

Making Waves

February 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/>



Proudly supporting local Surf Life Saving Clubs

- great new burger menu
- breakfast, lunch and dinner 7 days a week
- best double cooked chips on the coast
- all meals prepared in-house with local produce
- healthy grilled options available
- fresh local seafood dishes
- from 7.00 am – breakfast through to dinner



Image by Sally B



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beaches cafe

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

This month, well known Merewether identity Graham **Tamba** Adam dedicates this space to one of Newcastle's best all round watermen who could ride them all – short board, mal, surfski, waveski and paddleboard.

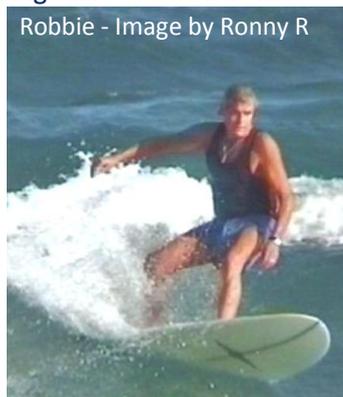
Robbie Wood 23/10/45 – 16/3/2008

Raised in Margaret Street Merewether, Robbie took to the ocean and the surf at an early age. He ended up spending his lifetime at the beach with his mates. In the summer of 59-60, Robbie along with a group of mates formed a club called **The Beachniks**. They had their own club jackets – blue with yellow and white stripes and the club name on the back. The member's name was displayed on the front pocket.

Around that time, Robbie took a liking for the big surf at Merewether and he was one of only a handful of guys who could actually “get out” on the big days as the boards were heavy and long and there were no legropes back then.

In the summer of 63-64 Robbie and some of the Beachniks along with a few local lads got together and formed what is now known as “Merewether Surfboard Club”.

See the story “Following the M-Bay tradition” on P8 of this edition.



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Robbie was twice named Club Champion of the Surfboard Club (in both 1965 and 1967) and he took a young MR (his godson) under his wing and it was Robbie who first got Mark out in the big surf both at Legge Point and at Merewether.

Robbie Wood didn't only excel in the surfing arena. He joined Merewether SLSC and he was club champion there as well in 1971 and 1972. He went on to join Dixon Park SLSC where he went on to create an amazing record of Australian and State titles in both individual and team events.

With great friend and Beachnik Jack Tomlinson he won 2 gold, a silver and a bronze in Australian Title teams events among his 3 Gold, 2 Silver and 3 Bronze Awards.

At State Titles he won 3 Gold, a Silver and a Bronze in SLSC events.

He was also Newcastle Ironman Champion.

Jack Tomlinson said of Robbie Wood that he had no fear – in the water or in any sport. He was a well respected business man and sportsperson who was always genuine and generous.

Robbie married Judy Cornish – sister of Peter and they had 4 children – 3 girls and a boy, Nicky Wood who went on to be a professional surfer in his own right and won the prestigious Bells Beach title at the age of 16!

Robbie moved to the Gold Coast in the early 2000's with wife Judy.

After a long fight with illness , Leukemia took him on 16th March, 2008.



Over 100 surfers – young, old, male and female carried frangipani flowers as they hit the water together for the traditional surfers' farewell to Robert James Wood. They formed a circle by holding hands, shouted out Robbie's name, raised their hands and splashed the water as they remembered the life of Robbie Wood. Robbie is survived by wife Judy and his 4 children. Judy, Nicky, Cassie and Tiffany (of "Bardot" fame who still sings and coaches singing) all live on the Gold Coast. Cassie is training to be a doctor and Rochelle is a vet nurse and now resides in Newcastle.

I would like to thank Jack Tomlinson for his contribution to this dedication to his great friend and team mate.



MEREWETHER SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

MONDAYS @ 6.30 - 7.25 ZUMBA®

MONDAYS @ 7.30 - 8.15 ZUMBA® TONING

LICENSED INSTRUCTOR - KATE BOUSFIELD - 0439 675546



BE SUN SOUND



SUN SOUND

11AM to 3PM on all city beaches and ocean baths this summer

More practical than training seagulls to drop hats on people, the Sun Sound is a catchy harmony played at regular intervals on loud speakers at beaches, reminding you to be sun safe. This radical musical experiment, produced by acclaimed musician Ben Lee and Sydney agency Three Drunk Monkeys, was trialed at Gosford and Cronulla beaches.

"If you hear it, remember to protect your skin with a hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, shirt and some shade. So listen out for it and keep yourself safe in the sun".

**Seascape
and Beyond**

**ART
EXHIBITION**

Merewether Surf Life Saving Club

Friday 27, Saturday 28 and
Sunday 29 April 2012

Enquiries 0411 744 041



Info and artists' entry form – www.wix.com/ajkchook/seascapeandbeyond



Mick Phillips
SALES CONSULTANT
Mobile: 0437 686 249



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NEWCASTLE - FEBRUARY 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 0235 1.45 0910 0.76 1448 1.14 2044 0.68	2 0337 1.48 1132 0.72 1608 1.13 2150 0.69	3 0438 1.53 1132 0.64 1718 1.17 2252 0.66	4 0532 1.61 1224 0.55 1814 1.23 2345 0.61
5 0620 1.69 1306 0.46 1900 1.30	6 0031 0.55 0704 1.78 1344 0.37 1942 1.37	7 0115 0.48 0745 1.85 1420 0.29 2022 1.45	8 ☉ 0200 0.42 0827 1.89 1457 0.24 2102 1.53	9 0245 0.38 0909 1.90 1533 0.21 2145 1.59	10 0331 0.36 0952 1.86 1613 0.21 2228 1.64	11 0422 0.38 1036 1.77 1653 0.26 2314 1.67
12 0515 0.42 1124 1.65 1735 0.33	13 0002 1.67 0615 0.48 1215 1.50 1821 0.42	14 0057 1.66 0721 0.54 1315 1.35 1915 0.52	15 ☽ 0200 1.64 0838 0.57 1430 1.25 2017 0.59	16 0310 1.64 1000 0.56 1554 1.21 2130 0.63	17 0421 1.67 1115 0.50 1712 1.24 2243 0.61	18 0525 1.72 1215 0.43 1813 1.32 2345 0.56
19 0621 1.77 1303 0.37 1903 1.39	20 0040 0.51 0711 1.81 1345 0.33 1947 1.46	21 0128 0.47 0755 1.81 1423 0.31 2028 1.51	22 ● 0211 0.45 0834 1.78 1457 0.32 2104 1.55	23 0252 0.46 0912 1.73 1529 0.35 2139 1.57	24 0331 0.48 0946 1.66 1558 0.39 2213 1.58	25 0410 0.51 1020 1.57 1627 0.44 2246 1.58
26 0449 0.55 1054 1.48 1657 0.50 2322 1.57	27 0531 0.60 1130 1.38 1729 0.57	28 0000 1.54 0619 0.65 1213 1.29 1806 0.64	29 0045 1.50 0715 0.70 1303 1.21 1853 0.70			

© 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



Image by Jason

Waratah Girls Choir

Do you like to sing?

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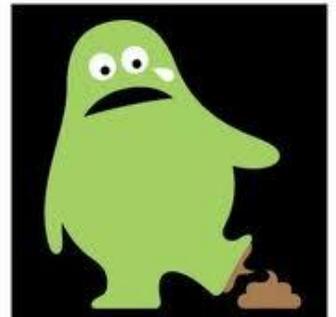
Have fun learning to
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stress
environment



Senior Y7—30 yrs
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5.30—6.30pm

www.waratahgirlschoir.com.au
email: waratahgirlschoir@gmail.com
Meg: 0414752709

Junior Choir 8 yrs-Y6
Mondays
4.30—5.45pm



Please clean up
after your dog.



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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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Paving over paradise to put up a parking lot



19 January – 6.50 PM

In an age where so many of us struggle with being active and keeping healthy, I was shocked to see the Newcastle City Council proposal to tear up the green playing field behind the Bar Beach Bowling club to make way for parking.

This plan (revealed to residents late last year) is the latest step in the 2010 Coastal Master Plan on which nearly 1000 people commented when it went on public display in March 2010. However, nowhere in the original plan was there a proposal to remove this well used grass area. Only now is a plan revealed to reduce the parking at the Clifftop car park at the top of Kilgour Ave, which is so well used by surfers and beach goers all year round.

This green park area has always been very well used for formal and informal sporting pursuits, including several children's soccer and junior rugby league

training sessions each week, countless touch footy matches, and family cricket. The Council believes that these users could simply transfer to the land at the top of Bar Beach Avenue, which is not only unsafe (being sloped and close to busy Memorial Drive), but is used by hang gliders. Can you imagine the chaos of trying to co-ordinate 10 year old soccer training with multiple hang gliders trying to land?

It is true that for a few hours on Saturdays and Sundays at the height of summer parking is at a premium along the beachfront. But surely the cost for the full year of a loss of yet another open area for our young people and families to be active is too high a price to pay, just to avoid beach-goers having to walk a bit further. There are other ways to increase parking in the area, including providing angled parking on wider roads close to Bar Beach. And obviously not reducing Kilgour Ave cliff-top car park would help retain car parking where people most need it.



8 December, 2011- 6.45 PM

The Council is currently considering feedback to this plan, so let them know what you think by contacting your local Councillor and by calling the Council Administration and asking to speak to the project officer for the Bar Beach Public Domain Plan

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Following the M-Bay Tradition

In 1988 Merewether Surfboard Club celebrated its 25th year with the publication of the club history in which David Knox says that “while the more formal version of the club is entering its 25th year, it is closer to 30 years since a group of friends who surfed Merewether united in a common cause...fun, mateship and surfing”.

I understand that the formal version of Merewether surfboard Club is now entering its 49th year and continues to go from strength to strength.

The club history also records the beginnings of the Christmas Fancy Dress Surfing Competition which was followed by the Club BBQ and presentation of awards. In the early days, the generosity of Ray Richards, Pacific Dreams and Egan Surfboards ensured that most members received a small gift of wax, hats, wax combs or leg ropes.



This memorable picture taken by Brian Green in 1984 shows the group in their fancy dress. It shows how much effort club members put into their outfits and how popular the event was.



Image by Dave A

The tradition of the Merewether Surfboard Club Christmas Fancy Dress is now in its 28th year and what is even more interesting is just how many of the young members of the club who participated in the 2011 Event have followed in the family tradition set by their fathers way back in 1984!

The history of Merewether Surfboard club is defined by the exploits of its graduates, making it one of the proudest surfing communities in the world – from the early days of Jim Newburn and Robbie Woods and Peter Cornish, Roger Clements, Bob Lynch and Peter Thomson (to name a few) in the 60's and 70's.

The club won an unprecedented 4 consecutive Quicksilver titles (1987- 1990) and in his last outing for the club, MR was already a 4 times world champion. Mick Adam, Nick Wood, Mitchell Ross, Travis Lynch, Rhys Smith, Jesse Adam, Wes Bainbridge, Craig and Phillipa Anderson, Ryan Callinan and Jackson Baker are all part of the next generation who proudly carry the mantle of Merewether Surfboard Club into the future.

This club is in good hands!

Traditionally, our winter months see a number of the Newcastle lifeguards make the journey to the Channel Island of Jersey to work their summer season.

We all know "what goes on tour stays on tour" but hopefully some of these lifeguards have some interesting tales they can share of their time in Jersey.

Marie Ramsland would like hear from our Jersey lifeguards to record their stories.

Ph: 49696948

Email: marie.ramsland@newcastle.edu.au

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The Iconic, but fatally flawed Belt-and-Reel

John Ramsland, Club Historian



Cook's Hill Surf Lifesaving Club stalwart Robert "Beans" Young supervised the restoration of the club's 1940s belt-and-reel, painted by Shane Feenan. Robert is still

active on patrol this summer at Bar Beach in the 2nd Patrol of the Cook's Hill's "immortals" led by the redoubtable Greg Silcock.

The restoration of the reel is part of the club's centenary celebrations and is now on permanent display mounted high in the air by supportive club member Chris Bart of Australian Heritage Restorations. Now an unforgettable museum piece, one can easily imagine the typically heroic, fit and muscular form of a lifesaver in the belt sprinting across the beach into the dangerous surf by being reeled out.

In the club's first full summer season of 1911-1912, they gained their first belt-and-reel. This summer season of 2011-2012 completes one hundred years of dedication to water safety at Bar Beach. Many rescues have been carried out and not one life of the general public has been lost by the Cook's Hill "Redoubtables". The R&R contest using the belt-and-reel was once the blue ribbon event in surf carnivals. The belt-and-reel, once standard equipment of every surf life saving club, is now outdated.

And yet for over sixty years, it was seen as absolutely essential. For many years it remained the iconic symbol of Australian surf life saving movement around the world.

Long-serving club members like "Beans" can never forget the ritualistic drill on the belt-and-reel that symbolised the essential training of lifesaving. There were images of it everywhere, thousands of photographs appeared in newspapers and magazines around the country. Not any longer.



The belt-and-reel was invented by Lyster Ormsby and demonstrated successfully on Bondi Beach on 24 December 1906 and very rapidly spread as required issue to all surf clubs. Ormsby adopted a ship's life jacket attached to a reel similar to a windless. It replaced the less efficient heavy cork life buoy.

For Cook's Hill the Ormsby belt-and-reel had tragic drawbacks. Club and branch swimming champion Ray Land was taken by a shark when wearing the belt in a carnival event at Bar Beach in late January 1949 on a bright summer's day. Young policeman Doug Rugers, a promising lifesaver, disappeared from the belt in a training exercise at Nobby's Beach in late November 1961. His body, washed up in the surf, was found by fellow long-serving club member Terry "The Godfather" Cosgrove.

One of the club's oldest surviving members, Rugby Union great Dick Tooth, now in his eighties, vividly remembers nearly drowning on two occasions in the belt when the line was caught in seaweed and rocks which pulled him under. He only just managed to escape from the belt in time.

Despite such serious problems the belt-and-reel remained an iconic part of Australian life saving for a long period and was used in many successful rescues before it was withdrawn from use.



Ray Land

sally and jane

handmade, vintage inspired, gorgeous girlie things

sally and jane

We are identical twins who love to be crafty. Jane has a passion for fabric, especially vintage and vintage inspired fabrics and Sally loves spending hours on graphic design making ordinary things look adorable. To be honest, we both love anything gorgeous, girlie and especially things that sparkle :-)

We only make things we love and hope you love them too.

Currently we have handmade clutches and purses for sale but coming soon are vintage inspired wall posters/announcements.

FACEBOOK: <http://www.facebook.com/sallyandjane>

TWITTER: <https://twitter.com/sallyandjanecom>

WEB: <http://www.etsy.com/shop/sallyandjane>

**Merewether Baths Cleaning Schedule
February 2012**

3 February	Friday	7.30 AM	0.6
6 February	Monday	10.00 AM	0.3
10 February	Friday	1.00 PM	0.2
13 February	Monday	4.30 AM	0.4
17 February	Friday	7.30 AM	0.4
20 February	Monday	10.00 AM	0.3
24 February	Friday	1.00 PM	0.3
27 February	Monday	2.30 PM	0.5

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Image by Sally B



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