

# Gateway

Newsletter of the Brooklyn Community Association, Inc

March 2014

## President's Report



The Mayor of Hornsby Council has notified the BCA and other local community associations that the Council proposes to commence the development of a master plan for Brooklyn.

Members of the Committee of the BCA have supported the need for a longer term strategic plan for Brooklyn, to improve the amenity of the town, to reduce the risk of inappropriate development, and to improve the unacceptable parking situation. However, many residents are wary of the Council's intentions for the master plan.

To address those concerns, Council needs to promote the master planning process to ensure wide community participation to identify sustainable long-term benefits to the town, and must not be seen to dictate or control the outcomes. The priorities and initiatives in the master plan must reflect the priorities and initiatives of the community, facilitated by the Council, and not solely the priorities and initiatives of the Council itself. A master plan lasts well

beyond the life of the Council who commissioned it, and the community must be sufficiently involved to be content to live under its outcomes, constraints and impositions.

Accordingly, the Council must ensure:

- All Brooklyn residents are notified in writing
- The community members are active participants in establishing the approach
- The community has active membership of the control group
- The master planning process considers the outcomes of earlier planning processes
- Links with the State Government's new planning processes are clarified

Robert Arnold, President Brooklyn Community Association, email: [president@brooklyncommunity.org.au](mailto:president@brooklyncommunity.org.au), mobile: 0418 404 902.

### **Brooklyn Community Association General Meeting to be held Saturday, 29th March, 10am - noon, Brooklyn Meeting Room**

The meeting will review the outcomes and solutions of the parking workshop, inform the community of recent events at Kangaroo Point and review the Council's plans for the Brooklyn Master Plan. All are invited to attend.

### **Brooklyn Community Association Meeting Schedule 2014**

Some earlier publications have published incorrect meeting dates. Please note that the correct meeting dates for 2014, are as follows. All meetings are held at the Brooklyn Meeting Room, at 10am to noon.

**Saturday 21 June**  
**Saturday 11 October**

**Saturday 16 August**  
**Saturday 6 December**

### **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 March 29th or make a direct deposit to the BCA at the Bendigo Bank Berowra **BSB: 633-000 Account: 12935718.**

## Gardeners Take Note of This Invader



Known as Cobbler's Pegs, Farmer's Friends, Beggar's Ticks, Pitchforks and Stick-tights, this plant is found in almost all gardens in Brooklyn but by whatever name you use, *Bidens pilosa*, is Brooklyn's bane. The seeds have a burr that sticks on to your clothing, so that if you brush against a plant in seed, you will end up covered in the seeds and have to pick them off one by one. The name, Farmer's Friends, comes from the seeds wanting to be your friend, not that the plant is particularly friendly.

Believed to have been introduced from South America, it is surprising to discover that a specimen was collected by Joseph Banks in Botany Bay on Captain Cook's voyage in 1770. Well known as a garden weed, it's found in parks, along roadsides, disturbed sites and waste areas. It invades waterways, open woodlands and coastal sites. It is regarded as an environmental weed in New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia and the ACT. So do yourself and Brooklyn a favour, when you see it pull it out and dispose of it in garbage. This is not a plant you would want in your compost pile.

The following is the first of a regular series of articles publishing *What's On in Brooklyn*. All business and community groups are invited to notify the BCA of upcoming events. Next publication date is about 9 June 2014. Please submit your events in an email.

## What's On in Brooklyn - Redfish

Redfish's current exhibition includes works by David Collins, runner up and highly commended in this years NSW's AG Wynne Prize and Ana Pollak, past Dobell Prize winner, both from Dangar Island. Other local artists on show including Peter Zanetti, Gerd Schmidt and Matt Glendenning.

- 19th April there will be an evening with jazz pianist legend and local Ray Allridge performing with Craig Scott, ( bass player and head of Jazz at the Conservatorium).
- 3rd May will be a Bridge exhibition and Brooklyn Public Art Show.
- 11th May there will be a Mothers Day High Tea.
- 25th May author Leta Keens speaks about her book "Shoes for the Moscow Circus".

### Angler's Rest Hotel

Ph: 02 99857257 Fax 02 99857019

Email: [anglersresthotel@exemail.com.au](mailto:anglersresthotel@exemail.com.au)

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Yoga with Weights Monday 6.30-8pm

Brooklyn Community Hall, Brooklyn

Ring Jo to book Mobile 0414240342

## Hawkesbury River Railway Bridge 125th Anniversary Commemorative Event in Brooklyn

May 1st 2014 marks the 125th anniversary of the opening ceremony of the original Hawkesbury River Railway Bridge, which was constructed on Dangar Island. Brooklyn is organising a commemorative event to be held at McKell Park in Brooklyn on Saturday, 3rd of May 2014, at 10am. In addition there will be an exhibition of historical photographs, images and art works at Gallery210 and Redfish café.

Timing will allow people to visit this event, then catch the Dangar Island Historical Society's History Tours ferry departing Brooklyn at 11.30am. More details will be forthcoming. Interested people should contact Ambrose Reisch on 0450 302 615

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## ***Lest We Forget*—Brooklyn Commemorates the ANZACs**

The Brooklyn RSL Sub-Branch charter was granted in 1939 by the Returned and Services League of Australia New South Wales Branch (RSL NSW). Established by World War One veterans, these men were quick to step forward along with other members of the local community forming a volunteer militia.

This militia patrolled the Brooklyn rail bridge over the Hawkesbury augmenting the various gun batteries, anti-submarine nets, and mine fields located around Brooklyn and Broken Bay.

After World War Two, returning veterans swelled the ranks of the membership providing a strong base on which to grow. Present membership includes veterans of WWII as well as conflicts/support operations in Korea, Malaysia, Vietnam, Iraq, East Timor, Afghanistan, and various UN missions.

This year the Brooklyn RSL Sub-Branch ANZAC Service will feature two significant events - The Centenary of ANZAC 1914-1918 and the 75th Anniversary of the foundation of the Sub-Branch here in Brooklyn. This year's service will be held on Sunday, April 6th, commencing at 11.30 am, at the War Memorial in Brooklyn Park. Everyone is welcome to attend, to wear their own medals or those of their loved ones and to lay a wreath on the Memorial in honour of all who have served their country.

As well as welcoming our many local dignitaries, both military and civilian, this year will also feature the Brooklyn Primary School, with student participation in the Service itself as well as in the newly formed Brooklyn School band, who will play the National Anthem for us. Over the years this service has become a highlight of the Brooklyn community as so many of our residents and residents of our river communities have answered the call to serve. We in Brooklyn take pride in their achievements and their sacrifices on our behalf.

Following the Service, the Brooklyn RSL, in conjunction with the Brooklyn Rural Fire Brigade, will provide a 'gold coin donation' sausage sizzle for everyone to enjoy. Whether this is your first or fiftieth ANZAC commemoration in Brooklyn, you will not be disappointed. Come along and support our ex-service community on this special 75th Anniversary Service here in town. For more information or enquiries please give President Ken Shadie a call on 9985 7579. ***Lest We Forget.***



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## **Small Business in Brooklyn – Nigel O'Donnell**



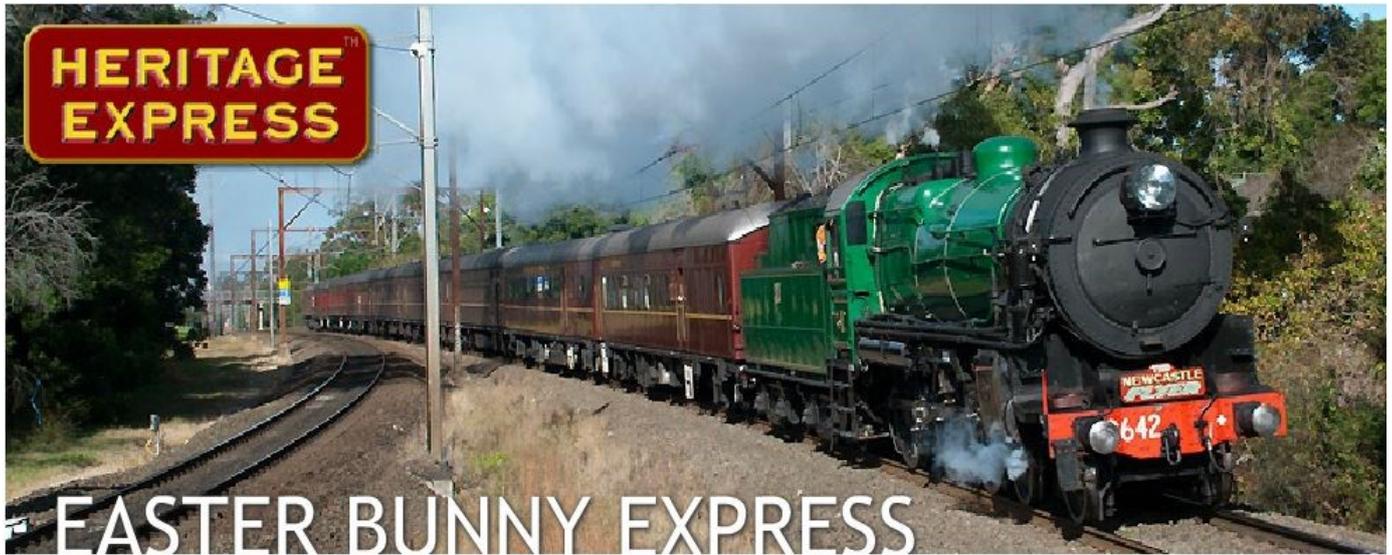
If you frequent the gardens or the playing fields of Brooklyn, almost certainly you will know Nigel O'Donnell, better known to everyone as Noddy.

Noddy runs a gardening and mowing business in town, and he ensures the roadsides and front gardens of houses, businesses and the school on Brooklyn Road all look good for residents and visitors.

Noddy can also be found cooking a mean sausage at the sizzle for the school and he has been an active member of the Committee of the Brooklyn United Soccer Club for many years.

Written by members and friends of the Brooklyn Community Association Inc, PO Box 239, Brooklyn, NSW 2083. Email: [info@brooklyncommunity.org.au](mailto:info@brooklyncommunity.org.au) for information or to unsubscribe. Kindly printed by R W Corkery and delivered by Gary Robertson. To unsubscribe from email delivery, please notify [kearnykibble@ozemail.com.au](mailto:kearnykibble@ozemail.com.au).

# The Easter Bunny Steam Train Express



The Easter Bunny Express is coming to Brooklyn, Easter Saturday April 19 2014, arriving 11:30am and departing 1:30pm. One hundred to 200 passengers or more will be looking for lunch, buying mementoes, seeing the sights.

The Brooklyn Community Association is organising the visit and plans to:

- Liaise with Hornsby Council to plan the event
- Organise businesses to prepare a brochure to attract customers
- Prepare a map of town facilities interesting to passengers
- Provide information packs to be given to passengers on boarding the train at Central.

If you want to participate, contact: Peter Davis, 0423 254 681 or Robert Arnold, 0418 404 902.

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## Events at Kangaroo Point

It raised some concerns in the BCA and the community to see the recent Mayoral Minute at Hornsby Council requesting that the Councillors to be briefed regarding Kangaroo Point parking opportunities and then read the article in the Advocate regarding the need for more parking at Kangaroo Point. While these initiatives relate only to parking, many people were concerned that these parking proposals are a forerunner to expanded development of commuter berthing at Kangaroo Point.

The issue of parking and potential commuter berthing would not have arisen without the changes to the Kangaroo Point Masterplan in 2009 and 2010, done without key stakeholder consultation. The first change in 2009 allowed the rezoning of Kangaroo Point to allow for the development of a commuter berthing facility with development consent. The second change in 2010 allowed for replacing the current exception that permits "houseboat hire premises" with the term "marinas" and as a consequence allows the proposed new private marina on public land.

In the justification for these changes, it was noted that there was a need for commuter berthing at Kangaroo Point – despite the 79% overwhelming response in a survey which informed the original Masterplan to not have commuter berthing at the park. Even the Council's own survey of river residents, performed jointly with Gosford in 2009/2010, did not support commuter berthing at Kangaroo Point, and revealed that only 9 of the 338 respondents would prefer to moor their boat and park their car at Kangaroo Point. Additionally, the Council is considering removing the public pump out facility at Kangaroo Point, at this point without consultation with the community or community users of the facility.

We are communicating our concerns with the Council and the Councillors. We are requesting that the efforts and funding from the Council for parking be concentrated in Brooklyn where there is a greater need and improvements will assist many more people than those at Kangaroo Point. We are asking that they do not use Council budget for parking for private use. We are asking for the retention of the public pump out facility. We need your help to let the Council know how you feel about these issues. If you need any further information please ask the BCA Committee.