



## REID RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC. NEWS LETTER AUGUST 2020

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### RRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**11 am Sunday 18 October 2020**

Gerrilong Gardens, Reid

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, RRA was unable to hold its AGM as normal in March 2020. We are required to hold an AGM by the end of October 2020. The RRA Committee proposes to hold an open air AGM in Gerrilong Gardens (southern portion). It will be BYO chair and dogs welcome on leads. Information will also be placed on our [website](#).

Please come along to raise issues that concern you relating to Reid, e.g. government services, which you can discuss with the Committee and other residents. Information from the parties contesting the ACT election are below and we might know who our new MLAs are to be.

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### ACT GOVERNMENT ELECTION 2020

With the ACT Government elections to be held on 17 October 2020 the RRA invited the three parties fielding candidates to provide their proposals for the management of heritage and other issues affecting Reid, such as parking.

In alphabetical order the information provided thus far follows:

#### [ACT Greens](#)

The Greens believe that development in Canberra is not meeting the community's expectations and the planning and heritage systems need to deliver much better outcomes.

We will be releasing our planning, development and heritage election package in the coming weeks. It will focus on:

- Better support for protecting Canberra's heritage
- Better protecting Canberra's trees, green space, liveability and biodiversity
- Helping residents who are impacted by development proposals to have their say and be heard
- Improving the quality of development
- Greens advocacy for heritage, and any future Greens Heritage Minister, would be guided by our policy platform, which includes the following:
  - Conservation management plans should be prepared and implemented for key heritage housing precincts. This would include Reid, acknowledging that this implementation is now well overdue.
  - Inclusion of the ACT Central National Area, lake and inner hills on Australia's National Heritage List, in a way that protects the character of the ACT's planned city landscape while allowing community needs, such as housing and transport, to be met.

Greens MLAs regularly support community groups and concerned residents with advice and advocacy on urban management issues, including planning enforcement, parking issues and trees.

#### [ACT Labor](#)

We have received an apology from the Secretary, ACT Labor, for the delay in response because the Government has been focussing on its ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic. A substantive response will be provided in the near future.

## Canberra Liberals

The Canberra Liberals are committed to making Canberra the best place to live, work and raise a family. As you know, Candice Burch MLA and Elizabeth Lee MLA have been strong and effective advocates for the Reid community.

We have a strong plan to reduce the cost of living for Canberrans, improve education standards, provide better access to health services, fix Labor's transport bungalows, and protect the local environment. We will focus on delivering the basic, essential and frontline services that Canberrans want and need.

The Canberra Liberals will freeze rates for four years. This means that under a Canberra Liberals Government, your rates will not increase, and you will have certainty over your rates bill.

The Canberra Liberals value the unique heritage character of Reid and its significance to our city, we understand the need to ensure the character of the suburb is maintained. As part of a Canberra Liberals Government's commitment to Reid, we would:

- Prioritise greater transparency in city planning, including genuine community consultation;
- Adhere to objects of the Heritage Act 2004 and Planning and Development Act 2007;
- Enhance green space as part of our Green Space Guarantee and commitment to plant and care for One Million Trees;
- Improve urban maintenance; and
- Address crime through additional police resources.

We believe parking enforcement should be prioritised on a hazard basis, and not focussed on revenue raising or unfairly targeting residents outside their own homes. A Canberra Liberals Government would ensure consistent parking enforcement and explore the feasibility of residential parking permits for Reid residents to ensure locals can utilise street parking without incurring fines.

A Canberra Liberals Government will work with the Reid Residents Association to ensure all Reid residents can get ahead.

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### TREES

The RRA has reported to the ACT Tree Asset Coordinator a number of instances where trees have been felled on public land but have not been replaced. We have been advised that replacement trees will be planted in Spring 2020. Most unfortunately, some of these trees were destroyed before the current register was prepared so we are providing photographic evidence to facilitate replanting.

Please be aware that there is a legal process to be undertaken if you are carrying out renovations (plumbing, landscaping etc. that require root trimming) as such activities have the potential to damage trees on government land i.e. the nature strip or verge. Click for these application forms: [Undertake a Tree Damaging Activity or for Tree Registration](#).

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### REID – implications for a garden suburb, assailed by Civic

observations from John Lipsett, Reid resident since 1953, on our environs

#### Garden elements that survive:

- Street trees, Reid Park, two remnant Dirrawan & Gerrilong gardens, the notional remnant of The Glebe, Anzac Parade, the scrap of railway history, & a hint on Limestone Avenue – care of the [Australian Natives' Association](#) – of the feeling for native trees.
- Individual house-gardens hardly apply once the high-rise arrives!

#### Major immediate issues and questions:

- i. The age of the existing trees is of increasing concern.
- ii. Glebe Park elms will need replacing once [Dutch Elm disease](#) arrives. This disease, most recently attributed to [synchrony between the life cycles of host-tree, pathogen & elm bark beetle](#) rather than just the pathogen, destroys elms. Plane trees have replaced most elms in Coranderrk Street.
- iii. Will the overall plantings edging Reid Park survive? The large American elms (six, I think), succumbed to overall neglect as effluent water from Fyshwick was doled out only on to the

grass; car parks took precedence & erosion reduced the size of survivors. Reid Park could accommodate Australian conifers; so too, the Railway Remnant area, Glebe Park, &, of course, the avenues. A Bunya ([Araucaria bidwillii](#)) has recently been put near the drain along Treloar Crescent & will handle even the bone-dry inattention lavished on trees in ACT.

- iv. Provision of irrigation-quality water along major roads such as Ainslie Avenue, Limestone Avenue & Anzac Park West is required. The North Ainslie ovals receive water & the lesser roadsides would certainly benefit from watering routinely, not just in drought.
- v. There should be extension of new & replacement species to include (or be in toto) native species i.e. an Australian species appropriate for the heritage precinct. With water & proper care, a wide range of natives is on hand. Commonwealth Gardens & Australian Botanic gardens might be interested in reducing current dependence on [Eucalyptus mannifera](#) & concrete.
- vi. The Limestone Avenue's Kurrajongs ([Brachychiton populneum](#)) aren't inspiring but can't be said to be cared for. Silky oaks ([Grevillea robusta](#)) are rare in Canberra but clearly can survive, note Alt Crescent, Ainslie & Manuka. [Casuarinas](#) are currently limited to riverbank species, but even they can be found away from the Lake. [Melia azedarach](#) (White Cedar, Chinaberry) would survive.
- vii. Given water, even [Gmelina leichhardtii](#) (white beech) might survive, & [Flindersia maculosa](#) (Leopardwood) is another possibility, so rain forest species aren't automatically ruled out.
- viii. The current dependence on Weston's choice, usually out of Duntroon, need not prevail, but the Blue Atlas Cedar ([Cedrus atlantica 'Glauca'](#)), desperately need companions, with Lebanon or Himalayan Cedars.
- ix. Mt Ainslie requires specialised attention, as does Anzac Parade.
- x. Imported conifers, e.g. [Pinus halepensis](#) (i.e. [Lone Pine](#) across from Reid Park) or [Cupressus sempervirens](#) (Italian cypress) deserve a place. Commonwealth Gardens has had, what I think, are Bribie Island cypress ([Callitris columellaris](#)) near the tunnel. I, myself, have [Agathis robusta](#) (Kauri) and [Araucaria cunninghamii](#) (Richmond River Hoop) pines in my garden.
- xi. Tasmanian species would presumably need watering along our streets.

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### **BEFORE YOU START: landscaping, renovating, building!**

#### **Landscape management and protection**

It's important to be aware that under the [Public Unleased Land Act 2013](#), assets on verges/nature strips and other unleased Territory land must be protected and managed during construction work. Assets typically include trees, grass, footpaths, kerb and gutter, fire hydrants, public lighting etc. Storage of materials and waste can damage these assets.

[Application for a Landscape Management and Protection Plan \(LMPP\)](#)

#### **Heritage status**

The ACT Heritage Council advises on proposed development to improve conservation outcomes, and also issues [Heritage Act 2004](#) approvals required for works to proceed.

Development that has the potential to affect the heritage values of a place includes:

- works such as demolition, building additions and alterations, changing appearance of a building, earthworks, removal of mature plantings, re-landscaping, unapproved burning or land clearing
- a variation of a lease on the land
- a change in use of the land for an activity not authorised by the lease
- use of unleased land that is not authorised by a permit or licence.

Please see [Before you start: Heritage](#)

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### **WARNING – COVID-19 SCAMS**

[Scamwatch](#) has received over 3900 scam reports mentioning the coronavirus with over \$3.1 million in reported losses since the outbreak of COVID-19 (coronavirus). Common scams include phishing for personal information, online shopping, and superannuation scams. Scamwatch urges everyone to be

cautious and remain alert to coronavirus-related scams. Scammers are hoping that you have let your guard down. Do not provide personal, banking or superannuation details to strangers. Scammers pretend to have a connection with you. You can make a scam report on the [Scamwatch website](#).

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### NEWS FROM ST JOHN'S

COVID-19 has been a difficult time for us all. While the easing of restrictions has enabled us to conduct some services, attendance is restricted to comply with social distancing requirements. Services are held at 9.30 am and 6.00 pm on Sundays and 10.00 am on Wednesdays. In addition, the church is usually open on Wednesdays for private prayer.

The St John's community and worship continues online. Our weekly 9.30 am service is recorded and placed on YouTube (around lunchtime), with morning prayer on Tuesday to Saturday mornings via Zoom. Further details are on [our website](#).

Our clergy can be contacted via [admin@stjohnscanberra.org](mailto:admin@stjohnscanberra.org) or 02 6248 8399.

St John's Care is also operating to assist vulnerable Canberrans. They can be contacted via the [website](#) or on 02 6248 7771.

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### ACT NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The RRA Committee is working in cooperation with [ACT Neighbourhood Watch Inc. \(ACTNHW\)](#). Reid crime statistics for May, June and July 2020.

	May	June	July
Ainslie Avenue	Assault other	Assault other	
Allambee Street	Motor vehicle theft	Bicycle theft	Burglary dwellings
Allambee Street	Other property damage	Other property damage x 3	
Allambee Street	Other theft		
Constitution Avenue	Bicycle theft		
Coranderrk Street			Other theft
Elimatta Street	Assault other		
Goreen Street		Theft of vehicle number plates	
Limestone Avenue			Other property damage

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### How's it going?

Please let us know if we can help during these, accurately stated, unprecedented times. The ACT seems to be tracking well from a health perspective but there is widespread fall out from this pandemic that's very challenging.

Reports from residents of increasing presence of Gang Gangs and Yellow-Tailed Black Cockatoos in our gardens is a real positive and we'd be delighted to have photos for RRA website if you have time.

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### REID NEEDS YOU!

Membership of the Reid Residents' Association is FREE and is open to residents of Reid upon application to and approval by the Committee. A large membership of residents provides the Committee with a greater voice when negotiating with Territory and Commonwealth governments, utility companies etc. for more services and grants for our suburb (and don't we deserve these with our rates!). **PLEASE APPLY TO JOIN THE REID RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION.** Your association needs you!

**This can be completed on line** and only takes a few clicks using the membership application form.

#### RRA Committee

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

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

Treasurer & Public Officer: Derk Swieringa

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