



GREENWICH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

NEXT PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday 22 October 2014 at the Greenwich Community Centre, 46 Greenwich Road, at 7.30 pm. Refreshments will be available during the evening and everyone is warmly invited to attend. There are many hot topics in our community at the moment, and many of those will be addressed at this meeting. Whether you come along to have your say or just listen to what others are saying – it is always relevant and informative. Please note that the plans for the proposed all-weather seating at the Greenwich restaurant precinct will be available for viewing and discussion.

FURTHER GREENWICH PROJECTS

In the last issue of the newsletter we talked about our concern that Lane Cove Council's construction schedule was not allowing for enough consultation with Greenwich residents, and we cited as evidence the new elevated walkway, designed and funded by Council, from Greenwich Sailing Club to the Baths via a new bush track.

Love it, hate it or not have an opinion either way, the fact remains that the project, meant to increase pedestrian safety and facilitate additional parking for the Baths, was carried out with no wider community consultation, and with only minimal notification to households in the immediate vicinity.

The GCA wrote to Council about our concerns, especially that the GCA did not support this construction in its final form and in fact received notification of its scope and cost only when the project was almost completed. Fortunately, our concerns appear to have elicited a positive response. The next community project to be undertaken by Council is the provision of permanent all-weather seating at the Greenwich restaurant precinct.

This is one that should enhance our precinct and the community is sure to have ideas about what should or should not be incorporated. We are gratified to announce that the **plans will be available for comment at the meeting on 22 October**. The plans are also on display on the notice board at the shops. To have your say, please make submissions to the General Manager by post - Lane Cove Council, PO Box 20, Lane Cove 1595, or email - iccouncil@lanecove.nsw.gov.au. Note that submissions will be received until **Monday 27 October 2014**.



The broad sweep of the walkway from the Sailing Club

GORE HILL CEMETERY PILGRIMAGE TOUR

The Friends of Gore Hill Cemetery are again organising the popular Spring Tour of the heritage-listed Gore Hill Memorial Cemetery at St Leonards. The cemetery contains the graves of many North Shore pioneers. The pilgrimage is designed to honour a number of those pioneers who made such a contribution to the early days of the North Shore, including St Mary MacKillop whose work extended Australia wide and into neighbouring countries. This tour, the final one for this year, is very popular and booking is essential as numbers are limited.

Date: Sunday 2 November

Time: 10:30 am

Duration: 2 hours

Contact: John May 9906 5106

IT'S OUR BIRTHDAY

The GCA is a venerable 70 years old this year, and the Greenwich Marjorie Propsting Memorial Library a sprightly 50, and we thought it would be a nice idea to throw ourselves a combined birthday party. And residents are invited to come along and enjoy the fun!

On Thursday 6 November at the Greenwich Community Hall at 6pm Naomi Bassford, Manager Local Studies and Archives, will present an informative talk on the 120 years of Greenwich history, illustrated with beautiful historical photographs. Then on Saturday 8 November the GCA has organised a history walk, starting at the library at 9 am and led by Denis Smith from the Lane Cove Historical Society. For an hour and a half the walk will follow the Historic Greenwich route (map available at the library), down to the Baths, where you can pick up a mid-walk coffee, and end up

at the park behind the library, nicely in time for a fundraising BBQ, mayoral address, comedy magic show, storytelling and lots more.

Keep an eye on the GCA website and that of the library, www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au, for more details and look out for the posters.

THE HUB HAS STARTED

The Greenwich hub has been talked about at length in the last few issues of this newsletter, and a number of steps had to be taken to get things organised, but we are now proud to say that the first events have now been accomplished.

The first was a walk organised by Marilee Callister on 5 October. This was a two-hour round trip from Greenwich to Balls Head, and 15 enthusiastic walkers aged 29 to 74 took part. It was such a success that a further walk has been organised for Sunday 26 October. To register, contact Tom Gervay at gervay@bigpond.com (note Tom is away until 20 October).

The second activity was an inaugural book group meeting on 9 October at the Senior Citizens Centre, and it got off to a positive start, with 11 initial members and a schedule decided upon. Contact Karen Macalister-Hohnen on 0413 221 227 for details. Sybil Pliner has also offered to do a stretch class and Janine Tindall is interested in organising a bridge group. Now that

things are starting to move the Steering Committee has begun the process of establishing a HUB structure and forming a Management Group.

We are very fortunate that Helen Jones, a great community worker, has agreed to head the group and shortly we will be inviting to a meeting residents who indicated in our survey that they would be interested in working (part time) in the HUB Office. We will look at filling a number of positions such as Secretary, Treasurer, IT support, Publicity, Membership and Activities.

Residents interested in assisting in the HUB office should contact John May on 9906 5106 or Pam Palmer on 9436 3971

GORE BAY PETITION

Over the following weeks the community will be approached by members of the GCA asking them to support a petition to the NSW State Government. Previous newsletters have talked about the concern of the GCA Gore Bay subcommittee that there is no overall emergency plan for the Viva [formerly Shell] terminal and storage facility at Gore Bay that encompasses both land and water based incidents and all communities around Gore Bay.

The aim of the petition is to request that the State government develop this integrated emergency plan. World's

best practice developed after disasters at other facilities around the world calls for a single integrated emergency plan headed at ministerial level, coordinating all the responses of facility operators, the marine environment, local government, emergency services, and for that integrated plan to be communicated to the community. We require 500 signatures for it to be tabled. The Minister must respond within 35 calendar days. The House is sitting in the last two weeks of October into November before rising for the long holiday so we want to get it finalised reasonably quickly.

Why the need for the petition?

The Gore Bay facility has a good safety record but emergencies arise from unforeseen events. A substantial product spill into the harbour occurred in August 1999. A fire occurred on a vessel in February 1995 while en route to Gore Bay. A terminal fire (on the berthed Shell tanker) occurred in 1976. In October 2012, the facility changed its operation to the importation and storage of refined petroleum products. The community has the right to expect the highest levels of preparedness and safety for the operation.

Current plans for emergency procedures indicate that while each sector has its own disaster response plan there is no overarching procedure that can take control in response operations. Viva has a confidential plan that covers the land operations within their facility. Marine operations are covered in the Sydney Harbour emergency plan which does not specify Gore Bay. The Lane Cove Displan (disaster plan) does not detail evacuation or community safety at Gore Bay. Affected communities in Wollstonecraft Waverton and North Sydney are not included in any emergency plan.

We ask for your support in signing the petition. A copy is also at the village pharmacy.

STAY IN TOUCH

We encourage ALL residents to stay in touch and up to date with regular visits to our website

www.greenwich.org.au and that of the Lane Cove Council

www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au. If you register your email address on the GCA's website you will also receive newsletters electronically.

Tom Gervay, President 0418 230 889
Rob Hunter, Secretary 0413 451 209



Wide smiles from the walkers who completed the first Greenwich HUB activity

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