

# F O S B R NEWSLETTER

## Friends of Sandy Bay Rivulet Inc.

Newsletter 15 — March 2011

### GENERAL MEETINGS

#### Family Get Together. 10 am - 12 noon on Sunday 10th APRIL

We invite the local community to come to the Parliament St Reserve to meet with our members and to hear about future plans and see the work we are doing along the Rivulet. This will be an informal occasion and everyone interested is very welcome. We will meet beside the Rivulet close to the end of the slide. Those who wish could bring a barbecue lunch.

Children are welcome and at 11 am there will be a fun event for them:- an Easter hunt, as it is so close to Easter.

#### General Meeting. 4.30 - 6 pm on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> MAY.

This meeting will be dedicated to reporting on progress and getting your ideas on what we should be aiming to achieve in the future. Hopefully we will also be able to report on the Council's proposals to improve the stream bed at Regent St and Parliament St. Please keep free.

AGM. 4.30— 6pm on Sunday 28th AUGUST. Please keep free. Details will be circulated

### WORKING BEES

Our Working Bees are held every second Sunday of each month, from 9.30 – 11.30 am, and we meet at the picnic table in Fitzroy Gardens nearest to the corner of Pillinger St and Fitzroy Crescent. (Note that the table is partially obscured from the road by trees).

The dates for the next few months are: 8<sup>th</sup> May, 12<sup>th</sup> June, 10<sup>th</sup> July. If anyone can spare an occasional hour or two, please turn up and we will make you very welcome, and there are always different grades of work to do to suit different abilities.

The Friends of Sandy Bay Rivulet Inc have a comprehensive volunteer insurance cover which covers our volunteers and our community based activities.

### MEMBERSHIP.

If you want to be part of supporting this community effort to look after our Rivulet and its environment, or just to be informed regularly about the work of our group, please consider joining the group. We welcome new members, and the cost is only \$10 per year. Contact the Secretary if you are interested, or join at our Family Get Together on 10<sup>th</sup> April..



### OFFICE BEARERS:

President James Bowler  
Secretary Julia Greenhill  
Treasurer Beth Harnett

Committee Patsy Jones  
Deb Maeder  
Penny Parrish

Robert Rands

CHCA reps Beth Harnett

Jim Bowler

Julia Greenhill

Public Officer Julia Greenhill  
62 341516 or juliafg@bigpond.com

Web site www.fosbr.org.au

Web Manager David Edwards

### BREAKING NEWS

#### WHITE GOSHAWKS

Caleb Gardner who lives in Jersey St reports exciting news:-

*"We've been seeing white (grey) goshawks at our house (usually one but two a couple of times) very regularly, every two or three days.*

*This morning one sat on the fence outside our kitchen while we had breakfast! They seem to be hunting in the bush along the rivulet, perhaps the rats that we see along the rivulet?*

*I think they're a really special bird to have in the area. Aside from being so striking they're also fairly rare with only an estimated 110 breeding pairs. I wonder if other people living along the rivulet have been seeing these individuals? "*

This is great news. A resident in Pillinger St has also told us of seeing a white goshawk beside the Rivulet in their area recently.

Please let Caleb or the Committee know if you have had similar sightings.

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## CARING FOR COUNTRY COMMUNITY ACTION GRANT

A hard-working group of members and friends has made a significant impact on improving the area beside the Sandy Bay Rivulet which we are working on. Clearing the extremely overgrown area, near Fitzroy Gardens, has been followed up by planting native plants, including Blackwood seedlings received from Forestry Tasmania for National Tree Day.

We have been delighted by the cooperation and help we have received from Hobart City Council officers from Parks and Reserves, and Environmental Engineering departments, and from DIER (Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources). We have also been encouraged by the interest and comments of local residents. The HCC has also provided a fence extension to improve the safety for the public of the steep area beside the Rivulet we have cleared.

A class at Princes Street Primary School has been working on another area of the Rivulet near Overell St, where they have done wonderful work clearing weeds and planting native plants. Two of our committee went to the school and made a presentation to retiring teacher Nita Airey and to the Princes Street School library, in recognition of their work and interest in the Rivulet.

## JEAN PANTON OAM

Jean died on 17<sup>th</sup> October last year, aged 84, and with her passing we lost a good friend who was an inaugural member of our group and was always there when needed, whether for a meeting or for a working bee. Indeed, she was helping at a working bee beside the Rivulet just a few days before she died.

Jean was a tireless worker for her community, and this was recognised when she was made the Hobart City Council's 2008 Citizen of the Year, and later was awarded the Order of Australia in recognition of her contribution to medical research, our historical heritage and her work on environmental issues. She will be sorely missed.

## WATERWORKS VALLEY LANDCARE GROUP

The Group meet regularly to improve the Waterworks Valley area. Check work program and meeting details at [www.waterworksvalley.com](http://www.waterworksvalley.com)

## THE GEHL REPORT'

In 2009, the Council commissioned famous urban planner and architect Jan Gehl and his team, to undertake a Public Spaces and Public Life Study of central Hobart. This report is now completed and titled "*Hobart 2010 Public Spaces and Public Life - a city with people in mind*" It looks at the overall future of the city, with a focus on improving how people move around and enjoy the inner heart of our city and its links to outer areas.

The Gehl Report is wide-ranging and all-encompassing. The Report has not yet been endorsed by the Council which is seeking community feedback on its recommendations.

A comprehensive consultation program will be undertaken over an eight week period from 28 March to 22 May 2011 to obtain feedback and community views.

From **28 March 2011** the Council website will have a feedback section available where individuals or organisations can provide comment. Feedback forms will also be available from 28 March 2011 at the Hobart City Council's Council Centre at 16 Elizabeth Street.

**FoSBR encourages readers to study the report and make their comments to the Council. Details available at [www.hobartcity.com](http://www.hobartcity.com)**

## COMMUNITY GROUPS MEET THE HOBART CITY ALDERMEN

On Monday 21st February representatives of FoSBR attended a meeting with Hobart City Aldermen initiated by Alderman Damon Thomas. Present were representatives of other community and progress associations.

After an informal get together each organisation was asked to comment on its aims and objectives.

Your delegates thought the meeting was valuable. It not only enabled us to meet with kindred organisations but also to establish, we hope, a better understanding by Aldermen of the aims and objectives of organisations such as FoSBR.

The Aldermen present indicated that they appreciated the opportunity to meet delegates and expressed the view that they hoped there could be similar meetings in the future.

## WELCOME ROBERT RANDS

Robert has kindly agreed to be co-opted to the Committee. Robert brings with him wide experience in community activity and service. He has served on the FoSBR Committee previously and has also been closely involved with the Waterworks Valley Landcare Group. We know Robert's presence will strengthen the Committee considerably.

## COUNCIL OF HOBART COMMUNITY ASSOC'S

The Council of Hobart Community Associations (CHCA) meets monthly to pursue issues of interest to all residents of Hobart. While individual Associations act on their local issues, sometimes it is necessary to put a consolidated point of view to Hobart City Council, the Government, or to another Authority. The Hobart Planning Scheme, for example, will require a coordinated response, as will the review into Rating systems. CHCA provides that coordination and representation.

Leo Foley,  
President, CHCA

## RIVULET POLICY

The Committee has adopted Robert Rands proposal that CHCA adopt as policy the following:

*"The Friends of the Sandy Bay Rivulet and the Waterworks Valley Landcare Group advocate measures to protect, restore and revegetate the flood zones and riparian zones of Hobart's permanent and intermittent streams. Our object is to provide increased natural amenity in suburban and urban areas, including riparian reserves, wildlife corridors, parkland and sustainable thoroughfares, along the lengths of Hobart's rivulets."*

The policy would then be proposed to the HCC by the three organizations with the objective that it become a key item in forward planning for the City.



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