

Bouddi News

Summer 2006

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The Bouddi Society Inc, Killcare Wagstaffe Trust Inc, MacMasters Beach Progress Association Inc, Pretty Beach & Wagstaffe Progress Association Inc.

BOUDDI SOCIETY Annual Meeting

The Bouddi Society Annual General Meeting and Quarterly Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, 7th February commencing at 7.00pm in Wagstaffe Hall**. A new committee will be formed as a couple of positions are available. Members of the Bouddi Society are encouraged to attend to support this very worthwhile group devoted to promoting cultural and environmental activities on the Peninsula. President Phil Donnelly adds: "The Bouddi Society is a cultural group which organises events to raise money for local charities. It has proved very successful with presentations by our rich resources of local personalities. We emphasise creative activity in the arts, writing and discussion that help to enrich our awareness of the beautiful place in which we live and to 'celebrate time, place and community'.

Membership for 2006 is now due. Membership fee is \$8 for families and \$5 individuals. To renew or join as a new member fill in the form below. Membership entitles you to a 20% discount on Bouddi Society events and publications. Those people who joined at the end of 2005 are current members to the end of 2006.

FIRE DANGER

The **Killcare Volunteer Fire Brigade** did a great job in helping to fight the New Year fires which swept through parts of Kariong, Phegans Bay, Umina Heights, Woy Woy Bay and the Brisbane Water National Park destroying property and bushland. The fires did not reach the Bouddi Peninsula but the Brigade's captain, Max Breckenridge, says the danger is always there and while residents in the area generally are very co-operative and diligent about maintaining their properties to minimise the risk of fire damage, more could still be done. Cleaning gutters regularly is important as is removal of flammable material around homes.

The Brigade has been carrying out an extensive programme of backburning which Mr Breckenridge says is an essential activity in fire prevention and control. Unfortunately he says the Brigade encounters occasional problems with residents reluctant to give them access to or through their properties for backburning. Prompt agreement from residents is important to getting access particularly so the Brigade can take advantage of favourable weather conditions as they occur.

'THE STORE'

From the Killcare Wagstaffe Trust Newsletter:

Surprisingly, some locals do not know what you mean when you say 'Maitland Bay' (not meaning the beach itself) or 'The Store'.

This former cottage and, later on, shop, was sold to the National Parks and Wildlife Service circa 1970 and for a while became an official residence. It fell into disuse but in 1990 became the NWPS Bouddi National Park Maitland Bay Information Centre, staffed by volunteers (mostly from the Trust) for about 4 hours at weekends and on holidays. It is listed as one of Gosford's Heritage Items. In 2005 20 volunteers were rostered. Stand-by volunteers would be welcome. Please contact Grahame Morgan (4360 2178).

The pamphlet *History of 'The Store' from Devonshire Teas to Information Centre*, written by Beryl Strom in 1997, is currently being revised. Does anyone have photos of this building in the past? Please contact Jeannette Thiering (4342 1316) or Grahame Morgan.



MOVIE CLASSICS at Wagstaffe Hall

Tuesday, March 14 at 7:30 p.m.

"The Red Shoes"



Made in 1948 and starring Moira Shearer, **The Red Shoes** won Oscars for its production design and music score. It is widely regarded as a classic with its dance sequences inspiring Gene Kelly to make *An American in Paris* and its themes influencing a variety of producers directors and artists over many years.

Entrance \$10.00 Bouddi Society Members \$8.00

Proceeds to the Central Coast Red Cross

To **The Treasurer, The Bouddi Society**, PO Box 4081, Wagstaffe NSW 2257

I/We wish to renew/join as a member of the Bouddi Society as an individual/family member for the calendar year 2006.

Enclosed is a cheque for \$.....

Preferred first name/s Surname

Address

Telephone Email

Jean May Myer

On 4 December Killcare lost one of its oldest identities when Jean passed away. She had lived with her husband Bert in the same house in Blythe Street since their marriage on 24 October, 1942 at St. David's Presbyterian Church Blackwall.



Bert & Jean

She was the only child of William (Jack) and Dolly Annand and was born at Annandale on 26 July, 1921. The Annand family has had a long association with the area and her family started holidaying at Pretty Beach prior to World War I. They moved to Heath Road permanently in 1936 and Jean lived in the area for the rest of her life.

Jean started work at the Killcare Store with Bill and Jean Eason and had to weigh out the sugar, butter, tea etc. Bert was a dairy farmer and sold his milk to the Store and she used to make the good old-fashioned milkshakes and that is how they met.

Bert's brother Ted took them over to the wedding in the "Picture Ferry" and made a special return trip so that Bert could get home to milk the cows.

Jean helped Bert wherever possible with his dairy and vegetable growing and ran the accounts. She was very adept at keeping accounts and assisted many others in the area.

She had a great sense of humour and was a most compassionate person. She assisted quite a number of young people by providing accommodation, meals, clothing etc. during difficult times. In fact she and Bert were regarded as their "aunt and uncle" and lifelong friendships were forged.

Amongst her many talents she was a magnificent cake decorator and many local wedding cakes were iced by her and much admired. She was also an accomplished sewer, knitter, dressmaker and crocheter and was always making things for the local children.

Apart from the normal domestic duties of a wife of her time Jean was very involved in local activities. She helped to raise funds for the Wagstaffe Hall and she and Bert were very much involved in setting up the "Nostalgia Day" in 1995, which was the precursor to the Australia Day Flag Raising Ceremony we enjoy today. She was very active in Neighbourhood Watch and she and Bert were great proponents of preserving the historical identity of the area.

She loved dancing but it came second to fishing when the "tide was right". She caught a 13 pound flathead in Rileys Bay and it held the record for some time. Below the photo for the disbelievers. She also loved birds and animals and they knew that they would always be well fed at the Myers.

She was a humble, compassionate charming lady who never sought praise for the things she did for others. It can be truly said that there was never a minute in her life that she did not put to good use.

Jean was a wonderful, much loved lady who will be missed very much by all who knew her.

Over 60 people came from near and far to attend a Memorial Service conducted by Frank Keogh at the Hardys Bay Community Church on 14 December and a number spoke in glowing terms about her and how much she had meant to them during their lives. The above is an edited extract from the eulogy given by long time friend Kel Gulliver at the Service.



THE Flathead

Reflections

'Reflections from the Beach and the Bays' stories told by residents of the Bouddi Peninsula, can be bought at the Wagstaffe General Store and at the Maitland Bay Store, priced at \$15.00. If you want to know the history of the peninsula, this little book will introduce you to some of the people and history of this special place since its earliest days.

'Stall' & Blackie

Jill Baxter, compiler of "Reflections from the Beach and the Bays", writes:

The Killcare-Wagstaffe peninsula lost one of its characters recently when 'Stall' died. On December 22nd, a wake was held under the Yum Yum tree at Hardys Bay, to celebrate his life and where, I understand, Stall's ashes were scattered into the water at the end of the jetty.

Mr Stolling, as I knew him, was a man who seemed to live a solitary life in Killcare. However, he had a constant companion in his black Labrador, which accompanied him wherever he went. 'Blackie' was probably as old as his partner, they walked at the same speed, they were always together. They were often seen, beneath the Yum Yum tree at Hardys Bay, sharing the company of the working men who gathered there for a drink at the end of the day. For some time Mr Stolling lived on an old yacht at Pretty Beach. Blackie had his home on shore, beneath an old boat, which Mr. Stolling had set up to give him shelter and warmth.

He was a shy man. When locals were being asked to take part in the taped interviews for **Reflections From the Beach and the Bays**, he refused to be interviewed. However, he was very interested in the production of the book, and when it was launched, in 2000, in the community church hall, he was in the front row of the audience of about 100 residents, proudly holding up his copy.

Blackie died a few years back, and somehow, it seemed to me that Mr. Stolling had lost more than a great friend. He had told me how he had rescued Blackie, when he was abandoned many years before. The death of the dog, which, like his master, was no longer young when I met him, must have been a great loss. Somehow, Mr Stolling looked lonely, without that faithful black shadow accompanying him. "Stall" told me that he hoped to acquire a large stone 'memorial,' which he planned to place along the dog walk, in memory of all the dogs, which had lived at Killcare. I hope that Blackie and his master are together again now.