

# Gateway

Newsletter of the Brooklyn Community Association

September 2021

Next Issue December 2021

## President's Report

We hope everyone is surviving this extended lockdown. I feel very fortunate to live here during lockdown in our gorgeous environment. Hopefully, the numbers will turnaround, and it will end soon. I'm sure we are all looking forward to meeting up with friends for a meal, a drink at the pub, and catching up for a coffee.

In lockdown, the BCA Committee has been reviewing and refining the purpose of the Association. Our plan is to discuss this new Purpose Statement at the general meeting in October:

*The Brooklyn Community Association is an organisation of Brooklyn residents and business owners whose purpose is to improve the facilities, environment, culture and wellbeing of the community.*

*We achieve our purpose by:*

- *Informing the community about current issues, canvassing views and establishing community positions*
- *Creating opportunities for individual and community participation through meetings, newsletters, guest speakers, events and surveys*
- *Promoting our local businesses, services and community organisations*
- *Advocating the interests of the community to local and state government bodies*
- *Collaborating with other lower Hawkesbury communities*

With an end to lockdown in sight, we are now planning for a more active year next year. We will be:

- Revitalising the approach we take to connect with the community. Residents will be able to continue to contribute through attending our quarterly meetings, joining an interest group or responding to surveys on current issues. Everyone will have an opportunity to have their say or be involved in as much or as little as they want. We will soon send out an email asking you to update your interests and details. If you are not on email, you can go to the BCA webpage [www.brooklyncommunity.org.au](http://www.brooklyncommunity.org.au) or FaceBook [www.facebook.com/BrooklynNSW](http://www.facebook.com/BrooklynNSW) or contact us on [info@brooklyncommunity.org.au](mailto:info@brooklyncommunity.org.au).
- Inviting new members on the BCA Committee.? The BCA is seeking nominations for the BCA Committee for 2022. You can see further details and nominate on the BCA website at: [www.brooklyncommunity.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/BCA-Committee-Nomination-Form-2021-2022-V1.docx](http://www.brooklyncommunity.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/BCA-Committee-Nomination-Form-2021-2022-V1.docx)

**Di Bowles, President Brooklyn Community Association** [president@brooklyncommunity.org.au](mailto:president@brooklyncommunity.org.au)

## Brooklyn Community Association

### General Meeting

**10am-12noon Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

**Brooklyn Meeting Room or On Zoom (to be advised)**

BCA Members, Guests and Friends welcome. *Maximum of 50 people allowed under COVID.*

[www.brooklyncommunity.org.au](http://www.brooklyncommunity.org.au)

[www.facebook.com/BrooklynNSW](http://www.facebook.com/BrooklynNSW)

### Meeting Dates

**Saturday**

6-Mar-2021

5-Jun-2021

9-Oct-2021

4-Dec-2021

3pm & AGM

The Gateway is published by the Brooklyn Community Association. Contact the BCA on [info@brooklyncommunity.org.au](mailto: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 print the Gateway newsletter and Gary Robertson, Brooklyn's postie and musician, who kindly delivers the Gateway in the community.

The full colour edition of the Gateway Newsletter can be found at

<http://brooklyncommunity.org.au/about-bca/gatewaynewsletter/>

## Brooklyn Place Planning and Parking

At Hornsby Council's July 2021 General Meeting, the Councillors considered the General Manager's Report: GM31/21 Brooklyn Place Planning, with recommendations and proposed activities resulting from the exhibition of the Discussion Paper on Brooklyn Place Planning, and the accompanying survey by the Council:

See

<https://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/business/services/my-place/brooklyn-Place-Plan>



Despite a number of submissions, including one from the BCA, Councillors accepted the recommendations in the General Manager's Report:

1. Council note the survey results and summary of comments received during the exhibition of the Discussion Paper - Brooklyn Place Planning.
2. Council endorse the guiding principles and priority actions for the development of the Brooklyn Place Plan.
3. Council endorse the revised "working version" of the vision for Brooklyn – such that it may be further tested with stakeholders as the place planning process progresses.
4. A workshop be conducted with Councillors to discuss an approach to, and principles associated with, car parking management in Brooklyn.

The General Manager's Report listed the high priority actions from the Discussion Paper:

1. A clear place vision for Brooklyn
2. A functionally laid-out village centre (Brooklyn urban design footprint)
3. An economically sustainable and resilient village centre
4. Dangar Road activation strategy
5. A resolved approach to village centre parking

The BCA made a submission to the Council on the Report, with the main points being the BCA:

- Supports the recommendation that "*Council address car parking in the first instance*".
- Welcomes the recommendation to establish a *revised "working version" of the vision*.
- Reiterates that the guiding principles did not recognise Brooklyn "as a location for those people who have chosen to make Brooklyn their home", that is: the residents.
- Believes that the point of tension in the community is suitable access to parking for all users, and not just visitor parking, as implied in the General Manager's Report.
- Requests the Council to establish comprehensive statistics of car parking, and storage and movement of vehicles, and that this data should be shared with the communities.
- Requests that the words "activation of Dangar Road" should be clarified, and actions integrated under the Community Facilities Plan and the Brooklyn Place Plan.

Subsequently, Council have provided an update on the status of parking in Brooklyn:

- Council has approved the recommendation to update the signs in Parsley Bay for "cars with boat trailers attached", with other changes in Parsley Bay left for the Place Plan.
- Hornsby Council's 2020 Car Parking Management Study will form the basis of future engagement on car parking, which will focus on short and medium actions.
- Council is unlikely to get in front of the new Council until February 2022 at the earliest to provide them with a workshop to progress car parking in Brooklyn.

The Council plans to establish a Project Group within Council to work on the car parking project between now and February 2022. After the briefing of new Councillors, engagement with the community will begin to discuss these issues.

*Robert Arnold secretary@brooklyncommunity.org.au*

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## Peats Bite Restaurant – *Breaking News*

Fire crews were called to Peats Bite Restaurant at Berowra Waters just after 7:30pm on Tuesday 7 September 2021. The Rural Fire Service were unable to save the popular waterside restaurant after responding to a bush and structure fire and says the fire spread into nearby bushland. Firefighters were able to contain it and protect residential parts of the building. More than 50 RFS members and 4 FRNSW attended the blaze at Sunny Corner and all residents were accounted for.

*From ABC News and Channel 9 News*

*We know that everybody in Brooklyn wishes Geoff and Tanya well as they look at rebuilding.*

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## Community Facilities in Brooklyn

At Hornsby Council's July 2021 General Meeting, the Councillors considered the Director's Report CE15/21 Draft Community & Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan, with recommendations (for Brooklyn):

- Consolidate existing facilities (Baden Powell Hall, Brooklyn Leisure & Learning, and 10 Dangar Road) into a consolidated multipurpose community facility of 100-200sqm for Brooklyn.
- The Report stated that the draft Strategy has been updated to note the Lower Hawkesbury Aquatic and Recreation Association's (LHARA) proposal for a new facility in Parsley Bay.

Despite a number of submissions, Councillors accepted the recommendations in the Director's Report.

The BCA's submission to the Council stated:

- Our primary concern centres upon specific decisions that are being made regarding Brooklyn before the issues can be discussed, analysed and finalised in the Brooklyn Place Plan.
- The BCA remain unclear on what Council's intent is in "Action 4. Dangar Road activation strategy". In the submission, the BCA requested that Council provides formal confirmation that work related to the Dangar Road activation strategy (i.e. how to best use the Council owned assets on Dangar Road to deliver on the place principles and vision for Brooklyn) will be part of the ongoing collaborative process to deliver the Brooklyn Place Plan.
- No 10 Dangar Road (The Cottage) operates as a highly successful community, arts, cultural and visitor's centre, and it is incredibly disappointing that it is recommended to 'consolidate Number 10'. The Cottage is an example of how a connected community can work well and increase the community's wellbeing. Since it opened its doors, over 3000 people have visited The Cottage. The recommendation is inconsistent with information provided to the BCA by Council's Place Planners and the spirit of the Place Planning process.
- The Community and Cultural Facility strategy still contains errors in the information regarding the Brooklyn facilities.

These recommendations are considered medium to long term in timing. After the car parking issues are finalised, the Place Plan will resume, and facilities will be an important issue on the agenda. This will provide the entire community the opportunity to review these recommendations and to discuss all options honestly and respectfully. The BCA will continue to advocate that no decisions are made about facilities until they are discussed with the community through the Place Plan process.

*Di Bowles president@brooklyncommunity.org.au*

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## Recycling in Brooklyn

Now is a good time to recycle. Would you like to help us with the amenities for our community Cottage at No 10 Dangar Rd Brooklyn? How? Well by recycling. Look under your house in your shed or garage, and see if you can find any scrap copper, brass, lead or bronze. We will collect it from you and when we have a sufficient amount, we will contact the scrap metal merchant to come, pay and pick it up.

*Phone Bob Davis on 02 9985 7399*

*Cartoon by Peter Davis*



## New Owners at the Anglers Rest Hotel

Narelle and Steve Gauslaa have acquired the Anglers Rest Hotel from the McKellar and Watts families, who have owned the Hotel since 1985.

Narelle is a member of the Shakeshafts, one of the oldest families in Brooklyn and has lived in Brooklyn “pretty much all her life”. She has worked in the pub for the past 33 years, and while intimately familiar with its operation, this is

Narelle’s first pub. Husband Steve has run the refuse collection firm serving Hawkesbury River and Dangar communities as well as bulky waste kerbside collection for the whole of Hornsby Shire with his father Geoff. The river collection service was first started by Steve’s grandfather 45 years ago. One local said “There is deep river history flowing in that couple’s veins”.



No doubt, Steve is looking forward to the later morning starts, and the different challenges in the pub game. During the quiet period in the lockdown, many of us have seen the renovations at the entrance. Narelle and Steve say “The pub will stay much the same for the immediate future. We are looking forward to having live music, happy hours, bingo and that kind of thing for the locals.” A grand opening is planned when the lockdown ends and restrictions ease.

*Robert Arnold secretary@brooklyncommunity.org.au*

## Hazard Reduction Burn

National Parks and Wildlife Service in conjunction with the Rural Fire Service conducted a hazard reduction burn in Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park from Friday 6<sup>th</sup> August to Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> August. The burn focused on Porto Ridge and Peak Hill, and up to the railway line near Brooklyn. The purpose of the burn was to reduce bush fire fuel levels and provide protection to local community assets.

Walking through the National Park since the burn indicated that the hazard reduction looked successful in reducing the risk to Brooklyn. Much of the undergrowth was removed, although a lot of the small shrubs had been killed by the fire, and might add risk in the future.



*Photos by Robert Corkery and Robert Arnold  
[robert.corkery@yahoo.com.au](mailto:robert.corkery@yahoo.com.au)*

## Bloomsday in Brooklyn

Brooklyn's cute and intimate Cottage provided a charming venue for a small group of passionate lovers of art, life and literature.

The occasion?

# Bloomsday



Celebrated worldwide every 16th June, Bloomsday gathers audiences together to listen to passages read from James Joyce's novel Ulysses. Ulysses has been described as both the best novel in the English language and the hardest to read. Hard to read though joyfully easy to listen to, our Cottage audience were transfixed with shivers of emotional goose bumps as readers local and visiting read from its pages.

Novelist and river resident Sue Woolfe compered the event providing introductions, segues and stories between passages

Local identity Chris Haywood, our first reader, set the stage with voice and presence delivering those famous opening lines: "Stately, plump Buck Mulligan came from the stairhead, bearing a bowl of lather on which a mirror and a razor lay crossed." As one of Australia's most experienced, recognised and talented actors Chris was a hard act to follow.

Local and long-time thespians from our Theatre in the Park troupe: Gary Robertson and Greg Upfold kept the audience spell bound as they too immersed in the musical patterns swept the audience along by the melody and rhythms of the text. Gary captured perfectly Blooms stream of consciousness as he feeds himself and his cat.

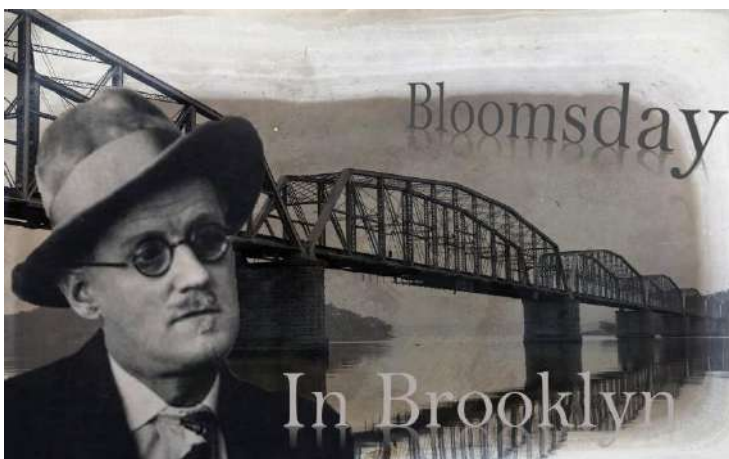
Blue Mountain book publishers and friends of Brooklyn who had visited Dublin for Bloomsday Linda Adair and Mark Roberts contributed renditions of Blooms pub crawl and appetite for gorgonzola sandwiches as well as footnotes and context for their passages.

Chris's second reading contained both a reflection on the aphrodisiacal qualities of oysters and a tender, physical moment between Leopold and Molly. It was mesmerizing. The fortunate audience experienced the transcendent potential of great theatre.

Gary's second reading called further upon his musical sensibility as he delivered a further pub scene with Blazes Boylan flouncing off to meet Molly for her "music lesson" while Bloom's heart breaks.

Our final reader actress Peta Toppano had "come out of retirement for this event" Peta delivered one the most famous passages in the text Molly's soliloquy. An alluring seductive and life affirming performance ending in the book with those most famous lines:

*"yes I said yes I will Yes".*



Next year is the 100-year anniversary of the publication of the book. We'll be having Bloomsday in Brooklyn again. If you like to be involved, please text: 0423 254 681 with the word Bloomsday.

*Peter Davis peterdavis21karoola@gmail.com*

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## Light Relief: The Earth was Round, even in 245 BC

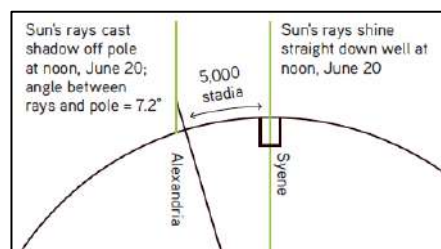
Around 245 BC, when Eratosthenes was 30, he was working as a librarian in the Library of Alexandria in Egypt. It was there where he read about a water well in the city of Syene (modern-day Aswan in southern Egypt).

At midday every summer solstice, the sun would shine directly into the well, illuminating the water at the bottom - but casting no shadow on the walls of the well. It meant the sun sat directly above at that exact moment.

Eratosthenes wondered, if he stuck a pole in the ground in Alexandria at that same moment, would it cast a shadow? And it turns out it did. And that allowed him to do something else.

Since he knew the height of the pole, and the length of its shadow, it meant he knew the lengths of two sides of a right-angled triangle. That meant he could figure out the length of the third side of the triangle, and he could also figure out the angle at the top of the pole, between the sunbeam and the pole itself. It was 7.2 degrees.

To figure out the circumference of the earth, he needed to somehow measure the distance between Alexandria and Syene. So, he asked someone to walk it. (Those people were called "bematists", professional surveyors who were trained to measure vast distances extremely accurately by pacing the distance.) They estimated the distance between the two cities was roughly 5,000 stadia (or 800 kilometres).



Eratosthenes knew that the distance between Syene and Alexandria was 7.2 degrees along the surface of the earth. So how many of those distances would he need to stretch around the entire 360 degree circumference of the earth? He divided 360 by 7.2, which gave a neat 50.

That meant, given the distance between Alexandria and Syene was 800 kilometres, all he had to do was multiply 800 by 50, which came to 40,000. The circumference of the earth was 40,000 kilometres, according to Eratosthenes' calculations.

Was he correct? He was incredibly close. As it turns out, the equatorial circumference is about 40,075 km.

ABC News: [https://apple.news/A4Zg\\_SFQJQOqMBleF7hvGhw](https://apple.news/A4Zg_SFQJQOqMBleF7hvGhw)

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## The Peat Island Property

Property & Development NSW (the government agency charged with preparing the original Peat Island property and the old Mooney Mooney school for development) has recently created a Community Reference Group (the CRG) to administer the buildings which are presently used by the Mooney /Cheero community. This arrangement covers the school and the Peat Island Chapel (located at Mooney). Property & Development NSW have indicated that the Chapel will eventually become community property and are facilitating space for a community centre.

These actions might indicate that the submission of a Development Control Plan to Central Coast Council is imminent. A three month Community Consultation is expected to follow submission.

John Andrews Mooney Mooney Resident [andrews.johnb@outlook.com](mailto:andrews.johnb@outlook.com) 0418 276 492

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## Paddle 4 A Cause: Hawkesbury Canoe Classic

*Breaking News: Due to current Covid restrictions, the Canoe Classic will not be going ahead as planned in October and will be held on new date in 2022.*

The Hawkesbury Canoe Classic was due to commence 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021. Starting at Windsor paddlers travel to Brooklyn in an overnight paddle. We will welcome any paddlers that would like to join in for the 111 km paddle. It is for a great cause and someone who has trained and can paddle for around 7 hours are more than welcome to be part of next year's event.



<https://www.canoeclassic.net/>

For further information please email [info@canoeclassic.asn.au](mailto:info@canoeclassic.asn.au)

Marine Rescue Hawkesbury  
Kym Mahoney PR Officer 0408 273 551  
[uc.hawkesbury@marinerescuensw.com.au](mailto:uc.hawkesbury@marinerescuensw.com.au)

## A Message from Your Brooklyn Hall Committee

*Hi All, Remember Us?*

*What a great time we had with our fund-raisers the "Men of the River" calendar, our music & market extravaganza named "Another Brick in the Hall", or the fantabulous "Amazing River Race" where we raced for clues around the river. We raised quite a bit of money towards a hall back then, but after 25 plus years we're still waiting for our much-needed facility.*

*We're sure many of you recall when our Masonic Hall closed leaving us with nowhere to gather, and so the dream of The Jack Neary Centre to be built in the school grounds came alive. This was to be aptly named after our famous, home grown music guru, who, among a myriad of successes in the entertainment industry, was instrumental in bringing The Beatles to Oz, discovering "Human Nature", was heavily involved in orchestrating the Pope's tour and also started the annual, not to be missed, Schools Spectacular.*

*Unfortunately, the Education Dept didn't see it our way and there's been plenty of other community hall plans since, but just like the bank's interest rates, they're still stuck in first gear.*

*Council gave us an "interim meeting room" at the medical centre until our hall was built but this barely meets rowdy meeting standards let alone being able to perform a dance routine without coming away with bruised hips from bumping into the walls!*

*Our original concept was for the smallest child to easily walk between the venue and the school. A lot has changed since then, including the school now having an undercover learning area. This gives us the opportunity to look a little further afield and become more flexible. Whether it will be for sport, exercise, school functions and activities, socialising, sheltering, educating or be for commiserating, imagine our community finally having a building suitable for all members of our little village, old and young. A place for us all to enjoy. A place to foster new skills and to create opportunities for learning. Let's all get behind this with pride. By embracing a true multi-functional facility, our Council, State and Federal members are also keen to see this succeed,*

*So your hall committee are about to embark on an exciting new fundraiser just in time to help you knock some presents off your Christmas shopping list. We've made our list and are checking it twice - don't be surprised if we come knocking on your door! We're seeking some volunteers to help with photography and graphic design, not to mention some fresh and enthusiastic talent to make their debut on the world stage! We guarantee it will be a bit of fun!*

Anna Jones & Liz Surrest 0414 733 714  
(New Members Welcome)

### **The dam looks great and the flowers are blooming**



# The Great Gramma Pie Bake-Off

On June the 6th at the Sunday Market, the good folk of Brooklyn were treated to taste and delight in the Great Gramma Pie Bake Off.

With over twenty entrants from within the village, around the Shire and as far away as the Southern Highlands, this was a highly contested event. One Hornsby entrant had secured their Gramma from the illustrious displays of the Royal Easter Show. The entries of Hornsby Shire's finest bakeries: Bite Me; Top of the Ridge; and Pie the Sky added to the rivalry while old timers baked pies filled with wisdom, experience and Grammas.

In anticipation of this red-hot competition spiralling into an episode of Midsomer Murders, Chief Judge Bob Davis enlisted the services of three out of town judges with a collective memory of tasting Gramma pies that exceeded 200 years.

Rod Taylor, our Chief of Security, drove along the pie trail with Bob picking up the prized professional entries in boxes designed for security and anonymity then packed carefully into the dickie seat of Rod's vintage Standard Flying 10.

As the clock ticked midday the judges began the task of tasting and scoring each of the 20 + delicious entries... An hour and belly full later the judges passed their decision to the announcer

"... 3rd place: Monna Donnelly Brooklyn. 2nd Place Jane and Ally Imrie from the Hawkesbury River Dragons, and in a photo finish Karen Arnold and Venette Forsyth's matriarchs shared the award for the 2021 Great Gramma Pie Bake Off". Our professional entries (the best pie shops in Hornsby Shire and arguably the State) were difficult to separate with Top of the Ridge nudging ahead on count back.

*Thanks to all competitors, judges, tasters and security for a wonderful day.  
Unofficial Food writer: Peter Davis peterdavis21karoola@gmail.com*



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- Hi. I'm Liz, your local property professional. If you don't know me, I come with many years experience not only in this complex and sometimes vexing industry, but in our unique and diverse area.
- The local buzz right now is that some prices appear to be skyrocketing and that properties are selling very quickly. What someone is willing to pay for a property all comes down to the following:
  - Supply -v- Demand
  - Competitive Bidding

David Easton 0439 407 212  
david@eastcastle.com.au  
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- External Influences such as the media and finance availability, to name a few.
- I have widespread experience in not only residential sales, having broken many sales records in my 25+ years servicing my community, but I also manage several investment portfolios through Sydney metro & the lower Central Coast - both residential & commercial. If you are after some no obligation professional advice, give me a call - I love helping people. If you are thinking of changing agents, I can assure you that you will receive superior knowledge, expertise and attention to detail. You won't be disappointed.

Liz Surrent 0420 759 004  
liz@eastcastle.com.au  
Licenced Agent #303170



Brooklyn, Dangar Island, Mooney Mooney, Cheero Point, Little Wobby

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