



Naremburn Matters

July 2005 Vol.1, No.2

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The newsletter of the
Naremburn Progress Association (NPA)

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Welcome to the second issue of Naremburn Matters

Our culture is one that appears to be interested in what might happen in the future. There seem to be different types of future images, one being optimistic and high tech, another being decay and eventual destruction.

Negative views of the future are magnified by powerful technologies in the mass media! We hope this neighbourhood newspaper will attempt to give voice to local Naremburn stories in a more optimistic yet realistic tone.

This area was known in its early history as Dog Town, later as Pension Town and then Struggle Town. One could say from these names that it was a battler's district (things have changed somewhat since then). Some of these names were suggested when a title was being looked at for this newspaper. With all the building development that has been happening we had a late entry with a suggested name 'Metropolis Now'. The editorial panel has grown since the first issue in April, we've had constructive feedback on how to improve Naremburn Matters and we look forward to any articles, letters or comments that you may have.

Planning for a street tree program in Naremburn

A striking reality is that our borders with our sister municipality, North Sydney, differ when it comes to street trees. You know when you leave North Sydney streets with their avenues of mature trees and come into Naremburn. North Sydney Council aims to carry out street tree planting in at least six streets a year and residents are surveyed and given a choice of three replacement tree species deemed appropriate for the street.

Some years ago the Naremburn Progress Association (NPA) did some research on why this area appeared to have less street trees than other wards within the Willoughby Council

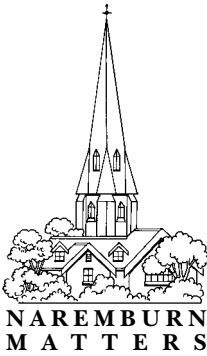
area. There were many reasons, some historical, the suburb having a dump being one, the absence of a street tree planting culture, poor selection of species, resistance from some residents and so on. However, more recently things are changing. Willoughby Council was asked a couple of years ago to look at planting trees in the gateway streets into Naremburn. These streets included Herbert, Chandos, Willoughby, Merrenburn, Brook, Slade, Garland, Cleg and Ella. Council then categorised these streets into 'easy', 'somewhat difficult' and 'difficult pricey'.

continued on Page 7

NAREMBURN VILLAGE SHOPS

Photographic artwork by:
David Waters
7 June 2005





Naremburn Progress Association
 Founded 1901
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 St Leonards 1590
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 Ronan Ahern : 9438 2983

Vice President
 Kevin FitzPatrick : 9439 8119

Secretary
 David MacGowan : 9437 0556

Treasurer
 Carolyn New : 9438 1903

Meetings
 Naremburn Community Centre
 Central Street, Naremburn
 Thursday, 11 August 7:30pm
 Thursday, 8 September 7:30pm
 Thursday, 13 October 7:30pm

Naremburn Matters
Editor required!

This issue edited by
 the NPA Committee

Typesetting & Printing by
 Robin Phelan & Associates : 9958 4191

The opinions expressed in articles, letters and contributions published in Naremburn Matters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Naremburn Progress Association or its officers. While all possible care is taken to be accurate, no responsibility whatsoever will be taken by the Naremburn Progress Association, typesetters or printers.

Making a difference – the NPA

As we await the release of Russell Crowe’s latest movie, *Cinderella Man*, do you realise you live in what was one time called the Cinderella Suburb?

On the southern outskirts of Willoughby, its residents often felt ‘hard done by’. Dissatisfied they were overlooked in distribution of resources they twice moved to secede from Willoughby to North Sydney. It was at such a meeting on 29 November 1901 in the Temperance Hall, Garland Rd South (now known as Central St) that they formed themselves into the Naremburn Progress Association. Thirty one persons immediately pledged membership. Early records indicate that in 1925 there were 241 financial members.

Among our contemporary issues are the impact of motor vehicles on our suburb through the Gore Hill Freeway, the Lane Cove Tunnel Project, street parking, over-development and the greening of Naremburn.

The founding fathers in their pledge to attain civic justice and demonstrate a caring concern for community matters in general focused on the following issues:

- ▶ **Tramway** – a public meeting urged the extension of a tramway from Ernest St Crows Nest to Frenchs Rd
- ▶ **Fire Alarms** – the placement of a fire brigade phone at the corner of Slade St and Willoughby Rd.
- ▶ **Police** – a resident policeman took up residence in Rhodes Ave because of unruly behaviour in the area. He was given assistance by a second officer on the beat.
- ▶ **Gaslight** – the gas company was approached to gaslight Naremburn’s unlit streets. It stalled the request by promising to install pipes when they became available.

- ▶ **A free library** – this request was seen as an opportunity to improve education. (A free children’s library was built 60 years after the request)
- ▶ **Postal delays in 1902** – despite the fact there were 2 deliveries a day, including Saturday, a local complained his letter posted from the city before 1:00 am on Friday did not reach Market St until Saturday afternoon.
- ▶ **Active support for North Shore Bridge** – a motion was put forward in 1902 ‘That the construction of the North Shore Bridge is a necessity for the district’. We had to wait another 30 years for this agitation to bear fruit.

Through these pages we look forward to your feedback about your local issues. Better still, come along to the next meeting of the NPA, every second Thursday, 7.30 pm, Naremburn Community Centre in Central Street. Next meeting is 11 August.

Kevin FitzPatrick
NPA Vice President

We got the Grant

This March, the NPA applied to the Federal Government for a grant under the Volunteer Small Equipment Grants scheme.

Under the scheme, funding of \$3million was allocated to help Australia’s volunteers carry on their vital work. Grants of up to \$3,000 each aim to encourage and support volunteers by enabling organisations to purchase equipment that contributes to making volunteering activities easier, safer and/or more enjoyable.

Our Federal member, the Hon. Joe Hockey, advised the NPA it was successful and would receive a grant of \$1,170 for the purchase of a magnetic flipchart/ whiteboard, overhead projector and projection screen. This equipment will be used at meetings and other events in the community hall to improve presentations.

Carolyn New
NPA Treasurer

Naremburn Progress Association
MEMBERSHIP
 \$10 per person, \$1 concession
Membership year ends 31 December

Full names

Address

Telephone Fees \$

Email Donation \$

TOTAL \$

Post to PO Box 393, St Leonards 1590 or bring to next meeting.

Lane Cove Tunnel Project Naremburn Update

Shared pathway rear of Olympia Road

On 29 June residents of Olympia Rd and Grandview St walked the section of the pedestrian/cycleway at the back of Olympia Rd to review privacy concerns.

Walter Street

The Gore Hill Freeway widening will retain openings for potential future entry and exit into Willoughby Road, although the RTA says there are no plans to utilise these within the next five years. The NPA has sent a letter to Gladys Berejiklian, State Member for Willoughby, seeking assistance in clarifying this matter.

Merrenburn Avenue

A design has been done for a shared path to connect the regional shared path at freeway level to Merrenburn Avenue but this design does not directly link to Dodds Street or Rhodes.

Shared pathway route over Willoughby Road at Naremburn Village Shops

The Minister for Roads has advised that the RTA will proceed with the approved route with enhancements.

The enhancements include:

- Revised construction to eliminate the impact on the Naremburn shops car park and reduce the construction period from six months to two months;
- Modifications to the western abutment of the pedestrian bridge to provide improved separation of pedestrians and cyclists; and
- Improvements to Quiamong Road and Northcote Street/Ruth Street sections where the route travels on road.

Consultation with shopkeepers, Council and other stakeholders has also been recommended to determine whether it is feasible to close the slip lane into the Naremburn shops car park area so as to provide additional car parking spaces and a safer arrangement for cyclists and pedestrians.

The working party convened by Willoughby City Council last year to identify alternative options has been advised they are to meet on 2 August. **A Report will be made at the August meeting of the Naremburn Progress Association.**

Prentice Park

Following a report on 27 April by the Open Space Manager, Council has passed the following resolution:

That the reserve adjoining the northern boundary of the Olympia Road residential properties be known as Prentice Park, and that a suitable name sign be installed.

At the December 2004 meeting of the NPA the President reminded the meeting of the death earlier in that year of Sir William Prentice. Sir William was a distinguished person, long time resident of Naremburn, member of the NPA, humanitarian, a keen bush walker and for a number of years had a strong attachment to Papua New Guinea. In conjunction with the family, it was agreed that Willoughby Council be requested to investigate an appropriate way of recognising the contribution made by Sir William. Due to his love of the bush it was suggested that an association with a walk or park would be particularly relevant.

True or False


How well do you know your suburb?

- 1 Delicia, our local patisserie, baked 25,000 hot cross buns over the recent Easter period.
- 2 We have one Conservation area.
- 3 Naremburn experienced a major natural disaster a hundred years ago.
- 4 Gas and electricity were supplied to our area from 1882.
- 5 One of the earliest dwellings in Slade Street, *Three Lamps*, is still inhabited.

(Answers on page 6)

Turn off the freeway
at the sign
kiss your troubles goodbye
coffee tea or just a break
stop a while
one moment take
order meat
choose the veg
then relax
as over the hedge
birds sing
children laugh
tv trendies each
do chaff
for at these shops
all is at hand
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Naremburn between March and June 2005*

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Marks Street, Naremburn
Oxley Street, Naremburn
Station Street, Naremburn
Willoughby Road, Naremburn
Dawson Street, Naremburn
Talus Street, Naremburn
Northcote Street, Naremburn

* **Achieving record prices in Naremburn ***

Amanda Inglis
0414 619 004
L.J. Hooker Crows Nest
1 Alexander Street, Crows Nest 2065
Phone: 9439 1200

Mobile and TV towers... has the horse already bolted?

Should Willoughby Council change its precautionary approach of refusing all applications that result in an increase in EMR until such evidence is forthcoming?

What research is being funded to clarify the scientific and medical position regarding EME from TV towers?

Are there any ways Willoughby Council can support a survey of Residential Power Frequency Magnetic Fields?

Are there new telecommunication technologies that diminish or remove EME as a potential health risk in residential areas?

What are the major untested risks of High Frequency (HF) emissions?

There is consistent concern amongst community members about the possible adverse health impacts of **radiofrequency electromagnetic energy or radiation** (RF EME or EMR). It is of particular concern in the Willoughby area because we have so many television towers.

RF EME is the transfer of energy by radio waves. Mobile phone base stations, broadcast towers and radar facilities all emit RF EME. EME also occurs naturally and is part of everyday life. Low levels of EME are emitted from natural sources like the Sun and Earth.

The Australian Communications Authority (ACA) has mandatory EME exposure limits for installations such as broadcast towers and mobile phone base stations. These limits were determined by the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA). According to the ACA these limits are below a level of exposure to EME that is known to have adverse health effects on the human body and are consistent with World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines.

Dr Bruce Hocking is the author of a study on childhood leukaemia and an ARPANSA representative. Below is an edited, shortened version of his responses to a set of questions put to him by Willoughby Council.

Should Willoughby Council change its precautionary approach of refusing all applications that result in an increase in EMR until such evidence is forthcoming?

ARPANSA's interest is in protecting the population from the harmful effects of radiation and includes protecting the public from unnecessary anxiety about radiation exposure. The requirement for conclusive proof of no adverse health impacts is not one imposed on most aspects of our daily lives and, in fact, is almost unattainable. There is almost no technology, environment agent or social behaviour that has been conclusively proved to have no adverse health impacts. On the contrary, many such activities or substances have been proven, at least theoretically, to have adverse health affects, but continue to be used, or even mandated. EMR with frequencies below those of visible light is probably unusual in not having any proven health risks from low level exposures.

What research is being funded to clarify the scientific and medical position regarding EME from TV towers?

Research can rarely provide strong evidence that any particular environmental agent is the cause of any particular disease. There are simply too many variables that distinguish one living area from another. The UK studies

show how an anomalous finding around one tower can be truly statistically valid but a survey of another 20 towers can fail to find the same phenomenon. WHO, in its research agenda, has highlighted the need for better understanding of the actual exposure levels that are associated with living in the vicinity of TV transmitters. We are unaware of any Australian research being carried out specifically on exposure from TV or broadcast transmitters.

Are there any ways Willoughby Council can support a survey of Residential Power Frequency Magnetic Fields?

There is nothing in principle to prevent a council from conducting a survey. A budget from \$10,000 to \$100,000 would be sufficient and technical information is readily available from ARPANSA. Given the very much unproven status of the suggested health impact, it is not clear what priority a council ought to give such expenditure.

Are there new telecommunication technologies that diminish or remove EME as a potential health risk in residential areas?

All modern telecommunications technologies rely on EME, either emitted in free space or conducted along wires, cables and light-guides.

Penny Wade

B.Sc., D.R.M., D.M.H.

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Some of these are able to use much lower power than was previously necessary and this may reduce the EME exposure to some individuals. However, the use of telecommunications equipment is increasing so the overall exposure to EME is probably increasing, even as newer, lower power, technologies are introduced. Whether potential health risks from EMR are diminishing overall is not known as there are no known mechanisms by which the low levels of RF EME cause harm. We therefore can't say whether risk is being increased or decreased.

What are the major untested risks of High Frequency (HF) emissions?

Of the possible health risks from EMR being

Some people claim that HR EMR contributes to asthma and allergies, causes fatigue and nervousness, dizziness, poor immunity, depression and sleeping problems and that a link to cancer has been demonstrated.

Yet, according to scientists such as Dr Hocking, there seems to be no current scientific evidence of harm from EME. We may not know for years to come whether the horse has already bolted.

Susan Biggs, Naremburn

Where do you live – Narrabeen?

That people mistake our suburb for Narrabeen as soon as you utter "Nar..." is happening less and less these days. The well-kept secret of Naremburn is getting out. Part of the reason is that the notion of Naremburn as a good place to live in has increased. People from other areas of Sydney, including our neighbouring suburbs of Neutral Bay and Cremorne are attracted to Naremburn.

People who have lived here for several decades remember the suburb before the Warringah Freeway and before the subsequent Gore Hill Freeway. The Freeway projects were considered by many residents to have torn the suburb apart, and in reality that is what happened.

Homes were bulldozed, shops and business premises were razed, part of Willoughby Road moved east, and Brook Street was extended to the "temporary" Flat Rock Drive. The volume of traffic increased. Yet, amidst all this traffic, and the transportation solutions that cut through our suburb, there are quiet streets, trees, excellent renovations to properties and good neighbours.

Even though the Harbour separates the Lower North Shore from the City of Sydney, Naremburn is an inner city suburb. As such we are affected by the need for traffic to be moved in and out of the City. The flipside of this congestion is that we are living in an area that is a desirable and convenient place to live.

We are largely a neighbourhood suburb. There are no department stores, no supermarkets, no police station, no post-office. However, we do have the Village Shops where Willoughby Road meets the Expressway. These shops have survived the traffic solutions imposed on this suburb and recently there has been a resurgence of this area.

Private property values in Naremburn have increased. I hear the outcry from some of those who have bought property here in the past few years that this is not so. But, property values in the years 2001 – 2004 increased by 50%. Since 2000 over 50 houses have sold for more than \$1,000,000 and, in April a house in Gaza Road sold prior to auction for \$1,400,000 and a house in Grafton Avenue sold for \$1,430,000 by private sale. In the same month a townhouse in Lawson Lane sold for \$820,000 prior to auction. As real estate agents will tell you, suburbs within a 10km radius of the City do not lose value.

So, enjoy living in such a delightful and convenient suburb. Make use of the benefits. Take a walk to one of our parks. Have coffee, a meal, a takeaway, buy some fruit or flowers, buy a pastry, or just browse at the Shops. Perhaps go to church or join a community group. And congratulate yourself for choosing Naremburn!

Trisha FitzPatrick, Naremburn

considered today, one of the greatest concerns is that of a suggested increase in incidence in some tumors of the brain, head or neck among mobile phone users. This is being investigated by a coordinated series of studies under the auspices of IARC, a WHO agency. Two studies published so far have been negative for brain tumors and other malignancies of the head and neck. One study has been negative and another positive for the benign tumor of the auditory nerve, called acoustic neuroma. This latter study showed an apparent increased risk for phone users who had first used mobile phones more than 10 years ago when they were based on the analogue technology.

Comic Corner

A wealthy family commissioned a well known author to write its history, but pointed out that he should soft-pedal the fact that one uncle's life of crime had ended with a death sentence in the electric chair.....

The author was told: "Don't say it straight out. Skirt around it a bit."

This is what he wrote:

Uncle William occupied a chair of applied electronics in one of the leading government institutions. He was held to the post by the closest of ties and his death came as a real shock.

Some quotes from court room questions.....

The youngest son, the 20 year old, how old is he?

Were you alone or by yourself?

Do you have children or anything of that kind?

So you were gone until you returned?

Was that the same nose you broke as a child?

From the phone operator.....

Operator: "I'm sorry, it's a silent number."

Customer: "It can't be! I've been there and I've heard it ringing!"

Operator: "And what is the surname?"

Customer: "Oh, mate, I haven't got a clue. We just call him Bluey."



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True or False

1 TRUE

The claim by Alan Koura to bake 'the best hot cross buns in the universe' did not fall on deaf ears but appealed to our palates. Well done!

2 FALSE

We have two such areas:-
Central Township Conservation area includes part of Garland, King, most of Market, Probate and Adolphus Streets, then Rhodes and Slade and part of Central Street.
The Naremburn Conservation Area includes Martin, Oxley, Darvall, Mitchell, Plunkett and Ross Streets, part of Henry Lane and part of Northcote St.

3 TRUE

On Wednesday 27 March 1906 at 1.50pm a tornado, whose path was 2 miles long and a quarter of a mile wide, swept across Naremburn destroying many dwellings and claiming one life.

4 FALSE

Gas was supplied to our area from Neutral Bay as early as 1876. Electricity was requested and supplied from 1914. Introduction of electric trams to our area speeded up the process.

5 TRUE

One of Naremburn's 19th Century dwellings in Slade Street, *Three Lamps*, still exists. The original three oil lamps have been replaced by electric lights. A plaque on the property outlines its history.

Naremburn Public School Est. 1887

Perhaps this was your school and you can share the recollection of that first terrifying experience, or, exciting adventure? **Naremburn Matters** would love to hear your story.

Email us at:
 NaremburnMatters@yahoo.com
 (Word Limit : 150 words)

Councillor Corner with Councillor Stuart Coppock

When first elected as a Council representative for Naremburn it was the community spirit of the area that was my first and lasting impression.

Much has happened in the suburb in the time that I have been an elected representative. Some of these are concerns of over development or inappropriate development; continual and growing traffic matters; tree plantings; the impact of the closure of the Catholic Primary School; heritage issues; Flat Rock Drive being unfinished; the lack of appropriate parking at the shops; and of course, the impact of large State infrastructure projects.

So what really does make Naremburn "Naremburn" today? It is still an area of great diversity of people from those who have lived in the same house for 70 odd years to those who have purchased recently. It has newly renovated homes and residences that have been homes for generations. It has a special eclectic character in its streetscape and its people and a sense of belonging.

There is strong evidence of a community experiencing major revitalisation. There has been a rush of newborns in the last five years which seems not to have abated. This is perhaps our most significant community change. The area has youth groups at our churches that are an inspiration in terms of organisation, leadership and community involvement. (A nice counterpoint to our much loved 'Over 55s Group'.) The Shops Christmas Party, arising out of the NPA Centenary Celebration sponsored by Council and the Friends of Naremburn Park are other examples of the community expressing itself. The most common comment made by people who have recently moved into the area is "I never knew that this area had such a strong community spirit".

Naremburn is still one the best-kept secrets in Sydney. Stuck between North Sydney and Willoughby and between major highways and truck roads, people are amazed at what they find in this village. Community initiative and spirit is alive and well. In its eclectic nature and diversity it creates its own identity.

I congratulate the team and sponsors behind **Naremburn Matters** for helping to maintain and grow our Naremburn spirit.

Councillor Stuart Coppock
 59 Marlborough Road, Willoughby 2068
 Ph: 9958 0483
 Stuart.Coppock@willoughby.nsw.gov.au

A 5 year old pioneer's first day at school

Ida Elsie Jane Gross (later Angus) was born in 1887. Her parents owned a newsagency/tobacconist/tea rooms at the corner of Willoughby Road and Falcon Street where the Crows Nest Hotel now stands. This recollection comes from a tape supplied by Miss Shirley Angus of Greenwich and printed in the Centenary Book for Naremburn Public School 1888-1988.

"Well I went to school – school proper (as a pre-schooler she had attended a privately operated school in Greenwich) I'll never forget the first morning I went to Naremburn School.

Well, there was one classroom and the Headmaster's room and a porch where we hung our hats and our bags.

The first day I went to school there, I will never forget it. It was a most foggy morning, you couldn't see anywhere ahead of you. My father and mother were too busy with the shop and with two children younger than me. My father took me right out to Willoughby Road – there was little traffic then -- he took me right

into the middle of the road and he said, "now don't go off this road. You walk straight along, go right along, don't turn down anywhere, go straight along, and you'll come to the school." Then I went into the school and introduced myself. Today, the mothers take the children and they take them in cars. I walked. The road was very clayey, and there were great cracks in the road because there was no road made and no footpath made. You just got there as best you could. You crossed over where there wasn't mud. That was my first day at Naremburn School".

Planning for a street tree program

continued from Page 1

In recent years, planting has taken place in some of these streets. Residents have been asked to adopt their tree and see that it is secured, mulched if possible and is given a drink during the warmer months. Changes in weather patterns are an important consideration. Thanks to some careful planning and the timing of planting we have lost few, if any, newly planted street trees in the last two years.

Green spaces, including trees, bring people outdoors. They also reduce greenhouse gases, capture urban runoff and reduce cancer causing UV radiation by shading pedestrians. There are also the less obvious aesthetic benefits such as the wind blowing through their branches, the increase in wildlife and the way trees mark the changing seasons. The NPA now has some 20 street co-ordinators for tree plantings. We can always do with more people!

National Tree Day

To celebrate National Tree Day we are having street plantings in several of Naremburn's streets on NATIONAL TREE DAY – Sunday 31 July. (<http://www.planetark.com/index.cfm>) This is the second year that this is being carried out with some 35 trees having been planted in July last year with residents pitching in. All of these trees have survived their crucial first year and are doing well. For more details see the Community Notice Board.

Childcare, is it a local problem?

One of the major concerns I heard as I spoke to people prior to last year's Council elections was the lack of childcare services in the city and I promised to address the issue as a matter of urgency.

In the past year, Council has approved the establishment of one preschool facility adjacent to Bales Park. It is active in encouraging and assisting preschools; it runs two long day care centres; it organises and supervises a family day care program as well as after-school care and vacation care. Private enterprise provides a further 600+ places for long day care. Council continues to assist private operators to get their DA and other approvals completed. A couple of months ago I attended the Children's Services Forum meeting. I was expecting that there might be comments from parents upset at not being able to find childcare places for their offspring. This was not the case; in fact there were few present who were 'just' parents, despite childcare being provided during the meeting. Those who were there were mostly representing a particular group in Children's Services. The absence of discussion about the shortage of places got me wondering whether there really is a problem even though most parents put their babies' names on waiting lists for services as soon as they are born. So I am left with the question of whether Willoughby really does have a problem of insufficient childcare facilities or has only the perception of a problem.

I would like to hear from parents about their experiences in getting their children into childcare, particularly in this past year but also in prior years. Please let me know your good stories as well as problems you have had. I will be particularly happy to hear about any solutions to these issues that you might have or which have been successful elsewhere.

Councillor Barry Thompson

33 Tindale Rd. Artarmon Phone 9412 1596 Barry.Thompson@Willoughby.nsw.gov.au

Free Native Plants

Where:

Warners Park, Northbridge

When:

Sunday 31 July 10am–2.00pm

All local residents that attend will be provided with a free native plant for their own backyard.



**Naremburn
Neighbourhood
Watch**

False Alarms

A security alarm is a very good deterrent against burglars when properly installed, maintained and monitored. However, the usefulness is dramatically reduced where persistent false alarms occur. "Familiarity breeds contempt" and so it is that most people refuse to take any notice of house alarms that "go off" on a regular basis. If you have an alarm fitted in your home, ensure:

1. *That the detectors are free of pests and insects;*
2. *Pets are confined to a dedicated area;*
3. *All key holders know how to turn off the alarm;*
4. *The system is properly installed and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.*

As a general rule, your neighbours are your best watchdogs. Get to know them, alert them to the fact that your house is fitted with an alarm and seek their assistance in keeping a look out if the alarm sounds.

(The NPA would like to thank the NNHW street co-ordinators who distribute Naremburn Matters on a voluntary basis – Editor)

All Weather Loom

LLOYD LOOM

Lloyd Loom Lusty Classics all weather loom furniture "Mar y Sol", has now been released in Australia. Raising the bar in both design and all weather quality, our design team have effortlessly re-created classic moods from the past merged with contemporary lines for today and tomorrow. The frames are all powder coated aluminium and all coverings are manufactured from Viro woven fibre, "Internationally recognised as the premium choice in the production of all durable, all weather furniture". Lloyd Loom Lusty Classics luxuriates the outdoor lovers with affordability, comfort and style, unmatched by its competitors. The Mar y Sol range is guaranteed against fading, cracking or peeling! - All the loom is not shiny, maximising a natural effect! Viro is 100% recyclable.

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Loom

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Noticeboard

We welcome contributions to the community noticeboard. It provides free advertising for not-for-profit community and charity organisations in Naremburn. Please ring David MacGowan on 9437 0556

Computer Training for Seniors

The Crows Nest Centre Computer Club is running classes for seniors (aged 55 and over) in using computers. Slow-paced classes cater for beginners, as well as some computing experience. 4-week modules, with a 90 min class p.w. Computer Basics, Word Processing, Spreadsheets, Internet and Email. Very low fees. Write to: Crows Nest Centre Computer Club, 2 Ernest Place, Crows Nest 2065 or call 9460 8866 and leave message. Volunteer tutors and administrative helpers welcome.

Naremburn "Over Fifties"

Meets almost every Monday at 10.30am in the Community Centre. Come along and enjoy speakers, demonstrations, member participation discussions or leisure activities. Contact Lorna (Secretary) 9436 3304 or Nola (President) 9958 4140 for more information.

Breastfeeding Association

Meets in the Community Centre on the first Tuesday of every month from 10am–12 noon. Your local Breastfeeding Counsellor is Michelle 9906 3353.

Environmental Workshops with Willoughby Council

Bushcare Training Workshops – September 3, 10, and 17
Weed Identification Course – August 27
Native Plants & Eucalypts Identification – September 24
Community Fauna Survey – October 8 am and October 22 pm
Wildlife Awareness – October 15
Classes are FREE and open to everyone. Contact Mandy on 9777 7718 for more details.

Naremburn Branch Library

Community Centre, 7 Central Street
Mondays & Thursdays 2:30–5:00pm
Saturdays 9:30–12 Noon
Ph: 9438 5584 during opening hours
Ph: 9777 7900 at other times.

To the Editor

Contributions to: PO Box 393, St Leonards 1590
NaremburnMatters@yahoo.com (150 word limit)

Mayor Congratulates NPA

Congratulations on your first edition of 'Naremburn Matters'.

It is very pleasing that the current committee of the NPA has put time and energy into producing an excellent, informative and entertaining newsletter for the benefit of residents in the 2,700 households of the suburb of Naremburn. The editor Launch Committee's efforts have resulted in a very good newsletter. Well done!

I understand that distribution of the newsletter was aided by the street coordinators of Naremburn Neighbourhood Watch, a real collaborative effort by local volunteers. I note that several local businesses supported the inaugural April 2005 issue with advertising. Such co-operation within the suburb is for the benefit of all and is to be commended.

As Mayor of Willoughby, I am always appreciative of local residents being involved in the well-being and welfare of their suburb. The NPA, in its 104th year of operation, continues to act on behalf of and in the interests of all residents of its suburb.

I encourage residents to read each quarterly issue of Naremburn Matters. Write to the Editor regarding issues concerning you and consider becoming a member of the Naremburn Progress Association.

Keep up the good work!

Mayor Pat Reilly, Chatswood

Bitumen in Park

We were dismayed to learn that part of the proposed redevelopment of Naremburn Park includes a 3 metre wide bitumen track around the perimeter. Not only will this be an unwelcome eyesore on what is one of the few remaining verdant areas in Naremburn, it may have a damaging effect on the existing, mostly mature native trees that line the park. We have requested that Council commission an environmental impact study.

As residents and daily users of the park we can see no reason for laying bitumen over the grass and soil. The few people that use it for walking or running will not benefit in any practical way and the path will simply clash with the natural landscape.

Surely we are confronted with enough roads, concrete and other forms of ground cover that chokes our soil without adding to it by installing a totally unnecessary bitumen path. What practical purpose will the path serve? The walk around the park can be done in any weather conditions.

It is a level, fast draining surface and not likely to cause any tripping or falling accidents. We are asking residents to support our contention that this is a damaging and aesthetically undesirable change to a lovely part of our landscape and we have requested a response from the council as to why this path is considered necessary. Surely the expenditure would be better spent on more trees around the perimeter and not ground choking bitumen.

Jonathan Foley & Helen Noble, Naremburn

Naremburn Community at Work

On 26 June 2005, a group from St Leonard's Catholic Church, headed to the kitchen at St Canice's Church, Elizabeth Bay to serve a meal for the homeless and destitute who live in the Kings Cross area. It was the fourth year in a row that the parish has undertaken this task.

The members of St Leonard's Church responded with great generosity: there were a total of 18 casseroles made, 15 volunteers for the day and donations totalling about \$600. This year they served 263 meals, together with ice cream, fruit salad and sauce and fresh fruit to a very grateful group of people.

Many are afflicted by the ravages of drug or alcohol addiction, some by mental illness, whilst others have fallen on hard times through gambling or family problems.

A wonderful aspect of the day was the contribution of a small number of young people who, though still school students, showed great maturity in their efforts to serve meals, clear up and do the dishes.

Share your community story with us.

Email us at: NaremburnMatters@yahoo.com (150 word limit)

