



# GREENWICH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

## THESE ISSUES AFFECT YOU

- EPA Licence Review for Gore Bay Terminal
- St Leonards South planning approval
- Council Mayoral elections
- Council amalgamations
- New parking restrictions

Learn more and have your say at our **PUBLIC MEETING** on Wednesday 21 October 2015 at the Greenwich Community Centre, 46 Greenwich Road, at 7.30 pm.

## WE HAVE A NEW MAYOR AND DEPUTY

In September each year Councillors elect their new Mayor.

The new Mayor of Lane Cove is Deborah Hutchens (Central Ward) and her Deputy is Marc Gold (West Ward).

## AMALGAMATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

Amalgamation of local councils, forced or otherwise, is still on the NSW government agenda.

Councils should by now have submitted their Fit for the Future responses to demonstrate if they are capable of operating without amalgamation. Lane Cove Council has joined with Ryde and Hunter's Hill Council to suggest an alternative model to that of amalgamation – a Joint Regional Authority.

On 24 August the General Manager of Lane Cove Council appeared with his Hunter's Hill and Ryde counterparts before a NSW Upper House Enquiry in support of their preferred model.

Cabinet will receive a report and recommendations on 16 October but the timing of the announcement of the final decision is unknown.

## CARS, CARS AND MORE CARS!

The constant problem of parked out streets and how to solve it? Council will trial this arrangement for 6 months

Ronald Avenue, Crowther Avenue and Wisdom Road will be 3P 8 am – 6 pm on one side and unrestricted on the other. Innes Road and Bellevue Avenue will be 3P on both sides.



## IS THE CART BEFORE THE HORSE IN THE ST. LEONARDS SOUTH PLAN?

Recent media coverage suggests that properties are changing hands fast in areas covered by Council's decision to rezone for high density development.

While some people are delighted by Council's decision, the rest of the community may have to live with negative impacts of Council's decision. There was broad community interest in the rezoning proposal but disappointingly little Council incorporation of community input.

The GCA has asked Council to defer drafting consequential amendments to the Local Environmental Plan until there has been far broader consultation with those outside the proposed high density areas. Careful thought must be given to management of the impacts and demands generated by such developments.

Residents in adjacent areas, as well as those who move into the new developments, will pay the price for poor planning.

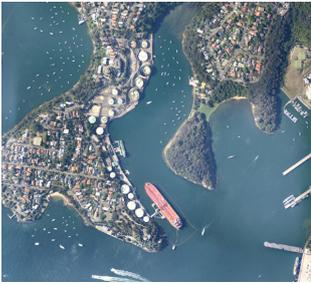
Infrastructure in the lower North Shore is already under pressure, evidenced by traffic congestion, the many demountable classrooms at Greenwich Public School and the state of Bob Campbell Oval.

Council should demonstrate that it has clear commitments about funding and provision of infrastructure needs before pushing for zoning changes.

## BAGSHARE

Our bag share bin at the Greenwich shops has almost no bags to share!

Please help us to restock with the bootloads of bags you have not recycled – sorry, plastic bags not welcome.



## 21 OCTOBER GCA MEETING TELL THE EPA WHAT PROTECTION WE WANT IN GORE BAY LICENCE

From January 2012 until May 2015, the community expected that it would soon have access

to detailed information about Viva Energy's Gore Bay Terminal operation as part of a proposed major development application. Community members would then have been able to seek regulatory controls over aspects of the terminal's operation that concern them.

Since mid-2012 the GCA has sought information and support from government authorities to safeguard public health and safety whilst waiting for the development application to surface. Here is an extract from the EPA's response of 26 September 2012:-

"The EPA understands the community's concern about possible health effects from activities at the Gore Bay Terminal. Any potential health impacts associated with Shell's (now Viva Energy) proposed changes will be considered in the environmental assessment that will accompany its development application. However, until a development application is submitted, it is not possible for the EPA to comment on these aspects."

In May this year, two and a half years after the EPA's letter, Viva Energy cancelled its planned development so the community is denied access to the information it was expecting. Where does this leave the EPA and community concerns?

A positive is that community complaints have resulted in a reduction in noise and odour impacts of the terminal in the past few years. However, these improvements depend to a great extent on the goodwill of the terminal operator and the community remains at risk of changes in shareholder control and priorities. Appropriate regulation, particularly by the EPA, should afford the health and safety protection the community deserves.

The 5 yearly review of EPA licence 661 for Gore Bay Terminal is due by 29 November this year. This is a critical opportunity to make known to the EPA the controls and protections the community seeks over a facility about which so little information is made available. The GCA must lodge a submission with the EPA by 13 November. The GCA is working towards this, with major areas of focus being petrol/jet fuel storage, monitoring and reporting of air, noise and odour emissions and sulfur content in marine fuel.

For nearly 3 years Viva Energy has blocked and continues to use all legal avenues to block access to its report to NSW Health on 150 compounds associated with the terminal operations. We are aware that NSW Health has made recommendations to the EPA that address some concerns including installation of ongoing boundary monitoring of odour and ambient air levels of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and volatile organic compounds. It is expected that the EPA will adopt these recommendations.

In acknowledgement of the importance to the community of the licence review, two senior EPA representatives will attend the 21 October GCA meeting. This is a rare opportunity to hear how the EPA will approach the review and to let the EPA know what the community expects in terms of regulation of the terminal operations.

An invitation to the meeting has been extended to all Councillors and to residents of suburbs adjoining Gore Bay. We hope that community members will take advantage of this excellent opportunity to talk with EPA representatives.

The GCA submission to the EPA will be made available on the GCA website. Members of the public are encouraged to make submissions of their own.

## SAVE MORE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**SATURDAY 24 OCTOBER 7:00 PM**

The Isabelle Heim Fund Crazy Whist Night in the Greenwich Community Centre

Tickets \$50 includes supper, drinks and a donation – please call 9438 1339.

**SUNDAY 1 NOVEMBER 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM**

Special ANZAC Centenary tour of Gore Hill Cemetery

**Free** but popular so please contact

John Flint 02 9436 2980 flinchens@bigpond.com



**WEDNESDAY 9 DECEMBER 7:30 PM**

GCA December meeting (to ease pre-Christmas congestion, this is one week earlier than our other meetings)

**AND ONE FOR THE 3-6 YEAR OLDS**

**Storytime @ Greenwich Library** every

Wednesday at 11 am (school holidays excepted)



## YOUR SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED

The GCA has been busy representing the community and keeping you informed. Thanks to all who have helped us this year - your financial support is greatly appreciated.

Subscriptions are per calendar year.

Our preferred payment method is electronic deposit to **BSB 062247 Acct 10104085**. Other payment methods are detailed on the attached slip.

## WANT SOMETHING IN OUR DECEMBER NEWSLETTER?

We will need your content by mid-November – please email this to [patricia@pquealey.com.au](mailto:patricia@pquealey.com.au)

## STAY IN TOUCH

Register your email address through our website: [www.greenwich.org.au](http://www.greenwich.org.au) to receive newsletters and updates electronically.

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