



GREENWICH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

NEXT PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday 19 February 2014 at the Greenwich Community Centre, 46 Greenwich Rd, at 7.30 pm. Please note that this meeting will contain the AGM, where office bearers for the GCA committee will be elected for the coming year. Positions vacant will be: president, 2 x vice presidents, secretary, treasurer and 7 committee members. Nominations for the positions may be submitted beforehand in writing to the president, or can be offered from the floor at the meeting. Please note that in both cases nominees must be seconded, accept the nomination, and be financial members of the GCA. Refreshments will be served during the evening and everyone is very welcome to attend. Come along and see what pressing issues affect us all in this community. Note also that while everyone is encouraged to have their say, only financial members may vote.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2014

Subscriptions for this year are now due: \$10.00 per household and \$5.00 per pensioner household. Donations are also welcome. You may pay directly into the GCA bank account, with reference 'GCA 2014 fee payment OR donation'.

For people who prefer not to use the banking option you may put cash or cheque into an envelope and either post it to the Treasurer, GCA Committee, PO Box 5057 Greenwich NSW 2065 or put it into the GCA box in the pharmacy at Greenwich shops. In both cases BE SURE to write your name and address clearly either on or inside the envelope.

You may also pay at the door at the public meeting on 19 February, a good idea if you want to vote in proceedings (see note above). It will help our treasurer greatly if you have the correct money ready. Bank details: BSB 062247. Acct number 10104085.



CRAZY WHIST NIGHT

The Isabelle Heim Fund will be running another fun + fund-raising evening at Greenwich Community Hall from 7.00 pm on **Saturday 22 March 2014**. The ticket price of \$50.00 includes snacks, supper, drinks and a donation to the fund. Numbers will be limited to 80, so secure your tickets early! Ticket enquiries 9438 1339 or buy from raffle ticket stall at the Greenwich shops on 8 March.

CEMETERY TOURS

The Friends of Gore Hill Cemetery will be conducting a tour of the heritage listed Gore Hill Cemetery at St Leonards on **Sunday 13 April 2014** as part of the National Trust Heritage Festival.

The cemetery contains memorials to hundreds of prominent early North Shore pioneers. The tour will visit a number of these memorials and will provide an insight to the history of the North Shore and the achievements and journeys of some of the people buried there.

After a long period of slow rehabilitation due to lack of funds the cemetery is now on a sound financial and operational footing and residents who have not visited for some time will be amazed at the progress made in restoring the cemetery towards its original Victorian/Edwardian garden format.

At the end of the tour there will be an opportunity to locate family graves and learn about arrangements for deposition of ashes and adding entries to the cemetery biographies.

The tour commences at 10:30 am and lasts approximately 2 hours. It is extremely popular and numbers are restricted so bookings are essential – phone John May on 9906 5106

BIKE PATHS

At the GCA meeting of 18 Dec 2013 a motion was moved that a bike sub-committee be formed and that notice be given through the newsletter and website calling for volunteers.

It is believed that if we are to have a safe and community-acceptable system of bike paths it must be designed by professionals and implemented as a collaborative process with the Greenwich community. The committee should be about four and not more than six people. The skills we are looking for are people with experience in:

- Cycle path planning, design and implementation
- Environmental planning and assessment
- Legal liability
- Communication, graphics and drafting
- Civil engineering, design and construction
- Project management and business planning
- Interest in community bicycling.

If you have one or more of the above skills and are keen to help your local community please apply to Rod Tudge, email rod@tudge.com.au

LANE COVE TREE PLAN

Trees are an intrinsic part of the character and visual and environmental integrity of our area. There are nearly 12,000 street trees in the Lane Cove area, with around 200 different species. Council supplies and plants all trees on the Council-owned nature strips, with a maximum of two per property, and gives preference to native species endemic to the area. Selection is based on site location and restrictions such as sightlines, services, size of planting area etc.

As street trees are under increasing pressure from services and the changing environment Council has developed a Draft Street Tree Master Plan for the next 10 – 15 years and interested residents are invited to review the plan and submit their comments by **21 February 2014**. The Plan can be viewed on the Lane Cove Council website,

www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au, under the sub heading Consultations/Draft Street Tree Master Plan.

THE GCA AND THE BETTER PLANNING NETWORK

The GCA is a member of the Better Planning Network which is an affiliation of some 453 community groups across NSW. The purpose of the BPN is to achieve a fair and transparent planning system for the community that gives proper consideration to ecologically sustainable development rather than just short term economic growth. It is an independent, not-for-profit and non-political group which receives funding only through donations from its affiliates and the public. It has been active in influencing the ultimate withdrawal of the recent NSW Govt Planning Bills which they believe would negatively impact on us all.

To find out more about the BPN and how you can be involved or donate please visit betterplanningnetwork@gmail.com

A 'HUB' FOR GREENWICH?

The GCA has been investigating the possibility of establishing a 'HUB' in Greenwich following the immense success of the HUB that was set up last year by a dedicated set of volunteers in Waverton. The Waverton HUB is the first in Australia and is modelled on an American initiative where there are over 100 groups currently operating, and now has over 200 active members.

The Waverton HUB is an organisation aimed at providing members of the community with easily accessible and affordable social and fitness activities, learning opportunities, and assistance in day to day tasks, and is progressing to the point where it can fund a paid manager.

Details of Waverton HUB activities can be found on www.wavertonhub.com.au.

The Waverton HUB has generously agreed to help Greenwich get started in establishing our own HUB, and has produced a working manual with details on how to establish a steering committee and design a survey to gauge local interest and needs. The GCA plans to hold a series of information meetings and to conduct a survey sometime in April.

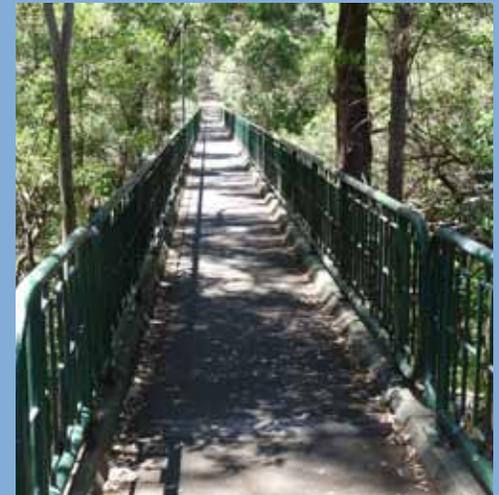
Residents interested in joining the steering committee are invited to contact Tom Gervay on 9437 5781, John May on 9906 5106, Pam Palmer on 9436 3971 or Liz Walton on 9966 5359.

BEENCKE'S BRIDGE – 50 YEARS OLD

The handsome concrete footbridge over Berry Creek to Smoothery Park and Wollstonecraft Station from St Giles Avenue is 50 years old this year.

This bridge replaced a lower level wooden bridge built 50 metres to the north by Greenwich newsagent John Beencke which in turn replaced a log over the creek. The remains of steps down to the old bridge can still be seen.

This would be a good opportunity to convince Lane Cove and North Sydney Councils, which share the bridge, that it is time to repaint the handrails – a suitable birthday present!!



Beencke's Bridge

STAY IN TOUCH

As usual, we urge all residents to regularly visit our website and that of Lane Cove Council- www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au You might be surprised, delighted, shocked – but never bored!

Tom Gervay, President 0418 230 889
Alan Winney, Secretary 9438 5776