

If you have mislaid your copy of the DVD or you are newly arrived in our area and don't have a copy, please call Don Jones on 6239 1155, Terry Gill on 6239 1124 or Garry Sullivan on 6239 1245 to get a copy. It's essential viewing for residents in a potential bushfire area like ours.

In addition, with this newsletter, you will receive a Bushfire Checklist fridge magnet to help you to prepare.

**Fire Permits – The Rules Have Changed!!**

Also included with this issue of the Community Newsletter, is a supplement dealing with permits. Please read it and retain it for future reference.

**Fire Brigade Christmas Eve Children's Lolly Run**

Girls and boys, we hope you enjoyed the lolly run again this year. To all the grown ups, thank you for your expressions of support, as we drove around on Christmas Eve.

We would like to thank all those who have donated to the "lolly pool" by contributing to the collection box at the Fern Tree Store.

In addition, thanks also to other "lolly donors," including Coles Sandy Bay, Chickenfeed Sandy Bay, and Woolworths Sandy Bay.

**Local Fire Brigade Members' Service Recognised**

Recently, committee members from the Fern Tree Community Association and the Ridgeway Progress Association joined Fern Tree Fire Brigade members and their partners, and senior officers of the Tasmania Fire Service, at an awards presentation parade at the Fern Tree Fire Station.

The awards made included:-

**National Medal clasp, for 45 yrs. diligent service in the ADF & Fire Service**

Brigade Chief Don Jones

**National Medal, for 15 yrs. diligent service in the Fire Service**

FF Matthew Fishwick

**TFS Volunteer Medal, for diligent service with integrity in the TFS**

L/FF David Hart & FF Chris Wagstaff

**TFS Long Service Badge**

Brigade Chief Don Jones (35 yrs.), 2nd Officer Terry Gill (30 yrs.), FF Nick Barta (15 yrs.), L/FF David Hart, FF Peter Scott & FF Damien Jones (10 yrs.).

**From everyone at your local brigade, have a safe and prosperous New Year.**

# Fern Tree Community Association Inc. **Newsletter**

January 2008

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## It's Fern Tree's **BIG DAY OUT**

A chance to meet your neighbours



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Sunday 17 February 2008

4pm-6pm

**Keep this date free!**

THANKS to Duncan Kerr MHR for assistance in the printing of this Community Newsletter.

Fern Tree Community Association Inc., 8 Stephenson Place, Fern Tree. GST Registered. ABN 88 577 475 907. The Fern Tree Community Association is a non-profit group set up to serve and represent the community of Fern Tree. Meetings open to all residents elect a committee each year to conduct the Association's business.

Address all correspondence to: *The Secretary, Fern Tree Community Association, 8 Stephenson Place, Fern Tree 7054* or email <secretary@ferntree.org.au>. **Find us on the Web** at [www.ferntree.org.au](http://www.ferntree.org.au)

# Fern Tree's BIG DAY OUT

## BE A HOST

The FTCA will organize several 'Garden Parties' on Sunday February 17 with the aim of encouraging residents to meet their neighbours. If you would like to host one of these you will need to have the capacity to have up to 30 or 40 guests in your garden and/or house. You, as host, will provide the venue and ambience. You will distribute the invitations (provided by the FTCA) in your area (allocated by the FTCA) and take responses. Your guests will bring food drinks, glasses and chairs.

**If you are interested in being a host, please ring Barbara Tassell, 62391407 for details.**

## BE A GUEST

To be a guest reply to the invitation that will be delivered to residents within the Fern Tree boundary - between Jackson's Bend and Menuggana Road.

# The Springs Zone Masterplan

The Wellington Park Management Trust has published the draft Springs Zone Masterplan and will accept public comment until 5.00 pm on Tuesday 12 February. It can be downloaded from the WPMT website at [www.wellingtonpark.tas.gov.au](http://www.wellingtonpark.tas.gov.au) or can be obtained on CD or in hard copy from the HCC Office (at a cost of \$10).

In recent years, a small dedicated group of Fern Tree residents has done detailed research into the possible impacts of developments on Mount Wellington and at the Springs site; their research has made a significant contribution to the debate and to the current Draft Master Plan.

On Monday 21 February, four members of the FTCA committee attended an information session at the Town Hall, at which the consultants to the WPMT outlined the Master Plan and in particular illustrated an alternative proposal for the location of the proposed Visitor Center to be built at the Springs. We were satisfied that the alternative proposal has considerable advantages over the already approved original proposal, and noted that both the WPMT and the developer, Sultan Holdings support the change. We were also assured that cost-free amenities traditionally enjoyed by the public, and by Fern Tree residents in particular, will remain available.

The FTCA will be making a submission supporting the proposed relocation of the Visitor Centre, (illustrated in the Masterplan Document), and will continue to press for a comprehensive hydrological study of the area to be carried out, one of the key concerns of those present and past community members who have put in so much time and effort over the last ten or more years.

All residents are entitled to make an individual submission, however, should any member of the community wish to make further comment to the Fern Tree Community Association, they are asked to do so before the end of January, to allow time for their views to be included in the FTCA submission.

Comments may be left in the **FTCA letterbox**  
**8 Stephenson Place**  
**Fern Tree**  
**or emailed to**  
**[ftca@ferntree.org.au](mailto:ftca@ferntree.org.au)**

## Climate Change

Peter Boyer's work as a volunteer presenter for Al Gore's Climate Project (Australia) has grown faster than our carbon emissions. Since he first started he's spoken to 77 groups comprising well over 3000 people, and the work shows no sign of stopping. Peter and another 2006 trainee have been joined by three more personally trained by Al Gore last year, but the demand for informa-

tion continues to rise.

During last year Peter met a number of political figures including the Premier, and is hoping this year will see significant developments in Tasmania's climate strategy. He's also started up a column in Tuesday's Mercury. Buy a copy and double the circulation!

## Fern Tree Fire Brigade News

[www.fire.tas.gov.au](http://www.fire.tas.gov.au)

### Preparing Your Home for the Summer

Following a relatively dry winter and spring in our area, by now you should have made your most precious asset, your home, ready for summer. The aim is to make it defensible by you and your family and if needs be, by the Fire Service, by doing all those necessary house-keeping jobs in and around the home.

Don't be a property that the Fire Service may have to identify as being un-defendable or too risky to commit a fire crew to defend.

The bottom line is, you need to have a plan for what you will do when a bushfire threatens, either **"Prepare, Stay and Defend or Leave Early"**.

To make sure you cover everything, it's time to replay the Tasmania Fire Service DVD "Bushfire-Prepare to Survive" delivered to your home before Summer last year.