

# Gateway

Newsletter of the Brooklyn Community Association, Inc

November 2013



## President's Report

Brooklyn's enduring parking problems came to the surface again in October. Rumours circulated that a three storey car park was being built behind JJ's café and residents were notified that Hornsby Council was considering two hour parking in the Fisherman's Co-Op car park within McKell Park. Emails and letters to Council abounded.

Meanwhile, Brooklyn and river residents, tourists and visitors, railway users and others continue to compete for the limited parking available. Prime parking spaces are being used for car storage, and businesses are losing customers frustrated by inaccessible parking space.

Our parking problems prevent the town progressing, and cause dissension between diverse interest groups. Brooklyn needs a holistic parking solution, not a proposal (however justified) to suit one cause. The Brooklyn Community Association plans to make 2014 the year to resolve parking in Brooklyn, and we invite other community groups in Brooklyn to join with us in this action.

. Robert Arnold, President. Email: [president@brooklyncommunity.org.au](mailto:president@brooklyncommunity.org.au) Mobile: 0418 404 902

## FIRE! Prepare - Act - Survive Planning to Make A Plan Is NOT A Plan

The NSW Rural Fire Service has launched a major new public awareness campaign, warning people against complacency this bush fire season. Research conducted by the NSW RFS has found that 75% of people recognise that having a Bush Fire Survival Plan could save their life, however only a quarter of people actually make one. The research shows that while the majority of people know that they should have a plan, they put it off, thinking a fire won't happen to them.

It's been over 10 years since the last major fire to hit Brooklyn, with the fires already seen in the Blue Mountains this spring it's something of which we should all be aware.

This coming BCA meeting, our guest speaker will be Jon Gaibor Community Safety Officer of the NSW Rural Fire Service and Captain of Brooklyn's Rural Fire Service Brigade who will be talking to us about making a plan, the dangers and risks and the warning levels during this bush fire season.

For more information on the Rural Fire Service as well as making a plan, see [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au)

**Brooklyn Community Association General Meeting**  
**to be held Saturday, November 30th, 10am - noon, Brooklyn Meeting Room**  
**Guest Speaker Jon Gaibor, Community Safety Officer of the NSW Rural Fire Service**  
**and Captain of Brooklyn's Rural Fire Service Brigade.**

Recent bushfires in NSW should give all residents a moment's pause. It could just as easily have been us - as it has been in the past. Preparing for the inevitable bushfire is everyone's business.

All are invited to attend. For more information contact Robert Arnold - email [president@brooklyncommunity.org.au](mailto:president@brooklyncommunity.org.au) or phone 0418 404 902.

# A River Message from Peter Coad

Council has been advised of the recurrence of Pacific Oyster Mortality Syndrome (POMS) within the Hawkesbury. Researchers from the University of Sydney, Faculty of Veterinary Science have made the observation during epidemiological research (funded by the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation).

This occurrence was anticipated within the Hawkesbury at this approximate time. Council is continuing to support the research efforts and farmers where possible.

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## Another Death on The Hawkesbury River Station Stairs

Two locals responded to a man who was found collapsed at the top of the stairs on Hawkesbury River station on Thursday morning, October 3rd. Together they did CPR for around 30 minutes from 6:03 am until around 6:30 am. An ambulance arrived from Mooney Mooney about 6:15-6:20, at which time the victim finally had a defibrillator attached and delivering shocks. The Resus Ambulance did not arrive from Woy Woy until about 6:35am.

The first aiders do not know if earlier access to a PAD ( public access defibrillator) would have made a difference but research shows that if a defibrillator can be attached within eight minutes from the time someone collapses from cardiac arrest their chance of survival is much greater. If there had been a PAD on the station the first aiders may have given the victim a better chance of survival.

One of the first aiders has written to see if the Brooklyn Community Association might help investigate the possibility of putting a PAD on the station or somewhere in the centre of Brooklyn. Given the ambulance response time and the large number of residents as well as tourists who visit Brooklyn, this could potentially save lives.

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## Dangar Island Seeks Commuter Berthing on the Island

Dangar Island League has approved a 40 berth commuter pontoon on the Island. Following a vote of 135 for and 105 against, the commuter pontoon has passed its first hurdle. The next steps will be to seek approval from all the government bodies whose permission are required.

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## Become a Member of the Brooklyn Community Association

The BCA invites local residents, businesses and people who work in Brooklyn to become members of our local association. The BCA has been successful in interfacing with Hornsby Council and the NSW Government, and achieving improvements for the town. By joining the BCA, you can influence actions in Brooklyn and maybe fix those things that irritate you.

Membership is \$5 per individual or family per year. You can pay at our meeting November 30th or make a direct deposit to the BCA at the Bendigo Bank Berowra **BSB: 633-000 Account: 12935718.**

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# HAWKESBURY, What's in a Name?

The Hawkesbury River was named by Governor Phillip in June 1789, after Charles Jenkinson, 1st Earl of Liverpool, who at that time was titled Baron Hawkesbury. An obelisk was unveiled in 1939 at Brooklyn to commemorate the naming. In 1794, 22 families were granted land at Bardenarang, now known as Pitt Town Bottoms, near Windsor. In that same year, confrontations between Aboriginal people and settlers broke out.



## Manly Junior State Championship in Brooklyn

The Manly Junior State Championships 2013-2014 were held in Brooklyn late October at the PCYC Sailing Club. Forty-four Manly Juniors made their way from Parsley Bay boat ramp to the clubhouse in Deadhorse Bay. Others boarded the 'courtesy barge'. Matt Kean swapped his suit for some shorts and Club Commodore Graham Brown admonished us not to drink from the taps as it was river water. Although fresh running water, electricity and large sheds are all luxuries that other Clubs enjoy Hornsby isn't one of these.

Our young sailors questioned why the start boat was facing the wrong direction but after the third attempt at a clean start, our young guns learned the effects of a six knot tide which dragged almost the entire fleet, as if by a magnet, over the line twice before the race could begin.

The overwhelming hospitality of Hornsby Kur-ing-gai Sailing Club, their attention to detail, the logistics of catering for over 200 people, breakfast, lunch and 'afters' over two days in 'geographical isolation' is a true credit to all those involved and our appreciation goes out to Mark Alexander and Simon George from Hornsby, according to Genelle Aldred, President Manly Junior Association.

If you would like more information on sailing contact the Graham Brown at [gnbrown1@bigpond.net.au](mailto:gnbrown1@bigpond.net.au).

## Brooklyn Wharf Gets An Upgrade

Much needed repairs to the Brooklyn wharf are underway, thanks to the Council. The maintenance work includes the replacement of the wharf stairs, decking and the supporting piles. Until the work is completed a temporary pontoon on the northern end will allow for normal operations of the vessels which regularly

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Photo from the *Theatre in The Park* website: [www.theatreinthepark.com.au](http://www.theatreinthepark.com.au)

## Theatre in the Park 2013

On Saturday the 9th of November, in the Brooklyn Rest Park, an audience of five hundred plus gathered to enjoy one of the most awesome nights of Theatre in the Park since Brooklyn Community Theatre was established in 1999. Director Peter Hughes and his outstanding cast brought us an hilarious performance of *Lend Me A Tenor*. Heartfelt congratulations to the amazing group of actors who gave life to this wonderful comedy... Bernie, Gary, Greg, Kaz, Michelle, Nick, Phil and Sonya... fantastic job!

A huge thank you to our wonderful audience, who wholeheartedly embraced the performance and filled the park with a buzz of excitement and peals of laughter. Next year we expect the play to be on Saturday 8 November so please mark the date in your diary and book early, we very nearly sold out this year! Last, but by no means least, a thousand thank you's to all the volunteers who worked tirelessly to put the production on. The amazing generosity and talent that exists in this wonderful community is what makes Theatre in the Park possible.

The annual production is a huge effort and we always need more volunteers, if you would like to help put on this extraordinary annual production please drop us an email... anyone can make a contribution... from constructing the stage, painting sets, making costumes, helping with sound and lighting to designing promotions and programs, arranging advertising, website management, and selling tickets. For more information, contact BROOKLYN COMMUNITY THEATRE, [theatreinthepark@bigpond.com](mailto:theatreinthepark@bigpond.com), [www.theatreinthepark.com.au](http://www.theatreinthepark.com.au) or [www.facebook.com/theatreintheparkbrooklyn](http://www.facebook.com/theatreintheparkbrooklyn)

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## Hawkesbury River Dragons

Hawkesbury River Dragons continue to grow from strength to strength. With increasing club members and the regatta season well under way, HRD currently run training sessions at 6:15 pm on Wednesdays and Thursdays with weekend paddling on Saturdays at 7:15am and two sessions on Sunday 7:30 and 9:00 am. Representatives of the club recently paddled at the Northern Beaches Club, Bei Loon, to inspect a second boat for possible purchase.

Negotiations with Council over more permanent and secure boat storage continue. The competition season this year includes regattas at Manly Dam, Penrith, Nowra and Forster. With these race days under their belts the HRD crew will qualify for the grand finale of the season at Chinese New Year on Darling Harbour. In 2014 HRD will send a cohort to New Zealand for their first international regatta as a club. Contrary to urban myth the team will not be paddling to the land of the long white cloud. They will fly over.

Hawkesbury River Dragons are a fun and friendly club with social events throughout the year. These include regular representation at Berowra Taverns Tuesday trivia night, (where they hold their own), Harbour cruises, barefoot bowls and Christmas picnics.

If you'd like to give paddling a try, email: [hawkesbury.riverdragons@gmail.com](mailto:hawkesbury.riverdragons@gmail.com)