



REID RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC. NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2020

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

WALK AROUND REID

Sunday 22 November 2020
2.00 pm

Learn about the unique history, architecture and streetscapes of this heritage suburb and what it was like growing up here from long-term Reid residents

Cost \$10, with *The Heritage of Reid* available at an additional \$5
Meet at Reid Tennis Club, Dirrawan Gardens, Reid

Numbers are limited & bookings are essential by emailing info@reid.northcanberra.org.au

ACT HERITAGE GRANTS 2020–2021

Twenty one successful projects in the ACT Heritage Grants Program were announced by Minister Gentleman on 29 August 2020.

Reid Residents' Association was successful in its application for \$10,000 towards Phase 1 of a project 'Reviving Inner North's Pillar Posts – Reid and Braddon'.

We will provide information when the project is to commence in the next newsletter.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: 18 October 2020

The following report was presented to the rescheduled AGM on 18 October 2020 in respect of the year March 2019 to March 2020. The Committee has, since the COVID-19 lock down, continued to conduct Reid matters via email and phone apart from our first face-to-face meeting on 20 September, held to finalise AGM matters.

Activity/event

Submissions

Draft Amendment 91 City and Gateway Urban Design Provisions, 4 March '19

Ramble Around Reid's Open Spaces: 28 April '19 ACT Heritage Festival

Our Committee members held a very successful afternoon with 15 visitors, who were introduced to the delights of this heritage-listed suburb, its history and amenity. Long term resident Anne Buttsworth provided an insight into growing up in Reid, Sue Willis gave a history of the Reid Tennis Club and Cannon Paul Black explained the St John's Church connection with W G Duffield, the first Director of Mount Stromlo Observatory.

Newsletters and news updates

We have printed and delivered four newsletters: [May 2019](#), [August 2019](#), [November 2019](#) and [February 2020](#) and added extra news items to RRA website.

FOI request 23 Dirrawan Gardens Development Application. RRA supported neighbours concerned with the 23 Dirrawan Gardens proposed rebuild. The block was resold on 7 March 2019.

Meeting with Minister Gentlemen: 17 July '19 regarding the proposed Mr Fluffy rebuild 23 Dirrawan Gardens & 72 Coranderrk Street. What constitutes 'complement' is obviously open to

interpretation, however, the term 'mandatory' requirements should surely still retain legal authority.

Reid Park and Oval

Following considerable liaison with stakeholders, we were very pleased to have the unsightly shipping container moved to a less visible place on Reid Oval. Efforts were very welcome to improve the health and longevity of the Park's oaks and conifers. Our thanks to all involved and particularly to both the Urban Treescapes Unit and Sport and Recreation Facilities from Transport and City Services Directorate. Parking in this area still remains an issue.

Reid Residents' Association 75th Anniversary Dinner: 19 Sept '19

More than forty people attended the dinner at the Canberra Institute of Technology. The historian, Dr David Headon, gave a marvellous presentation on the remarkable [Sir George Houston Reid GCB, GCMG, PC, KC](#) for whom our suburb is named. We were very pleased to have two MLAs, both representatives for the Kurrajong electorate, Rachel Stephen-Smith in her capacity as Minister for Urban Services and Candice Burch. Leon Arundel, Chair of the North Canberra Community Council also attended.

TCCS Meeting: 15 Oct '19

We requested further action with regards to illegal parking, verge damage, tree maintenance.

Reid Open Houses and Gardens: 10 Nov '19

Run in association with the National Trust (ACT) this event was again sold out. Our sincere thanks to the residents of the three mid-1930s Department of Interior houses who so kindly opened their delightful homes and stunning spring gardens.

Fire in Euree Street: 23 Nov '19

Residents were shocked to see that the delightful home at 43 Euree Street had been gutted by fire overnight. By extraordinarily good luck no one was injured. The cause has not been determined. The owners, who loved this FCC 9 house, chose to rebuild in the original style. Thus, the new house sits aesthetically well within the streetscape and does not disrupt the heritage values. RRA took up a quick rally-round donation for the family. The family requested the second part of this donation be donated to a charity and \$200 was donated to RSPCA Fire Fund.

Access Canberra Fix my street: Issues raised regularly include tree damage, parking on nature strips and parking in excess of two-hour limits.

Welcome packs: 10 packs distributed until Covid-19 lockdown.

Covid-19 Reid volunteers

Triggered by the idea of one of our residents, we letter-dropped our community seeking volunteers ready, willing and able to provide assistance if and when needed. We had a very generous response. It appears to have built a stronger sense of being in this extraordinary situation together.

The Committee and I acknowledge with gratitude the significant contribution to Reid given by John Tucker and Graham Carter who retired from the Committee this year. They have an enviable knowledge of the work of the Association, its liaison with governments and with Reid residents. They have been a constant voice of wise counsel and knowledge of matters heritage and the long history of the Reid Housing Precinct. John has served the Association for over 40 years. We would also very much like to acknowledge the generous contribution of our penultimate president, John Little, who was in the chair for 10 years and always stalwart in his defence of the integrity of Reid's Heritage. Our thanks too, for the work of Nadine Neilson, also retiring this year, in establishing the Reid Welcome Packs.

Marianne Albury-Colless

NEWS FROM ST JOHN'S

The easing of restrictions has enabled us to conduct some services although some have restricted numbers able to attend comply with social distancing requirements. Services are held at 8.00 am, 9.30 am and 6.00 pm on Sundays and 10.00 am on Wednesdays. We are also able to receive Holy Communion in the form of the bread.

Our weekly 8.00 am service is recorded and placed on YouTube (around lunchtime), with morning prayer on Tuesday to Saturday mornings via Zoom. For details on these and our Christmas services please refer to [our website](#).

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 the 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 online and only takes a few clicks using the membership application form.

ACT NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The RRA Committee is working in cooperation with ACT Neighbourhood Watch Inc. (ACTNHW). Further information at www.nhwact.com.au. Reid crime statistics for August, September and October 2020.

	August	September	October
Ainslie Avenue	Assault other x 2	Theft of vehicle number plates x 2	Other property damage
Ainslie Avenue	Other theft	Other property damage	
Ainslie Avenue		Other theft	
Allambee Street	Burglary dwellings		Other property damage
Amaroo Street	Burglary dwellings	Other theft	
Amaroo Street	Other property damage		
Anzac Park West		Burglary dwellings	
Anzac Park West		Other property damage	
Boolee Street	Burglary dwellings	Other theft	Motor vehicle theft
Boolee Street			Theft of vehicle number plates
Booroondara Street		Burglary dwellings	
Constitution Avenue	Theft of vehicle number plates	Theft of vehicle number plates	
Constitution Avenue		Assault causing ABH	
Coranderrk Street		Other theft	
Currong Street		Burglary dwellings x 2	Other property damage
Limestone Avenue		Assault causing ABH	
Limestone Avenue		Bicycle theft	

Scoot but scoot responsibly!

ACT Police advise that e-scooters can be ridden in many areas, but users have to remember they are responsible for their own safety, and that of others.

It is legal to use e-scooters on shared paths and footpaths; however, riders must give way to pedestrians. E-scooters are not permitted on roads or on-road bicycle lanes, except on residential streets where there is no footpath. E-scooters are also not permitted along the light rail corridor and users should always obey pedestrian traffic lights when crossing at lights.

A rider of an e-scooter must wear an approved bicycle helmet and the e-scooter must have a warning device such as a bell. If the rider plans to use the e-scooter at night or in inclement weather, the e-scooters or the rider, must be fitted with a light and reflectors.

Another important message is that an e-scooter rider cannot be under the influence of alcohol or a drug or use a mobile phone.

REID – HERITAGE SUBURB

by John Tucker

We are pleased to publish the second installment of an article on Reid's heritage:

Pre-Federation Heritage (Colonial)

Most of the built heritage surviving from the Colonial period is well known. It includes St John the Baptist Anglican Church construction which commenced in 1841, the church graveyard (first burials date from 1844), St John's Schoolhouse Museum (opened 1848 and subsequently rebuilt and enlarged in 1865) and the St John's Church precinct. All are very significant in Canberra's history and heritage and are entered in the [ACT Heritage Register](#).

Built heritage from the Colonial period that has not survived is less well known and includes:

1. The former **Ainslie Post Office**, located near to the south-eastern boundary of present day Kanangra Court in Coranderrk Street, Reid, served as Canberra's second Post Office from 1863 to 1913. A brass plaque, installed by the former ACT Historic Sites and Building Committee in the early 1980s, marked its precise location but has since been removed by vandals. It has not been replaced. The Post Office is depicted in a 1912 oil painting by Joseph Wolinski. The painting is held in the [National Library of Australia's Pictures Collection](#).
2. **Glebe House**, a symmetrical two-storey, red brick building with a balcony designed by Canon A D Soares, was constructed in 1873 on land donated by the Campbells and was part of the Glebe. Originally known as the Parsonage it later became the Rectory for St John's Church until 1926. The Rev. Pierce Galliard Smith, Rector of St John's, lived there from 1873 to 1906. He planted the elms, oaks, willows and other trees around the house which are now mainly seen in Glebe Park. From 1926–28 Glebe House was St Gabriel's Church of England Girls' Grammar School, then a boarding house until it was demolished by the ACT Administration in 1954 to make way for Cooyong Street. A brass plaque on a stone plinth on the Cooyong Street boundary of the Monterey apartments records the location of Glebe House. An Irish Strawberry tree (*Arbutus unedo*), believed to be an original tree planted on the site, stands adjacent to the plinth.
3. The **old road from St John's Church** to its intersection with the Queanbeyan–Murrumbateman Road, near to the present-day corner of Ainslie and Limestone avenues, traversed the suburb of Reid. Almost no trace of the road remains. According to a former resident of 71 Coranderrk Street, Reid, this road ran through their back yard. When digging his garden, he removed a line of rocks which he believed marked the road's side boundary.

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 business that might wish to insert an advertisement in our 2020 newsletters, **we are looking for advertisers who provide services to Reid residents**.

If you can help please contact Derk Swieringa via info@reid.northcanberra.org.au

RRA Committee

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

President: Marianne Albury-Colless, Secretary: Amanda Reynolds

Treasurer & Public Officer: Derk Swieringa

Committee: Sue Byrne, Robyn Bergin, Roy Jordan, Molly Henman, Warren Nicholls, John Henderson