
Gateway

Newsletter of the Brooklyn Community Association, Inc

July 2008

MEETING ROOM FOR ALL, AT LAST

It may not be the long awaited Community Hall but at last there will be a place where people can get together in a Council organised community facility, just like other normal community in Hornsby Shire.

Several years ago, then President of the BCA, Anne Graham, lobbied Council for any new Health Centre lease with the Hornsby and Ku-ring-gai Hospital and Community Health Services, (HKH) to include an upgrade of the meeting room and its use by the public. Up until now the meeting room has been run by the HKH in accordance with its policy and use of the space has been restricted to individuals or organisation holding public liability insurance, something most small groups simply can't afford and the average person doesn't carry accept on their own home. Under Council control the lack of public liability insurance will not be an issue for the community's casual users.

The Brooklyn Community Health Centre, 2- 4 Dangar Rd, provides a valuable service to Brooklyn and the surrounding community and this will continue in the front of the building under a new lease negotiated between Hornsby Shire Council and HKH. Access to the newly renovated meeting room for community health needs will continue. Council's Report No CC61/07 states that "a building upgrade of 2 - 4 Dangar Road, Brooklyn can be undertaken which will provide a community space in the back part of the building to accommodate 50-60 people whilst not impacting on the provision of the health services by HKH in the front part of the building. Council has endorsed the alterations as being a suitable short to medium term strategy for the provision of a community meeting space in Brooklyn."

The Report states that, "following the completion of the building upgrade, it is proposed that Council's Community Services Branch manage the new meeting space. Under this model of management, the Community Services Branch would be responsible for taking bookings for the space and for the care/control of the space for use by the community. HKH would make bookings of the space as required and would be required to pay standard hire fees for its use. To allow a successful transition of management of the space from HKH to Council, officers would contact the existing/regular users to ensure that these organisations continue to have access to the meeting space once the upgrade is completed. "

Council's Report of 08/08/2007 recommended that the upgrade would cost \$164,900 and, as highlighted in Report No CC61/07, "an upgrade of 2-4 Dangar Road for community use and management by Council would need to include the following building/development requirements:

- privacy and security of the existing medical practice;
- the need for additional toilet facilities;
- public hall licence/compliance;
- on-site car parking; and
- increased storage requirements"

If you or your group want to have a say in what this new community facility will be, sign up for the meeting described below. It is to the community's advantage to respond to Council with a single voice and Jennifer Allan, the Health Centre Coordinator has offered to convene these meetings.

If you think you might like to use the community's newest facility, then take the opportunity to see the space that will become the Health Centre's MEETING ROOM.

Planning Meetings for the New Meeting Room

If your group/committee is an existing or potential user and would be interested in organising a representative to participate in a meeting of all interested community groups to discuss issues associated with the design and functioning of the meeting room and associated facilities as well as options for the meeting room's future management, please contact Jennifer Allan, the Centre Coordinator to register no later than Friday 11th July 2008. Jen has agreed to be the convenor. Phone 99857717, fax 99857631 or email JNAllan@nscchahs.health.nsw.gov.au

Hawkesbury River Station Access – What We Want the Minister to Understand

Objective - This Briefing Paper provides the reader with an overview of the issues that relate to the current situation at the Hawkesbury River Railway Station. The steepness of the current steps does not allow safe and equitable access for all people (including the elderly, those with disabilities, injuries or with young children) to access and exit the station platforms safely or, in many instances, at all.

History - As far back as September 1995, the State Government recognised the need for upgrading works and prepared a feasibility study (including civil design work) and costing to construct a subway to allow safer and more equitable access to the station platform. The Brooklyn Community Association Inc holds a copy of the plans and costing. It is understood that a budget of \$1.2 million currently exists for "access" works.

The Brooklyn community and the river settlements strongly endorse the construction of a subway tunnel and not the replacement of the dangerous stairs which sadly have seen serious accidents and even deaths.

Some of the reasons for strong support of a subway tunnel and NOT stairs are as follows;

Accessibility - Replacement stairs do not provide equitable, safe access. People who would be disadvantaged or excluded by this option include both residents and visitors who experience a disability, frailty, encumbrances such as small children, strollers, shopping trolleys and luggage, ill health or injury.

Emergency - The current railway stairs do not provide an emergency entry or exit point for many. Local emergencies potentially include bushfires, blockages on the F3 and the Pacific Highway,

rail blockages in one direction and major emergencies in the surrounding bush or on the Hawkesbury River. Resident, visitor and patient evacuation would be possible using the proposed subway but not the stairs.

School Groups - School groups using Milson Island and Patonga Sports and Recreation facilities travel to Brooklyn by train. Suitcases are hauled up and down the steps with great risk to their own and others safety. Alternatively, these groups arrive and leave by chartered buses rather than risk injury to students using the steps.

Tourism and Commerce - Brooklyn is a recognised tourist destination, often for day trips by the elderly. The sole link access by public transport is the train. Our surveys indicate many more visitors would visit, individually and in groups, if they could come by train. The station's steps have been the single most important factor in limiting tourism in Brooklyn.

Isolation - Bus service to and from Brooklyn is confined to one return service to Berowra Station, the nearest accessible station - 9:05am from Brooklyn and 2:21pm to Brooklyn, (Monday to Friday). There is no community bus and very few, if any, options for those in the community without a car to attend to shopping, medical visits, schooling, visiting friends and family, recreation and all other activities.

Hawkesbury River Station is the life line crucial to many people continuing to live in their present homes and locations. A decade has passed since a plan was compiled and we call on the Labour State Government to act now to achieve safe and equitable access to the only public transport in Brooklyn - the train.



Photo courtesy Liz Surrent. The last BCA meeting was held at the tennis shelter as there was no better accessible venue in town.

JJ's

8 Dangar St, Brooklyn
phone 9985 7106, mobile 0413 050 861
Monday thru Thursday - 7am to 8pm ;
Friday, Saturday, Sunday - 7am to 9pm

Joshua's

5 Bridge St, Brooklyn
phone 9985 7877
Thursday - lunch & dinner;
Friday, Saturday, Sunday - breakfast, lunch, dinner

Brooklyn Tennis Club News

Thanks to Dana Spence from Hornsby Council who organised upgrading of the Club Room and facilities at the Brooklyn Tennis Courts. Hornsby Council is also looking at upgrading the court surface and drainage.

Tennis dates as follows:

Sunday 2pm 6 July (School Holidays)
Sunday 2pm 20 July (School Holidays)
Sunday 2pm 3 August
Sunday 2pm 17 August (Olympics)

Balls, tea and coffee provided. Just bring nibbles and other drinks. Interested people who would like to receive an email reminder, please call or email Robert Arnold on 9985 8425 or ararnold@iinet.net.au.

DIANE ROBERTSON BOWEN THERAPIST

9482 2922 or 0414 457 718

4 Bridge St, Brooklyn or

Suite 4A Willander Court

151-153 Pacific Hwy, Hornsby

Member of the

BOWEN THERAPY ACADEMY OF AUSTRALIA

Proposed Changes to the Brooklyn Community Association, Inc. Rules

Recently a review of the Rules that govern the BCA was needed and out of that review came the realisation that we should recommend to the membership a number of amendments to better reflect the way the BCA operates. The BCA Rules are based on the NSW Office of Fair Trading *Rules for Incorporated Associations*. To see the full version, go to the OFT website and have a look at what is **not** printed here.

Part 1 - Preliminary

1. Definitions

Add to 1.

association means the Brooklyn Community Association, Inc.

Part 2 - Membership

2. Membership qualifications

Add to 2. transferred from Appendix 1 (Rule 3 (1))

(c) the person is an owner, in part or full of residential property in Brooklyn, or resides on property in Brooklyn for which the person pays rent, or is a partner or adult family member residing with a person who owns or rents property in Brooklyn.

3. Nomination for membership

Add to 3. (1) (a) after "to these rules, and"

pay the sum payable under these rules by a member as entrance fee and annual subscription.

Delete from 3. (2) and (3)

(2) As soon as practicable after receiving a nomination for membership, the secretary must refer the nomination to the committee which is to determine whether to approve or to reject the nomination.

(3) As soon as practicable after the committee makes that determination, the secretary must:

(a) notify the nominee, in writing, that the committee approved or rejected the nomination (whichever is applicable), and

(b) if the committee approved the nomination, request the nominee to pay (within the period of 28 days after receipt by the nominee of the notification) the sum payable under these rules by a member as entrance fee and annual subscription.

Add to 3. (4) after "must enter the"

approved

4. Cessation of membership

Add to 4.

(d) does not pay his or her subscription within three months of the date fixed by the committee for subscriptions to be paid, unless the committee decides otherwise.

11. Disciplining of members

Add 11. (2) (c) after "in connection"

with the complaint.

Add 11. (3) after "suspend the member from"

membership of the association

Change 11. (4) (b) from "later" to

latter

Part 3 - The Committee

14. Constitution and membership

Change 14. (1) (b) "three" to "six" before "ordinary members"

(b) six

Add to 14. (1) (b) after "rule 15"

to represent the community in matters of commercial interests, resident affairs, association membership, youth affairs and senior affairs.

Delete from 14. (2) (b) before "vice-president"

Senior

(J) the Vice- President (Seniors' Affairs)

Delete 14. (2) (d), (f)-(j)

(d) the Assistant-Secretary

(f) the Vice President (Commercial)

(g) the Vice President (Residential)

(h) the Vice-President (Membership)

(i) the Vice-President (Younger Affairs)

15. Election of members

Delete 15.(2)

(2) Those holding office from the previous year will be deemed to have nominated for similar positions unless notification in writing has been received seven days prior to the annual general meeting.

Part 4 - General Meeting

32. Voting

Add 32. (5)

(5) Household members acknowledges that according to rules of the association a person appointed to represent a member which is a household is deemed for all purposes to be a member until that appointment is revoked by the household or, in the case of an appointment in respect of a particular general meeting, which appointment is not so revoked, the conclusion of that general meeting

Part 5 – Miscellaneous

Add 43.

43. Winding up

In the event of the winding up or the cancellation of the incorporation of the association, the assets of the association must be disposed of in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

Appendix 1 (Rule 3 (1))

Add to Appendix 1 (Rule 3 (1)) after "Brooklyn Community Association"

, Inc

Add to Appendix 1 (Rule 3 (1)) after "Phone (work)"

Phone(mobile).....

Add to Appendix 1 (Rule 3 (1)) after "I wish to become a member of the Brooklyn Community Association, Inc."

If my application is accepted, I agree to be bound by the rules of the Association.

Add to Appendix 1 (Rule 3 (1)) after "Signed ... Date ..."

Proposed by.....Signed.....Date.....

Delete from Appendix 1 (Rule 3 (1))

Members must be owners, in part or full of residential property on mainland Brooklyn, or reside on property on mainland Brooklyn for which they pay rent, or be partners or adult family members residing with people who own or rent property on mainland Brooklyn.

Appendix 2 (Rule 3 (1))

Add to Appendix 2 (Rule 3 (1)) after" AUTHORISATION OF PROXY VOTE"

I,

2008 Membership Fee Payable Now

For \$5 annually you and your family can belong to the Brooklyn Community Association. Phone Mal McDowell on 9985 7640 to join or meet him at the upcoming meeting. For information by email, send your name, address, phone numbers and preferred email address to kearnykibble@ozemail.com.au.

What's Happened in Brooklyn This Year

The Brooklyn Community Association is certainly not responsible for all of the good things that have happened in Brooklyn over the past year but it has been involved in a number of projects that have made our home a better place in which to live. We enjoy a good working relationship with Hornsby Council and our Councillors and with our State Member, Judy Hopwood, a frequent visitor to Brooklyn and one of our biggest supporters.

We would like to thank our local government and our state representative for getting the following good things going in Brooklyn this past year.

In no particular order:

- Resealing the road near the boat ramp
- Tree lopping at upper end of Brooklyn Rd
- Footpath improvement by moving the chevron signs and renewing the worn footpath
- Installing a trash bin and a used fishing line receptor at Flat Rock Point
- Renovating the toilets at the pool
- Repairing the pool wall and surrounds
- Clearing the road side debris from the entry into Brooklyn Rd
- Rerouting the drain at the culvert between Seymour Creek and the cemetery
- Renovating the tennis shelter interior

Good news, but there is plenty more to do. If you know of a project that needs doing, please let the BCA know. Drop a note to BCA Secretary, PO Box 239, Brooklyn, 2083 or come to the AGM on July 19th, Saturday, at 10am.

Shoplifting Hit by Police

Stealing adds to the costs of everything we buy and most of us resent the fact that the people doing this are seldom caught. As part of the Community Safety initiative of Hornsby Police you might like to know that Police conducted a shop stealing operation on Thursday and Friday, the 19th and 20th of June. The operation in conjunction with Loss Prevention Officers targeted stealing from all retail stores in Westfield and the Hornsby CBD. The following are results from the operation.

27 persons detained for shoplifting

8 people arrested with 10 charges laid.

9 Criminal Infringement Notices (CINS).

3 Juveniles cautioned for stealing

1 Juvenile Cautioned for Possessing a Prohibited Drug

6 Juvenile warnings

In total \$3432 worth of property was recovered and 1 gram of cannabis was seized. Police will be running more operations though-out the year and that stealing will not be tolerated, you will be caught and you will get a criminal record.

Rudy's Cafe
Open Tuesday - Sunday
Breakfast, Lunch & Tea
12 Danger Rd 9985 7002

Hall Committee News

The Oxfam Trailwalker raises much needed funds for overseas and local aid. Each year teams of four walk or run 50 kilometres along the Great North Walk through day and night. This year they have reversed the track and will be starting from Parsley Bay and ending in Mosman. They have asked us to provide breakfast for their 2000 competitors, drivers and support staff. This fundraising initiative will hopefully boost our "coffers" and your support is needed.

Breakfast will be served from 5.30 a.m. until 10.30 a.m. on Friday, 29th August, 2008 and will mainly consist of croissants, scones, danishes, juice, etc. (no hot food). We are seeking volunteers to assist on the day with serving and will be seeking the support of businesses to supply food & drinks. If you can help, phone Anna Jones on 9985 7350.



Photo courtesy of Lucy Hassett

Boat Fire in Sandbrook Inlet

It can happen in a moment and once fibreglass is alight it is impossible to stop. Boat fires are always a hazard but having the right fire fighting equipment immediately to hand may make the difference between this disaster and a scary event. Check your fire extinguishers, both at home and on boats each year. Dry powder extinguishers tend to cake at the bottom and need periodic shaking and hitting gently with a soft mallet until you can hear the powder moving. Also check the gauge to ensure it is in the green.

FREE CHIPPING DAY

**JULY 5TH, SATURDAY, 8AM TO 3:45PM,
76 BROOKLYN RD, (near the fire station)**

Bring your garden clippings and prunings for chipping and take home free mulch. Call the Hornsby Council's Waste Hotline 9847 4856 for more information on what materials will be accepted for chipping.

Watch For This Car

Apart from petrol being stolen from local boats lately, at 4.30 a.m. on Monday June 16th, a car was stolen from outside Brett and Joanne Hughes' home opposite the school. It was a cobalt blue '82 Gemini with registration JPS 989 – the type of car so shiny and bright it can't be missed. It was seen on Thursday afternoon heading towards Hornsby from Ryde. Please be on the lookout for it, as many of you know the sentimental value attached to it.

Brooklyn and Dangar Island Sewerage Scheme

There are now 219 properties (71%) in Brooklyn connected to the scheme and 51 (27%) on Dangar Island. One crew is still in Brooklyn but the majority of the work force is now on Dangar Island working through the difficult terrain of Riverview Avenue. It is expected that work will be finishing on the island towards the end of September. Once finished the project team will leave the area. Return visits will be made to pick up the stragglers but won't be arranged until a significant amount of requests for work have come through (for example, at least 20 properties).

There are a number of properties where the pressure sewerage system (PSS) equipment has been installed but the property is not yet connected to the sewer. The owners of these properties showed a commitment to connect but unfortunately have not yet done so. Experience from past schemes has shown that problems arise when connecting properties where pumps have been idle and not used for months on end. Therefore these properties are currently being called to advise that the project team will be returning to remove the pump from the collection tank unless it is connected within the next couple of weeks. There may be a cost involved for the property owner for returning to reinstall pumps.

Recently there has been an increased frequency of alarms being activated on properties.

The design of the alarm control panel incorporates protection against brown outs (low voltage supply). If the pump goes to switch on during one of these brown outs, the alarm will activate as the pump won't switch on. Sydney Water has reported this problem to Energy Australia and are assisting them with their investigations and resolution of the matter.

In the mean time, it is very important that if your alarm does activate, you contact the Sydney Water emergency number **13 20 90** and report the alarm. This will assist Sydney Water with gathering data to record to Energy Australia and prevent sewage overflow should the alarm be for another reason. You should always silence the alarm by the push button switch on the bottom of the alarm control panel and NOT switch off the circuit breaker at the meter board.

The first phase of community satisfaction surveys were conducted by Taverner Research on behalf of Sydney Water. The second phase (east of railway overpass) should be done around the end of July. Responses have been very positive and we thank the community for their feedback as it helps to continually improve the process for future schemes. If you don't wish to be contacted by Taverner Research, please call Liz White on the free community information line 1800 006 326.



Parsley Bay Pelicans

Health Centre AGM

The annual general meeting of the Health Centre is coming up on Wednesday, July 23rd at 10:00am. This is an important health facility for young and old and needs your help.

If you would be willing volunteer to help with activities at the Centre or to serve on the Management Advisory Committee of the Health Centre, contact Jennifer Alan, Coordinator.

For more information about volunteering, the committee or for nominating, phone 9985 7717, email JNAllan@nscchahs.health.nsw.gov.au

Brooklyn Community Association, Inc Committee Nomination Form

I, (name, please print).....
of (address).....
(home phone).....(mobile).....
(email).....
**accept nomination to be a member of the Committee of the
Brooklyn Community Association, Inc.**
(candidate's signature).....(date).....

I, (proposer's name).....
of (address).....
**propose as a Committee
member of the BCA in the position of**
.....
(proposer's signature)..... (date)

Hawkesbury River Real Estate 9985 7611

5 Bridge St., Brooklyn

For all of your property needs
Buying, selling, renting

hawkesburyriver@ozemail.com.au