

Friends of Sandy Bay Rivulet Inc.

Newsletter 12 — September 2009

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

SUNDAY, 27^H SEPT. 2009.

FROM 4.00 - 5.30 PM.

Venue—The Kings Street Scout Hall, King St,
Sandy Bay.

Agenda:

1. Open and welcome
2. Apologies
3. Confirmation of Minutes of AGM of 2008.
4. President's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Elections for President; Secretary; Treasurer;
& three Committee Members
7. Appointment of Public Officer and Auditor
8. Close.

To be eligible to vote at the AGM, it is necessary to be a financial member. If you haven't already paid your \$10, please get it to the Secretary, Julia, at 79 Queen St or bring it to the AGM. It is vital that we keep up our membership numbers.

As you will realise, for our group to continue functioning we need to have a quorum of financial members at the AGM, so please make an effort to attend, and support those who have been working on the Executive Committee and in other ways.

NOTE THE NEW VENUE This is the hall behind the group of restaurants including the Fish Bar, and is where voting is held.

This should be a very informative discussion session and everyone interested in the Sandy Bay Rivulet is very welcome to attend.

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OFFICE BEARERS:

President	James Bowler
Secretary	Julia Greenhill
Treasurer	Beth Harnett
Committee	Patsy Jones Deb Maeder Penny Parrish
Public Officer	Julia Greenhill 62 341516 or juliag@inet.net.au
Web site	www.fosbr.org.au

We acknowledge and thank the following :

Hobart City Council

For help and assistance in stream bank conservation

D & K Edwards

For maintaining the web site

Office of Senator Eric Abetz

For the assistance in the production of this Newsletter.

Tasmanian Landcare Assoc.

For grant assistance to administration

CHANGES AT HCC

The transfer of responsibility for water and sewerage from the HCC to a new authority, has resulted in changes at the HCC. We have established contact with the new officers concerned with rivulet issues and intend maintaining a close working relationship with them.

COUNCIL OF HOBART COMMUNITY ASSOC'S

The CHCA is a peak body representing Hobart based community organisations such as FoSBR. They are currently looking at transport issues and reviewing the proposed new Hobart planning scheme. CHCA has regular meetings with the Nick Heath the new CEO of the HCC. For more information or to make an input contact Beth Harnett (62231106 or 0418 231105).

See next page for ELECTION FORUM details.

SANDY BAY RIVULET – NEWS

(1) Tasmanian Landcare Association.

Our group has joined the Tasmanian Landcare Association and were delighted to receive a grant to help with administrative costs such as those for Incorporation, and also to help with payment for Volunteer Insurance Cover.

This cover now means that anyone working with our group on approved activities, either on private or public land or attending meetings, will be covered by insurance. Thank you to the Tasmanian Landcare Association.

(2) Naturally Inspired Grants - Community Action.

The FOSBR have received a grant of \$1000 from Natural Resource Management (South). This welcome grant will enable us to initiate a program of weeding and replanting of native vegetation in an area of the Sandy Bay Rivulet below Lynton Avenue.

We hope to involve the local community in helping with this work, which will be a great start in rehabilitating one of the neglected parts of our Rivulet. Part of the grant will also provide for a worker who is experienced in Landcare rehabilitation.

Look out for more information.

(3) Understorey Network

The FOSBR has recently joined the Understorey Network organisation, after a very interesting talk on their activities by their co-ordinator.

As part of our activities we will receive seeds of native plants to grow in October. One of our members also has seeds from our local area available.

If you would like to help with growing plants from seed, or have seeds or seedlings available for replanting along our Rivulet banks, please contact Julia Greenhill or Penny Parrish.

(4) Parliament St work

We have continued working with the Hobart City Council along this important part of the Rivulet, where our native fish may be seen. It is pleasing to see that most of the plants have become established and are starting to grow well, even those ferns and reeds which have been inundated in this wet winter. With more work, this section of the Sandy Bay Rivulet will become an even more attractive part of the Parliament St Park area. We hope to have another weeding and planting session soon.

HCC NEW PLANNING SCHEME

For several years the Hobart City Council has been working on a draft of the proposed new planning scheme for the City of Hobart. It has now been released for consultation and submissions can be made until 22nd Sept 2009.

The document is large and very complex. Indeed so complex that it is unlikely that its strengths and its shortcomings will become apparent until under pressure by developers.

The sections of interest to FoSBR naturally relate to planning provisions for waterways and, of course, the Sandy Bay Rivulet in particular.

It is pleasing to note in the Planning Scheme Objectives that Clause 2.2.2 contains the comments:

(b) In those parts of the City not identified for urban development, to provide for the retention of existing bushland for its native fauna and flora habitat or corridor values.

(d) To protect from pollution or sedimentation, conserve and enhance the River Derwent, its foreshore areas and other waterways through the encouragement of 'Water Sensitive Urban Design' measures for development and civic works.

(One hopes that the objective (d) means water sensitive urban design in the full context rather than some watered down form as seen in the past.)

However, we must report that, sadly, the planning proposals fall far short of best practice in terms of waterways and streams.

We are of the view that for new subdivisions that a full 10m wide riparian zone held as public space is an essential requirement.

We are also of the view that the current 10m riparian zone should be retained and that any discretion should be limited to prevent intrusion into or over the 5m strip from the stream or waterway bank. It is also noted that the proposals fail to adequately recognise the significance of riparian corridors to wildlife, or the future importance of such zones.

Is it too much to expect a Planning Scheme which will take us into the 21st Century?

A note from the President. Some years back I visited a cousin in the UK who had a house with property backing onto a stream about the size of the Sandy Bay Rivulet. The riparian zone was sacrosanct. The community protected and cared for the stream as if they were holding it in trust for the nation. Council planning rules were extremely strict and no developer would even contemplate any intrusion into the riparian zone. The native wildlife was encouraged and supported. It was a beautiful stream which added much to the community.

COUNCIL of HOBART COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS

invites all residents and rate payers to attend.

HCC ELECTION OF ALDERMEN

MEET THE CANDIDATES FORUM

DATE: MONDAY 19TH OCTOBER 2009

VENUE: TOWN HALL

TIME: 7.30PM

All candidates have been invited to attend and will be given an opportunity to speak, to answer questions and meet with you.

This is your opportunity to find out what the candidates stand for, what they would hope to achieve if elected, and what skills, experience and talents they bring to the Council.

Note that though voting is not compulsory and is by postal ballot the CHCA and its supporting community and progress associations believe it is important that you make your vote count and you make a careful and informed selection when casting your vote. Your city needs and deserves this.

Authorised by Kevin Wilson, 101 Marlyn Rd, South Hobart