



REID RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC. NEWS LETTER MAY 2019

Formed 14 Aug 1944 Association No. AO 1247 ISSN 1030-0651 www.reid.northcanberra.org.au

AGM 26 March 2019

The Reid Residents' Association Annual General Meeting, held at the Mercure Hotel, Ainslie Avenue, was attended by a good number of Reid residents. The AGM was preceded by a speech by Rachael Stephen-Smith, Minister for Urban Renewal, on Canberra's Urban Design Plans and Heritage.

The Minister's presentation covered a number of points including:

- 'Densification': how do we accommodate population growth in the growing city ?
- The need to balance keeping heritage values with the sensitive adaptation of existing developments.
- A Review of the Territory Plan is due this year (2019).

Many of the concerns were raised by residents including:

- lack of enforcement of the ACT Heritage Act where clear breaches occur — the Minister replied that the ACT Govt. was giving consideration to Infringement Notices and Fines
- The apparent lack of plans, currently, to have more green space in Civic
- West Basin and the planned infill of part of Lake Burley Griffin
- the new 'Urban Intensification Localities' map (p. 7 'ACT Planning Strategy') which shows all of Reid and large parts of Braddon included, notwithstanding that both suburbs have ACT Heritage-listed residential housing precincts entered in the ACT Heritage Register.

President's Report 2018–19

Marianne Albury-Colless, reflected on the pressures of high-rise apartment building on the Griffins' planned garden city. Ms Albury-Colless added that the mature wide-canopied trees of Reid – which we all enjoy and which are sadly under pressure from climate change across the City – had made the long hot summer more bearable.

Ms Albury-Colless summarized the activities of the Association during the year which included:

- organizing a 90th birthday party for Reid residents to celebrate the gazettal of the suburb on 20 September 1928
- jointly organizing the public event 'The impact of planning decisions on Canberra's heritage values and urban form' at the Albert Hall on 10 September which was attended by a huge number of very concerned citizens of all ages from across Canberra
- making submissions on: ACT 'Housing Choices Discussion Paper; 'In shaping the future of the Australian War Memorial and the National Capital Plan 'Draft Amendment 91'.

Work in progress by the Committee on behalf of Reid residents includes:

- the continued presence of the shipping container at Reid Park on the edge of the oval
- non-enforcement of heritage requirements by the ACT Government
- maintenance of the suburb's trees, streetscapes and street furniture.

Representations to Government — Reid Park & Oval

We have been in discussions with government officials and Daramalan College regarding the issues of the unsightly shipping container on Reid Park's grounds within the heritage-listed area of Reid Housing Precinct. Following our most recent meeting, a resolution may be possible: safe storage for Daramalan College cricket gear, removal of the container or a more discreet location for this eyesore.

We thank the Urban Treescapes Unit for their work to remediate the trees that frame the park so effectively.

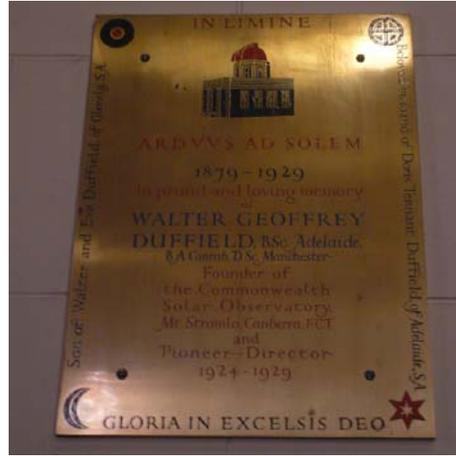
Heritage Festival

Ramble Around Reid's Open Spaces – 28 April 2019

Responding to the 'Space' theme for ACT Government's Heritage Festival this year, RRA conducted a guided walk through our open spaces on a beautiful Sunday afternoon. We had visitors from interstate as well as other parts of Canberra and we were able to show them what a gem this suburb is.

Committee members took our visitors from the Reid Tennis Club in Dirrawan Gardens up to Reid Park and oval, through Gerrilong Gardens to the eucalypt plantings of the Railway easement. We found our visitors were very keen to know about the history, the trees and local activities past and present. One comment received was that Reid was obviously a suburb with a community spirit and residents who valued their surroundings.

Our thanks go to residents Anne Buttsworth who provided an insight into early Reid and the Pre-school, Sue Willis for a history of the Reid Tennis Club and Cannon Paul Black for talking about St John's connection with W G Duffield, the first Director of Mount Stromlo Observatory.



Reid in the Media

1. ABC RN's Blue print for living: [A tribute to a great modernist architect and a once planned city](#)
 - Enrico Taglietti (16 April 1926 — 3 May 2019)

Blue Print for Living (11 May) paid tribute to the legacy of the modernist architect, Enrico Taglietti, whose work includes the Italian Embassy Chancellery, Associated Chambers of Manufactures of Australia Conference Centre, Giralang Primary School and Dickson Library. For more information see www.canberrahouse.com.au/people/enrico-taglietti.html

Acknowledgment of Taglietti's significance is beautifully detailed in the book by the architectural historian, Ken Charlton AM LFRAIA, *The contribution of Enrico Taglietti to Canberra's architecture*. The National Trust (ACT) has arranged for a public Condolences book to be available for signing at Dickson Library until the end of May.

- **A once planned city**

Former Commissioner of the National Capital Development Commission, Tony Powell, commented on the unfortunate loss of expertise in the current planning processes of the national capital of Australia. His comments are particularly prescient at a time when the Canberra sky line seems dominated by cranes, and when green space and community-zoned areas are being covered with high-rise apartments. Surely 'development' is a misnomer when it is internationally recognised that such areas are vital for the livability of cities and surely Canberra, 'a once-planned city' should be leading the way in enlightened planning!

2. **NCA insists Monash Drive corridor stays on the map**

Reid was mentioned in the article in *The Canberra Times*, 13 March 2019, when it provided a quote from Rachael Stephen-Smith saying: 'The residents of Watson, Hackett, Ainslie, Campbell and Reid have a strong connection to Mount Ainslie and value the bush right on their doorstep'. She also added that the residents wanted certainty that the road would not be built in the nature reserve behind them. Roads Minister Chris Steel was also quoted in the article as saying: 'While we are in government we will

never build Monash Drive and we want to prevent future territory and federal governments from doing so by removing this fictitious road from the map’.

The RRA hopes that the ACT Government’s apparent determination to prevent building in the Mount Ainslie Nature Park will be applied to the proposal for the Australian War Memorial to be expanded into this nature park.

3. Alarm over Canberra’s canopy loss

The Canberra Times referred to the ACT Government inquiry into Nature in the City. It referred to Professor Ken Taylor speaking at the inquiry when he ‘pointed to the capital’s original vision as ‘a city beautiful with garden-city overtones’. He added ‘We are losing more trees than we are planting. It’s alarming’. The article also included: ‘Reid Residents’ Association President Marianne Albury-Colless said ‘Wide-canopied trees are essential if we’re going to mitigate climate change’.

Also discussed at this inquiry: the desirability for a ‘landscape’ approach to city planning for streetscapes, parks and green spaces. This should be, however, underpinned by science i.e. environmental/ecological knowledge, promotion of connectivity and selection plants and trees that are ‘fit for purpose’ i.e. likely to survive the increasing stress from climate change.

ACT Neighbourhood Watch

The RRA Committee is working in cooperation with ACT Neighbourhood Watch Inc. (ACTNHW) and encourages all Reid households to join the program which promotes a safe and secure environment in our suburb. The program commitment is low and mostly consists of communicating with neighbours. For further information visit www.nhwact.com.au

Reid crime statistics for April 2019

Allambee Street	Assault causing grievous bodily harm
Allambee Street	Burglary dwellings
Allambee Street	Other theft
Allambee Street	Other theft
Allambee Street	Other property damage
Constitution Avenue	Other property damage
Currong Street	Other theft
Elimatta Street	Other theft
Euree Street	Other theft
Goreen Street	Assault causing grievous bodily harm

Other theft means: the unlawful taking or obtaining of money, goods or services, without the use of force, threat of force or violence, coercion or deception, with the intent to permanently deprive the owner or possessor of the use of the money or goods. ‘Other Theft’ also includes the theft or illegal use of bicycles, boats or aircraft, stealing from a person, fare evasion, shoplifting and theft of motor vehicle parts or contents.

When do I call Crime Stoppers?

Crime Stoppers welcomes and accepts information about crimes that have happened in the past and information if you happen to know in advance that a crime is likely to be committed. To report crime related information, call on 1800 333 000, or via Online Reporting. Crime Stoppers operates 24hrs a day, 7 days a week. Crime Stoppers does not handle emergencies. In a situation that requires urgent police attendance please call 000. If you have been the victim of a crime, you should report the incident to the police on 131 444.

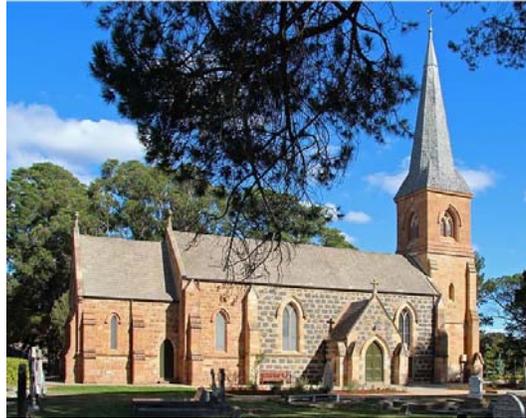
Responsible Pet Ownership

Pets have a positive impact on our lives, likewise responsible pet owners have a positive impact on their pet’s lives. Just like people, all dogs no matter how large or small, should be walked daily and we are fortunate in Reid in having Mount Ainslie close at hand. A daily walk can prevent boredom and the

resulting nuisance issues like excessive barking but all dogs in public areas (except for dedicated off-leash dog parks) should be on a leash.

Please see **Your Say**: Animal Welfare Legislative Amendments at www.yoursay.act.gov.au/animal-welfare-bill-amendments and Dr Bronwyn Orr's article in The Conversation 'In an Australian first, the ACT may legally recognise animals' feelings'.
<http://theconversation.com/in-an-australian-first-the-act-may-legally-recognise-animals-feelings-111079>

News from St John's Future-Proofing the Roof



For over 170 years St John's parishioners and other Canberra residents have had the privilege of preserving the fabric and furnishings of the heritage church for future generations. In 1960, asbestos roof tiles replaced the deteriorated timber shingles however, now, almost sixty years later, one major hailstorm could render the church unusable because no repair work can be carried out on the asbestos tiles. The tile surface area is at risk of breaking down with the potential of releasing asbestos into the environment. St John's must replace the church roof urgently in 2019. The St John's community is embarking on a \$300,000 building project that will allow it to replace the roof which will stand for the next 100 years of St John's history. Approval has been received from ACT Heritage to replace the roof with Cwt-y-Bugail Welsh slate. Our vision is to celebrate St John's new roof on Canberra Day 2020, the 175th anniversary of its consecration. Please see [St John's website](#) for information on how you can make a tax deductible donation.

WELCOME PACKS

We have been distributing Welcome Packs to residents who have relocated to Reid over the last 18 months. It will take a little time to deliver these packs so if you would like a Welcome Pack we would be happy to provide you with one. Please let us know via the contact email below.

SUPPORT REID

Become a supporter or sponsor

Each year it costs about \$1,800 to operate RRA. This includes website management, printing newsletters etc. **Do you run a local businesses** that might wish to insert an advertisement in our newsletter to assist our operational costs.

If you can help please contact Nadine Neilson via info@reid.northcanberra.org.au.

RRA Committee 2019

Contact via: info@reid.northcanberra.org.au

President: Marianne Albury-Colless, Secretary: Amanda Reynolds,

Treasurer & Public Officer: Derk Swieringa

Committee: John Little, Nadine Neilson, Sue Byrne, John Tucker, Graham Carter OAM