

EMPIRE BAY & DISTRICTS NEWS

EMPIRE BAY PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

DECEMBER 2022/JANUARY 2023

www.empirebayprogress.org.au

empirebayprogress@gmail.com



FROM THE PRESIDENT

We love to celebrate and when the celebration involves dressing up, you can understand the attraction for both children and adults. Empire Bay came alive on Halloween, with amazing costumes and face painting, children (and adults) excited for trick-or-treating, pumpkins being carved. Most importantly, our community spent time together laughing and celebrating.

On to the subject of roads. The EBPA has been lobbying all levels of government and Council to fix our roads. I am glad to see action. Good news about the resurfacing of Rickard Rd. Council have been working with the federal member on identifying relevant roads that will be renewed with the funding announced as part of the Central Coast Roads package prior to the federal election. Rickard Road has been identified to be included in the first round of roads to receive funding. When funding is formally approved, the planning team at the Central Coast Council have informed the EBPA that they will be working on the pavement design which will require some testing to be undertaken. It will then go through the process of tendering which can take up to 3 months from tender preparation, advertising, evaluation to awarding the contract. This should be delivered this financial

year unless Council have more serious weather events. A big shout out to Peter Sinclair, VP, EBPA.

Good old boatshed. What is the next step? Some background. After seeing children playing amongst the broken glass and debris scattered across the site, Crown Land was notified of its hazardous condition not only to the boatshed, but also the Reserve. The licence holder was given numerous warnings, even going back many years, to clean up the mess. As it was ignored, Crown Land had no choice but to finally revoke the licence and has since been cleaning up 30 years of degradation. Their reports, which are publicly available, are unfortunately showing the structure is not safe and falling into Brisbane Water and the water environment is highly polluted with dangerous toxins. Crown Land is finalising all the reports before a decision on the fate of the boatshed. The EBPA has only ever been concerned about the safety of the community and that the precinct never returns to the hazardous and disastrous mess it incurred by the previous licence holder. We hope the final outcome is an area that can be enjoyed by all members of the community.

Cheers Carolen

PS: A special thank you to Christie Chen who will be the new Editor of the newsletter. Please contact Christie on wenbinch@hotmail.com



CHRISTMAS EVE BBQ

Bring your picnic blanket, family and friends.
Everyone welcome.

**Empire Bay Hall, 1 Gordon Rd, Empire Bay
from 5.30pm on 24 December**

Meet Santa, lollies for the kids, pianola and more
Proudly organised by the Empire Bay Progress Association



Christmas is here at Empire's D'Lite

Orders now open for
ham, turkey and seafood!

Lots of gift ideas instore...
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We wish all our wonderful
customers a very Merry
Christmas and thank everyone
for their support!



LOCAL HISTORY

Waterfront General Store, Empire Bay

As you walk along the waterfront, near the boatshed, it is hard to identify which house was the Empire Bay General Store, yet the shape of the building has remained.

12 Sorrento Rd, part of the Arthur Rickard's Sorrento Estate subdivision, was purchased by Ben Flowerdew in 1906. Ownership changed hands a few times until, in 1921, boatbuilder Arthur Davis purchased blocks 12, 14 and 16. The 1919 valuation records for #12 refer to a 'Weatherboard cottage, iron roof, four rooms, kitchen.'

In 1928, Arthur transferred #12 to his son Harry Davis, and daughter Olive Settree. Later valuation reported, and 1928 photographs suggested, the cottage was converted to a shop facing what is now the boatshed. *Gosford Times* (August 1928) records the granting of a Sunday Trading Licence to Harry Davis and Olive Settree. By 1928, the Davis & Settree Cash and Carry Store was opened. Olive worked the store, while her brother Harry worked at the shed opposite on the waterfront.

The 1928 photograph suggests the Davis & Settree shop was built first, and later the family home (left side) built next to it. The shop became an important weekend and afternoon destination along the Reserve, serving ice creams, cold meats, drinks and cigarettes. The Sorrento Road entrance to the shop, with its hard apron surface, served petrol, oils and boat fuel.

Land Title records show the property remained with the Davis and Settree family until 1978/1979 when Ray and Margaret Byrnes purchased the property and the business.

Ray and Margaret moved from Baulkham Hills to Empire Bay in 1978 and made the store an important feature of the community. They lived in the adjoining house next to the store. Ray speaks proudly of the "fresh groceries, the best range of lollies, the devon sandwiches and lottery tickets they sold". They served petrol (Amoco), kerosene, outboard fuel and LPG gas bottles. He remembers, during the 1979/1980 petrol strikes, limiting each family to \$2 of petrol which enabled the locals to drive to the railway station for work for the week.

Ray and Margaret recall the Christmas parade events on the waterfront with postie Joyce being the Christmas fairy arriving on a boat and picked up by the RFS at the wharf. "Waterfront parties at night and I would open the shop at 2:00 am for drinks, ice cream and devon sandwiches....and regulars buying Bex or Vincent headache powders." They were also the agents for the Bank of NSW, MBF and HCF, and the pickup box from Radford's chemists at Ettalong.



Empire Bay waterfront general store, opened circa 1928 by Harry Davis, and his sister Olive Settree. Unknown locals in the photograph.

Full newsagent selling the *Daily Telegraph*, *Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Australian*, *Truth*, and the afternoon papers (6 days per week). Occasionally getting into trouble from the mums for the 'page 3 girls'. Ray also delivered the papers from Daleys Point to Bensville.

The shop hadn't changed in its lifetime with big wooden shelves, long timber counters and the best lolly selection in the area with freckles cobbles, milk bottles, chocolate buddies and musk sticks. Ray believes he was "the best maths teacher in the Bay", educating the kids to count the lollies they could get for 5c. The deli counter with its cold meats, pies, fruit and veggies and spuds, the haberdashery corner included zippers, buttons cotton reels, alongside the fishing gear and bait, were all available to purchase.



By 1981, Ray and Margaret were enticed by the landlord who lived down the road to close the waterfront store and takeover the general store on the corner Sorrento and Kendall Road. The waterfront Empire Bay General Store closed. The large area inside the old shop became a great party area, and storeroom.

Ray and Margaret remained with the Sorrento and Kendall Rd general store until 1996 when they sold and moved out of the Bay.

With the closing of the shop, and the Byrnes moving away, #12 Sorrento Road has been fully renovated with the shop and the home incorporated as one. But study closely and you can still see the shape of the 1928 'Davis and Settree Cash and Carry Store' looking back at you.

Sources: Lands Department Records; Steve Ford; Gosford Council; *Gosford Times*; Ken Bergin; and Ray and Margaret Byrnes.

By Robert Thompson



Above: Ray and Margaret Byrnes, Empire Bay waterfront shop owners 1978 until they closed it 1981, and relocated to the general store, corner Sorrento and Kendall Rd.
Below: The General Store closed in 1981.

CELEBRATIONS 2023

Lets celebrate together

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COMMUNITY HEALTH

How to remove mould from your home and how to stop it from growing

After months of rain, mould has become a topic of conversation. Mould is difficult to clean and keep away. It can also be toxic and extremely harmful to your health. Mould is a by-product of an increase in moisture either through water or through ventilation, or the humidity.

How do you stop mould growing?

Removing the dampness and humidity is the key, as mould needs moisture and nutrients to grow.

- ◇ On a sunny day, allow as much sunlight as possible into the area.
- ◇ When it's wet and humid, try putting your air conditioner on a dry cycle or using a dehumidifier.
- ◇ Don't pack your furniture too close to the wall — leave room for airflow.
- ◇ Use absorbent beads to soak up extra moisture in wardrobes and other areas.
- ◇ Reducing the number of indoor plants in your home can stop mould forming.

How do you remove mould?

- ◇ A mix of three parts vinegar to two parts water.
- ◇ Clove oil is often recommended but can cause surfaces to discolour or cause allergies.
- ◇ Methylated spirits at a ratio of 70% and 30% water, or a tea tree oil solution.
- ◇ Discard the mould removal cloth to avoid the spread of spores. Using a broom or brush is not recommended as it can have the same effect.
- ◇ For difficult to remove mould, use a diluted bleach solution, but make sure the area is well ventilated and protective clothing is worn.
- ◇ Ensure you are wearing the right protective gear including gloves and face masks.

If the mould has spread, seek the advice of a cleaning professional to get to the root cause of the problem.

The first thing you have to do is try to dry out the area. So if it's a water leak, fix the water leak and dry it out.

OUR SCHOOLS

Empire Bay Public School

Sustainability



At Empire Bay



Sustainability conversation— inform, inspire, invite

We have just enjoyed our annual Green Week at EBPS. We spent the week discussing sustainable practices with children from K-6 during their library time. With the kindy kids we discussed single-use plastic and ways they can use less. Every Kindy made a beeswax wrap to take home. From K-6 the children learnt the importance of insects in our natural environment. We took a closer look at ARC Ento Tech (the company has developed an innovative continuous process using the Black Soldier Fly to recover nutrients from food waste and digestible organic components) and the innovation around solving our landfill problems. Following a STEM design process format we looked at what ARC are doing and how they were able to use science, technology and engineering to create a possible solution to a very real environmental problem. Students looked at the Black Soldier Fly at every stage of their life cycle under microscopes. We had a wonderful Black Soldier Fly mascot for the week! **Lisa Maddick**

Web: www.sustainabilityatebps.com

Tel: 4369 1796

Coast Christian School

The year just gone by at Coast Christian has been wonderful. Great teaching and learning (excellent Naplan results), lots of extra-curricular activities (no longer bound by Covid restrictions), and always a zero tolerance for bullying (so kids feel safe and happy). All underpinned by a Christian faith where God's love for all of mankind is emphasised, along with strong morals and values.

2023 will commence with a full Preparatory class, two full Kindergarten classes and very limited places in the other grades. If you are moving into the area or would just like to come for a visit, please ring the office and book a tour with our Principal, Mr Matthew Drennan. In the meantime, the merriest of Christmases to everyone as we celebrate the Good News of Christ's birth.

Melanie Cullender

Tel: 4368 3377

www.coastcs.nsw.edu.au



SUNDAY SIPS

Every Sunday

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contact the KSLSC on
Ph (02) 4360 1150**



OUR COMMUNITY

Empire Bay/Bensville Rural Fire Brigade

We are well into the fire season. With over 2 years of benign conditions, fire weather is now back. The updated RFS Fires Near Me App will keep you informed of incidents at home and while travelling. Please review your Bush Fire Survival Plan to make an informed decision and improve your outcome.

Collaborating with NPWS for the Daley Point hazard reduction was achieved. The fuel loads were extreme. We all worked together to protect all properties in Yugari Crescent, Daley Avenue and Fishermans Parade. All property owners carrying out private hazard reductions and pile burns must also apply for a Fire Permit before any burning is carried out.

At the recent Progress Association Plant Stall, we engaged with and informed everyone who visited that Christmas is approaching and it's now time to check lighting, leads, power boards and safety switches before setting up Christmas displays. Inside the home, trees and lights should be kept clear of curtains and furniture and turned off before going to bed.

Santa Parade dates (pending final approval)

Bensville: Thursday 8 Dec; St Huberts Island: Friday 9 Dec; and Empire Bay: Saturday 10 Dec. Weather and fire calls permitting. We hope to have a tracker running and final information will be on social media. We look forward to seeing all the excited children and parents.

Cheers Rex Parker, Brigade Community Engagement Rep

Prepare, act and survive.

Central Coast District Office on 1300 060 807

or visit www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

Empire Bay Fishing Club

There are plenty of fish biting. Great fun to catch and release, or take home and enjoy. A bit of bait, the cheapest rod and a net is all you need to get "hooked". I use the lightest sinker the tide will let me. As Flatties sit and wait, you need to move the bait past them to get them to bite. Cast towards the flow of the tide and retrieve it with the tide. A quiet morning with no wind is perfect to cast a few surface poppers for Bream around the leases. When they strike you know it!

Christmas Party and Award Day: December 11 at the Empire Bay Tavern. Members will be sent an SMS to confirm. The Weigh Gnome, little Daz, has been warming up his presentation voice and is looking forward to the day. Rumour has it he might even crack a smile.

There will be no weigh-ins for December. The new season commences in January.

By Scott Draper

empirebayfishingclub@gmail.com

Won Buddhism

Thanksgiving Day with Music

Won Buddhism invites you to share your musical talent and show gratitude on Thanksgiving Day. The program will include chanting, variety of meditation, and Dharma talk. Bring a plate you would like to share at lunch.

4th December at 10am (RSVP 1 December)

New Year Celebration

Celebrate the New Year with this renewed commitment of gratitude, and revival of our spiritual energy to cultivate and sustain our mind. *The program of the day will be:*

Opening words by Rev. HeJin; Prayer, chanting and meditation; Message from Head Dharma Master Ven. Jeonsan by Rev. InMyung; Dharma talk by Won Jiyeon; Song of Samadhi; Korean folk song arirang and gayageum performance and pansori by JinHwa; Qigong and closing.

Delicious Korean lunch and kite-flying for children.

1 January 2023 at 10am (RSVP 29 December)

Gosford Meditation Temple, 20 Bundaleer Crescent, Bensville, donations are welcome

Contact: 4368 2393 info@wonbuddhism.org.au

www.wonbuddhism.org.au

Probus—Friendship and Fun in Retirement

Our Club has over 60 members, but is hoping more gentlemen will join. Probus offers male members an outlet to engage together, talk about similar interests and simply spend time with other men and women.

Monthly meetings are held on the first Thursday each month, at the Umina Club from 1.30pm. Time for excellent conversations and great friendships are made.

Visitors are always welcome. Come along and introduce yourself.

Contact Mary Gray, President on 0413 017 678

PET CORNER

Focus and Connection

The beginning of having a loyal companion is to create a connection between your family and your dog. These basic principles apply whether you have a puppy or an older dog.

There are a few fundamental steps that help to cement this good foundation:

- When you say your dog's name it should mean that something interesting or exciting is about to happen.
- Teach an ok or off you go command which gives the dog permission to leave. He can now go and do his own thing.
- Have another command that means the end of that game but stay because we are going to do something else.

We need to understand as much as we can about our own individual dog before the training journey. Is he excitable? Does he get bored quickly? Is he sensitive? We need to know about our dogs breed predisposition – what characteristics exist in that breed(s) and work with them. All these things can lead to frustration and make it difficult to communicate and train our dog.

Training should be about building our relationship with our dog, building a bond through co-operation, understanding, confidence and trust. We need to always be mindful about how our dogs are coping with our training sessions.

Not all dogs are biddable and born with a desire to please. Many have their own agenda, and we need to bring out the desire in the dog to want to please us to get what he wants. That can be the difficult part and helps to make us good dog trainers and responsible pet owners.

Take your time, be patient and concentrate on building focus and trust. Happy Training.



Louise Harding - Author & Canine Behaviour

www.animaltalent.com.au/dog-training/

0437 148 402 or info@animaltalent.com.au

Empire Bay Community Plant Stall

29th October was a perfect and successful day for our plant stall. Thanks to the wonderful support of our community. This event was a tribute to the work carried out by our group of keen gardeners and to everyone who dedicated their time and effort to produce the great array of plants on display.

A substantial amount raised on the day has been donated to Empire Bay Public School and Empire Bay/Bensville RFB and to the maintenance of the Empire Bay Hall.

We appreciate the support and generosity of our local businesses who donated the prizes for our raffle. The winners were: 1st prize: E76 Orange – Glenda; 2nd prize: B28 Blue – Lee; 3rd prize: A62 Red - Brenda

Special THANK YOU to Kurt McCredie for donating the delicious honey that contributed to the money raised at the Plant Stall.

Garry McNamara

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Working For Our Community

Authorised by Adam Crouch MP, Shop 3 Fountain Plaza, 148-158 The Entrance Road, Erina NSW 2250, funded with parliamentary entitlements.

If you can help one person,
it is worth it!

Join the Empire Bay Progress Association

Membership \$5

empirebayprogress@gmail.com

Troubadour Folk Club

continues at Empire Bay

Every second Saturday each month Troubadour holds Club Night showcasing various local musicians in 15 minutes sessions, come and enjoy the music with a cuppa.

Empire Bay Hall 7pm, everyone is welcome.

HELP US CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF THE EMPIRE BAY PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

The Empire Bay Progress Association celebrates 100 years in 2023 and we are seeking volunteers to help organise the celebrations. The volunteer spirit drives our community organisation so the contribution of all our volunteers, no matter what their role, is highly valued.

Email empirebayprogress@gmail.com



Bookmobile

Thursday Nov 17, Dec 1, 15

Bensville—near Kallaroo Road park, 12.45-1.30pm

Empire Bay—Kendall Rd near the wharf, 1.45-2.30pm

EMPIRE BAY TENNIS COURTS

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BUSH CARE: Ring Nicola Booth— 0436 685 155

Back of Tennis Courts – 2nd Sunday of month from 9.00am

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Robert Madden 0417 291 641; Hart Peters 0417 674 687

WALKING EXERCISES IN THE HALL

An EBPA initiative—free

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Card games—All ages welcome

Empire Bay Hall

Monday: 1.30-4.00pm

There will be a variety of card games available and lots of fun, friendships and laughs.

Please contact **Shirley on 4369 2034 or Jan 0402 246 427**



EMPIRE BAY PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Next meeting

Wednesday 23 November, 7.30pm

(Note: Nov meeting date changed)

The Hall, 1-3 Gordon Rd, Empire Bay

Diarise Feb 15 for meeting & AGM

Further information email:

empirebayprogress@gmail.com

This newsletter is a community service by **EMPIRE BAY PROGRESS ASSOCIATION Inc.** While the honorary editor and the Association accept, in good faith, advertisements in this Newsletter and editorial supplied or comment made, we cannot provide any form of guarantee for the information or the goods or services advertised.

HALL TIMETABLE

MONDAY

8.15am-9.15am, Gentle Yoga with Julie
9.30am-10.30am Morning Yoga with Julie
1:30pm-4.00pm, Social card games for everyone
6.00pm-7.00pm, Yoga with Julie
7.00pm-8.00pm, PT Group Fitness Training with Tony

TUESDAY

9.00am-12.00pm, Scrabble, all levels
3:30pm - 4.30pm, MH Dance Academy with Mikayla
5.30pm-6.30pm, Tae Kwon Do Academy with Jo

WEDNESDAY

9.15am-10.15am, Tai Chi with Alain
3:30pm-5pm, MH Dance Academy with Mikayla
7.30pm-9.00pm, Empire Bay Progress Association (EBPA)
3rd Wednesday in February, May, August, November
(meetings now held quarterly)
7.00pm—8.00pm, PT Group Fitness Training with Tony
(on the night of the Progress meeting please contact Tony for details)

THURSDAY

7.45-8.30am, Walking exercise (free)
9am-midday, Inner Space Yoga and Life Coaching
3.30pm-6pm, MH Dance Academy with Mikayla

FRIDAY

9.30am-11.30am, MH Dance Academy with Mikayla
7.00pm-8.00pm, PT Group Fitness Training with Tony

Yoga with Julie 0438 228 372: build core strength, become more aware of your body and mind and be calm.

MH Dance Academy with Mikayla Holt on 0404 824 775: RAD ballet, Jazz, Cheer, Acrobatics, Lyrical, hip hop, etc for 18 months- 25+.

Social card games for all members of the community. Contact Shirley on 4369 2034 or Jan 0402 246 427.

PT Group Fitness Training with Tony on 0466 303 700: for all fitness levels, over 16. Great social atmosphere while you get fit, burn fat.

Scrabble contact Shirley on 4369 2034: caters for all levels. Everyone is welcome.

Inner Space Yoga and Life Coaching contact Gail James Mob: 0422 052 346 www.innerspacewisdom.com.au

Tae Kwon Do with Jo Brannighan on 0422 278 081: increase your fitness, confidence, improve concentration and learn self defence.

EBPA, contact empirebayprogress@gmail.com

Tai Chi & Qigong with Alain on 0422 795 365: gentle form of exercise, described as meditation in motion.

BOOK OUR AIR CONDITIONED HALL?

Weddings Anniversaries Birthdays Farewells Wakes—Ducted air-conditioning, kitchen facilities including fridge, oven, microwave, tea & coffee making facilities, accessible bathroom inside and outside, enclosed secure garden area, plenty of chairs and tables for both inside and outside, BBQ, TV & DVD player with overhead monitor.

Hall hire information available on our website - empirebayprogress.org.au/hall-hire

Check the hall booking calendar on the website to check date is available and then contact Sharon, Hall Booking Officer on EBHallbookings@gmail.com or 0457 650 955 9am to 5pm weekdays only.