

Making Waves

January 2014

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OUR 4th YEAR**

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Bar Beach and Nobbys

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Eccentric Bondi doctor Ernest Smithers developed what was to become a regular part of the Australian summer for decades. After working on his invention for 8 years, Dr Smithers patented the surfoplane on 28th October, 1932. Dr Smithers came up with the idea of the surfoplane while working part time at Palm Beach in Sydney where he bought, repaired and sold yachts. It was here that he encountered canvas floatation devices that were used to keep the yachts afloat while they were being repaired. He began using these devices to float himself to and from the shore. It is reported that around this same time while riding one of the huge unwieldy redwood surfboards that had become popular in the 1920's, the surfboard broke in two and Dr Smithers used the shorter length to return to shore. It was then that he realised how much easier and more manoeuvrable this shorter board was. By combining the two concepts of the shorter length and the rubber of the floatation devices, he came up with the idea of a much shorter, more manageable inflatable water craft that could be used easily in the surf. It took a further 8 years and many prototypes before he developed the final four tubed black rubber surf matt that was to become known as the surfoplane. This inflatable rubber floatation device was first demonstrated on Bondi Beach in 1933. By February 1934 the first official surfoplane race was held at Coogee Beach and soon the iconic surf craft was a popular feature around Australia and also in many other countries including Britain, Sth Africa and New Zealand. Riding these surfoplanes became a popular surfing activity at a time when surf board riding was still a marginal and almost exclusive surf club activity. In 1940, the surfoplane company, concerned about increasing patent infringements, manufactured only black and/or yellow models and favoured sales to beach hire concessions.

Later additions to the surfoplane were handles and colours including red and blue. The contribution of the surfoplane to modern surfing over five decades is immense and was the basis for juvenile surfers including Nat Young, Rabbit Bartholomew Mark Richards and Tom Carroll to learn surfing skills before progressing to the fibreglass surfboard.

Thanks to Pete Bernasconi



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Feather Duster Tube Worm/ Fan Worm *Sabellastarte australiensis*, Phylum - Annelida

Feather Duster Worms may not sound glamorous but these creatures can be quite beautiful, with long flowing appendages of orange/brown and white.

The flowery tops are clusters of branched tentacles attached to the sides of the worms head and are essential to the worms survival.

Commonly known as tubeworms because they live in long, protective tubes they make

from secreted mucus, protein and filtered particles and covered in sand and bits of shell to build a long leathery tube that it affixes to rock. Once it makes a home the worm remains in the same place for the rest of its life.

The feathery appendages are finely divided tentacles acting as plankton filters.

30 feather-like reddish gills are on each side of the tube, serving a double purpose, they are covered in eyespots so the worm knows when danger is near and can retreat into the tube.

The worms use the feathers to take in oxygen and release carbon dioxide, the ability to regrow missing tentacles helps keep them breathing.

They are a filter feeder, feeding on small food particles and plankton floating in the water, and can only thrive in areas with moving currents that bring in new plankton. By waving its "feathers" the animal creates a gentle water flow, in turn creating vortices on the upper surfaces of the tentacles.

The tentacles have long grooves that get progressively smaller, so that only plankton small enough to eat reaches their mouths. Another tube runs up from the inside of the worm's body to carry away waste.

Feather duster worms fertilize externally and can either brood eggs or spawn freely. Eggs are deposited on the parents tube or on the sea floor, when released they float freely for three to four weeks before settling down.

The Feather Duster Worm can be very elusive and hard to spot if secreted in its tube, but well worth observing if found.

Jenny Robinson





Bar Reef Board Riders 40th Annual Australia Day Classic

On Sunday 26th of January 2014, Australia Day, the Bar Reef Board Riders will be hosting the 40th Annual Australia Day Classic at Bar Beach. This unique and long running event in Newcastle is only matched for age by the Ray Richards Memorial man on man run by Merewether Surfboard Club and the Mattara Classic, run by Surfing Newcastle.

The Australia Day Classic is open to all current and past members of the club. In 2013 the Reef Rats membership exploded with membership topping 125. Pleasingly a large number of young boys and girls are now competing for the club.

These surfers and many others will be chasing the much sought after Bar Reef Australia Day Shield. They will all be hoping to add their name to the likes of Mort Britz, Simon Robinson and Lewie Dunn to name a few. The 2013 Open winner, Jake Sylvester has been invited to surf although his schedule has become full now that he is the 2013 ASP Australasia Pro Junior Champion.

The contest allows for junior male and female divisions as well as women and men over 40 and of course the traditional longboard. The contest is supported by most of the local surfboard retail and manufacturing industry as well as some national surf clothing brands.

The full day of surfing culminates in a presentation at the Bar Beach Bowling Club where winners are held aloft in triumphant tribalism and everyone psyches up for the impending 2014 surfing season.

Entry forms available from:

Ted Bassingthwaighte bassingthwaighte@bigpond.com

BREAKFAST – LUNCH - TAPAS - CATERING
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Ph: 4963 1516

32 Llewellyn Street Merewether

One Wave comes to Merewether

OneWave is a non-profit surf community that is raising awareness for being in a funk - anything from depression to anxiety and bipolar.

Around 20% of Australians are affected by some form of mental health disorder every year. Every Friday the OneWave community dress in epic fluoro, throw shakas in the surf to their fluoro amigos and talk about anything and everything. OneWave have found that the best way to

beat a funk, is getting in the ocean and enjoying the waves and saltwater goodness.

One Wave is all it takes to start beating a funk. Once you catch one good wave, you can't wipe the smile off your face:))

OneWave is helping people catch that one good wave by:

1. Motivating people to get back in the ocean, when they are going through a funk, so they can remember how good it feels to catch a wave.
2. Teaching people how to surf, so they can experience the feeling of catching a wave for the first time.

Everyone is invited to be part of the OneWave community - short boarders, long boarders, SUP's, body boarders, body surfers, snorkelers...It is all about getting in the ocean and enjoying the saltwater goodness.

You don't have to be going through a rough patch to be part of OneWave. It's all about good humans coming together to share their love of surfing and the ocean and help support a good cause.



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DANGEROUS SURF -RESCUE WORK HAMPERED AT MEREWETHER

12th February 1940 - The surf at all beaches at the weekend was dangerous.

Nearly 30 rescues were made in a short period by members of Merewether Surf Club yesterday morning. At one time four reels were out and the club had to call on extra members.

The surfers, mainly young men, were not far from the breach when they were carried out in a batch without warning. Several tried to swim back, but could make no impression on the current.

The alarm was given and the lines were soon out, some almost their full length. The position was becoming so desperate that many grasped the lines, which were then dragged in.

A man on a surf ski rescued more than half a dozen people. Several times he dived into the water, brought a swimmer to the craft and took him to the beach. Finally five hung on to the ski while he paddled it to shore.

Rescues were again hampered by people who, despite recent warnings, interfered with the lines.

At Bar Beach a sandbank formed and the current swept round both sides. Yesterday morning while members of Cooks Hill Surf Club were taking part in a surf race, a youngster was seen to be in difficulties. E. Smith and W. Harper dropped out of the race and J. Oglethorpe who was swimming nearby also went to the child's rescue. S. Greenland swam out in the belt and brought the patient in.

Another girl was carried out in the afternoon and was rescued by R. Atkins, who swam out in a belt. A man who was taken about 150 yards was brought in by T. Hills and W. Steere, well known Rugby Union players.

TOO ROUGH FOR SKIS

When a report that a man and a girl had been carried out at Susan Gilmore Beach, at the northern end of Bar Beach, the patrol captain at Bar Beach, S. Greenland, sent the ski patrol to the rescue. It was impossible to launch the skis in the surf and the patrol put out in the enclosed area. In the meantime a reel had been taken from Bar Beach to Susan Gilmore beach and the rescue was made by a "Belt Man".

On Saturday Afternoon a man was seen to be in difficulties about 200 yards from the shore. E. Clarke a Junior Member of the club swam to the rescue in the belt, but lost his patient when he was struck by a heavy wave and the belt caught on a rock. E. Gorman then went out in a belt and brought the patient in.

At Newcastle there was also a dangerous surf and rescues were frequent.

David Barrow



What are you doing these holidays?

Two hands, 30 minutes, clean up your world – anytime, anywhere



www.twohandsproject.org

Two Hands Project is a collaborative approach to dealing with plastic pollution: take 30 Minutes and Two Hands to clean up your world anytime, anywhere.

Two Hands embodies the spirit of the huge international and national clean up days but asks what you can do with your two hands in 30 minutes, at a location near you, on any day of the year. We are taking it all back to grass roots, looking at what you can do to care for the place(s) that are near to you or important to you, anytime that you want.

Whether you're doing this to improve the health of our oceans, reduce the risk to wildlife or to simply clean up unsightly trash in one of your favourite parks or beaches, what you can do with your own Two Hands is easy.

We want to hear the results of your Two Hands activities and see what plastic pollution you have removed from our beaches and parks, so make sure you like our Facebook Page [Two Hands Project](#) or tweet [@2handsproject](#) your pics and updates using the #twohands (or #2hands) hashtag. You can also share your ideas and stories on refusing plastic and how to end plastic pollution.

30 Minutes, Two Hands. Clean up your world.



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.

holiday soccer clinics - junior Roo (3-5 years) – elite training – school sessions

www.inzanefootball.com

E: info@inzanefootball.com



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beaches
cafe

All New Menu

MONDAYS	Steak Night - \$12.90
TUESDAYS	Fishermans Basket - \$15.00 and Pool
WEDNESDAYS	Schnitzel Night - \$9.90 and Trivia
THURSDAYS	Hamburger Night - \$10.00
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 some aspect of his life with us.

This month I have decided to talk about the Fingal Bay area in light of the tragic drowning of a young man in November at Fingal Bay Spit.

I often visit the Fingal Bay area for the weekend as it has had a lot of good memories for me since the early 60's when I used to stay there at my grandfather's weekender for holidays and weekends. In those days you could walk across the Spit but you had to make sure that you didn't stay too long over the other side or it could be quite dangerous to get back. It was even safe in those days to walk across at half tide but in the last few years you couldn't even walk across the Spit safely at a dead low tide.

My brother Craig only told me recently how he would have to sometimes swim through the deepest part of the Spit and that it could be a bit scary. Now that he is older and a bit wiser he says that he wouldn't do it any more.



Kenny Barry, the local legendary pro fisherman (of the Barry family after whom Barry Park was named) says the big seas of a few years back washed all the sand away and that the corner Spit .. is just gone!

I was paddling through the area some years back when I noticed a big, young fellow trying to walk across the Spit. I warned him that unless he was a very good swimmer that he should go back because through the middle the water would be over his head and running out very quickly.

He decided to take my advice.

I often wonder what could have happened that day had I not been there to warn him of the danger.

* Book Now for 2014 * 0434 966 297

M A S T E R C L A S S

DUO · TRIO · DJ'S · The BAND



www.facebook.com/masterclasduo

In August 2013 we featured 2 talented young ladies having Fun in the Sun at Merewether beach. It was a pleasure to see that one of the girls - Siennah has returned home in November with back-to-back world titles in Sports Aerobics after winning the girls cadet (11-13) individual event in Serbia.

Congratulations Siennah!

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Beachwatch

Beachwatch

Beachwatch daily pollution predictions will be extended to include Newcastle's beaches for the first time this summer, Minister for the Environment, Robyn Parker said at the launch of the State of the Beaches annual report. Hunter Water analysis showed that the regions beaches were among the cleanest in the state.

The report confirmed what we already know, that our beaches are among the most beautiful swimming beaches in the world.

Our beach water quality is already the best in the state said Darren Cleary from Hunter Water, and this reflects the technological improvements at our wastewater treatment plants. Darren predicts that our water will be even cleaner when Hunter water installs the planned new \$20M disinfection system at Burwood Beach Wastewater Plant.

To view predictions online visit

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/beach/>

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& stress on your

next car

is our job

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- Trade disposal • All makes and models
- New and used • Business and private
- Personalised service to your door
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Ben Simon Gail Kyle Amanda Khal Brendan

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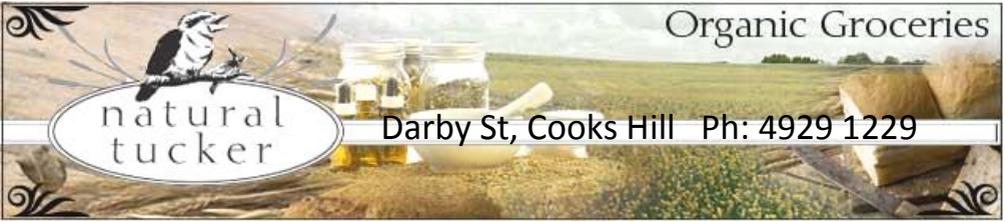
What does Summer mean to you?

For me Summer is the Frangipani . It's flowers carpet our footpaths and lawns, perfume the air and the simple beauty of their flowers is always a pleasure to see - but the real sign that summer has arrived is the lovely habit of the the local ladies who exercise of a morning who leave a frangipani flower on the seats at Bar Beach to signify to their friends that they have already passed by.



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NEWCASTLE						
LAT 32° 56' LONG 151° 47' TIME ZONE -1000						
TIMES AND HEIGHTS OF HIGH AND LOW WATERS						
JANUARY - 2014						
SUN. TIME M	MON. TIME M	TUES. TIME M	WED. TIME M	THURS. TIME M	FRI. TIME M	SAT. TIME M
			1 ●	2	3	4
			0110 0.36 0748 2.04 1427 0.16 2028 1.50	0203 0.34 0839 2.08 1516 0.11 2121 1.53	0257 0.34 0930 2.08 1606 0.10 2214 1.55	0352 0.37 1021 2.02 1655 0.14 2306 1.56
5	6	7	8 ○	9	10	11
0448 0.43 1111 1.90 1745 0.21	0000 1.55 0545 0.50 1201 1.75 1833 0.31	0054 1.54 0647 0.58 1254 1.58 1922 0.40	0151 1.53 0754 0.65 1352 1.42 2013 0.49	0251 1.54 0908 0.69 1458 1.29 2105 0.56	0350 1.56 1024 0.69 1608 1.23 2200 0.59	0446 1.60 1132 0.64 1714 1.21 2252 0.60
12	13	14	15	16 ○	17	18
0538 1.64 1227 0.58 1810 1.23 2342 0.60	0623 1.68 1310 0.52 1858 1.27	0027 0.58 0704 1.73 1346 0.48 1939 1.31	0108 0.56 0743 1.76 1421 0.42 2016 1.35	0146 0.54 0819 1.78 1454 0.39 2053 1.38	0224 0.53 0854 1.79 1526 0.37 2129 1.40	0301 0.53 0929 1.78 1558 0.37 2204 1.41
19	20	21	22	23	24 ☐	25
0340 0.54 1002 1.74 1630 0.38 2241 1.43	0419 0.57 1038 1.69 1704 0.40 2318 1.43	0501 0.60 1114 1.61 1739 0.43	0000 1.44 0548 0.64 1153 1.52 1816 0.46	0045 1.45 0641 0.68 1239 1.43 1900 0.50	0138 1.47 0744 0.70 1336 1.34 1950 0.54	0238 1.52 0859 0.68 1448 1.28 2050 0.55
26	27	28	29	30	31 ●	
0342 1.59 1016 0.61 1607 1.27 2157 0.54	0445 1.69 1127 0.49 1719 1.31 2301 0.49	0544 1.82 1227 0.36 1823 1.39	0001 0.43 0640 1.93 1320 0.24 1919 1.47	0058 0.36 0733 2.02 1410 0.15 2013 1.55	0152 0.31 0825 2.06 1458 0.10 2103 1.61	

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National Tidal Centre Datum is Lowest Astronomical Tide
Add one hour to the times when Daylight Saving Time is in force





WATCH and CLOCK REPAIRS

WATCH WATER PRESSURE TESTING

WATCH BATTERIES

SHOP 12 JUNCTION VILLAGE, KENRICK STREET

THE JUNCTION

PH: 49694278



THE JEWELLERY AFFAIR

DAVID MCKAY - WATCHMAKER & JEWELLER



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Hamilton South Community Playgroup Centre

Thomas St, Hamilton South

Hamilton South Playgroup Centre is a well equipped play area which caters for indoor, craft and outdoor activities in informal sessions where mums, dads, grandparents, caregivers, children and babies meet together in a relaxed environment.

Contact Sarah 0433 951 311 for more information

Merewether Baths Cleaning Schedule January 2014

3 January	Friday	9.30 AM	0.1
6 January	Monday	2.00 PM	0.5
10 January	Friday	6.00 AM	0.7
13 January	Monday	8.30 AM	0.5
17 January	Friday	11.00 AM	0.4
20 January	Monday	12.30 PM	0.4
24 January	Friday	3.30 PM	0.5
27 January	Monday	7.00 AM	0.5
31 January	Friday	10.30 AM	0.1



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a Duck
Today!!**



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