

Making Waves



A free community newsletter
for Bar Beach, Merewether,
Dixon Park, and The Junction

December 2010

Enquiries, contributions, club news, advertising, sponsorship, ECopy
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Please give them your support.



Rowlands Park – What a picture!



BANLAW

OIL + WATER DON'T MIX – SAFELY HANDLE FUEL AT YOUR PORT WITH BANLAW



Ian should need no introduction to the surfing fraternity, but for those who don't know him, he will be best recognised as the young man who took on a personal challenge to surf for 100 days to raise money for the Clown Doctors charity. (I think Ian is now up to about \$6,000). It became a personal challenge for Ian to continue beyond the 100 days and there have been some very difficult day amongst

the 435 consecutive days that he has surfed. His challenge came to an end recently as a result of him attending a school excursion to the snow.

I thought it would be interesting to feature Ian and find out just what makes this young man tick...besides surfing. Draw your own conclusions!

So let's Meet Ian aka "Questions" today (18 months later)

Introduction: I am in Year 12 at Kotara High. I'm a pretty relaxed guy who loves the beach and surfing no matter what the conditions are. Some would say that I am a passionately curious dude, but I find everything interesting...

I have a twin brother who doesn't surf – yes, there are 2 of us!

Favourite Beach: Merewether – friendly people and has some good surf.

Favourite Eatery: Embassy Cafe Newcastle – awesome bacon and eggs!

Favourite Movie: "The Waterboy" –Two of the pesky lifeguards tell me it's way cooler to say "Inception" or "The Jason Bourne Trilogy" – but look where being cool has got them!

Sporting Team: Merewether Boardriders Club.

Favourite Activities: Surfing, having fun, eating and sleeping.

Favourite thing about your job: It's on the beach...oops did you mean school?

Quote: "Never give up!"

Final Word: There is always 1 question you haven't asked yet!



Ian can be found any day at Merewether Beach, in or out of the water, working at the Coffee Shop or just catching up with some of the regulars. He is easy to recognise – he is the tall blonde fellow with the biggest grin on his face!



ADAM DAGWELL BRICKLAYING

All types of brickwork – retaining walls – blockwork

Mob: 0422 000 521

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OIL + WATER DON'T MIX – SAFELY HANDLE FUEL AT YOUR PORT WITH BANLAW

Where the Bloody Hell are You?

I spent some of the best days of my teenage life swimming and surfing at Merewether Beach. In those days I felt no pressure to do anything and just enjoyed being young.

I was fortunate to hang around with some great girls. We enjoyed spending the lazy hazy days of summer at the beach. At the end of some days we would gather around in a group and chat and just soak up the sun before saying our goodbyes knowing we would be at the beach the next day.

Beth McNeil, Kaye McNeil, Debbie Noonan, Denise Daniels, Jenny Matthews, Pat O’Kane were some of these girls. The years have taken their toll and my memory eludes me for other names.

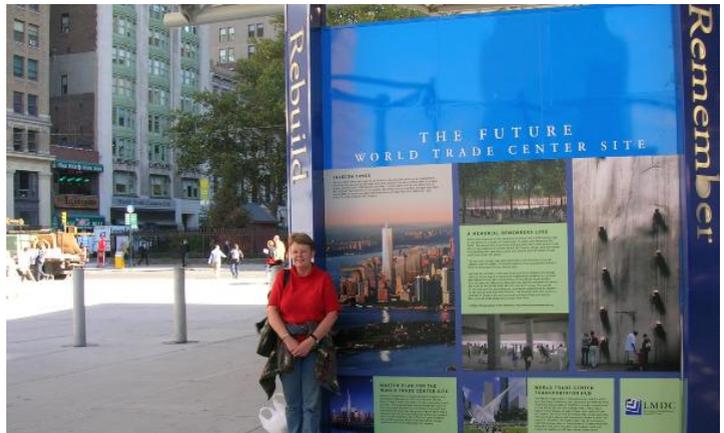
As the years go by I have often asked myself “Where are these girls and what are they doing with their lives now”?

I have lived in Canada for 18 years. I married a Canadian and I am a step mother to two beautiful children. Ann-Marie and Robbie are living away at University now and I have more time on my hands to relax.

About every two years I return to my roots and all I want to do is see family and friends. One year I told my father(mum has passed away) that all I wanted to do was to feel the sand between my feet and the salt water on my body. You can take the girl away from the beach but you cannot take the beach out of the girl!

The big question is where are the other girls?

When I stop to think about them I hope only good things have come their way. From time to time I ask myself where the bloody hell are you?



Julie Bernasconi (Harris)

Email: juliesteve@rogers.com

Julie wonders if there are other people out there who would like to tell their stories about where “the bloody hell” they are now!

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OIL + WATER DON'T MIX – SAFELY HANDLE FUEL AT YOUR PORT WITH BANLAW



MONDAYS Steak Night – \$12.90

TUESDAYS Pasta - \$9.90 and Pool Comp

WEDNESDAYS Schnitzel Night - \$9.90 and Trivia

THURSDAYS Mexican Fiesta Fun - \$9.90 and Original Soloists
 Corona Promotion - \$4.90

SUNDAYS 4 – 7PM UDL Promotion - \$5

FRIDAY to SUNDAY Newcastle's Best Live Entertainment

Tide Chart

NEWCASTLE - DECEMBER 2010

LAT 32° 56' LONG 151° 47' TIME ZONE UTC +10HRS
 TIMES AND HEIGHTS OF HIGH AND LOW WATERS

☛ Denotes Public Holidays

SUN. TIME M	MON. TIME M	TUES. TIME M	WED. TIME M	THURS. TIME M	FRI. TIME M	SAT. TIME M
			1 0412 1.58 1021 0.57 1619 1.45 2228 0.38	2 0506 1.69 1130 0.48 1723 1.41 2318 0.39	3 0558 1.79 1232 0.39 1823 1.39	4 0006 0.41 0646 1.87 1328 0.31 1919 1.37
5 054 0.43 734 1.92 417 0.27 012 1.36	6 ● 0140 0.46 0820 1.94 1504 0.26 2101 1.34	7 0225 0.50 0904 1.91 1548 0.28 2147 1.33	8 0309 0.54 0946 1.86 1630 0.32 2232 1.31	9 0352 0.59 1027 1.78 1711 0.37 2315 1.29	10 0435 0.64 1105 1.69 1750 0.42 2359 1.28	11 0520 0.69 1144 1.60 1830 0.47
12 045 1.28 611 0.74 225 1.50 912 0.50	13 ○ 0134 1.30 0709 0.78 1312 1.40 1957 0.53	14 0229 1.34 0815 0.79 1409 1.32 2045 0.55	15 0324 1.40 0928 0.77 1514 1.26 2132 0.55	16 0415 1.47 1037 0.72 1619 1.23 2220 0.56	17 0503 1.56 1138 0.63 1719 1.23 2306 0.55	18 0547 1.65 1229 0.54 1813 1.25 2350 0.53
19 630 1.73 314 0.45 901 1.28	20 0033 0.51 0713 1.82 1357 0.36 1949 1.31	21 ○ 0117 0.49 0756 1.89 1439 0.29 2035 1.34	22 0202 0.47 0840 1.94 1521 0.24 2123 1.37	23 0250 0.46 0925 1.96 1605 0.21 2211 1.40	24 0340 0.46 1011 1.94 1650 0.21 2300 1.42	25 0432 0.48 1058 1.88 1737 0.23 2351 1.44
26 529 0.52 146 1.78 824 0.27	27 0045 1.47 0630 0.57 1240 1.65 1914 0.33	28 ● 0143 1.50 0737 0.60 1339 1.50 2004 0.39	29 0244 1.55 0852 0.62 1446 1.37 2059 0.45	30 0345 1.62 1013 0.59 1600 1.28 2156 0.49	31 0445 1.69 1128 0.52 1712 1.25 2252 0.51	



All the celebrities visit Merewether..

BANLAW

OIL + WATER DON'T MIX – SAFELY HANDLE FUEL AT YOUR PORT WITH BANLAW



Well known Merewether identity Graham Tamba Adam has been keeping a daily record of events for over 30 years. Each month he shares a day from his life.

A day in December : 1982 (28 years ago) – The Rescue

It was a typical hot summer day with a cool N/E seabreeze in the afternoon. I was outside the surf club with Paul Kirwan (council lifeguard) and Laurie Graham (club member) when we were approached by a distressed lad who told us there was a woman in trouble a fair way out in the ocean near Burwood Beach.

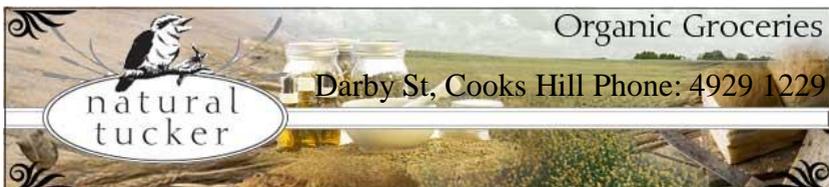
Paul rang the Westpac Rescue Helicopter and the 3 of us ran to just Nth of the sewerage works – approx 1Km. When we got there we could not see her so we climbed the headland (Heartbreak Hill) where the hang gliders take off and we saw her from there about 500m out to sea. We realised we had made a big mistake in not bringing a rescue board as the sea was 3-4' and choppy.

Luckily we saw a surfer walking back from Legge who had a 5'10" board. As Paul was 6'3" and over 90Kg and me being a lot smaller and a surfer – I was "the chosen one".

It seemed like I was paddling forever when I reached her. It became obvious that she was in a distressed state following a "domestic" and that she had intentionally put her life in danger. I placed her on the front of the board and tried to bring her to shore. It was very difficult – the surf conditions, the small board and the mental state of the woman! 200M from shore I noticed a line of bluebottles and knew I had to go through them. She started screaming as she was bitten and I didn't fare much better myself as I paddled by the bluebottles. When I was 20M from the rocks, Laurie and Paul jumped in despite all the bluebottles and assisted her onto the rocks as it was high tide. Just then the Westpac helicopter, the police launch and a police 4WD arrived as well as 2HD and The Herald. In their wisdom however the media decided not to run the story because the woman had intentionally placed herself in such danger.

If there was anything we learned that day it was to always take a rescue board!

Last season, Dylan Henry and Kieran Gordon received bravery awards for a rescue they executed in almost the same spot. Nick Newton took the rescue board that day and I paddled around but it was all over when we got there.



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Remember this?

Unofficially slated on the last Friday before Christmas, the crawl of five Merewether venues once literally painted the streets red, white and tinsel. In the final crawl in 1996, an estimated 8000 people flocked to the event. While the pub crawl had a police history of being a 'well-behaved' activity, the behaviour of some of Santa's helpers put a dark mark against the fat man's name in Merewether.

Newcastle accountant Joseph McCarthy was a twenty-something when he and some friends first came up with the idea.

Back then, he told The Herald in 1997, it was a very different and more community-spirited notion, far removed from the blue denim and Santa hat drinking crusade it became.

The idea was to sing a few carols, give out lollies to the kids along the way and have a few beers with friends in between, he said.

'It was wonderful,' he recalled of the first crawl. 'Little kids were coming out of their homes saying, "There's Santa and there's another Santa."

The good things about the pub crawl and its highlights should not be forgotten - the troop of RAAF people who came annually as Santa's reindeers, the Elvis and Rastafarian Santas and the costuming which brought people together at Christmas time.

(Excerpts Newcastle Herald 1997)



Images: above 1995 and below 1996 - courtesy of The Mary Ellen Hotel.

If you have an image from these events please contact Fiona Davis

Ph:49 631100 or E: info@maryellen.com.au

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OIL + WATER DON'T MIX – SAFELY HANDLE FUEL AT YOUR PORT WITH BANLAW

Annemarie Murland



Born in Glasgow in 1962, Annemarie moved to Australia with her husband in 1991, leaving behind a career in international banking. She enrolled in the University of Newcastle's Open Foundation course in 2000 to pursue her love of Art and in 2005 she graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Art

Honours - First Class. She continued to juggle family, work and study to earn a PhD in Fine Arts in 2009 at the University of Newcastle where she also teaches painting and drawing as a casual lecturer.

In September this year Annemarie exhibited in a group show in Rome and she has been invited to show her work in New York in 2011. We are privileged that she has offered to donate a piece of her art work as a fundraiser for the 2011 Seascape and Beyond Exhibition.

Seascape and Beyond 2011

ART EXHIBITION

Open Community and Professional Artists
Art Exhibition and Fundraiser
Merewether Surf Life Saving Club
Friday 8 April – Sunday 10 April 2011

For more information and Exhibitors' Entry Forms please go to:
www.beyondblue.org.au and select *events diary* (bottom right)
Or collect at **Swell espresso bar** Merewether Beach
Enquiries: Juliet 0411 744 04 or email julietclark@optusnet.com.au
Proudly supporting beyondblue: *the national depression initiative*

DECEMBER 2010 PROPERTY MARKET RECAP

SUBURB	CURRENT MEDIAN SALE PRICE	% GROWTH IN 2010
The Junction	\$565 000-	8.7%
Merewether	\$650 000-	10.2%
Cooks Hill	\$490 000-	12.1%

As the statistics show there has been strong growth in our area in 2010 which is great news for home owners. Hopefully the increasing interest rates won't impact too negatively on local property values. To find how the changing market has impacted on the value of your property please give me a call.

Please note: The data featured is taken from API magazine, November edition.



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Why The Junction?

With so much talk regarding the Rail line into Newcastle, and the inclusion of a link around the beaches and The Junction, I can't help but be reminded that there was a time when there was a direct rail link from Merewether Beach near the baths, through to Newcastle Harbour. In 1854 the Burwood and Newcastle Tramroad was opened between The Junction and Newcastle Harbour to complete the line which would deliver coal for the Burwood estate mine owners. There is a great display outlining the importance of the rail link to the area outside Arrivedecchi Restaurant at The Junction.

The following images are taken from that display.



Howley's Junction in the 1940's where the Beach Railway and the Glebe Railway converge. The Junction School is behind the fence on the right.

Howley's Number 3 locomotive passes across Patrick Street into The Junction sidings hauling tonnes of coal.



The trains were a part of everyday life at The Junction for many years. In this photograph a woman poses with a small child beside Howley's number 2 engine.

The remains of Howley's "Coffee Pot". This locomotive was a well known sight to local residents from 1925 to 1949.

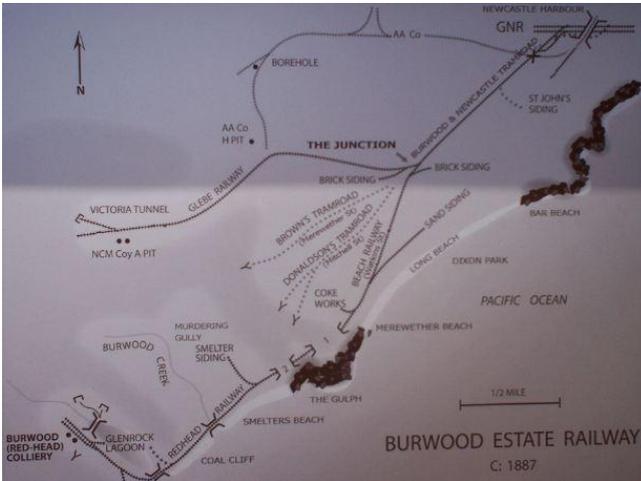


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Did you know that you can walk the line?

This is an easy flat walk or bike ride that follows the rail line from The Junction to the Harbour – with a bit of history thrown in – directions courtesy of N.J.



You can choose your starting point, Merewether Pool, Merewether Surf Club or I suggest you begin your walk at The Junction.

If you begin at Arrivedecci at The Junction, follow the direction of the dark row of pavers and stroll down Bruce Street to Centennial

Park and follow the pathway across the park at the back of Lowlands Bowling Club. Directly across Parry Street you can see the driveway for the Centennial Terrace Apartments which unfortunately now is private property as it follows exactly the old rail line. However, if you continue down Bruce Street, to the Cricketers Arms corner, you will see Glovers Lane to the right on the opposite side of Bull Street, directly in line with the rear of the Centennial Terrace driveway.

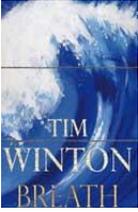
Glovers Lane is very interesting as you can see just how close the facades and fencelines of some of the old houses are that faced the rail line. At the bottom of the lane you will enter a shady glade with a footpath to the left which takes you up to Laman street opposite St Andrew's church – to the right there is another track which is the path of the old rail line. If you look carefully at the Laman Street side of the church, you can see where the rail cutting was bricked up and if you line that up with Glovers Lane it seems that the rail line then followed Darby street and across an overpass to the harbour.



BANLAW

OIL + WATER DON'T MIX – SAFELY HANDLE FUEL AT YOUR PORT WITH BANLAW

“Breath” by Tim Winton – a great holiday read!



I have often thought “what an odd name for a book” and when first offered this book to read I was quite hesitant to accept it – after all I am the person who didn’t finish “Cloudstreet”! I need not have been concerned, I found “Breath” really easy to read, not a word wasted and complex ideas conveyed in a simple elegant form.

The subject matter easily held my interest .Yet as the story unfolded, I was taken by surprise by the feelings that I had especially as the book drew to it’s conclusion – it literally “took my breath away”. Set in a small mill town near the sea in the 70’s, couched in a story about surfing; it’s a story about fear, about pushing beyond fear, and about becoming addicted to the pushing. Moreover, it’s a story about the price of being more than ordinary.

When I went back and reread the first couple of chapters of the book I realised just what a journey Winton had so subtly taken me on.

My holiday reading will include a revisit to “Cloudstreet”, but I am sure you will enjoy “Breath” if you haven’t already done so!

After a hot day on patrol who would you love to have a beer with

Jo- Sue Sylvester
from Glee.. to
sweeten her up!

Bruce – Emma
because he
loves her!

Toni – Layne
Beachley.
She’s my
idol!

Emma –
Quentin
Bryce
because she
has such
ideals on
life.

Paul – Bob
Hawke.
He went a long
way for a knock
around bloke.



Zac – Thomas
and friends so
he can ride
the tracks.

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Madam Susie Sparkles

December

Guide to the Festive Season



	<p>Sagittarius November 23 – December 22</p> <p>Happy birthday Sagittarians. Luckily for you, your Christmas shopping is done for you this year, just re-wrap up all those dodgy birthday gifts that you received that you obviously don't want.</p>
	<p>Capricorn December 23 – January 20</p> <p>Suzie's tip for you this month is to think about the size of the presents you are buying. Although big presents always look impressive, the truth is they are just a pain to wrap.</p>
	<p>Aquarius January 21 – February 19</p> <p>Although Westfield Kotara and Charlestown Square claim to have enough parking spaces, we all know that they don't. Save time, petrol and your own sanity by strictly avoiding these venues at all times.</p>
	<p>Pisces February 20th – March 20th</p> <p>Although you and your colleagues alike all know how good you are at being the most disgraced person at the Christmas party every year, Suzie's tip is to make a considerable effort to stay slightly sober this year.</p>
	<p>Aries March 21 to April 19</p> <p>Suzie's tips for you this month is try and be a little more festive. It wouldn't hurt to actually enjoy yourself rather than taking on the role of Christmas 'grinch'.</p>
	<p>Taurus April 21 – May 20</p> <p>Save money on Christmas costs this year by throwing 'Christmas gatherings' at your home. Just be sure to tell each guest what food and alcohol they need to bring and then sneakily hide some away for Christmas dinner.</p>
	<p>Gemini May 21 – June 21</p> <p>Kids getting up super early on christmas morning is a huge pain. If this is a problem for you, Suzie suggests maybe slipping a little dash of brandy into your kids milk on christmas eve, just to make sure they sleep a little longer.</p>
	<p>Cancer June 22 – July 23</p> <p>In years gone past, you haven't gotten many great Christmas presents. To ensure success this year, make Christmas wishlists and 'accidently' leave them lying around.</p>
	<p>Leo July 24 – August 23</p> <p>All the eating and partying over the festive season can become quite relentless. Whatever it is you are consuming, please do it in moderation.</p>
	<p>Virgo August 24 – September 23</p> <p>The beauty of Christmas is that it can bring all sorts of people together. It's amazing what a few beers can do!</p>
	<p>Libra September 24 – October 23</p> <p>Be wary of a sneaky sixpence in your pudding. It could knock out a filling or two.</p>
	<p>Scorpio October 24 – November 22</p> <p>Be careful of what is under the mistletoe. The only ones hiding under there have beards larger than Santa, and antlers smaller than Rudolph.</p>

**Merewether Baths Cleaning Schedule
December 2010**

3 Dec	Friday	9.00 AM	0.3
6 Dec	Monday	11.30 AM	0.2
10 Dec	Friday	2.00 PM	04
13 Dec	Monday	4.30 AM	07
17 Dec	Friday	8.00 AM	0.6
20 Dec	Monday	10.00 AM	0.3
23 Dec	Thursday	12.30 PM	0.2
28 Dec	Tuesday	4.30 AM	0.5

Note: Cleaning may be altered if the weather conditions are unsuitable

Sunrise - Image by Toni Lee



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