

Making Waves



January 2011

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

Enquiries, contributions, club news, advertising, sponsorship, ECopy
Email: glen_is@optusnet.com.au Mob: 0423 305 242

We thank our sponsors who assist us to deliver this newsletter to you free of charge.

Please give them your support.

Andy Irons Tribute - Merewether

Image by



swell espresso
bars

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Human Improvement Training

First Group Training classes begin in January!
 Training studio inside Dixon Park Surf Club
 Book now- Ph Drew on 0428 676 407

January Profile -Meet Bel

Introduction: Perhaps the newest convert to open-water ocean swimming, I am only just finding a place amongst the Merewether ranks. When not cycling like a maniac or dipping with the dolphins I make a crust working at two art galleries. There I get to do some pretty rad stuff: organize projects and events, promote and write about artists, and most importantly talk about ideas.

Fave Beach: Definitely the one I grew up on – Shelley Beach, Port Macquarie – but Merewether comes in at a close second.

Fave Eatery: Not officially an 'eatery' but definitely my favourite place to eat is my mate's place. Her food is always served with a generous sidedish of funny stories.

Fave Writer: At the moment I'm totally obsessed with David Sedaris' dry sense of wit but anything found between the covers of Cabinet, the magazine, always piques and satiates my curiosity for the world around us.

Fave Quote: Usually said by someone else – "Is that *your* bike?"

Final Word:...or perhaps final words, www.isthatyourbike.blogspot.com



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**Carolyn Peddie and The Junction
Public School
150th Anniversary Mosaic - 2010**



The design of the 150th Anniversary mosaic is based on a circle which feeds into the railway tracks depicted in the pavers at it's base, and the picket fence which stands beside the mosaic at the entrance to the creative garden is reflective of times past. Every child in the school at the time contributed a terracotta tile to the mosaic which depicted an aspect of their life. The sections of the circles represent old and new, houses, subjects and how things have changed over the years.

This wonderful design is the work of Carolyn Peddie who has had a long association with the school, from the time her children were students up to the present day. Carolyn's first mosaic for the school was the surround for a sandpit in the creative garden. For that project she was assisted by students in Year 6 who helped create the inlays.

In 2008, Carolyn worked with 4 schools in the area on the Trees in Newcastle Mosaic Project and each of the 4 mosaics represents a different part of Newcastle. The Junction school mosaic for that project is a delight and a colourful representation of our part of the world.



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This group of bike riders would love to chat over a coffee with...

Glen: Arnie – the Terminator to discuss his cool guns!

Mick: David Duchovny's Hank Moody character – he's so cool!

Daryl: Harry Butler – he would have some interesting stories.

Darren: I need some new material so I choose Rodney Rude!

Cathy: Sarah (Mick's wife) and Vet Chris Brown - for their great conversation.

Peter: I couldn't decide – Tea Leoni, Bruno, Rene Russo, Sarah Murdoch, Richard Branson, Rodney Rude – either because the answer is obvious or they make me laugh!

Makes me wonder which category Pete puts Branson in!



ADAM DAGWELL BRICKLAYING

All types of brickwork – retaining walls – blockwork

Mob: 0422 000 521

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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



Boots for Boys Challenge!

In February 2011, Merewether-Carlton Rugby Club is taking a tour group to Argentina for the Tandil 7's Competition. The group has decided to participate in a "Give back to Rugby" day on February 10 when

they will visit Virreyes Rugby Club who are in desperate need of Rugby gear to suit boys aged 6-20. Each member of the tour group has been asked to collect 10 pairs of boots and we can extend this search into the wider community. The tour company has offered to pay for the freight to get the rugby gear to Argentina.

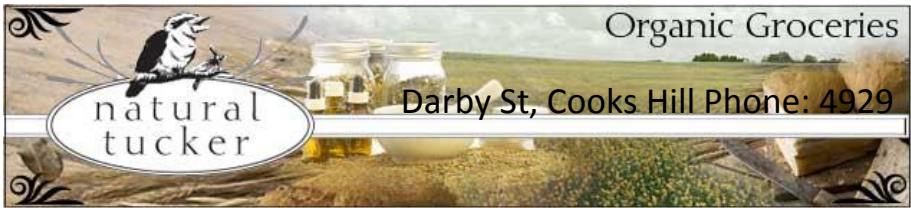
The drop off point to donate any rugby gear you don't need is:

37 Cram Street Merewether



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Adam Warwick

It was with very mixed feeling that I received the news that long standing permanent Merewether Lifeguard Adam Warwick had handed in his resignation to pursue a new career. I was happy for Adam as I knew that this was a career change that he had sought, but for the beachgoers of Merewether I was saddened as he will be so sorely missed.

Born, in Sydney, Adam came to us via Nambucca Heads SLSC. He was an accomplished ski paddler having won both Gold and Bronze medals at under 18 State Titles.

He started his apprenticeship as a lifeguard at Merewether in 1997 under the tutelage of Paul Kirwan, the longest serving lifeguard in this area – and he learned his craft well!

He may have looked relaxed chatting with an acquaintance or 1 of the many surfers checking the conditions with “Ads” before entering the water, but he ALWAYS knew what was going on on “his” beach. Many is the time I have seen Adam “mid chat” take off down the ramp as he noted a potentially dangerous situation developing!

For the past 5 summers he was ably assisted by Drew Blatchford in assuring the safety of all who visited Merewether Beach. There could possibly be no better tag team of these 2 good mates and exceptional water men!

Adam leaves Merewether beach a better place– not least his foresight in seeing a need for a newsletter such as this and being influential in getting it up and running. His easy going nature, his big grin and friendly words for all he met had a tremendous influence on troubled youth of the area and his ability to earn their respect and have them obey his rules - and society rules- has undoubtedly turned young lives around and helped make them valued members of our community.

Adam, we wish you and your lovely family all that is good in life - go well!

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Mick Adam

Sometimes there is a name that gets left out when discussing Merewether's success in producing good board riders. We have produced the likes of Mark Richards, Nicky Wood, Luke Egan and Matt Hoy but there is one surfer that isn't as well recognised as the others. That is Mick Adam!

In the early 70's this goofy footer started to carve his name into the Merewether waves, his backside attack from 2 foot to 10 foot was dynamic. Mick's backhand re-entry was



one of the best we've seen at Merewether. Mick used to drop to the bottom of the wave, drop the outside shoulder, sink the outside rail and jam off the bottom to the top in a matter of seconds. I still think this the strongest manoeuvre Mick Adam executes. From big Dicko waves to Third Reef Merewether, Mick Adam is comfortable with the best of them!

Mick's surfing career was on track but I sometimes think his lovely nature held him back from pursuing a career in surfing. But it ended up alright – he met the love of his life Janine – then all of a sudden they became "Mick and Janine". They have 3 lovely children, Mark, Samantha and Jesse.

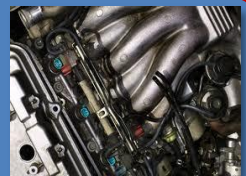
The surfing gene runs in all of them. Mick is the only person to win the Merewether Boardriders Club championship 4 times. Samantha was 1 of the first females to win a Merewether women's title and both boys have won the Boardriders Club Championships as well. I rate Mark and Jesse as 2 of the top surfers in Merewether today.

If there is such a thing as the fountain of youth, Mick Adam has drunk often from it!! At over 50 he is still full of energy and his surfing hasn't changed a bit. Mick and Janine are grandparents now – just another proud moment in the lives of the Adam family.

My point of view – Gary Back

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Newcastle Earthquake – 21 years on - Images courtesy Newcastle City Library

At 10.27 am on Thursday, 28 December, 1989, the City of Newcastle was devastated by a ML 5.6 (Richter magnitude) earthquake. Anyone who lived through that day will have their own story to tell, but for me, I will never forget the sounds of dogs howling and rubble falling throughout that night, nor the image of the wave of concrete that was captured on film as it moved across



Fig.1
The Junction Motor Lodge, which was built on the site of the old Hunter Theatre.....slipping into trouble day by day

Hamilton bus depot.

Many residential dwellings and landmarks in our area were seriously damaged and some had to be demolished. Seismologist Kevin McCue told an inquest into earthquake deaths that the CBD, Hamilton and The Junction were on unstable foundation which had been amplified by the ground motion caused by alluvial soils.

He said movement was 4 times more violent in these areas.(SMH July 1990)

In researching this story I realised that over the years I had forgotten some aspects of the impact of the earthquake on our community – The Junction pool for example was found to be leaking some 100,000 litres/day and took approx \$250,000 to repair. Damage to industrial



Figure 1: War memorial - The Junction



Figure 1: Mexican Restaurant - The Junction

facilities, electrical power systems, gas and water all contributed to confusion at the time. Mucho's Mexican, The Grand Junction Hotel (later The Junction Tavern), The Junction Motor Lodge, the Prince of Wales Hotel and The Junction school were all severely damaged and had to be partially or totally demolished .

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Figure 1: The Junction Public School

GIO paid \$195,000 to replace the digger on The Junction War memorial.

In 1990 Phillip Duncan Guascoine aged 24 was tragically killed in the demolition at The Junction school bringing the total loss of life directly attributed to the earthquake to 14.

Spotlight on Ryan Callinan

Ryan Callinan was born in 1992 and raised in Merewether. He started surfing in 1997 at the age of 5.

Ryan mainly surfs Merewether Beach but is always on the lookout for a rideable ripple and can be found anywhere from Catherine Hill Bay to Forster.

Ryan is currently ranked 10th in the Pro Juniors. Reading his extensive list of achievements over the past 5 years is testament to how committed he is to his surfing career. In 2010 alone he has competed successfully in 12 major events travelling around Australia, New Zealand, Sth Africa and Hawaii, winning 3 events, placing in another 4 and just missing out on a placing in another 4 – not a bad track record in anybody's book!

Already a seasoned surfer and traveller, Ryan has had a busy year ahead with trips to Hawaii, Tahiti, Japan, New Zealand & The USA.

With an appetite for big carves and a love of doing big double grab air reverses, Ryan wants to emulate his heroes, The late Andy Irons and Joel Parkinson and make the world tour one day – the way he is going, he is right on track to achieve his ambition.



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Robert (Bob) Newbiggin (1921 – 1989)

Member of Sport Australia Hall of Fame and SLSA Hall of Fame

Born and raised in Newcastle east, Bob is regarded by a vast number of officials as the greatest surf swimmer in the history of the sport. He was a giant of a man who went on to compile a magnificent career record which has amazed officials all over the world.



A noted surf swimmer he was also a fine still water swimmer and by the time his 16th birthday arrived, he had won the national junior 110yds title and held every national junior swimming record. He was acclaimed as the fastest schoolboy swimmer in the world.

Bob swam in the 440yds freestyle at the 1938 British Empire Games in Sydney. He stunned officials after the games by announcing that he wanted to concentrate solely on surf swimming, and joined Cooks Hill Surf Life Saving Club.

In his first season (1937/38) he won both the Australian junior surf and belt titles. The following year (1938/39) he repeated the wins to record an unprecedented double.

In a remarkable career Newbiggin, a noted big surf competitor, won the senior surf championship of Australia in 1939/40. In the 1940/41 season the Surf Life Saving Association decided that there would be no national titles however the states were free to continue holding competitions. Bob won the 1940/41 New South Wales senior surf and belt titles.

During the Second World War he became a Flight Lieutenant with the RAAF and flew over thirty missions over Germany. Returning to competition after the War he won the senior surf championships three seasons in a row, 1945/46, 1946/47, and 1947/48.

Bob is the only Newcastle Surf Lifesaving inductee to the Sport Australia Hall of Fame and he is 1 of only 2 Newcastle SLSA members to be inducted to the SLSA Hall of Fame, the other being Swansea/Caves sweep Ken Murray.

(Accessed Nov 30,2010 - www.sahof.org.au/hallofFame/memberProfile/index)

<p>Seascape and Beyond 2011</p> <p>ART EXHIBITION</p>	<p>Open Community and Professional Artists Art Exhibition and Fundraiser</p> <p>Merewether Surf Life Saving Club</p> <p>Friday 8 April – Sunday 10 April 2011</p> <p>For more information and Exhibitors' Entry Forms please go to www.merewetherslsc.com.au</p> <p>Or collect at Swell espresso bar Merewether Beach</p> <p>Enquiries: Juliet 0411 744 041 or email julietclark@optusnet.com.au</p> <p>Proudly supporting <i>beyondblue</i>: the national depression initiative</p>
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Madam Susie Sparkles

January

Astrology Guide



	Capricorn December 23 – January 20 A friend or partner is going to be unusually secretive and suspicious this month. Don't despair, they are just planning a special surprise for your birthday.
	Aquarius January 21 – February 19 Suzie's crystal ball is seeing great success for all Aquarians this year. Whether it be a swift lifestyle change or financial gain, this year proves to be your best yet.
	Pisces February 20th – March 20 th The festive season has once again left your bank balance depleted and your hips widened. Forget the gym and save money and kill calories by walking to work.
	Aries March 21 to April 19 The moon in your sign around the 14th and 15th of this month is giving you a fresh outlook on life. Prepare to feel highly enthusiastic and energetic for those two days.
	Taurus April 21 – May 20 Like most people, this year you resolve to catch up with old friends and just generally be a better friend. Unfortunately, once again this only last until the end of January.
	Gemini May 21 – June 21 It's no secret that your boss is a very strange person. Try to look past this issue and remember who is paying your bills.
	Cancer June 22 – July 23 The new year brings good vibes for new projects or creative pursuits. Just be wary of how much time you devote to these as you know how quickly you can become obsessed.
	Leo July 24 – August 23 This month your inner lion is finally at rest. After a hectic festive season, you can finally start to relax and catch up on some of that much needed sleep that you have missed out on.
	Virgo August 24 – September 23 For Virgos the new year can often be a tough time. Your perfectionist nature means you are overwhelmed with trying to keep on top of all your outrageous new years resolutions.
	Libra September 24 – October 23 January is a time for getting patriotic and expressing your true blue Aussie. Show your support by dressing up in green and gold at work on the 5th
	Scorpio October 24 – November 22 This month your inner lion is finally at rest. After a hectic festive season, you can finally start to relax and catch up on some of that much needed sleep that you have missed out on.
	Sagittarius November 23 – December 22 A falling asteroid in your sign this month is causing chaos and confusion within your home life. Avoid becoming a crazy headless chicken by eating any purple foods.

Merewether Baths Cleaning Schedule

January 2011

4 Jan	Tuesday	4.44 AM	0.46
7 Jan	Friday	6.49 AM	0.49
10 Jan	Monday	8.54 AM	0.61
14 Jan	Friday	1.06 PM	0.69
17 Jan	Monday	4.00 AM	0.55
21 Jan	Friday	5.56 AM	0.31
24 Jan	Monday	8.36 AM	0.35
28Jan	Friday	1.19 PM	0.54
31 Jan	Monday	4.00 AM	0.55

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



My backyard - Image by Steve

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