

Gateway

Submit article ideas to: gateway@brooklyncommunity.org.au

APRIL 2025 ISSUE

General Meeting



BCA General Meeting

4pm- 6pm| Tuesday, 29 April 2025

Join Ku-ring-gai Police Area Command
Crime Prevention Officer

Senior Constable Gemma Stokes

at **BADEN POWELL HALL**

3 Baden Powell Ave Brooklyn

**How to improve your Online Safety
and reduce your likelihood of being caught out by a
Scam**

Followed by Refreshments
BCA Members, guests & friends welcome

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

CYBER CRIME IS AFFECTING ALL OF US – THE BCA IS OFFERING YOU A CHANCE TO HEAR FROM CRIME PREVENTION OFFICER SENIOR CONSTABLE GEMMA STOKES

On an almost daily basis you, your children, family and neighbours are being confronted by cybercrime.

These crimes involve the use of technology to commit fraud, identity theft, data breaches, computer viruses, scams, and expanded upon in other malicious acts such as stealing your hard-earned savings.

On Tuesday 29 April 2025, Senior Constable Gemma Stokes, Crime Prevention Officer from Ku-ring-gai Police Area Command, will be presenting an informative session to the Brooklyn community on how to stay safe in the digital world.

Learn how to spot scams, protect your personal information, and keep your devices secure.

Empower yourself with practical tips to navigate the internet, text messages and cold callers safely and confidently.

An opportunity to ask questions or share your experience will be provided at the end of the presentation.



**BROOKLYN REMEMBERS
ANZAC COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE**

The President and members of the Brooklyn sub-Branch of RSL NSW, cordially invite you to attend the:

Anzac Commemorative Service to be held at:
Brooklyn Oval, Brooklyn Road, Brooklyn on Sunday 27th April 2025, commencing at 10.45 am



COUNCILLORS SUPPORT AN EXPANDED BLESSING OF THE FLEET FESTIVAL WITH A \$7,000 GRANT

The BCA is excited to share the news that the Mayor and Councillors voted unanimously to approve a \$7,000 grant from Council's Community Event Grant Program, for an expanded Blessing of the Fleet Festival in the second half of 2025... planning is now well underway.

The Blessing of the Fleet Festival event, like so many others in the Hornsby Shire, wouldn't be possible without the Mayor and Councillor's belief in the community to deliver this event. It goes without saying that the Brooklyn and River communities value Council's willingness to partner with our communities through this generous financial funding and in-kind support.

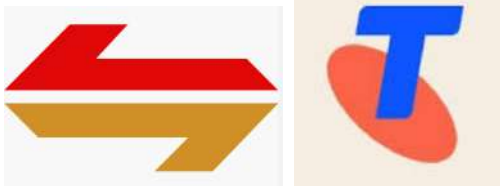
A Blessing of the Fleet is a time-honoured tradition in fishing villages where boats are blessed for a safe and prosperous season. Our local commercial boats and recreational vessels will be invited to join a flotilla parade and Blessing.

Other festivities being discussed include a walking parade following the Priest through a section of the Brooklyn Village to the waterfront, races (both on the river and land), live music both in Brooklyn and on Dangar Island, a children's treasure hunt and games, pop-up food stalls and a range of activities on and around the river that celebrate connection to the Hawkesbury River – unique Blessing of the Fleet ticketed events are also being investigated.

The BCA intends as far as practical to offer an event that is inclusive, culturally respectful and environmentally sustainable.

The organising committee warmly welcomes ideas and anyone who has time to assist in organising an event as part of the festival.

Contact: secretary@brooklyncommunity.org.au



**THE BCA FORGES CONTACTS PROVING IMPORTANT TO THE
BROOKLYN COMMUNITY**

The BCA committee has been working hard to build trust and networks with the Construction Team Manager for the Old Bridge, State Rail Maintenance Team and Telstra to endeavour to be able to provide the community with timely and up-to-date information about their activities and ensure mobile services during rail maintenance periods.



A TEN-YEAR MAINTENANCE PROGRAM IS SCHEDULED TO COMMENCE ON THE RAIL BRIDGE

The crew who are currently working on the Peats Ferry Road (Old) Bridge will move work compounds to commence a ten-year maintenance program to repair and paint the rail bridge that all trains are required to transit in order to cross the Hawkesbury River.

The degree of interruption to daily timetables is unknown at the time of printing.

The BCA has been informed that upcoming scheduled rail maintenance on the dates below will result in cancellation of train services through Hawkesbury River Station to be replaced by buses are:

Saturday/Sunday 17/18 May weekend, 48 hours.

(Buses will replace trains between Newcastle Interchange and Hornsby).

Monday 16 to Thursday 19 June (evenings)

(Buses replace trains between Gosford & Hornsby).

23/24 August; and

25/26 October.

Please note these dates are subject to change.



HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY FOR THE PEATS FERRY (OLD) HAWKESBURY BRIDGE

On the 5th of May 1945, the Peats Ferry (Old) Hawkesbury Bridge was opened to road traffic for the first time.

Planning for a community celebration is underway to recognise the significant 80th anniversary.

As the grand old bridge is currently undergoing a significant “face lift” with State funds, the BCA recognises the best opportunity to celebrate this milestone will be later in the year (following the completion of the Bridge works towards the middle of the year).



You may be interested to know that that the BCA was alerted to this anniversary by reading Councillor’s Nathan Tilbury’s latest and very informative book *Pathways to Freeways*. So many interesting stories based in and around Brooklyn and further afield.

The BCA appreciate the support of James Wallace MP, our NSW State member and Nathan Tilbury Ward A Councillor to recognise this significant anniversary.



TENDERS CLOSE FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW PUBLIC PONTOON AT BROOKLYN WHARF

Hornsby Shire Council invited suitably qualified and experienced contractors for the design and construction of a new public pontoon and associated facilities at Brooklyn Public Wharf.

Council’s stated purpose is to create a safe and functional berthing and mooring facility at the existing Brooklyn Wharf to cater for commercial and water taxi operations and may provide day mooring facilities for visitors to Brooklyn.



LONG ISLAND TOWER BATTERY UPGRADE COMPLETED BY TELSTRA

We reported in the last Gateway that the BCA has been working consistently over the past 12 months to prove to Telstra management that when there are State Rail weekend rail maintenance periods Brooklyn residents have very limited or no mobile service.

Success - Telstra has advised the BCA that the promised battery upgrade at the Long Island Tower has been completed.

This upgrade will be instrumental in maintaining mobile services during future weekend maintenance periods undertaken by Sydney Trains.

Whilst it is likely that the upgraded battery life may not fully cover the usual 48hr maintenance period, Telstra is supplement with the use of a portable generator to provide power to the Long Island Tower for the remainder of the weekend maintenance...we will keep you posted on the success of these initiatives.



TRANSPORT NSW CONTINUE TO TAKE STEPS TO IMPROVE THE SAFETY ON THE OLD HIGHWAY

The speed limit was reduced on the 14th March 2024 to 70kph, however the behaviour of some drivers and riders remain unacceptable. As most of the accidents since then have occurred in the section of road where the speed limit was reduced to 70kph.

The Take Back the Highway lobby group are continuing to plead for specific measures to target racing vehicles to make the road safer for all drivers and their passengers.

Changes currently under construction and designed to improve safety include the installation of a fixed speed camera and the installation of 54 **No Stopping** signs between Muogamarra and Brooklyn Road.

In this edition of the Gateway, we wanted to share a summary of the known accidents between Cowan and Calga that have occurred since 1/1/2024.

The Take Back the Highway lobby group maintain records of all known crashes on the Old Pacific Highway from Cowan to Calga

| | | | |
|---|----|-------------------------------|----|
| # Transported to Hospital (maybe greater) | 23 | # Motorcycles involved | 31 |
| # Deceased (maybe greater) | 2 | # Cars involved | 17 |
| # Known accidents | 43 | # Collisions | 5 |
| # Total Vehicles involved | 48 | # Single Vehicle lost control | 37 |



RESIDENTS TREATED TO AN ADVANCE SCREENING OF THE LAST ANNIVERSARY

On Wednesday 26 March, residents of Brooklyn, the River communities and Council joined cast and crew at an advance screening of The Last Anniversary. Spontaneous applause at the completion of Episode 1 demonstrated the appreciation of all those in the audience.

Prior to the screening, many gathered to share a drink and amuse with stories of the fun and adventures experienced in many of the locations during the filming. Filming took place in early 2024 in and around Brooklyn and the stunning Hawkesbury River.

Based on Liane Moriarty's bestselling novel, THE LAST ANNIVERSARY is a mini-series which "is a wickedly funny, heartfelt dramedy wrapped in a gripping mystery about family, motherhood and the women who define the generations that come after them".

The Last Anniversary is now available to watch on Showcase or on Demand



SPECTACULAR BOARDWALK AND SHARED PATHWAY LINKING SEYMOURS CREEK TO KANGAROO POINT IS ALMOST COMPLETE

Just months remain until the spectacular boardwalk through the mangroves and bushland linking Seymours Creek (opposite Tom Richmond Oval) to Kangaroo Point will be completed.

The BCA understands that the construction workers have experienced difficulties during higher tides which has delayed the project completion...notwithstanding the delay, we believe that the finished boardwalk will be worth the wait!



A REMINDER

MAKING A SERVICE REQUEST TO COUNCIL

How to lodge a service request or question...it's simple - go to <https://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/council/about-council/online-services>

- ✓ **Online Services Portal**
- ✓ **Service request** (Fill in the online form and upload 1 to 3 photos if this assists your request). This is where you submit a question, query, request or report a problem regarding Council property, roads, public health, drainage, garbage etc.

If you are more comfortable, you may still lodge an email request or query. If you have previously forwarded an email to Council about the same question, requests or report a problem, please do not duplicate your request by submitting a Service Request through the online portal.

Give it a go ... this system does work!



2025 Australian LIVEABILITY CENSUS

2025 AUSTRALIAN LIVEABILITY CENSUS - HELP MAKE BROOKLYN A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE, WORK AND PLAY

Hornsby Council is once again participating in the Australian Liveability Census – which opened on Neighbour Day, Sunday 30 March 2025 and closes on 30 June 2025.

Did you know that Council used the results from 2023 Liveability Census to help inform its strategic planning and project prioritisation over the past two years, so it is very worthwhile for all Brooklyn residents to complete this survey....it will directly affect planning for our community. Council acknowledges that we, the Brooklyn residents, know the place we live in, that's why Council wants to hear from us.

This is an important surveyPlease share what matters to you, rate your neighbourhood, and provide Council with your ideas to make things better. Collectively, survey respondents identify the important liveability attributes for the Hornsby Shire community and rate how these attributes are performing at a local level.

The results of the Liveability Census are used In Council's Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program and Operational Plan to identify attributes in the Shire that are important to the local community but perhaps are not performing as well as they could be. This allows Council to target these areas for improvement in an efficient manner.

Please make sure your voice is heard by 30 June 2025.

As a thank you for your participation, you will go into the draw to win the major prize of a \$1,000 shopping voucher, or one of 40 \$100 vouchers that can be used at over 200 businesses...Get involved, get heard and you may be a winner.

So, whether it's more shops, parking, access to green spaces, or improving public safety, your voice will help guide decision making and contribute to national research regarding liveability.

Complete the survey [here](#).

Or use the link https://placescore.org/lc25_nsw_hornsby
or <https://yoursay.hornsby.nsw.gov.au>

medicare
Bulk Billing



BULK BILLING FOR ALL RESIDENTS AT THE BROOKLYN FAMILY MEDICAL CENTRE

Two weeks ago, the Brooklyn Medical Centre commenced bulk billing all residents for General Medical Appointments. Free access to general medical care is great news for many. Brooklyn Family Medical Centre is open Monday to Friday 8.00am – 5.00pm.

Pathology services are available 3 days per week, no appointment necessary.

Online bookings can be made via HotDoc App after you have created an account then search "Brooklyn Family Medical" to view the available appointments.

Alternatively, Phone 8530 7222



EXHIBITION OF DRAFT HERITAGE AMENDMENTS TO THE HORNSBY DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2024

Council is seeking feedback on updates and revisions to heritage controls in the Hornsby Development Control Plan (Hornsby DCP) 2024, as part of its Comprehensive Heritage Study program. Council is writing to you as a local community stakeholder.

The updated heritage controls aim to improve the operation, clarity and outcomes of Part 9 within Hornsby DCP by providing a new structure, revised language and expression, renewed graphics and images, increased supporting information, desired outcomes for Heritage Conservation Areas and relocation of non-heritage controls to the relevant sections of the Hornsby DCP.

The draft heritage amendments to the Hornsby DCP and supporting documentation can be viewed on Council's website:

<https://yoursay.hornsby.nsw.gov.au>

The exhibition closes on 25 May 2025. Submissions can be made via:

- A feedback form on Council's website
- Email to hsc@hornsby.nsw.gov.au
- Post to General Manager, Hornsby Shire Council, PO Box 37, Hornsby 1630.

For further information, please contact Council's Strategic Land Use Planning Team on 9847 6726.



CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME TO THE MAYOR AND WARD A COUNCILLORS

We extend our congratulation to Warren Waddell, who previously was a Ward A Councillor, on becoming Hornsby Shire newest Mayor. Mayor Waddell has already been hard at work on behalf of the Brooklyn community.

A warm welcome to Clr Olivia Simons who resides and is well known here in Brooklyn. Clr Simons can be contacted by calling 9847 6666 and leaving a message or by email osimons@hornsby.nsw.gov.au

A warm welcome is also extended to Clr Jane Seaglove. Clr Seaglove can be contacted by calling 9847 6666 and leaving a message or by email jseaglove@hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Welcome back to Nathan Tilbury who has always advocated tirelessly for the residents of Brooklyn, the River communities and Ward A.

Clr Tilbury can be contacted by calling 0403 227 560 or by email ntilbury@hornsby.nsw.gov.au

The BCA looks forward to great things that can be achieved with the support and partnership of our Mayor and Ward A Councillors.



**CHAIR YOGA, FALLS PREVENTION & EXERCISE CLASSES
FREE COMMUNITY CLASSES**

You are most welcome to join the classes conducted weekly during the School Term at the Brooklyn Meeting Room on

Thursday morning between 10.15am-12.15pm.

Morning tea and a chance to chat with others and make new friendships follows the class around 11.15am.

Chair Yoga reduces body stiffness and increases flexibility using Health and Fitness Practices.

**For more details or to book, contact Jo:
0414 240 342 or j_yoga@bigpond.com**

The Gateway is published by the Brooklyn Community Association (BCA). While every attempt is made to ensure correctness and publish content as submitted, some editing of material may occur. Please email secretary@brooklyncommunityassociation.org.au if you would like to receive an electronic copy of future Gateways, and don't already receive one. Printed and delivered through the generous local sponsorship of Caelia Collins, Riverfront Real Estate / Soul River and Gary our incredibld and long serving postie. Photos have been contributed by Tony Broome and Rob Corkery. Contact details Gateway Editor: info@brooklyncommunity.org.au

Keeping our community safe!



Cut this map out, and keep a copy of it in your wallet... *just in case!*