

Naremburn Matters

March 2006 Vol.1, No.4

Circulation 3,000

The newsletter of the
Naremburn Progress Association (NPA)

Welcome to this edition of Naremburn Matters

The word community conjures many meanings. What does it mean to you? Is community the two or three streets that pass by or intersect at your house? What is your involvement in it? I've heard the story of the Naremburn woman who was pregnant with her third child. Her neighbour was ready and waiting to help out in the middle of the night, when labour pains called, to sleep near and watch over the children waiting at home for their new brother or sister to arrive. Most of us would count ourselves lucky to have that kind of neighbour in the streets near us. And in Naremburn, largely, we do have that. There are countless streets I know of, Bongalong, Grandview, Olympia, Northcote and more, that have Christmas gatherings, street parties, and neighbourhood events to enjoy one another's company and feel part of a community.

As school begins for many children entering the big world of kindergarten for the first time, I've witnessed the community of mothers first hand. We gather at local public schools to support each other as we see our precious children off to school for the first time, witnessing and sharing together a memorable milestone in our lives. The power of the community of mothers to support us in however we embrace the event – with joy or with sadness or wistfulness – is amazing.

I know from living in the small, sometimes 'tight knit' Naremburn community, the part of the larger Willoughby council community of the even larger community that is Sydney, that the point is you choose what community means to you and you decide how you live it. And that it is likely to be a different choice for every member. The question is, what choice are you making? And is it making a difference?

Come to the Annual General Meeting of the Naremburn Progress Association on 9 March and make a difference. Be informed. Have your say. Get involved in your community.

In this issue:

- ▶ Naremburn Progress Association Meeting and AGM
- ▶ Hail Our Unsung Heroes
- ▶ Lane Cove Tunnel Project – Naremburn Update
- ▶ Take Five with Dulcie Barratt
- ▶ Save our Library?!
- ▶ In Memoriam
- ▶ Sustainability Street
- ▶ Councillor Corner
- ▶ Naremburn Neighborhood Watch
- ▶ To the Editor
- ▶ What Stinks This Month!

Naremburn Progress Association – March Meeting – AGM

The next meeting of the NPA will be held on Thursday, 9 March in the Community Centre, Central Street Naremburn, commencing at 7:30 pm.

This meeting will include the Annual General Meeting (AGM) at which the annual election of the Executive Committee will take place. All positions on the committee will be declared vacant, but in particular there is a need to identify a new **Secretary of the Association**, as the current member will be moving out of the district.

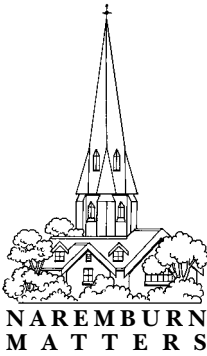
All residents and businesses in Naremburn are eligible for membership of the Association and welcome to attend meetings. A special invitation is extended to the March AGM.

BE INFORMED! HAVE YOUR SAY! GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

NAREMBURN VILLAGE SHOPS

Photographic artwork by:
David Waters
7 June 2005





Nareburn Progress Association
 Founded 1901
 ABN 93 907 169 376
 PO Box 393
 St Leonards 1590
 NareburnMatters@yahoo.com

President

Ronan Ahern : 9438 2983

Vice President

Kevin FitzPatrick : 9439 8119

Secretary

David MacGowan : 9437 0556

Treasurer

Carolyn New : 9438 1903

Meetings

Nareburn Community Centre
 Central Street, Nareburn
 Second Thursday of each month

**Nareburn Matters
 Editor**

Katherine Raskob-Esman
 0419 497 243

Typesetting & Printing by
 Robin Phelan & Associates : 9958 4191

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

Hail our Unsung Heroes

In his excellent local history, *The Nareburn Story*, Eric Wilksch pays tribute to the unsung heroes of Nareburn.

He relates that in the aftermath of the Boer War and The Great War of 1914-18, many youths, toughened by war, put their newfound leadership skills into building a better local community in their homeland. Churches and schools were built. At the time Nareburn was considered the neglected outskirts of the Borough of Willoughby, so, rather than engage in worthless complaining, the locals banded together to form, in 1901, one of Australia's first Progress Associations. Their vision was for better roads and transport, improved street lighting, a bridge to link Sydney's north to the CBD and better local amenities – a hall, a free children's library and a baby health care clinic.

The Suburban Herald of 27 April 1928, a mere 13 years after Gallipoli and on the threshold of the Great Depression, reported:

"It is doubtful if in any other portion of North Shore there are so many civic activities as in Nareburn. There are few of its citizens who are not interested in local movements.... Nareburn sometimes complains that it is the Cinderella in the eyes of the Willoughby Municipal Council but, if that is so, it is not the fault of the local progress association, which is composed of men who have a liberal amount of common sense, and a wonderful capacity for service. This body is very alert in the interests of the suburb, and the two representatives of Nareburn in the Willoughby Council – Aldermen H.W. Clark and H.P. Piper – are able and tireless fighters for the rights of their constituents. Anyhow there need be no fears that Nareburn will not be a place of expanding interests and progress. With so many civic activities as its assets it is destined to become one of the choicest parts of North Shore."

As the Depression deepened local business owners like Billy Jack and Mr Taniane, with a mixed business on the corner of Chandos and West Streets (father of Mrs Mary Teteris of Merrenburn Avenue), supplied needy families with goods on credit, often unredeemed. Local businesses contributed to the heroic work

of Mrs Agnes Norton, The Soup Kitchen Queen, as she provided soup for school children and their families. (See page 6) On 6 May 1947, the Progress Association called for a public meeting with all local bodies to discuss a Public Hall for Nareburn. This meeting subsequently took place at the Faunce residence in Garland Road on 27 May and the Nareburn Amenities Development Association was formed. The NADA objectives were a Public Hall, also a Children's Library, Public Gymnasium and Baby Health Centre. Fundraising was both fruitful and community building with such activities as house parties, card parties, balls, dances, and carnivals. The first of a number of big carnivals was held on Australia Day, 1948 at Hallstrom Park. The Hall as such never eventuated. The Nareburn Library, pre school facility and Community Centre in Central Street are testimony to the vision and hard work of Alderman A Faunce and wife Ivy, Eric and Vi Wilksch and Joan Warren, nee Ranyard, to name a few of our unsung heroes of Nareburn.

Each year the NPA acknowledges outstanding contribution to the Nareburn community.

Last December we recognised:

1. Mrs Mary Francis, owner/operator of the Grafton Avenue tennis facility, for 30 years service;
2. Members of the Nareburn Bushcare Group, for 5 years work in restoring the Ella Street triangle, the walking track behind Nareburn Park and the walking track from Dalleys Road down through the Talus Reserve;
3. The late Mrs Joan Warren, for her work to establish community facilities, our over 50s club, the St Cuthbert's Church community, Nareburn School Canteen, the historical and garden clubs.

We remember the late Councillor Joe Ciantar for his tireless work for Nareburn Ward. Joe kept the NPA alive when its numbers had diminished.

We acknowledge the local Churches for their contribution to our Nareburn community, the schools and their dedicated teachers and finally the 'Ambos', Central District Ambulance in Slade Street, and the volunteers of the State Emergency Service, based in Station Street.

TO ONE AND ALL WHO HAVE MADE AND ARE MAKING NAREMBURN A PLACE TO LOVE AND TO LIVE IN, WE SAY THANK YOU. WE HAIL YOU, OUR UNSUNG HEROES!

Kevin FitzPatrick,
 NPA Vice President

Nareburn Progress Association

MEMBERSHIP

\$10 per person, \$1 concession

Membership year ends 31 December

Full names

.....

.....

Address

Telephone Fees \$

Email Donation \$

Post to PO Box 393, St Leonards 1590 or bring to next meeting. **TOTAL \$**

Lane Cove Tunnel Project Naremburn Update

Naremburn Hill

James Smallhorn from WCC spoke to the December 2005 NPA meeting regarding the landscaping design for the land on the corner of Willoughby Road and the Gore Hill Freeway, opposite the shops. The Lane Cove Tunnel Project (LCTP) will fund the landscaping, with WCC paying for signage which the NPA has been requesting as a welcome to Naremburn. It is proposed to have a sandstone wall as a prominent signage backdrop. A noise wall will also be installed along the northern side of the residential building adjacent to the site and it has been suggested that this wall incorporate a design reflecting the outline of Willoughby Road looking up towards Dalleys Road. Queries were raised about lighting and the type of signage proposed. A meeting of interested people will be held to further discuss the proposed design, which needs sign off this month. Thanks to James for his attendance and interest in the project.

Project Update

The Parliamentary Secretary for Roads has finally responded to the NPA letter seeking the permanent closure of the Gore Hill Freeway (GHF) stubs adjacent to Walter Street. No new information was provided, just a repeat of known information that these "provide for future eastbound exit and westbound entry ramps from Willoughby Road to the GHF" and that "no funding for the ramps appears in the current Roads and Traffic Authority's construction programs. Construction of the ramps is unlikely to occur in the next five years." The RTA's GM, Motorways Construction, Mr Garry Humphrey, has been nominated as a contact and the NPA agreed that the issue of permanent closure of these "stubs" should be pursued.

The RTA has also responded to the NPA on three related matters:

1. Local area traffic management schemes – they regard the Artarmon community advisory group as encompassing Naremburn issues, but have agreed to additional "before" tunnel project traffic counts in some Naremburn streets.
2. Regarding noise barriers and in particular paint colour and anti graffiti measures. The resident side of the walls will be painted with Dulux Domino (charcoal blue) and combined with extensive landscaping, is regarded by the RTA as the best graffiti deterrent.
3. A transparent noise barrier will not be built on the east side of the GHF near Merrenburn Avenue as it "would not be consistent with the urban design in the area, the barrier footings would have a greater impact on existing trees and that it would be subject to graffiti."

True or False

How well do you know your suburb?

- 1 Local hero kills monster in the vicinity of Flat Rock Creek.
- 2 The medical centre at Willoughby Road, next to Montien Thai, was once a dental practice.
- 3 Australia's highly decorated war heroine, Nancy Wake, nicknamed *The White Mouse*, because of her elusiveness to the World War II Gestapo, lived in Naremburn for a short time.
- 4 One of Sydney's leading tailors once lived in Northcote Street.
- 5 Dalleys Road was so called because of the people who would dally at the corner of Willoughby Road outside St Leonard's Catholic Church after attending dances or Housie in the parish hall.
- 6 In the Depression years, Naremburn had a local heroine known as 'The Soup Kitchen Queen'.

(Answers on page 6)

Some estate agents expect you to pay thousands of dollars
before your property is sold.

If they fail, guess who loses?

BUT NOT AT

MERRICK ESTATE AGENTS

**You won't pay a red cent unless
your property is sold at the price you want.**

Consider these benefits:

- **No upfront costs**
- **No open houses – therefore no security risk**
- **No advertising rebates or kickbacks**
- **All buyers qualified before inspecting property.**
- **7 day service**
- **NO FEES AT ALL UNLESS SOLD AND HAPPY**

www.merrickestateagents.com.au

merrick
ESTATE AGENTS

9958 4055

3/108 Penshurst St, Willoughby

OPEN 7 DAYS

Save our Library?!

Some investigation of Council's recent Property Plan highlighted an alarming note. The Property Plan aims to allow informed decision to be made when determining the future of Council-owned properties and other Government or community-owned properties. On the Nareburn Library, the following point was made:

"This branch sits within the Nareburn Community Centre and has little after hours security and while utilized, there may be a long term option to close this branch, should the Northbridge and Artarmon Branch libraries be upgraded. No action should be taken on this site, until the future of other branch libraries is determined. If this branch library was closed, it would provide an opportunity to expand the community centre operations and rationalize childcare operations from the site."

It would be a shame to have our local library shut down. What do you think?
NareburnMatters@yahoo.com.

In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that the Nareburn community mourns the loss of two of its very active and prominent community members, Joe Ciantar and Joan Warren.

Joe Ciantar, a Nareburn resident for 33 years and former Willoughby Council Deputy Mayor, also served as Nareburn Ward Councillor from 1977 until 1995. He devoted enormous amounts of time to the Nareburn Progress Association, local churches and schools, the Over 50s Club and the Chamber of Commerce, among others.

Joan Warren was also very active in the community, where she was often seen volunteering her days at the Nareburn Public School, including the Canteen, the Mothers' Club and the Ladies Auxiliary. She was a founding member of the Nareburn Over 50s Club, serving as Secretary, Treasurer and finally President. She was a tireless contributor to Nareburn and the wider Willoughby Community.

Both will be sorely missed.

Take Five...with Dulcie Barratt

Dulcie Barratt's 80 plus years and health challenges melt away as she enthusiastically recounts loving memories of Nareburn. Dulcie came here from Willoughby, in 1933, aged nine. Her father was a First World War digger, her Mum, an accomplished horsewoman from the Culcairn district, worked at the Royal North Shore Hospital for 37 years. Her brother, Lesley Moore, now deceased, became NSW Commissioner for Land Tax.

Here are some of Dulcie's memories recorded on 9 February 2006 during a conversation in her meticulously kept home in Dalleys Road.

"I can still remember feeling excited about the construction of the Harbour Bridge. We would follow its progress on our ferry trips from Milsons Point to the City. On one occasion we were very excited to see 2 cars parked together in a nearby street. There were few cars in those days, so local children played cricket and rounders in Dalleys Road without interruption. Mum and I would love to walk along Merrenburn Avenue and Wheatleigh Street where they had the nicest houses in the district. I never liked circuses after attending one down on the corner of Chandos Street and Willoughby Road. The mane on the poor lion caught fire as it jumped through a burning hoop! We also used to go to the Sesqui picture theatre, later The Metro, on Pacific Highway, Crows Nest. It was on the south side of the highway opposite a vacant block where the present Crows Nest Post Office stands.

From our verandah on Dalleys we could look north over the schoolyard across the road and beyond, to Foster's Dairy. You could see cows grazing on what are now the grounds of Channel 9. The milk was quite weak, in fact, it was a chalky colour. (Maybe it was an early version of Lite milk! – KF)

We loved to go to dances. I met my first husband at the dance at nearby St Leonard's Catholic Church Hall. It had the best-sprung floor. Women wore evening dress and men wore suits. Ballroom dancing was all the go though we would occasionally jitterbug. The night the Japanese submarines entered Sydney Harbour we were at a dance in Chatswood and heard the sirens go off!

My daughter, Lorraine, unlike me, loved school. In 1958, Lorraine was Dux of Nareburn School in Dalleys Road. I remember the toilets down in the schoolyard where Treetops, part of the Chancellor Gardens development, now stands. The toilets were shockers. I was glad to be able to go home for lunch! Other kids were envious because I lived so close.

I met my second husband, Bill Barratt, at a dance at the Anzac Memorial Club in Cammeray. He was an accomplished musician and had his own band The Bill Barratt Band. They played many well-known Sydney dance venues and had a programme on 2CH called Let's Dance. Bill discovered Warren Daly and Ed Wilson who went on to form the Daly Wilson Big Band. Don Burrows occasionally played in Bill's band. The band was chosen to open the programme at the Sydney Musicians' Club when Tony Bennett visited town. Bennett was suitably impressed!"

I asked Dulcie how she would sum up her memories of Nareburn.

"I love my Nareburn. You can't beat North Shore"

Kevin FitzPatrick, NPA Vice President

Sustainability Street

Willoughby City Council is currently recruiting residents to join its Sustainability Street program. The program encourages residents to join together and collectively create sustainable homes and neighbourhoods and have heaps of fun in the process.

The program is aimed at reducing our impact on the environment. As well as getting to know your neighbours and learning tips on saving money and the environment, each participant's goal is to reduce waste to landfill by more than 50 per cent, save \$500 a year through everyday energy conservation techniques, and reduce water usage by up to 60,000 litres per year.

Willoughby residents are invited to approach Willoughby Council staff either as an individual, household or as an already formed group or street. Anyone can form a Sustainability Street. They also encourage groups of friends, apartment blocks or parents who meet through their children's sporting groups to form Sustainability Streets.

The Sustainability Street approach is based on experiences and input from hundreds of communities and organisations across Australia over the last 20 years. In the 21st century the smart nations, companies, individuals and communities will be those who embrace the sustainability challenge which is a kind of 'ecological restoration' that grows out of the efforts of small, local communities working together.

The vast majority of people have a desire to make sustainability practice a bigger part of their lives. There are great sustainability initiatives happening every day in the wider world. To find out if there is a Sustainability Street forming near you, or for information about forming your own group, phone 9777 7873.

Councillor Corner

Here's some of what your local councillors have been up to the last quarter:

Barry Thompson bjth@bigpond.net.au

I attended the launch of an initiative called Sustainability Street in late November. I was impressed with the concept that asks committed residents to organise a group in their area to initiate and support activities that have a focus of reducing our demand on the world's resources. A number of families in Artarmon and Naremburn expressed an interest in leading a group and you might get a call from one of them soon. See page 4 for more information on Sustainability Street.

I moved the motion that the Willoughby Strategic Plan go on public exhibition. I was rather disappointed with the process of preparation of the Plan as it unfolded but on balance was happy to support it. It seemed to me that some Councillors were, at best, indifferent to the process. Just this week we are facing up to the task of using the SP to inform our deliberations on the 2006-2010 Management Plan.

There was a surge in DAs requiring resolution by Ward Councillor committee in late December (was it coincidental?). It proved impossible to find mutually acceptable dates for all councillors before Christmas and one application was held over till last week. I regret that on two issues the Ward councillors were not able to reach consensus so that these have been referred to the full Council. Revised procedures were intended to minimise such referrals. Nonetheless, I am confident that the new system is an advance and that it is working satisfactorily in the majority of cases. The amount of DA business consuming the time at Full Council meetings has certainly reduced.

Stuart Coppock Stuart.Coppock@willoughby.nsw.gov.au

Council reviewing garbage collection

A report will be to Council early this year offering options to Council for a rearranged garbage collection. There is nothing definite at this time as review of options and discussions are still on foot. What's being looked at is four general clean ups a year. This is what was available under the previous contract. There will be a green waste collection. What is under consideration and will be a step forward is a one to one call up general pick up service. I will be looking for and supporting a service of this nature. I have received representations on this issue. The service is in line with what North Sydney Council offers it ratepayers.

St Leonard's Strategic Study

The first consultative meetings with property owners and residents were held in the third week of January. Notifications of the meetings went out on the 29 December 2005! The State Government is funding this study and wants the report in before mid year. The study involves three Local Government areas; Willoughby, North Sydney and Lane Cove. I was the only Councillor at the residents meeting. The recently formed St Leonards/Artarmon Chamber of Commerce was represented. Otherwise most of the people present came from North Sydney and Lane Cove. The gathering was told that the Government was looking for employment generation in the area; half of which is expected to come from the flow on effects of the Royal North Shore Hospital Masterplan which is due for release in 2007. (This has now been designated a Significant State Project.)

The gathering was also informed that the State Government was looking for an increase in persons living in the region as part of the State Government's Metro Study. The region does cover six local government areas and this was the extent of the information provided. As would be expected, this information created a lively discussion from all present.

Companion Animals

The Companion Animals Amendment Act 2005 and Amending Regulation were gazetted on Friday, 13 January 2006.

Under the Regulation, the Registration Fees for Companion Animals have been increased. There has not been much publicity given to the new fees.

The State Government has requested that councils apply the new fees effective from 13 January 2006 but allowance has been made on the register to accept the old fee in situations where people are registering their animals within a week or two of the change over date. Councils are being asked to use their discretion to resolve these cases. The Amendment Act includes a number of new requirements for dealing with Dangerous Dogs but it also introduces increases to the fines applicable under the Companion Animals Act.

As an observation I had occasion to call the Council Rangers at the end of January

...continued on page 6

Comic Corner

An elderly man in Melbourne calls his middle-aged son in Sydney and says, "I hate to ruin your day, but I have to tell you that your mother and I are divorcing. Forty years of misery is enough." "Pop, what are you talking about?" the son screams.

"We can't stand the sight of each other any longer," the old man says. "We're sick of each other, and I'm sick of talking about this, so you can call your sister in Perth and tell her," and he hangs up.

Frantic, the son calls his sister who explodes on the phone. "Like heck they're getting divorced" she shouts. "I'll take care of this." She calls her father immediately and screams at the old man, "You are NOT getting divorced! Don't do a think until I get there. I'm calling my brother back and we'll both be there tomorrow. DO YOU HEAR ME?" and hangs up.

The old man hangs up his end of the phone and turns to his wife, "It's okay," he says. "They're coming for the holidays. And they're paying their OWN air fares!"

Doris Biggs

LITTLE LEGENDS

CHILDREN'S LITERACY, SPORTS, GAMES & EXERCISE PROGRAMS



CHATSWOOD OVAL

Little Legends is back at Chatswood Oval in 2006, offering:

- Outdoor sports programs*
- Golf lessons
- Letterland literacy programs

ENROLLING NOW

☎ 9966 5151

(* undercover facility available in case of rain)

Penny Wade

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

Massage Therapist & Herbalist

Detox and Destress now!

Qualified therapist for:

Herbal Medicine to help you detox, for arthritis, coughs & colds, stress, weight loss and more.

Massage to relax your tight computer neck, back & shoulders plus an exercise program and postural education.

Mention this ad for your bonus iridology analysis.

Call Penny 9436 0306

True or False

1 FALSE

An old timer describing himself as 'over 70', wrote in The Suburban Herald of 20 September 1938 about the legend of an immense python living in the vicinity of Flat Rock Creek. The modern Hercules who slew the 'dragon', said to measure 20 feet, was a lad called Doyle.

2 TRUE

Mr Stanley New, no relative of our current NPA Treasurer, Carolyn New, had a dental practice on this site, circa 1919. His hours of business are recorded as:
Mon-Fri 9:00am to 5:00pm,
Sat 9:00am to 12 Noon.

3 FALSE

Nancy Wake was highly decorated by the French, British and US Governments for her work as an undercover agent assisting Allied POWs escape from German occupied France during World War II and for coordinating arms and equipment drops to the French Resistance. Nancy lived in neighbouring Crows Nest from 1985 to 1994. Now in her 90s, she resides in London.

4 TRUE

Lazarus Pura lived at 'Spinoza', 98 Northcote Street. His city business catered for leading members of society and politics, even Prime Ministers. He used specially made buttons, bearing his name.

5 FALSE

Dalleys Road was probably named after William Bede Dalley, politician and NSW Solicitor-General, 1858-9 and NSW Attorney General 1875-7, 1883-5. Dalley, who had declined a knighthood and the office of Chief Justice of New South Wales, was in 1887 appointed a member of the Privy Council -- the first Australian on whom that honour was conferred.

6 TRUE

During the Depression, Mrs Agnes Morton of Atchison Street prevailed on Naremburn's Anglican Rector, Reverend Edgar Potter, to allow her to use the Anglican church hall to prepare soup for needy people of the district, particularly children from the local schools. Local businesses provided produce while the North Shore Gas Company lent and installed five gas coppers in the hall rear annex for the use of the soup kitchen. Mrs Morton was known as 'The Soup Kitchen Queen'.

Councillor Corner

continued from page 5

concerning a dog with a leash attached which was wandering the streets and in a distressed state. The Council Ranger responded quickly and attended to the dog's physical needs with compassion and understanding. The dog had had a history with the Council Rangers that assisted with the Ranger's response but nonetheless I was impressed and frankly proud of the service provided.

Continuing on from this in my time as a Councillor I have become aware of the many, many services that Willoughby Council provides to its community. The Council Officers do a fine job in making the ratepayer's dollar stretch to meet the needs of our wider community and with a quality service. In a time of a difficult transition a father, living in Melbourne, whose former wife living in Manly had died, tells that Willoughby Council is offering a service to his disabled son who lives north of Sydney Harbour; it brings a renewed recognition of how wonderful our staff are and how generous our community is to support the Council offering such a service.

Kate Lamb kate.lamb@willoughby.nsw.gov.au

I'm still fired up about the Chatswood Station redevelopment! Ever since it became clear that the old platform arrangement couldn't accommodate the new Epping Line, it seems that the public interest has taken a back seat compared to the government's No 1 objective – maximise the developer's profit. Despite your Council advocating for things like :

- level access between east and west sides of the station;
- a safe, direct and attractive path of travel between bus and rail;
- direct pedestrian and bike access into the station from all directions, and
- retention/increase of "kiss and ride" drop off points in the general vicinity,

none of these reasonable expectations have been met. We have been ignored as well as cheated (out of \$94 funds). What we have instead is an almost total enclosure of public space, with wall to wall retail concessions making direct paths of travel impossible and level changes similar to those we had. Of course it is a good thing that there will be lift and escalator access to get between ticket office and platform but it's a far cry from the 'Transport Interchange' we were promised.

The new planning regime put in place last year means that we, along with all other metro Councils, have been stripped of our role as consent authority in such projects, all we can do is inform our residents of the facts as we see them. And one of those facts is that there is very much higher level of accountability in neighbourhood development than there is in the case of 'critical infrastructure' in this city.

So much for the heat, now on a matter of light ...the Land Cove Tunnel/Gore Hill Freeway project's Urban Design Team have proposed translucent noise walls for a section of the Gore Hill Freeway which runs along the south side of Artarmon Oval. It is understood that this is to enliven the route for motorists, thereby minimising accidents through driver fatigue. Council has asserted the neighbourhood's right to have a say on this proposal and it has requested proper advertisement, possibly by way of signage along the green path around the oval so I hope all users will keep an eye out for this. Council staff have advised that whilst there may be some disturbance of nocturnal wildlife (headlight glare) in the reserve and that this is not ideal, they will not be objecting on these grounds. If you have a view, I encourage you to document it (email: Susan.Allton@LCT.OPTUSinCITE.com), as a decision is to be made very soon. During last year, some of you participated in the development of Council's Strategic Plan which is now on exhibition at our Libraries till late February.

Also on exhibition is our Property Plan – both documents will have a big impact on the way our annual Budget and Management Plan will look from now on, so now is a good time to have a look and/or let me know if you'd like to borrow my copies (the author of the Property Plan raises the possibility of closing the Naremburn Library – is that a good idea?).





Naremburn Neighbourhood Watch

March 2006 Report

Stranger Danger

As many of you would be aware by now through the NNHW email service that we operate, we have just had a reminder about looking out for our kids.

For those of you not yet up to speed we had a male, approximately late 40s to early 50s, grey short hair around six feet tall riding a pushbike up and down Bongalong St and taking an keen interest in the kids playing in the street.

After several passes up and down he then went to the bottom of the street to look at the street name signs. He then called someone on his mobile phone.

Following this he got back on his bike and made one more up and down pass of the street, with the last pass riding on the pavement next to and between the children. This may, of course, have been completely innocent behaviour and I am reading it completely wrong, but I rang the police and reported it just in case. They took it seriously and sent a car to try to find him and have a chat. They patrolled our street twice as well.

This is, though, a timely reminder that there have been a number of attempted abductions of children in the Sydney area in the last several months, some of them not far from here.

While a guy on a bike obviously can't pick up and carry off a kid without considerable difficulty and calling a fair amount of attention to himself, he might have some mates with a van.

So, if you see anyone watching our local kids with more than the usual benign enjoyment that adults generally watch kids with, please, get a description or number plate and let the police know on 9414 8499. Anything serious should be reported on 000.

Break and Enters

We are short on police statistics again, apologies; I know everyone likes these. This means I can't give you the real deal on what is happening, so will have to rely on the local grapevine instead.

It seems that our midnight visitor(s) is back in operation again after an absence of about 18 months.

The method of entry used by this thief is to enter through an open window or door **WHILE PEOPLE ARE AT HOME AND ASLEEP** in the middle of the night.

These guys seem to know which windows/doors people leave open on a regular basis. They are also obviously quite game.

About 18 months ago when these were last happening one neighbour who awoke to a noise and turned lights on found that the thieves had opened their back sliding doors and obtained a shovel from the shed to bring into the house with them.

The morals of this little story are:

- Make sure you lock all windows and doors.
- If you want night-time breeze get some window locks that can lock the window in an open position that a person cannot climb through.
- Don't approach these guys and try and sort it out yourself, call 000 and they will send someone.

If these are the same people that have resumed their activities, the last description we had of them was two males, fair hair, tall, athletic (able to leap paling fences in a single bound actually).

However, it may not be these guys anymore. So, if you see anyone hanging around looking out of place, or people wandering the streets at night please take the details and let crimestoppers know (for info) 1800 333 000, even if it's the next day when you get to ringing them. Or, if it's more important, the police station. If a break and enter is in progress please call 000.



Come and meet Amanda Inglis at L.J. Hooker Crows Nest.



Amanda Inglis
0414 619 004

L.J. Hooker Crows Nest
1 Alexander Street
Crows Nest 2065
Phone: 9439 1200

Amanda's years of first-hand knowledge
of the local market

(she even lives in Naremburn!)

and her commitment to the area

has earned her the great reputation she has today,
as well as clients who keep coming back.

It's no surprise that she was awarded entry into
the L.J. Hooker Multi Million Dollar Captains Club
as recognition of her outstanding performance.

In both her role as a company director
and real estate agent,

Amanda's high personal standards and
unique style are as accessible as ever
to those wishing for an agent willing
to go the extra mile.

Amanda's enthusiasm, expertise and
professionalism are well known
to property investors in the North Shore area.

Amanda's commitment to you is that she will look after
your property as if it were her own.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting for 2006 is

Date: Wednesday 8 March 2006

Time: 8:00pm

Where: St Cuthbert's Church Hall,
Merrenburn Avenue

Please let us know of any issues/topics on
the e-mail address: naremnhw@tpg.com.au
or call Sue on 9436 3564. If you would like
to be added to our email report service
please email us on the address above and
we will add you to the list.

Something to Think About

A budget is an orderly way of
discovering that you can't live on what
you are earning!

The kind of behaviour that once
brought shame and disgrace now
brings a book, movie, or a TV contract.

Computers will never replace people
entirely until they learn to laugh at
the boss's jokes!

Be true to your teeth and they won't
be false to you!

Noticeboard

We welcome contributions to the community noticeboard. It provides free advertising for not-for-profit community and charity organisations in Nareburn. Please ring Katherine on 0419 497 243

NPA Annual General Meeting

The March meeting will include the Annual General Meeting and election of officers and will be held on Thursday 9 March at 7:30pm in the Community Centre. Phone David McGowan for more information on 9437 0556.

Easter Church Services St Leonard's Catholic Church

Holy Thursday, 13 April – 7:00pm
Good Friday Stations of the Cross,
Friday 14 April – 10:00am
Celebration of the Lord's Passion, Friday
14 April – 3:00pm
Easter Vigil, Saturday 15 April – 7:00pm
Easter Sunday, 16 April – 8:00am and
10:30am.
For more information, phone the church
on 9438 1011.

Easter Church Services St Cuthbert's Anglican Church

Good Friday, 14 April – 8:00am
(Holy Communion) and 10:00am (Holy
Communion)
Easter Sunday, 16 April – 8:00am,
10:00am, 5:00pm and 7:00pm

Nareburn Branch Library

Free activities are available for children during the Easter school holidays.
Tuesday 18 April : 3pm–4pm young heroes and villains between the ages of 5 and 12 years can enjoy a "Heroes and Villains" craft session.
Friday 28 April : 10:30am–11:15am children under 6 are invited to listen to stories and enjoy 'Daring Deeds' craft.
Bookings are required:
Community Centre, 7 Central Street
Mondays & Thursdays 2:30–5:00pm
Saturdays 9:30–12 Noon
Ph: 9439 5584 during opening hours
Ph: 9777 7900 at other times.

Hunting the Treasures of Willoughby

A treasure hunt in and around Willoughby for children and young people, with clues based on the twenty-six Civil Heritage Plaques that are placed throughout Willoughby City 1–16 April. Pick up a treasure map to complete the clues to crack the code. Prizes to be won. A Willoughby Heritage Festival free event. Phone 9777 1000 for more information or to register.

Nareburn Over 50s

Meets almost every Monday at 10:30am in the Community Centre. Come along and enjoy speakers, demonstrations, discussions and leisure activities. Phone Lorna (Secretary) on 9436 3304 or Nola (President) on 9958 4140 for more information.

To the Editor

We want to hear from you! Send your thoughts, ideas, stories or letters today! Contributions to PO Box 393, St Leonards 1590 or email NareburnMatters@yahoo.com (150 word limit)

I noted in the last edition of Nareburn Matters that Ian Partridge of the Lane Cove SES had asked for more information on the street tree program. It got me thinking about the trees, especially now as the Crepe Myrtles are marking the ebb of summer with a beautiful display of pinks and whites along many of our streets. Willoughby Council has been an active supporter of tree planting in Nareburn and has a number of plans and resources for interested residents.

Each street in our suburb has a tree planting master plan that identifies the species that Council has selected to meet community and environmental objectives including improving street appearance and providing an environment for local wildlife. Council is the only body who can plant, or permit trees to be planted along our streets and uses an extensive set of criteria to ensure that services like overhead power and underground pipes are protected. If you feel that a tree near you may be a hazard you can contact Council directly to have them assess any danger and do whatever pruning might be needed.

We've had a number of tree planting events, some organised on a street level by local individuals keen to see a greener Nareburn, some larger, including the annual Mother's Day tree planting sponsored by Trees for Mum which supplements Council's bush care regeneration initiatives, and other broader ones like Planet Ark's National Tree Day. All these events have contributed to hundreds of new trees planted in our neighbourhoods each year.

Jan Esman, Grandview Street

Dear Bulletin

I'm awfully surprised to find myself sober. And, being sober, I take up my pen to write a few lines, hoping they will find you as I am at present. I want to know a few things. In the first place: Why does a man get drunk? There seems to be no excuse for it. I get drunk because I am in trouble, and I get drunk because I've got out of it. I get drunk because I'm sick, or have corns, or the toothache: and I get drunk because I'm feeling well and grand. I get drunk because I was rejected; and I got awfully drunk the night I was accepted. And, mind you, I don't like to get drunk at all, because I don't enjoy it much, and suffer hell afterwards. I'm always far better and happier when I'm sober, and tea tastes better than beer. But I get drunk. I get drunk when I feel that I want a drink, and I get drunk when I don't. I get drunk because I had a row last night and made a fool of myself and it worries me, and when things are fixed up I get drunk to celebrate it. And, mind you, I've got no craving for a drink. I get drunk because I'm frightened about things, and because I don't care a damn. Because I'm hard up and because I'm flush. And, somehow, I seem to have better luck when I'm drunk. I don't think the mystery of drunkenness will ever be explained – until all things are explained, and that will be never. A friend says that we don't drink to feel happier, but to feel less miserable. But I don't feel miserable when I'm straight. Perhaps I'm not perfectly sober right now, after all. I'll go and get a drink, and write again later.

*Henry Lawson
Letter to the Bulletin (1903)*



*Henry Lawson
Portrait by Sir Lionel Lindsay
Etching;
plate mark 24.1 x 17.1 cm.
PIC S9008
National Library of Australia*

What Stinks This Month!

Graffiti stinks! It's a blight on our beautiful urban landscape.

In addition to the aesthetics, it also costs our community in other ways, including causing damage to our community and civic pride, encouraging further criminal activity, devaluing property, intimidating residents and generating fear and anger in our community. Do you think prevention and removal is our responsibility? Do you want to do something about graffiti but don't know where to start?

Send us your opinions for the next edition of Nareburn Matters when we will discuss the issues around graffiti in our community.

NareburnMatters@yahoo.com (150 word limit)

