



REID RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC.

AO 1247

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**DRAFT Minutes of Annual General Meeting (AGM) — 27 March 2024  
6 pm at the Mercure Hotel, Ainslie Avenue**

Attending: Eighteen residents.

**1. Welcome and apologies**

Marianne opened the meeting, acknowledged First Nations people, and welcomed residents and the guest speaker, Duncan Marshall AM.

Apologies were received from Minister Vassarotti MLA, Elizabeth Lee MLA, resident Max Wang, and committee members Anne Buttsworth and Sue Byrne.

**2. Address by guest speaker – Duncan Marshall AM**

***Looking Back and Looking Forward and the work of the ACT Heritage Council***

Duncan acknowledged the traditional owners and the Reid Residents' Association, commenting that organisations that care for heritage make heritage conservation work.

Prior to the 1970s only organisations like ours got excited about heritage and agitated Government to take an interest. Then the Builders Labourers Federation (BLF) tried to help with green bans; even trying to place one on the building of Telstra Tower on Black Mountain. In the 1970s, just before Duncan's career began, governments established statutory heritage systems in response, including heritage councils. Community groups breathed a sigh of relief and relaxed a bit. But there is still a role for community groups in heritage because, as history shows, sometimes governments do good and sometimes they don't.

Duncan remarked that the beautiful light he noticed that evening at home – the result of the bush fire glow that comes with a burn-off – made him think of a couple of heritage dimensions of the Canberra bushfires in 2003. One was that the containment lines bulldozed to control the fires also exposed a great deal of Aboriginal cultural material, an otherwise hidden bit of heritage. Another hidden bit of heritage is the Bert Flugelman sculpture in Commonwealth Park which you won't find if you go looking for it because it has been deliberately buried.

Turning to the Heritage Council, Duncan said that the Government only appointed the new Council for a year and that, during that time, the Council has been trying to settle down its work and relations with heritage staff. The Government initiated a review of the old system which uncovered problems, issues, challenges and potential solutions. This chewed up a lot of energy. At the same time the Legislative Assembly held an enquiry into heritage. Its report and the Government's response has only just appeared. Duncan hopes it is a good thing that heritage is a priority topic for the government at this time.

Part of the work of the Council is to register heritage sites e.g. the Belconnen Library and Canberra Brickworks. The development of the latter is a long running issue with everyone hoping the current proposal will achieve conservation and sympathetic development. The Council has been looking at a number of other issues including roof top solar and he hopes they can do some public consultation on a new policy that responds to the ACT Government's concerns about climate change.

In terms of Aboriginal heritage, they are looking at what a layered approach to this heritage might mean, for instance in Reid compared to the Majura Valley. Related to this is bringing Aboriginal organisation more substantially into Heritage Council meetings and deliberations.

In terms of stakeholder engagement, Duncan is keen to put more structure around this with the aim of hearing all views in the community. At the recent launch of the Heritage Festival – a government activity rather than a Heritage Council activity – conversations afterwards reinforced the breadth of community involvement. As part of the whole engagement activity, he thought it might be worth getting various heritage groups around the table for a stakeholder meeting.

Looking forward, Duncan commented that, while the Heritage Council is back and working, this shouldn't give the false impression that all is well. There is a backlog of heritage nominations and a backlog of advice required, some of which goes back months and years. Another problem is that, while there is a degree of proactivity with developers and homeowners, there is scope to do a lot more work.

The reviews chart a way forward for the ACT heritage system with two broad areas of change relating to Aboriginal heritage and to governance and administration. A key component to successful change is resources. In an election year, sometimes the impossible (more resources) becomes possible.

Finally, Duncan spoke of 2027 which is the centenary of the opening of the Commonwealth Parliament in Canberra. It was the first meaningful event in the national capital. Duncan has looked at how dollars flow to heritage, and it is more likely to be through commemorative events, such as the centenary, than through the regular budget cycle. In the Centenary of Federation, the Federal Government provided about \$150m for Australian heritage which was one of the largest Commonwealth contributions ever. So, he felt it is worth thinking about what the coming centenary year might mean for Reid.

Two questions were asked of Duncan. Graham Carter commented that one doesn't hear much about the Garden City concept anymore, that it grew out of the problems of the time, and that perhaps this is a selling point for Canberra. Duncan agreed, saying that one of the lessons of history is that we don't learn from the lessons of history. John Tucker asked about resources in the Heritage Unit. Duncan responded that the grinding down of staff through relentless pressure led to some of the pressures in the unit and that finding people with the right skills is hard.

Marianne thanked Duncan for his presentation.

### **3. Confirmation of minutes of 2023 AGM**

Acceptance of the minutes of the AGM on 29 March 2023 was proposed by Ian Clark, seconded by Robyn Boyd and confirmed by those present.

### **4. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

## **5. Report from President of Reid Residents' Association**

The President spoke to her report and advised that copies were available.

Marianne opened by thanking everyone for attending; the committee for their on-going work; the contribution of John Tucker, the National Trust and those who opened their homes for the 15th annual Reid Open Houses and Gardens event; and the ACT Government for grant funding that went to conserving the pillar posts and to a Conservation Management Plan for the Reid Park Sports Ground.

She went on to thank Margaret Avard, who has been working to archive Judith Clark's documents and John Tucker's collection of papers, noting that it was the intention to present these collections in Library and Information Week in August.

Four other institutions were acknowledged for their important contribution to the community: Reid Tennis Club, Ainslie Primary and Reid Preschool, and St John's with its annual fair.

Marianne noted that much has changed since Canberra was declared Australia's national capital on 12 March 1913 and Parliament House opened in 1927. In 1927, the mean population of the ACT was 7,334. This is only 8/9 years after the losses of WWI – a traumatic legacy that lasted for many decades. Yet construction of Reid houses was well underway to accommodate thousands of public servants, principally from the interim capital, Melbourne.

Most construction work was undertaken by Commonwealth instrumentalities and the stars in Reid's firmament were the Federal Capital Commission (FCC) which then became the Department of Interior. Most of the homes built in these first suburbs (Parkes, Barton, Kingston, Manuka, Braddon and Reid) were government built and owned.

There was some adaptation to the Griffin Plan by John Sulman, an architect who provided enough space to grow fruit and vegetables and have chooks. Then the great Depression arrived and, in 1930, around 1800 labour-force workers and about one-seventh of the Commonwealth Public Service's staff in Canberra were retrenched. Yet still, despite these incredible world crises, these suburbs were built and survived with major input from the Commonwealth Government. Canberra has also withstood five major droughts: 1918–20; 1939–45; 1958–68 1982–83, 1996–2011.

This leads to the fact that this government housing scheme/development had longevity, these sturdy houses still stand and we are still here in the now twice listed Heritage precincts: the Register of the National Estate 1980 with thanks to the extraordinary work of Margaret Swieringa and her team and then the listing on the ACT Heritage Register, again assisted with the help of the RRA, despite some naysayers.

Today we have a climate crisis, a housing crisis, an unstable world, influential social media, and the prevalence of 'falsefacts'.

There are lessons to learn from the history of this small housing precinct: sound building methods & materials, adaptive reuse, multiple tree plantings, resolve and adaptability, and elements and/or values that are well worth fighting for. So, we try to

provide sensible input to various inquiries in 2023, both in written submissions and in person. These are listed in the full report and include:

- Inquiry into fostering and promoting the significance of Australia's National Capital (Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital & External Territories)
- ACT Inquiry into the Territory Plan and other associated documents
- UNSW Canberra City Campus Stage 1
- ACT Government Inquiry into ACT's heritage arrangements
- ACT Heritage Jurisdictional Review Consultation

In addition, we have been active in:

- 15th Reid Open Houses and Gardens, Sunday 29 October:
- Heritage Grants as previously mentioned
- Canberra and Region Heritage Festivals *Sharing Stories 2023: Reid Reminiscences*
- opposing the proposed Optus Tower on Reid Park Sports Ground
- Reid Archives as already mentioned
- Welcome Packs distributing to new residents
- Reid weeders – on ongoing task!
- Age Friendly suburbs program due to start in the next couple of months
- NCCC meetings on North Canberra planning etc. NCCC always supportive on matters of concern and with funding
- St John's community Fair 14 Oct
- Ainslie School Speech & Reid Preschool 80<sup>th</sup> birthday

Works in progress include:

- Conservation Management Plan with Philip Leeson Architects Katrina Keller
- an 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary RRA dinner planning
- 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the gazetting of our beautiful Reid in 1927.

Marianne remarked that it had been a very busy year, wished everyone a safe and restful Easter, and thanked them for coming to the meeting.

Acceptance of the President's Report was proposed by Derk Swieringa and seconded by Molly Henman.

## **6. Report from Treasurer and adoption of 2023 financial statements**

The Treasurer delivered his report for the calendar year 2023.

Roy reported that we began 2023 with \$23,469.08 and that our income totalled \$50,155.65, most of which consisted of grants for ongoing projects. Our expenses totalled \$40,154.79, much of which consisted of payments for the pillar posts conservation project. At 31 December 2023 there was \$33,469.94 in the bank, \$23,696 of which is grant money for an ongoing project to develop a Conservation Management Plan for Reid Park and Sportsgrounds.

He thanked Derk Swieringa for auditing the accounts and noted that copies of the audited Profit and Loss summary are available for viewing.

Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report was proposed by Graeme Carter and seconded by Pam Henderson.

## **7. Appointment of Auditor**

It was agreed that Derk Swieringa be appointed auditor for 2024.

## **8. Election of President, Secretary, Treasurer, Public Officer and Committee**

Marianne handed the meeting over to Derk Swieringa for the election of officers. He advised that nominations had been received for Marianne Albury-Colless as President; Robyn Bergin as Secretary; Roy Jordan as Treasurer and Public Officer; and Sue Byrne, Anne Buttsworth, Molly Henman, John Henderson and Gary Fan as Committee Members. They were nominated en-bloc and seconded by acclamation and confirmed as the new Committee members.

## **9. Other business**

Graeme Carter noted that new people were moving into Reid but not being represented at meetings like this and wondered what the Committee could do to encourage participation. It was thought that a family friendly activity such as a sausage sizzle in one of the parks might help.

There was no other business and Marianne closed the meeting at 7.20pm, thanking residents for their attendance and inviting people to stay for an informal meal.

### **RRA Committee 2024–25**

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

President: Marianne Albury-Colless

Secretary: Robyn Bergin

Treasurer & Public Officer: Roy Jordan

Committee: Anne Buttsworth AM, Sue Byrne, Gary Fan, John Henderson, Molly Henman

## Reid Residents' Association Annual Report

Wednesday March 27 2024

As I'm sure for many people it's been a congested 12 months. It certainly has for the RRA Committee, and I would like to start by thanking each member for their sterling contribution over the year, never flagging and always providing valuable input to the various actives and actions we have grappled with over the last year. I would also like to make note specially for Amanda Reynolds for her forensic assistance with grant acquittals and her work both as a most diligent secretary and her more recent work as a committee member. We will miss her from the committee.

We have continued to publish and deliver 4 newsletters for our residents and top these up with extra news when needed. Our activities have included face-to-face and Zoom-style meetings, multiples of phone calls and emails and submissions covering the broad church of Canberra planning, Reid's history and heritage, municipal and community matters.

### **A. CANBERRA PLANNING**

#### **1. Inquiry into fostering and promoting the significance of Australia's National Capital**

Report: not tabled as yet

RRA submission No. 40:

[www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Joint/National\\_Capital\\_and\\_External\\_Territories/NationalCapital/Submissions](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/National_Capital_and_External_Territories/NationalCapital/Submissions)

Please see a summary of our recommendations at the end of this report.

#### **2. Inquiry into the Territory Plan and other associated documents**

Report (16): [www.parliament.act.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0005/2416190/Inquiry-into-the-Territory-Plan-and-other-associated-documents-report-CURRENT-version.pdf](http://www.parliament.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/2416190/Inquiry-into-the-Territory-Plan-and-other-associated-documents-report-CURRENT-version.pdf)

See also appendix F & E.

RRA submissions:

- Submission No. 33: [www.parliament.act.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0006/2396787/Submission-033-Reid-Residents-Association.pdf](http://www.parliament.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/2396787/Submission-033-Reid-Residents-Association.pdf)
- Attachment No. 033.1 [www.parliament.act.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0005/2396786/Submission-033.1-Attachment-Planning-Institute-Report.pdf](http://www.parliament.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/2396786/Submission-033.1-Attachment-Planning-Institute-Report.pdf)
- 032 Dickson, Ainslie and Reid Residents Associations: [www.parliament.act.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0008/2387276/Submission-032-Dickson,-Ainslie-and-Reid-Residents-Associations.pdf](http://www.parliament.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/2387276/Submission-032-Dickson,-Ainslie-and-Reid-Residents-Associations.pdf)
- RRA Exhibit 017: [www.parliament.act.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0007/2322988/Exhibit-017-EOI-Reid-Residents-Association.pdf](http://www.parliament.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/2322988/Exhibit-017-EOI-Reid-Residents-Association.pdf)

#### **3. UNSW Canberra City Campus Stage 1**

This development is located at the corner of Constitution Avenue and Coranderrk Street in Parkes on an unsealed, public car park. It includes the construction of two multi-use contemporary buildings that will host teaching and research spaces; retail offerings; cultural and student-focussed spaces; and facilities for new and existing industry partners.

The areas closer to the residential part of Reid will be in Stage 2 and we have met with the planning group and raised issues such as light, traffic and parking and the Reid Railway Reserve and will continue to do so.

### **B. HISTORY AND HERITAGE**

We have responded to the following ACT Government inquiries with submissions and appearances at the following inquiries:

#### **4. ACT Government Inquiry into ACT's heritage arrangements**

Committee Report:

Dissenting Report Mr Ed Cocks MLA: [www.parliament.act.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0006/2307174/Report-9-Dissenting-Report-by-Mr-Cocks.pdf](http://www.parliament.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/2307174/Report-9-Dissenting-Report-by-Mr-Cocks.pdf)

The 37 recommendations are at [www.parliament.act.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0004/2307019/Report-9-Inquiry-into-ACTs-heritage-arrangements.pdf](http://www.parliament.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/2307019/Report-9-Inquiry-into-ACTs-heritage-arrangements.pdf)

- RRA submission: [www.parliament.act.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0006/2204826/Submission-048-Reid-Residents-Association-Inc.pdf](http://www.parliament.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/2204826/Submission-048-Reid-Residents-Association-Inc.pdf)

- RRA Exhibit: [www.parliament.act.gov.au/ data/assets/pdf file/0004/2227108/Exhibit-014-Reid-Residents-Association-Lets-get-the-facts-right-about-Reid.pdf](http://www.parliament.act.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0004/2227108/Exhibit-014-Reid-Residents-Association-Lets-get-the-facts-right-about-Reid.pdf)

## 5. ACT Heritage Jurisdictional Review Consultation

Celebrating Heritage in a growing city (Phase 1: [hdp-au-prod-app-act-yoursay-files.s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/9516/9276/5155/ACT Heritage Jurisdictional Review - Phase 1 Report.pdf](https://2.amazonaws.com/9516/9276/5155/ACT_Heritage_Jurisdictional_Review_-_Phase_1_Report.pdf))

The strategic reforms are listed in the end notes of this annual report.

Listening Report (Phase 2): [hdp-au-prod-app-act-yoursay-files.s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/6217/0294/5372/ACT Heritage Listening Report FINAL.pdf](https://2.amazonaws.com/6217/0294/5372/ACT_Heritage_Listening_Report_FINAL.pdf)

Precis of RRA Submission (p. 28) emphasised several crucial points aimed at improving the management and promotion of heritage. Their suggestions include fifteen points for consideration. Considerations proposed included conducting a thorough analysis of heritage legislation both domestically and internationally, appointing an environmental expert to the Heritage Council, establishing a vision, increasing the capacity to enforce breaches actively, and establishing a clear understanding of the interplay between the Planning Act and the Heritage Act. The considerations also advocate for transparency in decision-making, broadening the scope of conservation areas like grasslands, augmenting the expertise and staffing, and fostering a greater appreciation for heritage among legislators, educators, public servants, and the community. The submission also suggests empowering Aboriginal groups in relation to heritage matters.

## 6. 15<sup>th</sup> Reid Open Houses and Gardens, Sunday 29 October

Run in partnership with the National Trust ACT, this very popular event was fully booked as usual. Attendees were able to visit three delightful and very different houses, the rebuilt fourth Mr Fluffy house, an Oliphant house and and gardens and enjoyed a delectable afternoon tea presented by the Ainslie Preschool parents and teachers.

## 7. ACT Government Heritage Grants

### a. Reviving Inner North's pillar signposts – Phase 1 'Rockite' (pebble) Pillar signposts

We are very pleased with the results of the two heritage grants to conserve the 'Rockite' pebble pillar posts with this two-phased project finalised late last year. These elegant posts, the short ones installed in late 19202 and the tall ones in the mid 1930s for motorists, have been professionally treated by the conservator Gillian Mitchell.

Please note that this project has been supported with funding made available by the ACT Government under the ACT Heritage Grants Program with supporting funds from Roads ACT, Transport Canberra and City Services, and a particular note of in-kind support from RRA residents and a very generous resident from Northbourne Ave who very kindly painted the post name plates on Patterson Street, Ainslie and who wishes to remain anonymous.

Just to recap Phase 1, seven of the 'Rockite' pebble pillar posts were completed in 2022 and Phase 2, the remaining and very weathered six posts, were completed on Friday 22 September 2023, including the reinstalling of the Doonkuna/Coranderrk short post which had been knocked over by removalists.

Table 1. Phases of pillar post conservation Ainslie, Braddon & Reid (R)

Phase 1 Grant ID: HG20/24	Phase 2 Grant ID:HG22/15
1 Euree/Booroondara – tall R	1 Allambee/Pialligo – short R
2 Elimatta/Chapman – tall R	2 Coranderrk/Elimatta – short R
3 Currong/Anzac Park – short R	3 Limestone Ave/Alt Cres – tall Ainslie
4 Anzac Park/Elimatta – Short R	4 Doonkuna/Coranderrk – short (off-site) R
5 Allambee/Doonkuna – short R	5 Patterson/Foveaux – short R
6 Currong/Geerilong Gdn – short R	6 Patterson/Baker – short R
7 Goreen/Chapman, Braddon – short	

### b. Reid Park Sports Ground Conservation Management Plan (CMP) Grant ID HG23/21

With this heritage grant and supporting funds from City Presentation, TCCS, we will be fulfilling an undertaking listed in Reid Housing Precinct (RPP) Entry 20023 to the ACT Heritage Register. Over the last few years, we have been concerned with the prospect of a pump station and a telecommunications tower (Optus), albeit temporary, being erected on Reid Park, an integral part of the RHP. This place has a long

'pedigree' of sports and recreation dating back to the 27 January 1928 cricket match between the North Canberra and the Trade and Customs Cricket Clubs, North Canberra defeated the T&C Department. The National Library of Australia's Trove facility lives up to its name, with its treasures of past events often from The Canberra Times stable of sport commentary.

While Philip Leeson Architects Pty Ltd, ACT Heritage Architects Advisory Service will be drafting the CMP, there are other key elements:

- An Arborists' report on the trees surrounding and within Reid Park
- A soil assessment of the area to be undertaken by Sydney Environmental & Soil Laboratory (SESL)
- A stakeholder survey which will close on 31 March. We have available QR code and the link to the survey, (also some hard copy forms for those who may prefer to use that method) which we hope will let us know what you like about the RPSG and improvements that you would like to see for Reid Park and its two ovals. The second oval we understand was constructed in 1948 with its turf cricket pitch ready for use in 1949.

Please note that applications can be made for the ACT Heritage Grants 2024-25. The grants will provide \$230,000 to identify and carry out projects that promote and conserve our local heritage. Applications close at midnight on Sunday 21 April 2024.

[www.environment.act.gov.au/heritage/heritage-](http://www.environment.act.gov.au/heritage/heritage-grants#:~:text=ACT%20Heritage%20Grants%202024%2D2025,on%20Sunday%2021%20April%202024.)

[grants#:~:text=ACT%20Heritage%20Grants%202024%2D2025,on%20Sunday%2021%20April%202024.](http://www.environment.act.gov.au/heritage/heritage-grants#:~:text=ACT%20Heritage%20Grants%202024%2D2025,on%20Sunday%2021%20April%202024.)

## **8. Canberra and Region Heritage Festivals**

### *a. Sharing Stories 2023: Reid Reminiscences*

Reid Reminiscences was postponed from 16 April to Sunday 10 September. A lovely time was had by those who came along to share their memories over afternoon tea at the Mercure Hotel, Ainslie

Many thanks to Emeritus Professor William Maley AM who inspired us all with his memories of early Reid and to our Kurrajong members MLAs Attorney General Shane Rattenbury and Minister Rebecca Vassarotti for their remarks and support.

### *b. Connections 2024: Conspiracies, continuity AND connections 26 April 4 pm*

And a reminder that our event for this year's Heritage Festival starting at Reid Park, walking through Reid's paths and gardens hearing some quite hair-raising tales as we go and finishing with a Devonshire or Cornish afternoon tea at the Reid Tennis Club. Hope to see you there! And do you know where the cream goes is the key issue with this teas/tease?

## **9. Optus Tower – Reid Park Sports Ground**

It was with relief that the Development Application (DA 202240878) for the proposed 'temporary' Optus Tower was rejected.

[https://the-riotact.com/planning-authority-knocks-back-proposed-optus-phone-tower-in-](https://the-riotact.com/planning-authority-knocks-back-proposed-optus-phone-tower-in-reid/719504#:~:text=The%20temporary%20tower%20was%20to,new%20permanent%20facility%20is%20sought.)

[reid/719504#:~:text=The%20temporary%20tower%20was%20to,new%20permanent%20facility%20is%20sought.](https://the-riotact.com/planning-authority-knocks-back-proposed-optus-phone-tower-in-reid/719504#:~:text=The%20temporary%20tower%20was%20to,new%20permanent%20facility%20is%20sought.)

## **10. Reid Railway Reserve**

We raised the issue of cars traversing the area and CIT Reid has had fence and posts inserted where there are gaps in the Photinia.

## **11. Reid Archives**

We have completed the Judith Clark's collection of Reid documents which ranges from mid-1980s to 1997, and will be discussing with the ACT Heritage Library the best time for handover of this collection. We are at present working on the material that John Tucker has provided which takes the documentation of Reid further into more recent times.

## **C. MUNICIPAL AND COMMUNITY MATTERS**

### **12. Welcome Packs**

These packs have been revised and refreshed and we have delivered a dozen over the last 12 months reflecting the quite significant sales of Reid residences.

Please let us know if you would like one of these packs or know of new residents who would find it useful to have one.



### **13. Reid Weeders**

We have been concentrating on the corner of Euree and Elimatta streets and the laneway from Booroondara Street to Geerilong Gardens where there was an infestation of English Ivy a common garden escapee, and the intrusion of some Mahonia, sometimes mistaken for Holly (another invasive species) but is an entirely different genus.

Please be mindful of these invasive plants and just to let you know that Agapanthus (aka Nile Lilly) is on the sleeper invasive plant list. This species is common to heritage areas but tends to do much too well like all invasives. Agapanthus is one of the 12 species noted by Michael Mulvaney on NatureMapr at <https://canberra.naturemapr.org/species/lists/52>. This list includes some of the trees planted as Canberra street trees.

Like so many trees and other plants when these species were originally planted no one could possibly predict how well they would do in a foreign (Australian) environment.

### **14. Age Friendly Suburbs & John Little Memorial bench**

We have been advised that this work will commence in a couple of months and will include a bench in Geerilong Gardens in memory of John Little.

### **15. North Canberra Community Council (NCCC)**

We report monthly to the NCCC and very much appreciate their assistance with Reid issues and with funding for our newsletters and events.

### **16. St John's Community Fair 14 Oct**

We enjoy having the opportunity to run the RRA stall. It's a very convivial experience and a lovely opportunity to catch up with residents and attendees to talk about Reid, planning, heritage and all manner of topics.

### **17. Ainslie School Speech Day 6 December '23**

We were very pleased to be invited to this important occasion for years 5 and 6. Anne Buttsworth represented RRA at this beautifully organised event.

### **18. Reid house foundations**

We will be responding to a number of residents who have reported that, after nearly a hundred years, the foundations of their homes need a bit of repair and shoring up. The response will provide advice and contact details from a resident who has just gone through the experience and will be reporting on how to go about the process.

### **19. Ainslie Pre-School**

The Pre-school celebrated its 80th birthday on Friday 10 November. The Reid Progress Association, forerunner of the RRA, played a seminal role in establishing the pre-school and some of our readers were in the first cohort to attend. We enjoyed the afternoon and heard many delightful stories from former students and their very experienced and proficient pre-school teachers.

### **Forward planning**

#### **1. Completing the RPSG CMP**

#### **2. RRA's 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (14 August 1944–2024)**

Perhaps dinner at the Mercure? Monday 14 August?

#### **3. Reid's 100 Anniversary: suburb was gazetted in 20 Sept. 1928**

We would like to foreshadow a well written & researched comprehensive 'coffee table' publication. Have had initial discussions with Halstead publishers.

### **Extra notes**

#### **Inquiry into the Territory Plan and other associated documents**

RRA summary points:

- Need for reaction and adaptation to severe weather, bushfire, drought, flooding, exposure to disease & heat, habitat loss & deterioration.
- Research and models would assist in integrating the complexity of planning in a holistic and relevant spaces/landscapes
- Need to address wellbeing

- Using building materials and methodologies need to be appropriate for changing climatic conditions
- Need for adaptive reuse, to recycle building components and reduce wastage
- Recognition of heritage – proposed infill of Reid could never solve Canberra’s housing shortage & the lessons of ratio of built form to permeable surfaces (40%) and careful selection and establishment of trees in new suburbs prior to building could be regarded as vital lessons learned.

### **Inquiry into fostering and promoting the significance of Australia’s National Capital**

#### RRA summary points

- Canberra should be on the National Heritage list as first step to the World Heritage List.
- the NCA should be properly funded, be represented on the ACT Heritage Council, and have appropriate expertise to insist that developments are architecturally outstanding.
- the Commonwealth should help negotiate, and potentially fund, a decent train service between Canberra and Sydney
- a stunning and purpose-built tourist centre would be appreciated
- acknowledge local Indigenous people
- the Bruce stadia could be upgraded into a world-class sporting precinct
- additional funding for national institutions to celebrate Canberra
- value serenity and aesthetics be wary of 'activation' •
- place importance on architectural value of any development
- embrace the difference that makes Canberra special
- don't appease the ACT Government in the short-term. Look to the long term for our nation's capital
- recognise the importance of our biodiversity
- sustainability needs to underpin initiatives.

### **ACT Heritage Jurisdictional Review Consultation**

The Review produced the following strategic reforms:

1. Establish and resource an Aboriginal Governing Body (ACHB) that gives Aboriginal People the role of determining ACH recognition, conservation and management:
2. Develop and implement a layered approach to heritage in which ACH is the starting point for heritage recognition, conservation and management
3. Build the capacity of the ACT Aboriginal People to participate in ACH recognition, conservation and management
4. Increase the permanent capacity and specialised capability within ACT Heritage to deliver its support functions and improve the customer service experience
5. Establish and resource a program to resolve outstanding ACT Heritage Register nominations and review the ACT Heritage Register
6. Establish a strategic management approach to guide Heritage Council decision-making and operations and provide clarity around roles and responsibilities
7. Review the Heritage Council’s policy and processes to clarify and improve its decision-making capacity and capability and to guide and inform stakeholders
8. Raise and improve the profile, understanding and engagement with heritage in the ACT
9. Develop an ACT Heritage Strategy that fosters community and industry appreciation of heritage.