



REID RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC. NEWS LETTER May 2021

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RRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 30 March 2021

We were delighted to have **Rebecca Vassarotti, MLA**, Minister for both Environment and Heritage and **Jack Waterford AM** as guest speakers. Rebecca gave an overview of her approach and responsibilities that included Minister for the Environment, Heritage, Homelessness and Housing Services and Sustainable Building and Construction. She was pleased to announce that since her time in government four new members had been elected to the ACT Heritage Council and its website will be updated to provide a contemporary and proactive site with a highly functional database.

Rebecca highlighted other issues which the Greens are pursuing, and which she felt would be of interest to Reid Residents:

- More stable and ongoing financial support has been promised to the National Trust (ACT). Rebecca acknowledged the importance of the National Trust (ACT) to the Canberra community and the need for certainty and security of funding.
- Discussion between the Commonwealth Environment Department and the ACT Government over the question of National Heritage Listing for Canberra are at an advanced stage.
- More flexible heritage guidelines to Conservation Management Plans.

Jack gave a vivid account of the many shortcomings of government and how he hoped that the new Legislative Assembly will adopt a more positive consultative approach to the increasing development and haphazard planning that has occurred. He considered there has been little progress to the once innovative policies and far-sighted programs established decades ago so there is a feeling that the Territory has stagnated, and progress is backwards.

Jack's response to National Heritage Listing should be that the whole area within the boundary of Canberra be included not merely the Inner suburbs. He is a strong advocate for the ACT to truly attain the status of a National Capital, a city to which all Australians could relate with excellence in planning, education, health and innovative trends. There now appears to be no long-term vision or motivation by Federal politicians for Canberra to be more respected as a National Capital for Australia.

The Committee membership remains unchanged, and we all look forward to another vigorous year as we work to retain the amenity of this suburb with its magnificent trees, streetscapes and heritage values. The RRA AGM minutes and President's report will be posted on our website.

MEETINGS WITH MLAs

The Committee met with Minister Vassarotti MLA in early March. It was a useful meeting and matters discussed included: heritage issues, trees, invasive species in the laneways, parking and the proposed developments by DOMA on Limestone Avenue, the redevelopment of Ainslie Avenue and the UNSW campus on the CIT site.

The Committee also has recently met with Elizabeth Lee MLA also and walked around the suburb. This was another positive meeting and were able to discuss issues of non-compliance, lack of transparency

by the ACT Government, priorities for Reid, trees, verges, parking and the proposed Ainslie Avenue development.

We look forward to continuing engagement with our Kurrajong MLAs.

CANBERRA AND REGION HERITAGE FESTIVAL 6–26 April 2021: ‘REIMAGINE’

The RRA organised two walks during the 2021 ACT Heritage Festival: ‘The Long and Short of Reid’s Pebble Signposts’ (11 April) and the ‘Camino’ Walk – no mountains, no cliffs!’ (18 April).



We were very pleased with how our walkers responded to what was literally at foot and along the pathways of Reid. It was a terrific opportunity on both walks to explain how the ‘Rockite’ pebble signposts were being conserved.

We were delighted to have the Conservator, Gillian Mitchell, seen on the right talking to one of our participants, on the first walk. Gillian provided a detailed and fascinating account of the science behind the conservation processes.

The first phase of this project is supported with funding made available by the ACT Government under the 2020 ACT Heritage Grant Program. You will note that some posts are in Braddon and one in Alt Crescent Ainslie, heritage-listed areas in our two neighbouring suburbs.

Phase 1 comprises eight posts, two tall posts and six short, and Phase 2, comprises 5 posts including 1 tall post, as below.

PHASE 1 (2020–21)			PHASE 2 (2021–22) TBC	
1	Euree/Booroondara – tall	9	Donaldson/Limestone (Braddon)	
2	Elimatta/Chapman – tall (Braddon)	10	Elder/Limestone (Braddon)	
3	Currong/Anzac Park	11	Allambee/Pialligo (now Limestone Ave)	
4	Anzac Park/Elimatta	12	Coranderrk/Elimatta	
5	Allambee/Doonkuna	13	Limestone Ave/Alt Cres – tall (Ainslie)	
6	Doonkuna/Coranderrk (Dirrawan Gdns)			
7	Currong/Geerilong Gdns			
8	Goreen/Chapman (Braddon)			

We are hoping to be successful in receiving another Heritage Grant this year so that the remaining five posts can also be conserved.

REID’S TREES

The Committee has met with Rachael Dawes, Senior Director, ACT Urban Treescapes to discuss the trees of Reid, their maintenance and the ongoing replacement program. Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) are planning to plant 25,000 trees across Canberra by the end of June 2023, so we can anticipate some of these trees being planted in Reid. Please advise the Committee if you are aware of

trees that have been felled on public land/on the verges that have not been replaced and we will ensure that they are on the list.

Rachael advised that the Urban Forest Strategy 2021-2045 has just been released (see below) and that revised Tree Protection Act legislation is anticipated with further budgetary input in September 2021. In pointing out the need for owners to assist with watering the ACT Government trees planted on their nature strips, Rachael noted that roots do occur in the top 60cm of surrounding soil so this can make a significant difference to the tree's survival.

She warned against 'tutu' or 'donut' gardens surrounding tree trunks as these, and wrongly applied mulch/grass clippings, promote collar rot which damages the tree's trunk, as does parking under the trees which compacts the soil in that top 60cm and thus damaging the roots.

Rachael also discussed the ACT Tree Register (www.cityservices.act.gov.au/trees-and-nature/trees/act_tree_register). The Committee is to progress registration of the remaining mature trees in Reid that are not on the list so that as many of our trees are protected for the future.

The recently released ACT Urban Forest Strategy is available at:
s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/hdp.au.prod.app.act-yoursay.files/5616/1710/4101/Urban_Forest_Strategy_2021-2045.pdf

The National Capital Authority, which manages the Central National Area across 610 hectares of land, has also released the Tree Management Policy, see
www.nca.gov.au/planning-heritage/strategic-planning/guidelines-development/tree-management-policy.

ACT NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The RRA Committee is working in cooperation with ACT Neighbourhood Watch Inc. Further information at www.nhwact.com.au. Reid crime statistics for February, March and April 2021.

	February	March	April
Ainslie Avenue	Assault causing ABH x 2	Assault other	Motor vehicle theft
Ainslie Avenue	Other property damage	Other theft	Theft of vehicle number plates x 2
Allambee Street	Motor vehicle theft	Other property damage	Motor vehicle theft
Allambee Street	Other theft x 2	Other theft	Other property damage
Allambee Street	Assault other		
Amaroo Street		Theft of vehicle number plates	
Anzac Park West	Other theft	Other property damage	
Boolee Street	Theft of vehicle number plates		Motor vehicle theft
Boolee Street	Other theft		
Booroondara Street	Theft of vehicle number plates		
Constitution Avenue		Other theft	Other theft x 2
Coranderrk Street	Motor vehicle theft		
Coranderrk Street	Other theft		
Currong Street	Theft of vehicle number plates		
Elimatta Street		Theft of vehicle number plates	Burglary dwelling

National Crime Stoppers Day is celebrated across Australia, & was held on 17 May 2021 but the work is ongoing. This year's theme '**Not all heroes wear capes**' reinforces that everyday Australians can help solve or prevent crimes just by sharing what they know with Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or reporting online at www.crimestoppersact.com.au/make-report/.

In 2020, Crime Stoppers received 244,502 calls and 183,909 online reports across Australia which resulted in 6,620 arrests and 18,608 charges.

ACT CAT PLAN 2021–31

Following extensive consultation and recognising that cats provide many benefits to their owners, the ACT Government has just released the ACT Cat Plan 2021–31. Plan objectives:

- Caring for pet cats through responsible cat ownership
- Protecting wildlife from cat predation
- Reducing nuisance by roaming cats to ACT residents

Please note that: *In Canberra alone, each year roaming cats are estimated to predate on 61, 000 native birds, 2,000 native animals, 30,000 native reptiles and 6,000 native frogs.*

www.yoursay.act.gov.au/cats-and-dogs/ACT-Cat-Plan

NEWS FROM ST JOHN'S

St John's Care celebrated its 30th anniversary in May 2021 and this included a service of thanksgiving. St John's Care is an outreach service by St John's Anglican Church, in partnership with Anglicare, supported by other parishes and the Canberra community. It seeks to respond to human need by offering emergency relief, support and other programs to human need by offering emergency relief, support and other programs such as case management and community lunches to those who struggle with issues of low income and social disadvantage.

Church open for visitors and worshippers – with the gradual relaxation of restrictions we are able to open the Church for the public to visit on Sunday afternoons between 2–4 pm, which coincides with the Schoolhouse opening. Sunday services are mostly held in the Church now and bookings are not required.

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

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 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

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, John Henderson, Molly Henman, Warren Nicholls