



GREENWICH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

NEXT PUBLIC MEETING IS THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date and Time: Wednesday 17 February 2016 at 7.30 pm at the Greenwich Community Centre, 46 Greenwich Rd.

This will be our first meeting for 2016 and the agenda will include the AGM, where office bearers for the GCA committee for this year will be elected. All positions will be vacated so nominations are open for: president, two vice presidents, secretary, treasurer, and seven committee members. Nominations for the positions may be submitted beforehand in writing to the president, Tom Gervay, or can be offered from the floor at the meeting. Please note that nominees must have accepted the nomination, be seconded, and be financial members of the GCA. Only financial members of the GCA are entitled to vote.

Refreshments will be served during the evening and everyone is warmly invited to attend. Come along and see what fun it is to participate and actively work towards bettering our community. You might also consider standing for the committee.

The GCA objectives under its Constitution include: "to do all things possible to further the interests of Greenwich...and to maintain and enhance the amenity of all residents and owners of property in Greenwich."

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2016

Subscriptions may be paid online, by mail, or by dropping them into the GCA box at Greenwich Pharmacy, at any time prior to the meeting, and at the door on the night with the correct amount to save time and aid our harassed treasurer. Please note, no receipts will be issued.

Subscription details are as follows. Individual membership is \$20, family membership is \$20. Pensioner membership is \$10. Note that family membership entitles the family to one vote only. Where a family wishes to have more than one vote, then members of that family must take out additional individual memberships.

Electronic bank details are as follows and can also be found on the pay in slips: BSB 062247, Acct number 10104085.



CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Greenwich Carols at Leemon Reserve were once again a great success in early December, especially for the children. In addition to a fun night, festive singing, red hats and candles, the event raised an impressive \$2,147 for Youth off the Streets. A big thank you to Harbourline who organised the event, the volunteers and supporters who helped make it happen and the community who participated.



Lots of kids having lots of fun at the Greenwich Carols by Candlelight

THE HISTORY OF SANTA AT GREENWICH WHARF

This is a beloved and time-honoured tradition but the thing is, we don't really know how and when it started, so we'd be very interested in hearing from anyone in the community who can shed light on the subject.

We think it goes back some 40 years, but it could be more. So if you know of anyone who can help then please email or phone Garry on 0412 660 066, draffin@bigpond.net.au

SANTA AT THE WHARF

Many thanks to all the Greenwich families and Santa's helpers who turned out in record numbers to see Santa at Greenwich wharf on Christmas morning. Donations from tea, coffee and juice raised \$300 for Youth off the Streets. Particular thanks to the Hairdresser in Greenwich for their ongoing support of this important community event.



ONGOING CONCERNS FOR 2016

VIVA GORE BAY FUEL DEPOT

As reported in our last newsletter, the GCA has made a lengthy submission to the EPA (Environmental Protection Authority) regarding the review of the EPA licence for the Gore Bay Terminal operations. Our submission can be accessed on our website. We are awaiting details of variations (if any) to the licence, which the EPA has advised us to expect in early 2016.

The licence review is not the only Gore Bay item in the EPA's Inbox this year. Over the weekend of January 16 and 17 several residents from various parts of the peninsula reported to president Tom Gervay, Viva and the EPA offensive odours from the terminal. We were advised by Viva that there was an unintended consequence while unloading fuel - inert gases were released into the atmosphere.

On this note, Viva has advised that its contact number to report complaints to terminal management is 8437 1238 or refer to <https://www.vivaenergy.com.au/operations/gore-bay/about-us> to make comments and provide feedback to Viva Energy Australia. Viva has advised us that if callers leave their name and contact details and request a call back then their calls will be appropriately attended to.

Another point of contact is the EPA Environment Line 131 555, which will accept complaints on an anonymous basis.

Residents may have noticed the appearance of a new vessel in the bay. The *Reliance* has replaced the *Destine* to provide bunkering operations for vessels in the harbour. The EPA has advised us that "the new vessel has bow and stern thrusters, and while this negates the need for a second tug.....there are aspects of the motors and operations that seem to produce a level of noise...Viva advises that it is monitoring noise using hand held monitors and expects that the noise impacts will be reduced by using lower revs and speeds when arriving and leaving the berth."

It remains a difficult task treading the fine line between our community's interests and corporate commercial realities. The GCA strives to ensure the health, safety and well being of our community.



COUNCIL AMALGAMATIONSIS BIGGER BETTER? IT APPEARS THAT THE PEOPLE SAY 'NO'

The State Government is trying to renege on its pre-election promise that there would be no forced amalgamation of NSW Councils. They are now proposing the amalgamation of Lane Cove, Hunters Hill and Ryde Councils, against the wishes of those Councils.

At the Council Boundary Review held on 2 February 2016 the three mayors argued that amalgamation provides no cost savings and reduces the voice of individuals. They proposed that the Joint Regional Authority (JRA) which they have already established, is a far better way of achieving operational efficiencies. Surveys by each Council have found that over 80% of their residents oppose forced amalgamations. The mayors also cited recent Council amalgamations in Queensland and Victoria which increased rates and reduced community representation.

What do you think? Individual written submissions can be made via the website www.councilboundaryreview.nsw.gov.au by 28 February 2016



MARSHALL AVE ST LEONARDS - REVISITED

The Marshall Avenue Loftex tower is before the Joint Regional Planning Panel (JRPP) for approval again, despite it being rejected as unsuitable back in March 2015.

Council is pushing for changes in the zoning to allow the tower at the increased height, and working on extending the rezoning to Park Road, which will mean permitting resumption of houses to broaden roads to accommodate the increase in traffic.

While the time for submissions was rushed over the Christmas holiday period, residents can still write to the Minister for Planning Mr Rob Stokes (pittwater@parliament.nsw.gov.au) and the Federal member for North Sydney, Mr Trent Zimmerman (trent.zimmerman.mp@aph.gov.au).

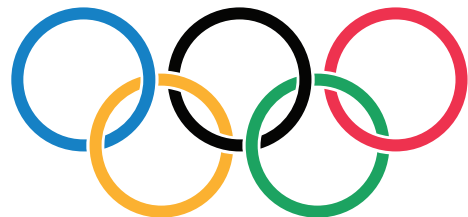
THANKS TO COUNCIL

We note and appreciate two recent repairs to community facilities. The first was upgrading the rough track from Gother Ave to East St to make it easier for prams, wheelchairs and pedestrians. The second was completion of the first phase in the construction of a major retaining wall along a section of the bush track from the ferry wharf to Shell Park which had been subject to dangerous subsidence.



The impressive retaining wall now makes it safer to walk along the bush track

OUR OWN 'GREENWICH OLYMPICS'



This is the year of the Greenwich Village Games, another beloved tradition, and this year it will be over the weekend of 2 - 4 December. The new organising committee is in place, with the only position yet to be filled being that of Revue Co-ordinator. If you are interested please contact Secretary Lynne Spencer on 0413 313 347, or lynne.spencer@bigpond.com

Thank you to the outgoing GCA executive and sub committee members for a job well done, and welcome to the new year and new committees.

STAY IN TOUCH

We encourage ALL residents to stay in touch with regular visits to our website: www.greenwich.org.au and that of Lane Cove Council: www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au

If you register your email address on the GCA's website you will also receive newsletters and updates electronically.
Tom Gervay, President 0418 230 889
Rob Hunter, Secretary 0413 451 209

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