

Gateway

gateway@brooklyncommunity.org.au

September 2023 Issue

Newsletter

Co-Presidents' Report

Our next general community meeting is planned for Saturday, 9 September commencing 10am.

Please join us, participate in the speakers' presentations, meet neighbours and new members and add your voice to discussion on all things local.

The BCA will welcome back Matt Kean MP, our local Member for Hornsby who is now Shadow Minister for Health in the NSW Government. We will receive an update on his new role and his advocacy on some key issues.

As per our objectives the BCA's role is to improve amenity for our residents and advocate to local and state governments, including federal government as well where it matters.

More than ever, Brooklyn and lower Hawkesbury residents feel the pinch – a cost of living crisis, the closure of Brooklyn Post Office without notice or fulfilling the contractual commitment of three months notice required or even assessing the application that they received on 28 May. A consequential impact on everyone's time and money let alone the injustice. Our fight for restoration of services is not over.

As many know, Julian Leeser MP has been advocating on behalf of our broader communities and joined with Gordon Reid MP to restore financial and postal services. Gordon Reid MP needs to hear more from residents in his electorate about the impact of the loss. A five hour round trip from Bar Point to Berowra to pay a bill or send a parcel is one example. Please use your voice to raise concerns in relation to this ongoing saga. The Brooklyn Pharmacy is also feeling the pressure and wants to continue with a viable business to support residents.



The Mayor of Hornsby Council has stepped up, written to Australia Post requesting a meeting about the sustainability of our small community, remote and regional, that is without a bank and needs a vital economic town centre. It is in everyone interests. A full update including from Julian Leeser is to be provided at our meeting.

Lots of news in this edition – our first Brooklyn Social held on 25 June was a great success with the next Social to be held late October as a BBQ at our newly refurbished Brooklyn Tidal Pool.

An update on Cottage events planned, including an Armistice Day remembrance at the Cottage.

An update on the shared footpath and road improvements and the boardwalk to Kangaroo Point.

Trailer storage and the next tranche of parking changes in the village before the end of the year in advance of Council's place planning project.

Are there plans for a car park? Whose plans? Where might it be proposed? What is Council's role in this? For discussion at our meeting.

We hope to see you there.

Miriam Moloney & Cindy Corkery, Co-Presidents
president@brooklyncommunity.org.au

BCA General Meeting
10am-12pm | Saturday, 9 September 2023

KEY SPEAKER: Matt Keen MP

Brooklyn Meeting Room

Followed by Refreshments
BCA Members, guests & friends welcome

www.brooklyncommunity.org.au
www.facebook.com/BrooklynNSW

2023 Annual General Meeting Date: 18 Nov

Brooklyn Road Shared Path & Roadwork

83 Brooklyn Rd to Baden Powell Ave

Held up by the traffic lights on Brooklyn Road?

The 4th stage of the Brooklyn Road Shared Path commenced in late August 2023, and will extend the existing shared path, enhanced road surface, and improved drainage from 83 Brooklyn Rd (Holidays Afloat) to Baden Powell Avenue. The work is scheduled to be completed in the first half of 2024.

The 1st stage of the shared path commenced in 2012, with the intention to complete the pathway from Kangaroo Point all the way to the Brooklyn Village. Funding has primarily been sourced from the Transport for NSW Active Transport Programs, following strong promotion from the Brooklyn Community Association, and design completed and funding secured by Hornsby Council. Strong support was received from Matt Kean MP for Hornsby and the former Treasurer for NSW.

This stage will complete the missing links of the shared pathway to the existing concrete path to Brooklyn Village, and will allow children to safely ride their bikes to school, and older people to safely walk all the way to the Brooklyn CBD. The pathway will provide an improved connection from all parts of the village to the railway station.

Key features of the work are:

- 2.5 metre wide concrete shared path constructed along the northern side of Brooklyn Road
- Road reconstruction including new kerb and gutter and adjustments of residential driveways
- Upgraded Children's Crossing in front of Brooklyn Public School
- Removal of redundant warning signs and improved parking restriction and warning signs
- Shared path logos and signposting in accordance with traffic engineering guidelines

Deferred from the original plan will be widening of the pedestrian bridge over Saltpan Creek, a formed carpark outside Saltpan Reserve, and kerb and gutter on the southside of Brooklyn RD, all excluded when tenders exceeded the funding availability.

Kangaroo Point to Seymours Creek

Hornsby Council is currently evaluating tenders for the 3rd stage of the Brooklyn Road Shared Path, a boardwalk and shared pathway between Kangaroo Point (near the Hawkesbury River road bridge) and Brooklyn Road (near the Tom Richmond Oval).

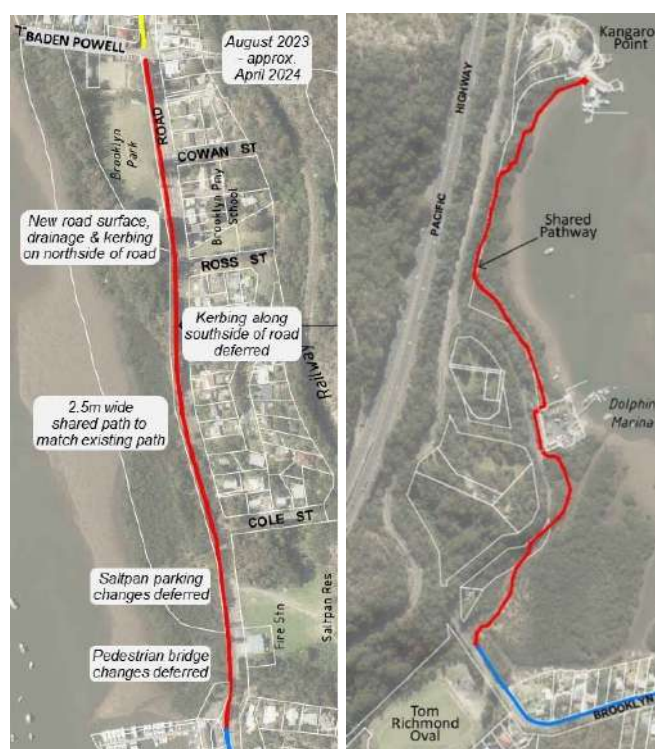
Subject to satisfactory completion of tender evaluation, the work is planned to commence in October 2023 and be completed by June 2024.

The boardwalk will "wander" through the mangroves from Brooklyn Rd, near Tom Richmond Oval, past

Dolphin Marina, then along the waterfront to Kangaroo Point. We understand that great care has been taken to minimise impact on the mangrove creek, and the path will follow an old roadway towards Kangaroo Point. The boardwalk will probably be constructed with similar design and materials to the boardwalk near Brooklyn Oval. NSW Fisheries are involved in ensuring appropriate environmental design and impact.

As for the 4th stage, funding has primarily been sourced from the Transport for NSW Active Transport Programs, following strong promotion from the Brooklyn Community Association, and design completed and funding secured by Hornsby Council. Again, strong support was received from Matt Kean MP for Hornsby and the former Treasurer for NSW.

Indicative plans for the two stages are shown below:



Potential boardwalk to Kangaroo Point

By Robert Arnold, ararnold@iinet.net.au

Post Office Update

The Mayor of Hornsby Council is writing to Australia Post to advocate on our wider community's behalf for the reinstatement of the Brooklyn Post Office. After all, we have the premises, we have a willing local business and robust business plan, and an application submitted to Australia Post on 28 May that needs processing. The foot traffic to a post office also helps the pharmacy, the local cafes and businesses and builds their financial resilience. It provides community connection and support.

The responses to the postal and financial services survey we circulated back in April showed how many were in favour of resumption of services and how they might use a post office. Some older residents and those up river boat access only, who rely on public transport are significantly disadvantaged by not having BillPay or other postal and financial services available locally.

The next article clarifies some ideas in relation to assistances that are out there to help residents who want to get an email address, or access Services Australia, or just become more computer literate. If you think there could be interest to run some form of group session at the Cottage or in the Community Health Centre meeting room, please talk with your friends and neighbours and let the BCA know if there is a role where we can assist. There is also a group called Computer Pals who might also come down to Brooklyn to talk with residents about their needs. If you are interested let us know.

*By Co-Presidents Miriam Moloney & Cindy Corkery
president@brooklyncommunity.org.au*

Digital Access for Residents

Hornsby Council – computer classes for seniors

Hornsby Library will be offering Tech Savvy Senior and Be Connected sessions later in the year. Details are not yet confirmed but will be advertised on the Library website as soon as available - <https://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library/using-the-library/events>

Services Australia will be at Hornsby Library on 13 September offering a **drop-in Digital Support Sessions** to receive one-on-one assistance in accessing Centrelink, Medicare, Aged Care, and more - <https://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/lifestyle/events/library-events/digital-support-sessions5>

You may like to look into **Hornsby Kuring-gai Community College** who offer courses for Seniors and also volunteer mentoring training: <https://www.hkcc.nsw.edu.au/courses/Seniors>

Digital Mentoring – over 50's. Including online and face to face mentoring sessions where you decide the key area of learning. Choose the topic you are interested in from a wide range of options, including the basics:

- What is a computer?
- What is a laptop?
- What is a tablet?
- What is a smartphone?
- What is the internet?
- Getting to know your device
- Using a keyboard
- Using a mouse
- Using a touchscreen

Introduction to Cyber Safety - How to stay safe online; sharing photos and other attachments. Introduction to Emails, the Internet and Social Media, Using Transport apps. and a range of other courses.

Turramurra Computer Pals - <https://cpst.org.au/>

*By Co-Presidents Miriam Moloney & Cindy Corkery
president@brooklyncommunity.org.au*

150th Anniversary of Brooklyn Post Office – nominations for Planning Committee

Brooklyn Post Office serving Brooklyn and lower Hawkesbury communities will turn 150 years old in January 2024 – a moment of celebration and endurance.

While the licensed post office has not yet been re-established, the advocacy and support of Julian Leaser MP and Gordon Reid MP is helping to progress its return.

There is still a good chance that Australia Post will turn around and assess the application that it has received from a local businessman.

You can help by writing to them about the need and to Australia Post as a formal complaint that they are ignoring an application they have received and ignoring the vulnerability of the lower Hawkesbury communities. It is not that easy for Brooklyn and some river community residents to even get to a post office.

Planning in the lead up to this event includes:

1. A celebration to be held mid-February 2024
2. Historical photographic display
3. Re-Publication of History of Brooklyn Post Office (updated edition)
4. Commemorative stamp
5. Riverboat Postman special event

Please email president@brooklyncommunity.org.au if you want to assist in some way with this major event. We are in the early days of planning. The event will continue even if the post office has not been re-instated at that time.

There will be a competition for the design of the Invitation for this event and a special crest brand. Please email president@brooklyncommunity.org.au if you want to be kept informed.

*By Co-Presidents Miriam Moloney & Cindy Corkery
president@brooklyncommunity.org.au | 0414 464 375*

Fenwicks Marina Inducted into the Marina of the Year Hall of Fame

The 2023 Nautilus Marine Insurance Marina of the Year Awards, held on 16 May 2023 at the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia concluded with one of the most popular awards presented, when Andrew Fenwick's Fenwicks Marina Boatyard was inducted into the Hall of Fame.



The nautical history of the Fenwick Family dates back to Andrew's great-great-great-grandfather, who was Andrew Fenwick born in 1813 in Scotland. He brought his family to Australia in 1849. His son John, along with a younger brother Thomas, started J Fenwick & Co in 1870, the Sydney Harbour tug company that was owned and operated by the Fenwick family for 100 years.

The current Fenwicks Marina commenced construction in 1985 and has been constantly evolving and improving ever since. Andrew is the Managing Director of the Marina and his son Tim is also now a Director, and the seventh generation of Fenwicks with the love of the water in his blood. Tim's wife Sarah is also involved in the business.

The 58-berth marina offers berthing in a sheltered position and with great access to the Hawkesbury River along with an exceptionally well-run boatyard repair and maintenance facility.

Having been awarded the Best Boatyard of the Year (under 20 boats) 2015-16, 2019-20 and then again 2021-22, this Award recognises Fenwicks total customer focus, project management skills and the fact that Fenwicks has never stopped reinventing itself and lifting the bar in delivery of boatyard services.

In receiving the Award, Andrew, joined on stage by Tim and Sarah Fenwick, recognised the importance

of a strong collaborative industry, "It is important to have a vibrant, well-run Association that provides such great support and puts on events like this to show off and recognise the industry's best. I thank Nautilus Marine Insurance for their support in encouraging industry players to constantly raise the bar."



By Sarah Fenwick, sarah@fenwicksmarina.com.au

The BCA hosts its first Welcome to Brooklyn Social

On a perfect sunny afternoon in late June, the BCA enjoyed welcoming approximately 25 new resident families to the Village of Brooklyn. We were heartened that so many have chosen this beautiful corner of the world to call home and in many cases a place to bring up their young families.

The afternoon provided a perfect opportunity for all to socialise with refreshments and shared snacks in the garden surrounding the Cottage. In many cases contact details were exchanged and our new residents were on the road to make some new friends. The children weren't forgotten, and the children's corner proved a popular place for our youngest to show off their creativity.... even the steam train made a stop at the station to the excitement of both young and the not so young.

The Cottage could have burst its seams given the numbers. The fine day meant we could enjoy the Cottage garden setting. The next event will be 29 October 2023 to be held down at Brooklyn tidal pool, lower McKell Park. Stay tuned for more details.

There is no doubt that our neighbourhood is a vibrant mixture of individuals, young couples, families, and longer term residents across all generations. A true community.

If you couldn't relax with us in June, please know that the BCA intends to host further Socials to give

our residents, both new and those more settled, an opportunity to get better acquainted.



Bev Davis greets young Brooklyn resident

*By Co-Presidents Cindy Corkery & Miriam Moloney
president@brooklyncommunity.org.au*

Brooklyn Community Theatre is back!

Brooklyn Community Theatre is pleased to announce that after a long break Brooklyn Theatre in the Park is back! Herr Direktor Peter Hughes will again turn his dab hand to creating a lively comedy starring your favourite local thespians treading the boards at the Rest (Bird) Park.

During the performances over the years to date, more than 50 cast members from the local community have featured, including Gary Robertson, Dave Thomas, Andrew Brown, Debbie Botting, Linda Gibbons, Noel Castley, Steve Pearson, Helena Brewer, Tony Davis, Jim Gosden, Paul Burcher, Leanne Kuulkers Catherine Pigneguy, Robin Weston, Kelly Moxham, Venette Lowe, Steve Hayes, Juliette Dudley, Ray James, Aili McMurdo, Greg Upfold, Al Shoosmith, Greg Wilson, Bernie Leo, Ross Martin, Melisah Caines, Emma Jones, Drew Bontoft, Paul Watt, Karen Hughes, Sonia Giesekam, Kate Walker, Helen Goodrich, Rachael Steele, Josh Smith, Michelle Raison, Keili Shillington, Dave Broome, Phil Butterworth, Trish Cox, Angela Brinn, Nigel (Noddy) O'Donnell, Donnie McClurcan, Hugh Streepe, Nick Townend, Phil Wallis, Kate Glenn, Heloise Severine Noella, Anthony Medland Taylor, Steve South, Judy Archer, Meg Covey, Peter Hughes, Michael Gebicki and Damora Harema.

From 1999 to 2019 the following plays have been performed: The Mouse Trap 1999, The Odd Couple 2000, It's My Party 2001, This Way Up 2002, Run For Your Wife 2003/4, Caught In The Net 2007,

That's the Spirit 2008, Play On 2009, Rumours 2010, Tom Dick and Harry 2011, And Then There Were None 2012, Lend Me A Tenor 2013, Not Now Darling 2014, The Foreigner 2015, The Games Afoot 2016, Perfect Wedding 2017, Funny Money 2018 and The Mouse Trap, again, for the 20th anniversary of the event in 2019.

However, Brooklyn Theatre in the Park is not all about the actual production or performance but the feeling of community, as it takes a lot more than just the performers to make the production work. The volunteers who provide the building of the stage, the stage set and styling, sound, lighting, electricity, transport, graphics, advertising, programs, ticket sales, websites, photography, catering etc. Many behind the scenes volunteers are required to make the production an entertaining night of live theatre that the community can enjoy locally with minimum expense.

Come and join us again this year – Saturday, 4 November, gates opening at 6.30pm with “curtains up” at 7:45pm.

Tickets will be available online at www.theatreinthepark.com.au and at the venue on the night.

For more information visit www.theatreinthepark.com.au or email brooklyntheatreinthepark@gmail.com



A reminder, The Gateway has gone digital...!

To ensure you get the Gateway delivered to your virtual mailbox, please email us at secretary@brooklyncommunity.org.au to ensure you are on our distribution list.

secretary@brooklyncommunity.org.au

HKSC Season 2023-24 is here!

Well almost, the sailing season is about to begin at Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Sailing Club, out of Dead Horse Bay. We are looking to start up on Saturday, 7 October for racing and Saturday, 14 October for Learn to Sail.



If you learnt to sail with us last season and are planning on returning OR you want to give it a go, register here:

<https://www.revolutionise.com.au/hksc/registration/> before spots fill up, as we have capacity for 20 only in LTS. If you have any questions about joining HKSC, contact us here:

<https://www.revolutionise.com.au/hksc/contact/>



Brooklyn Residents Assist with Jerusalem Bay Weed Control

Three Brooklyn residents, James Donnelly, Olivia Simons and Rob Corkery worked together with a small group of National Parks & Wildlife Service volunteers to remove approximately 9,000 crofton weed plants from the iconic Jerusalem Bay point adjacent to the section of the Great North Walk between Cowan and Brooklyn.

The weeding team was transported to Jerusalem Bay by Brett Hogbin of Bar Point and the overall program coordinated by Ranger Nell Saxon-Mills and Rob Corkery.

The weeding program which was undertaken over 2 days in June and July 2023 involved a total of 16 person days. The bulk of the weeds were pulled out and their bare roots removed by secateurs and bagged with the stems set aside for separate collection and disposal. For some of the larger weeds, cutting and painting with glysohate was adopted. The weeding program has effectively

removed most of the visible weeds prior to their flowering in spring/summer and greatly improved the appearance of this beautiful location in the Ku-Ring-Gai National Park.



19 February 2023

13 July 2023

By Rob Corkery, robert.corkery@yahoo.com.au

Kids Club!

Kids Club is connected to the Hawkesbury River Child Care Service, which runs out of Brooklyn Primary School. We offer Before and After School Care as well as an exciting Holiday program at the end of each term.



The program is made in collaboration with the children to ensure that activities offered are enjoyable and relevant to the current interests of those attending. We also include community and cultural events.

We offer a large range of art and craft activities, chances for physical fitness and games as well as plenty of time for the children's self-determined play and leisure.

We are open Monday - Friday 7-9AM for Before School Care and 3-6PM for After School Care. 7AM-6PM Monday - Thursday in the school holidays.

A brochure of what's in store for the school holiday programs is sent out to our contact list a couple of weeks before each end of terms so please call or text 0478 711 971 to join our contact list or for any other queries.

We look forward to seeing you!

By Lauren Parry, lauren.parry92@hotmail.com

Storytime with Jo Henwood at The Cottage

In the Winter school holiday break, Miriam Moloney teamed up with Jo Henwood, a local storyteller to present some local Brooklyn and Hawkesbury River stories to children in the Kids Holiday Program organised through Lauren Parry and Hawkesbury River Child Care. An amazing morning of 5 stories – John and Biddy Lewis, Hawkesbury River Bridge, the hero in the Train Disaster of late 19th Century, the Mullet Boats and the Oyster Pirates. Stories were acted out and sung, followed by drawings of favourites and a special mini exhibition all before lunch.

Bravo to the kids, bravo to Jo Henwood dressed in 19th century Cottage fashion and thank you to Lauren and colleague and all of us for a fun morning.



Creatives admiring their works

*By Miriam Moloney, miriamrmoloney@gmail.com
0414 464 375*

Brooklyn Social

With so many new families and residents in town, the BCA has planned some get to know you events in our small but large part of the world.

Brooklyn Social is for anyone in town, all ages, those who recently moved here or moved here some time ago, to get together and meet others. New parents with young children are welcome.

Venue: The next event is planned for Lower McKell Park to enjoy the newly refurbished tidal pool amenities. Bring a plate (not essential) and BYO drinks (although we will have some refreshments on offer as needed).

Next Planned Date: 3-5pm on 29 October 2023

For more details, please email info@brooklyncommunity.org.au or text on 0414 464 375.

*By Co-Presidents Cindy Corkery and Miriam Moloney
president@brooklyncommunity.org.au*

What's on at The Cottage

We have these events happening at The Cottage over the coming months. Make sure to put the dates in your calendar:



Upcoming Exhibitions

Irina Kozyrevich from 19 August to 24 September

Wendy Prince from 30 September to 5 November

Ann Lemon from 11 November to 17 December

Groups – all are free

Craft Group - each Tuesday from 2-4pm

Meditation Group - each Sunday from 9-10am

Sustainability Group - every 4th Saturday in the month from 9-10am

Upcoming Markets

Christmas Markets on Sunday, 26 November (if you are interested in a stall at the Christmas Market please email The Cottage by 11 Nov)

Are You Interested In A Verandah Stall?

The Cottage is offering locals to sell their wares as a Verandah Stall Holder on open days (Sat/Sun). Flat fee of \$25. All profits from sales to the Verandah Stall Holder. Are you interested? If so, please email The Cottage for full details.

Local Exhibition Over Summer

The Cottage is considering an exhibition through the summer displaying Yarn/Fabric Arts. This includes crochet, knitting, quilting, embroidery, macrame, felt, weaving, dyeing, etc. We would love this to be a local affair - those talented people from Brooklyn, Dangar, Mooney, Wobby, Cheero and other river areas. We want to exhibit handmade original pieces and these can be for sale or not for sale. Are you interested? Should we open this to other talents such as ceramics, woodwork, metalwork, leather, etc.? Should we open this to non-river community artists? The time to organise such an exhibition is getting closer so we would love to hear from you asap and please tell everyone who may have an interest in this. Please email The Cottage (address below).

Mailing List

The Cottage is getting a mailing list together to inform you of what's on, news, etc. If you wish to be on the mailing list, please email The Cottage (address below).

Craft Group

The Cottage (usually) opens each Tuesday from 2-4pm for Craft Group. It is an open group where all are welcome and you do not have to bring a craft along. Some people just come to talk and we love that. There are people who can teach various crafts. We would love to see more people meet, chat and get to know each other within our wonderful community so please feel free to come along. We do have a WhatsApp group where we discuss many things but mainly if we have enough people to open The Cottage on that Tuesday. Let us know if you want to join the WhatsApp group.

Thank You

We would like to thank all our wonderful volunteers that put in their time to help keep The Cottage running. Volunteering is a great way to catch up with all your community friends passing by and with the rest of the amazing volunteers. A special thanks to the Moxham family for their paintings/pottery donation to The Cottage. And a big thank you to those who participated in our Winter Market - it was a great day and we are so pleased that the weather and turnout was fantastic.

If you need a place to hold a meeting, run a workshop, exhibit your art, sell your local handmade items, become a volunteer or have an idea, please contact us by emailing thecottage@brooklyncommunity.org.au

The Cottage is open Saturday and Sundays from 10am-3pm at 10 Dangar Road, Brooklyn and can be found at

<https://brooklyncommunity.org.au/whats-on/>
and <https://www.facebook.com/CottageBrooklyn>

The Cottage is an initiative between the Brooklyn Community Association and Hornsby Council.



By The Cottage, thecottage@brooklyncommunity.org.au

What/who is the BCA?

The Brooklyn Community Association (**BCA**) 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:

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

Check out the BCA website for more information at www.brooklyncommunity.org.au.

There is an annual \$10 household membership fee to join the BCA, which is due 1 July at the beginning of each financial year.

Question: *Where does my annual membership fee of \$10 go?*

Answer: *It goes towards paying for insurance, meeting room hire, stationery, printing for workshops, involvement in our local fair & markets days and generally covering any costs associated with the work of the BCA.*

The BCA committee work as volunteers to progress the amenity of our community and promote engagement and opportunity whether through current issues, Cottage activities, workshops, submissions or our quarterly general meetings and producing our quarterly newsletter, the Gateway.

If you are a new resident or business in Brooklyn or not a member and are interesting in joining, please consider a household / business membership of \$10. More information can be found here <https://brooklyncommunity.org.au/about-bca/membership/>.

We would also love to have you along at our next quarterly meeting at 10am on Saturday, 9 September 2023 at the Brooklyn Community Meeting Room to learn more.

Any queries, please contact one of our Co-Presidents, Cindy Corkery on 0417 635 975 or Miriam Moloney on 0414 464 375 or email.

president@brooklyncommunity.org.au

A Focus on our Wildlife

The 'Secret Life of Powerful Owls' presentation in July was widely supported by the Hawkesbury River Community. Community members from the Brooklyn, Dangar, Mooney Mooney, and the broader River community were in attendance. Our main speakers were Georgia Cameron and Michael Bianchino, author and photographer of the 'Mikey the Powerful Owlet' books.

We heard some interesting information on the apex predator, Australia's largest owl with a wingspan of 140cm, that resides in parliaments across the Bushland Shire and visits the river communities.

They were accompanied by 'Budawa' the preserved Ninox strenua specimen who tragically was a victim of roadkill in their local area last October. She is helping educate people as part of the talks.



BirdLife Australia's Project Officer Jenny Zvolanek spoke about the Powerful Owl Project and the important role citizen scientists play in monitoring the population across the Sydney basin. She highlighted the fragmentation of their habitat and encouraged participants to report Powerful Owl sightings (including white-wash, pellets and 'woo-hoo' calls in the night) to the Project.

Ana Rubio, Sydney Wildlife Rescue volunteer, outlined their rescue and rehabilitation service and urged attendees to contact their 24/7 rescue line if they come across sick, injured or orphaned native wildlife. We have a number of wildlife rescue and wildlife carers in the community.

Everyone had a hoot and the event raised \$120 for Sydney Wildlife Rescue's Northern District branch and BirdLife Australia's Powerful Owl Project.

How can you help?

Ways you can help the threatened species:

- by protecting mature trees with hollows
- planting native trees and shrubs
- saying NO to second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides (SGARs)

For more information:

<https://www.actforbirds.org/what-to-buy-and-avoid>

For more information on volunteering:

Mikey the Powerful Owlet:

<https://mikeythepowerfulowlet.com/>

BirdLife Australia's Powerful Owl Project:

<https://birdlife.org.au/projects/powerful-owl-project>

24/7 rescue lines:

Sydney Wildlife Rescue:(02)9413 4300

<https://www.sydneywildlife.org.au/>

Wires: 1300 094 737

<https://www.wires.org.au/>

By Ingrid Segovia, ingrid.segovia@outlook.com

Sustainability

Bushcare Group

A reminder that we have a local Bushcare group that meets at Brooklyn Park between 8:30 - 11:30am every 4th Thursday of the month. The next date is Thursday, 28 September. If you are interested in joining, send Ingrid an email at info@brooklyncommunity.org.au.

Community Garden – The River Hub

Held on the first Saturday of the month (weather permitting), this is great opportunity to come together to place your hands in the soil. Getting your hands dirty lifts your mood and strengthens immunity. Come to help out or just have a chat, kids are welcome. In the spirit of connected communities, we hope you will all participate and support this great initiative.

The next community garden day will be on Saturday, 2 September at 10am.

Where: 1 Point Rd, Mooney Mooney NSW 2083

What to bring: Wear enclosed shoes and a sun hat, sunscreen and bring a drink.

Other activities: We'll have a crop 'n' swap table set up for anyone with excess garden produce they'd like to share.

Hornsby Council Events

We had our friendly sustainability officer come and present at one of our earlier BCA meetings this year.

See savings and rebates below.

Lack of insulation and inadequate windows in your home can increase electricity usage and in turn, electricity bills. Join us online for a free workshop to hear how you can improve the comfort of your home.

Upcoming education events this quarter look really great, with a focus on growing, pickling, mending and repurposing –

<https://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/environment/sustainability/workshops-and-education>

Savings and Rebates For Homes:

Household Energy Savings Upgrades - [Household energy saving upgrades | NSW Climate and Energy Action](#)

Energy Offers for Seniors - [Energy offers for seniors | energy.gov.au](#)

Light bulb energy efficiency app - [Light bulb energy efficiency app | energy.gov.au](#)

Family Energy Rebate - [Find an energy rebate | NSW Climate and Energy Action](#)

Rebate Swap for Solar - [Rebate swap for solar and energy efficient upgrades | NSW Climate and Energy Action](#) (For those receiving the Low Income Household Rebate)

Seniors energy rebate - [Apply for the Seniors Energy Rebate | Service NSW](#)

By Ingrid Segovia, Ingrid.segovia@outlook.com

Tom Richmond Oval Commemoration

Many dignitaries were among the speakers and 60 guests attending the naming and commemoration of the Tom Richmond Oval in Brooklyn on Sunday, 27 August 2023.

Julian Leeser, Federal Member for Berowra, Matt Kean, State Member for Hornsby, Philip Ruddock, Mayor of Hornsby Council and Councillors Nathan Tilbury (who organised the program for the event), Warren Waddell and Janelle McIntosh attended together with representatives of Hornsby Kuringai Cricket and Coaches Associations, Hornsby Shire and Dural and District History Societies, the Brooklyn Sub-Branch RSL and even a student of Tom's when he was principal in Galston. Afterwards guests joined the family for remembrance and refreshments at Estuary Restaurant. Beyond his family's ownership of the Old Dairy site adjacent to Seymours Creek named after Tom's great/g'father, Tom's legacy was far-reaching across many domains. Simple to say, he was an educator, an historian, cricketer and cricket coach, a long-term Brooklyn resident and a good friend to many. As a leader of the Brooklyn Ratepayers Association, he led the campaign to bring a sewerage system to Brooklyn. He had a strong vision to put Brooklyn and its links to Federation on the map and engender pride in its residents.

The family history of the site, including the Old Dairy Farm, are recorded on [Council's website](#), accessible through the QR code provided on the interpretive signage at the Oval, pictured below. On behalf of the BCA I provided an acknowledgement of Country to the event, remembering all the work Tom did in family history of some of Brooklyn's ancestors, some of whom were of Aboriginal descent - his contribution towards Reconciliation. Bob Davis (pictured) who established the Ratepayers with Tom spoke of their friendship across decades, and their exploits to improve Brooklyn and hold Council to account.

The gathering spoke with a constant background of noise, motorcycles, vehicles up and down Brooklyn Road and the Old Pacific Highway that marked an otherwise peaceful, sunny day.



Bob Davis reflecting on his friendship with Tom.



Tom Richmond's family cutting the ribbon on the interpretive signage.

*By Co-Presidents Miriam Moloney & Cindy Corkery
president@brooklyncommunity.org.au*

An update from the Mooney Mooney & Cheero Point Progress Association (MCPA)

Activity at the River Hub continues to increase. Over the past couple of months we have held workshops in painting, ceramics, floristry and song writing. The Community Garden is progressing well and we recently had our first harvest day. As the River Hub continues to grow we want more people from the local community to get involved. If you have an idea for a workshop or activity, we'd love to hear from you. Please get in touch by emailing, theriverhub@gmail.com or send us a message on Facebook [The River Hub | Mooney Mooney NSW | Facebook](#). The River Hub is on the grounds of the old Mooney Mooney primary school, next to the RFS shed.

Over the past 12 months here are just some of the events that have been hosted by the community at our new River Hub: Monthly MCPA progress meeting, or other community meetings, Community Garden, Playgroup, Storytime and Book mobile, Craft Group, Bible Study Group, Art Club, Workshops for painting, ceramics, songwriting and floristry, Election Day events, local History Day, Mooney Cheero Christmas party, Mural Painting, Kids Movie Night and regular use of the grounds/ oval/ community garden.

None of these activities would have been possible without the efforts of many people who volunteer their time and expertise.

We have another exciting "Music at the Chapel" event happening on Saturday, 16 September. This month we have an exceptional selection of talented musicians, including Wicker Suite (Liam Kennedy-Clark and Gabi Louise), and legendary guitarist Rob McCormack who will be joining the Valley Road duo Rebecca Jane Howell and Marty Mckenna. Do not miss this great night of music for one night only. Tickets: \$30 per person (includes light supper)

Go to Trybooking to book <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1095231>

You can see that there is a lot going on at the Chapel and River Hub and we hope to continue to grow with the support of our wonderful local community volunteers.

One issue of concern has been the continued increase in the highspeed motorbikes and cars using the old pacific highway, particularly on weekends and at night, as their own private racetrack. Tragically there was yet another fatal accident with a bike and a car recently. Our progress association will continue to raise this issue with local police and our local state members until something is done to control these racers.

Music at the Chapel
Saturday 16th September 2023
Valley Road
featuring legendary guitarist
Rod McCormack
Wicker Suite
7pm ~ 10pm \$30
Chapel Lane, Mooney Mooney NSW
<https://www.trybooking.com/CKIEH>
Light supper provided by the Mooney Craft Group
Music at the Chapel is a community event supporting emerging artists

By Jim Lloyd, jim@jimlloyd.com.au

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Please email secretary@brooklyncommunityassociation.org.au if you would like to receive an electronic copy of future Gateways, and don't already receive one.

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Brooklyn Community Defib Project - AED Location Map



RIVER FELLOWSHIP

If you know God or want to learn who he is, then come along. All welcome. Phone Bruce on 0413 779 979 or Annette on 0408 659 575 for more information.

The River Fellowship meets at the Mooney Mooney Library, 1 Point Road Mooney Mooney every Monday night at 7:00pm (during school terms)

What's On



send your event details to emails@brooklyncommunity.org.au



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

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