.

I'm just going to make a few points regarding some of the issues raised in your paper;

Pittwater has excellent consultation. Amalgamation would weaken this and we all know that the 'local in local government' works best. Again; we already have that so why would we want to change that.

Financial realities and fiscal responsibilities; Pittwater does not have these issues and I think all will acknowledge here that Pittwater really punches above its weight in this regard. It must be acknowledge that we, or council, provides infrastructure that benefits people in the wider metropolitan area as well as its own residents. We do that and we're still financially viable so why would you change that?
With regards to infrastructure backlog; I think people have already spoke of SHROAC that offers opportunities to combine on economic on scale to provide services and infrastructure. That is already happening; amalgamation is not necessary to provide that.
Many of my points have been made already but I would like to raise this;

I did work in state government for 12 years and I do understand that the tyranny of remote locations is an issue, and I can understand the difficulty for people of western NSW. It's a huge burden and Point 14 where you talk about the rural councils issues and I think that in general there is probably a feeling that metropolitan areas should support rural areas because in return we are supported by them. I also think that another issue that is felt in some parts of Pittwater is that the best vestment of infrastructure by state government through its instrumentalities and authorities and its surface delivery of infrastructure to councils needs scrutiny.

You made a point before about the buying power of a statewide Combined Council's for low interest council loans; that's a great idea but is not contingent upon amalgamation.

Finally, you mentioned that local councils are getting more complex. I'd like to suggest that part of this is because state government is decentralising its responsibilities to the councils and doing so because they're cost cutting their own responsibilities and in doing so are shifting this burden onto local government.

We should be very wary of that; we should call a spade a spade and in closing; let's keep Pittwater as it is. Thank you.

Fred Murry-Walker on behalf of the Clareville and Bilgola Plateau Residents Association (CABRA) – secretary
I am Secretary of the Clareville and Bilgola Plateau Residents Association which represents some 1000 households.

I would like to acknowledge the Guringai Aboriginal people as the original Custodian of our land and to say that I am extremely envious that they knew Pittwater before any development occurred.

This address is a cut down version of our submission. We have eliminated the supporting detail in order to keep to your time limit.

Our first point is that there is an underlying attitude of 'one size fits all' and yet no compelling reasons are given.

Secondly, the report fails to consider alternate ways, both financial and procedural, that would lead to improving local governance.

We will give some quotes and they all come from "*Better Stronger, Local Government: The Case for Sustainable Change*". November 2012:

The first is Page 10 "*Local government is the democratic representative of communities. It is 'close to the people'. It can lead communities. It can be the voice of communities. It can moderate between competing interests. It can create places that make lives better. …To be an effective partner in the broader system of government, local Government must be both* ***truly*** *'local' in the way it relates to communities, and Have the ability to address problems and emerging issues at a larger scale.*"

Page 11, Box 2: You list 17 points under the heading, "*Elements of an Effective System of Local Government*".

Pittwater may not be perfect but it comes pretty close to achieving those values and elements. But more importantly, although you identify them, you place no value on them in determining whether amalgamation is needed. It seems that the only criterion is 'Bigger is Better'.

On Page 23, you actually say: "A 'one size fits all' approach is **untenable**."we repeat, 'untenable'.

Now we would like to turn your attention to alternate ways of improving local governance.
Page 9:

"*On the whole, councils continue to deliver a reasonable range of services and do so quite efficiently. But on closer examination it becomes evident that underlying financial problems and infrastructure backlogs are mounting; grants are not being allocated sufficiently to areas of greatest need; many more councils should be applying for Special Rate Variations; efficiency, effectiveness and regional collaboration must be improved considerably to make the best use of scarce resources; there are too many layers of regulation; too many councils focus on compliance rather than performance; the local government associations need to play a stronger role;.*"

So what have governments, in particular the Department of Local Government, been doing to discharge their responsibility to support and oversight local councils?

You identify the problems, and then apply a pollyanna attitude that amalgamations will fix everything. This is lazy and fatuous thinking.

I am appalled at the lack of financial analysis in this report. Nowhere is there any detailed cost justification for amalgamations. It's all ethereal. If this was the private sector, proper business plans including detailed financials, costed benefits, implementation costs and risk analysis would be done. We are after, all talking, about 152 businesses with almost $10b revenue streams.

The elephant in the room is the State Government.

This proposal to amalgamate local government areas is fundamentally a funding problem. Nowhere in the reports have we found that local councils are over delivering on the level of service and infrastructure or that the funds are being wasted. On the contrary, the evidence is that available funds are being well applied but that they are insufficient, a result of decades of one size fits all state government imposed rate pegging.

The state government has the responsibility for managing the level of expectation of services and infrastructure to be delivered and having set that level, they are then responsible for the funding. They are entitled to force some self or local funding but if that is insufficient, the State Government must make up the shortfall or ***reduce the expectations***. What they are not entitled to do is to impose arbitrary boundaries ignoring commonality of issues.

One more quote from Page 20 which obviously refers to the White Paper headed 'A New Planning System for NSW'.:

"*There is a risk that policies designed* ***to increase*** *housing supply and improve affordability will impose* ***an unsustainable burden on council budgets and ratepayers.*"**

You see, while on the one hand the State government is whinging that local councils are inefficient, on the other hand they are imposing layer upon layer of cost.

Another example is the 'Overland Flow Mapping and Flood Study'. This was imposed on all councils and cost Pittwater at least $100k plus considerable ongoing costs. This money has been an utter waste. The risk may or may not be real but the problem could have been easily resolved by the State Government taking other action or even no action.

Our final point is to look at the very reason for this meeting. I'll bet that many millions have already been spent over the years getting to this point, yet, I'll bet that the need for more funding was intuitively known to any practitioner or academic familiar with the local government sector and I'll bet that the findings of this committee are nothing more than a political cover for the State Government to postpone and/or avoid its financial responsibilities.

We are not being disrespectful to you, but we are appalled at the waste of money when the aim is to save or at least spend more efficiently. We are appalled that so many people are wasting their time and money on matters that have self-evident solutions and we are particularly appalled that so much time and money will be spent on amalgamating council areas when amalgamation is not required and which would then be de-amalgamated as in other states.

In short, 'if it ain't broke, don't fix it.'

This sentiment is particularly felt in Pittwater. We fought hard and long for independence to prevent the destruction of our special character and to ensure the efficient expenditure of resources back to the community from which they were raised and we will continue to fight until you leave us alone.

We thank you for the opportunity to present our point of view.

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RPAYC Match Racers Take Bronze at Match Racing Worlds

RPAYC Match Racers Take Bronze at Match Racing Worlds

Royal Prince AlfredYachtClub Members Katie Spithill, Jessica Eastwell, Stacey Jackson and Maryann Thomas teamed up with their Italian crewmate Alessandra Angelini and took on the Women's Match Racing World Championships in Korea, sailing in K30's.

Katie and Team were lucky to be offered the wildcard for the event after Katie's ranking dropped to 175 (highest being 2) due to some time out and also recently becoming a mother.

The girls decided it was a great opportunity to get some of the old team back together and go to the event to have some fun. Well the girls did more than just that, finishing 5th in the Round Robin they raced Swedish Match Racing Olympian Anna Kjellberg and Team and won 3-0. Progressing to the Semi Finals they were paired against the current Match Racing Gold Medalist Spanish Tamara Echegoyen in 3 hard fought races with multiple lead changes but did not come out on top. This left them to fight for 3rd place in the Petite Final. Racing against Russia's Match Racing Olympian Ekaterina Skudina they lost the first race and fought back to take the next 2 races with a 2-1 scorecard to take a podium place.

Katie, Stacey and Jessica were all previous members of the Australian Women's Match Racing Team and when that concluded they all took some time out to focus on other things. Jessica has become a science teacher at an International School in Belgium, Stacey is running the Reichel Pugh 66 'Black Jack' based in Brisbane and Katie has been busy with a newborn baby.

We asked Katie for a few insights into how it felt to get back under competitive sails;
'It was fantastic to be back on the water again, after some time off and then maternity leave I was ready to get back into it. Ideally some training and a lead up event would have been great, but time didn't permit any of that so we went straight into the event without any training'.

'Our result was well beyond my expectations for the event, whilst I always want to win the aim for the event was to get back into sailing for fun and with friends, to be able to achieve this and a podium finish was fantastic'.

'It was definitely different traveling to this event, the first time I have had a family to travel with me! My husband came to help look after my baby girl Chloe (6 months), whilst I was on the water.

What's next?

'What is next? Good question, right now my priority is my baby girl but I can't lie that I must say I have the sailing bug again, and will be keeping an eye on the Regatta Calendars to see what I can possibly fit in.

WIMRS Press Release

Tamara Echegoyen, Spain, is the 2013 ISAF Women's Match Racing World Champion. But final opponent Camilla Ulrikkeholm of Denmark didn't let the Spaniard continue her amazing record of only victories from the previous rounds. Sailed in breeze with gusts up to 25 knots, the exciting finals ended 3 - 2 in Spanish favour.

- It was a really difficult day, with wind changes and puffs that forced us to always stay close to the other boat to try and control them. Now I'm just so happy, and very proud of my great team. They've done a marvellous job, and I enjoy every day with them, Tamara Echegoyen praises her crew Sofia Toro, Eva Gonzalez, Mariana Lobato and Lara Cacabelos.

Camilla Ulrikkeholm fired off some Danish dynamite this Busan Sunday (**9.6.2013**)on the second event of the inaugural Women's International Match Racing Series. First defeating Ekaterina Skudina by passing her on the last downwind in their last semi final match, when both boats broached and got their spinnakers through the fore triangles. Ulrikkeholm managed to get the control back quicker, approaching the finish line and leaving the Russian behind with a kite that tore completely into pieces.
Then Ulrikkeholm went into the finals and there she shook up the - until then - unbeatable Echegoyen, beginning with two straight wins in the final matches. The road was then open for a Danish delight, but Tamara & Team wanted something else and fought back:
- I think Camilla & Co had more speed than us, and it was very difficult staying ahead of them. I had to think for myself that everything was still possible, that we had to focus on each race, relax and try to sail the best we could. If we could win all week before, then we could for sure do it again, Echegouyen comments.

- We know that we are strong in big boats and a lot of breeze, and we felt that we had everything to win against the Olympic Champion Tamara, Ulrikkeholm says, explaining why it went wrong in the last three final matches.
- Well, in the first one we got penalized for not finishing a gybe in time, in the second we lost a crew overboard when she wanted to hike a little extra and lost her grip, and in the last match we made a bad start at the leeward mark, and you can't afford such things when racing against Tamara Echegoyen!
- I want to congratulate Tamara and her team. We gave everything we could, but it wasn't enough for gold this time. However, if you ask us tomorrow I think we will be satisfied with our silver medals, Ulrikkeholm laughs.
- We had really amazing matches and a great fight, I liked this week from start to finish. My next event is the 49er European Championships in Århus, Denmark, but I will also have to try and fit a few more match racing events into my schedule, Tamara Echegoyen smiles.
Camilla Ulrikkeholm's next event will be the Danish Open Ladies Cup, sailed June 20 - 23 at her home waters of Skovshoved, Denmark.

In the petit final in Busan, Katie Spithill lost the first match against Ekaterina Skudina, but then managed to get back, defeating the Russian in two thrilling matches, and securing the third place and the World Championship bronze medals to Australia. She was more than satisfied with this accomplishment, as she hasn't been at the helm in match racing for two years:
- **It was great to get back out there and remember how it's done. I think I have the match racing bug again now, and I just need to figure out how to finance some more regattas. A big thank you to my crew, who did an awesome job everyday on the water**, Spithill says.

Regatta Director Alfredo Ricci was also very pleased with his sixth successful event in Busan, Korea:
- Absolutely, we are extremely happy and very proud to host the ISAF Women's Match Racing World Championship for the first time here in Asia, he says, explaining their way of looking at things:
- Our approach is to always listen to the sailors' feedback, taking care of any possible issue they may come up with. We are already looking forward to next year, being an important part of the Women's International Match Racing Series, he declares.

In the Women's International Match Racing Series' standings after two events in France and in Korea, Tamara Echegoyen is now sharing the top position with Lucy Macgregor, Great Britain and Anna Kjellberg of Sweden.

Results in the ISAF Women's Match Racing World Championship 2013 in Busan, the second event of the inaugural Women's International Match Racing Series (skipper/nationality/WIMRS points/prize money):
1. Tamara Echegoyen, Sofia Toro, Eva Gonzalez, Mariana Lobato, Lara Cacabelos, ESP, 25, USD 20 000
2. Camilla Ulrikkeholm, Trine Palludan, Louise Ulrikkeholm, Josefine Boel Rasmussen, Joan Vestergård Hansen, DEN, 22, USD 15 000
3. Katie Spithill, Alessandra Angelini, Jessica Eastwell, Maryann Thomas, Stacey Jackson, AUS, 19, USD 12 000
4. Ekaterina Skudina, Silke Hahlbrock, Ekaterina Chashchina, Tatiana Lartseva, Vera Dubina, RUS, 15, USD 10 000
5. Anna Kjellberg, Johanna Larsson, Karin Almquist, Linnéa Wennergren, Anne Wennergren, SWE, 13, USD 9 000
6. Alexa Bezel, Corinne Meyer, Romy Hasler, Manon Luther, Laurane Mettraux, SUI, 11, USD 8 000
7. Susannah Pyatt, Karleen Dixon, Jenny Egnot, Jenna Hansen, Raynor Haagh, NZL, 9, USD 7 000
8. Claudia Pierce, Hannah Osborne, Aimee Famularo, Paige Cook, Janelle Peat, NZL, 7, USD 6 000
9. Sung-Eun Choi, Won Hee Seo, Moon Mi Kim, Jin Sook Choi, Som Da Park, KOR, 4, USD 5 000

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Premier's 2013 Community Service Award Winner Announced - Thursday, 13 June 2013

Member for Pittwater Rob Stokes today announced volunteer photographer Michael Mannington as the recipient of the Premier's 2013 Pittwater Community Service Award.

The award was presented at a reception for Pittwater's community leaders at Mona Vale Golf Club and acknowledges exemplary service to the Pittwater community by a local volunteer.

As the founder of Volunteer Photography, Michael has spent countless hours providing free professional photography services to local charity, community and sporting organisations, and also played a pivotal role in the successful community campaign to return Currawong Beach to public ownership.

"There are countless community groups in Pittwater that have benefited from Michael's skills and generosity," Rob Stokes said today.
"I'm constantly amazed by Michael's passion for our community and his enthusiasm to support our diversity of local groups and associations.

"The services Michael provides are often beyond the financial reach of many of our local community groups so there's enormous appreciation for his work.

"Michael is quickly becoming known as the 'everywhere man' due to the huge number of community events he assists with.

"Michael's work behind the scenes certainly hasn't gone unnoticed and in many cases has proven invaluable in raising awareness and attracting support.

"This is a truly fitting award for one of our community's most tireless volunteers," Rob Stokes said.

We spoke to Michael after he had recovered from his shell shock and asked for a quote on how it felt to be honoured and recognised in this way.

"It is an honour to receive this award. I have been privileged to meet and work with most of the community groups in Pittwater. The community spirit in Pittwater is inspiring and it is rewarding to be able to capture and record the marvellous work done by so many volunteers."

Michael Mannington and Hon. Rob Stokes.

Photos by Mike O'Flynn, Volunteer Photography.

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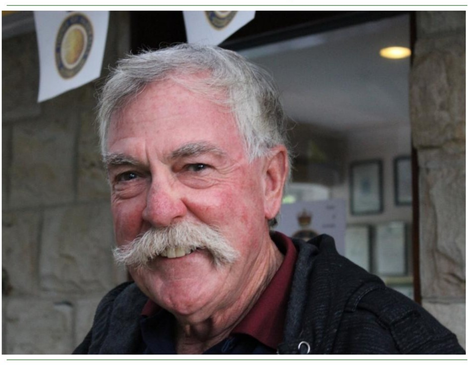
Brain Friend - OAM Recipient 2013



Brian Friend – OAM

Last Monday, 10th of June 2013, we were invited to a small private gathering in the home of Robyn and Brian Friend to celebrate this Pittwater gentleman being recognised for decades of service to our community by being honoured with an OAM.

Friendly, usually so verbose on any subject brought up, seemed lost for words for a few minutes, a little overwhelmed. His kindness and generosity to all he comes into contact with is well known, thus the handle 'Friendly' to so many of our local children.

Mrs. Friend, Robyn, trying to not to cry, warmly thanked Cr. Bob Grace who did all the paperwork and then explained to guests to her he had always been 'BF' and then, when recognised for saving the lives of those imperilled on the Votan, and recognised for his bravery along with fellow water policemen, Roper Lars Scott 'Buster' Brown and Gordon Wellings with a Queen's Commendation for Bravery in 1974, could affix the letters 'Q.C., B.C.' as well.

With four Life Memberships, well known for all the thousands of dollars he has raised for children, Friendly's devotion to community would leave a fit man exhausted. Therefore it must all come from a giant's heart.

Even now he is invited to speak at local schools on a range of topics and can do so in a language that has the knee high and shoulder high enthralled. He will even turn up just to read a story.

Pittwater Online News can attest to his generosity towards us; he is the man who made us aware of Pittwater's very own Mother Goose. He is the gent the editor calls when puzzling over a detail of local history and works behind the scenes in helping us identify how to do certain stories and has devoted days to liaising on all those Pittwater legends whose stories should be on the record…again for all those we love and adore…our younger people.

If everyone who friendly has invested his time and energy into could add just one sentence to this you know it would be a very long book. Instead, when the big hearted man did speak it was to, characteristically, ascribe his being able to do for others to the support he gets from his family – his praise goes to having 'three of the best sons and daughters in law, a wife who is the best thing around, not that he's biased, and five beautiful grandchildren who keep him on his toes."

He also stated it is all the people who take over and keep going works like the Touch Footy he started. These are those he feels are also recognised by this honour.

"I've coached 518 kids since I started with Keith Feebely years ago and was given the nickname 'Friendly' , the name that sticks – sometimes I think I've spent more time coaching kids then raising kids."

Friendly at Bear'N'Joey Kindy - reading a story.

Brian Friend - A list for Insight

Executive Member, Manly Warringah Business Houses and Services Touch Football Association, since 1994; President, for one year; Secretary, for 15 years; Life Member; Competition Director, for 5 years; referee, for 18 years.
Founder and Executive Member, Bangalley's Junior Touch Football, 2001-2008.
Founder and Executive Member, Hole in the Wall Touch Football Association, 1993-2008.
Co-Founder and Executive Member, Warringah Touch Football Association, since 1983; Life Member; Registrar, for 10 years; referee, for 19 seasons.

Coach, Avalon Junior Rugby League Football Club, since the 1970s; President, for 3 years; Member, Grounds Committee; Life Member.
Life Member, Manly Warringah District Junior Rugby League; referee, for 21 years.
Member, Avalon Surf Club, since 1965.

Fundraising activities for a range of organisations including:
Mona Vale Hospital Children's Ward.
New South Wales Police Legacy.
Bear Cottage, Manly.

Current Chairman, Metropolitan North Retired Police Association.
Current Chairman, Retired Water Police.
Current Member, New South Wales Police Association.

Awards/recognition include:
Centenary Medal, 2001.
Queen's Commendation for Bravery, 1974.
NSW Police Commissioner's Commendation for Courage, 1974.
Australia Day Citizen of the Year, Pittwater Council, 2000.

And now: MEDAL (OAM) OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA IN THE GENERAL DIVISION - Mr Brian David FRIEND- For service to touch football, and to the community of Manly Warringah.

Cr. Bob Grace and Robyn Friend.

Proud father and two of his sons + one he calls 'part of the family' - Fez running late.

Peter Vernis

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MV New Palliative Care Building Upgrades Begin

On Wednesday morning, 12th of June 2013, we received a short excited note from Eileen Gordon, president of the Mona Vale Hospital Auxiliary, that the units to commence the upgrade of the Palliative Care unit at Mona Vale Hospital were arriving today.

We immediately called our photographer at large, Michael Mannington, winner this week of the Premiers Award for Pittwater 2013, to see if he'd just 'pop down' and get a few shots. While making this request thunder roared over the roof of the office and white lightning did a quick lap of the bricks prior to exploding one second later.

"Sure, sounds good." was the answer…and off he went.

The Prefab units pictured here came from Melbourne by truck overnight. Drivers stopped at Pheasants Nest then came with a police escort to Mona Vale. The Units were built in 4 weeks and then will be assembled in 2 weeks making building completed in just 6 weeks.

We contacted Rob Stoke's office for a comment since this gentleman has worked hard beside the Mona Vale Hospital Auxiliary, the Friends of Northern Beaches Palliative Care and the Rotary Clubs of Pittwater, Terrey Hills and Narrabeen Lakes, Pittwater Council and many others in the community who bought a cake from one of the hundreds of MVHA stalls or did anything else they could to ensure this project went ahead:

"It's fantastic to see construction underway on another vital infrastructure project at Mona Vale Hospital. This project has been in the pipeline for years - so to see it reaching fruition is a huge boost for our community."

We include a few extracts from Hon. Rob Stokes address at the Community Service Award on Thursday for those who could look across the Mona vale Golf Course from the clubhouse and see these works:

"that building has been two decades in the making. Those of you have been very involved in that project during that time will know that Jim Longley in 1995, then member for this district, made a commitment to match whatever funds were raised by the community to build an extension to the Palliative Care facility at Mona Vale Hospital.

Then there was a change of government …and priorities changed, and the money that had been raised by the community ended up in an organ of government I'd never heard of before called the 'Dormant Funds Commission'.

Fortunately, by very hard work through a number of people, that money was taken back out and the NSW Government was able to match those funds and subsequent fundraising efforts by the community, we are now able to see that building being erected.

I wanted to draw that one example that yes, it took twenty years to deliver. So while there are many battles on the way, please remember that the work you do actually does matter. In the words of Margaret Mead "A few people acting together is the only thing that ever has made a difference in the world. Certainly in our community we see that happening everyday. It may indeed take twenty years for that to manifest but it does happen in the end.

That's not just a historical thing that's being delivered now, but the same spirit is causing big advances to be made right now. In fact the Hon. Bronwyn Bishop attended a fundraiser for Mona Vale Hospital just last night that raised 45 thousand dollars."

Final words must go to Eileen Gordon who, with her dedicated team, has done so much to ensure the success of this project:

"MVH Auxiliary is delighted to see the fundraising started by Cora Adcock in 1994 and added to by the Hospital Kiosk and Rotary Clubs of Pittwater, Terrey Hills and Dee Why/Warringah result in this $610,000, purpose built palliative care clinic . State Government, through our local member, Rob Stokes, helped with a grant of $240,000 with the balance - $370,000 - being donated by our local community. Thank you to everyone who supported this project -" Cora Adcock Centre for Palliative Care"

Eileen Gordon
President, Mona Vale Hospital Auxiliary

The next day, 13th of June, 2013.

Photos by Michael Mannington, 2013.

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Alcohol in Restaurants before 1955

By George Repin

People in restaurants and coffee lounges enjoying a glass of wine with their meal today probably have no idea of the limitations which applied, until the 1950's, to the service of alcoholic beverages.

Restaurants with liquor permits were severely restricted. They could serve only "light wines" and "malted liquors" which could be "*served only in a sealed bottle at the table at which the purchaser is seated and … opened in his presence*". The civilised practice, long established in Europe, of being able to have a single glass of wine with a meal was totally prohibited. No other alcoholic drinks, such as spirits, fortified wines or cocktails were permissible. Restrictions also applied to the design of restaurants with liquor permits. For example, they had to have at least 50 seats, which had to be individual chairs not loge or bench type seating – presumably for fear of what people might get up to if "inflamed" by alcohol.

A "meal" was strictly defined in the liquor laws as being "*…of at least two courses at which the persons partaking thereof are seated at a table, and one course of such meal shall consist of fish or meats, other than in sandwich form, and cooked vegetables.*" Salads did not comply and bad luck for the vegetarian.

In the evenings, unless it was convenient to eat between 6 pm and 9.30 pm service of a drink was unlawful.

Needless to say such restrictions severely impacted upon the popular night clubs such as the "glitzy" *Celebrity Club* (run by Joe Taylor) in the city, the atmospheric *Carl Thomas*' in a former wool store in Macquarie Street with a fine outlook over Sydney Cove and *The Roosevelt* (run by Sammy Lee) at Kings Cross.

Various devices were adopted to circumvent the law. Some night clubs and larger restaurants invited patrons to place orders for their liquor requirements no later than 5.30pm on the day of their proposed visit. The establishment then purported to buy the patrons' requirements before the hotels closed at 6pm and make them available to them when they ate. It some cases the liquor, in fact, was provided from supplies held by the establishment and sold illegally at highly inflated prices. Other restaurants with an established, regular clientele invited patrons to place orders with them, in writing, for their future requirements which would be held in individual lockers accessible when the patron visited. In some cases the number and volume of such "lockers" was greater than the area of the restaurant in which they were purported to be held. The extent of the illegal supply of liquor in restaurants - "sly grog" – was disclosed in evidence during the Royal Commission of 1953-1954.

Conditions for drinking in hotel bars were characterised by the expression "the 6 o'clock swill". Even in up market hotels such as *Ushers* and *The Carlton* in Castlereagh Street the bars were packed before 6 pm when the hotel doors were closed in accordance with the law and service stopped. Men jostled to buy and line up on the bar glasses of beer before 6 o'clock to drink in the twenty minutes before the call "Time gents please" emptied the bars at 6.20pm – again according to the law.

Major changes flowed from the Royal Commission into the Liquor Industry.

In 1951, because of great abuses in the liquor trade and extensive corruption in the policing of the liquor laws, a Royal Commission was established by the N.S.W State Government. It was conducted by Mr Justice Allan Victor Maxwell. After 140 days of public hearings, the examination of 411 witnesses and the receipt of 109 pieces of written evidence the Commissioner's report was released in February, 1954, with significant findings and recommendations.

Inter alia, the Commission concluded that "there can be no doubt upon the evidence that in the metropolitan area conditions associated with six o'clock closing are deplorable; apart from any other consideration, a refusal to attempt some reform involved in my opinion, the conscious perpetuation of a clearly established evil; in addition the present closing hour encourages sly grog and after-hour trading at 'Black Market' rates."

While the Report mainly addressed issues not related to restaurants, subsequent action to amend the Liquor Act gave the Caterers' and Restaurant Keepers' Association the opportunity to press for the changes it had long been advocating. Amendments drafted by the Association, dealing with the service of alcohol in restaurants, night clubs and catering establishments, were submitted to the Minister of Justice by a delegation in June, 1954. They covered matters such as trading hours, type of food served, service of aperitifs, spirits and wines by the glass, and the provision of bars in restaurants where customers could have a drink before sitting down for their meal.

The Liquor (Amendment) Bill introduced in the Legislative Assembly on 1 December, 1954 was a historic sensible step towards allowing the people of N.S.W to enjoy drinks, served in a civilised way, with meals in restaurants.

Further changes were to come in later years but the first big move away from the bad old days had begun.

Images: Description: The Bar, a painting by John Brack in 1954. Shows the phenomenon of the six o'clock swill.

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Pittwater Online News

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Clapping Trees

Self Determination waylaid all that had been superimposed on trees and thus unveiled their songs, their essence, again. The seventh garden could suddenly flow out, and the trees all clapped because we had saved them, because we were *Keeping* them and their precious *Being*. From them springs the manifest *Blue Breath*. We all live under their great *green wing*.

I remember our parents, and our parents' parents, all stood up and clapped the day we saved the trees. I recall suddenly thinking I could talk to trees again now, and going to sit under a ten thousand year old pine to wonder up to him what it must be like to be so old, to have lived through so much becoming.

"*It's not so old*," the pine tree said, "*I am younger then this mountain above me and this mountain Knows it is not as old as the sea*."

I *Remember* the day all the trees all stood up and clapped and the *Seventh-First Garden Flowed* unmantled, flowed as it had never done before. It wasn't the unleashing of chaos or great shock that rends asunder false profiteers had long pronounced. Their screeched false law had kept many ignoring the tempremens in our blood, had made us forget the way our blood fills our skin. Their fears had made skin into a thick muddy armour until the day came when we felt our blood spring up as the breath it is through our skin, like spirit rises up in our souls, and caused the muddy armour to fall as we sprang forward, fully formed.

This bursting out and bursting forward did not cause a bushfire or summon a hail storm that unroofed the nation. Sighing out of *Espiritos* breath did not make a lethal disease rear up and kill all the adored ones. Honey dripping redpurple orchids opening in midnights did not make the air such that all the women ran around tearing off their clothes. Although, some sang 'wholly wholly holy', and seemed drunk with love.

Cancer reached its rim and turned back to consume itself, or simply was released, like an exhaled breath, and in meeting air became pure Dew once more, as did all DisEase during the first meres of *Kismet*. The essence of love still changes to brimming the form it fills. The seventh garden is still soul forms filled with spirit. We are not awash and drowning in sighs unless we want to be. We are much more aware of how we celebrate everything, the making of a salad is the combining of tomatoes, lettuce, cucumber, where each ingredient, even the sea salt, and the sea it comes from, is thanked for being, especially since all these foodstuffs are at their finest meaning, there being no bled dry of minerals and oil and coal earths anymore. Constant celebration has led to perpetual communion. We all glow now.

Being filled with *meaning*, and *meaning making being* is ever. Forms pouring out the essence in them as much as being changed into another form by this shaping essence remains. Soul still shapes the spirit it cups, and this spirit still enspires the soul to forming and unfolding all its crystal dewed colours.

Espiritos still breathes within the *soul garden* and *flows* out in *song*. We are still creatures with blood warmed skin, and our spirits are still in song inside our souls. We are safe inside our ever souls. We have simply risen to a state of pure meaning and thus pure being.

Libere...liberty, not chaos, became, how could we have heard trees finally clapping any other way... how could we have chosen to not breathe and then, *Breathe*.

It was during these first meres of Kismet that all the wild stories of myths and faeroe tales romping in broad daylight came about. Urban songs of irate neighbours being able to wish a herd of elephants through their fellows' techno thumping barbecue, or little Janey bringing the abominable snowman into show and tell are jokes told by those who have not yet trod elephant lore or breathed the air the snowman comes from. The willing for and then sparking of the bound creation to become unbounding and resolved, restored, did not contain any elements of superimposing or oppression. That would be trespass, a taking of a wrong tread. The winning back of this first garden is by nature all about becoming, anything that is by nature a not becoming state its nature of unbecomingness and stays within rims until it has become what could burst forth.

Extract from WILL THREE: Part Two, of Village Green. Copyright A J Guesdon.

Park Bench Philosophers

We welcome contributions from all Pittwater residents in the form of anecdotes, memories, stories, poems or even matters you'd like to see addressed or changed in our area.

If you have something you'd like to share, something you'd like to start a discussion about, or even just a poem or story from yesterday or today we want to hear from you.

Contact us at: pittwateronlinenews@live.com.au

Please note that Pittwater Online News does not endorse any of the content of works contributed. Articles which contain swearing or may offend others will not be accepted. Please note that all works are posted unedited; you are the author, this is your page. Word Limit: 2000.

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Christina Stewart

Mums who also work are our heroes here. When they combine all they do with investing holistically in the future of the children they're raising the bar further. Combine this with making time to crochet ponchos and blankets for Soibada, cook rice and help out at Timor Leste Independence Day at the Avalon Maria Regina school and making items to sell for Pittwater Friends of Soibada on market days or joining in Sam Shaw's The Big Sing, who raised funds for the Soibada children by giving beautiful renditions of Christmas Carols at Woolies, and you have a full schedule of extra curricular activities. Add to that work as demonstrator for Enjo, cleaning products that are 'for life' and in turn add 'life' to the environment and you may want to exhale and sit down quietly for a strong cup of tea.

This week we are privileged to present a small insight into a lady who is one of Pittwater's echelons of working mums;

Where were you born?

This is my home town, Lech am Arlberg in Austria. A ski resort in the Alps. My husband John was doing the whole Aussie Backpacking thing and spent four months there in 1991/92. He liked the place so much he took back a local! On another note, ENJO is made just down the mountain from here!

A panorama of Lech am Arlberg by Niki Gango

When and why did you move to Pittwater?

We moved to Avalon 20 years ago. We knew we had to move to Sydney for business, which only knowing Leichhardt, Glebe and the City back then I wasn't too impressed with, until we visited John's cousin in Avalon and I just fell in love with the place! Coming from a little village where everyone knows everyone (and still feeling very home-sick) I needed to have a place with the same feel to call my home, lots of familiar faces, the guy in the post-office knows you, the baker asks how you enjoyed the cake you bought yesterday and the coffee shop remembers how you have your coffee.

You also work as an ENJO demonstrator, how did that come about?

I was so blown away the first time I saw ENJO demonstrated that I decided to have my own demo and I was so enthusiastic when inviting people that I had to have 2 demos with about 12 people each and as everyone was saying "you should be selling this" I signed up when the consultant came to set up. Never looked back and it's been 3 ½ years. My passion for ENJO was born from the necessity to find a part time job that fit around my family's needs. It became so much more, as I learnt so much about the dangers of chemicals to our health.

Having a child with special needs I meet some awesome parents with HUGE knowledge that I constantly refer to, like Laura Haynes, a kinesiologist, homeopath and Autism Therapist who has two children with Vaccine damage and has made it her life to know how toxic chemicals affect us and how to get them out of our system.

What's the best thing about being an ENJO demonstrator?

I learn something new at every demo like when I met Dr Hinton who teaches Chemistry at Sydney University. Dr Hinton explained all the cleaning chemicals, VOCs and bleach to me and taught me that anti-bacterial sprays kill our gut bacteria and with it our immune system, or the lovely old lady who gave me a bag full of bay leaves as they get rid of pantry moths the natural way... I do LOVE demos! I am a People person, so direct selling suits me to a T! I don't see myself as a sales person, I am a consultant. I find out what your needs are, demonstrate, let you try for yourself and then give you the opportunity to buy at full price, discounted in packs or earn for free at your own demo.

What is so different about ENJO cleaning products?

ENJO is a microfibre cleaning system which gets rid of 99.9% of dirt and bacteria without the need of any chemicals other than cold water. The main causes of asthma are dust, chemical fumes and mould – ENJO can get rid of all of them. ENJO is great for the environment, as there are no chemicals going down the drain and into the ocean. ENJO is great for your purse as it lasts and lasts and lasts and eliminates the need to buy cleaning chemicals as well as saving heaps of water and electricity. They're also recommended for vessels like yachts and launches as they can clean without using chemicals that may damage high gloss finishes. A family with 2 kids in Sydney spends an average of $ 15 - $ 18/week on cleaning chemicals and utensils, the ENJO Detox Pack averages $ 3.50/week

What is your favourite place in Pittwater and why?

I love Clareville Beach and McCarrs Creek, but my favourite is Avalon village for all the above reasons. I just love strolling around the shops and stopping every few minutes because I meet someone to have a chat with. I also IOOOOOve the Palm Beach coffee shop 2108.

What is your 'motto for life' or a favourite phrase you try to live by?

If I'm not sure about something I just like to go with my gut. If it turns out to have been the wrong decision at least my integrity is intact and I can still feel good about myself. But also; ***If it's worth doing it's worth doing right***. And; ***There's no failure there's only feedback. Learn from your mistakes.***

A Little more on ENJO

The ENJO success story starts in spring 1985: Friedrich Engl, a pragmatic, innovative entrepreneur, by chance observes an oil accident on the Lake of Constance which shores form the border between Austria, Switzerland and Germany. Experiencing the fight against the oil slick, Friedrich Engl develops the idea that should make it possible in future to avoid usage of aggressive chemistry and destructive cleaning agents for the purpose of remedying such extreme pollutions. Owing to his years of experience in the textile industry, Friedrich Engl designed a pioneering technical solution on the basis of textile fibrous tissue within the following five years.

ENJO was founded in Austria in 1990. It began with one unique fibre and through advanced research and development. ENJO has created an innovative cleaning system using only water. ENJO is cleaning without chemicals. The microfiber technology is 100 times finer than a human hair and each one of the fibers can hold up to seven times their own weight in water.

There are three ways of purchasing your ENJO Fibres. You can pay retail price, you can buy discounted in a pack or, best of all, you can earn it for free by hosting your own demo! All it takes is a few friends and a dirty bathroom – see, I even ask you to leave your house dirty! As a host we reward you for helping us share the message, so you are entitled to purchase Host Exclusive Packs, you earn ENJO $$$ to spend on your fibres and you receive ENJO rewards (half price items) when you or your friend decide to book another demo from your demo. On top of all that if you host a demo before July 14 you could get this:

We're taking a shine to every Host who hits Demo sales over $650 and secures one booking, rewarding your success with an exclusive nook-dusting Dust Mini and Indoor Miracle.

Available 1 June - 14 July 2013 or while stocks last

We like to make sure that you get the most out of your ENJO, which is why we do in-home demonstrations. But once you know how to use it, you can just contact me to order on 0414 48 98 57 or on Christina@enlightening.com.au or like my Facebook page www.facebook.com/ChristinaStewartEnjOpreneur

View over Avalon Village to west.

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June 16 - 22, 2013: Issue 115

The Erringhi

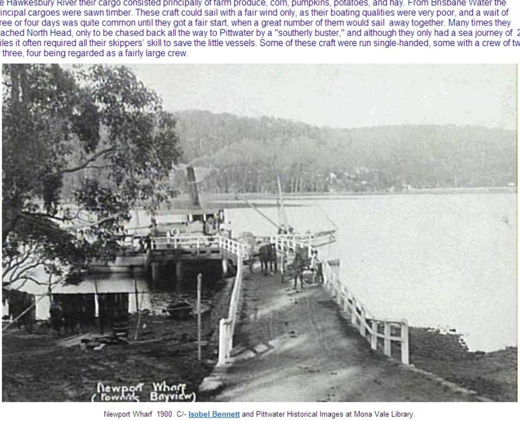
May 13, 1907 – January 13, 1951

The steamer Erringhi is a great example of all the produce and materials that came from Pittwater via boats to Sydney harbour from earliest settlement times. Timber, shingles (an early form of roof tiling) and onions as well as shells, which were scooped up, crushed and converted to lime, filled the vessels trading between Pittwater, the Hawkesbury and Brisbane waters:

Onions, 7 bags, from Pitt Water. **Shingles**, 71.000, from the Hawkesbury ; 80,000, from Brisbane Water ; **2000, from Pitt Water** ; 90,000, from Port Stephens :in all, 243,000. Shells,200 bushels, from Brisbane Water ; 675, bushels, from Pitt Water ; 776 bushels. LOSS OF THE BARQUE SUBRAON AND TWO SCHOONERS. (**1848, November 27**). *The Sydney Morning Herald* (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 2. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article28648191

These vessels were so numerous they acquired a name… 'the Mosquito Fleet";

THE "MOSQUITO FLEET." OLD HAWKESBURY TRADERS. The days when a fleet of as many as 72 vessels, instead of less than half a dozen as at present, plied between Sydney and the Hawkesbury River were recalled by Mr James Booth when lecturing to the members of the Manly and Warringah Shire Historical Society. From about the year 1840 and up to 1875,said Mr Booth, a number of small sailing vessels, of from about 15 to 40 tons burden, known along the coast as the "Mosquito Fleet," plied between the Hawkesbury River and Sydney from the estuary of Pittwater they carried mostly shells, which were burned for lime at the old Lime-street wharf, Sydney, and from the Hawkesbury River their cargo consisted principally of farm produce, corn, pumpkins, potatoes, and hay. From Brisbane Water the principal cargoes were sawn timber. These craft could sail with a fair wind only, as their boating qualities were very poor, and a wait of three or four days was quite common until they got a fair start, when a great number of them would sail away together. Many times they reached North Head, only to be chased back all the way to Pittwater by a "southerly buster," and although they only had a sea journey of 20 miles it often required all their skippers' skill to save the little vessels. Some of these craft were run single-handed, some with a crew of two or three, four being regarded as a fairly large crew.



Newport Wharf 1900. C/- Isobel Bennett and Pittwater Historical Images at Mona Vale Library.

As there were no roads in those days the transportation of produce and travellers depended on these vessels. Some were built along the banks of the Hawkesbury by the Peat family, who were first-class shipwrights(Peats Ferry still bears their name), a few were built in Pittwater, but the greater num-ber were built at Blackwall, Brisbane Water,by the Davis Brothers, Davis Town being named after the family. **About 1875 the farmers on the Hawkesbury formed themselves into a company, and had a steamer, which they named the Hawkesbury, built at Drakes yard, Balmain**. She proved a great boon to the farmers carryingan "outside" passengers' ticket, running the mails, and making two trips a week for about30 years. In 1882 a steamer called the Florrie was subsidised by the Government to run the North Coast mails from Gosford to Newport, Pittwater. From Newport, passengers and mails were taken on to Manly by Boltons line of coaches, these being the first coaches that ran to what was then but a fishing village.

As there was no bridge across the Narrabeen Lagoon the coaches were driven through the water, with the passengers' feet up on the seat and the horses almost swimming. Sometimes a boat was used, a coach being kept on each side of the lagoon. As the roads were only bush tracks it took four or five horses to pull these coaches and as on occasion sporting passengers would tip one driver half a sovereign to beat the other, some of the trips were exciting. The fare was 4/ single and 6/ return. About 1888 a boat called the **General Gordon plied across the Hawkesbury River, carrying the mails and passengers** to the two ends of the Newcastle railway until the Hawkesbury Bridge was completed, a change of direction that closed the careers of both the steamer Florrie and Bolton's line of coaches. THE "MOSQUITO FLEET.". (**1930, April 22**). *The Sydney Morning Herald* (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 10. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article16704624

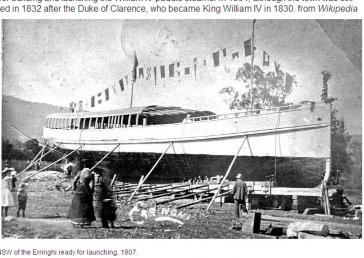
As Pittwater was cleared of her virgin bush orchards sprang up bringing in some of the best citrus, pears and other produce tasted. This was also the case along the lush banks of rich earth beside the Hawkesbury river. Both Pittwater and the Hawkesbury were renowned for their fishing culture too and getting that day's catch to market, as we saw last week with the **Charlotte Fenwick**, was a priority of the catchers and those who would transport them. These were loaded at **Church Point**, **Bay View** wharf as it was known then, and at **Newport Wharf.**

By the turn of the century it was getting quite crowded on the route between Sydney and Pittwater. Much of the transport was by water as the roads were still poor or did not reach all the way to where one may want to go. If you could sail to Pittwater in half a day, enjoy a picnic if an excursionist and return home in time for supper, or place your goods on a ferry that would get them to market on time, why would you attempt the bumpier longer path of a bush track? Better was being on a beautiful vessel whose whistle announcing she was near would bring everyone in what was then rural Pittwater to the wharves for news or simply to watch her come in.

One of the vessels that fulfilled this need in Pittwater was the SS Erringhi. It is thought she is named after the indigenous name for Clarence Town, where she was built and launched in 1907:

Clarence Town is a both a primarily rural locality and a township in the Dungog Shire local government area in the Hunter Region of New South Wales, Australia. It is 193 kilometres (120 mi) north of Sydney, 54 km (34 mi) north-north-west of Newcastle, and 28 km (17 mi) from the Pacific Highway at Raymond Terrace. The locality is bisected by the Williams River. The township sits just to the west of the river about 32 km (20 mi) upstream from where it flows into the Hunter River at Raymond Terrace. **The area was originally inhabited by the Wanaruah Aboriginal people who called it *Erringhi*.** There is a hotel in the main street of Clarence Town built in 1913 called The Erringhi Hotel. The township is most famous for building and launching the William IV paddle steamer in 1831, although the town was still called Erringhi at this time. It was later renamed in 1832 after the Duke of Clarence, who became King William IV in 1830. from *Wikipedia*

NEW RIVER STEAMER. CLARENCE TOWN, Saturday. A fine-looking boat, to replace the one burnt on August 3 last, intended for the river trade between Clarence Town and Newcastle, built by day work, under the supervision of Mr Andrew Smith, the engineer of the Williams River Navigation Company, was successfully launched this morning from the Clarence Town sawmills, the christening ceremony being performed by Mrs S.W. Dark, wife of the chairman of directors, who named the vessel Erringhi in the presence of about a thousand specatators. **The new craft is 110 feet overall, beam 21 feet, depth of hold eight feet. She will be towed to Newcastle to receive her engines, which have been built by Messrs. Morison and Bearby.** NEW RIVER STEAMER. (**1907, May 13**). *The Sydney Morning Herald* (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 6. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article14848535



Picture courtesyof State Library of NSW of the Erringhi ready for launching, 1907.

The Erringhi was known as "***the favorite old 'Guy,' as the Erringhi is called along the river***". The Erringhi worked here for a few years before heading further south, sometimes on some unusual missions:

TROUT IN WILLIAMS' RIVER. CLARENCE TOWN, Friday. In January last the progress committee applied to the Department of Fisheries for a supply of trout, and there arrived yesterday by the steamer Erringhi, In good condition, a consignment of about two hundred rainbow trout. The fish were taken, without delay, by Mr. S. W. Dark, president of the progress committee, to a suitable place, six miles above Clarence Town, and liberated into the Williams River. TROUT IN WILLIAMS' RIVER. (**1909, November 1**). *The Sydney Morning Herald* (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 8. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article15086322

WILLIAMS RIVER (BY O.H) Here and there, far from the din of within may be found, nestling beside quiet waters quaint little townships, around which still lingers the atmosphere of the "old colonial days." Such a place is Clarencetown. Quite unknown to the vast majority of Sydney siders the little village lives its daily round unvexed by the stress of a strenuous civilisation. No disturbing railway engine breaks with its raucous whistle the quiet content of the summer days. Telephones do not annoy, while the good news grows by keeping. Even the great North Coast railway has respected Its seclusion, and passing through Wallarobba Mountain, taps the Williams River higher up at Dungog. From Raymond Terrace, where the Williams joins the Hunter, right up to its source in the far hill recesses, the Williams is a thing of beauty and a joy for ever. Here I first knew what Ogilvie meant when he longed for the bushland, "where the vine trees kiss the river, and the ranges greet the stars."

From the eucalypts that fringe the shores comes the gladsome carolling of magpies, peewits, and kookaburras. As the day wears on the morning's activities, so exacting in the cow country, give place to the noontide rest on the farms; but the river is ruffled by craft of every description. Cream launches glide up and down stream, lifting the great cans from odd-looking landings on the banks. Here and there a row boat, with hunter or angler aboard, skims across the shimmering waters into some reed-studded tributary. An ungainly sternwheeler puffs noisily up stream to the township. Ocean-going steamers pass not infrequently for every foot of the Williams is navigable from "The Falls" to the Hunter. Every day the old favourite and the new Erringhi pass up and down to Newcastle, loaded with, passengers and pigs, cream and lucerne hay. WILLIAMS RIVER. (**1910, February 12**). *The Sydney Morning Herald* (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 5. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article15134994

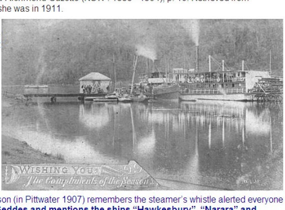
Although the Erringhi was bought in 1911 she did not commence her duties until early the following year;

New Steamer for the Hawkesbury. **The Hawkesbury R. S. N. Co., Ltd., have purchased another fine steamer, the Erringhi**,' from the Williams River. S.N. Coy. for their trade on the rivers. **The ' Erringhi ' is registered 95 tons, it is 22ft wide and 9ft deep and draws 7ft6in when loaded. The engine is a 14-28 with a 12in stroke, and her registered speed is 13 knots — equal to 15 land miles**. She is well equipped throughout, and was built four years ago on the Hunter River. Since then she has been running in the Williams River trade to Newcastle, the opening of the railway to Dungog being the reason for the owners selling her. As she is built on the same lines as the Company had designed for a new boat, she should suit the trade requirements splendidly and seldom or never miss an early market. The Hawkesbury River trade is unique in as much as its principal cargo consist of choice fruits, which must be placed on the early morning markets otherwise it would deteriorate in value. It is, therefore, necessary for the trading boats to run the bit of ocean (19miles) in almost any weather, often when much larger vessels are sheltering in Broken Bay. **The ' Erringhi is to take up the regular trips, and being the largest and fastest boat ever run in the trade she should give a good account of herself. Captain A. Jurd is in command of the 'Erringhi ' with engineer A. Brown in charge of the engine room.** Captain Ivory is skipper on the ' Stormbird,' which is to do the off-trips, and Captain H. Mitchell has command of the old s.s. ' Hawkesbury,' which is running the regular passenger trips. These boats give the river a complete service, and if the same generous support is accorded them in the future as in the past the Company, with its energetic manager, Mr. J. H. Dickson, expect to be able to keep a three-boat service without any increase in freights. As the addition of the 'Erringhi' to the Hawkesbury Co's. fleet brings the value of their boats up to nearly £ 10000, the Company have shown pluck and enterprise in launching out and keeping pace with the present prosperous time in this fast growing State. New Steamer for the Hawkesbury. (**1911, December 23**).*Windsor and Richmond Gazette* (NSW : 1888 - 1954), p. 10. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article85943573 Picture of Erringhi as she was in 1911.

The Hawkesbury S. N. Co.'s new steamer the Erringhi, came up last week, and appears to be a fast and commodious vessel. The Company are to be complimented for putting such a splendid fast boat on the river, and it is to be hoped that the orchardists respond heartily by their support. SACKVILLE. (**1911, December 30**). *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* (NSW : 1888 - 1954), p. 2. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article85948318

This version of the Hawkesbury Steamship company had 'New' as part of its name due to a previous company formed in 1854 of a similar nname. See HERE

Church Point and Bayview wharf: Mr. Johnson's mother's sister was married to Mr. John Oliver who, in an affidavit, described how residents flocked to the wharves when the steamers arrived and unloaded their supplies. The steamer carrying the tin used in the roof of houses A,B,C, would have been unloaded at the Bayview wharf, alongside the present William's Marine. Mr. Johnson (in Pittwater 1907) remembers the steamer's whistle alerted everyone to the approach of the steamers. Mr. John Oliver worked for **Mr. Geddes and mentions the ships "Hawkesbury", "Narara" and "Erringhi". (Mr Geddes owned property on "Brick Yard Hill" ½ mile from Wharf, east towards Bayview).** From '*Comments by the Early Settlers*' – St Johns Anglican document. April 13.2005.



Right Photo shows SS Erringhi and Paddlesteamer the General Gordon at a ferry wharf on the Hawkesbury.

The Erringhi quickly became a community loved vessel, part of its everyday life;

FOR THE HAWKESBURY RIVER TRADE. The steamer Erringhi, which was formerly trading on the Williams River, and has been purchased by the Hawkesbury Steam Navigation Company, Ltd., **for their cargo service to the Hawkesbury River**, was given a trial trip yesterday. The engines have been overhauled and over the measured mile yesterday the vessel attained a speed of close on 12 knots per hour. FOR THE HAWKESBURY RIVER TRADE. (**1912, January 6**).*The Sydney Morning Herald* (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 16. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article15300353

About 400 people — from Windsor and all along the Hawkesbury River — took advantage of the complimentary excursion given by the Directors of the Hawkesbury Steam Navigation Company, on Monday last. The Company's new steamer Erringhi ran the excursion, and took the big party to Newport, where they were landed for an hour. A full account of the trip is held over. No title. (**1912, April 6**). *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* (NSW : 1888 - 1954), p. 3. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article85846205

THE ERRINGHI The complimentary river excursion given by the Hawkesbury Steam Navigation Company, Ltd., to its customers along the river, and which took place on Monday, 1st April, was one of the pleasantest outings that has taken place on the noble river for a long time. The popular company ran its new steamer, the Erringhi, starting at Bennett's wharf about 6.30 a.m., and calling wherever there was one or more to pick up as far as Colo. From there the Erringhi had an uninterrupted run almost to Wiseman's Ferry, the Company having thoughtfully put on another steamer, the favorite old Hawkesbury, to pick up passengers between Colo and the Ferry, This saved some time, and the Erringhi got to the Ferry at 10 a.m., where about 20 more excursionists were taken aboard. **The destination was Newport, and before arriving there the steamer had a living freight of close on 400 people — men, women and children. The Erringhi is a splendid boat, and easily the best that has ever traded on the Hawkesbury. She has as peed of 12 knots an hour, and her build, her machinery, and all appointments are of the best. She could have carried another 100 passengers without any great discomfort to those on board**. Among those who took the trip were three of the Company's Directors — Messrs. H. A. Wilson (chairman), J. J. Herps, and John Bennett, while the manager, Mr T. H.Dickson, was also of the company and was all the time solicitous for the comfort of the big party. Newport was reached about 2 p.m., and the picnickers landed for an hour. Most of them strolled over to the ocean beach and had a whiff of the briney. It is on those lower reaches of the Hawkesbury that the grandeur of the magnificent river is seen. From Brooklyn down it is a majestic stream, and the passengers were in raptures over the sights to be seen, especially from the broad waters around Barrenjoey Heads. Mr Archie Jurd is the skipper of the Erringhi. His good nature is proverbial on the Hawkesbury, and a better skipper has never taken a boat on the river. The way he handled the Erringhi on the home trip, putting into imaginary wharves in the murky darkness, and with a strong tide running with him, astounded those who seldom travel on the river, and proved him to be a very capable helmsman. It was midnight before the Erringhi got back to Sackville, the many stops on the way taking up a lot of time. Sometimes after one passenger had been put off, the boat would have to go sheer across the river to drop another on the other side. But the trip was so delightful that nobody minded how long it lasted. During the run games, dancing, etc., were indulged in on the deck, and the young folk had a particularly enjoyable time. It was with reluctance they left the boat when their homes was reached, and all carried away very pleasant recollections of the Erringhi's trip on April 1. THE ERRINGHI. (**1912, April 13**). *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* (NSW : 1888 - 1954), p. 10. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article85847214

Erringhi, s, and Kallawatta, s, for Pittwater; PROJECTED DEPARTURES.—June 25. (**1912, June 25**). *The Sydney Morning Herald* (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 10. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article15345427

Her reliability in getting goods to market became legendary;

BROKEN BAY RECORD. **The steamer 'Erringhi, one of the Hawkesbury River Company's vessels, has put up a record for the Broken Bay-Sydney trade during the storm**. **The vessel did not miss a trip**. In the teeth of the storm, and against gale and flood, reached the top end of the Hawkesbury River and returned to Sydney last night, when vessels of a larger type were still seeking shelter under Barrenjoey. BROKEN BAY RECORD. (**1913, May 16**). *Evening News*(Sydney, NSW : 1869 - 1931), p. 3. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article113371691

The Erringhi was not without her accidents:

RIVER NEWS. Hawkesbury Steam Navigation Company's steamer Erringhi met with an accident at Leet's Vale a few days ago, breaking her tail-shaft. She has been anchored in the river, and will be towed to Sydney for docking. RIVER NEWS. (**1913, May 24**). *Windsor and Richmond Gazette*(NSW : 1888 - 1954), p. 7. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article85846903

Erringhi, s, for the Hawkesbury River and all branches, Newport and Pittwater; Kallawatta, for the Hawkesbury River, Newport, all Pittwater and Mangrove. PROJECTED DEPARTURES.—Aug. 5. (**1913, August 5**). *The Sydney Morning Herald* (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 10. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article15440795

COLLISION AT THEHEADS. PILOT STEAMER SPLINTERED WOODWORK. A collision occurred between the pilot steamer Captain Cook add the steamer Erringhi off Sydney Heads at an early hour this morning and as a result the upper deck of the latter vessel suffered considerably. The Erringhi arrived off port on one of her usual trip from the Hawkesbury River shortly after midnight and the accident occurred just as she was entering the harbor. The pilot steamer Captain Cook was also entering at the same time, and the two vessels came Into collision. The Erringhi was struck right amidships by the bows of the pilot, the Impact being marked by a terrific crash. It was feared at first on board the Erringhi that the vessel was damaged below the waterline, but this surmise was soon found to be wrong. A seat and a good deal of woodwork just abaft of the bridge ware wrecked, and one of the supports snapped, off, but little serious damage was done. The cook's galley had a narrow escape, however, and as it was the crockery suffered. The Erringhi dropped anchor off Grotte Point Immediately after the accident, and proceeded up harbor at daybreak. COLLISION AT THE HEADS. (**1915, January 29**). *Evening News* (Sydney, NSW : 1869 - 1931), p. 5. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article114232760

Above Picture: Four masted barque Medway and the pilot steamer Captain Cook outside the Heads, Sydney Harbour, ca. 1915, nla.pic-vn4654431, courtesy National Library of Australia. Photo by Edward William Searle.

I may- add that arrangements have been made to utilise **the steamer 'Erringhi' for a twice a week exchange of mails between Leet's Vale and Sydney** as per the attached copy of time-table, and this service will also permit of the exchange of parcels in excess, of 3lbs. …. THE RIVER MAILS. (**1915, March 26**). *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* (NSW : 1888 - 1954), p. 8. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article85862060

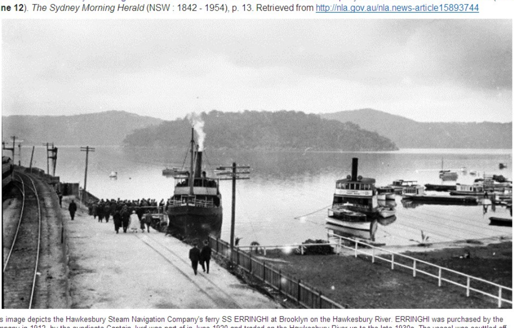
WISEMAN'S FERRY PUNT ACCIDENT. The clerk stated that. he had received the following letter from Mr. A. W.Bucknell: As the result of negligence on the part of the man in charge of the punt at Wiseman's Ferry, my car was precipitated into the river, 'and lay in from 12 to 15feet of water from 8 p.m. on Tuesday night, March 9, until 11 a.m. the following day, when it was recovered by the captain and crew of the Erringhi, assisted by Mr. .G.R. Woolford, who. was driving the car at the time of the mishap. The car was anew one, of which delivery had only just been taken. The car is now in Sydney, having arrived per' the,, steamer Erringhi, and I gather that the captain charged £5for lifting the car and £3 freight to Sydney, which has been paid. I. understand that your risk is . insured with an insurance company, and their accident manager called on the motor company and examined the car, and subsequently their expert did likewise, but doubtless you will hear from them. In order to avoid further possible damage from the immersion in salt water, the work of re-conditioning the car has been taken in hand; and in due course I will send you a claim for the actual amount of expenses incurred. COLO SHIRE COUNCIL. (1920, April 16). Windsor and Richmond Gazette (NSW : 1888 - 1954), p. 1. Retrieved June 11, 2013, from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article85878466

The s.s. Erringhi is now being run by the 'Charlotte Fenwick' syndicate, with Captain Archie Jurd in command. The 'remains' of the 'Charlotte Fenwick' were towed to Brooklyn last week. Week to Week. (**1920, June 11**). *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* (NSW : 1888 - 1954), p. 4. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article85878505

The very next day another accident occurred;

STEAMER ERRINGHI STRIKES BARRANJOEY ROCKS. On one of her usual trips from the Hawkesbury River to Sydney the coasting steamer Erringhi struck Warner's Rock, near Barranjoey during the early hours of yesterday morning. Later in the day another river steamer, the Kallawatta, succeeded in dragging the Erringhi off, and towing her to the Jetty at Palm Beach. Captain Jurd, the master of the Erringhi, stated that hazy conditions prevailed when the Erringhi commenced her voyage This probably accounted for the vessel losing her course and striking the rock. The Barrenjoey lighthouse-keeper discovered the plight of the Erringhi, but in answer to a question Captain Jurd reported that the crew were in no immediate danger. The sea was calm Between 9 and 10 o'clock the Kallawatta arrived. Some of the Erringhi's cargo was jettisoned, and shortly before 8 o'clock she was towed off into deep water, and afterwards to Palm Beach. An examination revealed the fact that the damage was not extensive. The timbers of the vessel had been strained by contact with the rocks sufficient to cause a leakage. At low tide this morning an attempt will be made to effect temporary repairs, and it is hoped that the vessel will resume her voyage at 7 o'clock or shortly afterwards.

The Erringhi is a wooden vessel of 96 tons, built In 1907 at Clarence Town. Her principal dimensions are - Length, 101ft,' breadth, 21ft, and depth 7.5ft. She is owned by a syndicate, who suffered the loss of the coaster Charlotte Fenwick by fire a few weeks ago and replaced that steamer by the Erringhi. The vessel is insured with the United Insurance Company for £3589. STEAMER ERRINGHI. (**1920, June 12**). *The Sydney Morning Herald* (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 13. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article15893744



This image depicts the Hawkesbury Steam Navigation Company's ferry SS ERRINGHI at Brooklyn on the Hawkesbury River. ERRINGHI was purchased by the company in 1912, by the syndicate Captain Jurd was part of in June 1920 and traded on the Hawkesbury River up to the late 1930s. The vessel was scuttled off Sydney Heads in 1951. Image no 20579 courtesy Australian National Maritime Museum and by Samuel Hood.

DAMAGE TO ERRINGHI. **An examination at Mort's Dock of the steamer Erringhi showed that about 14 feet of her keel was badly damaged, and it was decided to put in 36 feet of timber**. Work on the Erringhi will probably take a fortnight to complete. DAMAGE TO ERRINGHI. (**1920, June 16**). *The Sydney Morning Herald* (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 5. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article15894285

THE 'ERRINGHI' ON THE ROCKS. Bad luck seems to be pursuing the company which recently purchased the steamer Erringhi from the Hawkesbury River Navigation Company. Quite recently the Charlotte Fenwick was burnt to the water's edge at Sackville, and now the Erringhi is in trouble. :The Erringhi had loaded a full cargo of maize, fruit, etc., at the various river wharves .and was passing out to sea with her engines running full speed when she ran on to Warner's Rock at Barrenjoey at 1a.m; on Friday. The lighthouse keeper(Mir. J. L. Warren) missed the vessel after she had passed through the heads, and going into the tower saw that she was high and dry . on the rocks, her propeller being several feet out of water. He immediately communicated with Captain Archie Jurd, the master of the vessel, and ascertained that she was held fast. There was no danger of her breaking up, and the lives of the crew were not imperilled. The steamer Erina later passed out of the Hawkesbury River on her way to Sydney, and stood by the Erringhi, but as her assistance was not required she went on her voyage. **At 9.30a.m. the company's other steamer, Kallawatta, arrived on the scene, and preparations were made to refloat the Erringhi during high tide.** Portion of the fruit cargo was jettisoned. **Maize and other cargo was transhipped to the Kallawatta and the launch Enchantress.** This considerably lightened the stranded vessel, and a towline was taken by the Kallawatta. Shortly after 2 p.m. the Erringhi showed signs of shifting with the tide, and half an hour later the Kallawatta pulled her off the rocks. The bottom of the Erringhi was damaged, and she was found to be leaking slightly. The Kallawatta towed the damaged vessel up the river to Palm Beach, where temporary repairs were effected and the voyage to Sydney resumed. The Erringhi is now owned by a syndicate of which Mr. A. J. Ellerker is chairman. She is 101 feet long with a 33 h.p. engine. Captain Jurd has been engaged in the river trade for upwards of 20 years. THE "ERRINGHI" ON THE ROCKS. (**1920, June 18**). *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* (NSW : 1888 - 1954), p. 10. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article85877282

The steamer 'Erringhi' which' met with such an unfortunate accident on the way to Sydney some weeks back, has not yet resumed her regular trips on the river. Her absence has been a source of inconvenience to river1 folk, as the company was unable to charter a suitable steamer to run regularly in- her place, and the 'Kallawatta,' of course, hasn't the carrying capacity for the .whole of the cargo going off the river in a busy time, such as it has been lately. However, the 'Kallawatta' company, and the 'Erringhi' company (the latter with the old 'Seagull,' under charter sometimes), have done their best under the circumstances, and orchardists are disposed to accept the position philosophically and' make the best of things. Several photos relating to the Royal visit down the Hawkesbury, appeared in a recent issue of the 'Sydney Mail.' One showed a crowd waiting on the Wiseman's Ferry wharf for a glimpse of the Prince as the 'Premier' steamed by. Another depicts an incident at Lower Portland, depicting Councillor Lowe in a rowing boat with some friends, passing a cluster of oranges up to the Royal visitor. It is said that quite a lot of fruit found its way aboard the 'Premier' in the course of the trip, and products from our orange groves must have secured a good advertisement on the occasion. The Prince did not land anywhere en route till he reached Brooklyn, but at the different centres where there was a crowd waiting- to greet him, the 'Premier'—that is the steamer, not the Premier, Jack Storey, although he was aboard — slowed down, and many folk managed to get a closer and better view of the distinguished visitor, than would have been the case in a big crush in the city. RIVER NEWS. (**1920, July 23**). *Windsor and Richmond Gazette*(NSW : 1888 - 1954), p. 8. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article85877143

With the advent of better roads and railways to transport goods these fine ferries ceased to be used to get the produce or fish to market in time for early morning trading. The Erringhi who ran twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays to Pittwater in 1912 had her services by the Erringhi reduced as the Kallawatta's runs were increased;

HAWKESBURY RIVER (all parts) -TUESDAY and FRIDAY (**PITTWATER FRIDAY ONLY**) - Cargo daily S S ERRINGHI Albion Wharf Day street Telephone MA581B Advertising. (**1929, November 8**). The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 1. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article16599856

HAWKESBURY S.S. CO., LTD.. Tel., City 1838. S.S. KALLAWATTA, for BAYVIEW, NEWPORT, CHURCH POINT, PALM BEACH, MACKEREL BEACH. EVERY MONDAY and THURSDAY, at 6 p.m. S.S. ERRINGHI, HAWKESBURY RIVER, PATONOA, MANGROVE, M'DONALD and COLO RIVERS, EVERY TUESDAY and FRIDAY, at 5 p.m. Advertising. (**1921, February 12**). *The Sydney Morning Herald* (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 1. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article15957554

The Steamship Kallawatta, like the Erringhi was sent to Pitwtater as an excusionist vessel when a day trip by ferry to 'the marine township' on official holidays was the thing to do. A little about her;

Launching of the ss. Kallawatta. Folk who had travelled miles to see Messrs. Laughton 'Brothers' handsome new screw steamer launched at Laughton dale on Thursday, June 7, were doomed to disappointment. Although everything was in readiness to launch her, it had not been observed that she had jambed between the ways or timbers on which she was to be launched, and this mishap prevented her from sliding off. The workers, however, made a practical use of the old aphorism ' try, try, again,' and eventually their labors were rewarded by seeing her launched. After working all Thursday and Friday the steamer was launched at 10.30 p.m. on Friday amidst the heartiest of cheering. She was christened by Miss Mainwaring, of Sydney. **The Kallawatta is a fine steamer, 80ft long, with a beam of 20ft by 4ft, and a depth of 7ft by 9ft. She is licensed to carry 250 passengers. Her color is of a dark green, greatly improved by a white railing which runs around her deck, and a spray of flowers cleverly wrought in wood on her bow. The Kallawatta 's owners deserve great praise for the excellent way in which they have turned her out, and it is to be hoped that people will appreciate their pluck by amply patronising them. Shortly she will be towed up the river to be loaded with sleepers, and will thence proceed to Sydney, where she will be furnished with carefully selected and modern machinery.** It must be mentioned that on Thursday the wives of the three Laughton Brothers provided an excellent lunch, which all apparently enjoyed by the edge of the famous river Hawkesbury. After Mr John Laughton, senr. (one of the owners) had heartily thanked the people for their attendance and help, there was a dispersion for their respective homes as the strains of the National - Anthem floated on the still evening air. Launching of the s.s. Kallawatta. (**1906, June 23**). *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* (NSW : 1888 - 1954), p. 14. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article85665508

In 1926 at both the Pittwater and Hawkesbury Regattas the **Erringhi was flagship**:

The officials will then lay out the course and make all preparations for the arrival of the flagship of the regatta, the s.s. Erringhi. A 8 o'clock a meeting of members of the local com mittee will take place on board the Miramar.THE MOTOR BOATS. (**1926, December 24**). *Arrow* (Sydney, NSW : 1916 - 1933), p. 15. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article103439184

ERRINGHI AS FLAGSHIP By courtesy of the Hawkesbury s.s. Company, 'the steamer Erringhi has been placed at the disposal of the committee as flagship, and this company has also generously agreed to take' speed boats up at a nominal cost to participate in .the regatta. These boats should be aboard the Erringhi on December 21 at the latest. HAWKESBURY REGATTA. (**1926, December 10**). *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* (NSW : 1888 - 1954), p. 14. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article85949685

EFFORTS AT CO-OPERATION. RICHMOND, FRIDAY. After their interesting inspection of the Kurrajong highlands the delegates to the fruit-growers' conference had a pleasing contrast in a river trip down the Hawkesbury to Wiseman's Ferry. Nearly 100 delegates and visitors were motored to Sackville, where, **after boarding the steamer Erringhi, a two hours' panorama** of alternating alluvial flat and sandstone hillside was presented. Someof the earliest soft fruit orchards in the State lie along this historic river. Members of the Hawkesbury River and Wilberforce branches of the association, who were responsible for the arrangements, pointed out property which, after the 1867 flood, had made maize-growing impossible owing to the silt, was planted out with peaches and apricots, and thus laid the foundation of an important industry. In the evening a full-dress discussion was held on co-operation, and the formation of a new company. It was explained that although a prospectus had been issued and 1089 shares had been subscribed, the executive had decided to defer matters until the conference met. Pool buying by the association had resulted in a turnover of £17,500, and this had been very profitable, but involved a possible liability on the part of the executive.

Mr. Peacock (Bathurst) said that the transfer of the pool buying to the company, in addition to case-buying up to 1,000,000 cases annually, should be encouraged, inasmuch as while it was not always advisable for an individual grower to order sufficient cases for his crop because of a possible failure, the association could average the risks of loss, and could order cases in the slack season of the year. This would mean a substantial reduction in cost, as emergency lines were largely responsible for high prices.

Mr. W. Nulty (Leeton) mentioned that citrus growers at the Leeton end of the irrigation area had pooled their crop this year, and had profited to the extent of 2/ per bushel; and they hoped to deal with part of their peach crop in a somewhat similar way. The growers at Griffith had sent a representative to New Zealand to supervise the marketing of citrus fruits. ON THE LAND. (**1921, August 27**). *The Sydney Morning Herald*(NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 11. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article15955535

Although the owners of the Erringhi clearly went out of their way to cultivate being 'the fruit growers vessel of choice' this did not mean free trips to Newport and other community minded investments of themselves and their vessel brought about the desired result;

Last fruit season many of our growers had heavy losses owing to the insufficiency of shipping facilities. This season no such losses should occur, for instead of a fruit glut, the river is liable to have a shipping glut. **Already a large new steamer is running** (with reduced freights) **in opposition to the Hawkesbury Company's 'Erringhi' and 'Kallawatta',** whilst two large motor launches are carrying produce from the Ferry and intermediate wharves **to Hawkesbury River station**. With all this rivalry the grower is in for a boom time, surely. WISEMAN'S FERRY. (**1921, November 18**). *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* (NSW : 1888 - 1954), p. 12. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article85878343

This did not stop the owners of the Erringhi from providing their annual day trip to Newport though:

A RUN TO NEWPORT. TWO DAYS' TRIP. It has been the custom of Hawkesbury steamship companies for many years past to place one of their steamers at the disposal of all growers along the Hawkesbury River for a free trip to Newport. Many others who are not growers are also permitted to avail themselves of this splendid outing, and all are cordially welcomed by the directors of the company. For some years the Hawkesbury River Steam Navigation Company, who ran the steamers Hawkesbury, Erringhi, Stormbird, Woy Woy and Brooklyn, ran this trip, but the old company is no more. It has been succeeded by the Hawkesbury Steamship Company, Ltd., who purchased the Erringhi, and later bought the Kallawatta, and this company is now running these two fine cargo boats on the river. The directors of this Company placed the Erringhi at the disposal of all growers and their-friends for a trip to Newport on Friday last, returning on Saturday evening. The steamer started from Churchill's wharf, Sackville, and. was joined there by a party from Windsor. Mr. A; M. Jurd, the manager of the Company, with Captain Auland, one of the directors, with friends,came to Windsor by train on Thursday night, and they joined the steamer at Sackville. With Captain Herb. Mitchell at the wheel, the Erringhi got away at 7 o'clock on Friday morning. The morning was delightfully fresh, and the early run to the Mouth of Colo was thoroughly enjoyed. Picking up one here and one thereon the way down, the favorite old 'Guy,' as the Erringhi is called along the river, arrived at the mouth shortly after 8 a.m. Here we waited for a party of Colo people, who were driven down by Mr. Wal. Jone sin his motor lorry. Mr. Wal. Jones is also a director of the Hawkesbury Steamship Company, Ltd., and he expressed keen disappointment that so few people came from, Colo. **'Only, for the cricket competition,' he said, 'all Colo would have been here.'** This cause also prevented many people from Sackville, Lower Portland and other places along the. river from making the trip— they were engaged in the cricket matches to be played on the Saturday, and instead of there being a couple of hundred people on board. when Newport was reached, the number was just about 100. So there was plenty of room to move about on board, and as it was a happy, jovial agreeable party on board, all had a jolly time. . The Erringhi made, good time right along the trip, putting in here and there to pick up people. A halt of half an hour, was made at Brooklyn, and many of the tourists went ashore. Then on past the heads at the entrance of Broken Bay,, and Barrenjoey lighthouse, into Pittwater, and on to Newport, which was reached a little after 2 p.m. The passengers went ashore and had a good afternoon. Some strolled to the beach a mile. distant, when a few indulged in the exhilarating exercise of surfing; others visited the sites around the picturesque hamlet of Newport. At night a party of the young people took passage by motor bus to Mona Vale, some three miles distant, where they had a dance. **The 'old fogies' stayed behind to 'mind the boat.' Early on Saturday morning, while the Erringhi was laying at the Newport jetty the Hawkesbury Steamship Company's other boat the Kallawatta; put into the jetty and pushed the 'Guy' out. The Kallawatta was heavily laden with bricks and other building material, furniture, merchandise, etc., and was on her way from Sydney up the river. She discharged a lot of cargo at Newport, and then obligingly pushed the 'Guy' back to the jetty, and, amidst much banter between the respective crews, ploughed her way through Pittwater and up the Hawkesbury. The Erringhi left Newport shortly after 11 a.m. on Saturday, and after another glorious trip reached Churchill's wharf shortly after 7 p.m.** The Hawkesbury River and Colo River people who took the trip, accepted the magnificent scenery of the 'Australian Rhine' as a matter of course. It is said that 'familiarity breeds contempt'. They are so -familiar with everything along the river that the glorious scenery made little impression on them. But those who saw the scenery for the first time, or had only seen it once or twice, went into raptures over it, and this phased 'the natives' immensely. There is no more noble stream in the world than the Hawkesbury River, and Anthony Trollope, who had seen all the world's finest scenery, was so impressed that he called the Hawkesbury the 'Australian Rhine.' That, surely, was the highest praise that could be bestowed. At present the country all along the river is at its best, and the clean and healthy appearance of the many fine orchards tells of the thrift and industry of the owners. All who made the trip were loud in their praise of the geniality and hospitality of the directors and the crew of the Erringhi. Mr, A. M. Jurd, the manager of the company, was solicitous for the comfort and enjoyment of all. He is better known, to the river people as Captain Arline Jurd. He was for 25 years afloat on his beloved Hawkesbury River, starting as a deckhand, graduating- as a fireman, right up to the responsible position of skipper. He was for several years captain of river boats, and is now manager of the company. Captain Auland, another of the directors, also took a Land in seeing- that the passengers had a good time, and he and his companion, Mr. Baker, made much fun on board. Mr.Wal. Jones, also a director of the company, was a host in himself. He entertained many of those on board at meals from his generous hamper, and also saw that no one went thirsty. Wal. is a fine sport, and all his kindness was greatly appreciated. Just before he left the boat at Mouth of Colo a few of the tourists assembled on the lower deck and drank his health. Councillor Robert Lowe said a few words, and thanked Mr. Jones for his generous hospitality and good fellowship throughout the jolly trip. Mr. L. Stuart supplemented Cr. Lowe's remarks, and asked Mr. Jones to accept for himself and convey to his co-directors the thanks and appreciation of all the passengers for the splendid two days' outing and , all the kindness shown to them. Mr. Jones briefly responded, and said the directors were delighted to know that their guests had had a good time. Captain Herb Mitchell and his crew also saw to the comfort of the passengers. Captain Mitchell saw that those who slept on board at Newport on Friday night were made as comfortable as possible, and nothing was too much trouble for him in seeing that all had a good time. The mate of the ship, Mr. Vic. Fleming, is a very popular young man all along the river, and his careful help to all who embarked or disembarked was much appreciated, as was his kindness and attention to all on; the boat. The engineer, Mr. Eph. Kelly, the two firemen, Messrs. Winton Turnbull and Joe Connolly, and also the deck hand, Mr. Les. Angwin, vied with the skipper and his mate in making everybody happy, and were voted good fellows. The caterer, Mr. Tom Rose, and his cook 'Andy' (a very handy man when it came to preparing a meal) were also obliging in every way. 'Andy' provided a breakfast of chops and steak, and a dinner of roast beef, with boiled and baked potatoes and custard that anyone would enjoy. The meat was tender and juicy and splendidly cooked. Mr. Rose has been caterer 'on the Hawkesbury River boats for something like 30 years, and he can point out all the interesting and historic spots along the grand old river. A RUN TO NEWPORT. (**1923, November 16**). *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* (NSW : 1888 - 1954), p. 13. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article85873907

The Erringhi boarding passengers, circa 1925.

The "**Kallawatta" Trade is somewhat slack now that the busy fruit and melon season is over**, consequently the Hawkesbury R.S. Coy. has taken the "Kallawatta" off for the time being. Doubtless she will return to the river later when the orange crop ripens. **Meanwhile, the "Erringhi" is doing all the work**. NEWS FROM DOWN THE RIVER. (**1924, March 20**).Hawkesbury Herald (Windsor, NSW : 1902 - 1945), p. 4. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article66364657

NEWS FROM DOWN THE RIVER "The Erringhi." **For some time past the "Kallawatta" has been trading on the river in place of the "Erringhi." The latter vessel was put in dock recently and is, we understand, having her machinery overhauled**. NEWS FROM DOWN THE RIVER. (**1924, April 10**).*Hawkesbury Herald* (Windsor, NSW : 1902 - 1945), p. 1. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article66364843

Like all vessels at sea, looking out for and after each other was part of the Erringhi's creed:

A STIFF FIGHT. Life Savers Saved. SYDNEY, Tuesday, Six members of the North Steyne life saving club, set out from their shed at six o'clock last night with the intention of taking a boat to Manly Harbour beach. Shortly afterwards a strong gale sprang up, and they were hard put to it. Luckily, the steamer Erringhi hove in sight, and the master of that vessel,: noticing the small craft, placed a line on board and towed her to Sydney.' The men were practically exhausted. A STIFF FIGHT. (**1924, November 18**). *Goulburn Evening Penny Post* (NSW : 1881 - 1940), p. 2 Edition: EVENING. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article99285414

HAWKESBURY NAVIGATION CO'S.PICNIC. The Hawkesbury Steam Navigation Co., held 'its .annual picnic to Newport on Friday and Saturday, / March 20th -and 21stand it proved to be one of the most pleasant and interesting of all the picnics held. The weather conditions .were everything to be desired and when the full , complement of passengers were aboard they, numbered over 150. The Company's steamer Erringhi was fitted up in every way for the comfort and convenience of the passengers and left. Page's Wharf at Sackville at 6.30a.m. for the 72 miles- journey to Newport on Friday morning. Captain H. Mitchell, with a crew of seven was in charge, and left no stone- unturned for the comfort and enjoyment of the passengers, and 'their geniality and good-will earned for them the praise and admiration of everyone aboard. Captains A. Jurd and Auland, with a company of friends from Sydney and Windsor joined the boat at Sackville wharf. Hot water and liquid refreshments were provided by the Directors, the passengers provisioning themselves; the trip being **given free to the growers of the Hawkesbury**. **Captain Mitchell's genial daughter and son, together with Mr. Arthur Bickford and Harold Conklin, supplied splendid music,** which, with the magnificent scenery, made the return journey one never to be 'forgotten. The majesty of the Hawkesbury, entwined with its subtle charm, ministered to the most' aesthetic or artistic tastes, and a soothing salve to the weary. Why we in Australia do not boom the marvels and grandeur in our own country within easy access of all tourists is a conundrum. The Erringhi reached Newport at 2.30 after a most enjoyable trip. The passengers enjoyed a social arranged for their benefit at Mona Vale at night, and a picked team, from the passengers played a tennis match against the Mona Vale Club and won by 15 games. The return journey began at 12.30 on Saturday, and Captain Mitchell delighted the passengers by cruising round the warships at Danger Island. The passenger list gradually decreased as the steamer wended its way home, numbers leaving for the Macdonald River, Webb's Creek and Cola The -genial captain was a happy man in the thought that the company he had piloted down and back had so fully enjoyed themselves, and Councillor R. Lowe, Mr. J. R.Lowry, and Rev. J. Scharkie voiced the ?appreciation and thanks of all the picnickers to the directors, captain and crew for the pleasant and most enjoyable trip gratuitously given by them to the growers of the Hawkesbury, and the company left the vessel delighted with their wonderful outing. The return journey was completed at 9 p.m.' HAWKESBURY NAVIGATION CO'S. PICNIC. (**1925, March 27**).*Windsor and Richmond Gazette* (NSW : 1888 - 1954), p. 14. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article85899642

The second Punt entry into the history of the Erringhi:

RIVER COLLISION DURING the weekend the **steamer Erringhi collided with the Sackville ferry punt**, putting it temporarily out of service. Many motorists, who arrived at the punt, had to make a long detour through Windsor to reach Wiseman's Ferry. RIVER COLLISION. (**1927, October 7**). *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* (NSW : 1888 - 1954), p. 1. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article85953529

STEAMER PHOENIX. Temporary repairs having been effected, the wooden ferry steamer Phoenix, which was beached at Brooklyn on Monday owing to leakage, has been refloated. **She will be brought to Sydney this morning under convoy of the Hawkesbury S.S. Co.'s steamer Erringhi.** STEAMER PHOENIX. (1927, October 21). The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 12. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article16413262

SS Phoenix at Brooklyn.

As had already marked her career, the Erringhi continued with most unsual works that entwined with our societal shifts as well as other 'mishaps':

KURING-GAI CHASE. ROAD TO BE BUILT BY PRISON LABOUR. A start will shortly be made on the construction, with prison labour, of a roadway through the Kuring-Gai Chase. A proclamation was issued in yesterday's Government Gazette, declaring as a place of detention for the purpose of employing prisoners in the work of road-making an area of approximately 540 acres, from Waratah Bay, Cowan to the eastern side of Cowan Creek. The area will be known as **the Cowan Creek Prison Camp**. **Last night the hulk of the destroyer Parramatta left for the Hawkesbury in tow of the steamer Erringhi.** On arrival at the camp she will be anchored offshore and huts to accommodate the prisoners will be erected on the upper deck. It is not intended to house any of the prisoners below deck. **The hulk of the Swan, which, with the Parramatta, was recently stripped at Cockatoo Island Dockyard, and handed over to the Department of Justice, will also be taken to the camp, for use in the same way.** It will be some tune before the department is ready to commence work. The matter has been under discussion for several months. When the proposal was first made by the Kuring-Gai Chase Trust, it was pointed out that unless the roadway was constructed in that way, it would probably never be built at all. By proclaiming a prison detention area, the Government, it is pointed out, has not interfered with the right of the general public to access to that portion of the chase through which the roadway will be built. Subject to certain restrictions with regard to prison buildings, tourists will still be able to visit the resort. KURING-GAI CHASE. (**1930, August 16**). *The Sydney Morning Herald* (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 14. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article28044150

KURING-GAI CHASE. Prisoners at Work. ON DESTROYER HULKS. JERVIS BAY SCHEME. Prisoners are now at work on the destroyer hulks at Cowan Creek, erecting accommodation for the prisoners who will be engaged in road construction work in the Kuringi-gai Chase area. **Roads are to be constructed from three railway stations to the water foreshores, viz, Cowan Station to Jerusalem Bay. Berowra Station to Waratah, and Kuringai Station to Woodnuts**. It is estimated that eventually 200 prisoners will be engaged in the work. **The State prisons are at present congested, and the authorities are at their wits end to accommodate them.** At Long Bay Penitentiary about 70 prisoners are compelled to sleep in the hospital quarters. There are also 300men there who have no occupation at all in the prison. The Minister hopes to solve this difficulty by the establishment of prison camps similar to the one at Kuringai Chase. A new camp has been established in the Oberon district, where 50 prisoners will be engaged in afforestation work. The Minister for Justice (Mr Lee) will leave Sydney for Jervis Bay at the week-end to inspect the Jervis Bay Naval College, which has been offered for lease or sale by the Commonwealth to the State. There is a possibility that the State may find use for the buildings for a public institution, such as a hospital or prison camp. However, there may be considerable local objection to the latter suggestion. KURING-GAI CHASE. (**1930, August 26**). *The Sydney Morning Herald* (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 9. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article16679398

INTO DANGER ZONE. S.S. ERRINGHI IN TROUBLESHIP SPOILED GUN PRACTICE Declaring that he had been blinded by the searchlights, which he took to be a. display of some sort, **George Doyne, master of the little steamer Erringhi**, which trades between Sydney and settlements along, the Hawkesbury River, **pleaded guilty in the Central Summons Court, Sydney, to a breach, of the Defence Act in coming within a prohibited area during artillery practice at the Heads**. It was explained that a special night practice had been arranged, with considerable expense, but, despite notices in the Press and over the air, and the hoisting of three red lights at South Head — the signal reading, 'You must not enter port' — the Erringhi came down the coast until, just before a burst of firing was due, a launch on sentinel duty spotted her in the danger zone and sent up a Verey light, suspending the operations.A fine of £3 with £3/11/- costs, was imposed. INTO DANGER ZONE. (**1932, June 24**). *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* (NSW : 1888 - 1954), p. 5. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article86051953

The steamer Erringhi has been taken off the river for the time being and the Gosford is trading in her place. RIVER NEWS. (**1932, August 26**). *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* (NSW : 1888 - 1954), p. 10. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article86052161

PERILOUS TRIP IN LAUNCH SYDNEY, Saturday.— On a voyage from Brisbane to Sydney in a launch, Sydney Dalton had a perilous time. Off Palm Beach the rudder carried away, and the launch drifted helplessly for three hours. **He hoisted a signal of distress, and the steamer Erringhi took the launch in tow. Near Barrenjoey Lighthouse, however, a big wave rolled the launch over, half filling it with water. Dalton jumped into the sea and grabbed the towrope He was dragged for some distance half submerged, but was eventually assisted to the deck of the steamer.** PERILOUS TRIP IN LAUNCH. (**1932, December 24**). *The Mail*(Adelaide, SA : 1912 - 1954), p. 10. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article59832750

HAWKESBURY AND GOSTORD STEAMSHIP CO FOR GOSFORD WYONG, WOY WOY TERRIGALTHE ENTRANCE and all parts of BRISBANE WATERS & GOSFORD receiving and sailing THIS DAY FOR HAWKESBURY RIVER all parts including PITTWATER-SS ERRINGHI receiving and sailing THIS DAY NEXT SAILINGS FOR GOSFORD WYONG WOYWOY TERRIGAL THE ENTRANCE and all parts of BRISBANE WATER-WEDNESDAY HAWKESBURY RIVER all parts Including PITTWATER THURSDAY Cargo received at ALBION WHARF DAY STREET (foot of Market street) MA5838 Advertising. (**1936, April 6**). The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 1. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article17328864

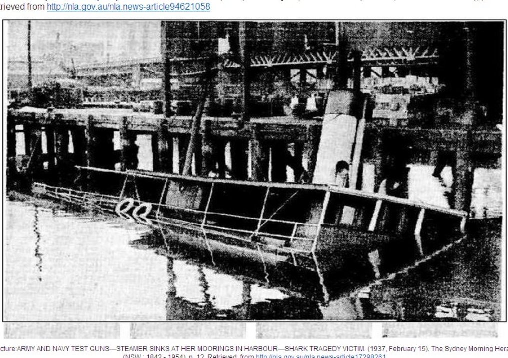
Round II with one of the three succeeding pilot vessels named 'Captain Cook':

ADRIFT AT SEA. COASTAL STEAMER ERRINGHI. Saved by Fine Seamanship. Only magnificent seamanship prevented the wreck of the coastal steamer Erringhi, when the propeller shaft broke as the small vessel was fighting her way through terrific seas towards Sydney Heads, yesterday morning. The Erringhi, with a crew of seven on board, drifted helplessly for more than half an hour. The vessel was close to land, and could have lived for only about a quarter of an hour longer, when the pilot steamer Captain Cook reached her.

The crew of the Erringhi said afterwards that they undoubtedly owed their lives to the skill and perseverance of the master of the Captain Cook (Captain Hill). The Erringhi, which trades between Sydney and the Hawkesbury River, is a vessel of 96 tons gross register, owned by the Hawkesbury S.S. Co., Ltd. Normally the vessel would have left the Hawkesbury on Saturday night for Sydney, but the seas were so rough that the master (Captain Doyne) decided to wait until yesterday morning. The vessel left the Hawkesbury soon after dawn, and a chapter of accidents began. The engineer, Mr. Charles Dunn, of Moss-street, West Ryde, had a finger badly crushed when adjusting some machinery in the tossing vessel. The crew were congratulating themselves on a good voyage in difficult weather, when the tail shaft snapped cleanly several miles from Sydney Heads. The small vessel wallowed helplessly in the heavy seas, and, driven by the strong north-easterly wind, drifted rapidly towards the shore. There was no wireless on board, but the master hoisted a signal of distress-the Union Jack upside down-and the signal was seen by the officer on duty at the South Head signal station (Mr. Charles Davidson), who sent a message to the Captain Cook by semaphore.

DREADFUL DILEMMA. The master of the Captain Cook was faced with a terrible decision. He was on his way south to a point off the cliffs, where a swimmer was fighting for his life in the surf. He decided that it was doubtful whether he could reach the swimmer in time, in any case, and that he must go to the assistance of the men on the Erringhi. Accordingly the Captain Cook steamed north at full speed. **When the Captain Cook reached the Erringhi the small vessel was half a mile from the bombora at Deewhy**, and drifting rapidly towards it. In such seas it was impossible to get a tow-line aboard by ordinary means, but the Captain Cook is fitted with a rocket apparatus, and, after some difficult manoeuvring, a line was thrown across the Erringhi at the first attempt, and was made fast at once. During the tow both vessels were subjected to a considerable strain, and it was more than an hour before they reached the Heads. Just between the Heads the line broke, and the Erringhi again commenced to drift. Another line was thrown aboard, and in making it fast Joseph Lockrey, of Stone-street, Earlwood, a fireman on board the Erringhi, received injuries to his face. The Erringhi was taken into Watson's Bay without further incident, and was then picked up by a tug. Captain Doyne said afterwards that the promptness of the Captain Cook in answering his call undoubtedly prevented his vessel from drifting ashore. Captain Hill said that the north-easterly sea running outside the Heads was one of the worst he had ever seen. The waves smashing against the cliff face were shooting up 100 feet and more. ADRIFT AT SEA. (**1936, May 25**). *The Sydney Morning Herald*(NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 9. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article27993310

Coastal Steamer Sinks. SYDNEY, Sunday. **The coastal steamer, Erringhi, of 100tons, sank in 30 feet of water at her berth, Darling Harbour, today.** There was nobody on board at the time. No theory can be advanced for the sinking of the vessel, which trades between the Hawkesbury River and Sydney. Coastal Steamer Sinks. (**1937, February 15**). *Northern Star*(Lismore, NSW : 1876 - 1954), p. 7. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article94621058



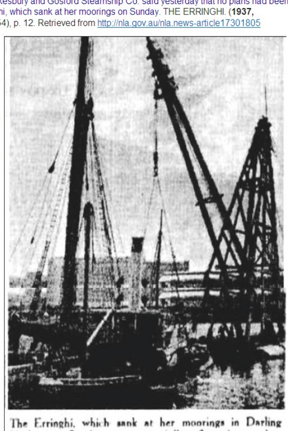
Picture:ARMY AND NAVY TEST GUNS—STEAMER SINKS AT HER MOORINGS IN HARBOUR—SHARK TRAGEDY VICTIM. (1937, February 15). The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 12. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article17298261

THE ERRINGHI. **No Plans for Refloating.** Officials of the Hawkesbury and Gosford Steamship Co. said yesterday that no plans had been discussed for the refloating of the small wooden steamer Erringhi, which sank at her moorings on Sunday. THE ERRINGHI. (**1937, February 16**). *The Sydney Morning Herald* (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 12. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article17301805

ERRINGHI SANK AT WHARFSIDE AT 11.30 a.m.on Sunday, 14th instant, the Hawkesbury steamer Erringhi floated serenely at her berth in Darling Harbor. At 11.50 she was resting on the bottom of the harbor. **A surprised Maritime Services Board patrolman found her, with only her mast, funnel, and part of the upper works showing above the water. The 96 ton vessel had sunk in less than 20 minutes. Canted, at an angle, she now lies in 20 feet of water, with even the wheelhouse flooded. There was nobody on board, as she was temporarily laid up . One theory is that the Erringhi, which had been moored at the wharf for several weeks, was caught underneath a projecting beam of the wharf at low tide. As the tide rose on Sunday morning, it is thought, she was tilted more and more until the water come over her side, flooding her.** The hull was in perfect condition, the owners say. She was docked a few months ago. The Erringhi, a wooden steamer, built at Clarence Town in 1907, is owned by the Hawkesbury River Steamship Co., .Ltd. She carries cargo between Sydney and Hawkesbury River ports. ERRINGHI. (1937, February 26). Windsor and Richmond Gazette (NSW : 1888 - 1954), p. 6. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article86045664

Sydney Harbour is one the busiest ports in the world and you cannot leave a vessel just laying about:

Picture to Right: The Erringhi, which sank at her moorings in Darling Harbour on Sunday, was successfully refloated yesterday. MAN, WITH WIFE AND FAMILY, WHEELS CART FROM MELBOURNE — NAVAL MANOEUVRES END — RAISING THE ERRINGHI. (**1937, February 18**). *The Sydney Morning Herald*(NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 12. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article17311007



The Erringhi, which sank at her moorings in Darling Harbour on Sunday, was successfully refloated yesterday.

HAWKESBURY and GOSTORD S S CO Albion Wharf Market street -S S GOSFORD sailing This Day for Gosford Woy Woy Wyong and all parts Brisbane Water **Also S S ERRINGHI for Pittwater and all parts Hawkesbury river next sailing Tuesday 30th** .Cargo till 5pm Advertising. (**1937, March 24**). *The Sydney Morning Herald*(NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 1. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article17354393

HAWKESBURY and GOSFORD S.S. CO., Albion Wharf, Market Street.-S.S. GOSFORD. Sailing This Day. for Gosford, Woy Woy. Wyong, and all parts Brisbane Water. Also S.S.ERRINGHI for Pittwater and all parts Hawkesbury River. Cargo till 5 p.m. MA5U38. Advertising. (**1937, December 13**). *The Sydney Morning Herald*(NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 1. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article17441081

The first general store was at Palm Beach, **on the Pittwater side near the jetty**, as early as 1914, and was known as Booth's store. Later it became Ellis' store, and then after the last war two returned Diggers, Mr. Fred Howlett and his partner, **Gow**, took it over. Their **general supplies came by ship from Sydney by the Erringhi and the Kallawatta**, and meat and bread came by launch from Newport. Palm Beach setting for smartest sea and sun togs. (**1946, January 12**). *The Australian Women's Weekly* (1933 - 1982), p. 22. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article47245736

The above 1937 advertisement is the last record we can find of the Erringhi on her Pittwater-Hawkesbury route. By 1940 she was on Syndey Harbour working as a lighter on which there is more after a little about those who brought her to our estuary;

Former River Captain Dead. AN interesting career of an esteemed former river identity, **Captain Archie Jurd**, is reviewed in the following comment on his death by a correspondent who was an old friend. After a long and distressing illness, the death occurred on April 2 of **Archibald Macdonald Jurd**, one of the **most esteemed of the 'boys of the old brigade**,' whose ranks, sad to say, have been greatly depleted in recent years. Scion of an old pioneering family of the St. Albans district, 'Archie' Jurd, as he was popularly called, was associated with transport problems on the Hawkesbury River for close on 40 years. As a young man, he joined the service of the old Hawkesbury Steam Navigation Coy., and advanced rapidly from one responsible position to another. At an early age he was appointed captain of the steamer 'Hawkesbury' and held the post till that fine old vessel was replaced by the "Erringhi,' when Captain Jurd transferred to the new steamer. He also captained a number of smaller craft in his time, and at one period traded with his vessel, 'Charlotte. Fenwick,' between the river and Sydney. But, alas, the hand of time has wrought its changes, and to-day most of the river produce reaches the Sydney markets overland, per motor transport. In the - 'thirties Captain Jurd left the steamers and assumed managership of the newly formed Gosford- Hawkesbury Steamship Coy., a position he held till ill health obliged him to relinquish the job. He made his home at Epping, where a warm welcome awaited any old friends who cared to drop in for a chat and swap reminiscences of the old steamer days on the Hawkesbury. As a young man, deceased was married to Miss Grace Leet, of Leet's Vale, who survives him, together with a son, Ron, and two daughters, Mrs. Ryan and Mrs. Hunt. People of the river districts extend their sincere sympathy to Mrs. Jurd and family in their bereavement. J.C. Former River Captain Dead. (**1953, April 15**). *Windsor and Richmond Gazette* (NSW : 1888 - 1954), p. 7. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article85674581

Appreciation. Within the last few weeks the Grim Reaper has claimed two well-known and highly respected residents of the Ryde district, Mr. Herbert Mitchell and Mr. Walter Tuckerman. Both were well known along the old Hawkesbury River. **Mr. Mitchell was for many years the 'skipper' of the S.S. Erringhi when all river produce was taken by water to the metropolis.** Those good old days have, unfortunately, gone, but the name of Herbert Mitchell will always be remembered by a host of river residents as a good friend and a most obliging and courteous gentleman, and one, who was never too busy to lend a helping hand or speak a kindly word when needed,, always with that cheerful spirit so characteristic of the man he was. No doubt 'old hands' from Lower Portland to Lower Hawkesbury will of times recall many happy memories of those friendly annual picnic excursions to Mona Vale and Newport . that were organized and carried through so successfully by him who we now mourn. At those times he never spared himself in attention to the needs and comfort of passengers under his charge. Herb Mitchell has passed to the quiet Harbour of the Port beyond our ken. The stormy seas of life are' left behind, and we all know for sure our old friend has anchored in that Haven of Rest and with him 'all is well.' Just a short month following the above sad even$ another grand old identity of the Hawkesbury has passed in the wake of his brother in-law, and Walter Tuckerman has entered that Land of 'Peace from which no traveller returns, but whose memory will always be cherished and his kindly nature will never be forgotten by the many friends he has left behind. 'Wal,' as he was affectionately known, was a true native of the old river, and lived for years in the Wiseman's Ferry district. In bygone years he was an enthusiastic sportsman, a keen cricketer and a lover of good horses. He was a splendid neighbour, and no committee for the advancement of the district in which he lived was ever complete without his name appearing on the list. He was noted for his dry wit, and had a boundless fund of humorous stories connected with the past days of the Hawkesbury, many of these being actual experiences. When in the mood, which was very often, he could entertain an audience for hours. He was never known to speak ill of any person, and perhaps this accounted for his wide popularity. He was a good judge of human character and helped many a man to solve the little difficulties that often arose among neighbours. He lived only in the moral and bright side, loving only the sunshine and eschewing the gloomy clouds of life. Both these old friends were Christian gentlemen in the truest sense of the term. **They each believed in and practised a wise philosophy that we are born into this world to make it better and happier and in proportion as we do this we make ourselves both**. The memory of such men must help the dear ones left behind as they pass through the shadows of irreparable loss. May we all be as fully prepared when we reach 'the Gate at the Journey's end,' is the earnest prayer, of one who was privileged to be a friend of each. — R.T. Appreciation. (**1948, June 23**). *Windsor and Richmond Gazette*(NSW : 1888 - 1954), p. 1. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article85661098

The Erringhi duties as a lighter (barge) on Sydney Harbour past her last recorded route on the Pittwater/Hawkesbury come from the Letters page of December 2006 *Afloat* magazine:

My uncle, Eric Seaman, a World War I veteran, was skipper of the 1940s SS Erringhi in its work as a lighter around Sydney Harbour, and he often took me with him. A regular run was up the Parramatta River. The first obstacle was the old Gladesville Bridge. To save interrupting tram and motor traffic the ship had a hinged funnel with balanced counterweights. The half funnel was lowered, as was the fore derrick into a cradle alongside the wheelhouse. Once past the bridge the funnel and derrick were restored. The first stop up the river was at Cooper & Nephews at Concord. Here drums of chemicals were loaded. Next stop was Meggits at Gladesville where bags of sheep nuts (linseed meal) were taken on. The final call was to Lysaghts at Chiswick where a punt (barge) of wire coils was attached for towing. Then back to Erskine Street.

Another frequent run was to Manly Gasworks to drop off empty punts and bring the coke ones back. A similar visit was made to North Shore Gas Co. A great excitement was a trip to Kirribilli dolphins where the Queen Elizabeth was moored. A welding plant had to be delivered to it. As it was a troop carrier all the glorious fittings were gone.

Life on the harbour had its moments. One Saturday morning Erringhi was moored at the end of Huddart Parker's wharf when a 12,000 ton cargo ship commenced turning without tugs. There was an officer on the bow with a phone hook-up to the bridge. Slowly the bow of the ship swung towards us and actually crunched Erringhi against the jetty. Fortunately no serious damage was done and we didn't have to swim for it. ***An unusual activity was the making of an Aussie movie*** *(forgotten the name but I saw it at the Astra Theatre, Drummoyne). To make it look the part, special timber superstructures were attached. Towards the end the aft derrick and winch were removed and the aft hold was converted to a crew change room. (Progress?).* ***Another unusual trip was an annual one to Coogee beach. This was to lift the shark proof net for repairs etc.*** *Now Erringhi rests on the bottom of the sea 12 miles east of Sydney Heads.* **Father Barnabas Brown, Franciscan Friars Star of the Sea, Waverley.**

The Australian National Maritime Museum records she was scuttled off Sydney Heads in her long work years over. The Federal Government's Document '*Sea Dumping in Australia – Histoirical and Contemporary Aspects*' records:

ERRINGHI W lighter ex ss, 96 g, 55 n, ON113153, 101.0x 21.0x 7.5, B.1907 Clarence Town, NSW stm eng 32 nhp. Last owner Mackenzie & Petersen Ltd, reg. Sydney. Scuttled Jan 13, 1951 off Sydney Heads.
Retrieved from: http://www.hydro.gov.au/n2m/dumping/cwa/seadumping.pdf

Erringhi threads collected by A J Guesdon, 2013.

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Pittwater Online News

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Front Page Issue 119

Avalon Tattoo 2015 - Avalon Tattoo 2015 Pictorial

Transmission of Daughter of Pittwater Local Government Area Rugby Union Player Ellie Cole

WAWG Merit Award - Ben Brosnan at WAWG Racing Nights

Pittwater's Community service Award for Pittwater 2015

Pittwater Council News

Save Bayview Park Update

Bayview Park Update

Save Bayview Park Update

Bayview Park Update

Bayview Park Update

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Little Kids and Big Kids at the Avalon Tattoo

Seeing Stars SKA Art Prize 2013

Seeing Stars is a celebration of art and astronomy inspired by the world's largest telescope – the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) which will be co-hosted here in Australia!

Using the inspiration of the SKA, artists and would-be artists are invited to create original pieces of artwork expressing the excitement and mystery of the SKA and its potential for discovery. Seeing Stars is open to 2D graphic mediums including painting, drawing, textiles and prints of digital art. Mediums not accepted include photography, installations or other craft.

Artwork should be based around one or more of the five 'themes' identified below, which align with the five research areas for the SKA.

The themes are:
• The birth of stars and galaxies
• The mysteries of dark energy
• Alien life
• The genius of Einstein
• Giant magnetic fields of space

For the full Terms & Conditions, please see Rules. Entry details can be found here. Entries close at 11:59 PM AEST, Friday 5 July 2013. Entrants are allowed a maximum of five (5) entries.

How to make your own Grass Head

How to make a Terrarium

Logo Design Competition Aboriginal Heritage Office

Create a new logo for the Aboriginal Heritage Office and you could win a new Nikon camera! Include text, photographs and/or drawings no larger than A5. Open to students and residents within the following Councils – Ku-ring-gai Council, Lane Cove Council, Manly Council, North Sydney Council, Pittwater Council, City of Ryde, Warringah Council and Willoughby City Council.

There will be one first place prize awarded in each of the following categories:

• **3 – 6 Primary Years**

• **7 – 12 Primary Years**

• Residents within the Council Areas All entries must be accompanied by an application form available at www.aboriginalheritage.org

Entries open on 1 April and **close 5pm on 13 July**.

Send your original design to: The Aboriginal Heritage Office, c/o North Sydney Council, PO Box 12, North Sydney, NSW, 2059

For further details please contact the Aboriginal Heritage Office

Phone: 99499882 Email: aho@northsydney.nsw.gov.au

Winners will be judged by the Aboriginal Heritage Office Steering Committee Members and prizes will be announced on 31 July 2013.

How Whales Sleep

This year we have gone for the Main Arena, Wilson Park and the Warm Up track all with very plush grounds suitable for the world game. Both tournaments will kick off on the 1st week of the July school holidays which is the 30th June and run for 6 days ending on the 5th July 2013.

Each team will play a minimum of 4 games each with the first few days in a round robin style format moving into a knock-out stage and then finals.

The Sydney Junior Cup is aimed at ages U8 – U11, these teams can be boys, girls or mixed teams. The Sydney Youth Cup is aimed at ages U12 – U18* (boys and girls), each age group will be split up into boys and girls competitions.

To register for the SYC or SJC please download our information packs. For any other information please read our information packs or contact us on 9758 6371.

Peninsula CommUNITY of Schools Art Exhibition
Wednesday 26 June, 5pm – 7pm
Wheeler Heights Public School, Veterans Parade, Wheeler Heights. Gold coin donation
UNITY in our community! An exhibition of artworks by students from Kindergarten to Year 12 who attend the Peninsula Community of Schools. The collection of artworks reflect the Guringai Festival's theme: "Live Life Loudly", the Reconciliation theme "Say Something" and the 2013 NAIDOC theme "Yirrkala Bark Petitions 1963"
Enquiries: Sharon.smithies@det.nsw.edu.au

Aboriginal Cultural Performance for Children
Wednesday 10 July, 11am – 12.15pm
Mona Vale Library, 1 Park Street, Mona Vale
Admission: $10
Come along and enjoy the didgeridoo, face painting, song and dance, Aboriginal art and storytelling. For children aged 5 to 12 years. Under 7 will require parental supervision. Bookings essential: Sharelle Ravenscroft 9970 1600 www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/library

Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards - 2013

The Awards - **2013 poetry competition dates: close 30 June**

The oldest and largest poetry competition for school aged children in Australia. The aim of the Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards is to capture the imagination of school students across Australia, inspiring them with a passion for poetry and a love of country. It is a unique national project, giving Australia's youth a voice and an opportunity to strive for excellence in literature.

Categories and Prizes

Lower Primary (Years K – 3):
Winner: $300, trophy and prize pack
Runner-up: $150 and prize pack

Upper Primary (Years 4 – 6, Inc. Year 7 in QLD, WA, SA)
Winner: $400, trophy and prize pack
Runner-up: $200 and prize pack

Junior Secondary (Years 7 – 9)
Winner: $500, trophy, UWS engraved IPod Touch and prize pack
Runner-up: $300 and prize pack

Senior Secondary (Years 10 – 12)
Winner: $500, trophy, UWS engraved IPad and prize pack
Runner-up: $300 and prize pack

Schools' Award: For schools that demonstrate effort, achievement and a high standard of entries, awarded at the judges' discretion.
Winner Primary (the Sheelah Baxter award) : $1000, trophy and prize pack
Winner Secondary: $1000, trophy and prize pack
2013 prize packs also include a unique trophy and a wonderful collection of books from a number of publishing houses and local businesses.

Entries for 2013 now open, **click here to enter online**

Love Food, Hate Waste Cookbook

Our own Pittwater Council has joined with other councils in our area to produce an online cookbook especially for children. This 'flipbook' Program allows you to read through and get some great ideas on how to use leftover veggies to make great pasta or make mini pizza. Yum !

Love food hate waste book: HERE

LET'S READ NATIONAL EARLY LITERACY CAMPAIGN

The Federal Government's Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations has funded the Murdoch Childrens Research Institute $1 million over 12 months to implement a Let's Read National Early Literacy Campaign. Building on existing evidence-based programs and leveraging off the designation of 2012 as the National Year of Reading, this campaign aims to develop and generate national, integrated early years literacy promotion and support.

The Let's Read Campaign engages families, professionals and communities to promote reading with children from birth. Sharing books from birth helps children develop the skills they will need when it's time to start school. Let's Read anywhere, anytime is the national campaign call to action for families, carers and early childhood education professionals to share rhymes, songs and stories and books every day. The campaign uses a multi-tiered approach to engage families, professionals and communities in a range of messages relevant to children's early literacy development from birth to five years.

Let's Read was developed by the Royal Children's Hospitals Centre for Community Child Health, Melbourne.

DOWNLOAD A FREE READING PACK!

These reading tips and tools support families to share rhymes, songs and stories with children anywhere, anytime from birth to five years.

Mona Vale Library - Young Runarounds!

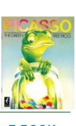
Mona Vale Library has expanded the books available through their 7-day loan collection of new titles for younger readers. These are all books which are currently deemed 'hot' in local book stores. To see the wide range of titles available have a look HERE.

Children's Storytime at Mona Vale Library

Mona Vale Library offers storytime for pre-school children every week during school terms. Children and their carers come and participate in a fun sing-a-long with our story teller as well as listen to several stories in each session, followed by some craft. Storytime is held in the Pelican Room of the library in front of the service desk. Storytime is free and no bookings are required. Storytime Sessions

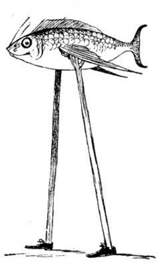
Tuesdays 10.00am - 11.00am
Wednesdays 10.00am - 11.00am
Thursdays 10.00am - 11.00am

Picture Books Online



Picture Books Online is a collection of classic picture books from Era Publications. Watch your favourite characters, stories and imagination come to life through Picture Books Online.

NONSENSE BOOKS By Edward Lear. E-BOOK



The Owl and the Pussycat

Tweet | Like | +1

Cotton Candy Flower

DeeWhyGrand SHOPPING CENTRE

I'm A Little Teapot with Lyrics

Would You Like To Fly? by Film Australia

Made by the National Film Board 1954. Flying school for air-minded young people. A light hearted instructional film of interest to all fliers.

BackMeUp poll - Posted 14 May 2013 by Commission

BackMeUp — Don't stand by. It could be YOU!

The BackMeUp cyberbullying video competition is going to run again in 2013 and we need your help to select the best prizes for the winning videos. Vote HERE

A reminder that the BackMeUp survey is still running, and we'd love to hear your thoughts. Complete the survey by the 14th of September and you could go into the draw to win $50 JB Hi-Fi vouchers! Stay tuned! Survey At: www.surveymonkey.com/s/XFXKXZC

Triple Zero Kids' Challenge

Kids, learn about what happens when you call Triple 000. Triple Zero Kids' Challenge is an online game designed for children of kindergarten and primary school age. The game consists of nine safety scenarios. kids.triplezero.gov.au/

Sydney youth writing competition — fly, light, creek

Sydney Youth Writing Competition

The 8th Annual Sydney Youth Writing Competition for 2013 is now open for entries 3 weeks to go. Get those entries in. We have received a large number of entries already. Dural Public School is leading the charge and a school in Boulder Colorado is not far behind.

This year all entries will be electronic - no more hard copies in the mail. Please read instructions carefully. It is important to include the parent email so that we can maintain contact with all parties in the event that your entry is successful and to ensure parents are fully informed.

The signature words for 2013 are: fly, light and creek.

The signature words can be used in any way - i.e. a verb, noun, adjective and so on. Be imaginative.

FLY

Fly up in the air, fly across town as fast as you can, watch an important piece of paper fly through the air - just out of reach, use a fly to catch a fish, do up your fly, listen to a blow-fly buzzing in the kitchen, fly a flag or a kite, fly off the handle, let fly, fly blind or fix your tent fly.

LIGHT

Light a candle or fire or lamp, use it to make a dark colour light - light blue, green or yellow, see someone's face light up, watch the pale moonlight, or admire the sunlight, see how light a feather really is or examine some new evidence which has just come to light. You could look at someone in a bad light, or wear light clothing in the sticky summer heat. Maybe you are standing in a light rain, or have only had a light sleep. You could travel light, sit in a lighthouse watching the sea or make light of something to make a friend feel better.

CREEK

Use this for setting (and don't confuse it with creak). Is it the creek at the end of your yard, a small dirty creek in the bush, an overflowing creek, a creek littered with rubbish, a creek with a secret, a creek so clear you can see the rainbow trout flicking their tails, a tired old creek, a dry creek, a creek with a waterfall, a rainforest creek, a creek with a dangerous tide, or a creek to camp by? Make your creek come alive.

Please underline the signature word in your entry so we can ensure you have included one of them. The closing date is **Tuesday 18 June 2013. Entry Details HERE**

The Animal Sounds Song

Laughing Quadruplets by Steve Mathias

National Geographic online fun For little kids:

Online Fun, games and a magazine they can subscribe to, all vetted by industry experts on this award winning website

HERE

Keep children safe online

The Easyguide to Socialising Online is available here The Cybersafety Help Button is available to download free of charge here More information about the ACMA's Cybersmart program is here

Stories for you already run:

Adrenalin 360 Surf and Skate Competition and Kids Festival

Are You up to the RED BELT CHALLENGE by Hoshin Australia

ArtFest 2012 - Biannual Children's Art Exhibition

Australian Ibis for Children

Avalon Bulldogs Season Open Pictorial

Avalon Sailing Club Teaches A Novice To Sail

Bilgola Plateau Public School - Sustainable Practices

Bilgola Student and Avalon lady attend Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Veterans 6th Annual Commemorative Service at Hyde Park

Bilgola Plateau's NAIDOC Week Celebrations; Darinyung Sculpture and Under A Starry Sky

Dance Fever 2012 by Peta Wise

Friendly Toulouse Goose at Palm Beach - Yes! Pittwater has her very own 'Mother Goose'

Grandparents Day 2012 by Peta Wise

Harvest Day 2012 at Maria Regina Avalon by Alexis Conn and Peta Wise

Heartsong - an Anthology of Pittwater Poetry Launched

Hoishin Anti-Bullying Summer Camp 2012

Kangaroo Dance

Learn2Swim Narrabeen Coastal Platform Tour for children

Maria Regina Catholic School at Avalon: Christmas Crafts for Children

Maria Regina Celebrates Timor-Leste's 10th Anniversary of Independence 2012

Mona Vale Public School's Centenary Launch

Mona Vale Public School Centenary Festival Day 15th of September, 2012

MV Reliance and Maria Regina Avalon - Clareville Outing

Newport Student Wins RMYC MArine Art Prize

NLASC Narrabeen Rockpool Learn to Swim Program by J P Fisher and Glenn Nicholls

Online World To Be Safer - Sonar Dolphins Arise!

Pacific Black Duck taking a bath at Careel Creek

Pelican Dreamsong - A Legend of the Great Flood - dreamtime legend for children

Pink Ribbon Day at Maria Regina by Joanne Seves

RPAYC Youth Development Program Graduates Win 2012 Bird Island Race by Damian Devine

RPAYC Hosts 20th HARKEN International Youth Match Racing Championships by Damian Devine

Schoolchildren's gifting of 'play!' to their fellow schoolchildren

SLSC 2013 Interstate Championships - at Newport

Spotted Gums of Pittwater Inspirations

Summer is Channel-billed Cuckoos Season - Fledglings 2013 by Jeffrey Sabri and Andrew Tiede

The Northern Beaches Music Festival's YOUNGBLOODS Competition

The Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club Teaches over 600 Children to Sail Each Year by Damian Devine

Timor Leste Independence Day Celebrations at Maria Regina Avalon - 2013

Winning the Homework War by Rosemary Smith

Zoomobile at Loquat Valley School, Bayview

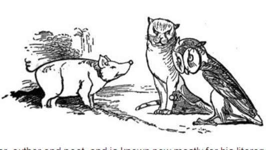
Nutty Story and Rhyme Time at May Gibbs' Nutcote - Friday 14 June to Friday 12 July 2013

Nutty Story and Rhyme Time is a time to read a Gum-Nutty story by May Gibbs, followed by one or two more books by contemporary Australian children's authors. Well-known nursery rhymes are sung and the session ends with some craft. On occasion, balloons may be brought in to tie into animals at the request of the children.

All ages are welcome and every month a range of books are brought to suit all ages. For the most part this event appeals to pre-schoolers aged three to five years. Parents can help their children with craft, particularly when using scissors and glue. During school holidays a range of books and crafts for primary school age children is available. Cancellations due to severe weather or other unforeseen circumstances will be updated on the Nutcote FaceBook page - please become a fan and check the evening before or prior to leaving home. **5 Wallaringa Avenue, Neutral Bay. Ph: 9953 4453.** For more information: www.maygibbs.com.au

The Owl and the Pussycat

I
The Owl and the Pussy-cat went to sea
In a beautiful pea green boat,
They took some honey, and plenty of money,
Wrapped up in a five pound note.
The Owl looked up to the stars above,
And sang to a small guitar,
'O lovely Pussy! O Pussy my love,
What a beautiful Pussy you are,
You are,
You are!
What a beautiful Pussy you are!'
II
Pussy said to the Owl, 'You elegant fowl!
How charmingly sweet you sing!
O let us be married! too long we have tarried:
But what shall we do for a ring?'
They sailed away, for a year and a day,
To the land where the Bong-tree grows
And there in a wood a Piggy-wig stood
With a ring at the end of his nose,
His nose,
His nose,
With a ring at the end of his nose.
III
'Dear pig, are you willing to sell for one shilling
Your ring?' Said the Piggy, 'I will.'
So they took it away, and were married next day
By the Turkey who lives on the hill.
They dined on mince, and slices of quince,
Which they ate with a runcible spoon;
And hand in hand, on the edge of the sand,
They danced by the light of the moon,
The moon,
The moon,
They danced by the light of the moon.
Edward Lear 1870



Edward Lear (12 May 1812 – 29 January 1888) was an English artist, illustrator, author and poet, and is known now mostly for his literary nonsense in poetry and prose and especially his limericks, a form he popularised. His principal areas of work as an artist were threefold: as a draughtsman employed to illustrate birds and animals; making coloured drawings during his journeys, which he reworked later, sometimes as plates for his travel books; as a (minor) illustrator of Alfred Tennyson's poems. As an author, he is known principally for his popular nonsense works, which use real and invented English words.
"The Owl and the Pussycat" is a nonsense poem by Edward Lear, first published during 1871 as part of his book Nonsense Songs, Stories, Botany, and Alphabets. Lear wrote the poem for a three-year-old girl, Janet Symonds, the daughter of Lear's friend poet John Addington Symonds and his wife Catherine Symonds. The term "runcible", used for the phrase "runcible spoon", was invented for the poem. Top image from 1890 board game.

The Duck and the Kangaroo

I
Said the Duck to the Kangaroo,
'Good gracious! how you hop!
Over the fields and the water too,
As if you never would stop!
My life is a bore in this nasty pond,
And I long to go out in the world beyond!
I wish I could hop like you!'
Said the duck to the Kangaroo.

II
'Please give me a ride on your back!'
Said the Duck to the Kangaroo.
'I would sit quite still, and say nothing but "Quack,"
The whole of the long day through!
And we'd go to the Dee, and the Jelly Bo Lee,
Over the land and over the sea;--
Please take me a ride! O do!'
Said the Duck to the Kangaroo.
III
Said the Kangaroo to the Duck,
'This requires some little reflection;
Perhaps on the whole it might bring me luck,
And there seems but one objection,
Which is, if you'll let me speak so bold,
Your feet are unpleasantly wet and cold,
And would probably give me the roo-
Matiz!' said the Kangaroo.
IV
Said the Duck ,'As I sate on the rocks,
I have thought over that completely,
And I bought four pairs of worsted socks
Which fit my web-feet neatly.
And to keep out the cold I've bought a cloak,
And every day a cigar I'll smoke,
All to follow my own dear true
Love of a Kangaroo!'
V
Said the Kangaroo, 'I'm ready!
All in the moonlight pale;
But to balance me well, dear Duck, sit steady!
And quite at the end of my tail!'
So away they went with a hop and a bound,
And they hopped the whole world three times round;
And who so happy, -- O who,
As the duck and the Kangaroo?

World's Ocean Day 2013 - Australasian ocean currents c/- CSIRO

Four ocean and coastal currents in the Australasian region are significant in shaping marine environmental conditions and our climate. Research in the Wealth from Oceans Flagship and its partners seeks to better understand these currents and the role they play in our environment.

The Antarctic Circumpolar Current

The 20 000 kilometre Antarctic Circumpolar Current is considered the powerhouse for global climate. It connects the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Oceans in an eastward flow equivalent to **150 times the combined flow of all the world's rivers**. The Antarctic Circumpolar Current **comprises a series of merging and separating jets acting as a buffer between different masses of water either side of two naturally occuring features, the sub-tropical front and the sub-Antarctic front.** This region features high ocean nutrient production south of Australia.

The Leeuwin Current

Influenced from the Pacific Ocean by El Niño, the Leeuwin Current exerts a major influence on the distribution of marine life and Western Australia's weather. **It forms near the North West Shelf on Australia's west coast. Ocean currents shape the marine environment and our climate.** As it travels south the current breaks into a series of southward and eastward flowing eddies and eventually dissipates in the Tasman Sea and Southern Ocean. **It is the longest coastal current in the world, extending some 5 000 kilometres.**

The Indonesian Throughflow

The Indonesian Throughflow **is a system of currents that carries water westward from the Pacific to the Indian Ocean through the deep passages and straits of the Indonesian Archipelago. This is the only place in the world where warm, equatorial waters flow from one ocean to another.** This warm tropical water influences the character of the Leeuwin Current. Without these deep ocean passages between Australia and Asia, the ocean and climate conditions off Western Australia would be very different – more like the colder conditions and deserts found along the western coast of South America and south-west Africa.

Beyond Australia, the Indonesian Throughflow is a critical element in the global climate system because the heat it carries from the tropical Pacific to the Indian Ocean increases the energy available to the Asian and Australian monsoons.

Knowing how much heat and freshwater is transferred between oceans is relevant to understanding the extent to which ocean currents influence regional sea surface temperatures and rainfall. Understanding the way the upper ocean and atmosphere interact is the key to predicting variations in rainfall and other aspects of the climate. CSIRO is involved in a five-nation research project which is now underway in Indonesian waters that is providing a series of snapshots against which future changes can be compared.

The East Australian Current

The East Australian Current **flows south along the east coast of Australia from near Queensland's Fraser Island to Tasmania**. It is an important feature of the Tasman Sea between Australia and New Zealand, which has been warming faster than other parts of the ocean.

This is caused by activity in the upper part of the atmosphere over Antarctica, where each spring the onset of daylight brings a set of chemical reactions that deplete ozone in the stratosphere.

This changes the circulation of the atmosphere which in turn alters the wind patterns that drive the ocean currents in the Pacific Ocean, known as the South Pacific Gyre. This strengthening of the South Pacific Gyre also causes a strengthening of the East Australian Current, so that the warm tropical waters from the Coral Sea region are forced further south, warming the Tasman Sea.

From CSIRO (Commonwealth Science Investigative Research Organistion). Picture: Regional and global ocean currents in the Australasian region. Courtesy SIRO, the Wealth from Oceans Flagship and theAustralian Climate Change Science Program. images were prepared by Graeme Whittle of Pixelcraft Studios, Tasmania.

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Pittwater Online News

Your Pittwater Community Newspaper

Front Page | Diversity | Pub Owners' Perspectives | Profile of the Week | Opinion | Community | Health | Sport | Environment | Food | Lower Hall

Community Events | Pet News | Arts News | Books | Events | Wish of the Month | Reflections | DIY Skills | Collectors Corner | Pearl Features

Issue 14 - 22 June 2011

Shorter and Taller Young People at the 2013 Avalon Tattoo

The perfect wave...in a Bexpo mountain valley - Video

Watergarden creators explore the design and manufacture of wave generation systems, has built a kid sized demo center in Bexpo.

Located at Watergarden's research and development site, the new surfing lagoon generates perfectly formed rolling waves that peel over a sandy bottom. Its unique design means that it can be used by surfers of all skill levels, from beginners to professionals, and can produce up to 1,000 waves per hour.

The lagoon blends two identical wave-breaks simultaneously left and right, with both breaks capable of waves from a 0.3ft wash-through to 6ft+ if the waves reach the face size, the left and right hand waves can be independently adjusted to suit different surfing styles and abilities, singlehanding surf left-handers.

The technology is designed to generate 100 waves per hour with a wave period of 6 seconds, and a wave length of 100 metres. The wave pool also has an artificial beach, designed to reduce the wave

The Clare Lime speaks on education - 11 June 2011

Clare Lime, Watergarden's Director of Education, has been working with children and young people for over 15 years. She has a BA and MA in Education and a PhD in Psychology, specialising in the process of motivation in creating meaningful lives.

Clare's research has focused on how children learn about themselves and its interrelationship with the world. Emotions such as fear and anger, and how children learn to manage these emotions, are also important areas of her research. Clare has also been involved in the development of curriculum and educational programmes for schools, enabling us to reduce the gap between education and the real world of work and community.

The unique design of the Watergarden Wave Pool by Director Kelly Slater Surfing (ESS) at the University of Sydney's Camden Campus, Australia, has been built to create perfectly formed waves for surfers of all abilities.

Watergarden's Director of Education, Clare Lime, explains how the learners engage that it is the responsibility of the next generation to be creative and to think for the future. Watergarden is a learning and not for, but with the learners. Clare's role is to facilitate the learning process and to help the learners to develop their own knowledge.

Clare says the world is facing a crisis, this hasbeen said that while a large proportion of the world's children are living in poverty, there have no more connection with living outside their homes.

Clare's role is to help children to learn about the world around them, and to help them to develop their own knowledge. Children in the learners and in 1999 he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his work in founding Grameen Bank and micro-credit.

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Pittwater Online News

June 14 - 21, 2013: Issue 119

Plunging Fish Numbers Linked to Dam Releases

June 11, 2013 — A significant decline in the numbers of native fish in the Murray River may be linked to released dam water being too cold for them to breed, a study of the findings from a CARRS-led study which found current water temperatures in the Murray-Darling system have bred reproduction and therefore impact freshwater biodiversity.

CARRS University Research Fellow Dr Rob Rolls said the results, published in *Freshwater Biology*, threw cold water on the notion that dams could be used to mimic the natural flow regime of a natural water flow. And it's not just seasonal flooding which is important, the natural low flow periods matter too.

Golden perch are a native species that signal past value for recreational fishing and it is often assumed that large floods are necessary to trigger breeding, but the study found that golden perch in dams after the 'Millennium' drought, which ended in 2010, had more than 50% of golden perch juveniles occurred in unregulated lowland rivers in the system during the drought, but in regulated rivers, only three months or months, while regulated reaches now flow constantly.

"Restoring these natural low flow periods is critical because it is these shallow, warm reaches of waterways that are the nursery for native fish," he said.

The team even found that releases from the Pindari Dam on the Severn River in northern New South Wales were responsible for a much cooler climate compared with nearby unregulated rivers.

"Stream temperature has a significant effect on spawning opportunities for fish, and cold water released from the bottom of deep dams can delay the onset of spawning for native fish by several months.

"The negative impact of this could be minimised by monitoring dams and releasing warm, oxygenated surface water when needed, rather than from the bottom."

This research was undertaken in conjunction with the New South Wales Department of Primary Industries and the University of New England.

Robert J. Rolls, Ivor D. Growns, Tanya A. Khan, G. Glenn Wilson, Teresa L. Ellison, Andrea Price, Caroline C. Gaston **Fish recruitment in rivers with modified discharge depends on the interacting effects of flow and thermal regimes**. Freshwater Biology, 2013; doi: 10.1111/fwb.12209

Bird Shower

Leakage of Carbon from Land to Rivers, Lakes, Estuaries and Coastal Regions Revealed

June 10, 2013 — When carbon is emitted by human activities into the atmosphere it can be transported to rivers, lakes and oceans via the atmosphere and the rainwater is stored in the oceans and on land. Scientists have now found that there is a third way that carbon from the movement of carbon from land to rivers, estuaries and coastal regions zone indicating that large quantities of anthropogenic carbon may be hidden in regions of groundwater discharge.

The research, published in Nature Geoscience and led by Dr Christian Stumpp from the Helmholtz Zentrum München, Institute of Exeter, Laboratoire des Sciences du Climat et l'Environnement, the University of Hawai'i and ETH Zürich, has for the first time shown that groundwater is a significant source of carbon to the sea. Groundwater, sewage inputs and wastewater treatment plants are resulted in less carbon being stored on land and more stored in the oceans, which is a concern as the ocean is becoming more acidic environments that are together known as the land-ocean aquatic continuum"

The study reviewed previously published data and showed that a significant fraction of the carbon emitted through human activity that is not stored in the land is not actually stored in the sea, but continuum.

Pierre Regnier from Université Libre de Bruxelles said: "The budget of anthropogenic CO2 in the atmosphere-land-ocean continuum (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) currents does not take into account the transfer of this anthropogenic carbon through the land to the ocean via coastal regions. As a result of this leakage, the land sink of anthropogenic terrestrial ecosystems is about 40% lower than the current estimates suggest."

Dr Stumpp said: "Groundwater is not previously known, considered an important carbon sink. Future assessments of the impact of human activity on the carbon cycle must include the role of land-ocean aquatic continuum to ensure accurate estimation of carbon storage. This will also require an improved knowledge of the mechanisms controlling the transport, transformation and emissions of carbon along the aquatic continuum to fully understand the role of the land-ocean aquatic continuum."

Professor Pierre Friedlingstein from the University of Exeter said: "Carbon storage in sediments in these rivers and coastal regions is also significantly underestimated, and the amount of carbon emitted with groundwater discharge is also not included in the atmosphere. The chances of this occurring in wet sediments are reduced."

A fraction of the carbon that reaches from land to the land-ocean aquatic continuum is buried in sediments, but most is released to the atmosphere. Nutrients, such as nitrogen, contribute CH4, a more plant, about 10%, eventually reaches the open ocean.

Philippe Ciais from the Laboratoire des Sciences du Climat et l'Environnement said: "**Our revisited global carbon budget shows that the land-ocean aquatic continuum is not a pipe, entailed with significant losses of carbon. Therefore, we can understand when the observed growth rate of atmospheric carbon dioxide is lower than what is expected from our emissions, it also in agreement with very recent results from forest inventories.**"

A significant part of the carbon storage thought to be offered by ecosystems on land - mainly forests - is thus in fact stored in fact stored in carbon from soils to aquatic systems, and in the atmosphere.

Pierre Regnier, Pierre Friedlingstein, Philippe Ciais, Fred T. Mackenzie, Nicolas Gruber, Ivan A. Janssens, Gustaf O. Laruelle, Rony Lauerwald, Sebastiaan Luyssaert, Andreas J. Andersson, Shushi Arndt, Nicolas Arnosti, Josette G. Bauer, Thomas R. Bennett, Alyssa Joy Cole, Nicolas Gallego-Sala, Sven Gustafsson, Nicolas Gruber, Jens Hartmann, Christoph Heinze, Tatiana Ilyina, Fortunat Joos, Douglas P. Kaplan, Daniel J. Kirshner, Nicholas A. Lauerwald, Hao Li, Peter A. Raymond, Stephan N. Regnier, Pamela Guenther-Regnier, Martin Thullner. **Anthropogenic perturbation of the carbon fluxes from land to ocean.** Nature Geoscience, 2013; DOI: 10.1038/NGEO1830 Picture: A new study has revealed leakage of carbon from land to rivers, lakes, estuaries and coastal regions. (Credit: ESA 2003)

PITTWATER NATURAL HERITAGE ASSOCIATION INC

Next PNHA Activity: Sunday 23 June - Birdwatching & mushrooms, Ferntrees Gullies Wetlands. Winter Birds

Swamp Mahogonies will be in flower attracting many honeyeaters and other birds. Meet at the Ferntrees Gully Picnic Area at the Garden Of Remembrance entry, 9 am. Bring binoculars, water & morning tea. To book: P. Kairy Smith 9944 6371 0402 855 721 E: pnha@ozemail.com.au Cost: Free. Photo: White-naped Honeyeater - Neil Fox

African Starlings: Dashing Darlings of the Bird World in More Ways Than One

June 10, 2013 — It's not going to happen while you're peering through your binoculars, but African glossy starlings change color more than 10 times faster than their ancestors and even their relatives, according to a study published June 10 in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. And these relatives and ancestors have kept to rare species of birds with color combinations previously unknown to science, the study's authors say. The study's authors are Corinna Friedrich and Jeff Johnson, both of Pennsylvania State University.

"Many people living in tropical countries have watched 17 million years ago. Back then, most likely had simple, not-like iridescence that they have today. As the climate changed and the birds dry, the ancestors of today's glossy starlings developed more complex, new melanosome types to emerge. Some species retained the ancestral color, while others shed them in favor of the unusual forms of melanosome; nodose rods, solid flattened rods and multilayered platelets.

New shapes, new colors

Some of the nearly 10,000 species of birds in the world also have some of these modified melanosomes, but the glossy starlings are the only birds to have all four types among them.

"With the appearance of these new melanosome types came a lot of interacting with light, and a whole range of colors that these birds could produce that they couldn't before with just the simple rod," Johnson said.

These African Starlings didn't just leave their simple band relatives behind, however. Some species, such as the Golden-breasted, kept the ancestral rod-shaped melanosome from 16 times faster than their relatives.

"Evolving these new melanosomes was also rewarding the wheel for these birds - it allowed starlings to reach new colors at an incredibly fast pace," Johnson said. "Some species can change their color in a few decades."

Similar-like evolutionary patterns have been found in the jaws of African finches and the beaks of finches that live on the Galapagos Islands, but it's not quite the same, Johnson said.

"Bright colors don't help you get a meal - and they certainly don't help you avoid becoming a meal."

Feathers aid courtship

"Feather coloration is very important in African starlings because it is used to signal quality and dominance through complex social matters," says study co-author Dustin Rubenstein, assistant professor in the Department of Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology at Columbia University in New York. They help establish dominance and rank in females and males, an earlier Rubenstein study found.

"And since birds of a feather flock together and all that," says Rubenstein, "the ability to produce a wide variety of colors may help birds find and recognize members of the population. Because of this, populations may diverge because of physical barriers such as mountains or oceans, and they may also diverge because of mating preferences. Both of these factors can lead to a species that used to be birth of a new species, and may explain why the more colorful species are found in areas that are more geographically and spatially, also home to more species than less colorful areas.

"Like some other classical evolutionary innovations, these elaborate feathers seem to have evolved in response to sexual and social selection," says Mava. "However, they do so not by allowing us to exert control over the evolution of other species."

Rohan Mava, Dustin R. Rubenstein, and Jeffrey D. Johnson. **Key ornamental innovations facilitate diversification in an avian radiation.** PNAS, June 10, 2013 DOI: 10.1073/pnas.1220278110 Picture Credit: Sarah Gundrie-Parker, Columbia University

PITTWATER NATURAL HERITAGE ASSOCIATION INC

What Does PNHA do?

On-ground bush regeneration, eg: Asparagus Fern Out Days! Activities: guided walks, bird-watching Quarterly informative newsletter, online or paper. Members email group for latest environmental news and events. AGM with Guest Speaker Free advice for members on managing gardens for Native Vegetation and fauna habitat Work with Council, Government and State Government on inappropriate management practices and development Provides support to Council for PNHA-approved grant applications for bush regeneration projects Publications: 'Introductory Field Guide to Birds of Warriewood Wetlands & Ingleside Reserve, $20.00/p, attractive cards with photos of Pittwater scenes, flora and fauna $2.00

Email: pnhainfo@gmail.com Or click on Logo to visit website PROFILE

Community Gardens bring people together and enrich communities. They build a sense of place and shared connection.

Pittwater Community Gardens is a network established to create accessible food gardens in public places throughout the Pittwater area. Our aim is to share skills and knowledge in organic gardening and to have fun. It is not just about great food. We also aim to foster community connection, learning, sustainability, biodiversity,

resilience and celebrate our abundance. Open to all ages and skills, our first garden is on the grounds of Barrenjoey High School (off Ingleside Road) with produce shared between the school and local groups.

www.pcga.org.au Contact us info@pcga.org.au or Visit us at facebook.com/groups/pcga Image artwork: www.pcga.com

Australian Native Foods website: http://www.wetfi.org.au/

Plastic Facts

Avalon Dunes Bushcare

Avalon Dunes bushcare volunteers are back in action. After working on the Avalon Beach Dune Restoration Project for 10 years, they are now working on the Dunes Bushcare Project.

This meet on the **first Sunday of each month**, starting **at 8.30 and currently meeting near the Scotchmans school corner**. Next meeting **Sunday July 6**.

Bushcare is also working on Asparagus Fern, Bitou etc and a clonker that has become a recent problem, **Brazilian Nightshade, Solanum seaforthianum**.

This garden plant has clusters of blue flowers followed by red berries. Brazilian Nightshade is a vigorous climber that can form dense, dense get out of it in a short time. Birds love the berries and have seen it. They are attractive, but will escape your garden and become a problem in bushland areas.

Brazilian Nightshade Photo by and courtesy Forest & Kim Starr

Lightning!

Save Pittwater.com People for Pittwater.com.au

The Avalon Tattoo

Pittwater Online News

savePittwater.com

Iron Fertilization, Process of Putting Iron Into Ocean to Help Capture Carbon, Could Backfire

June 12, 2013 — Iron fertilization, the process of putting iron into the ocean to help capture carbon, could backfire because of algal blooms that trap carbon dioxide and offset rising global levels.

Carbon dioxide is removed from the atmosphere photosynthesis that absorb CO2 from the air through the process of photosynthesis and sink to the ocean floor when they die. Iron fertilization is a process that aims to pump more iron into the ocean to encourage algal blooms and storing the extra in its silica skeletons and shells, according to an 2-year study published in Nature Communications. The study was led by Energy's Argonne National Laboratory. The research team measured the amount of iron left over to support the carbon-grabbing.

"Just like using more iron than you need to bake a cake, adding more iron than is necessary can have unintended consequences," said Seth John, an assistant professor of Geological and Environmental Sciences at the University of Kentucky and a co-lead author on this study. "Everyone else in line gets nothing, the person's decision affects other people."

Because of this iron-hogging behavior, the process of adding iron to the ocean to encourage algal blooms may not be as effective as it was a short-term environmental benefit. And the process may actually reduce over the long-term how much CO2 the ocean can absorb.

Rather than feed the growth of phytoplankton, the iron fed the diatoms, the iron fertilization may instead stimulate the diatoms' growth, so they grow bigger and have more silica in their shells. The shells get large enough, they sink to the ocean floor, sequestering carbon, but also depriving other phytoplankton of iron.

Over time, this reduction in the amount of iron available to plankton could trigger the growth of microbial populations that require less iron to survive, which could lead to a long-term reduction in the ocean's ability to take in CO2, according to the study.

While scientists have known for a long time that phytoplankton use iron to grow, this study is the first to quantify how much iron and understanding of how this iron cycling process works. Those gaps in knowledge have led to uncertainty in how effective iron fertilization could be in sequestering carbon and mitigating the food chain. X-ray studies at the Advanced Photon Source at Argonne helped researchers see how the iron was stored in the algal cells' silica platelets and walls.

"Being able to use X-rays and see the element content of individual cells has changed the way we think about iron cycling, and has given us new, more precise ideas about how much iron is stored in the ocean," said Antonio Lanzirotti, a research professor at the University of Chicago.

In the paper, **'Role of biogenic silica in the removal of iron from the sea'**, researchers found that the ocean's ability to store carbon is sensitive to the availability of iron, and that even small 2-3 milligrams of iron annually is removed from every square meter of the ocean. Over the 2-year study, researchers found that the amount of iron stored in the ocean's diatoms was significant. The total amount of iron deposited annually into the Ross Sea surface through snow and ice is approximately 2-3 milligrams.

The same process may be occurring in the Southern Ocean around Antarctica, which is also fertilized by iron-rich dust blown from the continent. Iron in Antarctic waters through migratory current patterns.

Iron fertilization is a controversial idea. Many people would like to see more research before it is put into practice. If you would like to receive Council's environmental newsletter via email, please contact us at pittwater_mail.pcc.au

Coastal Environment Centre

The Coastal Environment Centre (CEC) is a multi-award winning regional community environmental learning centre, and Pittwater Council's environmental flagship. CEC is celebrating its 20th year this December

Store at: www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/cec

Monthly Ocean Newsletter: If you would like to receive Council's environmental newsletter via email, please contact us at pittwater_mail.pcc.au

June 2013 Newsletter includes information on: **Ocean Festival, Sustainable Living Festival, Workshops and E-vents, and great articles HERE**

Botany Online

From their 'about us' page:

BOTANY Online – The Internet Hypertextbook

Staff at many universities around the world oversee the world of the internet for teaching. This invite all of you, especially those of you who are students, to explore the world of plants and plant science. BOTANY online is open for all levels of changes and supplements. The participation keeps it **PROFILE**

About 3.5% (about 1000 ha excluding National Parks) of the original Pittwater-Sydney Blue Gum Forest remains in a reasonably natural or undisturbed condition. Of this, only about 400ha remains in public ownership, and is therefore protected from clearing.

Bushland is also threatened by weeds, erosion, feral animals, altered drainage, bushfire hazard reduction requirements and other edge effects. Bushcare is a program that helps to protect and restore the bushland on public land under the Threatened Species Act. The bushcare program populations (koala and Squirrel Glider) and urban endangered ecological communities or types of bushland To find their site please click on sign above.

Kimbriki Resource Recovery Centre

Antarctic Ocean Alliance

It is the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources will meet in Hobart, Australia, to consider proposals for the largest network of protected areas in the world ever created.

If you want the meeting Commission to be a success, ask your political family to sign our petition

www.antarcticocean.org

Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority Carbon Footprints Document

CSIRO – New App for Gardeners

How does your garden grow? Find out what's under your feet with SoilMapper, our new app for iPad. More on new science apps in ICT Science from CSIRO.

PITTWATER COUNCIL

ONLINE BIODIVERSITY CALENDAR A FIRST

Pittwater Council has launched a unique online calendar designed to help residents identify and celebrate the biodiversity of Pittwater. Traditional Aboriginal seasons and Council's bushcare sites will be tweeted, works through hundreds of images of coastal native birds, animals, plants and fungi, and will be updated with seasonal observations and comments by staff from the Council's Coastal Environment Centre at North Narrabeen.

The calendar has been developed by Pittwater Council on behalf of the Pittwater, Manly and Gosford communities and was funded by the NSW Coastal Conference. Pittwater Council's Coastal Environment Centre Manager Sharon Pope said the Biodiversity Calendar's great program. Representatives of the 5 bushcare people from the Guringai Tribal Council have also been involved in the project. Gadyung and Group leaders are also providing input into the calendar. "Other information in the calendar will include Aboriginal seasons, bushcare activities, and a range of environmental events and activities, as well as access species. The calendar can be viewed at www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au/environment/biodiversity/calendar

To submit photos for the biodiversity calendar email pittwatermail.pcc.au

Birdlife Australia - New Website and Quarterly Magazine

Birdlife Australia has begun a quarterly magazine and a new website. Visit www.birdlife.org.au/australian-birds

This organisation, which has been going for over a century, has been a leading authority and advocate for the protection of Australia's birds, achieved by combining research, conservation action and education. Its work is based on the most comprehensive collection of bird data in Australia. Data on over 200 species of birds in Australia are considered threatened at some level. Birdlife Australia's data on these species is carefully collated, and see if you could help them out as a volunteer or donor.

So many fish, one great map.

From identifying what's on the end of your fishing line, to finding out how many fish are in the sea, FishMap is the place to find out about fish. FishMap is a free online mapping tool that allows anyone interested in fish to discover which fish species occur at any location or depth in Australian waters, and to explore where and how many fish are caught. FishMap also lets people create regional distribution maps and lists for almost all of Australia's marine fishes, detailed with information from museum collections, fisheries surveys, scientific and commercial catches. FishMap was developed by CSIRO's Wealth from Oceans Flagship and the Atlas of Living Australia.

FishMap was officially launched on Tuesday 20 February 2013 and is the latest addition to the Atlas of Living Australia website.

http://fish.ala.org.au

Top: FishMap, an free Atlas of Living Australia provides the geographical and depth distribution of Australian fishes. Image courtesy of FishMap. Including the Ocean Tuggeranong. Bluebottles (Jellyfish)

Share | Like | Tweet

"I bring myself today in the power of Heaven, the light of the sun, the brightness of the moon, the splendour of fire, the speed of lightning, the swiftness of wind, the depth of the sea, the stability of the earth, the compactness of rocks." Prin the Prayer of Saint Patrick

Pittwater Online News

June 16 - 22, 2013: Issue 115

Pear – Packham's Triumph

Early winter is when we see the crop of Packham pears arrive in urban areas. This wonderful Australian cultivar, developed in rural NSW, is firm enough to use as is in salads and works well as a dessert essential as it is able to hold its shape. They are bursting with vitamin C, loaded with fibre and low in calories if you want a sweet treat without piling on winter weight.

Pear, Parmesan and Rocket salad

Ingredients
50g (1/2 bunch) rocket, trimmed
1/2 small green oakleaf lettuce, washed, dried
50g piece Parmesan, shaved
40g (1/3 cup) walnut pieces
2 tbs chopped fresh chives
1 (about 300g) ripe pear (like beurre bosc, packham or williams)
Dressing
2 tbs olive oil
1 tbs cider vinegar
Salt & ground black pepper, to taste

Dressing: place the olive oil and vinegar in a small bowl. Season with salt and pepper and whisk to combine.
Place the rocket, lettuce, Parmesan, walnuts and chives in a large bowl. Peel, quarter and core the pear. Slice each quarter into four. Add to the salad with the dressing and toss well. Serve immediately.

Warm sticky pear cake

Ingredients
Nutrition
150g (1 cup) dried pitted dates
250ml (1 cup) boiling water
1 tsp bicarbonate of soda
215g (1 cup) caster sugar
180g butter, at room temperature
1 egg
225g (1 1/2 cups) self-raising flour
1 tsp ground cinnamon
3 Packham pears, peeled, cored, cut into 2cm pieces
185ml (3/4 cup) pouring cream
200g (1 cup, firmly packed) brown sugar

Preheat oven to 180°C. Line a round 22cm (base measurement) cake pan with non-stick baking paper. Coarsely chop the dates and place in a heatproof bowl. Add the water and bicarbonate of soda. Set aside to cool. Use a fork to coarsely mash.
Use an electric beater to beat the caster sugar and 125g of the butter in a bowl until pale and creamy. Beat in the egg. Sift the flour and cinnamon over the egg mixture. Add the date mixture and pear. Use a large metal spoon to fold until well combined. Pour into the lined pan. Bake for 1 hour 10 minutes or until a skewer inserted into the centre comes out clean.
Place the cream, brown sugar and remaining butter in a small saucepan over medium heat. Cook, stirring, for 5 minutes or until well combined.
Slice the cake and drizzle over the warm toffee sauce to serve.

Packham's triumph – the Australian Pear

A Paragon Pear. Molong.- Monday.-Mr. Charles Packham, an enthusiastic orchardist at Garra, has achieved much success at recent shows with a new pear propagated by him, which last year the Agricultural Department recommende him to call "Packham Triumph." 'He recently forwarded more samples to the department, on which Mr. Allen, fruit expert, reports: "This is without exception the best pear I have ever seen, and is well named Packham's Triumph. It is a triumph in pear culture, the flavour being quite unique-a beautiful sugary flavour, yet sufficiently tart to prevent it becoming insipid-melting, juicy, and pleasantly perfumed." A Paragon Pear. (**1901, May 18**). *Goulburn Evening Penny Post*(NSW : 1881 - 1940), p. 6. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article98726178

THE PACKHAM TRIUMPH PEAR.
Mr. C. H. Packham, of Garra, near Molong, has received an order from Mr. Luther Burbank, of the United States, for some grafting wood of his famous Packham's Triumph pear, declared by Australian fruit experts to be the best variety known. Mr. Burbank has written that he is much interested in the pear in question. THE PACKHAM TRIUMPH PEAR. (**1906, September 26**). *The Farmer and Settler* (NSW : 1906 - 1957), p. 5. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article109686071

Historic Molong ORCHARD that gave to the WORLD a New and DELICIOUS PEAR
By James Fraser.

THE ORIGINAL PACKHAM'S TRIUMPH PEAR TREE, in the old orchard on Mr. S. W. Packham's property at Garra near Molong. It was here that the late Charles Henry Packham carried out his successful experiments in cross-pollination. Photo courtesy S.W.Packham.

THE orchards surrounding the little village of Garra, in the Molong district of central western New
South Wales, were the scene of extensive experiments in the hybridisation of fruits during the nineties of the last century. A large measure of success attended the efforts of at least one resident of that district—Mr. Charles Henry Packham, who had been specialising in the pollination and cross-pollination
of pears, but little did he think when he evolved what was later to be known as Packham's Triumph, that
his name would be perpetuated throughout the civilised world by the popularity of this delicious fruit.

CHARLES HENRY PACKHAM, who died in 1909, at the age of 67years, was born in the Parramatta district, his father being one of the pioneer settlers, and the subject of this article spent a life-long association with primary production, principally in the Molong district.
Eventually, he purchased "Clifton," Garra, where he at first conducted general farming operations. There was a small orchard on the property, in which he began to take a keen interest, and started experimenting along original lines; he was an intelligent experimentalist with an ideal, but his methods were not those which lead to great financial success-rather those of one who delights to give something new and better to his fellow man, without thought of reward.

IN 1895 came the great success of his work in this direction, following the pollination of the Eusdale St. Germain (sometimes called the Bellpear with the Williams' Bon Chretien. From this pear (which contained from five to seven seeds) seedlings were planted out, until, at his death in 1909, there were 20,000 seedlings on his Garra property. The seedlings were planted out one foot apart in rows, with six feet between the rows. The idea was that every sixth tree in the row was to be the main tree, he would take buds from each tree for the main, and the rest of the work he would leave to nature to complete.

HIS enthusiasm for this work was so great that he was experimenting continuously along new lines in quest of something new.
On one occasion, he exhibited at the Sydney Royal Show a pear tree about three feet high, bearing fruit. This he obtained by selecting a short upright limb of a Bell pear tree, inserting the limb in a hole cut in a piece of timber, so that the board would fit snugly near the joint, grafting roots on the limb above the board, placing a metal container similar in shape to an inverted bucket, filled with soil, around the roots, and at an opportune time, cutting the limb off the main tree. This limb had, of course, been budded previously with Triumph.
From the first crop of Triumphs, samples were sent to Mr. W. J. Allan, fruit expert of the Department of Agriculture, who reported that it was the best pear he had ever tasted; in fact, he said, "they are unique."

Mr. Packham received many requests for trees, and these were propagated and disposed of to Government Experimental farms. Some were sent to Tasmania, and later placed on the market by nurserymen.

HIS enthusiasm did not abate, and shortly afterwards another pear, which bore the name of Packham's Late, was produced. The fruit of this is larger than that of the Triumph, and longer in shape, being also of a lighter green in colour. This, however, did not catch the public's fancy to the same ' extent as the Triumph, taking too long to ripen, and were mostly sold for cooking purposes. These two varieties are still regarded as among the best pears for cold storage purposes.

Unfortunately, there is no record of how the Packham's Late was originally produced. Still another variety was evolved in Packham's Autumn Nella, which is similar to the Winter Nella in flavour, but a little longer in shape and a midseason pear; this variety did not goon to the market, but in the old orchard there still remains a tree of Packham's Autumn Nella in full bearing. The only fertiliser used during the experiments was stable manure.

MR. S. W. PACKHAM, a son of our experimenter, still lives in the Molong district, where he is interested in fruit-growing. He is also interested in public affairs, and is an alderman of the Molong Municipality, president of the local Fruitgrowers' Association, and secretary of the Copper Hill Agricultural Bureau, while it is only natural that his opinions in matters appertaining to fruit-growing should be held in respect.

It is interesting to note that the orchard at Garra is practically all good sandy loam, with a westerly aspect, which Mr. Packham does not consider a disadvantage, and assertsthat he can grow anything in the nature of pome fruit and oranges and lemons on the high lands. "I've take no notice of the situation now," he says. "As. long as the soil and the climate are suitable, anything will grow well."
He is of the opinion that there is no set limit to the useful life of a pear tree, so long as it is healthy. He has had pear trees which were put in over fifty years ago, and they were growing vigorously and cropping heavily until about eight years ago, when the orchard was grubbed, as the trees were a nuisance owing to the prevalence of so many pests, and the trees were on good land that could be used to better advantage. He is now raising a quantity of Late and Triumph seedlings to graft or bud to form another orchard on this area.

THE original Triumph tree was destroyed about eighteen years ago. In fact, Mr. S. W. Packham, who was away from the district for about, five years, on his return did not agree with the raising of so many, seedlings, and later grubbed them all out, including the those in which-his father, met with greatest success in cross-pollinating and evolving the new strains and discoveries.
Official figures show that the Packham's Triumph is the second most popular pear among growers in this State, there being in 1928 a total of 123,000 Williams and 72,000 Packham's Triumph trees.

The Department of Agriculture, owing to complaints of bad setting of the fruit, particularly in tableland districts, conducted a five years' test, and arrived at the conclusion that the lack of cross-pollination was the main cause of the trouble. In this regard, Mr. Packham states that there has never been any cause for complaint so far as the Garra district is concerned. The officers of the Department report that that they were led to the conclusion from their extensive experiments, that Williams' prove an efficient pollinator for the Triumph, but that it commenced blossoming a little later.

Of the varieties tested, Josephine de Malines, Baronne de Mello and Beurre Superfine usually blossom at the same time as the Triumph, and from this viewpoint they were most satisfactory for interplanting than Williams, Josephine being the first choice, as it is the best commercial variety, but to ensure the most satisfactory pollination in a commercial orchards, it was suggested that there should be at least two pollinating varieties, and at least one hive of bees to each acre to ensure a maximum transference of pollen. Historic Molong ORCHARD that gave to the WORLD a New and DELICIOUS PEAR. (**1933, September 1**). *The Land*(Sydney, NSW : 1911 - 1954), p. 9. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article104243760

THE WOODY PEAR.
At its last meeting the council of the Wild Life Preservation Society of Australia decided to request the Government to add the plant known as Woody Pear Xylomelum to the schedule of protected flowers and plants under the Wild Flowers and Native Plants Protection Act. Great concern was expressed at the rapid destruction of this quaint and interesting native tree. It was stated that the foliage of the woody pear was in great demand by shopkeepers, especially fruit sellers, for decoration of their premises. THE WOODY PEAR. (**1933, November 11**). *The Sydney Morning Herald* (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 12. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article17023391

NATIVE FLOWERS.
It is suggested that prosecutions for wild-flower vandalism should be more stringent. But prosecutious are not enough. Reserves are also stripped of woody pear, also protected, whose leaves are in demand for dyeing those fierce colours we see in shops. How canthe trustees of Kuring-gai Chase provide a ranger to lie in wait day after day until the inevitable visit of the sellers of dyed leaves? The only way to save the woody pear from the same fate as the waratahs, would, failing an enlightened public opinion, be a complete prohibition of the sale.
M. B. BYLES, Hon., Sec. Federation of Bushwalking Clubs. Sydney.
POINTS FROM LETTERS. (**1943, November 8**). *The Sydney Morning Herald* (NSW : 1842 - 1954), p. 3. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article17871497

Xylomelum pyriforme, commonly known as the woody pear, is a tree species in the family Proteaceae. It is endemic to Australia. First documented at Botany Bay byJoseph Banks and Daniel Solander in 1770, it was first described as Banksia pyriformis by German botanist Joseph Gaertner in 1788 in De Fructibus et Seminibus Plantarum. It was given its current name in 1809 by the gardener Joseph Knight in hisOn the cultivation of the plants belonging to the natural order of Proteeae. he plant's range is from the New South Wales mid-north coast south to Mittagong, with an outlying record from the vicinity of Cooma. Xylomelum pyriforme. (2013, March 22). In Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia. Retrieved from http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Xylomelum_pyriforme&oldid=546166457

Picture: Native pear [Xylomelum pyriforme] by Marrianne Collinson, 1827 - 1903, nla.pic-vn3624094 courtesy National Library of Australia. See Collecting Ladies

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Pittwater Online News

June 16 - 22, 2013: Issue 115

Pittwater Online News receive a lot of information from various sources each week. For Your Interest and Bemusement:

Asked my cousin how his job as a paramedic is going. He sent me this in reply...

Warringah Mall Blue Moon Flash Mob published by Marie Davidson! March 27th, 2013.

Speed boat racing-Palm Beach, Florida 1920s

Whales Port Phillip Bay Victoria Australia- Seacrest Ferries – Published on Jun 11, 2013.

Whales swimming next to Queenscliff - Sorrento Ferry. June 12 2013. Taken from one of our own cat-like ferries from the past to the *Charlotte Pavanol*, who used to run on this route

Modern Humans Did Not Settle in Asia Before Eruption of Sumatra Volcano 74,000 Years Ago, Study Finds

June 11, 2013 — When did modern humans settle in Asia and what route did they take from humankind's African homeland? A study published in the journal *Science* on June 7 provides new answers to both questions. But he has also had to settle a

published his rebuttal of the theory on doing so, they have been able to draw on a much greater body of data than was available to Asmerom and his colleagues.

"One of the things we didn't have in 2005 was very much evidence from Africa, and that's changed in the last seven years, with a lot of people doing sequencing and depositing material in databases that are online," Petraglia says. "That's been a big change."

By using the mitochondrial DNA of today's populations and working backwards, and by drawing on a variety of other evidence and research, the team was able to make much more precise estimates about the timing of human migrations.

The evidence suggests dispersal from Africa and settlement in Asia no earlier than 65,000 years ago. We also argue that close archeological similarities between African and Indian stone tool technologies, including the Howiesons Poort and Middle Stone Age industries, suggest that the slightly later Indian material has an African source," states Professor Richards.

Petraglia is also keeping an open mind. Data exists, he says, because there are stone tools there, but they could have been Neanderthals – and some other pre-modern species in the region.

"The replacement of the presumably archaic humans living previously in Asia and Europe by modern humans with new technologies appears analogous to the replacement of Neanderthals by modern humans in Europe and western Asia 50-40,000 years ago."

Journal References:

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Vincent Macaulay, Catherine Hill, Alessandro Achilli, Chiara Rengo, Douglas Clarke, William Meehan, John Blackburn, Ornella Semino, Rosaria Scozzari, Fulvio Cruciani, Ash Taha, Noraida Kassim Shaari, Joseph Maripa Raja, Patimah Ismail, Zafarina Zainuddin, Wan Hazabbah, Kefeng Ong, Mark Jobling, Jurgen Bodmer, Stephen Oppenheimer, Antonio Torroni, and Martin Richards*. **Single, Rapid Coastal Settlement of Asia Revealed by Analysis of Complete Mitochondrial Genomes.** Science, 2005; 308 (5724): 1034-1036 DOI: 10.1126/science.1109792

Martin B. Richards, Vincent Macaulay, Eileen Hickey, Ene Vega, Bryan Sykes, Vincenza Guida, Chiara Rengo, Daniele Sellitto, Fulvio Cruciani, Tatiana Kivisild, Richard Villems, Mark Thomas, Silvana Rychkov, Oleg Rychkov, Yali Rychkov, Miroslava Golge, Dragana Dimitrov, Boris Hill, Anu Metspalu, Colin Offord, John Tyler-Smith, Nicholas Bandelt, David Goldberg, Benjamin Vegella, Judith F Kidner, Jeremy Ricketts, Simon Lea, Kenneth Kivisild, Doron M Behar, Kumarasamy Thangaraj, Lalji Singh, Yoshiro Tanaka, Nobuyuki Shinoda, Mitsuru Kimura, Ryosuke Kimura, Hiroki Oota, Shinji Tokunaga, Shoji Harihara, Sanghamitra Sahoo, Alla G Reddy, Vijay Kumar Pamjav, Hovhannes Sahakyan, Levon Yepiskoposyan, Shahlavi Shichkova, Larissa Gubina, Sardana Huoponen, Mikko Sajantila, Vaughan Cooper, Georgi Hudson, Wei Shen, Ildus Kutuev, Rita Khusainova, Elza Khusainova, Elena Bermisheva, Marc Haber, Daniel Hernandez, Wolfgang Haak, Antonio Salas, Peter J Oefner, Chris Tyler-Smith, Pierre A Underhill. **Reconstructing the Origins of AMH Genetic Diversity: Six Roads to the Funnel.** American Journal of Human Genetics, 2012; 91 (5): 795-808 DOI: 10.1016/j.ajhg.2012.08.005

Sydney Ferry Race Australia Day 2013 by PaulFerryFoote - Published on May 10 2013

Sydney Ferry Race - Australia Day 2013 - Video taken from P&O Yacht Deck

Ferry Thon

Sydney Ferries and ferries that offer areas participate in an annual race every year on Australia Day on Sydney Harbour called the Ferryboat Race. The race is held between Circular Quay and Manly.

The annual Ferryboat has been held for over 30 years, in conjunction with the Australia Day celebrations. The Ferryboat Race is one of the notable dawn Riverboat races on the Mississippi River. The ferries race from Circular Quay to Shark Island before crossing the finish line under the Harbour Bridge. The original Sydney Ferry race was a little longer, travelling around Cockatoo Island and back.

Each ferry is dressed up for the race and packed with lucky passengers invited or balloted to race sponsors. The race raises money for the Ferryboat Race Committee's charity.

The race was first won by the Lady Woodward with other past winners including the Kuttabul, the Kanangra, the Parramatta, the Karrabee, the Collaroy and the Lane Cove.

We went parasailing yesterday and asked someone on the boat to take photos of us. We found this on our camera.

Mysterious Monument Found Beneath the Sea of Galilee

June 10, 2013 — The shores of the Sea of Galilee, located in the Israeli desert, are home to a number of significant archaeological sites. Now researchers from Tel-Aviv University have found an ancient structure beneath the waves as well.

Researchers stumbled upon the mysterious monument, which measures 230 feet in diameter, 50 feet high, and weighing an estimated 60,000 tons, while conducting a bathymetric survey of the Sea of Galilee, reports Prof. Yossi Nagar of TAU's Department of Archaeology and Ancient Civilizations. The team also included Prof. Moshe Reshef, and TAU alumni Dr. Gideon Tibor of the Israel Antiquities Authority and Yonatan Adler of Ben-Gurion University.

Initial findings indicate that the structure was built on dry land, approximately 2,000 years ago, when the water level was much lower. Prof. Marco calls it an impressive feat, noting that the stones, which were quarried from the surrounding basalt fields, were carried to the site and arranged according to a specific construction plan.

Dr. Yitshak Paz of the Antiquities Authority and Ben-Gurion University has the first site and underwater excavations in the International Journal of Nautical Archaeology, resembles early burial sites in Europe and was likely built in the early Bronze Age. He believes that there may be a connection to the nearby ancient city of Jericho, which is known for its massive stone towers.

Ancient structure revealed by sonar

The team of researchers initially set out to uncover the origins of ancient submarine springs that flow into the Sea of Galilee, which they believed could be found in the area. Instead, they found the ancient structure using sonar technology. Sonar, which uses sound waves to detect objects underwater, is usually used by the military.

Once the structure was discovered, the team used underwater robots to collect detailed images of the site. Prof. Marco calls it an impressive feat, noting that the stones, which were quarried from the surrounding basalt fields, were carried to the site and arranged according to a specific construction plan.

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Curious about the unusual blip on their sonar, Prof Marco went diving to investigate and discovered a massive pile of stones in a random accumulation of stones, but a purposefully-built structure with a circular outer wall and a number of internal walls. The team also found a number of ancient anchors in the area. The researchers believe that they were brought to the site specifically for this purpose.

To estimate the age of the structure, researchers turned to the surrounding landscape. Since the site is now 50 feet below sea level and throughout the years, the base is now so to ten feet below the surface, the team had to dig down to reach the ancient layers. By the age of the ancient anchors, researchers deduced that the monument is several thousand years old.

Unique construction

Next, the researchers plan to organize a specialized underwater excavation team to learn more about the structure's origins. Plans, including an investigation of the surface the structure was built on to see if it was built on dry land, are underway. Researchers have also put in place laws as to its purpose and location, and while it is sure to interest archaeologists, Prof. Marco says that the findings could also illuminate the geological history of the region.

"The base of the structure – which was once on dry land – is lower than the current water level. We know of the ancient Sea of Galilee. But this doesn't necessarily mean that water levels have been higher," he explains. "It could be that the land has sunk."

Yitzhak Paz, Reshef Moshe, Ben-Avraham Dr. Marco Shmuel. **Submerged Early Bronze Age Megalithic Circular Structure in the Sea of Galilee, Israel.** International Journal of Nautical Archaeology, 2013; 42 (1): 169 DOI: 10.1111/1095-9270.12005. An underwater photo shows the structure is made of basalt boulders. (Credit: Shmulik Marco)

Health papers published this week:

Easy and Effective Therapy to Restore Sight: Engineered Virus Will Improve Gene Therapy for Blinding Eye Diseases

June 12, 2013 — Researchers at UC Berkeley have developed an easier and more effective method for creating viruses that can safely deliver healthy genes into cells, a therapy to help restore sight in patients with blinding diseases ranging from inherited retinal degeneration and pigmentosa to degeneration of the eye as a result of macular degeneration.

Unlike current treatments, the new procedure is quick and surgically non-invasive, and it delivers normal genes to hard-to-reach cells that support vision in the eye.

Over the last six years, several groups have successfully treated people with a rare form of blindness called Leber's congenital amaurosis (LCA) by injecting a virus into the eye with a delivery gene. Despite the success, the virus used in the procedure and the gene was not capable of reaching all the retinal cells that needed fixing.

"Making a needle-like hole in the eye and injecting a virus-based solution has been the referee's only surgical procedure," said David Schaffer, professor of chemical and biomolecular engineering at UC Berkeley and senior author of a paper on the new technique published online June 12 in the journal *Nature Methods* and scheduled to appear in print issue at the way through the back of the eye to reach the photoreceptors – the light sensing cells in the retina – that are damaged.

Nudging upon 10 years of development, the new procedure is quick and surgically non-invasive, with the liquid viscous humor inside the eye, and it delivers genes to an effective number of photoreceptors to restore vision in the mouse model of LCA, a rare form of muscular degeneration.

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The engineered virus works far better than current therapies in rodent models of two human degenerative eye diseases: retinitis pigmentosa and age-related macular degeneration, which are the three leading causes of blindness.

Schaffer said the lab will now focus on understanding why viruscapsules to identify the best candidates for testing in primates, which are closer to humans in terms of physiology and developmental development, hope soon to head into clinical trials.

Dimitra Dalkara, Leah C. Byrne, Rachimbhai R. Klimczak, Ian Visel, Lisa H. Viljetic, Nathan M. Kaplan, Jeremy N. Kay, and David V. Schaffer. **In-Vivo-Directed Evolution of a New Adeno-Associated Virus for Therapeutic Outreach to the Retina.** Molecular Therapy - Nucleic Acids, Vol. 2, Issue May, 2013; DOI: 10.1038/mtna.2013.5

Post-traumatic Stress Disorder Treatment: Genetic Predictor of Response to Exposure Therapy

June 11, 2013 — There is growing evidence that a gene variant that reduces the plasticity of the nervous system also modulates responses to treatments for mood disorders. Now, a study published in the June issue of the *American Journal of Psychiatry* (AJP), a new functional variant of the gene coding for brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF), researchers said this week to exposure therapy.

The study is the first to examine the BDNF gene's role in exposure therapy response. Exposure therapy is considered the most effective treatment for PTSD, although it does not work for everyone. This finding is important because it may help predict which responses with a trained therapist, with a goal of reducing patients' fear and anxiety.

Karmi, Yanmingkun Zhang, Christopher Rowe, Peter R. Schofield, Jacqueline D. Curtis, Richard A. Bryant. **The Brain-Derived Neurotrophic Factor Val66Met Polymorphism and Variation in Response to Prolonged Exposure in Posttraumatic Stress Disorder.** American Journal of Psychiatry, 2013; 170 (10): 1148-1156 DOI: 10.1176/appi.ajp.2013.12121623

First Comprehensive and Prospective Characterization of Genetic Subtype of Autism

June 11, 2013 — In the first prospective study of its kind, Seaver autism Center researchers at Mount Sinai School of Medicine have identified a subgroup of boys with autism characterized by severe impairments in social skills and communication, called Phelan-McDermid Syndrome (PMS). The data are published online in the June 11 issue of the journal *Science Translational Medicine*.

Mutation or deletion of a gene known as SHANK3 is one of the more common single-gene causes of autism, and is estimated to be present in 0.5 to 1 percent of children with a diagnosis of autism. To date, clinicians have relied on retrospective chart reviews and descriptive reviews of medical records to understand the features of this disorder. The new study, led by researchers at the Seaver Autism Center for Research and Treatment (SACRT) at Mount Sinai, is the most comprehensive prospective study to date. The researchers led by Alex Kolevzon, MD, Clinical Director of the Seaver Autism Center, and Joseph D. Buxbaum, PhD, Director of the Seaver Autism Center, carefully recorded and tracked the behavioral, medical, and developmental features of PMS, including seizure symptoms and examine how the size of the SHANK3 deletion correlated to the severity of symptoms.

"Because studies have not utilized consistent assessments of children with Phelan-McDermid Syndrome, and the prevalence of autism spectrum disorder has never been systematically investigated in this population, it has been difficult to offer an established treatment for accurately forecasting the course of the disorder, which is important guidance in developing such a treatment."

Of the 32 patients enrolled, researchers collected data for autism spectrum disorder. Severity were ascertain of patients admitted severe to profound intellectual disabilities, minimal to no expressive language, and significant impairments in social skills, recorded by standardized tools, and diagnostic interviews. The researchers also found that patients who had larger SHANK3 deletions had more severe disease.

"Our findings provide additional support for the significance of the SHANK3 gene in autism spectrum disorder and neurodevelopmental disorders," said Dr. Buxbaum. "The SHANK3 gene is may have important implications for medical monitoring and treatment, and our prospective study of the natural history of this disorder will help us to develop and implement a multidisciplinary approach to clinical trials."

LaRee Sousa, Alexander Kolevzon, Jessica Zweifach, Teresa Lim, Yuto Dobry, Lis Schwartz, Mitchell Rosen, Ellis Soorya, Cai Gorenstein, Jeffrey Lurie, Jennifer Hansen, David Goldberg, Benjamin Vegella, Judith F Kidner, Jeny Tang, Roberta Levitt, Joseph D Buxbaum. **Prospective Study of the Neurodevelopmental Phenotype in Phelan-McDermid Syndrome.** Molecular Autism, 2013; 4 (1): 18 DOI: 10.1186/2040-2392-4-18

Phelan-McDermid syndrome is a neurodevelopmental disorder characterized by significant developmental delay, severely impaired or absent speech, and autism spectrum disorder. It is caused by the loss of one copy of the SHANK3 gene, which encodes a protein that is important for communication between brain cells.

Lasting but Shielded Memory

Oncogenes are growth-related genes that, through DNA damage, inherited mutations or some other causes, push cells to keep dividing beyond normal limits. Most cancer cells have been found to carry more than the two most commonly known to human cells. Now, a study in the June 14 issue of the journal *Cell* reports that a protein released a decade ago by the same team called p16-3/p19 is the first to block this senescence-resistance cascade. In 2007, that and this colleagues reported that p16-3/p19 is made by the *INK4a/ARF* gene, which is known as CDKN2A. The *INK4a/ARF* is a prolific producer of tumor suppressors, and it is the most frequently mutated gene in human cancers. Its discovery, and the identification of p16-3/p19 as one of the products, brought more details of TPA's role in this cascade.

Zheng began the investigations by searching for binding partners of RNA. Just a series of protein-interaction assays he isolated an enzyme called Tip60, which binds to TPA. Tip60 is known to acetylate, or add acetyl groups to, proteins. Zheng's colleagues found that Tip60 acetylates p53, a protein that is known to induce cell senescence. Tip60 is a kinase enzyme that p16-3/p19 encourages other proteins to add phosphate groups to p53. Phosphorylation and acetylation work synergistically to activate p53. Indeed, the reverse is also true: Tip60 acts on PRAK. Tip60 is a type of enzyme called an acetyltransferase, which adds acetyl groups to proteins. Zheng's colleagues found that Tip60 binds to PRAK and acetylates it at a certain location, which helps activate PRAK, Zheng says.

Then, as the enzyme PRAK acquires two targets. "Find the phosphorylation to p38 becomes the autocatalytic. It is required for fully activating PRAK in this senescence-induction cascade," Zheng said.

Potential Cancer Drug Strategy

What controls Tip60's own activation in this cascade? None other than the master switch. p16-3/p19 has a long list of phosphorylation sites for Tip60 and PRAK. Said Activated Tip60 then stabilizes PRAK, completing PRAK's activation.

The team of researchers then initially said it was not surprised to find that the same enzyme that activates PRAK also activates Tip60. Tip60 is known to acetylate p53, a protein that is known to induce cell senescence. Tip60 is a kinase enzyme that p16-3/p19 encourages other proteins to add phosphate groups to p53. Phosphorylation and acetylation work synergistically to activate p53. Indeed, the reverse is also true: Tip60 acts on PRAK. Tip60 is a type of enzyme called an acetyltransferase, which adds acetyl groups to proteins. Zheng's colleagues found that Tip60 binds to PRAK and acetylates it at a certain location, which helps activate PRAK, Zheng says.

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Zheng and his colleagues found

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MITRE 10 presents...
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Winter Solstice
Sunday 16th June 2013
Wine & Beer Fair
Sunday 16 June 2013
RESULTS
SURFRIDER
Surfrider Foundation
Surfrider Foundation
Surfrider Foundation

June 16 - 22, 2013: Issue 115

Products and further friendly advice available at Mona Vale and Avalon Johnson Brothers Mitre 10.

Click on logo to visit their website

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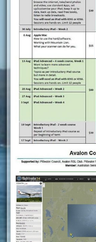
Pittwater Online News

June 16 - 22, 2013: Issue 115

AVALON COMPUTER PALS FOR SENIORS

NEWPORT SHORT COURSES - TERM 3 2013

Newport Community Centre 11-13, The Boulevarde, Newport
Bookings are essential - please call Newport Office 9997 4422



Avalon Computer Pals

Supported by: Pittwater Council, Lions Club, Sea - Hawaii 103, Dee and her household of Agony, Disability and Home Care, Pittwater Learning Centre, Newport Community Centre, and others.

more >>> Home

Flight Radar 24.com C/- W.A.G.

Have you ever wondered where that plane flying over head is going and what type of aircraft it is? Then flightradar24.com can do that for you.

I just watched on my laptop the plane whose vapour trail I could see over head and was blown away by all the information and also the view. This is definitely a keeper.

You are also going to be totally blown away when you see how many aircraft are flying in your area. I can now see why an aircraft traffic controller is one very, very busy person.

If you can get this working for you it will tell you who is flying and where they are going. Here is a note to help you get more out of your visit to this site.

These are all the aircraft in the air right now. In the left hand column, there is a box called "planes." The number in the box is the number of aircraft airborne. This view is what the traffic management people see for planning purposes at the various airports.

Every day you see planes in the sky, you know they are flying, with or without con-trails. We ask ourselves questions

What type of plane, and how much A320,330,350? Boeing… or other. Where does it come from, where is it going, what altitude, what speed, what company. And now this website you can see all the information instantly on your screen.

Some tricks;

Drag the map to take you to the area you want to view. To view your region or town, you can zoom in by tapping with your mouse. On the left screen you will get all the planes in the air. Click on a airplane, and on the left screen you will get all the info. Airline, type, speed, altitude in real time, recalculated every 10 seconds. Airplanes are also click on `view from the cockpit`. See www.flightradar24.com

COTA – NSW - http://cotansw.com.au/

ABOUT US

The Council on the Ageing NSW (COTA NSW) is the peak organisation for people over 50 in our state. We're an independent, non-partisan, consumer and advocacy focused organisation. We work with politicians, policy makers, and service providers as well as media representatives to make sure everyone is aware of the needs and issues that older people face. We're also a membership organisation with over 97 branches. Members are also click on `view from the cockpit`. See www.flightradar24.com

- Meals on Wheels, ● Retirement Village Residents Association, ● Australian Pensioners' Claims Association, ● Aged Rights Service, ● Seniors Information Service, ● CMI-II - Older Men: New Ideas, ● Grandfriends, ● Alzheimers Association, ● Carers Advice Line Alliance, ● Medication Management for Older People, and the, ● Mature Drivers Program.

COTA NSW, through constant contact with consumers and consumer groups across the state, through the research it conducts and through partnerships with other NGOs, research bodies and governments, is also an important source of information and advice on issues and decisions that people will navigate through as they grow older. Our website, COTA NSW, is a valuable source of this information and advice available through our quarterly telephone advice and over eighty Fact Sheets. Browse through our website or contact us and see how COTA NSW continue its work in advancing the interests of people over 50.

HAVE YOUR SAY!

We have launched our **2013 COTA NSW Survey**. We want to know what you think about important issues. Your input helps to determine the policies and positions we communicate to Government. Everyone who completes the survey goes into a draw to win one of five $50 gift cards. Click the link to access the survey.

Click here to complete the COTA NSW 2013 Survey.

2013 Discount Directory now available - Seniors Card

The 2013 Discount Directory is now available. Please find digital copies of each of the 5 regional directories HERE

U3A Events - No Charge - Open to members of U3A, or prospective members can attend two events prior to joining.

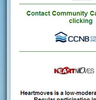
YOGA FOR BLOKES ....
Foundation Yoga and Relaxation

The focus of the class is to introduce yoga to men in a friendly, relaxed **ease-navigation®** way.
Jeff has completed teacher training with International Yoga Teachers Association plus two years of yogic studies with the Sahyananda Yoga Ashram.
Bring along a mat (& some your wife's) ..... a blanket .... an open mind ..... and a sense of humour.

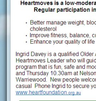
Where? Newport Community Centre, The Boulevarde, Newport
When? Starting Monday 6 May & May 13 and May 20, Live it and B **Enquiries and Bookings?** Jeff Cook .... Tel: 9979 7129 ..... Email: info@bfgoodcook.com

Media Releases concerning Seniors this week from National Seniors Australia

With around a quarter of a million members, National Seniors is Australia's largest consumer organisation for the over 50s and fourth largest group of its kind in the world.



Seniors Card Website: great Information Competitions Newsletters and Events listings HERE



Contact Community Care Northern Beaches by clicking their logo:

Heartmoves is a low-moderate intensity exercise program. Regular participation in Heartmoves will help to:

- Better manage weight, blood sugars, blood pressure and cholesterol
- Improve fitness, balance, co-ordination and flexibility
- Enhance your quality of life and meet other people

Ingrid Daws is a qualified Older Adult Instructor and accredited Heartmoves Leader. Ingrid will lead you through an exercise program that is fun, safe and modified to suit you. Tuesday 9-10am and Thursday 10-10am at Nelson Heather Centre, Nelson Road Warriewood. New people welcome every week. $8.00 casual. Phone Ingrid to secure your spot on 0405 457 063. www.heartfoundation.org.au

Keep your Wits About You

A regular contributor suggests we all look at Lumosity to see if will suit keeping active mentally. Their website states: "Improve Brain Health and Performance. Designed by neuroscientists, Lumosity exercises

improve core cognitive functions. Researchers have measured significant improvements in working memory and attention after Lumosity training. Dozens of research collaborations help improve the Lumosity training program and its effectiveness." You can visit their website to decide for yourself.
at: www.lumosity.com/app/v4/personalization

Super Seniors Directory

A massive directory for all northern beaches seniors is hitting the streets for Seniors Week. The Services, Activities & Housing Directory 2013-2014 is a one-stop-shop for all northern beaches seniors thanks to a successful partnership between Warringah, Pittwater and Manly Councils.

The directories can be found at Council's Customer Service, Libraries, Community Centres or online at the council websites.

If older people with mobility problems have difficulty assessing the directory - contact Aged Services and you will be sent a copy.

Sydney Northern Beaches Woodturners Inc

The aim of our group is to bring together people who are interested in woodturning and to assist new members to participate in the craft of woodturning. At the same time we aim to socialise and have fun. We are active in supporting local community groups and charities. We make cash donations as well as donations of toys and equipment made by members.

Come and see us at the Narrabeen RSL Club, Nareen Pde, North Narrabeen Workshop Open every **Tuesday**, Friday and Saturday between 9 am and 12 noon.

Cost: $2 for insurance & a cuppa (if you want to join there is a $25 yearly subscription fee). Contact: Jack Butler on 9999 4290 or email: johnbutler@optusnet.com.au
Website: https://sites.google.com/site/woodturnerx90/

Avalon Computer Pals for Seniors

AVPALS is a volunteer organisation dedicated to trainers and many hundreds of students. At a really low cost (about $30 a school term) they can provide one to one training on most matters connected with computing. From the smallest problem

(how to hold the mouse!) to more serious matters, there is a trainer who can help.

The training rooms are under the Catholic Church in Avalon and training is conducted Monday to Friday from 9am to 4pm. For more information visit AVPALS web site www.avpals.com or or phone 02 8004 3574.

Article onAvPals Seminar

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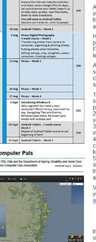

National Consumer Fraud Week "Outsmart the Scammers" - 17 - 23 June, 2013 - Courtesy Australian Seniors Computer Clubs Association

The Australasian Consumer Fraud Taskforce was established in March 2005 to enhance the Australian and New Zealand Governments' enforcement activity against fraudulent and scams conducted activity. The Taskforce is a member of the International Consumer Protection Enforcement Network and is proud to support its annual Global Consumer Fraud Prevention Month campaign which includes over 40 consumer regulatory agencies around the world.

ASCCA is proud to be a partner in the Taskforce - to help share information and generate greater interest in research on consumer fraud and raise consumer awareness about scams and how to avoid victimisation.

Have you ever bought or sold something online, only to find that the person at the other end isn't the real deal? National Consumer Fraud Week 2013 is all about outsmarting scammers online by learning how to stay and sell safely online without getting duped.

Australians are increasingly going online to buy goods and services, taking advantage of the speed, convenience and greater choice that the internet can offer. Unfortunately scammers like shopping online for their victims too.

1. Stay one click ahead – follow the Top 5 tips to outsmart the scammers. The basics – if a deal looks too good to be true, it probably is.
2. Find out what other shoppers say – make sure the person that you are dealing with, and their offer, is the real deal.
3. Protect your identity – your personal details are private and invaluable; keep them that way away from scammers.
4. Keep your computer secure – Install software that protects your computer from viruses and unwanted programs and make sure it is kept up-to-date.
5. Only pay via secure payment methods – look for a web address starting with 'https' and a closed padlock symbol. Never use a wire transfer service to send money to anyone you do not know and trust, and do not share your financial details with anyone.

Visit SCAMwatch to find out how scams work, how to protect yourself and what to do if you've been scammed. www.scamwatch.gov.au

COTA 2013 Federal Election Panel

In this federal election year COTA Australia is establishing a panel of older Australians. This panel of COTA members and others will be asked to provide feedback on issues and policies that impact older Australians.

To participate simply complete this online form

Election panel members can participate a range of ways – through surveys, providing information sent about areas of interest or being kept informed of events in their area.

Participation is confidential and you get to control what information can be provided to COTA and what cannot.

The panel's establishment is an ISO 20252 accredited independent research company. Participating in research is confidential and protected by the Privacy Act.

Health papers published this week!

Exercise for Parkinson's Brains

June 11, 2013 — A new study finds that stroke patients' brains show strong cortical motor activity when observing others performing physical tasks - a finding that offers new insight into stroke rehabilitation.

Using functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI), a team of researchers from UCC monitored the brains of 24 individuals (12 stroke patients and 12 healthy adults) as they observed and carried out a series of tasks which involved performing actions using the arm and hand that would be difficult for a person who can no longer use their arm due to stroke - actions like lifting a pencil or flipping a card.

The research team found that the cortical motor activation to the tasks remains with activity in cortical motor regions that are generally activated when we watch others perform actions. In the stroke-affected brain, activity was strongest in these regions of the damaged hemisphere, and strength that can help to explain why actions they would have the most difficulty performing.

Activating regions near the damaged cortex of the brain is the most successful strategy that can help to recover the patient's ability.

"Watching others perform physical tasks leads to activations in motor areas of the damaged hemisphere of the brain after stroke, which is exactly what we're trying to do in therapy," said Kathleen Garrison, lead author of a paper on the research. "If we can help clients who have had strokes recover more of the ability to move their arm and hand,

Garrison, who completed this research while studying at UCC and is currently a post-doctoral researcher at the Yale University School of Medicine, worked with Lisa Aziz-Zadeh of the USC Brain and Creativity Institute and the Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, and Professor Marie-Louise Barry of the Behavior and Neuroscience Institute, University of Limerick, Ireland, Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy at USC, and former USC graduate student Sook-Lei Lee and postdoctoral researcher Sawa Wong.

Their research was posted online ahead of publication by the journal Stroke on June 6

Using action-observation in stroke rehabilitation has shown promise in early studies, according to Garrison, but it's not clear exactly why it may be effective.

"It's like you're priming the pump," Winstein said. "You're getting these circuits engaged through the action-observation before they even attempt to move." The process is like a mental practice program for the brain that prepares you for the real exercise that engages the mind and body.

The study also offers support for expanding action-observation as a therapeutic technique, Garrison said. Currently, patients are only screened using fMRI and have shown a strong response to it.

"We could make videos of what patients will be doing in therapy, and then have them watch it as homework," Aziz-Zadeh said. "In their own home, it could prime the way for them to do more."

K. A. Garrison, L. Aziz-Zadeh, S. W. Wong, S.-L. Lee, C. J. Winstein. **Modulating the Motor System by Action Observation After Stroke.** Stroke, 2013;
DOI 10.1161/STROKEAHA.113.001532

Study Clocks Cartilage Ice to Osteoarthritis

June 11, 2013 — Scheduled exercise, regular meals and the periodic sucking and cooling of ice chips could be used to relieve the symptoms of osteoarthritis according to scientists at The University of Manchester. The research may also help explain why older people are more prone to developing this common joint disorder.

The team in the Faculty of Life Sciences has established for the first time that cartilage cells have a functioning body clock that switches on and off gene controlling tissue function. The decline of the cartilage clock perhaps goes some way to explain why osteoarthritis develops when the symptoms of the disease worse at certain times of the day.

When Dr Qing-Jun Meng and his team studied cartilage tissue in older mice they found that the tissue's body clock was 40% weaker than in younger mice. This suggested that clock deterioration could contribute to an increased risk of developing osteoarthritis in later life. The researchers then looked at cartilage cells affected by damage similar to osteoarthritis and found that components of the body clock are disrupted during the early stages of the disease.

Following these discoveries the researchers tested what would happen if cartilage tissue in mice and human cartilage cells if they imposed an artificial rhythm mimicking daily changes of body temperature. By increasing the temperature by two degrees at 12 hour intervals they found that after three applications the body clock in the cells had been reset and was working in a more robust state. This change lasted for between five and seven days even after the temperature changes were removed. Further study may show the change continues for longer.

Dr Meng says: "By imposing a rhythm to boost the internal rhythm in cartilage, our data suggests the aged cartilage clock might be re-tuned. This could be done using systemic approaches such as scheduled exercise, restricted meal times or by targeting the joint itself with cold-therapy warming and cooling. We believe imposing a rhythm could have a significant impact on the future management of osteoarthritis and with further study it could relieve sufferers' symptoms."

This ground breaking research also suggests that taking drug treatments for joint diseases according to the cartilage clock time could increase their effectiveness, which would allow a lower dosage and consequently reduce side effects

Dr Meng, a Medical Research Council (MRC) Fellow, has been studying body clocks for a number of years: "Mounting evidence suggests that a disruption to body clocks by changing the work and or jet lag contribute to a number of conditions such as obesity, cardiovascular diseases, cancer and mood disorders. Our next step is to test our theory that body clock disruption also contributes to osteoarthritis."

The research has been published in the journal Arthritis and Rheumatism. Osteoarthritis is the most common joint disorder, affecting around 6 million people in the UK. However, the mechanisms behind the disease are poorly understood and treatment options are limited.

Professor Ros Eastell from the Wellcome Trust Centre for Cell Matrix Research, which is based at the university, has been studying cartilage and osteoarthritis for more than 20 years. She worked with Dr Meng on this research and says: "Osteoarthritis is a disease that affects the whole joint, including the cartilage. It is known that one of the major risk factors is aging. Our findings that the cartilage cells show circadian rhythm and that this rhythm is weakened with age is very exciting and may help explain why osteoarthritis develops as we get older. Future research will directly examine the link between cartilage cells' circadian rhythm and osteoarthritis and highlight potential new avenues for treating this disease."

One of the key findings from this research was the identification of the rhythmic genes that are expressed in cartilage tissue. The scientists found that around 10% - or 4% of the genes in cartilage tissue time-dependently expressed with peaks every 24 hours. They also found that many of these genes have previously been linked to osteoarthritis.

Nicola Gossan worked on the study as part of her PhD. She says: "This research has been incredible to work on. It is first time to show a functioning clock in mouse and human cartilage cells and identify its genome-wide targets. Disruption of these targets during ageing could seriously impact joint health and we are the first to establish a link between clock disruption and osteoarthritis."

Dr Meng and his team have now been awarded an MRC grant of half a million pounds to establish the causal relationship between clock disruptions and the onset and severity of osteoarthritis as well as identifying new therapeutic targets. This will include the targeting of clocks by imposing an artificial rhythm as well as the timed delivery of drugs. It's hoped the research will ultimately lead to better treatments for osteoarthritis.

Nicole Gossan, Lee Zeef, James Hensman, Alun Hughes, John F Bateman, Lynn Rowley, Christopher B Little, Hugh D Piggins, Magnus Rattray, Raymond P Boot. Handford, Qing-Jun Meng. The circadian clock in chondrocytes regulates genes controlling key aspects of cartilage homeostasis. Arthritis and Rheumatism, 2013 (2013)

Disclaimer: These articles are not intended to provide medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. Viewers/readers are hereby advised to not necessarily reflect those of *Pittwater Online News* or its staff.

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The 2014 National Seniors Literary Prize will have the **theme 'reflections'**. It will be **open until 29 November 2013**.

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The National Seniors Literary Prize 2014 will be awarded to a work of fiction based on the theme of 'reflections'. Random House and National Seniors are giving you the opportunity to be creative so your work can be integrated into your storyline or your novel's structure.

The winner of the National Seniors Literary Prize will receive:
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The opportunity to print on-demand versions of their book

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Pittwater Community Hub

Our office at Mona Vale is ready for service. We are located in Shop 17 on the ground floor of the Pittwater Place Mall at 20 Bungan Street. We are open Mondays to Friday, 9.00am to 4.00pm. The new Hub is fully manned by our professional staff and local volunteers who can answer enquiries and provide personal assistance to meet the community needs of Pittwater residents. Pittwater Community Hub Profile

Click on logo to visit their website for more

Website to help you plan for later life

The NSW Government has launched a website providing up-to-date information and resources about wills, powers of attorney, enduring guardianship and advance care planning. The Planning Ahead Tools website has been specifically designed for community members, service providers, legal professionals and health professionals. It contains advice, resources, videos and interactive tools to help you make decisions about health, wellbeing, finances and medical treatment.

For more information, visit www.planningaheadtools.com.au

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