



Bulletin 45 of 22nd of June 2023

Fingal Bay Community Association - Heather Noonan



Heather is a long term resident of Fingal Bay having lived in the area for 32 years. The impetus to start a community association started with her desire to improve some of the facilities in Fingal Bay which she noted lacked behind other parts of the Bay area. Things do not happen overnight, but persistence has been the key to the great work done in the last 9 months.

The popularity of Fingal is not disputed, and several photos with the beach covered with people and shelters in summer were shown.



In Nov 21 Heather met with council to discuss some of the problems apparent. In Feb 22, after a council representative visited Fingal it was also discovered that no maintenance scheduled was in place for Fingal facilities and there was no money available for this or any improvements.

A significant moment occurred when a meeting was organised on the foreshore on the 5th of May 22 initially as a working project, but during an election period representatives of liberal and labour parties and other council and local officials all turned up. It then was followed by front page article in the local paper with the headline "Forgotten Fingal"

This led to formation of Fingal Bay Community Association with seven members and Heather as president of the group.

In Nov 22 a significant meeting with CEO of council, mayor, heads of depts in council got together with a positive outlook to see what improvements could be made. The Fingal Group is organising regular working bees. An old unsatisfactory fence is gradually being replaced. A new bike rack has been provided. The group is applying for grants but can only access certain ones due the fact that the area is crown land, a grant to eradicate noxious weeds is on the list. The stairs to the beach are being fixed which previously were rough and overgrown. There are picnic tables in the area which have been painted, some will be replaced, and also a grant to provide shelters over them has been given. There is a plan to provide a walk way from Barry Park to Tuna Crescent, or at least level the path. Heather and her group have achieved a lot in a short time, for an area which sees a lot of activity.

New Restaurant Arrangements

The current catering group is being replaced at the Bowling Club with the new arrangements commencing in the new financial year. We are away from the club for 2 weeks but when we return this should be active. The new bistro will be called "Fin & Scales" and there will be a burger bar downstairs open 3 days a week which we might also use. Further details will become clear when we next meet at the club.

Meals to be ordered in Bistro prior to meeting commencement.
Meeting fee is \$5 to be paid at the door.

In this Bulletin:

1. Fingal Bay Community Association - improving Fingal
2. Hospital Garden & other announcements

Details for week following our next weeks meeting

Birthdays

None this week

Anniversaries

Henk & Anjes Tobbe on 8th of July

Heads & Tails: Ella Clark

Raffle: Richard Turner
(Popular Winner apparently?)
No joker so jackpot is \$290 next time

Next meeting Club Changeover

This night will be held on Thursday 29th of June at Landmark Resort Restaurant. Tickets should have been paid and details of menu choices to Lesley please.

Other Dates:

Our first meeting after the Changeover will not be at the Bowling Club

6th of July Meeting at Home of Warwick Mathieson in the back Shed. BBQ and building advice.

31 August: Science Discovery Day at Tomaree HS

Volunteers Needed

NSW State Finals of the Newcastle University Science and Engineering Challenge. Volunteers can assist on any of the days, August 22, 23, and/or 24. Please let Lesley know at Lfreeman@internode.on.net ASAP if you can assist.

Hospital Garden report

THIS WEEK'S GARDEN REPORT

It was a week in which a lot of progress was made. On Monday our Project Managers, Doug Craike, Warwick and Geoff Diemar met to review the site and to discuss the next steps.

On Tuesday Warwick arrived with a "Dingo" a small earth moving machine to move a truckload of soil up to the garden boxes and the garden area. Thanks to 4 Hire at Taylors Beach who provided this free to Rotary.

Despite the cool weather, Geoff, Doug, Chris, President Don, and former club treasurer Milton Williams, worked hard until early afternoon spreading soil and filling the raised garden boxes. I am told it was about 8 m³

On Wednesday morning, Warwick, Doug, Geoff, Don, & Chris placed the seating on the brick bases to complete the installation of them. The seats made by Warwick look terrific. A huge thank you to Warwick for all the time spent making the seats. You can see the seats work well in the central picture.

What's Happening next....

Next week, the water features will be picked up from Maitland, work on the sprinkler and watering system will commence, plus the ordering of gardening supplies (mulch etc)

The final delivery of plants is coming 21st and 22nd of July with landscaper Megan in charge to supervise their placement.

For all members volunteer options will be available. There will be gardening tasks, painting concrete, raking soil to remove rocks, and general tasks planting and other gardening work. Once the garden is complete, volunteers will be able to assist in planning the opening of the garden in September. The Garden is going to be opened by Ms Meryl Swanson MP on 23rd of September, subject to all arrangements coming together.



Photos from work this week at the Tomaree Hospital Reflective Garden. Information and Photos were supplied by Chris Bartlett.

An interesting 3 minute talk in Photos By Lesley

Lesley decided to make her 3 minute talk this week in the format of a photo presentation. Lesley is a volunteer at PS Koala Rescue and has had some great interactions with the koalas there. The pictures for her talk came from one special time where Chloe decided she wanted to be in pictures and came down to show off her poses.



One last night for Don as President before he hands over to Ella.

Changeover Dinner

Date: Thursday 29th of June

Where: Landmark restaurant.

Time: 6.00 for 6.30 as normal

Cost: \$45 a head

There should be about 30+ attendees on the night. Area Governor Colin Easter is coming to our night as the DGs representative.

Science and Engineering Discovery Day for Primary Students -31st of August

This day is definitely going ahead with 7 teams confirmed entries on the day.

To be held at Tomaree Multipurpose Centre. Volunteers will be needed to supervise, and all are welcome to observe the proceedings of an interesting day.