

Making Waves

July 2013

**NOW IN
OUR 3RD YEAR**

Enquiries, contributions, sponsorship, ECopy
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from 7.00 am – breakfast through to dinner

Image by George



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Supposed Drowning at Merewether Beach. Thursday 15th August 1899

Yesterday afternoon Senior Constable Robinson stationed at the Glebe, was informed by some boys that they had seen a man struggling in the sea near the Merewether Beach and finally disappear.

The Senior Constable proceeded at once to the locality and discovered a hat in the sand which has been since identified as that of a miner named William Hogg.

The missing man, who was unmarried, resided with Mr. M'Laren at the Glebe and left home at about 11 am yesterday morning.

He is a native of Kilsyth, Scotland, and has resided at Merewether for the past sixteen years.

For the past nine months he has been in bad state of health, but continued working up to six weeks ago. Of late he had been very much distressed in spirit.

***There were two M'Larens, John and Peter, both miners and both lived in Morgan Street.*

Submitted by David Barrow



WATCH and CLOCK REPAIRS

WATCH WATER PRESSURE TESTING

WATCH BATTERIES

SHOP 12 JUNCTION VILLAGE, KENRICK STREET THE

JUNCTION

PH: 49694278



DAVID MCKAY - WATCHMAKER & JEWELLER



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**Vale Frank Long
1923 - 20th May 2013**

See Making Waves October 2011 for "Frank Long - Oh What a life! "



Frank - 1947

One of the joys of my association with Making Waves is the wonderful people I get the chance to meet and spend some time with. Frank Long was such a person so it was with great sadness that I learned of his untimely death recently.

Frank not only lived an amazing life backing himself to follow his dreams from a relatively young age by today's standards but he surrounded himself with memorabilia from a time gone by that will hopefully be treasured by others as they were by him. They will long stay in my memory as will Frank!

The time I spent with him was full of colourful stories not only of his past but also that of his father for whom he obviously had such a great respect and from whom he obviously inherited some of his adventurous spirit.

After travelling the world for many years, Frank returned to Merewether where his career as a beach inspector began. He was awarded Life membership of Merewether SLSC in 1964 for meritorious service. In 1990 he was recognised by NSW SLSA for 50 years service and he was very proud of a plaque presented to him in appreciation from Central Newcastle Amateur Swimming Club for his contributions over a 22 year period.



Frank Long – August 2011

Frank Long - gone swimming with the dolphins!



The Beast that is Making Waves: *by request*

After a visit to Bondi, Adam Warwick, then the Merewether Lifeguard approached me in May 2010 with a copy of Beast magazine. He suggested that our beaches needed something similar to highlight all the good things that happen in our community and he asked if I would have a go at it.



The Beast is a monthly magazine for the beaches and bays of Sydney's east. It is a very slick presentation – over 100 pages and with a circulation of over 60,000 at last count. While it does have some interesting and relevant stories it is run as a business so is advertising heavy – but I could see some potential for a small, not for profit magazine to celebrate all that is good about our beach area.

I was so naive, as were our early efforts, but people appreciated what we were trying to do. I was very much supported by Kate Handley and Tamba in the early days and together we formed a great team which between us covered the interests of various age groups, interests and activities.

When it actually came to printing the first edition I realised that I couldn't do it on my home printer. As I looked into printing options I received a very big wakeup call as to just what we had taken on. Meanwhile, word was getting round about what we were trying to do and I was approached by Jetset at The Junction, before we even had a newsletter and without them knowing either me, Kate or Tamba, they offered some financial support. I will never forget their faith in what we were trying to do.

With that as a start, there was no going back so for that very first edition in June 2010, I had 200 copies printed at Officeworks. I propping up the excess costs. I knew then that if it was to continue that we would need to have some more sponsorship to help with costs or I was going to be left holding this baby financially.

Seeing that very first edition, Banlaw came on board to assist us with printing. Without that, I doubt that we would still exist. I saw the wisdom of the advice offered by Bill which was to



For enquiries, contributions, advertising or sponsorship
Email: glen_j@optusnet.com.au Mob: 0423 205 242

Welcome to the first edition of "Making Waves"
This newsletter has evolved from a demand for a monthly newsletter for the beaches and the Merewether Junction shopping precinct. The aim is to promote local news, sport and events in a colourful format while embracing the laid-back Australian coastal lifestyle that this area offers and also to provide local business with an affordable advertising medium. Contributions are welcome and should be submitted by the 20th of each month for inclusion in the following issue.

Bill the pigeon spake briefly with our undercover reporter today regarding the rehoming dilemma facing his loft. Many of the pigeons are totally committed and do not know what to do said Bill. I have taken a vote and 120 birds are prepared to move to new premises at Newcastle Post Office, however the majority of the loft wants to stay in Merewether – the only home they know!
Work has begun on a temporary camp at Burwood until a final decision can be reached.
More details in they came to hand.

- Keep it small
- Keep the advertising to a minimum.

I have stayed true to that advice and I know that it is what makes our newsletter different to the rest!

Swell @ Bar Beach came on board for the July 2010 edition as well and like Banlaw they are still supporting us today.

In June 2011 I set up a web site as an access and archive point online. The web page complements the ECopy distribution which extends well beyond our local area to not only the rest of Australia but to the UK, US, Canada, Germany and South Africa that I know of.

Each month as I do the rounds of all our outlets on the beaches and The Junction shopping centre I enjoy the camaraderie from members of our community as they welcome each new edition. For me, the sense of belonging and community I have enjoyed since our humble beginnings have made this project completely worthwhile. What a great way to spend my retirement!

“Congrats Glenis.

Your tireless efforts have been the “Making Waves” catalyst bringing a local insight & understanding of the beach history to so many.

You’re a Merewether champion!” Bill

“This Is Beard Season” catching on at Merewether

In June 2011 Bondi’s Jimmy Niggles and some mates decided they would grow beards in honour of their late friend Was Bonny who died of melanoma in 2009.

Extending through the winter, they dubbed it “Beard Season.”

“Beard Season” not only raises funds for the Melanoma Institute but also aims to encourage Australians to get down to their local skin cancer clinic or visit their GP and get a skin check.

The risk of melanoma is higher in Australia than anywhere else in the world so it just makes sense to go and get your skin checked. It’s relatively cheap, easy and the peace of mind it gives you is priceless. Jimmy says his beard hasn't really affected his life.

" I don't notice it too much day-to-day. I'm a pretty neat eater. Surfing is pretty interesting though as I collect quite a lot of extra water and of course my beard provides some decent sun protection – I don't have to work much zinc."

Merewether's Ralph doing his bit for Beard Season



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beaches cafe

All New Menu

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

With the start of the whale season, the past couple of weeks have seen some spectacular displays by whales and dolphins off Merewether. On June 5, there was a whale approx 300m out and behind and around it there was a huge pod of dolphins swimming and playing around with it. That sight prompts my stories on dolphins.

About a year ago, I was out off Merewether on my paddleboard doing some board training when I noticed a pod of dolphins headed my way. To my surprise, what I saw next was a dolphin at the rear of the pod with a net and a buoy wrapped around it's head sortof caught on it's fin. The dolphins sort of stopped around me. I tried to get closer to the one in trouble. It seemed to stay still. I got to within 3m of it and



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got off my board talking quietly to it “c’mon stay there”. The plan was to get the net off, but being a wild dolphin not used to human touch, he kept moving just out of my reach. It made me sad because I was so close but I couldn’t get the net off and he would probably die because having the buoy on top of it’s head would prevent it from diving properly.

Back in the summer of 1997 when Adam Warwick was just starting out as Merewether lifeguard along side Paul Kirwan, I was out surfing with Adam one day when a pod of dolphins came past us. In the middle of the pod was a rather large dolphin with half its fin missing at approx a 45 degree angle. For the next year or so, sometimes more than once a week I would see that dolphin and could easily recognise him by that damaged fin.

I realised then that dolphins must be territorial staying close to the same area.



A “Stella” day!

Tuesday morning 11th June I was at Juicy Beans ordering my Chai, I had my camera gear and was waiting to photograph the sunrise. George asked me to do a favour, (as he was busy and couldn’t do it), and take a photo of the young couple whose baby was due to be induced that morning as they wanted themselves recorded with the sunrise. We walked down to the shore and I took about 100 shots waiting for the right moment and experimenting with different backgrounds, Mel and Andrew, (a daily Merewether surfer) were due at Newcastle Private at 7.30am. I took my final shot at 6.57 am with enough time for them to enjoy a breakfast of coffee and toasties. Not sure what time a 3.3kg Stella Rose arrived but I have since seen her photo and she is one cute Merewether baby!

By Jenny Robinson

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National Tidal Centre Datum is Lowest Astronomical Tide



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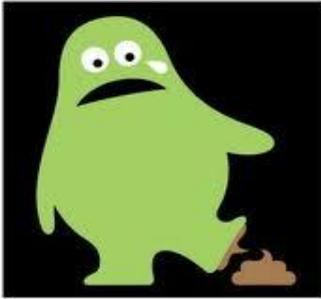
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Image by MBFC



**Please clean up
after your dog.**

Care for your community!

Scientists have made disturbing discoveries showing bacteria levels being so high at some beaches that people have to stay out of the water. One of the culprits that has been found to significantly raise the bacteria levels is dog poop.

It's not just from the nuggets on the beaches, but runoff from stormwater drains after that water has come into contact with the poop. Some of the bacteria harboured in dog poo includes E coli, faecal coliform bacteria, salmonella and giardia.

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A little piece of history for sale

65 Frederick street Merewether – once known as The Racecourse Inn



At one stage, the Racecourse Inn was described as the liveliest pub in Newcastle. A haven for gamblers, bookies, jockeys, race touts and race officials.

As early races were often held along dirt roads, like Lake Road (later Darby Street), it would be tempting to speculate that the horses thundered down present Frederick Street past the

hotel. Most reports, however, pinpoint the actual racecourse being cleared ground just off Frederick Street; in a parallel paddock around Ridge, Pell, Coane and Ranclaud streets.

The Racecourse Inn closed in September 1908 by order of the Local Option Court. In 1930 the Country Women's Association (or CWA) bought the former tavern and converted it into a hostel called the Newcastle Seaside Home. Much later it was owned by the NSW Health Department.

This historic photograph shows a rare glimpse of the old Racecourse Inn in 1885-86 and comes courtesy of the Norm Barney Photographic Collection, held by Cultural Collections at the University of Newcastle.

When this picture was taken, the publican was Henry Ball. For years, Merewether

consisted simply of a railway line and four separate mining hamlets in bushland. They were called The Glebe, The Pottery, The Junction and Racecourse.

The racing name persisted after the racecourse vanished, probably because the prominent old inn survived. After steam tram services were extended to Merewether Beach in 1903, a special tram stop was soon created in nearby Frederick Street in 1907.

the new tram stop was simply called The Racecourse.



A concert not to be forgotten



**Adamstown Uniting Church, Cnr Brunner and Glebe Rd Adamstown, 7.30 pm,
Friday 19th July 2013.**

The local internationally acclaimed Waratah Girls Choir is looking forward to making long term friendships, having fun while blossoming musically through sharing and combining skills with The Australian Girls Choir.

AGC has dazzled audiences around the world with their dynamic, energetic performances. With a unique approach to combining dance with choral music and a founding philosophy like Waratah Girls Choir - that 'every child can learn to sing given encouragement and training'.

Representing Qantas by singing "I still Call Australia Home" in the "Spirit of Australia" advertising campaign would be one of the greatest testaments to AGC's reputation. Most recently members of the AGC were honoured to perform at the official reception for President Barack Obama and Queen Elizabeth II at Parliament House in Canberra.

For further details phone Waratah Girls Choir - Janelle 0423 942 942

A whale out of his depth in Glenrock

King tides can easily break into Glenrock Lagoon, and in 1974 such a tide assisted an unusual visitor. At first light on a Saturday morning, a strange black shape was seen swimming by Mrs S Wiseman.

On the Sunday John Grothven was called in to investigate the sighting but he couldn't find anything. However, on the Monday the black object reappeared but this time it was not swimming. When hauled out onto the bank it was found to be a small 3m whale that had died in the lagoon over those 2 days because the entrance had been sealed up again with sand which had

prevented the whale from returning to the deep water of the sea.

Retold from John Grothven's "The History in and about Glenrock Lagoon"



The whale that lived in the Lagoon for three days.



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Merewether Baths Cleaning Schedule July 2013

11 July	Thursday	12.30 PM	0.6
25 July	Thursday	6.00 AM	0.4



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

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