

## Politicians need to feel the heat on climate

It's been a glorious autumn in Fern Tree, and winter's been shaping up pretty much the same. Great days for walking the Pipeline Track. Plenty of sunshine, not too many dull, cold days, none of those week-long rainy periods that now seem to be a thing of the past. And no snow...

So the million-dollar question is this: Are we talking here about weather, or is it really about the climate? It's certainly dry this year, and has been for quite a few, but we've had dry times before and there's still a reasonable chance that this winter will turn out more wet than dry.

But what we do know is that much of Tasmania – a strip running from the mid-North West Coast through the northern and central Midlands and through to the central East Coast – had its driest two years on record up to December 2007, and that rainfall in most populated centres including Hobart (and Fern Tree) was close to the lowest ever.

This scenario is very close to the projections of the only detailed climate modelling so far done for Tasmania – a 2005 CSIRO project for Hydro Tasmania that indicated the years to 2040 would see warmer, windier and drier conditions in the populated parts of the State.

Further afield we've seen Arctic sea ice disappearing at an alarming rate. Two years ago it was believed that multi-year

ice in the Arctic might disappear as soon as (alarm bells) 2020. Last year's rapid melting saw this brought forward to 2013. Now it's thought that this ice cover, which has been around long enough for the polar bear to evolve into an ice hunter, will be gone by midsummer 2009 – and possibly this summer, 2008. In the meantime, global greenhouse gas emissions are running well above what was regarded a couple of years ago as a "worst-case" scenario.

It's these kinds of trends that are putting a touch of desperation into the efforts of Climate Project presenters and others around Australia, concerned at the apparent inability of governments to pick up on public concerns. We're now focused on getting the message across to politicians and bureaucrats that action on climate needs to start now – that is, June 2008. If you want to have your say, don't hesitate to write to the editor, or your local MP. We need them to understand that climate change is their number one priority.

We're still available to talk with community, professional and other groups, at no charge, about dangerous climate change and what we can do. Book with Sustainable Living Tasmania, tel. 6234 5566 or email [info@sustainablelivingtasmania.org.au](mailto:info@sustainablelivingtasmania.org.au), or call me on 6239 1181.

— *Peter Boyer, volunteer presenter, the Climate Project (Australia)*

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](mailto:secretary@ferntree.org.au). Find us on the Web at [www.ferntree.org.au](http://www.ferntree.org.au)

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

June 2008

## JULY POT LUCK DINNER!

Have an enjoyable night in Fern Tree with good food and some fun activities!



**Saturday 12th July 2008, at 7pm for 7.30 start  
at Fern Tree Community Centre**

**BOOKINGS are ESSENTIAL for catering purposes**

\$15 per person if you bring a main course or dessert for 6-8  
(Couples may share in providing this, but we need to know which course you are bringing)

OR

\$30 per person if you choose not to provide food.

BYO drinks - tea / coffee provided

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL by Friday 7th July - list at the FERN TREE STORE**

Call at the FERN TREE STORE, or ring 62391406

**Make up a party beforehand or on the night.**

FTCA Committee for 2008

- President**  
Bruce Wilson 6239 1028
- Vice President**  
Una Harbinson 6239 1206
- Treasurer**  
Dave Roberts 6239 1163
- Secretary**  
Rebecca Johnson 6239 1962
- Committee members**  
John Harbinson (Community Centre Liaison Officer) 6239 1206  
Jeff Keogh 6239 1190  
Prue Quarmby 6239 1426  
0409 391 426  
David Hay 6239 1785  
Gay & Len Spaans 6239 1665  
0417 072 902  
Barbara Tassell 6239 1407
- Public officer**  
Dave Roberts 6239 1163

**Summary of your association's activities in the last 12 months**

*Social events and fundraisers*

Ausmas dinner, Annual Quiz Night, Election Day cake stall, 20th Carols by Candlelight, Inaugural 'Big Day Out', Illustrated talk on Climate Change, Illustrated talk on The '67 bushfires in Fern Tree.

*Submissions meetings/correspondence*

Planning at the Springs site, HCC Dog Management Plan, HCC Council-Community consultation

For a fast friendly quote



**Southern Excavations & Tree Felling Services**

**BRIAN MONKS**

- Experienced Owner/Operator
- Fully Licensed & Insured
- Lopping & Felling of Trees
- All Types of Excavation Work

Tel 6239 1880 after 6pm  
Mobile: Brian 0429 195 142 or Helen 0409 195 142  
648 Summerleas Rd, Fern Tree (1km past city boundary)

processes, HCC By-law Review. CHPA meetings (Council of Hobart Progress Associations) Gray's Road Traffic Concerns to HCC.

*VSE Grant* (Commonwealth Government) to assist the work of community volunteers.

*Lengthy working bees* to maintain and continue the refurbishment of the Community Centre, both for local use and for hire.

**At the AGM, acknowledgement was made of the work done by members of the committee, their spouses, and other residents who had given time and expertise during the year.**

**LISA SINGH** MHA  
Labor Member for Denison

Please **contact me** regarding any concerns or issues for the electorate of Denison including:

- |                 |               |              |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Austins Ferry   | Battery Point | Berriedale   |
| Granton         | Chigwell      | Claremont    |
| Collinsvale     | Derwent Park  | Dynnryne     |
| Fern Tree       | Glebe         | Glenorchy    |
| Goodwood        | Hobart        | Lenah Valley |
| Lower Sandy Bay | Lutana        | Montrose     |
| Moonah          | Mount Nelson  | Mount Stuart |
| New Town        | North Hobart  | Ridgeway     |
| Rosetta         | Sandy Bay     | South Hobart |
| Taroona         | Tolmans Hill  | West Hobart  |
| West Moonah     |               |              |

*Serving your community*

P: 03 6233 2641 F: 03 6233 9091 E: [lisa.singh@parliament.tas.gov.au](mailto:lisa.singh@parliament.tas.gov.au)



**MOSAIC WORKSHOPS**

Mixed media  
2D & 3D artworks  
Utilising Recycled & Natural Materials

Beginners to  
Advanced Students

Tanya LaPaglia  
2 Montagu St Mt Stuart  
62783830 0400814373  
[tanyalapaglia@hotmail.com](mailto:tanyalapaglia@hotmail.com)

Fern Tree Fire Brigade News [www.fire.tas.gov.au](http://www.fire.tas.gov.au)

Recently, three members of your local fire brigade had their service to the community recognised.

They were each presented with a Tasmania Fire Service Long Service Badge by TFS District Officer Hugh Jones, as follows:-

- Leading Firefighter Ken Fishwick (30 years)
- Firefighter Brian Marriott (10 years)
- Firefighter Matthew Shepperd (10 years).

Congratulations Ken, Brian and Matthew.