

20. Increased pedestrian traffic through Reid between Glebe Park and the War Memorial is likely to occur. Will additional directional signage be installed?
21. What measures will be applied to control parking in these areas?
22. What protection will be applied to protect nature strips and street trees?
23. Is there a Crowd Control Plan for the event?
24. Local residents in Braddon, Reid, Ainslie and Campbell have a right to enjoy reasonable quiet. Glebe Park is directly opposite many residential dwellings and the event, particularly Nightfest, is noisy and will exacerbate the prevailing high evening noise levels experience. This year there were 40,000 people of 5 nights (8,000 per night). What abatement and control practices will be applied? Is there a noise management plan? Does it include noise impact prediction information for the surrounding suburbs?
25. The demolition and redevelopment of the ABC flats was marketed by the Government to local residents partly on the basis that there would be year round open space available in locations including Garema Place (honestly), Braddon Oval which is now being converted into a carpark and apartments with a not publicly available football field in the middle, and Glebe Park, which if it is used for Floriade will be disrupted for 8 months each year.
26. When will the Government undertake the Community Facilities Needs Assessment that was recommended by the Standing Committee on Planning, Environment and Territory and Municipal Services in October 2013?
27. We understand that part of the NCA's concerns is that the area of Commonwealth Park used for Floriade is unavailable for 8 months and needs rejuvenation. Will not Glebe Park become equally unavailable for 8 months and also need rejuvenation?
28. The English Elm and other tree plantings are a key to the significance of the park. These trees afford large shade areas which would not be compatible for many annual plantings. Is there a guarantee that the trees will not be impacted or removed?
29. Why can't Floriade be staged in the area between the National Library and the lake, the Kingston foreshore, parts of the National Arboretum, and further afield to Eddison Park in Woden and parts of Gungahlin as proposed by the Canberra Business Chamber?
30. What consideration has been given to Weston Park and Yarramundi Reach?
31. Why couldn't the Yarralumla Brickworks and quarry be developed on similar lines to the Butchart Gardens in Brentwood Bay, British Columbia, Canada? This is a group of floral display gardens developed within a former quarry that receives a million visitors each year.
32. If the event must be relocated, why can't it be moved to the National Arboretum which we understand the report identifies as the best long-term option because it had good topography and the opportunity to incorporate the design into the site, space for growth, and a "high synergy of theme"?
33. According to the ACT Heritage Register entry, Glebe Park must be maintained in accordance with its historical, cultural and recreational values and using the Park for a major event like Floriade appears incompatible. Has the ACT Heritage Council been consulted and given its approval? Has a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) been prepared and approved for Glebe Park?

Finally, we should also point out that the Park is included on the ACT Heritage Register because it is a "significant landscape component of the setting of central Canberra, with remnant historic trees. The park with its open grounds and English elm copes". A copy of the Heritage Register entry, which is enforceable at law is attached.

I would be most grateful for your response to the above questions.

Yours faithfully, John Little RRA President



Join us at St John's for an evening of festive, creative fun! Construct and decorate your own beautiful gingerbread house to enjoy or to give to someone special this Christmas. Supper provided.

Date: **Friday 4th December, 7:00 pm**

Location: St John's Anglican Church Hall, 45 Constitution Ave, Reid.  
Cost: \$30 per kit, all materials (house, icing, lollies, cake board and wrap) provided.

Families welcome.

Orders close Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November. Book at [www.trybooking.com/JJTS](http://www.trybooking.com/JJTS)  
Contact Cath McLennan ( ) or [cath.mclennan@stjohnscanberra.org](mailto:cath.mclennan@stjohnscanberra.org) for further information.



## REID RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC

### NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2015

Formed 14 August 1944

ISSN 1030-0651.

## GLEBE PARK UNDER THREAT

The Reid Residents' Association is greatly concerned about preliminary announcements by the ACT government regarding the proposed re-location of *Floriade* to Glebe Park in Civic. *Floriade* is a major tourist-oriented event involving a total of eight months preparation, event management, and cleaning up. Glebe Park is a relatively small, heritage-listed park in the English landscape tradition – without as yet a Conservation Management Plan. It is used by children, city workers, nearby residents and others, mainly for quiet enjoyment. Are we really moving back to the sort of discredited 1980s *Tivoli Gardens* vision for the Park? The text of the RRA's letter to Minister Mick Gentleman and others is inside.

## REID UNITING CHURCH & 10th OPEN HOUSES AND GARDENS

On **Sunday 1 November 2015** from 12.30pm to 4.45pm the National Trust ACT will hold a very special event, together with the Canberra Korean Uniting Church Reid and the Reid Residents' Association. It will commence with a **specially catered lunch put on by the Korean Uniting Church congregation** who are the custodians of the former Methodist (later Uniting) Church in Reid which held its first service on 8 October 1927 – 88 years ago. The church, with its Norman style architecture, was the first urban church to be constructed in Canberra as the new Federal Capital and is entered into the ACT Heritage Register and recorded by the National Trust. It was built with donations collected from all over Australia.

The Trust has entered into a Deed to establish a Heritage Conservation Appeal Trust Fund for the church, as the church and its associated buildings and grounds require on-going conservation work to preserve this important part of the nation's heritage for posterity. The net proceeds from the lunch will be donated to the Appeal Fund. It will also be possible to make a tax-deductible donation to the Appeal Fund on the day, for those so inclined. There will be an expert commentary on the significance of the church and its architecture and a guided tour of the interior of the church. A book on the history of the church will also be for sale. After lunch, inspection of three privately owned Reid heritage listed houses and gardens will occur with a guide. A book "The Heritage of Reid" by Shibu Dutta is included in the ticket price. After the house and garden inspections, a delicious afternoon tea will be served by the Reid Preschool.

**Full details about how to book for this event is set out in the flyer inserted in the Newsletter.**

**President**  
John Little

**Secretary**  
Graham Carter OAM

**Treasurer & Public Officer**  
Derk Swieringa

**Committee Members**

Marianne Albury-Colless, Sue Byrne, Sue Lynskey, Joanne Nicholls, Amanda Reynolds, John Tucker Reba Kirby.

## REID – SUBURB DINNER

Come and relax and enjoy an informal night out !!!!! Bring your friends, meet your neighbours!!!

Date: **Tuesday 27 October at 7pm**

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

Cost: Meals at bistro prices, plus your own drinks

RSVP: Joanne Nicholls on telephone [REDACTED] by Monday 26 October

### SUPPORT REID – Become a supporter or sponsor

Each year it costs about \$1,800 to operate this Association which includes paying for insurance, printing newsletters, etc. We need 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 Tel [REDACTED]

16 October 2015

#### COPY OF TEXT OF RRA LETTER

Mr Mick Gentleman MLA, Minister for Planning, ACT Legislative Assembly, Canberra City ACT 2601

CC All Assembly Members; National Trust ACT; Campbell Neighbourhood Watch; Canberra and District Historical Society; North Canberra Community Council

Dear Minister,

**Re: Proposed relocation of Floriade to Glebe Park.**

We are writing to you in your capacity as Minister for both Planning and Heritage.

Our Association, is concerned about the ACT Government's apparent plan to relocate Floriade from Commonwealth Park to Glebe Park in the Canberra City precinct.

Despite the obvious impacts on residents across the road, there has been no contact by the Government about Floriade with the Reid Residents Association or other residential stakeholders.

We believe this again demonstrates the Government's disregard for social and environmental impacts of developments and events on the residents of adjacent suburbs. This attitude perpetuates the poor experiences of our residents and others affected by Government developments including the ABC Flats, Campbell Section 5, Yarralumla Brickworks, etc. While residents in Reid, Braddon, Campbell and Ainslie anticipate that some impacts, at a reasonable level, are a natural part on inner city life, they still expect to Government to have due regard their situation.

The Reid Residents Association has a long and strong interest in the future of Glebe Park as a community asset. In 1982, with support from the wider community and heritage organisations we instrumental in saving the park from the proposed *Tivoli Gardens* development which was connected with the White Industries project in Civic. As a result, most of the trees were saved and Glebe Park was subsequently gazetted as a park and developed sympathetically along the lines of an English-style community park.

Unfortunately, some areas were whittled away for a food hall and were subsequently converted to apartments and private car parking. Apparently the Government now intends to shoe horn the event, which is currently staged on a very large site, into Glebe Park which is only 4.7ha and heritage-listed by the ACT government.

Floriade is more than 4 times bigger than SUMMERNATS and 60 times bigger than the PM's XI Cricket match. SUMMERNATS has 108,000 attendees over only 4 days and the PM's match has 8,000 on 1 day. Both events have significant Traffic, Parking, Congestion, Noise, Public Safety and Anti-Social impacts on the surrounding suburbs. By contrast, last year over 480,000 people attended Floriade, which is held over 30 days, so the impacts will obviously be many times larger and longer.

At same time, the area around Glebe Park will be made even more chaotic due several other major Government projects including:

- ABC Flats redevelopment;
- Constitution Duplication;
- City To The Lake;
- Campbell Section 5;
- Reid Section 3; and
- Braddon Oval redevelopment

There is also the prospect of a Casino precinct development as well as the new \$400m stadium on the swimming pool site. Not to mention the light rail and the new convention centre. The Government is also intending to increase the area population by 20,000.

It seems that no one in the Government is joining the dots. Has anyone tried to park in Braddon lately? For our part we believe the Government needs to adopt better planning, design and coordination of development activities. We believe the current planning and assessment regime is not providing good long term planning and social outcomes for the city centre.

In 2013 we alerted the Standing Committee on Planning, Environment and Territory and Municipal Services to the aggregated impacts of Government projects, but were ignored.

From our perspective the positions adopted by the ACT Government and the National Capital Authority (NCA) in relation the relocation of Floriade from Commonwealth Park appear ill-founded. Certainly, the site is National Land, but it is a park.

We would appreciate your advice or comments in respect of the following to issues and matters:

1. Why can't Floriade continue to be held in Commonwealth Park where it has been for 28 years?
2. Why are the respective authorities unable (or unwilling) to provide permanent tenure for Floriade - surely it is not beyond the competence of the parties to resolve this unsatisfactory situation?
3. Why can't the ACT Government "bulk up" the significant annual cost of set-up and knock-down for the event for say a 10-20 year period to provide a permanent year round event in Commonwealth Park?
4. Has a cost benefit analysis of relocating Floriade been undertaken and, if so, could a copy please be provided?
5. We understand a report on Floriade states that the east lakes foreshore is not zoned for major events, has no room for growth, needs contaminant remediation and is subject to flooding. Is Glebe Park zoned for major events and don't these same issues apply?
6. Apparently the report also says that in relation to Commonwealth Park the event is not harmonious with the environmental values of the site, and the climate is an issue, with limited protection from wind and colder temperatures for developing the bulbs. Isn't this equally applicable to Glebe Park?
7. Will the Government undertake a full analysis of the social, environmental impacts, including Heritage, of Floriade being held in Glebe Park on the surrounding residential suburbs?
8. Is an EIS required to undertaken for the conduct of Floriade in Glebe Park? If this is not the case, please explain why an EIS is not required.
9. How many are expected to attend an event in Glebe Park (daily and aggregate) ie Management and Exhibitors, Spectators, Vehicles?
10. What will be the duration of the event and daily hours of operation?
11. What will be the arrangements and daily timetable for the delivery of materials, collection of waste, etc?
12. Has a consultation plan been prepared for the event in Glebe Park? If yes can we please have a copy?
13. Has a Risk Management Plan been prepared for the event in Glebe Park? If yes can we have a copy?
14. What arrangements will be made for any damage to property of local residents for any damage caused by the events officers, employees, agents, contractors, invitees and customers?
15. Will residents be compensated for and damage incurred due to the conduct of the event?
16. What arrangements will be made for normal visitor parking for residents?
17. Has a Traffic and Parking Management Plan been prepared for the event in Glebe Park? Does it include pedestrian traffic and public transport arrangements? If yes can we have a copy?
18. What arrangements will apply for waste, parking enforcements and road closures?
19. Glebe Park is a natural part of the pedestrian thoroughfare between Campbell and Reid and Civic. Will the Park be closed for access by residents at any stage during the setup and knock down periods or the event itself? If yes, what alternative arrangements will be made for local pedestrian traffic?