

Gateway

Newsletter of the Brooklyn Community Association, Inc

November 2015

President's Report for

At the beginning of 2015, we thought that the year would be a big one for us all in Brooklyn. The Brooklyn Master Plan was imminent and resolution was expected with development of Peat Island. But the wheels of government turn slowly.

The Brooklyn Master Plan is now scheduled to occur during calendar year 2016. A tender for consultants is currently being prepared, and consultation with the community is likely in the early months of 2016. The Master Plan will be directed by a Project Control Group of Council officers, the consultant, the Mayor and three Councillors (we have been told that they will be the Ward A Councillors). Community involvement will take place through a Community Reference Group and other community engagement tools via the successful tenderer. The Brooklyn Community Association has nominated for membership, and we are aware of a number of Brooklyn residents and business people who will be nominating. At the time of publication we await Council notification of selected members.

However, the State Government's announcement of amalgamation of Councils might have an impact. But of course, the wheels of government might turn slowly again, and the Master Plan may be achieved before amalgamation occurs. To borrow a well-worn phrase "IT'S TIME", Brooklyn badly needs resolution of all the issues that will be the focus of the Master Plan.

Peat Island development continues (we understand) to progress under the State Government and Gosford Council. Of course, in Brooklyn we live on the other side of the river so we are not as well informed. We'd like to commend Matt Kean MP for getting the River Communities together on Peat Island and we hope he continues to do so to represent the views of local river community members. We need the input of the state government to ensure the Brooklyn Master Plan recognises the eventual impact of Peat Island as development occurs.

We'd like to compliment Hornsby Council on its improvements to Brooklyn in the last 2 years. The shared pedestrian/bike path is a terrific step forward, and we look forward to further stages on the western end of town, to improve the safety of Brooklyn Road for the many walkers in town. Parsley Bay, McKell Point and the playground are other Council achievements for the town.

I plan to stand down as President at the Annual General Meeting in December. I've enjoyed the last couple of years in the role, but work pressures and travel demands now make it difficult. Some high points have been:

- Influencing Hornsby Council on the directions of the Master Plan.
- Establishing a good working relationship between the several lower Hawkesbury community associations. My philosophy has been that we have more in common than we have that is divergent. But further work is needed to get the group working well together and getting the Councils to recognise the coalition.
- Working across the community when the Easter Bunny train came into town. We need more community events to bring business and residents together, and to create more of a community identity.

A big issue for the future is wider participation by the community. From time to time, we have had attendance of more than 60 people at meetings, but too rarely. We need to find a way for younger residents to participate and to make their opinions known. We need to be more relevant to young families. We have found that both Councils and Government listen when the community makes a noise. Only through wider participation can the community progress, and perhaps become more important as Councils merge, and power moves further from the local community.

Robert Arnold, President president@brooklyncommunity.org.au

Brooklyn Community Association 2015 Annual General Meeting
Saturday, 5th December Brooklyn Meeting Room, 10am-12pm

Theatre in the Park

After a wet week Brooklyn's Theatre in the Park treated audiences to a hilarious version of *The Foreigner*, by Larry Shue on Saturday 14th November. An annual highlight in the Brooklyn calendar, Theatre in the Park is a community effort that provides a great evening to relax and enjoy the diverse talents of our neighbours.

Thank you to everyone who braved the rain and supported the evening, and thank you to all the generous, dedicated contributors. Lastly thank you to the fabulous cast who under the direction of Peter Hughes brought light to a dreary night. Photos of the night are now available on our website: www.theatreinthepark.com.au. Theatre in the Park is held annually on the second Saturday of November, please put the date for next year's performance in your calendar:



Why is Marine Rescue Hawkesbury coming to take photos of the wharves at Little Wobby on Nov 7?

Introducing “Find Me on the River”

“Find Me on the River” is a community safety initiative from Marine Rescue Hawkesbury funded by the Community Grants Scheme of Gosford City Council for residents of all water-access villages in the Gosford Council region on the Hawkesbury River. These include Little Wobby, Cogra Bay, Bar Point, Marlow and Mullet Creek.

Marine Rescue Hawkesbury provides a vital emergency response service for residents in these locations. This occurs most often for a medical emergency when ambulance officers need to be taken to stabilise a seriously ill or injured patient before transport to hospital or to bring a patient to an ambulance that has been called.

If you had to get urgent help for someone who has suffered a heart attack, consider this question.

“How will I accurately describe to the Triple Zero operator which wharf at Little Wobby is the best one to get medical help fast?”

There are more than 550 water-access only dwellings on the northern shores of the Hawkesbury in the Gosford Council area. Local knowledge is a great thing but an accurate, easy-to-understand description of the wharf where you want help to come is a fail-safe method to avoid misunderstandings and delays – which could be life-threatening.

This is even more important at night.

Unlike road-access residents, river dwellers do not have the easy reference of street names, cross streets and street lights to guide emergency responders. Yet, even in typical suburban streets, house numbers and locations are not always easy to find in a hurry.

“Find Me on the River” is a community safety initiative that will solve this problem by identifying every wharf in the area with a simple, reflective sign bearing an Alpha/Numeric code. The 2-letter Alpha prefix will identify the village, for example LW for Little Wobby, BP for Bar Point and so on. A 2-digit numeral will identify each wharf starting with 01 and ending with the last relevant number for the location.

When this project is completed, a resident of Little Wobby who, for example, lives at or close to wharf no 12 in the zone will now be able to advise emergency responders to come to the wharf marked LW 12. Every minute counts in a serious medical emergency and the “Find Me on the River” project will help maximise the speed at which help will reach you.

River residents may already be aware of a numbering system in place on wharves and boatsheds at Milsons Passage. This is a simple principle and can save lives.

The first stage of this project requires a count and pictorial record of all wharves and Little Wobby is the first village where the count will take place.

The “Find Me on the River” project, will enable residents to give the alpha/numeric identification of the best wharf for an emergency vessel and first responders to reach them and provide prompt help.

Marine Rescue Hawkesbury will be taking photos of the wharves at Little Wobby from Saturday morning, 7 November.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Regards

Merv Collins, Unit Commander

Cold Spring Southerly!

It was a cold start to the night but many people still came to celebrate a "Hot Summer Night" despite there being white caps in "the Gut"! The evening was deemed a huge success. The venue and food was generously provided by Estuary Restaurant at Kangaroo Point. We all enjoyed fantastic food and service. Despite the weather, I heard many admire the amazing views and say they would come back again.

We were entertained by an amazing collection of musically talented parents who donated their time, talent and sound system. The music had everyone up on the dance floor!



The Brooklyn community is very grateful that Estuary Restaurant provided this opportunity for us to have a great night and to help our school. All proceeds raised will go to the Brooklyn Public School P&C. Funds raised by the P&C is spent



on improving the learning environment for our small school. This year we were able to raise enough funds to install a brand new playground for our children!

Many thanks to the staff and owners of Estuary Restaurant and to our wonderful band for an amazing evening.

Brooklyn PBS parents Nigel O'Donnell and Brad Townsend making a decision.

The wonderful Glendenning family band (plus the tall one, Catherine Pigneguy)

BROOKLYN SCHOOL PAVERS

The personalised pavers have been laid at the entrance to the school and they look great. Why not call past and see how many names you recognise.

People have expressed interest in getting their name on pavers next time around, if you would like to as well, then just drop a note into the school and we'll keep it on file.

Hawkesbury Canoe Classic

Each year around October time, paddlers paddle 111km over night in the moonlight, down to the Hawkesbury river from Windsor to Brooklyn, to raise money for charity, supporting Medical Research. This year Hawkesbury Canoe Classic was held at October 24th-25th.

'The *Classic* was started by NSW Outward Bound Ex student Association in 1977. The event is organized by volunteers from the Hawkesbury Canoe Classic Association with volunteers from the Marine Rescue NSW, State Emergency Services, the WICEN Emergency Radio Network, the sports Physiotherapy Group, and many other paddling and community groups who man the 19 check-points down the river.

Each check point boat along the river has a minimum of 4 volunteers, each land check point along the river has a minimum of 6 volunteers and major check point at Wisemans Ferry and Sackville run with a minimum of 30 volunteers. Overall, there are more than 500 volunteers that help organize and run the *Classic*.

The race start from 4pm at Macquarie Park, Windsor, finish at Deerubbin Reserve, Mooney Mooney. The race record of 7 hours 11minutes was set way back in 1985, and is held by the K4 crew of Garry Byrne, Grant Hughes, Cameron Tunbridge, and Brett Worth. The average time for recreational paddlers is around 15 hours. This includes a number of stops along the way down the river for food and change of clothes.

The Hawkesbury Canoe Classic has many competitive classes plus an adventure class for those simply happy to participate. It is expected that next years event will be a milestone, attracting record crowds to the 40th anniversary classic. It will be held for the last full weekend in October 2016. website: www.canoeclassic.asn.au

The Ground of all being is Consciousness

Hatha Yoga Classes Wednesday 6. 30-8pm
Yoga with Weights Monday 6.30-8pm
Brooklyn Community Hall, Brooklyn

Ring Jo to book Mobile 0414240342

Angler's Rest Hotel

Ph: 02 99857257 Fax 02 99857019

Email: anglersresthotel@exemail.com.au

Tab, Keno & Gaming
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*"country style hospitality for the local
community and tourists alike"*

Brooklyn Community Association Committee – needs new Members

The BCA is looking for new members of the Committee. If you would like to take a more active role in the community and have more influence on what happens in town, then join the committee of the BCA.

Involves:

- 4-6 community meetings per year
- Similar number of committee meetings
- Whatever level of involvement you want in the key issues in town

Key issues for 2016:

- The Brooklyn Master Plan
- Peat Island redevelopment
- Lower Hawkesbury community coalition working closer together
- Local issues

Send an email to president@brooklyncommunity.org.au before the Annual General Meeting on 5 December 2015 and we'll send you a nomination form.

Thanks to the committee for 2015:

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|----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| • Di Bowles | • Jo & Brian Scarsbrick | • Allan Forbes |
| • Peter Davis & Myff Sharp | • Amanda Gonzalez | • Tim Fawcett & Kate Fujii |

We would like to acknowledge the contribution to the BCA of:

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| • Rob & Cindy Corkery, of RW Corkery & Co who kindly provide meeting facilities and print the Gateway newsletter. | • Gary Robertson, Brooklyn's postie and musician, who kindly delivers the Gateway in the community. |
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Robert Arnold, President Brooklyn Community Association

Departs 10am daily
Includes Morning Tea
& Ploughman's Lunch



Bookings essential, pay on the day

THE RIVERBOAT POSTMAN

Gift vouchers available, valid for two years
Perfect for Christmas, birthdays & thank you's
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LAST THURSDAY CRAFT GROUP

Last Thursday of the month, 18:00 - 20:00
at The Brooklyn Tuckshop | 1 Bridge Street, Brooklyn

Bring along your crafty project (or not, if you're looking for inspiration or are a complete newbie!) and enjoy an evening of friendship, new skills and cake.

Cost is free. **Everyone is welcome.**

Full details: thebrooklyntuckshop.com.au/events

Written by members and friends of the Brooklyn Community Association Inc, PO Box 239, Brooklyn, NSW 2083. Email: info@brooklyncommunity.org.au for information or to unsubscribe. Printed by R W Corkery and delivered by Gary Robertson.

Christmas/New Year Opening Hours

(as advised by businesses)

Brooklyn Restaurants and Cafes

Anglers A-La Carte Restaurant 9985 7860 216 Brooklyn Rd, Brooklyn Open 7 days/7 nights a week, Closed Christmas Day	Dangar Island Café and Shop 9985 8539 2 Neotsfield Avenue, Dangar Island 7 days 9am to 5pm (kitchen closed at 4.00pm), Public Holidays 10.00am – 4.00pm, Closed Christmas Day
Estuary Restaurant 9985 7881 Kangaroo Point. Opening in December. See http://www.estuaryrestaurant.com.au/	Fitzies Brooklyn Fish & Chips 9985 7928 8 Dangar Rd, Brooklyn 7 days. Closed Christmas Day
JD's Delish Cafe 9985 7870 12 Dangar Rd, Brooklyn 6 days 9.00am – 4.30pm Closed Tues, also open Fri and Sat for dinner, Closed Christmas Day	King Tide Cafe 9985 7102 9 Dangar Rd, Brooklyn 7 days 7.00am - 4.00pm, Closed Christmas Day and Boxing Day
Lifeboat Seafoods 9985 7510 1 Dangar Road, Brooklyn 7 days for lunch 11.30am-3.30pm. Sat for dinner 6.00pm-8.00pm	Tuckshop 1 Bridge St, Brooklyn thebrooklyntuckshop.com.au. Closing early on Christmas Eve and closed Christmas Day.
Mooney Mooney Club 9985 9199 5 Kowan St, Mooney Mooney Lunch: Mon - Fri 12pm - 2.30pm Sat - Sun 11.30 - 3pm Dinner: Sun - Thurs 5.30pm - 8.30pm Fri & Sat 5.30 - 9pm Open Christmas Day for lunch only, but Christmas Day is fully booked 11.00-3.00pm Open Boxing Day and New Year's Day – normal hours	Brooklyn Deli

Grocery & Retail Outlets

Brooklyn Central 9985 8870 Boat Hire and General Store 81 Brooklyn Road, Brooklyn 6am - 5.30pm every day Closed Christmas Day	Brooklyn Liquor 9985 7906 General Provisions Hawkesbury River Marina, Dangar Road, Brooklyn 7.00am – 7.00pm week days/8.00am-7.00pm weekends and Public Holidays. Closed Christmas Day
Don's Boats 9985 7255 General Store and News Agency 214 Brooklyn Road, Brooklyn 7.00am-7.00pm every day Open Christmas Day 8.00am - 5.00pm	Brooklyn Pharmacy 9985 8476 1/5 Bridge St, Brooklyn Week days 9.00am - 5.30pm, Saturday 9.00am - 2.30pm Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day
Brooklyn Post Office 9985 7240 Week days 9.00am - 5.00pm Closed from 25/12/2015 to 4/1/2016.	River Dreams 9985 8796 Hawkesbury River Marina, Dangar Road, Brooklyn 9.00am-4.00pm every day, 9.00am-5.00pm Christmas week Closed Christmas Day and Boxing Day. Open New Year's Day