

# RESIDENTS

## REID RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC. NEWS LETTER NOVEMBER 2018

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### HAPPY 90<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY REID

Our wonderful suburb, named after Australia's 4<sup>th</sup> prime minister, Sir George Houstoun Reid, was gazetted as a suburb on 20 September 1928.

To celebrate this milestone, residents of Reid and Reid Tennis Club members gathered in Dirrawan Gardens on 30 September 2018 for a barbecue and the opportunity to catch up with friends and neighbours in the suburb. The area near the Tennis Club was decorated with streamers and balloons and bright cloths on the tables.



Anne cut the fabulous chocolate birthday cake much enjoyed by those attending.



Wayne Kelly, a jazz pianist, played a variety of jazz favourites which added to the party atmosphere.



## **REPRESENTATIONS TO GOVERNMENT**

We are actively seeking greater commitment to the conservation of the Reid Housing Precinct and its heritage values including unity of form, streetscapes with magnificent trees all so well documented in the precinct's entry to the ACT Heritage Register.

Recently we have been very concerned with the state of the Reid Oval. It was pleasing to see the rapid response by the Urban Treescapes Unit that is actively working to improve the perimeter of the oval by remediating the compaction under the trees caused by commuter parking.

It was also gratifying to see that, after considerable representation to government and just in time for Remembrance Day, some graffiti was finally obliterated with a coat of green paint. This graffiti had been painted on the side of a shipping container facing and immediately opposite the magnificent red poppy installation on the lawns of the Australian War Memorial.

It does seem odd that a shipping container is required to store sporting gear when a purpose-built pavilion already exists on the oval. We are trying to improve this situation.

Please let us know of any concerns you may have regarding your part of Reid.

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## **THE IMPACT OF PLANNING DECISIONS ON CANBERRA'S HERITAGE VALUES AND URBAN FORM**

On Monday 10 September concerned Canberrans, including many residents of Reid, gathered in the Albert Hall to discuss the impact of planning decisions on Canberra's heritage values and urban form.

Convened by Professorial Fellow, Jon Stanhope, this Institute for Governance and Policy Analysis (IGPA) public seminar identified the limitations of community councils, and the difficulties experienced by community groups, when working with government, both ACT & Commonwealth, to achieve good urban planning outcomes for Canberra.

The event was sponsored by the Lake Burly Griffin Guardians and was attended by over 450 participants from across Canberra and from a wide demographic including those under 30!

Guest speakers were: Jack Waterford AM; Max Bourke and Juliet Ramsay, Lake Burly Griffin Guardians; Luisa Capezio, Campbell Community Association; and Marea Fatseas, Inner South Canberra Community Council.

Mark Evans, Director and Professor of Governance, IGPA, facilitated the Q&A session which generated more questions than time allowed.

Resolutions passed by this meeting aim to improve the ongoing planning of the national capital by endorsing the necessity for a strong commitment from both the Commonwealth and ACT governments to best practice planning mechanisms and genuine consultation, a national planning competition to develop a vision for Canberra's next 100 years and protection of Lake Burly Griffin and its landscape setting, halting the proposed infill and apartment building on West Basin.

For further information see: <http://lakeburlygriffinguardians.org.au/media/Media-Release-Public-Meeting-12.9.18.-docm.pdf>

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## **REMARKABLE REID**

We are keen to feature Reid notable residents in next years' newsletters (just a paragraph or two!). We would be delighted to hear your suggestions. Please email us at [info@reid.northcanberra.org.au](mailto:info@reid.northcanberra.org.au).

## CHRISTMAS PERIOD HOME SECURITY

Reid suffers a spike of robberies during the Christmas period. Below are some things to consider when leaving your home unattended:

1. Who has the keys to your house? Do the locks need to be changed? Deadlocks installed and functioning? Do any keys have your address attached?
2. Do your best to make your house look lived in. Think about timer switches which turn lights and / or a radio at different times. Lawn mowing? Leave some old clothes on the line and perhaps old shoes at the back door. Cancel newspaper deliveries – the Ainslie newsagent is problematic in that regard. If you still have a landline, don't leave a message that you're away, and turn down the telephone ringer volume.
3. Make friends with your neighbours. Ask them to park a vehicle in your driveway. They might also appreciate use of your garbage bin when you are away. You want them to. Ask them to keep an eye on your letterbox and especially disposing of The Canberra Chronicle. Exchange contact details with your neighbours and tell them when you are away. If suspicious people knock on your neighbour's door, they might be checking who is at home in your street.
4. The majority of break-ins are due to faulty locks and loose windows. Consider obtaining a meter box padlock from ActewAGL. Robbers have been known to turn off the main switch and come back the next night. Think about a monitored security system. Cameras are expensive but can be a good deterrent – especially if they have infrared illuminators. Some allow you to remotely monitor your property while you are away.
5. Due to fire risk, ensure any unnecessary appliances (especially power boards and phone chargers) are unplugged.
6. Many of us have front hedges in Reid. The taller they are, the more your house is hidden.
7. Consider a home safe and don't leave expensive items in view. Some people use a decoy safe with cheap jewellery inside. The real safe and the expensive jewellery is hidden elsewhere.
8. Blackouts often occur over summer. What are you leaving in the freezer?
9. Home security takes time. Do you want to be running around the day you are leaving, checking doors and windows?
10. When you are away, consider your social media use. Do you really want to tell the world that you are not at home?
11. Finally, if you do get robbed, do you have an inventory for insurance purposes?

The list above is obviously not exhaustive but we hope it will remind you of the more obvious things you can do to ensure your homecoming is not a nasty shock.

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## NEWS FROM ST JOHN'S

Despite the storm which hit Reid at midday on Saturday 20 October 2018 and the resulting power blackout, St John's had another successful community fair. The jam, cake, book and plant stalls being firm favourites with our adult visitors, the children flocking to the jumping castle, petting zoo and the famous fishing game.

A big thank you to all the residents of Reid who visited, supported and contributed in any way to our 2018 fair.

Forthcoming events

**Sunday 25 November 2018:** Organ recital by Samuel Giddy, an exciting young Australian organist. 3.00pm \$20 Adult, \$15 Concession including light refreshments

**Sunday 16 December 2018** Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols 6.00pm

**Monday 24 December 2018** Christmas Eve Community Carol Singing and Pageant 6.30pm

Please see our website for full details of our Christmas activities.

## NOT A DROP WASTED

### Talk by Philip Johnson – Landscape designer

On Wednesday 3 October 2018 at the Australian National Botanic gardens, the RRA and the Australian Garden History Society, ACT Monaro Riverina Branch combined to present a special talk by Philip Johnson, a landscape designer from Victoria.

In his beautifully illustrated and highly entertaining talk titled 'Not a Drop Wasted', Philip outlined his philosophy for creating gardens that are sustainable and functional yet innovative. In larger gardens his designs focus on the use of water captured and recycled to create natural pools whilst in smaller urban landscapes his work often highlights a productive garden or spaces for children to engage with nature. Philip has become particularly passionate about connecting people to nature as urbanized areas expand.

Philip also gave an insight into the enormous task he undertook to create the Gold Medal and Best of Show garden at the Chelsea Flower Show in 2013. He concluded by spending a few minutes explaining to a capacity audience the background to the red poppy installation on display for Remembrance Day, having been engaged as the landscape architect for this project at the Australian War Memorial.



## CHRISTMAS PARTY

Reid Tennis Club and RRA  
invite you to a Christmas party on the lawns  
by the Tennis Club in Dirrawan Gardens



**4.00 pm Sunday 16 December 2018**

Please bring a plate to share. BYO drinks and chair. The barbecue will be fired up.  
Contact: Terry Walker, Reid Tennis Club, 0401 901 700 or [info@reid.northcanberra.org.au](mailto:info@reid.northcanberra.org.au)

## SUPPORT REID

The Committee of the Association continues to be busy this year promoting Reid as a heritage precinct. In particular we have continued to press the ACT Government to enforce the provisions of the *Heritage Act 2004*. If the Government does not care, in time some householders will also cease to care. Without enforcement of mandatory requirements Reid as a heritage precinct will suffer a death by a thousand cuts. To keep up the pressure on government we need extra help on the committee and, if you are interested, you would be most welcome to come to our next committee meeting in February 2019. Let us know if you would like to come by emailing [info@reid.northcanberra.org.au](mailto:info@reid.northcanberra.org.au).

## Become a sponsor

Each year it costs about \$1,800 to operate RRA. This includes website management, printing newsletters etc. **Do you run a local business** that might wish to advertise in our newsletter to assist our operational costs. The Committee wishes to thank the generous donors in 2018 – this is much appreciated.

If you can help please contact Derk Swieringa using the email below.

## RRA Committee

Contact: [info@reid.northcanberra.org.au](mailto:info@reid.northcanberra.org.au)

President: Marianne Albury-Colless, Secretary: Graham Carter OAM,  
Treasurer & Public Officer: Derk Swieringa

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