



# Pittwater Online News

May 29- June 4, 2011: Issue 8

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<http://www.pittwateronlinenews.com/>

## Saltwater is the theme for our 8<sup>th</sup> Issue.

Most who have wallowed in the sea have experienced that lightening of body as salt soaks in and draws out all that may be termed 'fractious'. Returning to land, encrusted with the stuff, it's as though we have been turned into rainbows as prisms light off our fingers and arms. It is a peace restoring, health restoring, mind restoring tonic available to all. Standing in the lap and lull of waves realigns our backbones, translates to easier rhythms of heart. The whoop we sound out when catching the perfect wave, seeing whales or dolphins leap, feeling wind fill our sails or even witnessing big

## This Week

### Lead Article

Lenny Duck Tribute

### Profile of the Week

Katie Spithill, Match Racer and London Olympics contender.

### History

Extracts from William Bradley's Journal of his 1788 exploration of Broken Bay and Pittwater.

### Park Bench Philosophers

'Ode to Lenny' by Lynne and Michael Clay.

dawns on still waters or where currents run, the sunsets over summer and winter fill us with visions that enrich our souls and being. The salt air feels purifying, eases asthma and smells like home when we are still far way, returning. This week we glimpse how being saltwater people in salt air is cause to be thankful, to feel blessed.

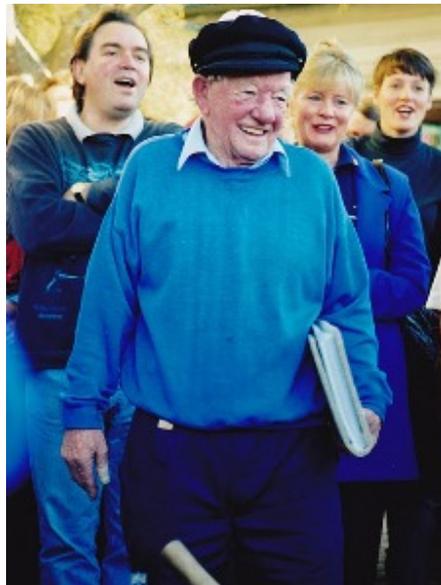
### Lenny Duck

On Tuesday 24th of May Lenny Duck passed away. He was in his 80's. Since 1962 Lenny Duck, ferry master, steered the Elvina, the only ferry on the Church Point run then, through fair weather and foul. Prior to the advent of water taxis Lenny would bring mums expecting to the mainland, rush to the aid of others needing emergency medical facilities and even run many home after hours. One story relates how he used to ferry home a girl working at a Newport restaurant, as long as she brought dessert! He was a backbone of the Offshore Community, a friend to all with a modest nature and a deep appreciation of how the seasons fill the landscape and the waterways. A new ferry, named the **L.Duck** in his honour by the community, has arrived at Church Point Ferry Services. Everyone is invited to attend an ash scattering on Pittwater on **Saturday the 4th of June**, and afterwards at Church Point. For those requiring transport please contact Penny on [penny@churchpointferryservice.com](mailto:penny@churchpointferryservice.com). Ode to Lenny Duck thanks to Lynne and Michael Clay and [Pittwater Offshore News](#) on [Park Bench Philosopher's](#)

### Contents

Community News updates, Seniors and Youth pages, Lynda Hill, resident Astrologer, Saltwater Visions in Pictures, Cauliflower as a Winter Warmer in Food, Salt Air plants in Environment updates, Local Events, Club's Notices and Community Noticeboard.

Previous Profiles and History Pages available on main site.



page.

## Katie Spithill

A lover of fortuitous salt breezes, Katie has been sailing since she was 5 years old. She grew up on Pittwater with the only access to home being by boats. Katie comes from a sailing family, with both her parents sailors and her older and younger brother quite successful sailors too. At 16 she began Match Racing.

A match race is a race between two competitors, going head-to-head. Match racers concentrate on crossing the line before their opponent. This one-on-one duel is a game of strategy, tactics and teamwork. Boats sail a windward/leeward course with a downwind finish. Races are approximately 20 minutes long.

At the Start the two boats (each flying either a blue or a yellow flag) enter the start area from opposite ends of the starting line four minutes prior to the a shot sounded to commence. The boats will engage in pre-start manoeuvres, in which each one will try to gain advantage over the other. The aim is to make the other boat cross the line early or to start in front of the other boat. The yacht which crosses the starting line first has the advantage.

**Full Article at:**

<http://www.pittwateronlinenews.com/profile-for-the-week.php>

**William Bradley's Journal of 1788**



## exploration of Broken Bay and Pittwater

William Bradley (1757?-1833) was First Lieutenant on the ship, Sirius, captained by John Hunter. In his twenties, Bradley was great-nephew of the Astronomer Royal and son of a mathematics master and excelled in navigation. Contained in his journal are 22 meticulously drawn charts which record a series of early survey expeditions in the colony and voyages on the Sirius. He was also a water colour drawer and gives us insights into how our area looked prior to settlement and the construction of buildings. He returned to England in 1892.

Two days after reaching Port Jackson, Bradley accompanied John Hunter to survey and chart Sydney Harbour and commenced the naming of various Harbour landmarks, including Bradley's Point (now Bradley's Head).

Over the next three months he accompanied Arthur Phillip on exploratory trips, to **Broken Bay, Manly Cove** and the upper reaches of the Parramatta River. Of note in the below extracts from his journal during his trip to explore Broken Bay is that some of the crew were recovering from smallpox. Our own Pittwater Council's website notes that in 1788-1790 many of our local Custodians died of this disease, perhaps infected by those on this ship? From: 'Between April 1789 and 1790 many died of diseases, to which they had no resistance'; Pittwater Council website.:



**June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

<http://www.pittlink.net/ls/aborigines.html>

**Full Article and Journal at:**

<http://www.pittwateronlinenews.com/history.php>

## **Environment**

Where Pittwater Road runs approximates the old 'Coastal Dreaming' track of the saltwater peoples from the Guringai and Garigal peoples. Following flatlands or walking along ridges, further towards Barranjoey Headland, where the valleys became steep, was the easiest way to negotiate the bush. On either side, even during winter, colourful sprays of bush-flowers brightened and marked the ways.

Full Article and more at:

<http://www.pittwateronlinenews.com/environment.php>

## **Community News**

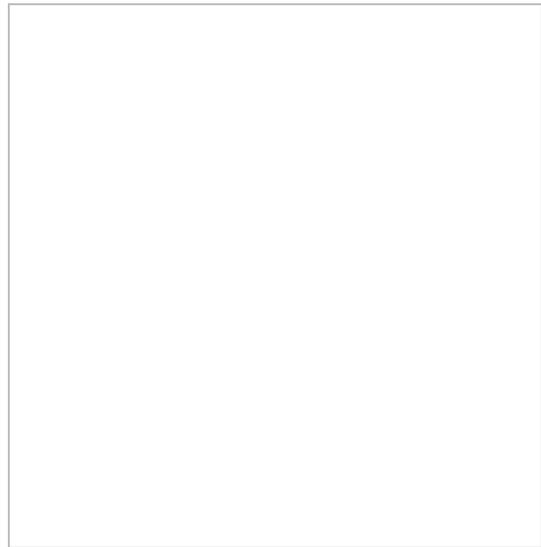
Tree Lopper Scammers preying on Seniors in Newport: There have been disturbing reports this week of tree loppers posing as Council workers telling seniors in Newport their trees need cutting and then trying to charge them for work. If you are approached by these people please contact Council on 9970 1111.

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> of May: The Northern Beaches Expo at Warriewood comprises four expos - all located in the one area - offering entertainment and more than 200 exhibits designed to appeal to every member of the family. It's a great day out. Choose from the Homeshow Expo, All Woman Expo, Retired Life Expo and

Outdoor Adventure Expo and check out the hundreds of displays and shopping bargains on offer. There will be non-stop live entertainment on each of the three stages located throughout the expo featuring fashion parades, bands, dance performances and more. The kids will be kept busy with lots of activities including a FREE jumping castle.

**More at:**

<http://www.pittwateronlinenews.com/community--events.php>



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