



REID RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2013

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Annual General Meeting

7pm Wednesday 3 April 2013

@

7 Geerilong Gardens, Reid

(home of Derk Swieringa)

Agenda

1. Welcome, apologies and adoption of the Agenda,
2. Confirmation of minutes & matters arising,
3. Reports and financial statements,
4. Appointment of Auditor,
5. Election of Officers - President, Hon Treasurer, Secretary and up to five committee members,
6. Other business

Note: Committee nominations forms are available from the Public Officer, Derk Swieringa and must be returned to him prior to the meeting - Tel: [REDACTED]

NEW ALLAMBEE STREET LIGHTING

Finally after concerted efforts by the Reid Residents Association (RRA) over a number of years, new heritage street lights have been installed along Allambree Street. At present there is a complete mish-mash of street lighting poles and luminaires and other street furniture throughout the suburb that has been installed on the basis of what ever was in stock without any regard to preserving or maintaining the 1920-1940, period look and feel of the heritage precinct.

In our representations to the Government we have made the point it is equally incumbent on ACT Government agencies to ensure historic integrity of the precinct. We have been advocating that the design of new street furniture and utility services should be complementary and of a uniform appearance that is sympathetic to the streetscape character of the precinct. This includes the street light as well as suburb and street signs, footpaths, bollards etc.

In response TAMS has started developing a Conservation Management Plan for Street Furniture. The new lights have scrolled wrought iron arms, with corrugated shades) and have been installed all along the heritage precinct side of Allambree Street. The level and quality of the light is determined by the relevant Australian Standards but seems to be big improvement. At this stage, we don't know how far this will be taken across the rest of Reid but it is a good start.

President John Little [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Secretary Graham Carter OAM [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Treasurer & Public Officer Derk Swieringa [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Committee Members Marianne Albury-Colless, Sue Byrne, Sue Lynskey, Joanne Nicholls, Amanda Reynolds, John Tucker		

SUPPORT REID – Become a sponsor or donor

The Reid Residents Association is your organization and it needs your support. Each year it costs about \$2,000 to pay for insurance, printing newsletters, audit etc. We are looking for people and local businesses, who might be able provide assistance in either cash or kind to assist with our operational costs.

Exclusive advertising will be provided in this newsletter for sponsors.

If you can help please contact: Derk Swieringa Treasurer Tel [REDACTED]

BRADDON OVAL THREATENED

Braddon Oval which is an important site listed on the ACT Heritage Register is under threat. The proposal by the Football Club is for a mixed use development - residential apartments, commercial and retail space, shops and restaurants with Basement and surface parking. The club would be likely to reap millions of dollars but only pay the Government about \$315,000.

The site is significant because it is North Canberra's earliest enclosed public recreational reserve and has been used continuously since 1925. It is an important place associated with the history of cricket, AFL as well as Rugby League in the ACT. It has strong links with the local community, which helped, through voluntary labour, to develop the Oval and surrounds. The location of the site derives from Walter Burley Griffin's original design for Canberra, and is part of the original symmetrical layout of public open space centred on Northbourne Avenue, counter-balanced by the ANU North Oval in Turner.

Apart from the Heritage aspect, the RRA has objected on the basis development proposal will reduce the range of community or recreation facilities available within the City Centre. We believe this view is supported by the Government's own proposal for the redevelopment of the ABC flats. The Planning Report for this project, ironically also prepared by the same consultants, states " *About 5% of urban land in North Canberra is zoned Community Facilities and the subject land is a small proportion of the total zoned land. . there is a continuing unmet demand for community space. A comparison of the Government's 2007 and 2010 Applications Register indicates that the demand for space in North Canberra has increased in terms of both the number of applicants and floorspace.*"

The Report also states the population of the inner north excluding Campbell will increase from 45,000 to 53,000 over the period 2007-2019. Most of the development is for bed-sitter, 1 or 2 bedroom apartments, which you would expect to significantly increase the demand for community facilities.

RRA has requested ACTPLA initiates a full Needs Assessment of community facilities in the North Canberra suburbs of Lyneham, Downer, Dickson, Hackett, O'Connor, Turner, Braddon, Acton, Reid, Civic, Campbell, Ainslie and Duntroon. The study must also address the importance of a periodic audit/assessment of current facilities, which can assist Government agencies and the community in planning for social infrastructure in the future.

FREE HERITAGE AND ARCHITECTURAL ADVICE

History and heritage is an important part of life. Our heritage comprises legendary artifacts, history, cultural relics and monuments of our forefathers that are being preserved for generations yet unborn to learn from the past-be it good or bad

Once heritage buildings are lost, they – and all they represent – are lost to future generations. Reid is one of Canberra's oldest and best preserved suburbs. Reid has been described as: "One of Australia's finest garden suburbs of the 1920s and 30s, the area demonstrates influences of the English garden city movement. The limited range of houses, designed specially for Canberra, established the architectural character of the area."

Reid is listed on the ACT Heritage Register and consequently houses in the heritage area are protected by the *Heritage Act 2004*. Owners and builders need to be aware that Heritage guidelines must be observed that address matters such as:

- demolition
- alterations and additions
- new buildings
- landscaping

Free heritage and architectural advice is available for heritage owners and purchasers. The Heritage Advisory Service provides guidance on renovating or extending a heritage home. The service is provided by Philip Leeson Architects Pty Ltd. Call Philip Leeson or David Hobbes on (02) 6295 3311 for one free appointment. This is an independent service supported by the ACT Government.

CONSULTATIONS WITH NEW GOVERNMENT

The RRA committee is pursuing meetings with ACT Government Ministers and officials to discuss a range of issues affecting the Reid Heritage Precinct including:

- Review of the Heritage Act – what's happening, when will it be finalized?
- Conservation Management Plan – both whole of Precinct and the Roads ACT plan for Street Furniture – what's happening?
- Development of a Precinct Plan for Reid – what would the Heritage Unit intend to do?
- Management of DA's – what does the Heritage Unit do in relation to initial vetting, monitoring and compliance management?
- Increasing traffic volumes.
- Replacement of street trees.
- Redevelopment of A, B, C flats sites.

The outcome of the meetings and any development will be reported in future newsletters. Please contact the Committee if you have views on these or other issues affecting the Reid Heritage Precinct.

GARDEN DESIGN HELP AVAILABLE

The Reid Residents Association is able to provide you with design and plant selection assistance for your garden. We have available a CD that contains 20 different designs for a sustainable heritage cottage garden. These designs have been professionally designed for us by the Landscape Architecture students from the University of Canberra with support from ACTEW.

Each design includes a list of plants specially selected for Reid's environment together with details of estimated costs and maintenance. The cost of the CD is \$20 and the proceeds go to the Reid Residents Association. Get your copy from Graham Carter Tel 62472095.

NATIONAL TRUST – BECOME A MEMBER

The National Trust is a volunteer organization, which fosters public knowledge and conservation of places and objects that are significant to our heritage. There are many benefits of joining the National Trust including free entry hundreds of Trust properties in Australia and in over 18 countries around the world. The Trust has range of social and educational activities as well as an extensive program of tours catering for a wide spectrum of interests - ranging from local heritage tours; through weekend trips to places of historic interest; to longer tours interstate and overseas.

Membership is open to anyone. If you are interested in becoming a member you should ring 62300533. More information is available on the Trust's website:

<http://www.nationaltrustact.org.au/>



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GRAND SLAM SOCIAL TENNIS

Whether you are a young, old, good or a bad player just come and have an afternoon of fun! Non-players and visitors are also welcome!

Sunday 7 April 2013 (3pm start)

BYO: Tennis gear, drinks and a plate to share for afternoon tea Tea/coffee /balls will be supplied by the Reid Tennis Committee.

CAN YOU HELP?

The Committee would like to hear from volunteers with IT and desk top publishing abilities to assist with the preparation of the Reid Ebook, the website and newsletter setup etc. If you would like to help, please call Graham Carter Tel 62472095.

REID – SUBURB DINNER

Come and enjoy!!!! Bring your friends, meet your neighbours!!!

Date: Tuesday 9 July 2013 at 7pm

Location: Mercure Ainslie Hotel Bistro, Cnr Ainslie Ave and Limestone Ave

Cost: Meals at bistro prices plus your own drinks

RSVP: by 8pm on Friday 5 July to Joanne Nicholls on telephone 6248 6879