



REID RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC. NEWS LETTER February 2021

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

RRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

6.00 pm Tuesday 30 March 2021
Governor Room, Mercure Hotel, Ainslie Avenue
RSVP: info@reid.northcanberra.org.au

Guest speakers

Rebecca Vassarotti MLA

Minister for both Heritage and the Environment
'Heritage Matters'

and

Jack Waterford AM

journalist, commentator and Reid resident

'How the west was lost. And the east, and the north and the south!'

Please come along to raise issues that concern you relating to Reid. Note also that the Governor Room seats only **30 people** under COVID-19 regulations. Please book early to be sure of a seat. After the meeting, you are welcome join other Reid residents and have a meal in the Bistro again subject to current regulations.

UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES – REID CAMPUS

The UNSW has released the [Canberra City Draft Master Plan](#) for the new campus in Reid on 29 January 2021.

Community consultation will close on **1 March 2021**. Online presentations were held with the RRA and Reid residents on Wednesday 3 February and Thursday 11 February.

It is pleasing to note UNSW recognises the importance of the [heritage railway easement](#) but a little alarming that they are proposing to develop it with 'light-touch design interventions' when the easement runs parallel with a proposed major road to service the campus. Underground parking is planned but, as the site is developed, it is proposed that students use onsite above ground parking. We will continue to liaise with UNSW with the finalisation of their Master Plan. Once development commences, we will monitor the preservation of the railway easement and developers' and student parking and through-Reid traffic, raising any issues with the appropriate authorities if required.

CANBERRA AND REGION HERITAGE FESTIVAL 6–26 April 2021

Theme: REIMAGINE

The RRA is taking part in this year's Festival and is hosting two tours showcasing the heritage of Reid, particularly the pillar posts – currently undergoing conservation work – that feature in Reid streetscapes. We wish to acknowledge that this conservation project is supported with funding made available by the ACT Government under the ACT Heritage Grants Program.

Two walks will be available this year:

1. Sunday 11 April 2021 - The long and short of Reid's pebble signposts!

Reid's 'Rockite' pebble signposts are undergoing conservation. Why are some long & some short? Walk with us through this heritage suburb, hear many stories these posts could tell of the people passing them by over 90 years. Let your imagination take you back and 'reimagine' stories for the future.



Initial conservation treatment by Gillian Mitchell, Senior Conservator

2. Sunday 18 April 2021 - Reid 'Camino' walk – no mountains, no cliffs!

Come on a mini-'Camino' between our two heritage churches with Reid residents. Pebble posts mark the way from Reid Uniting Church, the first church specifically built for Canberra, to St John's, the oldest Church in the Canberra region. Time & 'tide', people & features of Reid will be explored.

Cost \$15 (includes a copy of the Heritage of Reid book)

Walks start from Reid Tennis Club, Dirrawan Gardens at **2.00 pm**

Bookings: info@reid.northcanberra.org.au

NEWS FROM ST JOHN'S

Good weather enabled us to hold our Christmas services outdoors which enabled more people to join us. We were delighted to have 250 people at our carol service and 150 to each of the Christmas services. Our regular services have all returned to the Church and bookings are not required. Please refer to our website for details of the Easter services, with Easter Sunday being on 4 April 2021.

Our Rector, Cannon Paul Black has commenced a period of long service leave prior to his retirement in July 2021. Cannon Margaret Emil is the locum Rector until a new Rector is appointed and can be contacted on margaret.emil@stjohnscanberra.org or 0417 423 472.

The St John's Schoolhouse Museum will be open in the afternoon of Saturday 17 April as part of the Heritage Festival, along with a concert in the Church. Full details will be in the Heritage Festival booklet.

THE FORMER AINSLIE POST OFFICE PLAQUE

In our November 2020 Newsletter, as part of John Tucker's article on the heritage of Reid, we noted the following: '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 Picture Collection](#).'



In early December, we were advised by an alert Canberra resident that the plaque had been put up for auction. Aware of the social and cultural values of this object, RRA attempted to secure the plaque for the benefit of the ACT community and possibly to restore it to its rightful site or, if that were too problematic, at least conserved and used for relevant exhibitions.

While outbid on 27 January 2021, RRA understands that the plaque remains in private and very responsible hands.

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 November and December 2020 and January 2021.

	November	December	January
Ainslie Avenue	Assault causing ABHr	Assault causing ABH	
Ainslie Avenue	Other property damage x 2	Motor vehicle theft	
Allambee Street	Assault causing GBH	Assault other	Motor vehicle theft x 2
Allambee Street	Assault other	Motor vehicle theft	Other property damage
Anzac Park West		Other property damage	
Boolee Street	Theft of vehicle number plates		
Constitution Avenue		Assault other	
Coranderrk Street	Burglary dwellings		
Currong Street	Burglary dwellings	Bicycle theft	
Dirrawan Gardens	Burglary dwellings		
Elimatta Street	Burglary dwellings		
Euree Street	Burglary dwellings		
Kogarah Lane	Other theft		Other theft

Bikelinc: To help reduce bike theft in the ACT, Crime Stoppers has partnered with ACT Policing to launch in Canberra Bikelinc – a free online community tool that helps bike-minded people keep bikes with their rightful owners. Bike owners and retailers create free profile of their bike/s on Bikelinc using the bike's serial

number to link it to the rightful owner. Bikelinc is maintained on Crime Stoppers' WA secure platform. For more information or to join Bikelinc visit www.bikelinc.com.au

REID WALK – 22 NOVEMBER 2020

Despite a day with rain forecast, 11 residents of Reid and visitors to the suburb enjoyed an entertaining and sunny walk learning about the architecture and streetscape of Reid and tales from long-term residents. Each walk is different so come and try one this April!

HEALTHY TREES

It is good to see work being done to re-establish oak trees at the Lindsay Pryor Arboretum, Yarramundi, particularly the care taken to spread mulch so effectively around the young trees.

We should take note that the mulched area extends to the drip line of the branches.

The ACTSMART advisory sheet [MULCH](#) advises: **Keep organic mulch away from trunks and stems to avoid collar rot.**



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!). This can be completed on-line & only takes a few clicks using the membership application form.

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 and might wish to insert an advertisement in our newsletter? 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

info@reid.northcanberra.org.au

President: Marianne Albury-Colless, Secretary: Amanda Reynolds

Treasurer & Public Officer: Derk Swieringa

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