



## New Principals for Consultative Body

The first Annual General Meeting of the Get to the Point Programme was held on 17 March 2005. Alan Mayze, Graham Bannister and Linda Innes were nominated for the positions of President, Secretary and Treasurer and were duly elected unopposed.

As the former Convener of the Programme, Alan Mayze presented his annual report which is included below.

"The Get to the Point Programme was initiated in October 2002. Initial funding was provided under the NSW Government's Small Towns/Main Street Regional Development Programme as a result of representations by the Greenwell Point Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Inc.

At the outset the Programme was run under the Guidance of the Chamber Executive and continued in that way after the Programme was formalised as a separate incorporated association in 2004. Since its inception the Programme has generated a number of tangible benefits to the local community:

- Regular publication of the local Gazette continues to raise community awareness;
- The Foodies Festival, Oktoberfest and other fund-raising events have generated additional funds;
- The Programme has been acknowledged by the Shoalhaven City Council as the Principal Consultative Body for the area; and
- Significant progress has been made on the development of a Landscape Master Plan and steps to halt the continuing foreshore erosion.

In recent times there has been some disruption to operations due to key participants leaving the village. We have also suffered from a general lack of participation from the community at large.

It is easy to grow cynical when long promised developments fail to materialise from Council. But behind the scenes we have established good working relationships with Council officers and a lot of planning work has been done. If progress appears slow at present then we all need to consider how much worse it might be if we did not have a Principal Consultative Body.

The Get to the Point Programme has great potential to give the community a focus for deciding how we want the village to develop in the future and turning those plans into reality. I hope that the community will get behind the incoming Committee and make things happen."

### Chamber Empties Pot

At an emotion charged final meeting of the Greenwell Point Chamber of Commerce and Tourism on 22 March it was unanimously agreed to wind-up the association.

Whilst saddened that the group was to end after 20 years of operations members acknowledged the practicalities and pledged to put their support behind the Get to the Point Programme.

The balance of funds in the Chamber's account will be donated to the Get to the Point Programme and benefit the whole community.

## Column 3

You know you should give up smoking don't you.

But if you can't, then at least don't stick your butt out of the car window.

Make your contribution to reducing the 7 billion cigarette butts that litter our land every year—**Bin your Butt.**

Dropping butts directly into the gutter, drains or waterways creates an environmental problem which those of us lucky enough to live in such a great place should be keen to see avoided.

And whilst on the topic of keeping the place clean and tidy the local Scouts and the School are to be commended for doing their bit for the recent Clean up Australia Day.

We didn't have a full community organised event as in previous years but next year we definitely will.

A kind sponsor has already volunteered to bung on a sausage sizzle for participants.

In the meantime why don't we all take a moment while wandering around the village to pick up and bin those cast off bottles and wrappers. If we keep the place looking spic and span maybe the tossers might eventually get the message.

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**The More Things Change**

In the February edition Column 3 had a few words to say about motorists ignoring the 50Kph sign.

One alert local pointed out the following excerpt from "Greenwell Point—An Early Shoalhaven Port" which was compiled by local historian and former headmaster Jim Walliss.

"In 1955 speeding motorists ignoring the 30mph limit led to complaints to the Police. 'The footpaths near the school are practically unusable and the children have to use the road. At a fast speed the motorist could be over the brow of the hill and close to the school before he is aware of the danger'".

If this rate of change is maintained a speed limit of 40Kph should be in force by 2045. At least the footpaths have been fixed!

**Town Hall Crying Out for Help**

Did you know that the local Community Memorial Hall ceased to be owned and operated by the RSL over 15 years ago.

Responsibility for its maintenance rests with the Hall Management Committee headed by Tony Fowler. Council looks after the outside of the Hall but maintenance of the inside is organised by the Management Committee.

All fees raised from the use of the Hall go to this maintenance. This arrangement has enabled the Committee to keep the fees down to a ridiculously low level.

So if you're thinking of holding a function consider using the Hall—you will not only get a bargain you'll be helping with the upkeep.

For bookings or if you'd like to help out on the Committee ring Tony on 4447 0087.

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**Beam me up Ziggy**

Telstra came good and upgraded our telephone exchange so that we can all now benefit from the availability of high-speed internet access.

If you want some independent advice about broadband services including a comprehensive list of all the plans available then visit [www.whirlpool.net.au](http://www.whirlpool.net.au).

Before signing up make sure you understand what you're getting. Beware plans that include excess charges if you go over a certain limit. Plans that reduce your connection speed (referred to as 'shaping') when the download limit is reached are a far safer financial proposition.

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**Dedicated Dellght Despite Damp**

The weather wasn't kind but the School P & C were nevertheless delighted with the success of their Easter Fete. A big thanks to everyone who contributed.

**Seniors Head Back to School**

A seniors/grandparents morning tea held recently at the school was a great success attracting more than 50 oldies but goodies.

And there are likely to be more "seniors" trying to re-enrol when they see the groovy new playground equipment that has been purchased by the P & C. If you want to have first go then sign up to help install the stuff when it arrives!

**"More kids needed" - Treasurer**

It's not just Pete who's saying this. Your school needs more enrolments to maintain teacher numbers. The annual battle with the Department of Education is on and the school enrolments need to be boosted. Any parents considering the advantages of a small school should contact the school and speak to other parents who are very proud of our little school. Enrol now!

**Music Allegro**

Music lessons are taking place at the school on Fridays and the annual Cross Country event is on 29 April. Students are encouraged to continue training over the holidays on both counts.

**Call to Alms**

The P & C welcomes all members of the community who wish to become involved in school activities. Volunteer to listen to the children read, even if only for one hour a week, or some hours some weeks!

Help keep an eye out for unauthorised people on the school property. Our taxes and fundraising pay for the school and equipment so we have every right to keep an eye on the place and ensure that it is taken care of.

**The Great Umbrella Mystery!**

Did you attend the carols by church-light in December?

There were three umbrellas left in the Church which are still unclaimed. Is one yours?

One was a mauve collapsible umbrella which was left behind and a similar one taken in error. The missing umbrella is of great sentimental value to the owner who would appreciate its return. Please ring 44471806 if you can help unfurl this mystery.

**Oops!**

Apologies to Shoalnet/Fastrac your friendly local internet service provider. Their ad was accidentally omitted from last month's edition. We greatly appreciate their contribution of hosting for the [www.greenwellpoint.info](http://www.greenwellpoint.info) web site.

**Scouts Bob-a-Job Month In May**

Well it's officially called Job Month these days what with "Bob" being a slightly dated form of currency. During the entire month of May our Cub Scouts and Leaders will be seeking to raise much needed funds.

If you have any odd jobs you need doing please contact Leonie Barker 4447 1521 or Alan Brown 4447 1693.

The Cubs offer a big thank you to all those who helped them raise nearly \$550 in the Easter Raffle and Guessing Competition. Congratulations to all the winners!

Watch out for a special Scouts segment in next month's Gazette.

**Web Site Makeover**

As promised last month the Get to the Point web site has just had a face-lift. [www.greenwellpoint.info](http://www.greenwellpoint.info) is the place to check it out.

If you spot any errors/omissions or have any suggestions for additions and improvements then please use the Feedback Form that you'll find on the site.

We're still looking for a volunteer to do a regular fishing report!

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## Back Page — Get to the Point Goings On

### Landscape Master Plan

Progress has continued apace this month. Unfortunately the pace has been pretty much the same one we've seen for several months—sloooooow.

Tenders have been called for landscaping the area surrounding the new entrance sign so hopefully that signals that things will happen there soon.

### Advertising Revenue

Ads fund the Gazette and start from \$11.00 per issue (if you pay in advance for 10 copies). If you operate a local business and would like to advertise with us then call Graham on 4447 1554 for a free measure and quote!

### Funds not Self Raising

Mike, the maestro of the Chockie wheel spun it till his fingers hurt at the Easter Fete. Gabrielle Franklin has embarked on a philatelic career after correctly guessing the number of stamps in the box. As a result of the fundraising efforts of the Events Team on the day the coffers are healthier to the tune of \$568. Well done gang!

### Tennis Courts

A letter has been sent to Council seeking to get the tennis courts re-surfaced. The present surface is dangerous when wet and is in need of a long term solution rather than just a patch up.

### Monthly Meetings

Regular monthly meetings of the Programme have recommenced. Be at the Community Hall 7.00pm on the third Thursday of the month.

### Classifieds—Garage Sale

Well it's a really a shed sale—and we're not talking just contents here. This is the entire shed previously used by the Chamber of Commerce to store stuff. As part of its wind-up the Chamber is selling off this iconic piece of Australian architecture complete with paving stone flooring. Be quick—ring Alan on 4447 0097 and make an offer.

### Fill Yer Boots

Stay tuned for the upcoming car boot sales the GTTP Events Team are planning to hold at the Community Hall. Dates have not been finalised as yet but they will be soon. Watch the notice boards around town. For more info ring Vera on 4447 1358. BYO boot or rent-a-boot.

### Boat Ramp Plans In Deep Water

At least one resident of Adelaide Street has contacted Council expressing concern about the revised boat ramp parking arrangements foreshadowed in the February Gazette.

At this stage the analysis of alternatives for the boat ramp refurbishment is still being kicked around by Council officers.

They have made it clear that any future developments will be subject to public consultation before plans are finalised. But this doesn't mean that you should save all your comments till that happens. If there are issues that worry you then make your concerns known. It won't help your blood pressure and it certainly won't help the community if you just keep stewing about your concerns in private!

Contact a Get to the Point Programme representative or send a letter to the Editor. See contact details at right.

### Delay Causes Banks to Crumble

There has been no progress on the erosion remediation works pending resolution of the boat ramp question.

Is this just a delaying tactic or a sign of prudent management seeking to ensure efficient project delivery? Will the garbage bins on the foreshore reserve collapse into the drink before the works start? So many questions ....

### What is this "Get to the Point"?

According to it's constitution the Get to the Point Program (Inc) ...

"seeks to encourage the involvement of all local residents and ratepayers by providing a broadly-based community organisation with the objectives of: improving the physical and environmental aspects of the village; holistically addressing the community's social, cultural, health, youth and elderly issues; developing and strengthening local businesses and developing opportunities for new businesses/industries to provide a sustainable economic base; and promoting the area and increasing community pride through events, promotions, marketing and information campaigns targeting local residents, as well as tourist and commercial markets".

Any person who is a resident or a ratepayer of the Greenwell Point/Pyree area is deemed to be a member of the Program.

No fees are charged for membership of the program.

### Get to the Point Programme Inc

#### Office Bearers

President—Allan Mayze	4447 0097
Secretary—Graham Bannister	4447 1554
Treasurer—Linda Innes	4447 1207

#### Team Leaders

#### Physical Design/Environment

Vacant tba

#### Social Development

Joe Franklin 4447 1111

#### Events

Vera Farnham 4447 1358

#### Business and Tourism

Vacant tba

#### Greenwell Point On-Line

[www.greenwellpoint.info](http://www.greenwellpoint.info)

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### Get to the Point Program (Inc)

## NEXT MEETING

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### Local Justices of the Peace

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Mr N Barker	4447 1521
Mr & Mrs Bloomfield	0419 210 366
Mr J Franklin	4447 1336
Mrs Graham	4447 1421
Ms C Holmes	4447 1215
Mrs Leslie	4447 1931
Mr P Reeves (Black Marlin)	4447 1279