

# Gateway

Newsletter of the Brooklyn Community Association December 2021

Next Issue March 2022

## President's Report

Once again, it's been a busy time for the BCA and the community. Our focus the last few months has been on Peat Island and parking issues in Brooklyn. In this issue:

- Two drop-in sessions with over 50 people attending were held to provide the community with more information about the Peat Island Proposal. There will be many impacts on Brooklyn and you can find the information on our website. We encourage everyone to make a submission to the Central Coast Council at [ask@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ask@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au). To assist you with this we have a pro-forma letter that you can use as a starter – be sure to personalise and make it your own and concentrate on what you are passionate about.
- Parking – we wrote a letter to the Council about our dire parking situation. We asked if they had any solutions that could be trialled without making significant changes or impacts on anyone and just make small improvements. One suggestion is to improve directional signage to address traffic circulation through the village centre.
- Noting that a shared zone on Dangar Road is recommended in the Car Parking Management Study there will be installations of tube counts to provide justification for the shared zone. If the tube count supports the initiative, the matter goes to the Local Traffic Committee prior to installation. The Council estimate that this will take 2-3 months to run through this process before installation can begin.
- To gather more information, the Council will be putting out a Resident Car Parking Survey to support the community consultation process. Please participate and this will provide important key information from the residents of Brooklyn.
- The Cottage is re-opening on Sunday, 28 November 2021 with the Christmas Markets. We always need more volunteers!

This will be my last Gateway as President. After six years of President and three as VP, it's time for new and fresh viewpoints. I want to thank everyone whom I have worked with these last twelve years. Highlights of advocacy work is the shared cycleway, The Cottage, the lift, new equipment at Lower McKell, and a whole lot of other initiatives and wins for our community. And a big thank you to the committee and all that volunteer in our community. And one special thanks to Robert as the essential wingman. I thought of a new acronym, BWB – Big trees, Wonderful water and Beautiful bushland. And with the people who live here, it truly is a special place.

**Di Bowles** President Brooklyn Community Association

[president@brooklyncommunity.org.au](mailto:president@brooklyncommunity.org.au)

**Brooklyn Community Association**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**3pm-5pm Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2021**  
**Brooklyn Meeting Room**  
*Followed by Refreshments*

BCA Members, Guests and Friends welcome. Operates under COVID Restrictions  
[www.brooklyncommunity.org.au](http://www.brooklyncommunity.org.au)      [www.facebook.com/BrooklynNSW](https://www.facebook.com/BrooklynNSW)

**Meeting Dates**  
**Saturday**  
6-Mar-2021  
5-Jun-2021  
9-Oct-2021  
(cancelled\*)  
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/>

---

## Parsley Bay Centre Concept

Following a number of approaches from people in the Brooklyn community we thought it was a good time to revisit the Parsley Bay Centre concept, to set the record straight on some misinformation that seems to continue to spread. First, a few points:

- The concept has NOT been approved, nor has any DA been submitted to Council.
- There is NO funding currently for this concept.
- Residents' views about Community Facilities including the Parsley Bay concept will form part of the Place Planning consultations held by Council with the whole Brooklyn community next year.

### ***How it all started....***

For those who have lived in Brooklyn for a while and have had children attend Brooklyn Public School will know, there isn't a place for the school to hold whole school events in bad weather or at night. School concerts were packed, and acoustics were poor. Due to bad weather, many activities were cancelled, such as the end of year assemblies and dance practices. After closing the Masonic Hall, which had a stage set up for performances and other events, the Brooklyn Hall Committee took up the baton to raise funds for a community hall. The meeting room behind the health centre was an interim measure until a multi-functional Hall could be built.

As of December 2021, the Parsley Bay Centre remains just a concept (see <https://lhara.com.au/> for details on the concept). In 2019 the different sailing clubs approached the BCA to propose a multipurpose centre, one that would serve club and recreational sailing and water sports and those educational and social requirements of the broader Brooklyn community. From the outset, there were discussions about how it could work and identify potential impacts on the surrounding neighbourhood. It was agreed that we would get people involved early for feedback. The BCA and LHARA produced a flyer and door knocked on Karoola and George Street to introduce the idea and receive localised feedback. Contact details were provided for anyone to reach out to us. It is important to note; this was at the very beginning of developing the concept. We were contacted by one resident and met with them for three hours at the Cottage to go through the ideas and any reservations. They provided their opposition the next day, which was shared.

At a BCA meeting in June 2019, attendees voted that the BCA should support the Parsley Bay Centre concept (to facilitate an inclusive community facility), keeping in mind the longer-term impacts on Parsley Bay. This means supporting the idea, keeping an open mind and constantly reviewing how it can work, how it would be managed and operate.

From the beginning, the concept was to utilise the top floor mainly during the day for educational purposes, senior outings, environmental groups and sailing meetings. It was proposed prior to any development application to meet with the surrounding neighbours to establish criteria around events to held at night, such as the school trivia fundraiser and the soccer dinner dance. It was never suggested to use the Parsley Bay Centre as a function centre for weddings or birthdays.

During 2021, the Hornsby Shire Council approved their ten-year Community Facility Strategy, which initially stated that the community meeting room would be sufficient for our community. Everyone in Brooklyn knows this is not sufficient for our needs. The strategy also recommends 'consolidation' and possible sale of The Cottage, Baden Powell and the Seniors Building. The BCA recommended that the concept of the Parsley Bay Centre be included in the ten-year strategy. If the BCA didn't take this action, then we wouldn't have the opportunity to outline our needs of a facility fit for the community. Without the BCA changes, the meeting room with limited access would be our community area for the next ten years.

### ***So, where does this leave the community?***

There needs to be a discussion with the entire community about what we want from a Community Centre and where that should be located. Some residents in Karoola Street and George Street, known as the Village Alliance, have strongly opposed the Parsley Bay Concept, proposing some alternative ideas including an extension to the Cottage. This information is on the BCA website in the footer.

We welcome all ideas. However, the community needs to discuss their concerns and ideas respectfully and honestly to try and find the best solution for all and without personal attacks on each other or the BCA committee members. The committee members do their best as volunteers, and the antagonism directed at some volunteers is unacceptable.

### ***How will this happen?***

The Council have made it clear that *nothing* will happen at Parsley Bay until parking is addressed first. Once the parking discussions happen after new Councillors are briefed, perhaps March next year, and after parking solutions are decided on, then the Brooklyn Place Plan will start up again. This is the appropriate time to discuss Community Facilities. In the meantime, it would be great if we all looked at all the ideas and concepts. Then, think about what you think will work for the whole community. Be prepared to come to these discussions and participate next year as part of the Place Plan.

In the meantime, please get involved in the parking survey and provide your submission on the Peat Island proposal.

*The BCA Executive Committee*

---

# Peat Island Development

## ***The story so far***

DPIE Property & Development NSW (the NSW government agency charged with preparing the Peat Island property for development) has recently submitted a major Planning Proposal to Central Coast Council for rezoning of areas of land on Peat Island and in Mooney Mooney, following a series of concept plans and reports, and a Gateway process over the period from about 2011. This new Planning Proposal, which is currently being exhibited by Central Coast Council, seeks to amend the Gosford Local Environmental Plan 2014 to allow a mix of residential, community, tourism and employment-generating land uses on Government owned land at Peat Island and Mooney Mooney.

The Planning Proposal was originally submitted to the former Gosford Council in 2014 and has been amended on several occasions to address State government requirements, technical study recommendations and agency feedback. Local communities have attempted over many years to change the nature of the proposals to improve the environmental and cultural aspects and reduce the residential components. Central Coast Council is now publicly exhibiting the Peat Island Planning Proposal until 20 December 2021.

The BCA has actively advocated for Brooklyn and the Hornsby Shire Council to be included in any proposals and studies regarding Peat Island for over a decade. We have sent letters to Matt Kean in 2012 and then Planning Minister Pru Goward in 2015, and met in person with Planning Minister Rob Stokes in 2016 to convey the significant impact of any development at Peat Island would have on Brooklyn and the Hornsby Council and to request that we are included in the Project Scope.

BCA and Mooney representatives met with Central Coast Council in 2017 and were able to get an extended three months consultation (usually one month). At that meeting, the then Administrator of the Council said this decision was too important to be made by an administrator and should be made by elected officials to ensure community input. We now question the transparency and integrity of a government agency acting as the proponent of zoning and LEP changes of this magnitude to be decided by the new administrator of Central Coast Council, appointed by the government.

## ***Brooklyn Community Association Actions***

The BCA has been highly active in responding to the Planning Proposal. Over the last month, we have:

- Read and analysed the thousands of pages of reports and identified the impact on Brooklyn.
- Run drop-in workshops with local residents to inform people about the Proposal, to help them to make submissions to Central Coast Council. (48 residents attended the sessions and 10 residents sent their apologies). The interest in the sessions was exceptional and the discussions intense. There was one unanimous response, the impact on Brooklyn was substantial.)
- Made formal presentations to Hornsby Councillors to understand the impact on Brooklyn and urge them to submit that Council's submission.
- Prepared a pro-forma submission for local and lower-Hawkesbury residents to prepare their own submissions to Central Cost Council, under the following headings:

### **Impacts on Brooklyn**

- Impact on Traffic
- Demands on Parking
- Impact on Sewerage
- Impact on our Services
- Impact on the Environment

### **Planning and Development Issues**

- Reports are Out of Date
- Sydney Regional Environmental Plan No 20
- Zoning and Density Issues
- Role of an Administrator
- Alternative Vision for Peat Island

## ***Call to Action***

Details of the Proposal can be found at [www.yourvoiceourcoast.com/pipp](http://www.yourvoiceourcoast.com/pipp). We need the community to make submissions to Central Coast Council at [ask@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ask@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au), before the closing date on 20 December 2021. The more submissions we make, the more Council will listen to residents. You can find the BCA's pro-forma submission document at <https://brooklyncommunity.org.au/proforma-letter-re-peat-island/>. Be sure to personalise the pro-forma and make it your own.

*Di Bowles BCA President [president@brooklyncommunity.org.au](mailto:president@brooklyncommunity.org.au)  
Robert Arnold BCA Secretary [secretary@brooklyncommunity.org.au](mailto:secretary@brooklyncommunity.org.au)*

# Brooklyn Public School Trivia Night



**BROOKLYN PUBLIC SCHOOL P&C 90s TRIVIA NIGHT**

Bid on Bling auction items and Da Bomb raffles

**WE LOVE THE 90s**

Forget Covid, forget the Noughties and escape for 1 night to all that was good in the 90s!

Saturday the 11th December 2021 3pm – 8pm  
At Dangar Island Bowling Club.

**BE THERE OR TALK TO THE HAND.**

Book here 

Platinum Sponsor  
Riverfront Real Estate 

Di Bowles BCA President [president@brooklyncommunity.org.au](mailto:president@brooklyncommunity.org.au)

# For Peats Sake – Community Christmas Picnic



**FOR PEATS SAKE**

**SAVE PEAT ISLAND**

Historic Gateway to the Hawkesbury River

NO to Residential Zoning    Make it Public    For the People

People for Peat Island

 Peat Island

## Community Christmas Picnic

**Sunday 12th December**

Calling all river folk and lovers of Peat Island.

Celebrate and commemorate the History, Present and Future of this Iconic Place.

Meet at Kangaroo Point at 11.30 a.m. to:

- bridge walk to Peat Island Chapel OR
- join a flotilla of boats to voyage around the Island

### Community Christmas Picnic

Picnic, healing and smoking ceremony

Please bring a plate to share.

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December 12.30 p.m.

Peat Island Chapel, Chapel Lane. Mooney Mooney.

RSVP: Text: "Walk" OR "Boat" to FB event page



Di Bowles BCA President [president@brooklyncommunity.org.au](mailto:president@brooklyncommunity.org.au)



## Groove Cruise Sunday - Blues Collective Xmas Party Time!

This will be Blues Cruise (2017-2021) on the Hawkesbury for Blues Collective, and we know it will be enormous fun, helped along by the spirit of Christmas and our many wonderful cruisers!

With only 70 tickets for sale, we also know that they will sell out very quickly, as they always do, so please grab your tickets as soon as you can via this link:

<https://www.stickytickets.com.au/PS8QW>

Chris, Angela, Martin, Sean, Ian, and Bruce of Blues Collective look forward to entertaining you on board the Bay Runner on Sunday, 12 December 2021!

Tickets: <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/PS8QW>



**GROOVE CRUISE #8**

**3-6PM SUNDAY  
12 DECEMBER  
BAY RUNNER,  
BROOKLYN**

**Blues Collective  
Xmas Party Time!  
(70 Tickets @ \$40)**

## Oyster Farmer Movie

The Angler's Rest will host the screening of Oyster Farmer on Wednesday, 15 December from 5:30pm.

The dress code is black tie. Narelle at the Anglers Rest is excited to host the event and has even proposed a red carpet.

Chris Haywood has invited a guest celebrity presenter to the Oyster farmer screening and red carpet Oyster Oscar Awards.

Deb and Peter from The Oyster Shed have kindly agreed to lend the event their original poster of the movie for the evening.

Jonathan Sykes from Deerubbin Island Film Society (DIFS) | Australian Film Societies Federation ([ausfilm.org.au](http://ausfilm.org.au)) has agreed to present the film.

The screening of this film is independent of any group or association and is to bring together and celebrate the village folk of Brooklyn, river communities, the oyster industry and a healthy river.



Peter Davis [peter.john.davis@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:peter.john.davis@det.nsw.edu.au)

## Brooklyn Bushcare

Bushcare in Hornsby Shire resumes!

After another lockdown Bushcare in Hornsby Shire is back up and running.

This includes our two sites in Brooklyn. We are always looking for new members to join our groups and help us outcompete the weeds. Council supplies tools, bags & training.

We meet on the 4th Thursday of the month at:

- Brooklyn Park 8.30am – 11.30am and/or
- Salt Pan Reserve 12.30 – 3.30pm



Photo: Bushcare at Salt Pan Reserve, behind the RFS on Brooklyn Rd

For more information find us online at:

<https://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/environment/flora-and-fauna/bushland-management/bushcare/join-bushcare>

## Launch founders on the Hawkesbury in 1936

On 18 October 1936, 14 people boarded the "Marion", an 18-foot open boat, for a day trip from Brooklyn to Patonga. The day trip was to celebrate the upcoming marriage of Henry Kalenstein and Sarah Klarnett, due to take place on 20 December 1936. Around 6.00pm, after a day of revelry, the large party set out to return to Brooklyn.

They boarded "Marion" in relative calm waters. As they rounded the point they

were hit by a vicious storm and the boat capsized. It was not until the next morning that the alarm was raised when two survivors, Norman Jones and Woolfe Kalenstein, were discovered on rocks at Green Point by a passing Italian fisherman. It took a week to find and recover all the bodies.

This tragedy rocked Sydney's small Jewish community. The funerals attracted hundreds of mourners. Nine of the group are buried side-by-side in the Jewish Section of Rookwood Cemetery.

Jo Henwood [jo7hanna@tpg.com.au](mailto:jo7hanna@tpg.com.au) 040 88 75 137  
[www.johenwoodstoryteller.com.au](http://www.johenwoodstoryteller.com.au)



## 1 in 10 People Survive a sudden Cardiac Arrest

"I know, blah blah blah it won't happen to me". But guess what – it does happen to people like you.

A fortnight ago my husband had a Heart Attack. Luckily everything lined up - the ambulance was in the station and only took 8 minutes to get into Brooklyn.

They got him into the ambulance to take him to Hornsby Hospital but before they got off the M1 he had a cardiac arrest and that was when the defibrillator or AED\* was used.

BUT what if the Ambulance and its AED was unavailable?

Brooklyn has a number of AEDs, one at the Marina available 7am-7pm and one at Medical Center available when it is open, but none are accessible 24/7.

Narelle and Steve Gauslaa have started to raise funds towards an AED for the Angler's Rest but we need 24/7 accessible AED's all over town; at Parsley Bay, The Pool, The Oval and The Cottage.

Each AED costs approx \$2500, so if you're interested in helping to raise money to buy publicly accessible AED's for our community please email me at [emails@brooklyncommunity.org.au](mailto:emails@brooklyncommunity.org.au).

\*An Automated External Defibrillator (**AED**) is used to help those experiencing sudden cardiac arrest. It's an easy-to-use medical device that can analyse the heart's rhythm and, if necessary, deliver an electrical shock, or defibrillation, to help the heart re-establish an effective rhythm.



Jayne Donnelly [emails@brooklyncommunity.org.au](mailto:emails@brooklyncommunity.org.au)

---

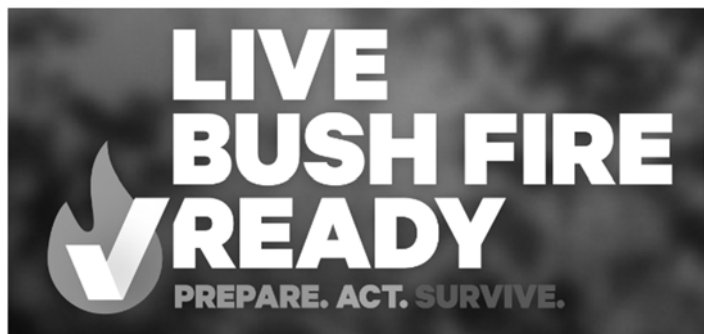
## Live Bush Fire Ready

The events of 2019/20 Fire Season may seem but a distant memory now; with the current rain and steamy days a bush fire occurring may be the last thing on your mind.

We have entered the Bush Fire Danger Period (1 October - 31 March) and the potential for a bush fire threat is now here. The current weather patterns show milder than average days and warmer than average nights but on a perfect day anything can happen. Now is not the time to be complacent.

What can you do?

- Trim overhanging trees and shrubs
- Mow your grass
- Remove material that can burn from around the house
- Clear your gutters and debris around your home.
- Prepare sturdy hose or hoses that will reach all around the house



For more information visit:

<https://www.myfireplan.com.au/> & <https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/plan-and-prepare>

---

## The Cottage

The Cottage is re-opening again! On Sunday, 28 November 2021, between 10-10:30am, Uncle Laurie, a Guringai man, will be conducting a Welcome to Country and a Smoking Ceremony to cleanse and open our Christmas Markets.

We have a record number of stalls offering their local craft for sale. You will be able to do your Christmas shopping right here in Brooklyn!

The BCA will be holding a cake stall fundraiser. If you are a local and can make a cake for the stall, we will be very grateful. Cakes can be dropped off on the day of the market, funds raised will be used for running of The Cottage.

We also need some more volunteers to help out at The Cottage on weekends to greet customers and ensure proper Covid check ins, along with answering information questions. It's easy and fun! You get to meet new people and connect with the locals passing by. The shifts are only 3 hours, and we just need a few more people to take 1-2 shifts per month. Some of us call it verandah sitting! Did you know you live longer and are happier if you volunteer? Contact us at:

[thecottage@brooklyncommunity.org.au](mailto:thecottage@brooklyncommunity.org.au)

Plans for the future include:

- Sunday morning knitting/ crochet - an opportunity for all generations to come and teach or learn
- Games on the lawn
- Movies under the stars
- Workshops
- Garden music

Do you have any ideas? Let us know!

*Di Bowles BCA President [president@brooklyncommunity.org.au](mailto:president@brooklyncommunity.org.au)  
Robert Arnold BCA Secretary [secretary@brooklyncommunity.org.au](mailto:secretary@brooklyncommunity.org.au)*

---

## Origami Frog Olympics

There will be an entertaining Origami Frog Jumping Contest held at the next Market Day at The Cottage on Sunday, 28 November 2021.

There will be three events:

1. Long Hop
2. High Hop
3. Best Decorated Frog

\$2 entry fee per Frog or 3 for \$5. Instructions and paper will be supplied on the day. Prizes will be a certificate and a small model collectors Frog.



Bob Davis [beesbob@hotmail.com](mailto:beesbob@hotmail.com)





Yoga with Jo

*The Ground of all being is Consciousness*

Join Hatha Yoga Classes Term 1, 2022

TIME: 6.30-8pm

DAY: Wednesday evening

10 Week Term

Brooklyn Meeting Room, Brooklyn

**Ring Jo to book. Mobile 0414240342**

Pension Concession Available.

## EastCastle

Try the EastCastle Experience  
Your Home - Your EastCastle



EastCastle Property Pty. Ltd.  
ACN 600 023 041

- 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
- 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.

David Easton 0439 407 212  
david@eastcastle.com.au  
Licenced Agent #20192555

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



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

## Hawkesbury River Home Builders

☎ **9985 1525**



✉ ryan@HRHB.com.au

HawkesburyRiverHomeBuilders.com.au  
Lic. No. 285045C

### 🚩 We're Building in Your Area

- ✓ Ground floor Extensions
- ✓ First floor Additions
- ✓ Knock-down & Rebuild
- ✓ Beautiful Decks
- ✓ Design & Construct
- ✓ We build to your budget

**HIA Award Winner 2017 & 2018**



## New look, same values & even better service!

Introducing our new Agency colours & branding - we love it, and hope you do too! The design concept was to pay homage to the agency's history over the last 4 decades or so, yet with a modern twist that embraces our agency's future.

We simply love chatting about property, if you do too or need any property related advice - give us a call on 02 9985 7611.