

Gateway

gateway@brooklyncommunity.org.au

June 2024 Issue

Newsletter

LOCAL NEWS & UPDATES

BCA

REIMAGINING “GATEWAY” NEWSLETTER

On behalf of the BCA Committee, we’d like to introduce you to the new iteration of the *Gateway* Newsletter. It has been designed in the interest of getting news out to you faster! Instead of quarterly, we will now be publishing the *Gateway* in this new streamlined format at more regular intervals. Through generous local sponsorship and “advertising” printed copies of the *Gateway* will again be delivered to Brooklyn homes in addition to a digital version to your email box. If you have something to add to *Gateway* - send us short paragraph approx. 120 words (along with a photo or links if applicable) and we’ll add it to the next newsletter.

mini FARMS



BROOKLYN MINI FARMS

Those who attended the last BCA General Meeting enjoyed a tasting of fabulous fresh products offered by Mini Farms. Mini Farms are bringing fresh, high-quality produce to Brooklyn and some river communities – it is now available! Launched in March by Brooklyn resident Allison Monahan, Minifarms offers weekly produce directly from Sydney Markets and local providers. Thursday afternoon pick-up in Brooklyn or Friday delivery via Riverboat Postman to Bar Point, Dangar Island, and Milsons Passage. Visit www.minifarmsonline.com.au to sign up, or browse their offering here: app.minifarmsonline.com.au/our-products



COTTAGE LEASE RENEWAL

The BCA appreciates the opportunity to sign a lease with Council for a further 12 months. Literally thousands of people pass through the Cottage every year – there would few who would argue that the Cottage is not pivotal to the community’s cohesion through the opportunity to meet together..... If you wish to be included in The Cottage ‘What’s On’ emails, drop them a line at thecottage@brooklyncommunity.org.au



A FAMILY MEDICAL CENTRE FOR BROOKLYN

If you've heard the rumours of a new medical centre opening in the old 'Don's Boats' general store - we can now confirm they are true! A group of doctors have banded together to establish a Family Medical service right here in Brooklyn. Their builders will begin fitting out 214 Brooklyn Rd shortly, and the doctors are optimistic of opening the doors in August 2024. The medical centre will have four consulting rooms - to start the centre will run with a full-time female GP and they will bring on more doctors / services (perhaps even pathology services) based on community demand. They will offer Bulk Billing on most appointments, with some more specialised appointments being privately billed. This is a very exciting development for our community.



ANGLICARE WINTER PANTRY APPEAL / FOOD DRIVE

The Anglicare Food Drive is here again and it would be great if you could support the initiative by dropping donated goods into the collection tub at Riverfront Real Estate. Collected goods will then be distributed by Anglicare to people in need across NSW. The drive runs through the months of June & July, and we are seeking donations of pantry items with good shelf life such as: pasta, pasta sauce, tinned tuna, tinned salmon, cereal, long life milk, tinned chunky soups & meals, tinned vegetables and tinned fruits.



IT's NEW, IT's EXCITING: INTRODUCING THE WASTELESS FEST!

The WasteLess Fest is an exciting BCA Sustainability Committee initiative offering a range of activities to be held across Brooklyn, Mooney Mooney and Dangar Island on 8th September 2024.

The WasteLess Fest principal aim is to help river residents find new ways to reduce their household waste and save money in the process. The festival will feature workshops, talks, market stalls and the chance to chat with other residents who have changed their lifestyles to save money and the environment.

The main event will be held in the heart of Brooklyn at The Cottage and the Brooklyn Community Meeting Room and will offer residents access to a full day of workshops to help up-skill in zero waste living hacks, as well as zero-waste market stalls, repair stations for clothing, ceramics and other homewares, and info on community rebates and waste reduction and recycling options.



THANK YOU TO THE VOLUNTEERS WHO MAINTAIN THE BROOKLYN COMMUNITY DEFIB AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AEDs)

Great news - a further two AED units, one at Parsley Bay Amenities Block and another at Brooklyn Oval, concludes the current installation program and brings the number of AEDs within Brooklyn to 8! Thanks to Brooklyn United Soccer Club and special thanks to Narelle and Steve from the Anglers Rest Hotel for their generous support of the Brooklyn Oval installation and big thankyou to the Hawkesbury Rivers Dragons and Hawkesbury River Yacht Club!

The Community Defib program has the support of a committee of volunteers led by current Team Leader Anthony Broome. Did you know that each and every unit receives a monthly maintenance check by a volunteer member and the results reported monthly?

We acknowledge and thank the current volunteers:

- * Tracie Fenwick - AED located at Fenwick's Marina
- * John Beugeling - AED located at Brooklyn Central
- * Tim & Margaret Taylor - AED located at Brooklyn Oval
- * Narelle Gauslaa - AED located at Anglers Rest Hotel
- * Rob Corkery - AED located at 6 Bridge Street
- * James Donnelly - AED located at Parsley Bay Amenities Block
- * Leanne Houlcroft - AED located at Amenities Block Brooklyn Pool
- * Anthony Broome - AED located at Hawkesbury River Marina.

Positive reports from participants following introductory training sessions have been received. If you have not attended one and would like to learn how you can Save a Life, please email ajbroome@gmail.com or call on 0410 589 919. The Team is looking at coordinating further training sessions within the next few months.



BROOKLYN (BCA) FLAG DESIGN COMPETITION

The (BCA) Brooklyn Flag Design Competition Committee has extended the deadline to Friday 11 October 2024. This is to get as many entries as possible, recognise our local talent and ensure broad participation in the competition. You can enter and see some of the entries to date here:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/mobile/folders/1SWo-ZHwTAm7ZeyYcRthCkoaMZbleGAz6?usp=sharing>

Entries can be received via email or drop in to our BCA stall at the Brooklyn Spring Fair. For entry information, go to:

<https://brooklyncommunity.org.au/flag-design-competition/>.



LOWER MCKELL PARKING UPDATE

At Council's General Meeting on the 8 May 2024, Council considered a report with reference to correspondence received from Crown Lands, the NSW Government agency responsible for how each area of Crown Land is used throughout the State. The report was prepared by Council Officers relating to Car Parking Management – Lower McKell Park Brooklyn and resolved the following:

THAT Council:

1. Acknowledge the continuing challenges that the ongoing trial of the Brooklyn Parking scheme has presented to the local community and acknowledge correspondence received from the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure – Crown Lands and Public Spaces.

2. Convene a meeting including interested Councillors and the General Manager or his delegate and representatives of each of the relevant community associations to provide greater clarity and understanding of the background to the officers' report and to work with the community on next steps including proposals and suggestions from the community with regard to parking.

That these next steps include consideration of the following proposals:

1. Reinstatement of timed parking in Lower McKell Park along the northern (riverside) row of the carpark in the following terms:

- i. 6am-6pm 4 hour (4P).
- ii. Retain all accessible car parking spaces.
- iii. Retain all ½ hour parking spaces.

2. Consideration be given to a number of potential changes that have been the subject of recent discussions, including:

- i. Additional time restricted parking along the foreshore that may apply to weekends only.
- ii. Potential for 12P parking along the southern (hillside)

row in Lower McKell Park.

- iii. Consideration to seasonality of visitor use.

If there is failure to reach an agreed solution on the above matters, the unresolved matter or matters be returned to Council for resolution.

3. A further report to be provided to Council within 12 months which considers the implementation of appropriate time restrictions in McKell Park. In addition to the above, that reporting should give consideration to:

1. Progress of an interim licence/lease between a

suitably constituted community-based group with Crown lands and consideration of any works required to achieve a functioning carpark in areas highlighted by the Department as potential sites.

2. Further consideration of other possible sites.

3. Updated attempts to advocate to Transport for NSW to unlock transport land and to provide improved services to Hawkesbury River Station including commuter and regular user parking for train and ferry customers and support the use of the train as a means for all to access Brooklyn.

4. Progress on a draft plan of management for McKell Park.

5. Following resolution of the above, Council recommence the place planning process for Brooklyn and brief the incoming Council on planning undertaken to date including the progress on this approach to addressing the resident parking issues.

Several meetings are planned to continue communication with our river neighbours, Councillors and Council Officers. The BCA remains confident that compromises made to reach a parking plan that, while not pleasing everyone, reflects the collective interests of our diverse community while meeting Council's obligations as Manager of Crown Land.



PROJECT MANAGER BEGS DRIVERS TO SLOW DOWN AS WORK COMMENCES ON BOARDWALK

Have you noticed these truck signs at the western end of Brooklyn Road? Work has commenced on the boardwalk and shared pathway linking Kangaroo Point to Seymour's Creek opposite Tom Richmond Oval. The Project Manager, (Green Construction Service) informed the BCA that scrub clearing and path formation between Dolphin Marina and Kangaroo Point commenced last week.

Truck crossing signs have been installed in both directions from the intersection of Brooklyn Road with the Old Pacific Highway and Tom Richmond Oval just east of Seymour Creek.

The Project Manager begs drivers to **SLOW DOWN AND BE TRUCK AWARE** as most of the current work is out of sight of residents although a number of trucks will be entering and leaving Brooklyn Road. The boardwalk and shared pathway are scheduled to be completed by the end of the year.



UPDATE: TAKE BACK THE HIGHWAY / OLD ROAD

On 23 May 2024, a meeting was held between Matt Kean MP and the Take Back the Old Road Committee (the BCA is a participating member) to explore additional “traffic calming” opportunities.

Some possible solutions that were discussed for consideration:

- Implementation of special conditions for roads with specific issues, such as the Galston Gorge and the Harbour Tunnel. These roads now have steeper fines and full-time monitoring cameras. A similar approach could be beneficial for the stretch of road between Brooklyn and Cowan to reduce the opportunity to use the road as a racetrack.
- The installation of permanent speed cameras that are located on a higher pole to avoid damage.
- Review changing the legislation for point-to-point cameras to apply to all vehicles on the roads gazetted as dangerous.
- Gazetting the Old Pacific Highway between Brooklyn and Cowan as “Black Spot Road” where exceeding the speed limit by 20km or more results in licences immediately suspended for six months with significant financial penalties. This in conjunction with point-to-point cameras would provide a big deterrent to those using the road as a racetrack.
- To lobby the EPA for inclusion in the pilot program for “noise-activated cameras” along this road and monitoring of excessive noise pollution experienced by some of the residents in the vicinity of the Old Pacific Highway.

It’s not new news to most that fatalities and major accidents along the stretch of road between Brooklyn and Cowan, as a percentage of the length of km(s) would be amongst the highest in NSW. Despite all police efforts and goodwill to patrol the road together with a reduction of just 10 km/hr on 14 March 2024 has not resulted in any significant reduction in both car and motor bike crashes that have occurred since the reduction from 80 km to 70 km. There have been at least 11 reported accidents since the speed change with another motorcycle crash over the past weekend. It is acknowledged that a great many more accidents have likely occurred but not reported to police and/or requiring the assistance of emergency services. Matt Kean confirmed that he would continue supporting our efforts to make the road safer for all.



WHAT IS PLACE PLANNING THE BCA HEARS YOU ASK

Some who are new to the Brooklyn community have asked the BCA a number of questions and to provide information about Place Planning. Over the coming months the BCA will attempt to answer these questions and provide information relating to the progress and the process to date. Council has informed the BCA that Place Planning will not recommence until next year (2025) so we have a little time.



WAVE GOODBYE TO THE BLUE PORTALOO(S) AT TOM RICHMOND OVAL

The local cricket and football clubs and associations, Brooklyn residents, Tom Richmond's family and visitors can finally prepare to wave goodbye to the Blue Portaloo(s) that have stood guard over the Tom Richmond Oval since 2016. Recent rain delayed commencement of construction of the new toilet facilities now scheduled to begin in the coming weeks. As funding permits, there are plans to construct changing rooms. The facility is expected to be ready in time for the first ball bowled of the cricket season in September. (for additional information see Gateway November 2023 issue on the BCA website)



ANZAC DAY MEMORIAL SERVICE

On Sunday, April 21, 2024, Tony Broome represented the Brooklyn Community Association and other participants in laying a wreath in memory of the fallen at Brooklyn RSL Sub-branch annual ANZAC Day Service. ANZAC Day, April 25, is our day of national commemoration. President Derek Leslie led a moving service to remember the service and sacrifice of those fallen in the Gallipoli landings in 1915 and commemorate all who have served in military operations. This service was held at the Memorial Cenotaph in Brooklyn Park (western end of the Brooklyn Sports Ground).

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THE RIVERBOAT POSTMAN BOUGHT A NEW BOAT

The Riverboat Postman team wish to introduce you to the M.V. Deliverance on the Sunday Express Cruise with a buy one and get one free offer. We're told she's fast and a fabulous way to discover downriver. 2083 postcode residents are invited to book any Sunday departure (they run either before or after lunch) between now and the end of July. The Hawkesbury Express cruise includes: pastries, profiteroles, tea / coffee, commentary and licenced bar.

To book head to www.riverboatpostman.com.au or call the office on 0400 600 111 and quote the code: POSTCODE2083

LOCAL EVENTS & DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!

24 May to 30 June
Fri, Sat & Sun



THE COTTAGE

Current Exhibition: **Pretty Much a Hawkesbury River Show**

Featuring the inspired art of T S Zaracostas (2083 local!), the new exhibition will be open each Friday, Saturday and Sunday during its 6 weeks at The Cottage between 10am and 4pm. Come on down and support one of our neighbourhood artists!

JUNE - Friday 21st
12pm

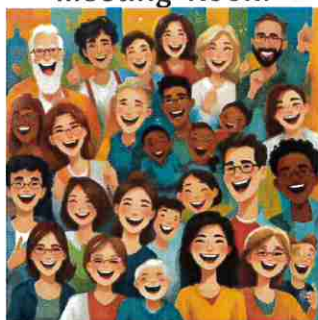
Brooklyn Oval
Boardwalk

MANGROVE BOARDWALK SIGNS & OPENING CEREMONY

Hornsby Shire Council has invited students from Brooklyn Public School to create mangrove flora and fauna artworks for a new poster to be displayed in the Brooklyn Oval Noticeboard located near the start of the Brooklyn Mangrove Boardwalk, adjacent to the Brooklyn Sports Ground. BPS students will be working on their designs over the next few weeks. The students will be involved in the opening ceremony to be held at 12pm Friday 21 June 2024 and the school would love for our community to attend. Please save the date!

JUNE - Saturday 22nd
10am to 12pm

Brooklyn Community
Meeting Room



LAUGHTER YOGA WORKSHOP

Laughter Yoga has been shown to:

Boost the immune system / Regulate blood flow / Increase oxygen to brain & body cells / Decrease depression and anxiety / Provide pain relief / Manage Stress

In this interactive workshop, we will introduce you to the science behind Laughter Yoga, through movement and breathwork, and uncover the 6 main health benefits of the practice.

Be warned, you will definitely have some fun too!

If you are ready to put smile back on your dial, book here:

https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/laughter-yoga-workshop-remember-your-joy-tickets-917595541967?aff=ebdssbdestsearch&keep_tld=1

JULY - Saturday 27th
10am to 12pm
Brooklyn Meeting Room

BROOKLYN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION - GENERAL MEETING

Save the Date - More Info coming soon!

AUG - Saturday 3rd
5.30pm to Late

Anglers Rest Hotel

TRIVIA NIGHT - BROOKLYN PUBLIC SCHOOL P&C FUNDRAISER

The P&C has been busily preparing the next version of the infamous Trivia Night Fundraiser for Brooklyn Public School which will be held on Saturday 3rd August at The Angler Rest Hotel. This year's theme is 'Black & Gold' and we can't wait to see all the appropriately inspired outfits! Grab individual or group tickets

here: <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1192400?>

<p>AUG - Saturday 31st 5.30pm onwards</p> <p>Mooney Mooney Club</p>	<p>BROOKLYN SOCCER CLUB CINEMA NIGHT</p> <p>Grab your picnic blanket and settle in for a cosy movie night on the lawn at Mooney Mooney Club. The first movie of the night will be "The Mitchell's vs The Machines", and a second movie will be decided by People's Choice, with votes closing on 8th June. Contact Brooklyn Soccer Club for more information.</p>
<p>SEP - Sunday 29th 10am to 4pm</p> <p>Brooklyn Oval</p>	<p>BROOKLYN SPRING FAIR - HRCC FUNDRAISER</p> <p>One of the highlights of the Brooklyn social calendar, please mark this date in your diary, and support Hawkesbury River Child Care centre to continue nurturing our river children.</p>
<p>SEP - Sunday 8th</p> <p>The Cottage & Brooklyn Community Meeting Room</p>	<p>HAWKESBURY RIVER WASTELESS FEST</p> <p>This is a chance to bring along and dispose of your tricky-to-recycle items such as blister packs (empty tablet packaging), small electronic waste, household batteries, mobile phones, smoke detectors, printer cartridges and spray cans. Other Festival highlights include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's activities outside The Cottage; and • A kid clothing swap meet. <p>Upcycling display and sale</p> <p>Extending an invitation to the community to submit upcycled and recycled items of clothing, furniture and art as part of the WasteLess Fest in September.</p> <p>If you are interested in taking part, please contact Ingrid at wastelessfest@gmail.com</p>
<p>DEC - Sunday 1st</p> <p>The Cottage</p>	<p>THE COTTAGE CHRISTMAS MARKET</p> <p>Sure to be another great event, and the perfect place to do a spot of shopping for those on your nice list! Don't forget to save the date.</p>

The Gateway is published by the Brooklyn Community Association (BCA). While every attempt is made to publish content as submitted, some editing of material may occur. Please email secretary@brooklyncommunity.org.au if you would like to receive an electronic copy of future Gateways, and don't already receive one.

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