

Gateway

Newsletter of the Brooklyn Community Association Inc

June 2019

(Next Issue September 2019)

President's Report

We invite you to our next BCA meeting with guest speakers Dave Johnston and Julia Morton from Hornsby Council. As you are aware, the Brooklyn Improvement Masterplan has been discontinued, and the Council has moved to a placemaking approach. Dave and Julia will be explaining what that means to our community and how we can be involved in placemaking decisions. Revitalising the Arts Cottage falls under this new policy, and soon you will see work being started. This will include painting, a general clean up, fixing up floorboards and installing a small kitchenette to aim to get it ready for use in September. Stay tuned or let us know if you are interested in volunteering at the cottage.

The sustainability subcommittee met to discuss energy, composting, the 2040 movie, community solar power, and how we can start to implement these ideas in Brooklyn and the Lower Hawkesbury community. We will be holding a workshop at our next meeting in September to find out what the community prioritises in becoming more sustainable, how to save on energy costs and ways to become more resilient against our increasingly volatile climate.

If you are interested in getting more involved in your community, please come to our meeting!

Di Bowles, President Brooklyn Community Association

president@brooklyncommunity.org.au

Hawkesbury River Station Access

The NSW Government is improving accessibility at Hawkesbury River Station as part of the Transport Access Program. The project aims to provide a station precinct that is accessible to those with a disability, limited mobility, parents/carers with prams and customers with luggage.

The Review of Environmental Factors will be going on public display in June 2019 and stakeholders and the community are invited to submit feedback on the proposed designs during the display period. More information will be released shortly, so keep an eye on the project website page:

www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/current-projects/hawkesbury-river-station-upgrade

Claire Bailey Community Engagement Manager Transport for NSW
claire.bailey@transport.nsw.gov.au

<h3>Brooklyn Community Association General Meeting</h3> <p>10am-12noon Saturday 15 June 2019 Brooklyn Community Meeting Room</p> <p>Guest Speakers: Dave Johnston and Julia Morten, Hornsby Council "Placemaking" with a focus on achievable improvements in Brooklyn</p> <p>BCA Members, Guests and Friends welcome.</p>	<h3>Meeting Dates</h3> <p>Saturday</p> <p>2 Mar 2019 15 Jun 2019 7 Sep 2019 30 Nov 2019</p>
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Brooklyn Public School Dates

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|------------------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|
| ➤ Life Education Van | Tue 11 Jun | ➤ Area Cross Country | Fri 21 Jun |
| ➤ Life Education Van | Wed 12 Jun | ➤ CAP Concert | Tue 2 Jul |
| ➤ Reptile Park Excursion K-4 | Thu 13 Jun | ➤ Athletics Carnival | Wed 3 Jul |
| ➤ Choir Rehearsal Chatswood | Tue 18 Jun | ➤ Last Day of Term 2 | Fri 5 Jul |

The Gateway is published by the Brooklyn Community Association. Contact the BCA on info@brooklyncommunity.org.au. While every attempt is made to publish content as submitted, some editing of material may occur during publication.

We would like to acknowledge the contribution to the BCA of RW Corkery & Co who kindly provide committee meeting facilities and print the Gateway newsletter, and Gary Robertson, Brooklyn's postie and musician, and his associates, who kindly deliver the Gateway in the community.

Hornsby Council

New Estuary Plan soon to start for the Hawkesbury River System

Hornsby Shire Council in partnership with our 5 neighbouring councils (Hawkesbury City Council, The Hills City Council, Central Coast Council, Ku-ring-gai Council, Northern Beaches Council) has been successful in securing funds from the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage towards the development of a Hawkesbury River System scoping study that will cover the stretch of the river/estuary from Yarramundi to the mouth of the estuary including Pittwater, Patonga and Brisbane Waters. Council is currently seeking proposals from suitably qualified consultants to assist us with the preparation of the Scoping Study. The Scoping Study is Stage 1 of a long and complex process called Coastal



Management Program (CMP) which is part of the new coastal management framework which aims to set out the long-term strategy for management of the coastal zone

<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/water/coasts/coastal-management/about>

Local communities, including Brooklyn residents, will be involved through the participation in council advisory groups, on-ground works, monitoring and reviewing the implementation of the CMP in the future. If you are resident who would like to get involved in the conversation but do not have currently the networks through community associations or community committees, please get in [touch](#) so we can look at best way of engaging with you.

Waterways community environmental values as part of Hornsby's LSPS

In 2018, amendments to the EP&A Act introduced new requirements for councils to prepare Local Strategic Planning Statements (LSPS), which are a 20-year vision for land use. As part of this process Hornsby Shire Council will develop an overall Environmental Sustainability Strategy that will involve a number of specific strategies: urban heat; urban forest; waste; active transport; water sensitive cities; biodiversity management and climate change. Interested people can check these links for further information and input: [Future Hornsby website](#) and [Have your Say](#).

Ana Rubio

*Environmental Scientist (Estuaries) | Natural Resources | Hornsby Shire Council
p 02 9847 6899 e arubio@hornsby.nsw.gov.au*

Muogamarra Nature Reserve

Now that Winter has well and truly hit us, Spring is just around the corner. Once again, the Muogamarra Nature Reserve will soon be open. This year, a new loop track has been developed along with a new lookover for Deerubbin. This new site is higher, bigger and safer than the old one (which has now closed). Fantastic views up and down the Hawkesbury River. Join one of the guided walks with a volunteer guide or do your own thing and explore Muogamarra. Look out for Brooklyn's historian Tom Richmond in his top hat (*not every day*) who talks about local history.

Opening dates for 2019:

Saturday 10th August to Sunday September 15th

*Karen Arnold Volunteer National Parks & Wildlife Service
Phone 1300 072 757 for more information or*

www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/things-to-do/guided-tours



Looking out over the Hawkesbury from the new lookout at Muogamarra

Meshing Bends In The Light

Reprinted with permission of the poet, Robert Adamson.

Poem selected from The Language of Oysters, Robert Adamson and Juno Gemes, published 1997.

*Just under the surface
mullet roll in the current,
their pale bellies catch
the sunken light, the skin
of the river erupts*

*above the purling fish.
The sky hangs over
the boat a wall of shuddering
light smudging the wings
of a swamp harrier.*

*The mudflat glows
in the developing chemicals,
black crabs hold their
claws up into the light
of the enlarger, yabbies*

*ping in the drain.
The westerly howls through
the darkroom. The tide
is always working
in the base of the brain.*

*The turning moon is
up-ended, setting on the silver
gelatin page. The hook
stopped spinning in space.
Owls shuffle their silent wings*

*And dissolve in the fixer:
shape words over what you see.
The river flows from your
eyes into the sink, bulrushes
hum with mosquitoes*

*that speck on the print.
The last riverboat mail-run
scatters letters across
the surface, the ink
runs into the brackish tide.*

*A stream of light pours
from the sky into the mouth
of Mooney Creek, the river
flows into the memory of all those
who look into these frames.*

Robert Adamson, a local resident in the Lower Hawkesbury, has been an important figure in Australian poetry for more than 40 years. The Times Literary Supplement declared him "One of the finest Australian poets at work today" and the New York poet John Ashbery called him "one of Australia's national treasures". In the 1970s and 1980s, he edited New Poetry Magazine and established Paper Bark Press in 1988 with his partner Juno Gemes. In 2011 he was awarded the Patrick White Prize and the Blake Prize for Poetry. He is the inaugural Copyright Agency Limited (CAL) Chair of Poetry at UTS (University of Technology, Sydney).

Winter Pantry Drive

9 June – 21 July, 2019

We're collecting items that will be passed onto Anglicare who will distribute them to those in need across NSW. We're hoping for donations of:

- Canned Food (Fruits, Tuna, Vegetables)
- Rice, Instant Noodles, Pasta & Pasta Sauces
- Cereal, Long Life Milk, Fruit Juice
- Tea, Coffee, Sugar
- Vegemite, Peanut Butter, Honey, Jam
- Toothpaste & Toothbrushes
- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Soaps, Deodorants & Sanitary Products
- Baby Foods, Nappies/Wipes/Creams

Donations can be dropped into Brooklyn Public School, Mooney School Library, St Marks Anglican Church or into the Collection Bin outside Coles Berowra.

Annette Tenkate
on behalf of St Marks Anglican Church
Berowra
Enquiries 02 9456 4498



Hawkesbury River
CHILD CARE

For Enrolment
9985 7362

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ABOUT US
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qualified Early Childhood Teachers
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year.
Located on the grounds of Brooklyn
public school

BYGONE BROOKLYN

By Tom Richmond

It is possible that we may be on the verge of missing out on a once in a lifetime opportunity to develop tourism on the Lower Hawkesbury. The wharf on the southern side of Peat Island is in deep water and could safely accommodate any vessel that could pass under the bridges. It provides a perfect opportunity to establish a river passenger terminal that would not interfere with other uses of already crowded waterfront land.



The ferry Swanhilda

In fact, this wharf is probably the only remaining alternative that could allow full exploitation of the magnificent scenery of the Lower Hawkesbury by a growing excursion industry. At present, the well-run Riverboat Postman cruises demonstrate that there is a demand for such activities. When Council ran its heritage cruise, it booked out in less than a quarter of an hour.

Cruises on the Hawkesbury for paying passengers date back to the paddle-wheelers of the 1850s. The early cruise vessels came around from Sydney and perhaps the most famous passenger was the British novelist, Anthony Trollope. In his book published in 1873, Trollope compared the Hawkesbury to the Rhine and the Mississippi as the most beautiful rivers in the world. Two others to share in the enjoyment of a trip up the river were the royal princes, Albert Victor and George, who cruised up to Wiseman's on board the *Pelican* in 1881.

Once the railway bridge was completed in 1889, the *General Gordon*, a rear paddle-wheeler, was used in combined rail and river excursions. The world famous Cook's Tours, in the early 1890s, offered accommodation at Brooklyn and a river excursion to Berowra Waters. A little later, Joe Izzard's *Cora* ran moonlit cruises from, Brooklyn to Newport.

After World War II, it was possible to choose from several river excursions. Alan Windybank skippered boats such as the *Swanhilda* and the *Hawkesbury* to Patonga, Bobbin Head, Berowra Waters and Palm Beach. These trips were often run in conjunction with tourist buses, sometimes from Peakes or Pioneer Tours, providing a round trip. I was fortunate, as a youngster, to have cruised on all of these.

In more recent years, I travelled with Tom Cosgrove and small parties of about twenty to some of the most fascinating reaches of the river. Three that come to mind were voyages up Mooney Creek, Pumpkin Creek and Marramarra Creek. These can only be navigated in a smaller vessel on favourable tides, but each provides wonderful opportunities for exploring our river heritage.

In Brooklyn, the shortage of parking limits the expansion of river tourist industries into the future. Peat Island offers what is, effectively, our last chance to provide for future expansion, both by current providers or by future ventures. It is quite feasible that some of the heritage buildings on Peat Island could be utilised in catering for an expanded tourism market but there would need to be some well co-ordinated planning by all levels of government. Importantly, there needs to be some urgency before inept and inappropriate rezoning takes place.

Tom Richmond OAM



QR GALLERY



210 Brooklyn Rd. Brooklyn

Tom Richmond – Talking History Program

Advance Notice

Tom Richmond, Brooklyn and the district's historian, has kindly agreed to run presentations on Brooklyn's history, supplemented by the many photos in his collection. There will (likely) be three two-hour sessions, with a break for tea and reminiscing, commencing on Saturday 3 August 2019.

Subjects proposed are:

1. Aboriginal and Pre-Railway Peat's Ferry (1788-1880)
2. Railway Construction period and early Brooklyn. (1880-1900)
3. Peace and War (1900-1918)
4. Depression and War (1919 - 1945)
5. Post War Village (1946-1980)
6. Suburban Brooklyn (1980-2019)

You can register for this free event on Eventbrite under Talking history / Brooklyn. The event will be promoted in other local news and social media.

Enquiries: Miriam Moloney miriammoloney@gmail.com

Hornsby Council Community Tree Planting Day

Saltpan Reserve Brooklyn

The next Tree Planting is 10am - 12.30 Sunday 23 June 2019. Bring the family, some gardening gloves, and the rest will be provided.

For more info call Donna Fitton or check Council's web site <http://trees.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/events/>



Donna Fitton
Environmental Scientist - Bushland Operations | Natural Resources |
Hornsby Shire Council
p 02 9847 6976 dfitton@hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Hawkesbury River Yacht Club

It's been a quiet few months for the club, with unsettled weather leading to the postponement of our Friday Summer Twilight Sail and BBQ's - something we'd been keen to share with the Brooklyn community.

Our Saturday racing is continuing well, and although we've had beautiful autumn weather, the winds have been variable for sailing, so we've had a few long afternoons of happily – or not so happily – drifting around the exquisite waters of Broken Bay.

There are a lot of new boats in Parsley Bay, with several of the yacht owners joining the club, adding to our small sailing fleet. We sail on the first and third Saturday of the month, and also welcome those who just want to socialise, offering a social sail and raft up on the last Wednesday of the month.

We will be holding our AGM on Saturday, July 6th at one of our member's homes in Brooklyn. As we don't have a clubhouse, much of the off-water socialising is done at the Angler's Rest or in member's homes - something that we would eventually like to change with the acquisition of an aquatic clubhouse - perhaps in Parsley Bay.

HRYC welcomes anyone interested in sailing – or socialising - and invites visitors to join us as guests, crew, or bring your own boats. Find out more from our website <https://www.hryc.asn.au/> or find us on Facebook. For further information call Cliff on 0425 310 930



HRYC's midweek social sail raft up at Refuge Bay
Photo L. Braybrooks 24.4.19

Lee Malone HRYC



Marine Rescue Hawkesbury

Marine Rescue Hawkesbury has been busy over the past few months, with our crews involved in everything from training exercises to large scale search operations. Not long after the last Gateway was published, our crews spent almost 3 days between Maroota and Wilberforce searching for a missing person after a jet-ski incident. Unfortunately, early on the 3rd day the person was located deceased in the water. The search operation included both the Marine Rescue Hawkesbury vessels, a vessel from Marine Rescue Broken Bay, RMS, the SES and the NSW Police to name a few.

Along with this large-scale operation, we have conducted multiple assists with 17 in just the month of April, putting us in the top five busiest units across NSW. One of these assists was a patient transfer from Dangar Island to an awaiting ambulance. From the time the call was received by Marine Rescue Hawkesbury, the Paramedics were picked up and transferred to Dangar Island, then transferred, with the patient back to the ambulance at Parsley Bay, it was just 20 minutes in total before the ambulance was on its way to hospital. This was an outstanding time for someone requiring medical assistance from a water access only property.

Safety on the water remains our main concern. With a growing number of people on the water year-round, it is timely to remind boaties to log on with their nearest Marine Rescue unit before going out – remembering, of course, to log off when they return home. Otherwise, a Search and Rescue operation will start to look for them. Logging-on is a certain way to ensure someone is looking out for those on the water and to know where they would be.

Should something happen, being logged-on gives Marine Rescue an excellent idea of what your plan was, and therefore gives us a better idea of where to start looking for you. Logging-on and off can be done via VHF 16, which now has greater coverage on the Hawkesbury due a new receiver for Marine Rescue Sydney at Cowan. This means boaters can contact the 24/7 dedicated radio base with fewer blackspots in the Lower Hawkesbury area. The use of VHF 81 also remains an option, as does the Marine Rescue NSW app on your smartphone. This is free to download, remembers your details, so you only have to enter them once, and is quick and easy to use! Now Marine Rescue is only a phone call away.

As always, what we are doing is published on our Facebook and Instagram pages, so be sure to keep up to date with us on social media.

*Jamie Abnett-Miller, PR and Media Officer, Marine Rescue NSW Hawkesbury Unit
pr.Hawkesbury@marinerescuensw.com.au*



Juno Gemes: The Quiet Activist

***A Survey Exhibition 1979 – 2019:
4 May – 28 June 2019***

The exhibition presents a rare opportunity to view Gemes' early experimental works in film and photography, together with the master prints contained within the celebrated publication *The Language of Oysters*, 1997, on display to the public for the first time.

The Hawkesbury River is the oldest traditional river community in the country, known for its oyster farming and fishing, yet it is a secretive and closed community. Gemes affinity with this area has come from living there, exploring its tides over the last 15 years with local oyster farmers, fishermen and women, learning from local knowledge about how to protect the river.

The photographs are poignant in revealing a strong sense of connection and guardianship between the river and its people. Robert Adamson's award-winning poems accompany these works from *The Language of Oysters*.

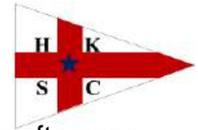


Juno Gemes – Selenium Mama JG Studio SURVEY

*Macquarie University Art Gallery, 19 Eastern Rd, Macquarie University, NSW 2109
T: 02 9850 7437 artgallery.mq.edu.au*

Hornsby Ku-Ring-Gai Sailing Club

Celebrating Fifty Years of Sailing on the Hawkesbury



The Hornsby Ku-Ring-Gai Sailing Club (HKSC) celebrated its 50th Anniversary season with an afternoon beach party at its waterfront clubhouse near Brooklyn on Saturday.

With over 1000 young people having passed through the Club's training and development program over five decades, the opportunity to gather for a catch up was always going to be special. The current crop of parents, supporters, and enthusiastic young sailors pulled out all the stops to fly the HKSC burgee and showcase recent improvements at the facility.

Two hundred guests of all ages were on hand as Julian Leeser MP opened the building extension funded under a grant from the Stronger Communities Program.



"It's extraordinary to reflect on the vision of the founding members back in 1968, and the enormous contribution they made to build this club as hub for the nurturing and development of young people through sailing," said Julian. "It has been my privilege to support the Hornsby Ku-Ring-Gai Sailing Club and get to know its hardworking volunteers who continue to live out this vision and invest in our community every weekend."

The Hornsby Ku-Ring-Gai Sailing Club is located at the water-access-only Dead Horse Beach/ Lookout Bay near Brooklyn NSW. HSKC is affiliated with Police Community Youth Clubs (PCYC), is volunteer-run, and dedicated to the introduction of young people to the sport of sailing.

The Hornsby Ku-Ring-Gai Sailing Club will open its 51st season in September, and welcomes enquiries for Learn to Sail and youth racing programs. For more information please visit our website at

www.hornsbysailing.com

Alan Barrett Vice Commodore HKSC
0402 113 885 hornsbysailing@gmail.com

Mooney ~ Cheero Information

- The Mooney ~ Cheero Progress Association meets every month from February to December on the first Tuesday of the month in the Mooney Library (in the old School) at 7:30 PM.
- The Mooney Library is one of Central Coast Council's libraries. Professionally organised StoryTime for pre-schoolers every Monday during school terms from 10:00 to Noon. The library is open to the public (including folks from the wrong side of the river) on Tuesdays from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM and Saturdays from 9:00 AM to Noon (with support from volunteers).
- The library and the Mooney Chapel are available for use by community members by arrangement. Events at Mooney chapel includes civil celebrant weddings. The choir meets there weekly as well.
- There is a State Government "Reverse Vending Machine" in the second car park at the Mooney Club. Details are here: https://returnandearn.org.au/return_point/mooney-mooney-club/
- General information on the "Return and Earn Scheme can be found here: <https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/recycling-and-reuse/return-and-earn>

Call John Andrews on 0418 276 492 for further information.

Hawkesbury River Sailing Club

The end of the 2018/2019 sailing season has come and gone following a season of moderate success in the weather department. Out of a scheduled calendar of ten races to be raced, we managed to only complete six having to abandon four races due to a variety of poor weather conditions. In addition, our fleet sizes were down due to a variety of gear problems including a couple of broken masts, leaking keel boxes and trailer problems.

Despite the abandonment of four races, the series was successfully completed with some tight racing resulting in many close finishes and the final point scores separated by only a few points.

A Presentation/Annual General Meeting function will be held in late June to present the series winners with their trophies and start proceedings for the new sailing season.

Due to the unpredictable weather only one club cruising event took place, an enjoyable cruise to Patonga for lunch and then an overnight stay in Yeomans Bay.

Apart from our early luncheon at the King Tide Cafe to start the season off, the highlight of our land-based activities this year was our bus tour in April of the Murray River region and northern Victoria. Some thirty odd members and friends were treated to a tour of Albury, Echuca, Bendigo, Ballarat, then back home through Central West NSW via Cowra and Bathurst and was rated a great success.



HRSC Murray Valley Tour Group taken in the Cowra Japanese Memorial Gardens

Anybody interested in joining HRSC with or without a boat will be most welcome.

Malcolm Sinclair
Secretary HRSC 0408 670 611
malcolmws@bigpond.com
www.hrsc.org.au

The NBN is Coming to Brooklyn

Fibre to the Node (FTTN)

Fibre to the Node (FTTN) is a key technology at the heart of Australia's National Broadband Network rollout. According to NBN's 2019 corporate plan, up to 3.5 million premises (40%) will be connected to the National Broadband Network via FTTN or FTTB (Fibre to the Building) technology. FTTN is rolling out in areas where existing copper internet infrastructure exists.

With a FTTN connection, fibre optic cable is run to a central cabinet in the neighbourhood: the node. Your house then connects to the nearest node using the same copper wiring you're currently using for your landline phone and your ADSL broadband. Since FTTN uses existing copper wiring, you'll keep using the same phone line you use for your existing ADSL connection. The NBN does not need to install any new equipment in your home as part of the rollout.

In Brooklyn there will be 400 premises that will be able to order a service over the NBN network. Connecting to the network is not automatic and people need to contact their preferred phone or internet provider to make the switch. (NBN Co is a wholesale-only company and does not sell services directly to the public).

Connections commence in June 2019 and you have 18 months to connect to the NBN network.

Connecting to the NBN

See www.nbnco.com.au/residential/how-to-connect

You will need a VDSL2-ready modem router, either your existing modem if suitable, or a new modem from your internet provider. Once you have your modem, your NBN connection will be easy to set up. After your service is active, you simply use an RJ11 phone cable to connect your modem router to the phone socket. Almost every single modem router includes one of these in the box. Modems also require a dedicated power source, so you'll need a spare electrical outlet. Your other devices will connect to your modem router using Wi-Fi or a wired Ethernet connection.

NBN will eventually phase out the old copper phone services we use today, and replace them with similar services delivered by the internet. Home phones will connect to 'UNI-D' phone services, provided by your internet supplier. The UNI-D does not allow for emergency power back-up in the case of a black-out. If the power in your home goes down or if the NBN goes down, so will your phone line.

