

# Making Waves



**September 2010**

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

Written contributions to the newsletter and images for our “Shot of the Month” page are welcome and should be submitted by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month for inclusion in the following issue.

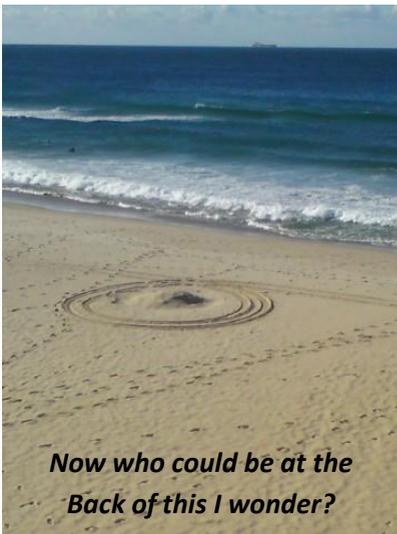
**Enquiries, contributions, club news, advertising, sponsorship, ECopy**

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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.**



*Now who could be at the  
Back of this I wonder?*



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## 'Bitchin' Grannies

The beauty of working in a busy, bustling little coffee shop is you get to see so many people day in day out. You see the mums with their toddlers and prams, you see the business men with their shirts and ties, the surfers, skaters, swimmers, walkers, runners, posers etc. You get to know the stereotypes pretty quickly. You get to know what to expect and what they expect. However, one particularly morning, a slow weekday morning, I was surprisingly faced with someone who did not easily slot into one of my previously named genres. She was in a class of her own.

She presented with not just a sheer, leopard print dress, black three quarter length tights and black strappy sandals, but also accessorised this outfit with ease, displaying a black Mimco bag and several silver 'diva'esque bangles up both wrinkled arms. To top it all off she sported a huge glistening pair of pearl earrings and a black leather jacket, draped loosely around her rounded shoulders.

I am sure from this description the phrase 'mutton dressed as lamb' is springing to mind. But please don't be so quick to judge, the thing that made this woman so striking was that she pulled it off and with ease. There was nothing mutton about it. Just lamb, top quality, top-side, heart smart lamb.

I found myself so completely absorbed by this woman and could not help but stare. She didn't walk, she strutted, she wasn't sucking butter menthols, she was chewing gum and she didn't have a Women's Weekly under her arm to read, she had "Rolling Stone"!

My pondering of the rare and unique characteristics of this woman was abruptly interrupted by her mobile phone ringing. Well I say ringing, but it was more like screaming - ACDC, "You shook me all night long", cranking out like there was no tomorrow.

'How you going mate', she proclaimed. 'Yeah righto sounds good to me, what time should I come over? Too easy, I'll see you then mate.'

I don't know about you, but I can't say I know any seventy year old woman who can capably answer a mobile phone, let alone know how to assign the biggest hit from one of the greatest rock bands of all time as their ring tone. And as far as referring to people as 'mate' well that just seems a little out of left field also.

So this situation and observations of this woman allowed me to begin pondering the characteristics of elderly people and the potential for change that could exist within this age group. What will be the accepted norms of 'grannies' when I enter that age group? When you and I, 'generation Y's' become elderly, how will we behave? At what point will we be able to ditch our mobile phones, our laptops, our music, our emails and our Facebook? I think never!

I can see the stereotypical crocheting, scrabble playing, bowls dress clad granny changing, evolving, developing, adapting and shifting into something more networked, more connected - resourceful, hip, mobile and ultimately 'bitchin'.

## A Good News Story



A recent “clean-up” at Merewether Surf Club uncovered a decrepit old surf ski that used to belong to John Jenkins, a former club Vice President. Club members were going to dispose of the ski when “bowerbird” Ross Blatchford asked if he could “see what he could do with it” - after all it was Jenko’s ski!

Ross won’t admit how many hours he put into the repairs to the old ski, but as it started to take shape it’s potential started to inspire a couple of his mates who offered their services. The finished product is a credit to Ross, the staff at Belmont Smash Repairs and the Cookies

Towing boys. They even researched the Merewether colours on the internet – after all, “Belmont boys” couldn’t be expected to know something like that! It was decided to offer the ski to Johnno Lloyd, this year’s club champion to encourage him in his surfing competition.



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## Sai Stopover

Backpackers

Tip #2

Backpacking has somehow evolved itself into a universal rite of passage for not just Australian youth, but the youth of the world. Travelling across the vast and diverse continent of Europe has opened my eyes to an entity of young travellers from all corners of the globe. To assist my fellow Australians embarking on this similar adventure, I provide the following tip:

**Don't travel alone.** Everyone always glorifies the idea of travelling solo around the world. 'You'll meet so many new people and you'll make so many new friends.' False. Do you think Jessica Watson made any new friends? I don't think so. Your carefully chosen travel buddy is there for a reason. Not only can they point out the little things, like that disgusting brown patch on the back of your singlet that you failed to notice and your jacket that you failed to grab off the last bus, but also it makes going to the bathroom in public a lot easier. You can always pick the solo travellers; they are the ones trying to squeeze their huge twenty kilo pack, day back and duty free alcohol into a tiny cubicle at an airport. And if you think your helpful, pack minding travel buddy is going to prevent you from making new friends, wrong again. After god knows how long travelling with this person, you will be in dire need of new company, which will be very easy to find.



**The Junction Public School**

Celebrating 150 years of quality education  
1860 - 2010



The Junction Public School celebrates 150 years in 2010, and a weekend full of activities is planned for 22-23-24 October, 2010.

- Do you know where the time capsule was buried in 1985?
- What do you remember about your time at TJPS?

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### Meet Jesse

A pop punking tattoo enthusiast who travels the globe dancing on waves

**Favourite Beach:** Merewether – home is where the heart is!

**Favourite Eatery:** Dineaway – “1 schnitzel please Harry”

**Favourite Movie:** “I Love You Man” – best bromance ever!

**Weekend Fun:** Get Magz and ride a tandem bike

**Sporting Team:** Knights

**Favourite Tattooist:** Mitch Resevsky , Newcastle

**Favourite thing about your job:** I travel the world and get to surf everyday

**Quote:** “I should have listened to my friends” – New Found Glory

**Final Word:** Life’s ill!



4 September 2010 - Major Semifinal

5 September 2010 - Minor Semifinal

11 September 2010 - Final

18 September 2010 - Grand Final



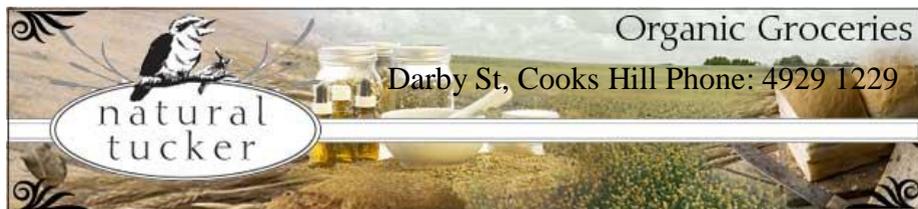
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DIXON PARK SURF CLUB  
M: 0428 676 407 · E: [fitnosis@bigpond.com](mailto:fitnosis@bigpond.com)

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### Merewether Baths Cleaning Schedule –September 2010

02.09.10	Thursday	4.30am	0.6
09.09.10	Thursday	10.30am	0.1
16.09.10	Thursday	4.30am	0.6
23.09.10	Thursday	10.00am	0.3

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

### Tide Chart SEPTEMBER 2010

LAT 32° 56'		LONG 151° 47'		TIME ZONE UTC +10HRS		
TIMES AND HEIGHTS OF HIGH AND LOW WATERS						
Denotes Public Holidays						
SUN. TIME M	MON. TIME M	TUES. TIME M	WED. TIME M	THURS. TIME M	FRI. TIME M	SAT. TIME M
			<b>1</b> 0030 1.19 0622 0.59 1310 1.50 1951 0.64	<b>2</b> 0138 1.12 0720 0.64 1415 1.51 2111 0.61	<b>3</b> 0303 1.11 0834 0.65 1526 1.56 2225 0.52	<b>4</b> 0422 1.16 0950 0.61 1633 1.66 2325 0.39
<b>5</b> 0526 1.26 1057 0.52 1731 1.78	<b>6</b> 0015 0.27 0618 1.38 1156 0.41 1825 1.88	<b>7</b> 0100 0.17 0707 1.51 1251 0.31 1915 1.93	<b>8</b> 0144 0.10 0755 1.62 1345 0.24 2004 1.93	<b>9</b> 0226 0.08 0841 1.72 1438 0.21 2054 1.86	<b>10</b> 0308 0.11 0928 1.78 1533 0.22 2144 1.73	<b>11</b> 0350 0.19 1015 1.80 1630 0.27 2234 1.58
<b>12</b> 0433 0.30 1103 1.78 1728 0.34 2327 1.41	<b>13</b> 0517 0.42 1153 1.72 1830 0.43	<b>14</b> 0023 1.25 0605 0.54 1246 1.64 1939 0.51	<b>15</b> 0128 1.14 0700 0.64 1347 1.56 2052 0.56	<b>16</b> 0245 1.09 0805 0.71 1456 1.51 2203 0.56	<b>17</b> 0403 1.11 0918 0.72 1604 1.49 2301 0.53	<b>18</b> 0503 1.18 1027 0.69 1702 1.51 2346 0.49
<b>19</b> 0549 1.25 1124 0.63 1749 1.55	<b>20</b> 0024 0.44 0629 1.33 1211 0.57 1830 1.57	<b>21</b> 0057 0.39 0704 1.41 1252 0.51 1907 1.59	<b>22</b> 0127 0.36 0737 1.47 1330 0.47 1941 1.59	<b>23</b> 0155 0.34 0809 1.53 1405 0.44 2015 1.57	<b>24</b> 0222 0.35 0840 1.59 1442 0.42 2048 1.52	<b>25</b> 0251 0.36 0912 1.62 1520 0.41 2124 1.47
<b>26</b> 0321 0.40 0945 1.64 1600 0.43 2201 1.40	<b>27</b> 0352 0.45 1022 1.64 1643 0.46 2242 1.32	<b>28</b> 0427 0.50 1100 1.62 1730 0.49 2327 1.24	<b>29</b> 0507 0.57 1145 1.59 1826 0.53	<b>30</b> 0022 1.17 0557 0.63 1240 1.56 1932 0.54	<b>Newcastle Lawnmowing &amp; Landscape Maintenance</b> Mark Paisley Greenkeeper/Horticulturalist Domestic & Commercial 0402 431 222 Ph/Fax: 49 621582 mhpaisley@bigpond.com	

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<b>MONDAYS</b>	<b>Steak Night – \$12.90</b>
<b>TUESDAYS</b>	<b>Pasta - \$9.90 and Pool Comp</b>
<b>WEDNESDAYS</b>	<b>Schnitzel Night - \$9.90 and Trivia</b>
<b>THURSDAYS</b>	<b>Mexican Fiesta Fun - \$9.90 and Original Soloists Corona Promotion - \$4.90</b>
<b>SUNDAYS</b>	<b>4 – 7PM UDL Promotion - \$5</b>
<b>FRIDAY to SUNDAY Newcastle's Best Live Entertainment</b>	

## A day in September

Thursday, 5 September, 1991

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.

It started as a normal day. I went to work as a painter with my brother and after work went for a surf at Merewether. As I was coming out of the water, I stopped and had a long chat with Scott Mason who was going out for a ski paddle. We chatted about the great night he had had the previous night. Scott was a state champion surf swimmer, an accomplished ironman and well loved larrikin. He was also a proficient surf ski paddler who loved the big waves.

Not long after, I arrived home in The Junction I heard on the radio that a young ironman champion from Merewether had been found unconscious in the surf near Dixon Park and I instinctively knew it was Scotty, as I had watched him paddle off in that direction – and I knew that he had “blacked out” in the surf 5 years previously. The 1st time he was fortunately rescued by another local champion surfer- Sean Davis. Ironically enough it was again Sean Davis who was on the beach this day and he realised that Scott was on his ski 1 minute and not there the next – and it was again Sean who brought Scott back to shore.

We lost a great waterman that day – an all round top bloke. A 19 year old whose life was so full of potential.

**RIP Scotty**

*We thank Scott's parents Bob and Del for their permission to tell Scott's story and so keep his memory alive.*

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## The Rats of Merewether (with apologies to A. B. Patterson)

There was movement on the beachfront and the word soon passed around

That the native rats of Merewether were on the move,

They were moving to the surf club, having lost their seaside home,

And the wardens of the beach gathered to the fray.

The rats are claimed to be descended from a noble line long since thought  
nonexstant

They had mustered at the surf club one night in June.

Members of the surf club took the challenge where the native rats were foe

And the pigeons watched the battle with delight.

And fast the clubmen baited, where the rats left teeth marks gouged and deep

And other signs to mark where they had tread.

Resounding to the rally call the club members gathered, and they swiftly  
answered back

As from near and far they left their homes and beds.

And onward ever onward, the surf rats held their line

Where boards and skis were stored.

And old men muttered wisely "All will be gnawed and wasted,

No baits can hold them down and stem the tide."



Now down by Merewether, where the beachside haze

Reveals worn and rugged battlements on high,

Where the air is clear as crystal, and the white stars fairly blaze

At midnight in the cold and frosty sky,

And where around "The Overflow" the seagulls sweep and sway

To the breezes, and the rolling waves are wide,

The native rats of Merewether will be legend

As the clubbies tell the story of the fight.

**John Earle – Oceanscapes Art Exhibition**

**22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2010**

**Information:**

**Juliet Clark M: 0411 744041 E: [julietclark@optusnet.com.au](mailto:julietclark@optusnet.com.au)**

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## "CREATIVE ENERGY"

Hamilton South artist, Sophie Mill has been invited to exhibit at the "Estense Castle" Italy. 3 of her works were chosen by a board of Art Directors, Art Curators and Gallery owners. She will now be represented by the International Art Group as well as Pymble Gallery and Moree Gallery. Sophie opens her studio/gallery on the last Sunday of every month for people to wander through and view her new works for 2010.

Sophie also opens her studio the last Friday of every month for Contemporary Art Classes with gourmet lunch and fine wines personally selected by Robyn Drayton of Robyn Drayton wines. Over a beautifully set table she will discuss what it means to be an artist today; what contemporary art is and how to put paint on the canvas. The class of (7 or 8) then paint with her art direction, as a process rather than product in mind. It is an arty, chic and enjoyable day.

***For more information: Ph: 4962 5547 or [www.sophiemill.com.au](http://www.sophiemill.com.au)***

Sunrise images by Jenni



And Dan

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## Did you know? Cottage Creek Stormwater System

This little snippet in the "Topics Today" column of the July 18, 2010 Newcastle Herald caught my interest particularly in light of the problems encountered by the drainage systems in the Merewether area in the June 2007 storm events:

***"From our files – 1913***

***Representatives of Newcastle, Hamilton, Merewether and Adamstown councils met last evening to devise a scheme to deal with water arising in Merewether and emptying into Cottage Creek."***

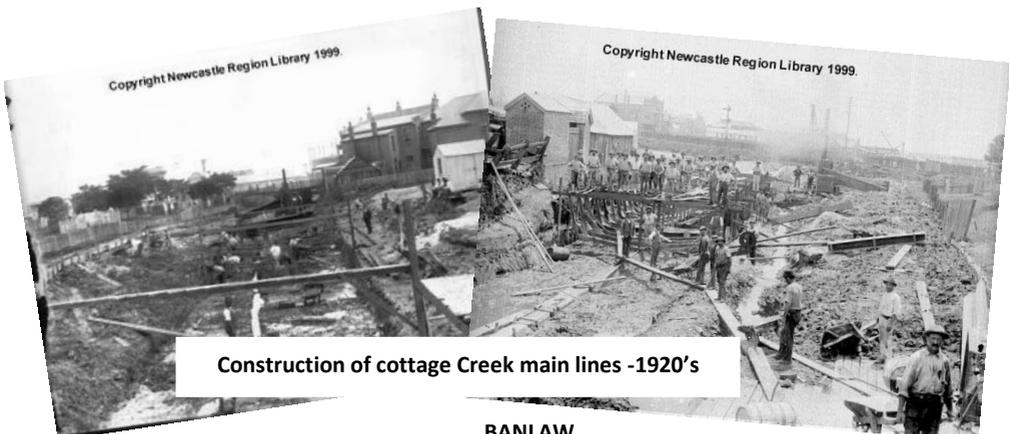
Cottage Creek is the waterway that flows through the inner city suburbs of Newcastle. This system is mainly open, with concrete sections up to 12.3 metres wide. Construction on this man – made "creek" began in 1888, and was designed to carry combined roof runoff, sewerage and grey-water. Its total length, including branches, is 18.6 kilometres.

Around the turn of the century the residential development was quite rapid and in conjunction with a 'wet period' left newly urbanised areas frequently underwater and in a quite unsanitary condition. The population of Newcastle at that time was about 90,000 people.

Consequently in 1925 construction began on the extension and widening of the Cottage Creek drainage system. New channels were created through National Park with branches to Merewether, Hamilton South, Merewether East and The Junction.

A Stormwater Management Plan Statement of Commitment was agreed and signed between Hunter Water Corporation, Hunter-Central Rivers Catchment Management Authority (CMA) (at the time known as Hunter Catchment Management Trust) and Newcastle City Council in 2000 demonstrating commitment to the sustainable management of the catchments and waterways in the City. The population of the city had grown to 137,000 by this time.

Today, Cottage Creek is an important asset, providing a range of recreational and functional values to the City as it winds through our suburban landscape. Residents, local businesses and schools can create a better future for Cottage Creek by raising awareness of catchment issues, promoting 'creek-friendly' actions and installing devices to capture litter at source.



**Construction of cottage Creek main lines -1920's**

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**Madam  
Susie Sparkles  
September  
Astrology Guide  
(with a *Beatle- esque* theme this month)**



	<b>Virgo</b> August 24 – September 23 Lucy in the sky with diamonds. It feels as though this month there is a guardian angel over head. Luck is on your side this month and expect to have a win or some financial gain.
	<b>Libra</b> September 24 – October 23 Let it be, let it be. You have spent too much of this year, focused around trying to achieve your long term goals. Just relax and let fate take its course. Let it be.
	<b>Scorpio</b> October 24 – November 22 I want to hold your hand. In recent weeks, there has been a work colleague taking your fancy. Don't hold back on these feelings and desires, whatever is in your heart, show it.
	<b>Sagittarius</b> November 23 – December 22 Look at all the lonely people. The moon shining in your sign this month is giving you the power to make a difference in someone's life. Remember it's the little things that matter.
	<b>Capricorn</b> December 23 – January 20 Across the universe there are many changes which are affecting your sign. Be sure to <u>only take the advice of those close to you so nothing's gonna change your world.</u>
	<b>Aquarius</b> January 21 – February 19 I'd like to be, under the sea in an octopus's garden in the shade. Wouldn't we all. Unfortunately your imagination is getting in the way of hard work again. Stay focused.
	<b>Pisces</b> February 20th – March 20 <sup>th</sup> Here comes the sun. After weeks of rain the clouds finally part and you finally have some clarity on a niggling issue that has had you stressed out for weeks now.
	<b>Aries</b> March 21 to April 19 It's been a hard day's night and you've been working like a dog. You usually put your work before socialising, but not this month as September approaches so does a sudden desire to party.
	<b>Taurus</b> April 21 – May 20 We all get by with a little help from our friends. Mars in your sign this month is going to bring stress on your work or family life. Always remember your friends are there to help.
	<b>Gemini</b> May 21 – June 21 Yesterday, all your troubles seemed so far away. Now it looks as though they're here to stay. Unfortunately, with Venus in your sign they will be, September sees some tough times ahead.
	<b>Cancer</b> June 22 – July 23 Imagine all the people, living in harmony. This is your month to use your down to earth and loving nature to start to repair some broken relationships in your life.
	<b>Leo</b> July 24 – August 23 You say you want a revolution, well you know, we all want to change the world. September is the month to start Leos, a project you are involved with is slowly starting to make a difference.

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