

Making Waves

April 2012

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

Enquiries, contributions, sponsorship, ECopy
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<http://makingwaves.yolasite.com/>



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- great new burger menu
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Bar Beach Belles – 1940 style

We thank Richard Davies for this image of his late Aunt (on the left) Pat Mills nee Gehrig who lived on The Hill. Richard thinks that the other 2 people are Wal Tonks and June Chambers. The picture was taken in the early 1940's at Bar Beach and Richard thought the sign in the background for Surf Planes for rent might be of interest to our readers. These "surfos" continued to be hired out into the 1950's and we understand that Reg Gazzard (a lifeguard at the time) hired out the surf planes on the side while on duty on the beach.



InZane Football is Newcastle's first Football Academy to cater for junior and youth players.

Run by former Socceroo Clayton Zane, InZane soccer is aimed at children of different abilities and ages.

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BAR BEACH BOWLING CLUB - The home of "The Breakers"

Song: To the tune of "Roll Out The Barrel".



*Roll out The Breakers,
We've got the blues on the run,
Roll out The Breakers,
We have such fun in the sun,
Draw, Drive or On-Shot,
Play every game with a grin,
Only a fool thinks we're beaten,
'cause The Breakers will never give in.*

At the present time the club is going strongly thanks to a very hard-working Board headed by Denis Hill. Their responsibility is to run the licensed club and maintain all functions of the club, including cost of greens. The men's bowling club committee has Dennis Willis as president and the ladies committee has Maureen Lloyd as president. Their job is to run all competitive games such as pennants, championships and galas. These clubs are running smoothly and there is good co-operation between the committees and the board.

Things have not always been so smooth: In the late eighties South Newcastle Bowling Club was on its knees; \$130,000 in debt and looked like closing. Comsteel Bowling Club was finished and a group came from that club to Newcastle South. Among that group were Allan Shaw, Neil Gow and Sid Rooke.

Allan held up his beloved Knights game last year when he had a heart attack on the Southern Hill. He came good and was back to his best when sadly, he passed away on 16th February. I am pleased to report that a good roll-up of club members attended his funeral. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to Allan, as well as to Neil and Sid who both are still playing regularly at the club. Allan was chairman of the Board for 16 years as well as secretary for 10 years, combining both positions. He later became treasurer for 2010 and 2011.

Sid Rooke was treasurer from 1991-2005. Neil Gow spent 20 years a vice-chairman and two years as secretary. All three are life members and deservedly so.

Next report I will spell out why bowls is such a great game.

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NEWCASTLE - APRIL 2012

LAT 32° 56' LONG 151° 47' TIME ZONE - 1000
TIMES AND HEIGHTS OF HIGH AND LOW WATERS

☐ Denotes Public Holidays

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
TIME M	TIME M	TIME M	TIME M	TIME M	TIME M	TIME M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 ☐
0305 1.51 0957 0.62 1610 1.26 2145 0.77	0411 1.56 1052 0.55 1707 1.37 2250 0.69	0508 1.63 1139 0.46 1755 1.49 2345 0.58	0559 1.70 1221 0.38 1839 1.63	0637 0.46 0648 1.75 1302 0.31 1923 1.76	0128 0.36 0737 1.77 1345 0.28 2007 1.88	0218 0.28 0828 1.75 1428 0.29 2052 1.96
8	9	10	11	12	13 ☐	14
0312 0.24 0920 1.69 1513 0.34 2140 1.99	0407 0.25 1014 1.61 1600 0.41 2229 1.98	0504 0.29 1110 1.51 1649 0.51 2321 1.92	0605 0.36 1209 1.42 1744 0.61	0016 1.83 0709 0.43 1314 1.35 1845 0.70	0119 1.72 0815 0.50 1425 1.32 1956 0.76	0229 1.64 0921 0.53 1537 1.35 2112 0.77
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 ●
0338 1.59 1019 0.55 1639 1.41 2226 0.74	0441 1.56 1111 0.54 1730 1.48 2328 0.69	0534 1.55 1153 0.53 1814 1.56	0619 0.63 1221 1.54 1830 0.52 2352 1.63	0102 0.58 0702 1.53 1304 0.52 1927 1.69	0142 0.54 0741 1.51 1335 0.53 2000 1.74	0218 0.51 0818 1.49 1405 0.54 2031 1.77
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
0254 0.49 0855 1.46 1437 0.57 2103 1.79	0330 0.49 0932 1.43 1509 0.60 2137 1.78	0407 0.50 1011 1.40 1545 0.65 2212 1.76	0447 0.52 1051 1.36 1621 0.69 2249 1.72	0530 0.56 1134 1.32 1702 0.74 2330 1.67	0617 0.60 1223 1.29 1749 0.79	0618 1.61 0711 0.62 1320 1.28 1847 0.82
29 ●	30					
0115 1.57 0808 0.61 1425 1.30 1957 0.83	0219 1.55 0906 0.58 1530 1.37 2111 0.79					

© Commonwealth of Australia 2010 - Bureau of Meteorology
National Tidal Centre Datum is Lowest Astronomical Tide

Add one hour to the times when Daylight Saving Time is in force

The Merewether girls doing
their thing at the Stockton
ASRL Carnival in February



Officer Poop A Trooper



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Sunday Selling

Before Doctor C. W. Morgan, Licensing Magistrate

Friday 29th April 1887

William Beveridge, was prosecuted for having on Sunday the 24th inst, at 3 pm kept his Licensed Premises known as the “*RACE COURSE INN*”, situated at Burwood (Frederick Street), open for the sale of liquor, in contravention of the Act.

The defendant, who was undefended, pleaded “Guilty”.

Senior Sergeant Finnegan deposed that on Sunday Afternoon, from instructions he received from Sub-Inspector Lynch, he, in company with Constable Coutts, proceed to the “Race Course Inn”.

They entered the Hotel by the back door and passed into the Bar, which was opened and here they saw “fourteen (14) men”, sitting down on “cases” and talking about and “smoking”. The defendant’s wife was behind the Bar and there were nine (9) drinks lying on the Counter.

Constable Coutts took charge of one door and witness the other. Several of the glasses were “emptied” on their entrance but they tasted drink in several.

“IT WAS THE WORSE CASE WITNESS HAD EVER SEEN SINCE HE HAD BEEN IN NEWCASTLE!”

There seemed to be no distinction from a week day, with the exception of the place being closed. The defendant told witness, “They were Borders”, but he found that none of them resided in the place. There appeared to be no regularity or order of any description.

Defendant stated that his wife had only been three weeks in the Colony and did not know any better. He (defendant) was upstairs when the liquor was served.

Doctor Morgan said although this was the first case against defendant, it seemed to be a “*GROSS*” one and he must remember two more cases such as this and he would loose his license. The house had already gained an “Invariable Notoriety” and the Bench had been told by former Land Lords that the Bar had been rushed by People.”

The defendant was fined £5, in default, 14 days, and 5/6 cost of Court

David Barrow



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‘Smart Bodies/Smarter Minds’ - by the Sea.



Image by Kerrie

Rohan O'Reilly is the founder of a unique system of building physical/emotional and mental intelligence called 'Smart bodies/ Smarter minds'. He came to this area from Sydney some 20 years ago and has been researching and developing 'Smart

bodies/Smarter Minds' for that time. I have been working with him since September. Rohan explains: 'Smart bodies/Smarter Minds' takes elements from a wide variety of physical, neurological and energetic disciplines and applies them in prescribed sequences with specific breathing protocols and focus on presence and technique.

People work with Rohan on an individual basis. They range from gymnasts preparing for London/Circus Avalon to men and women seeking improved "holistic strength" and stress management to those just trying to stay ahead of the aging process or rehabilitate after surgery/illness.

He travels regularly interstate teaching his system to health professionals and the general public. Sometimes this happens locally. You don't have to be aerobically able, agile or especially fit to engage in Rohan's program, just have a commitment to "feel" better and keep evolving. You do have to be prepared to interact outdoors in his fresh air gym by the sea as he believes this is part of the "natural adaptation process".

Rohan's focus is based on developing the clients "innate intelligences". This is done through re establishing the basic functions of the nervous system through "organic movement and breath patterns". Additional equipment used is designed to increase balance, coordination, strength and focus. He also uses his own design equipment : "The Wave" (a 3dimensional body suspension system) as well as juggling balls, balancing arrows, 5kg steel balls (he juggles with these!) and an intelligent use of the available environment for a variety of parkour activities.

You can see Rohan working with clients beside Merewether Baths most mornings from 6am. Saturdays can be spectacular.

The locals at the baths know Rohan as another member of the community of Merewether Beach precinct.

Kerrie Robinson



All New Menu

MONDAYS	Steak Night - \$12.90
TUESDAYS	Pasta - \$9.90 and Pool Comp
WEDNESDAYS	Schnitzel Night - \$9.90 and Trivia
THURSDAYS	Lamb Ribs Night
SUNDAYS	4PM Live Entertainment followed by DJ at 7PM

FRIDAY to SUNDAY - Newcastle's Best Live Entertainment

*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.*

Saturday March 10, 2012 – Surfest, Merewether Beach

Image by Julie de Vries – Merewether 2012



2012 is my 6th year in the role as Surfest lifeguard, and it produced a very special experience.

In 2006 Surfest came to Merewether Beach from it's traditional break at Newcastle due to poor conditions, and has since made its home at Merewether.

As Surfest lifeguard, my job is to clear the competition area of free surfers and to keep an eye on the competitors so that they don't get into trouble or injured. The worst thing that has happened was also this year when one of the indigenous surfers on Day 1 broke his leg doing a big aerial manoeuvre in 4-5 ft "slop". A surfer broke his ankle last year and a few years back, Occy got a fin chop to the head.

On Saturday, March 10 however, it was about 6 ft offshore and I was asked to go and clear the free surfers out of the area. There were a lot of people on the beach and when I went down the ramp with my paddle board, I overheard some young upstart say “who’s this old bloke kidding – he’ll never get out in this!”

It actually was a hard paddle and I was a bit nervous with so many people watching as I had to roll about 8 waves before I got out the back. I cleared the area, then went for a bit of a paddle when, before I knew it there were about 20 dolphins, including some babies, all around me – even under my board. They stayed with me for about 100m – it felt very special!

When I came ashore, I was approached by a lady from Durban Sth Africa (whose daughter went on to win the Girls Juniors), who told me she had a photo of me with the dolphins and that she would email it to me – a wonderful reminder of my special Surfest experience captured by her camera.



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Police and Lifesavers join Forces

Surf Life Saving NSW has joined forces with the police in the **Play Safe, Stay Safe** summer water safety campaign. Senior police and surf lifesavers are actively encouraging parents and children to be vigilant about water safety in a bid to prevent drowning tragedies.

The joint campaign encourages people to take basic safety precautions including swimming between the flags, avoiding rip currents and observing beach signage.

The campaign also promotes the free Beachsafe Iphone application which locates the nearest patrolled beach and provides a range of surf safety information.

The **Play Safe, Stay Safe** campaign also includes a strong message to rockfishers to take safety seriously and always wear a lifejacket.



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Leo by name – Leo by nature.

Merewether Beach has had some special visitors over the years, people who drop in and slip into the lifestyle with such ease as they become a part of the community. Our latest visitor is Leo, a 17 year old from Heidelberg, Germany. Leo is staying with a host family in New Lambton and attending Year 12 at Lambton High School on exchange. She arrived in Newcastle in July 2011 and is leaving us this month. By that time, she will have completed her Surf Bronze and her IRB Training with Merewether Surf Club – those accreditations will go with her in life and will serve to always remind her of the time she spent here in our special part of the world.

Leo enjoys rugby, boxing, the gym and the beach of course.



Leo with Patrol Captain Greg

As her time in Newcastle draws to a close Leo is spending as much time as possible at the beach and she assures us that she definitely does not want to go home
...if you see her around say "g'day" and wish her well!





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A graveside commemorative speech : Private James Hartley Antcliff

John Ramsland (CHSLSC Historian Centenary Battlefields Tour, September 2011)



Beside a field gun, a stiffly-erect German officer focused on the glow of the second hand of his wristwatch. When it reached the appointed hour he shouted “Fire”! It was early on the morning of 7 June 1917. The Messines Ridge salient provided a commanding view of the Allies placements across the battlefields of the North. The gun roared and the shell lobbed into the Australian forward position. A few seconds later there was a single, far-off explosion heard from the German officer’s position followed by a strained silence that hung in the air for a moment. A cheerless morning was about

to dawn. Close comrade and friend of “Big Jim” Antcliff in the 36th Battalion, Alf Alderton takes up the story: ‘... our section fully equipped & laden with supplies and ammunition was about to hop the parapet when a great explosive shell crashed through & burst right on top of us... the men hardly knew what had happened. As soon as I regained my wits I turned around to see how Jim had fared & to my horror & dismay I found poor Jim had passed to the great beyond’.

Death was instantaneous for the 24-year-old. In the torn smoking parapet lay several silent blood-stained bundles, all that remained of what were once men – all but two of the carrying party that had been the cheerful joking group of mates the night before. Jim was held in high esteem by B Company of the 36th Battalion. He was a favourite with everyone and the company’s most able soldier.

Jim was born in the Sandhills or what became Cook’s Hil in 1893, the eldest of twelve. When he was twenty his father was killed in a railyard accident and Jim became the family’s main breadwinner as an iron-moulder at Goninan’s where he was a trusted employee. He died in the initial stages of the Battle of Messines Ridge.

James Hartley Antcliff was a prince of men who stood out in every early photograph of the Cook’s Hill Lifesavers. A powerful surf swimmer, he was the third Club Captain in the Club’s history, elected for the 1914-15 surf season. The club’s R&R team under his leadership won the Rundle Cup in three summer seasons of fierce competition especially with Newcastle Club. At the first Cook’s Hill carnival at Bar Beach in late January 1915 (Anniversary Day) Dick Rundle, a prominent local business man, presented Jim with a tiny engraved ‘gold brick’ as a memento of the win – perhaps he had it on him when he was blown apart in the assault on Messines Ridge, laden with live ammunition.

In all, the 36th Battalion lost 430 men in the same assault. Ironically, the Battle of Messines Ridge was a rare and carefully planned success as a single triumph for the Allies.

At 3.10 am Zero Hour in nineteen long deep tunnels carefully built by sappers, each of the land mines exploded almost in unison. The very earth of the North quaked. The rim of the hated Messines Ridge salient burst skywards in a dense black cloud which gushed nineteen huge pillars of flame lighting the whole sky with the red glare of hell. (The sound was distinctly heard by the Prime Minister David Lloyd George in his study at 10 Downing Street London.) The German-held villages of Messines and Wytschaete on the ridge disappeared into oblivion. Thousands of Germans were suddenly beneath the ground, entombed there forever. The survivors surrendered *en masse* weeping from shock, waving white handkerchiefs, grasping their captors' ankles. Some of the craters were 300 feet across and 70 feet deep. But Jim Antcliff did not live long enough to witness this.

The Allied front had been pushed forward two miles to the East. The cost of victory was heavy. Jim was one of something like 24,000 of all nations who died between 1st and 10th June on the Allies side; 7,300 German prisoners were taken. The Germans lost a further 20,000 in casualties. Men on both sides were lacerated and punctured, bled and died in numbers that baffle the imagination. The acid dank smell of explosives and gunpowder, wet clay, poison gas and polluted water spread over the haunted landscape of Messines Ridge.

What price glory? The men on both sides hardly knew what they were involved in. James Antcliff, beloved eldest son of the late James and Jeannie Antcliff of 15 Council Street Cook's Hill lies [...] in Toronto Cemetery in Ploegsteert Wood along with 78 graves of officers and men of the 9th Brigade, 3rd Australian Division. Two

are unidentified. They all died between 7th & 10 June 1917. Club stalwart Terry "Godfather" Cosgrove noticed that the men were 'buried where the sun doesn't shine'.

Private Antcliff is commemorated on the Roll of Honour of the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Goninan's Roll of Honour, the Newcastle Post Office Memorial and CHSLS Club Memorial. He joined the Australian Imperial Forces on 10 May 1916.

Today [18/9/2011] we find time to remember him as a fine human being. As the poet Siegfried Sassoon put it, Jim was part of the 'unreturned army that was youth/
The legions who have suffered and are dust'.

Tread softly here.



Placing of the flag, cross
and penny

Merewether Baths Cleaning Schedule

April 2012

5 April	Thursday	9.00 AM	0.3
12 April	Thursday	4.30 PM	0.4
19 April	Thursday	9.00 AM	0.5
27 April	Friday	2.00 PM	0.7

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Image by Jenni



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