

Gateway

Newsletter of the Brooklyn Community Association, Inc

July 2011

New Member of Parliament, Matt Kean, to visit Brooklyn for Meeting on Saturday, July 9th

Matt Kean, MP will be the featured guest at the Brooklyn Community Association meeting on Saturday, July 9th. He has agreed to be here from 10am to 11am to meet with the residents. This will be Matt's first opportunity to hear river residents' concerns at a community meeting and all are urged to attend.

Several State issues will be discussed including the development of the Peat Island/ Mooney Mooney site and its impact on the limited infrastructure in Brooklyn.

So far Brooklyn has not been addressed in the planning that is taking place and yet our community is the "big smoke" in the area and we need to be prepared for a large influx of new locals. What can be a huge asset for the river community risks an unsatisfactory end if the Brooklyn side of the equation is not carefully considered. As it is a State development, Matt needs to be made aware of the issues that are clear to those of us who live on both sides of the river.

The other continuing issue is the need for a lift at Hawkesbury River Station. We have suffered from a limited assessment of our needs and the needs of the many tourists who visit and would like to visit Brooklyn.

As a community, we would like to be assessed again with greater attention paid to the very limited alternate transport to and from Brooklyn and the identification of Brooklyn as the access point for river enjoyment, for school children, holiday makers and day tourists.

As it is, our elderly visitors must be hale and hearty or they must come by bus to enjoy a day out along the river. The physically limited visitor or resident is simply out of luck. What is the point of having a ramp for accessing the train on the station when there is NO CHANCE for anyone who is unfit to get further than the platform?

Come along and share your views on the issues that affect you and your family with your new MP.

**Brooklyn Community Association General Meeting
Brooklyn Meeting Room, Dangar Rd, Brooklyn, Saturday,
July 9th, 10am to noon. All are invited. Morning tea will be served.**



Shared Path for Brooklyn Moves into Planning Stage

It would appear that the planners, Urban Arc, engaged by Hornsby Council have come up with a plan that would enable residents of Brooklyn and Mooney Mooney and Cheero Point to enjoy each others company by foot or peddle power while giving residents a longed for means of safely negotiating the dangers of Brooklyn Road.

The upcoming meeting of the BCA will have a display of the proposed shared pathway route that is included in the report to Council, blown up to a scale whereby you can see each of the segments in detail.



Muogamarra Nature Reserve

Put the dates in your calendar for the annual open days at Muogamarra Nature Reserve. This year the open weekends are from Saturday 20th August until Sunday 11th September. Opening times are from 9.00am until 4.00pm. These are normally the only weekends during the year when Muogamarra is open to the public and, in particular, the wildflower display has become an annual event many look forward to each Spring.

Muogamarra contains a number of European historic sites. These sites include evidence of early pioneers and their endeavours and of the growth of the colony at Sydney. It also contains a diversity of Aboriginal sites including rock engravings, grinding grooves and middens. Added to all that, the wildflowers bloom in profusion, from tiny orchids to flamboyant waratahs, depending on the weekend you visit. Towards the last weekend there is usually a spectacular display of waratahs in full bloom along the easiest track of all. One aspect that adds to the enjoyment of a Muogamarra visit is the display of fresh picked flowers blooming that day identified by their botanical and common name.

Guided walks are scheduled each weekend but you are free to do your own thing as well. The walks are suitable for all ages and abilities, from toddlers to experienced bushwalkers, and vary from as little as an hour to most of the day. For information phone the Kalkari Discovery Centre on 9472 9300. To top off a visit, pack a picnic lunch and enjoy a day of discovery. Remember to bring a hat, water and a snack. Entrance to Muogamarra is from the Pacific Highway opposite Pie in the Sky between Cowan and Brooklyn.



New Book Shop and Hotel in Brooklyn

For anyone who has not been into Brooklyn recently, there have been a couple of important changes. Brooklyn now has its own hotel in one of the most distinguished wooden buildings in town. Visitors now have another alternative for a weekend or weekday stay in which to enjoy the many activities offered by the area.

The new book shop is located nearby, on the corner across from the Health Centre, and is a great place for browsing. The prices are very reasonable and the service friendly. You may want to check it out if you haven't been in yet.