



Upcoming Events

For updates closer to the date refer to the FTCA website: <http://ferntree.tas.au> or @FernTreeCommunity on Facebook

CHRISTMAS CAROLS Saturday 13 December 2025 7:00 to ~8:45 pm Community Centre	Playgroup Thursdays 9:30 to 11:30 Community Centre <i>Playgroup will take a summer break from mid-December and start up again on 29th January 2026</i>
Bushcare takes a break in December & January <i>Working bees will recommence on 8th February 2026</i> <i>Meet 10:30 am at top of Browns Rd</i>	Contact Nadirah: 0400 950 441 or look for Fern Tree playgroup on FB
SAVE THE DATE! Book Fair Sunday 12 April 2026 ——— <i>Details in the next newsletter</i> ———	

WEEDS of the Season

Foxglove is now a declared weed and should be controlled especially if you live close to Kunanyi / Wellington Park. Before the flowers develop viable seeds you can strip off the buds or break off the stalk, and carefully uproot the plant, taking care to not disturb too much soil. Get soil off the roots and leave it high and dry, otherwise it will continue to develop seeds.

Stinking Iris and Red Hot Poker - these garden plants are highly invasive, but we often don't recognise them. You'll save yourself and your neighbours a lot of effort if you cut off and bin the seed heads. They are often mistaken for native lilies or irises.

Arum Lily - this is probably the hardest to control of all the environmental weeds. Please don't plant arum, and remove the old flower heads before they develop seeds.

Also look out for following invasive plants in Fern Tree:

Daphne laurel (*Daphne laureola*)
Karamu (*Coprosma robusta*),
Darwins Holly (*Berberis darwinii*),
Orange hawkweed (*Pilosella aurantica*)



NEWSLETTER

December 2025

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Saturday 13th December 2025

The Fern Tree Carols by Candlelight is a traditional singalong event held at the Fern Tree Community Centre.

The singing will be led by a small but enthusiastic chorus of parents accompanied by young members of the Kim Bishop Suzuki violin studio. You can also look forward to some special performances including from our local Fire Brigade.

Hot drinks will be available. BYO everything else!

Santa will be arriving at 7 pm and singing starts at 7:30. Event finishes around 8:45 pm.

This fun event is organised by locals, for locals.
Just come along, bring your friends, and get into the Christmas spirit!

Fern Tree Community Association Inc. is a non-profit group set up to serve and represent the community of Fern Tree. **Address all correspondence to:** The Secretary, Fern Tree Community Association, 8 Stephenson Pl, Fern Tree, 7054 or email secretary@ferntree.tas.au

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWS**Neighbourhood Watch Signs**

Fern Tree now has four new signs, thanks to Neighbourhood Watch Tasmania and the City of Hobart Council who facilitated their installation.

No Crime Reports

Our NWG co-ordinator is pleased to report that over the past three months (September, October and November) no crimes have been reported in Fern Tree, Ridgeway and Neika. This is wonderful for our area, but please continue to think about keeping your properties safe during the upcoming holiday period (which is when Fern Tree was targeted last year). Also a reminder to report any occurrences to TASPOL.

If you are interested in getting involved with your local Neighbourhood Watch Group, please contact
Tom Calderwood 0413 977 673 Email: thomas.calderwood@gmail.com

Our Hall is getting solar panels!

At the beginning of the year, FTCA applied for a Federal Government Grant for the installation of a rooftop solar system, and we were recently advised that our application was successful. Installation of 18 solar panels plus inverter / battery pack is to occur in early March.

Thanks go to staff in Andrew Wilkie's office*, who made us aware of this opportunity and supported us with the application process.

The solar system will complete a series of upgrades for the hall that FTCA has progressed throughout 2025.

*ALSO we are grateful as always for the printing of this newsletter!

**Do you have
anything of interest
for the newsletter??
Then please email
newsletter@ferntree.tas.au**

FERN TREE FIRE BRIGADE NEWS**Now is a good time to reduce fuel loads around your house and property**

Leaving early during a bushfire is always the safest option, but fires can catch people by surprise (at home or on the road), which is why we need to prepare our properties even if planning to leave early. Preparing your property is a neighbourly act and maintaining it is a legal requirement. Using the kerbside collection or removing green waste with a box trailer are good options but not always timely or easy. The TFS recognises that often the most practical method of managing fire hazard is with well planned private burn-offs of dry vegetation. This can be done around homes in high risk areas, including all of Fern Tree, without restriction on the size or location of the property. Burns must be well planned to ensure they are done in a safe and efficient manner without causing nuisance to others. Your best source of information for preparing for bushfire can be found at <https://bushfire.tas.gov.au>

If you are burning off, remember the following:

- Register your burn with Tasmania Fire Service and check for permit periods and total fire ban days on the Tasmania Fire Service website.
- Moist or green vegetation generates excessive smoke when burnt and may not comply with council bylaws. Burning dry vegetation reduces nuisance to neighbours and is also more efficient.
- Consider using a tarp to keep a pile dry, so that you can burn on a day when your pile is dry but the surrounding area is recently wet/damp.
- Fire Permits will not be issued for non-compliant fuels. Residents who comply with their fire permit conditions will not be in breach of council by-laws.



Nick Barta

Nick Barta
Chief, Fern Tree Fire Brigade

Please visit: <https://www.ferntree.tas.au/fire>
for more advice and news