

YARRALUMLA RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY

Summer 2009

RECREATION HUB

The YRA has made its final submissions to the consultants preparing the master plan for the Yarralumla Bay Recreation Hub. A number of interested community groups and individuals have expressed their views to the National Capital Authority, following a well-attended public meeting held at the YMCA in December.

At this stage it is anticipated the final master plan will be completed by April, at which time a consultation report will be released by HBO+EMTB. Once accepted, the master plan will form the basis for future maintenance and development in the area, subject to detailed design criteria.



The YRA has made four submissions over the past couple of years on the Recreation Hub proposals, and appreciates the readiness with which the NCA has included us in the public consultation process. The final submission can be seen in detail on our website www.yra.org.au. Some of the key points include:

- **Links.** We are glad that most features of the plan retain the contact between the suburb and the lake, including pedestrian islands, bike path, boardwalk, pedestrian right of way around the foreshore and removal of road barriers.
- **Alexandrina Drive.** We are pleased the road retains its winding configuration, and that recreation activities are confined to the lakeside. We suggest maintaining a maximum speed of 50 kph. Some residents would like additional traffic calming measures, including speed bumps.
- **Cycle path.** We approve a wider path where it is used jointly with pedestrians, and elimination of two road crossings – but there may be a future problem where the Yarralumla cycle path meets the lakeside path and boardwalk.
- **Pedestrian Path.** We approve the pedestrian path around the foreshore, but would like to see additional seats for walkers.
- **Kiosk.** It appears most residents are happy with the idea of both a kiosk and one restaurant in the hub area.

- **Landscaping.** We welcome the proposal to leave the soft edge and habitat of Orana Bay and to preserve mature trees. We agree that the landscaping at the swimming area should be upgraded. It is vital this area be retained.
- **Smart ponds.** Most residents approve the concept to replace the existing drain, but planning for them cannot be done in isolation from a comprehensive and integrated stormwater control network through Deakin and Yarralumla to prevent flooding. There are also concerns about mosquito breeding, the effects of drought drying up the ponds, weeds and associated problems. The YRA could support smart ponds only if these matters were properly addressed.

43 HAMPTON CIRCUIT

The ACT Planning and Land Authority had approved a proposal to build 19 units on a single block at 43 Hampton Circuit. The approval is subject to conditions including revisions to the waste enclosure, fixed louvres to prevent overlooking on the east and west boundaries, amendments to the car parking plan, and tree protection. As reported last July, the YRA objected to the proposal.

The project involves a two-storey building fronting Hampton Circuit and a five-storey building backing on to Adelaide Avenue. It is the first high-density residential development to be permitted in Yarralumla under the NCA Development Control Plan for the area.

COMMUNITY NOTES

YARRALUMLA BRICKWORKS. There is still no information on the prospective redevelopment of the brickworks site. A member of the YRA committee telephones the Land Development Agency monthly to enquire what Expressions of Interest have been received, but to date there is no further news. The LDA has assured the member that the YRA will be contacted when any information is available.

EARTH HOUR 2009. Earth Hour, when cities all around the world turn off their lights and switch appliances to standby, is to be observed from 8:30 pm on 28 March 2009. For more information the website is <http://www.earthhour.org/news/au-act:en>

RED HILL REGENERATORS. Red Hill Nature Park is one of the few places where Red Gum-Yellow Box grassy woodland and associated wildlife can still be experienced in the ACT. Even there, weeds and *Pyracantha* continue to cause problems. The Red Hill Regenerators Group was formed in 1989 to restore the woodlands as part of the ACT Government's Park Care Program. The Group meets on the fourth Sunday morning of each month, and is seeking interested people to take part in this very worthwhile program. For more information contact Sue Ross on 0417 469 550 or 6295 7975, or email at sueross@grapevine.net.au

JOIN THE YRA. Membership of the YRA is for a household. For information on joining electronically, see:

<http://www.yra.org.au/joinyra.htm>

To join with a cheque, send \$15 to the YRA at PO Box 7123, Yarralumla with details of your Name, Street Address and Email (if you have one). We have no subsidies, and we use the membership fees (primarily) to pay for printing, website maintenance and meetings.

Yarralumla Residents Association contacts:

Web site: www.yra.org.au

Email: info@yra.org.au

Address: PO Box 7123, Yarralumla, ACT 2600

Membership: \$15 per household. **President:** Robyn Cooper **Treasurer:** Les Landau