

Time to establish a Yarralumla specific position on the Brickworks and environs project!

YRA Meeting for residents on the Brickworks Project

Tuesday, 3 August 2010 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Yarralumla Uniting Church Hall, Denman Street

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YRA is inviting you to attend this meeting as we are concerned that the ACT Government public consultations on the Yarralumla Brickworks and environs are not providing sufficient opportunity to establish a Yarralumla position on the brickworks and environs project due to the number of attendees from across Canberra.

What are the key issues are for Yarralumla residents? What tradeoffs are you willing to accept? What level and density of development would be acceptable? Are we willing to accept increased traffic congestion and shortcutting through the suburb? Should Yarralumla pay for a national site?

Please attend this meeting to participate in establishing a strong single voice for Yarralumla.

This will assist YRA in representing your interests on the Brickworks Reference Group and at future consultation meetings.

Yarralumla Brickworks update

The Land Development Agency (LDA) has conducted a telephone survey of Yarralumla, Deakin, Curtin and other suburbs. This has been followed up with two public consultation meetings with attendance of approximately 100 people from across Canberra at each meeting (19 May and 30 June). Public opinion from the first community conversation resulted in three major positions being supported by over 60 percent of attendees:

- that **green open space remain;**
- that **the kilns** (including the Staffordshire Kiln – the last of its kind in Australia and thought to be one of only a few left in world) **be preserved; and**
- that **traffic congestion and flow through Yarralumla not be increased.**

YRA Committee members are concerned that concept plans displayed at the second public consultation meeting indicate that the public position was not taken into consideration.

Key issues

Distribution of communications to residents from the LDA has been patchy. Despite an undertaking from LDA that every resident in Yarralumla would receive in their letterboxes all newsletters and invitations to community discussions – this has not been the case. In response to many complaints, YRA has advocated on your behalf and additional invitations to the meeting on the 30 June were letterboxed on 26 and 27 June. This is a clear breach of LDA's undertaking for public consultation.

*...residential
development of the
green open space*

The ACT government has made no commitment to fund any restoration or schemes undertaken by LDA in the brickworks. In fact **any funding raised from sale of ACT land must be returned to Consolidated Revenue and cannot be put aside for preservation of the brickworks**. Please think carefully about this as YRA understands that at the next public consultation meeting, LDA will ask for comments on residential development of the green open space between Denman Street/Dudley Street to Dunrossil Drive and Adelaide Avenue as a funding trade off for any undertaking in the brickworks.

As the process unfolds it has now been stated that the agenda is not primarily about the heritage preservation of the brickworks. It is about supporting the ACT Government position of 'urban intensification' through intensive land development. While the YRA has always supported sensitive development to support heritage preservation of the brickworks, we are extremely concerned that we are at a crossroads in terms of losing forever the open green spaces which represent the essence of Canberra itself. We are also concerned about the sale of land surrounding the brickworks without water-tight planning restrictions to manage the development density and quality. (See ISCCC article in this newsletter). We encourage all residents to attend two upcoming consultative meetings – the YRA Brickworks meeting on Tuesday, 3 August 2010 and the next ACT Government community conversation scheduled for Wednesday, 17 August 2010.

*ACT Government
position of 'urban
intensification'...*

Save this date – Tuesday 17th August 2010

The 3rd ACT Government Community Conversation on the Yarralumla Brickworks Project will be held on the evening of

Tuesday, 17 August 2010 at 5.45pm for 6.00pm start

Canberra Deakin Football Club (Soccer Club), 2 Grose Street, Deakin

The meeting will be presented with four options of preservation planning and land development.

We urge you to attend to have your say in the future of our suburb.

We have been advised that you will receive an invitation in your letter box.

We will also post this information on the YRA noticeboard in the Yarralumla Newsagents window as soon as it becomes available.

YMCA Sailing Club

The YRA has concerns about building works observed at the YMCA Sailing Club, which we are advised may be in contravention of the lease with the ACT Government and the NCA requirements for activities within the Yarralumla Recreation Hub to be **specifically recreational**. We have received communications from users of the Club who have had their activities curtailed.

As a result, we have communicated with *the* ACT Government and NCA as a matter of urgency. The ACT Government has now issued a STOP WORK order on the building.

A chief concern is that this is a NCA designated recreational area. The possible change of use may jeopardise the ability of other communities of users (sea scouts and rowers etc.) to pay rents in the area. We would like to suggest that the community may be interested in keeping a watching brief on the premises. We will keep our members informed.

*STOP WORK order
Issued by ACTPLA*

We want to know what YOU think!

The role of the Yarralumla Residents Association is well expressed in the words of the late Mac West, outgoing President of the YRA Committee in 2006: 'to be a conduit for information, and this should work both ways'.

The committee of the YRA tries to find out what's going on in the suburb and tell their members about it—what's happening about the Brickworks? why is the Y Sailing Club a 'construction site'? why are some trees being cut down? where can you find a walking group? would you like to help with Clean up Australia day? and so on.

Sometimes YRA members contact us about particular matters: bushes blocking vision at bus stops, a proposed development that neighbours are unhappy about, etc. Then, if we can, we try and contact the relevant authorities to take up the issue. If there is a subject that we think you should know about, then we email our members, or drop a note into their letterboxes if they don't have email.

At present, there is concern about losing green spaces in the inner south to development, and much concern about the Brickworks and the area all around it.

You might agree with some development; you might not. But if you are a member, we contact you with information as we have it. Getting involved is a good way to find out about things.

Right now, there are planning decisions being taken about the Brickworks and the adjacent green space.

What do you think? What do you want to happen there? If we are to accurately represent the views of Yarralumla people, we need to be able to contact you if necessary. No, we don't email you every week! But if there is something that might change the whole character of our suburb, we would like to be able to get in touch with you quickly.

Please consider joining. Details are at the end of this newsletter.

Weston Park tree removal

On Sunday 18 July, a group of YRA members met an independent arborist, and a representative from TAMS (Territory and Municipal Services), to walk around sections of Weston Park, and look at some of the trees that are scheduled for removal over the next few weeks, before bird nesting season.

Mr Geoff Butler, the arborist, explained that there have been three stages of tree planting in the park, the first by Charles Weston, the second by Lindsay Pryor, and then more random plantings in the 60s and 70s. In general, he stated that most of the hundreds of trees are in good condition, but inevitably some are dead or dying, and need to be replaced. Over the last 12 months, there have been three assessments of the Park trees by three different arborists, to determine which trees can be saved by judicious pruning, where some perhaps can be lopped to retain possum or bird hollows, and where some must be removed (labelled on the trunk, and many close to the play area).

He pointed out to the group the places where a branch fork has split and weakened, allowing in fungal infections, showed us tree trunks hollow inside (though not visible to the eye), and the bracket fungus on a trunk that results in soft, weak spongy tissue up to two metres in either direction from the 'bracket'. The tree may still have healthy growth on top, but this belies its weak dying trunk which will not continue to support it.

The group enjoyed learning from Geoff's expertise and knowledge, and appreciated that both he, and Fleur Flanery from TAMS, gave up their own time on a cold foggy Canberra morning to tell us more about our trees, and the tree management program.

...concern about losing green spaces in the inner south to development

...inevitably some are dead or dying, and need to be replaced.

Formation of Inner South Canberra Community Council (ISCCC)

A meeting of 80 residents endorsed the formation of a Community Council for the Inner South Canberra on Wednesday, 7 July 2010. The meeting expressed strong concern about the loss of recreational and green space in the inner south to urban intensification through medium and high density housing. Many speakers warned that the National Capital was in danger of losing the Bush Capital and open layout appeal.

The following ISCCC Committee members were elected - Kevin Gill (Chair), Gary Kent (Deputy Chair), Sue Ross (Assistant Secretary), Lesley Thompson (Treasurer), Greg Cornwall (Auditor), Anne Forrest and Marea Fatseas (general committee members) and residents association representatives - Margaret Fanning and Jonathan Mandl (Griffith-Narrabundah), John Keeley and Austin Lynch (Old Narrabundah), Robyn Cooper and Denise Page (Yarralumla), Greg Cornwall was appointed ISCCC Auditor.

The meeting accepted three resolutions, which will be put to the ACT Government:

Strategic Plan for Inner South

That, given the strong support of the wider ACT community for the 'Bush Capital' concept which includes the idea of including generous 'open space' in our inner and outer suburbs, this first meeting of the ISCCC calls upon the ACT Government, to develop, in partnership with Inner South residents, a new Strategic Plan for the area known as Inner South Canberra' (including Symonston), which would cover any issue which has the potential to impact on the Inner South (such as population, traffic, public transport, urban consolidation, heritage, ACT and Commonwealth Government planning and development, lease change, public and recreational space, education, health, retail and general facilities for the very young through to the elderly).

Urban Open Space Networks

That the ISCCC emphasises the high importance of retaining, preserving and enhancing the public open spaces of the Inner South, especially given the Government's urban intensification policies for the Inner South. This meeting calls upon the ACT Government to ensure that all our existing Urban Open Space networks are retained and strengthened and that, as part of that commitment, it not proceed with or endorse any proposal to change the Urban Open Space status of Griffith Oval No. 1 and Griffith Oval No 2.

Narrabundah Golf Course

That any change of lease purpose application relating to the Capital Golf Course at Narrabundah be rejected.

Concessional leases

The meeting agreed that the community was greatly concerned about how applications to change concessional leases were administered, how change of purpose charges were applied and that perhaps the ACT Government should

- Resume all concessional leases where the original purpose of the lease has become redundant or considered by the lease holders as 'unviable', and/or
- Institute a moratorium on all such Change of Purpose Applications while holding a wide ranging public inquiry on this matter to determine a fresh policy approach.

There was general agreement that this matter was of the highest priority and the Council will develop and approach to take the matter forward as soon as possible.

Next Steps

The ISCCC committee met on Thursday, 15 July 2010 week to determine a number of administrative issues and to set out its program of public meetings for the coming year. The Council has also committed to assisting suburbs without resident representation to form associations which would be ensured a position on the ISCCC Committee. The next meeting of the ISCCC is planned for 24 August 2010 to discuss a motion on green open spaces and lease changes from sporting, recreational and community purposes – details will be posted on the YRA noticeboard in the Yarralumla Newsagents window. We encourage you to attend and become a member. This will support the ISCCC to represent you on issues common to the suburbs of the Inner South.

ISCCC contact is Kevin Gill on 02 6239 5651 / 0409 446 405 or email Kevingill47@gmail.com

Thank you to local businesses

The YRA sincerely thanks and appreciates the long-time use of the window in the **First Choice Dry Cleaners at Yarralumla** shops to accommodate our notice board.

In a few weeks, the notice board will be relocated to the window of the **Yarralumla Newsagency**, so we are most appreciative of the newsagent's generosity.

The Yarralumla Community

The following provides a snap-shot of some of the community facilities, activities and events in Yarralumla which together contribute to the social, cultural and sporting life of this community. Contributions can be sent to the YRA at info@yra.org.au.

The YRA provides information to residents through its newsletter, through its website, or through its notice board at the Yarralumla shops (on the dry cleaner's window).

The community information in this newsletter is available on the YRA website. From the main page click on "the Yarralumla community" link on the left. Check the website regularly for updates and new information.

Who meets regularly in Yarralumla?

Singers

A Chorus of Women (singing and discussion on social issues) Uniting Church Hall, Sundays 3.30pm.

Contact: Meg Rigby 6247 1948

www.chorusofwomen.org

Yarralumla Choir, Canberra Singers for Pleasure, Uniting Church Hall, Tuesdays 7.30 – 8.30pm.

Contact: Margo Hodge 6258 7508.

Dancers

Canberra International Folk Dance Assoc. (CIFDA) dance nights, Uniting Church Hall. Wednesdays 7.45 – 10.00pm, Contact: Judy Parker 6281 5229.

Playgroup

Playgroup with 'grandma' helpers assisting the parents. Uniting Church Hall.

Mondays 9.30am-11.30am.

Contact: Simon 0412 027 015 or Jean 6281 3396

Support groups

Dragons Abreast (Breast Cancer Survivors Dragonboat Team), Southern Cross Yacht Club, Contact: Marion Blake 6287 4919 or www.dragonsabreast.com.au

Ladies Friendship Group (for ladies who would like to keep in touch with life), Uniting Church Hall,

2 – 4pm on 4th Monday of month.

Contact: Koraline Killeen 6282 9248.

Onward Stroke Club (support group for people who have had a stroke), Uniting Church Hall, Thursdays 10am – 12 midday

Contact: Bev Cadden 6282 2582 or 0417 061 984.

Networks

National Council of Women ACT Inc. Uniting Church Hall 12 midday on 2nd Thursday of month.

Contact: Jenny Jarvis 6288 2636.

How do we stay fit in Yarralumla?

Indoor Bowls

Uniting Church Hall, Monday afternoons.

Rowing

Canberra Rowing Club, Alexandrina Drive.

www.rowingact.org.au/CRC

Running and jumping

Children's playgrounds – Loftus St & Canberra Mosque

Sailing / canoeing

Canberra Yacht Club, Alexandrina Drive,

www.canberrayachtclub.com.au

LBG Sea Scouts, Alexandrina Drive

www.act.scouts.asn.au/ACTScouts/Sites/LBG

YMCA Sailing Club, Alexandrina Drive

www.ymcacanberra.org.au

Tennis

Yarralumla Tennis Club, Mueller St.

Social Night Wednesday 7.30pm

Contact: Gwenda Bramley 6286 4670

Walking

National Heart Foundation walking group. Tuesdays 8am (near the dry cleaners). Contact Helen Grant

6162 1155 or Bill Caddey (NHF) 6289 2658

Yoga

Yoga classes at Uniting Church Hall (3 days/week).

Contact Judith 0408 865 437

Join the YRA

Membership of the YRA is for a household. For information on joining electronically see: www.yra.org.au/joinyra.htm

To join with a cheque, send \$15 to the Yarralumla Residents Association to the PO address below with details of your name, address and email (if you have one).

We use the membership fees to pay (primarily) for printing, website maintenance, and hire of hall for general meetings. Letterboxing of the newsletter is done by the YRA committee and other YRA members. Updated information is also provided in the window of the drycleaners at Yarralumla shops.

Website: www.yra.org.au

Email: info@yra.org.au

Address: Yarralumla Residents Association,
PO Box 7123, Yarralumla ACT 2600

President: Robyn Cooper

Treasurer: Les Landau

Secretary: Dorothy Jauncey

Committee: Peter Abbott, Anne Charlton,
Janet Harris, Denise Page

Have your say on Yarralumla

If you have ideas about what you would like to see happen or change in Yarralumla, from those little annoying things to your grand ideas, send your thoughts to the YRA via its email address, info@yra.org.au, via the contact page on the website at www.yra.org.au or to PO Box 7123, Yarralumla ACT 2600.

Your suggestions can be included on the YRA website (with your permission) and can assist the YRA in representing residents to build a stronger community.

What's on in Yarralumla?

Markets / community garage sales

Saturday 7 August 8am – 12pm

YMCA monster garage sale

Mueller St.

Community Consultation

Tuesday 3 August 2010 6.00pm-8.00pm

YRA Meeting for residents on the Brickworks Project

Yarralumla Uniting Church Hall, Denman Street

Tuesday 17 August 2010

**3rd ACT Government Community Conversation
on the Yarralumla Brickworks Project**