



# Naremburn Matters

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The newsletter of the  
Naremburn Progress Association (NPA)

## Welcome to this edition of Naremburn Matters

*It was Mahatma Ghandi who said, "We must be the change we want to see in the world."  
So in more simple terms, we are what we do.*

*This month, come to the Naremburn Progress Association meeting. Cast a quick vote at the Annual General Meeting of the NPA for people who will help you do what you want for Naremburn. Also, come and listen to the candidates vying for the 2007 State Election so you can vote knowledgeably and confidently on 24 March. It's too important to miss the chance to be the change we want to see in the world.*

*Katherine Raskob-Esman  
Editor*

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## Naremburn Progress Association ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 8 March 2007 at 7:30 pm

Naremburn Community Centre, 7 Central Street

**NPA ELECTION** – Prior to the Election, all positions will be declared vacant.

### Election of:

President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and three Committee Members

### Appointment of:

NPA representatives and delegates to other organisations

**NSW State Election** – All candidates for the 24 March Election for the Member for the State Seat of Willoughby have been invited to address the meeting. This is an excellent opportunity for you to find out more about the candidates and their policies. Don't miss it!

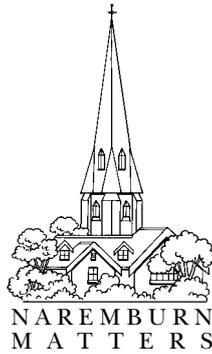
### Why become a member of the Naremburn Progress Association?

- ▶ Because you like living in Naremburn
- ▶ The real Big Brother is not a TV show
- ▶ You can have a say in Naremburn's matters
- ▶ Just being 'counted' in the membership does make a difference
- ▶ For 106 years we must have been doing something right
- ▶ Let 2007 be the year you make a difference

**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**

Stephen Stapleton : 9439 9991

**Treasurer**

Carolyn New : 9438 1903

**Meetings**

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

**Nareburn Matters  
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## Community Service Recognition Awards

Congratulations to all recipients. The NPA 2006 Awards went to:

**Cyril Clark** : Dux of Nareburn School 60 years ago, local resident for 75 years, long time contributor to Rotary and a hands on person for many other charities.

**Rob Forsyth** : 25 years association with Nareburn's coffee businesses, great supporter of many charities including Canteen, works with developing countries, including East Timor, in promotion of sustainable, fair trade practices for coffee growers.

**Aldo & Irma Di Santo** : 30 years association with Nareburn fruit and vegetable businesses, supporter of local Opera performances, long time supporters of many projects within Nareburn's Catholic Church community.

## Lane Cove Tunnel Update

Whatever you heard about an early opening of the Lane Cove Tunnel appears to be false. As of this printing, the opening date of the tunnel is not yet known.

According to Heather Jackson of Theiss John Holland, "*the tunnel will not be opened until the testing of all operational systems is complete. This is a very rigorous process and takes time. When the date is known I am sure it will be on the front page of the newspapers. In addition your readers might like to keep an eye on the website for Connector Motorways -the tunnel operators. The date of the opening will be announced here as well. Their web address is: connectormotorways.com.au*"

Sadly, the contractor for the landscaping around Nareburn Hill and the Shops has resigned from the Lane Cove Tunnel project and it is unclear, despite one more scheduled meeting in late February, how this key factor of our environment will ever be completed. For complaints, email [Community.Enquiries@LCT.inCITE.com.au](mailto:Community.Enquiries@LCT.inCITE.com.au)



## Nareburn Neighbourhood Watch

Nareburn Neighbourhood Watch is a small group of dedicated people working toward a low crime rate and a safer community by:

- Placing signs around the suburb to deter thieves.
- Providing an engraver for residents to security mark their possessions so that stolen goods can be identified and recovered.
- Providing information to the community via a regular feature in Nareburn Matters and e-mail updates to subscribers.
- Having a network that allows information from both the Police and Council, about recent criminal activity and things to be aware of, to be readily transmitted.

Did you know that the members of Nareburn Neighbourhood Watch also deliver Nareburn Matters and other community information to every household and business in Nareburn every quarter? The editorial committee of Nareburn Matters would like to say a grateful 'thank you'.

## GET A SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS ADVANTAGE



Work with Willoughby City Council and the Department of Environment and Conservation NSW to accelerate and strengthen the environmental performance of your business.

The Sustainability Advantage program will pinpoint the relevance of sustainability to your business, provide a clear path for environmental action, reduce your impact on the environment, improve efficiency and employee productivity, reduce compliance risks, enhance reputation and reduce business costs.

The program will aid in the prioritisation and allocation of existing time to environmental projects that deliver optimum results for your company.

Businesses are invited to join the program and commit to a minimum 12 month involvement and possibly a small financial contribution.

For further information contact Willoughby City Council's Environmental Management Officer Stuart Pike on 9777 1006 or email: [stuart.pike@willoughby.nsw.gov.au](mailto:stuart.pike@willoughby.nsw.gov.au).

## THE NPA and THE COATHANGER

We take our iconic landmark, the Sydney Harbour Bridge, for granted, and the ready access to the City of Sydney that it provides for us. The task of completing its structure was daunting, equally challenging was establishing the policy for its use.

Naremburn Progress Association (NPA) joined with other concerned Lower North Shore organisations to fight for the rights of the citizens they represented. On 20 April 1929, Willoughby Town Clerk, Mr G. A. Bailey wrote to Garland Road resident, Mr D. Martin, the NPA's Secretary, inviting the Association to attend a special meeting in the Town Hall. The Willoughby Branch of the National Association of NSW had raised the question of direct transport access to the City, in addition to trains. Despite its 57 feet wide apron and 4 rail lines, no provision was made for tram or bus services, so these commuters would have to transfer to the train at the Blue Street Railway Station. Dr Bradfield had noted, in a letter to the National Association, that the Bridge was capable of carrying bus transport.

At the 7 May 1929 meeting, a motion was put. *"That a committee, to be known as the Willoughby Municipal Transport Vigilance Committee, be formed comprising two representatives from each of the public bodies within the Municipality, together with Members of the Council and State Parliament representatives, to consider problems of traffic as relating to the Sydney Harbour Bridge on the north side of the harbour."* D.Martin, of the NPA, seconded the motion.

Martin and Ayrton were the NPA's representatives, with Martin elected as the Committee's Publicity Officer. On 18 June, he wrote to the Sub-Editor of the Sydney Morning Herald giving him the May minutes of the newly formed body and inviting him to the 4 July meeting. Martin stressed the injustice of denying 'through traffic' to the City. Willoughby ratepayers had already given 50,335 pounds in Sydney Harbour Bridge rates. Martin pointed out that the Government's existing policy, or lack of it, would lead to: *"1. Considerable congestion at the Blue Street Railway Station, 2. Increased expenditure in travelling, than is incurred at present, 3. The same proportion of delay in reaching the City as is experienced at the moment."* At the 6 June meeting it was resolved to invite other North Shore public bodies to join the Willoughby Vigilance Committee, and, to make a deputation to the Premier to include a clause in the Transport Bill permitting bus and tram traffic across the Bridge.

In the absence of the Premier overseas, Deputy Premier Buttenshaw and the Minister for Local Government, Colonel Bruxner, received the deputation on 29 July. All Lower North Shore Councils were unanimous in seeking direct access to the City, although they differed in their preference for tram or bus, with North Sydney favouring buses and Mosman, trams. Buttenshaw pointed out that the Rail Commission, due to the cost of the Bridge construction, was firmly against competition for passengers on trams and buses, since rail revenue was so vital. Bruxner opposed the inclusion of the suggested clause in the Transport Bill and spoke strongly against bus transport. On 29 February 1930, when Martin of the NPA was the Honorary Secretary of the Vigilance Committee, the following was included in the record of the 29 July 1929 deputation. *"At the deputation, Col. Bruxner pointed out they had to first decide who was to have control of the Sydney Harbour Bridge and when this was finalised, our representation would be dealt with."*

A further deputation to the Premier was suggested. Our NPA records show that, on 10 December 1930, the Minister for Local Government, Mr W.J. McKell, on behalf of the Premier, received a deputation that pointed out that rail facilities on the northern side of the Bridge did not serve its whole population. The 57 feet road width would allow it to carry both trams and buses; there would be a cost saving to commuters and finally, that rail must allow competition from other forms of public transport.

Eventually tram and bus services were granted access to the City via the Bridge. Fares were made competitive with those of rail. Private bus operators were also granted Bridge access. As late as 12 May 1932, a deputation of thirty from the Willoughby Municipal Transport Vigilance Committee was made to the Transport Commission. Mayor Bates of Willoughby requested season tickets for tram travellers similar to season rail tickets, the revision of fares on feeder bus services, as well as the issue of combined bus and train tickets. The Government decided on a Bridge toll and trams and buses joined with the rail service in bringing commuters to and from the City and beyond.

Here's to the '273' and the '272' and to those 1930s residents who fought hard so that we would be able to hop on a bus to travel not only locally but also across the Bridge.

Kevin FitzPatrick, Central Street

## Correction

The editor apologises for the misprint in the photographic credits in the December issue of *Naremburn Matters*.

The photos that were credited to George Farrell should have been credited as 'Clauzon/Farrell.'

## Penny Wade

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

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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 Nareburn. Please ring Katherine Raskob-Esman on 0419 497 243

## Nareburn Branch Library

The Foyer,  
Nareburn Community Centre  
7 Central Street

Nareburn Branch Library is offering two free children's activities during the April school holidays. The theme will be "Race into the Library", so I hope you are ready to do just that.

### Craft Session

Thursday, 12 April (3:00pm to 4:00pm)  
for kids aged from 5 to 12 years

### Racecar Superstar Story Time

Friday, 20 April (10:30am to 11:15am)  
for kids 6 years and under

Bookings open on Monday 26 March.  
Please ring 9777 9700 to book in or  
contact Nareburn Branch Library.

### Opening Hours

Mondays 2:30–5:00pm  
Thursdays 2.30pm–5.00pm  
Saturdays 9:30–12 Noon

Ph: 9439 5584 during opening hours  
Ph: 9777 9700 at other times.

## 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  
Margaret (President) on 9436 2607.

## Northern Suburbs Philatelic Society

Meets on the third Thursday of each  
month at the Nareburn Library at  
7:45pm. Visitors always welcome.  
For more information phone Paul  
Storm (Secretary) on 9419 7354.

## St Leonard's Catholic Church, Willoughby Road, Nareburn Easter Liturgies:

Good Friday 3pm *The Passion of Christ*  
Easter Saturday 6pm *Easter Vigil Mass*  
Easter Sunday 8am and 10.30am *Mass*  
Please visit the website for full  
information on these and other  
liturgies: [www.nareburn-northbridge.catholicau.com](http://www.nareburn-northbridge.catholicau.com)

# Nareburn Film Night

In mid 2006 the NPA was successful in applying for a community grant from Willoughby City Council for an outdoor film night in Nareburn Park. What film would be shown? Could it be Australian, or an old classic, a modern tale or a family film? On 11 December 2006, Councillor Kate Lamb successfully moved that Willoughby Council provide a free screening of Al Gore's 'An Inconvenient Truth'. At the NPA's December meeting it was announced the Film Night would be 10 February 2007.



Photo:  
Willoughby  
City Council

With Council now behind the event the urgent issue was to publicise both the film and the screening date to as wide an audience as possible. All Willoughby City schools, local garages, businesses, and sporting clubs were targeted by Council's capable publicity team. Locals put up posters in cafes, on community noticeboards and at businesses. Local newspapers featured stories on the free screening. Castlecrag's Ampitheatre team of Howard Ruby, Richard Newton and Jack Metcalfe were invaluable in providing technical assistance. The wizards in putting this production together were the Willoughby Events Department under the direction of Ellis O'Beirne and Sarah Maddock. Nareburn Neighbourhood Watch's Sue Swinhoe and Paul Howes had 23 street coordinators letterbox Nareburn the week before the screening. The weather forecast for the night was 'unsettled'. Council had set up a wet weather and booking line. By Friday 9 February there were over 900 RSVPs. By 6.30pm on 'the day', Nareburn Park had food stalls, environmental information stands, port-a-loos and a free jumping castle for the children. Several hundred people watched as the giant 14m x 7m inflatable screen went up. By the time dusk was falling and Al Gore's image appeared up on the huge screen more than 2,000 people were in the park sitting on blankets or low chairs picnicking as they waited for the show to begin. Many people had taken Council's advice to walk, ride or come by public transport. The Mayor, Councillor Pat Reilly, from the start a great supporter of the idea of an outdoor film night for Nareburn, and Acting GM Nick Tobin, introduced the evening. Guest Speakers were Sarah Clarry, Corporate Social Responsibility Manager for Unilever Australasia and Mark Duffy, Director General, Dept of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability (DEUS). The screening of this film on global warming was run on GreenPower. There were Funnybone short films for the children (and adults!) prior to the main event, 'An Inconvenient Truth', a landmark documentary that provoked thoughtful discussion and decisions by individuals to make changes to help reduce global warming. The weather was kind and it was one of those lovely lazy balmy Sydney summer nights. The food vendors sold out of everything. By 11.00 pm the park had been cleared with next to no rubbish left behind. The waste wise message had been heard. All in all, it was a wonderful community event.

