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## SOUTH HOBART PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

(Incorporating Cascades Progress Association)

Founded 1922

President: Mr. David Day Honorary Secretary: Ms Elisabeth Rees  
PO Box 200 South Hobart Tasmania 7004 ABN 65 850 310 318

www.southhobart.org.au office@southhobart.org.au

### THE SOUTH HOBART PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

The next meeting of the Association will be held on Wednesday 8th April, 2026 at 7:30 pm in the *South Hobart Community Centre*, 42 D'Arcy Street, South Hobart. All are welcome to attend, especially any new residents.

### BUSHCARE WORKING BEES

The Rivulet Group will meet on Sunday, 12th April, 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm, meeting opposite C3 Church, South Hobart. The South Hobart Group will meet on Sunday, 19th April, between 10:00am and 12:30pm, meeting at the back of the Cascade Brewery silos, Old Farm Road Bridge, South Hobart. All equipment provided. Any enquiries to John (Rivulet) on 0417 617 572 and Janet (South Hobart) on 6223 8132.

### THE PEOPLE'S PARK

Many residents, especially those who walk their dogs regularly, will know that the *Hobart City Council* is in the process of denying local South Hobartians access to the **Washington/D'Arcy Street Recreation Ground** (also known by Council as South Hobart Oval). Apart from the obvious fact that the area is **not** an oval, the "Rec" (as it is known by locals) has been a proclaimed recreational ground since the late 1800s. The Ground was vested to the people of Hobart by Act of Parliament. Its heritage significance is its character as a community facility. Up until a few years ago, the Ground was a place for all to "recreate". Sport and casual walkers shared the area without any problems. In the last few years, a football organisation has lobbied Council to have the area proclaimed solely for the use of a small number of footballers to the exclusion of others in the suburb, including dog walkers.

South Hobart, partly due to its terrain, is poorly served by flat, open spaces. In fact, the *D'Arcy Street Recreation Ground* is the **ONLY** flat area suitable for residents to exercise their pets and for their children to throw a *Frisbee* or let off steam in other ways. To alienate scarce public open space for the benefit of one organisation is unfair, undemocratic and blatantly biased.

As sport and other activities have co-existed for such a long time, it is incumbent on Council to maintain the *status quo*. The Council's suggestion of an area below Wellesley Park as

suitable for dog walkers and residents is too little; too late, and an insult to South Hobartians. [Ed.]

### SOUTH HOBART COMMUNITY CENTRE

42 D'Arcy Street, South Hobart

All enquiries to Bookings Manager

Emma Gunn

www.southhobart.org.au

### CONGRATULATIONS BOB

Without the enthusiasm and hard work of a member of the local community, *A South Hobart Newsletter* would probably never have seen the light of day. In 1986, Bob Gordon, a local resident and President of the Association, set up our Newsletter which is now in its 447th edition - forty years without a missed issue! Bob is a well-known person, involved in sport, heritage, and a string of other interests too numerous to mention. He has been Finland's Honorary Consul in Tasmania since 2016. Recently he was awarded the decoration Knight First Class of the Order of the Lion of Finland - conferred by President Alexander Stubb in his capacity as Grand Master of the Order. The decoration recognises significant work in strengthening ties between Finland and Australia's Island State. Finland's Orders of Merit were created soon after independence and both World Wars. The Finnish Ambassador, Arto Haapea, presented the decoration affirming that even at the far edge of the map, Tasmanians and what community members do, matters.

### HOBART TOY LIBRARY

South Hobart Community Centre

Mondays: 9-11 am

Fridays: 3:30-5:30 pm

The Hobart Toy Library officially opens this month. Members will be able to borrow toys, games and puzzles and then return them and choose some more, keeping play fun and exciting, and keeping clutter to a minimum.

The Library hopes to be able to offer more sessions as their volunteer members and toy collections grow. You can find member information and updates on Facebook.

### DANCE CLASSES

Priya Kitchener is running regular dancing classes at The South Hobart Community Centre on Thursdays and Fridays in the evening. She runs drop-in classes and also monthly class blocks, which require people to sign-up



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at the start of the month. Popular styles like Salsa, and also some newer and less well known styles like Bachata and Kizomba are taught. For more details contact Priya on 0491 050 258 or via email at: [priya.kitchener@yahoo.com](mailto:priya.kitchener@yahoo.com).

### THE DUTTA'S RETURN

After an absence of nearly three years, South Hobart is to see the return of *The Macquarie Foodstore*, but in a slightly different form. Many locals will be glad to see this South Hobart café being revived. Mike Dutta's family has renewed the lease on this former much-loved restaurant and meeting place. In fact, the Strip hasn't really been the same without the opportunity to grab a morning Laté and Eggs Benedict and catch up on all the local news. The daughter and granddaughters of former owner, Hobart councillor Mike Dutta, will rename the once bustling *Macquarie Street Foodstore*, **Z Petit Café**. It will be run by Mr. Dutta's daughter Zelah Dutta-Nielsen with help from her daughters Zarah, 16, and Zerena, 15, who are both still studying after the family returned three years ago from living in Luxembourg. Zerena designed the new signage for the café and Zarah, who wants to study law, is excited to be taking over from her grandparents.

### ZIP LINE 2

*Tourists screaming or Eagles?*

Over the last few weeks, a pair of Wedgetail Eagles have been flying up Ridgeway Road and circling Ridgetop Fire Trail above the *Ridgeway Dam* and over the Waterworks Park valley. Ironically, **Taz Zip**, the company that unsuccessfully applied to build a Zipline from The Springs, is currently being considered for Public Land Consent by the *City of Hobart*. This Consent is required prior to any future Development Application. The 35 metre high tower on top of Ridgetop fire trail would have cables ending near the entrance to **Waterworks Park**. The Zipline would cross Ridgeway Road near the bottom of the hill. Zipliners would be travelling at up to 100 kph with tourists screaming with fear and delight. There are no other Zipline Amusement Rides in Australia or New Zealand that cross a public commuter road. Western Australia, in particular,

appears to view such a proposition crossing a Public Road as too unsafe, a legal liability for the Zipline business, problems with insurance and the local council liability if the business goes bankrupt. In both Land Consent and Development Application assessment, the *Hobart City Council* has to earnestly consider their own Bushland Reserve Plans and a long-term commitment to Public Land. Part of this knowledge base includes biodiversity maps where this area is a hot spot particularly for threatened species such as these fantastic birds.

### THE PEAR CIDER SNAG

Michelle Henshaw, part of the Dynamic Duo who make up **Mark on Macquarie**, has, again, been crowned the National Sausage King for 2026. In 2024, it was for her fantastic Spicy Lamb Merguez sausage, which has, since, become a firm favourite of customers. [See ASHN No. 424] This year, Michelle, surprised the Judges with her pear cider and maple syrup pork sausage, which won her the best gourmet sausage award at the Australian Meat Excellence Awards. The pear cider is sourced from *Franks* in Franklin. Congratulations Michelle.

### MORE ON THE PRIORY

Much of last month's article on The Priory was sourced from Audrey Holiday & Walt Eastman's marvellous book: "Mansions, Cottages and All Saints". Our previous Governor, Prof. Kate Warner AC, a childhood resident of South Hobart, living in Holebrook Place (now Davey Street) used to climb the big pine tree at The Priory then owned by the Monfries. In an address at the launch of Alison Alexander's book: "Beneath the Mountain – A History of South Hobart" she recalls: "*The Priory was owned by the Monfries Family, an elderly couple and their rather eccentric daughter, Nell. Nell loved children and welcomed the neighbours' children to the house, climbed trees with us (she was in her fifties) and took us bushwalking on the Mountain. We played in The Priory paddocks, which, in those days, ran down to the creek at the bottom of Lynton Avenue*". [Beneath the Mountain: A History of South Hobart, pp. 46-47.]

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