



# Naremburn Matters

September 2009 Vol.5, No.2

Circulation 3,000

The newsletter of the  
Naremburn Progress Association (NPA)

## Suspension Bridge aka Long Gully Bridge

This iconic bridge, that connects Cammeray and Northbridge, was completed in 1892, and converted to its present design in 1936.

Following a completed suicide in 2007, the sixth completed in the last 10 years, with four being incomplete, the NSW State Coroner recommended that a safety barrier be erected, "that any such barrier erected be designed to take into account the Bridge's significant heritage and architectural values and harmonise with them". RTA responded by implementing a security patrol on the bridge and called a meeting of stakeholders to discuss selected options.

Two meetings were held on 18 June and 23 July, with representatives from Willoughby City Council, North Sydney Council, NSW Heritage Council, Institute of Engineers (Heritage), Suicide Prevention Australia, NSW Police, Naremburn Progress Association, Northbridge Progress Association and the Bridgeview Precinct of North Sydney Council.

The RTA short-listed three of the six concept options taking into account impediment to suicide attempt, heritage impact, visual impact, and maintenance. It is thought that the RTA is rushing the process. Display and feedback were to be sought by the end of August with construction completed by December.

The RTA has not yet issued the minutes of the 23 July meeting, where strong opposition to the chosen option was voiced and practical recommendations were made.

All agree that any action to prevent suicides is crucial. To date \$2,000 has been pledged for a prize for an effective design that protects and harmonises with the existing design of the Long Gully Bridge.

## Naremburn Community Centre Open Day

Saturday 5 September 2009, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

7-9 Central Street, just across the bridge from the Shops

This event showcases the User Group of the Community Centre. A complete list of these appears in our Noticeboard column on page 8.

***For the children – Kindifarm, Jumping Castle, Face-painting and more!***

**The NPA will display rarely-seen photos of significant buildings, open areas and houses as they were and as they are now.**

**AN EVENT NOT TO BE MISSED**

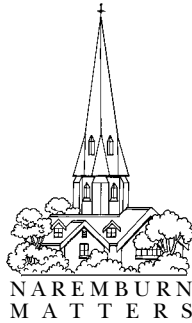
## Signwave Artarmon Banners for the NPA

NPA member, Michael Prior, owner of Signwave Artarmon has generously provided two Naremburn Progress Association banners at no cost to us. If you have seen our stall provided by WCC at events in Naremburn Park such as the Willoughby Symphony Orchestra Concert, Earth Hour and so on, you will know that we have been anonymous from a distance. The new banners are distinctive and very effective. Our grateful thanks to Michael Prior and Signwave Artarmon!

**NAREMBURN  
VILLAGE SHOPS**

Photographic artwork by:  
David Waters  
7 June 2005





Nareburn Progress Association  
 Founded 1901  
 Incorporated 2004  
 ABN 93 907 169 376  
 PO Box 393  
 St Leonards 1590

[www.nareburnprogress.org.au](http://www.nareburnprogress.org.au)

**President**

Kevin FitzPatrick : 9439 8119

**Vice President**

Frances O'Brien : 9436 1536

**Secretary**

David Lendrum : 9439 3372

**Treasurer**

David Turner : 9901 4465

**Public Officer**

Trisha FitzPatrick : 9439 8119

**General Meetings**

Second Thursday of the month  
 excluding January and June  
 Nareburn Community Centre  
 7 Central Street,  
 commencing at 7:30 pm  
 with a 15 minute Open Forum

**Editorial Committee**

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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.

## President – out and about

The NPA's Constitution clearly states its objective - 'to promote the welfare and advancement of the community in the Nareburn area' – this includes Nareburn Shops

Since 1901 the NPA has advocated better roads and footpaths; lobbied for a resident police officer, a post office, telegraph, telephones; preservation of park and bush areas; greening of streets; resident-driven initiatives to set up a volunteer library and child care facilities; and preservation of its shops as an integral part of quality of life in Nareburn.

Nareburn's earliest shops preceded the NPA. In the 1880s Market Street was its commercial heart with shops and a market place; an 1888 building in Slade Street, now a residence, was a dried-goods, brine and dried/smoked meat business. In 1907 with the advent of the new tram service on Willoughby Road the commercial centre moved.

In the 1980s residents took on the Department of Main Roads and prevented the total obliteration of the shopping strip. From an area with shops on the east and west sides of Willoughby Road, including the grocery chains, Moran & Cato, Goodlands and Derrins, up to possibly 5 butcher shops, 2 fish shops and a chicken shop, all that remains following the 1980s and 1992 Freeway works are 270 to 304 on the western side.

And now we have an action detrimental to local trading – non renewal of the lease for Sam the Butcher and the introduction of not 1 but 2 chicken shops. Up to 15 butchers have traded in Nareburn since the 1880s; now Sam the Butcher, is replaced by a Chicken Patisserie. To add insult to injury a chicken café has opened in the premises vacated by 'More than just curry'. Does Nareburn need 2 chicken outlets in this small group of shops that fronts the car park?

All of our shopkeepers experienced a difficult 5 year trading period disrupted by the Lane Cove Tunnel Project; in 2008 a 3 week project by Energy Australia became a 3 month disruption of footpaths. It is reported that Perry, Sam's brother, had his car vandalised on 3 separate occasions in the business tenants' car park at the rear of the building; cost of repairs was \$3,400.

Shops exist to serve the community. Had our community failed to act on several occasions in the past, there would be no shops. Landlords need to consider community needs as well as profits when leasing properties. In these tough times a number of shop tenants have sought cheaper rental space elsewhere. Shopkeepers seem to have little or no collective bargaining power. In July WCC sent out notification of a Development Application for a Fitness Studio above the Chicken Patisserie and Delicia. Sent to 200 potentially affected persons, including landlords, the notification was not sent to the shopkeepers most affected by any DA. The traffic survey on behalf of the applicant occurred after Tutoring Australasia, the previous tenant of the space, as well as More than just curry had already vacated their premises.

The NPA has requested WCC review the above DA, provide a Councillor inspection to assess potential impact and issues relating to the shops. Follow developments on our website and email me your comments [president@nareburnprogress.org.au](mailto:president@nareburnprogress.org.au).

**Kevin FitzPatrick**  
 President NPA

*Thank you for your support, Nareburn!*

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*Any order – FREE DELIVERY!*





## Naremburn and the 'Tour de Cure'

I emailed you details of our charity ride in February and the information was kindly included in the following edition of Naremburn Matters, thank you. We received many positive comments and well-wishes from residents who read the newsletter and article.

I wanted to also let you know of our results from our charity cycle from Brisbane to Cairns. Our goal was to raise \$600,000 for our charity beneficiaries:

- National Breast Cancer Foundation of Australia
- Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia
- Camp Quality
- Leukaemia Foundation
- Cancer Council

Our total raised was \$850,000 which we are thrilled about. The Naremburn-based Tour de Cure registered charity has raised since May 2007 a total of \$1.7M. Our charity ride next year is set for 7 to 15 May from Sydney to the Sunshine Coast as we travel to Newcastle, Hunter Valley, Armidale, Tamworth, Glen Innes, Grafton, Byron Bay and Brisbane along the 1,433km route in 9 days. The donation target for 2010 is \$1 million.

We are also producing a 1-day seminar, called 'A Day of Inspiration' to be held at the Four Seasons Hotel on Wednesday 9 September 2009. All proceeds from the event go to Tour de Cure. It's our 3rd Annual event, and each year we attract a wonderful line up of speakers who generously donate their time to contribute and share their secrets of success.

For more information visit [www.tourdecure.com.au](http://www.tourdecure.com.au) or contact me on 0411 044 888

**Malcolm Heath**  
Grandview Street

**Kevin FitzPatrick**  
Central Street

## True or False

How well do you know the history of your suburb?

- 1** There are 5 bridges within as well as in and out of Naremburn.
- 2** The Suspension Bridge linking Cammeray and Northbridge and visible from Brook Street and further west, was built in 1936.
- 3** Naremburn was used as a location in one of the episodes of Channel 9's new series 'Rescue: Special Ops'.
- 4** The Naremburn Shops area once had 3 butcher shops.
- 5** The year 2009 marks the centenary of the appointment of the Police Officer in Charge, Naremburn.

*(Answers on page 6)*

# What do you want from your real estate agent?

- ✓ Best Price
- ✓ Quick Sale
- ✓ No Sale, No Charge
- ✓ No Open Homes
- ✓ Qualified Buyers
- ✓ Honesty



Geanne Merrick

**merrick**  
ESTATE AGENTS

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# National Tree Day



Nareburn residents again marked this day by planting 23 street trees, this year in Dalleys Road, Northcote Street, Glenmore Street, Rohan Street and Waters Road on 2 August.

A further 15 trees will be planted by the end of September. Trees were selected by Willoughby City Council taking into account existing species, suitability in local soils and being water-wise. This year Council is using a new type of tree guard to protect against whipper snippers as many of our street trees are under stress due to the damage these cause. Some residents use contractors to cut their grass verges and it would be timely to remind these contractors to go easy when working around street trees. On the day, residents also put some 80 of these new tree guards on existing trees.

If you want to have a street tree planted outside your home give a call to 9777 1000 and one of Council's street tree co-ordinators will follow up on your request.

**Ronan Ahern**  
Northcote Street

## Teenage use and enjoyment of the local area

The comfortable nature of living in Nareburn makes it an ideal suburb enjoyed by families, the young and the old, but what do the teenagers think about what Nareburn and the surrounding areas provide in terms of leisure and activities? In a short survey a small group of teenagers were asked what they think of it as a place of leisure and the facilities it provides.

One sixteen year old female replied, "I go to Willoughby Leisure Centre. It's great having a centre that is so close by where you can play sport and exercise. Crows Nest is another area that I go to often because of its lively atmosphere." Another teenager said that he DJs at the Police Community Youth Club on Falcon Street as well as using the local parks when he walks his dog. He also thought that Nareburn, Waverton, North Sydney and Crows Nest are places that appeal to teenagers because of the facilities they provide such as parks and walking tracks as well as some more commercial activities such as the shops and cafes in Crows Nest and North Sydney. A sixteen year old male replied, "I use the oval a lot for training and sporting practice. I tend to go outside of the area when I am with friends though, usually to the City or Chatswood."

In response to the question about whether they had any suggestions on improving the appeal of the local area to teenagers one response was, "I would recommend a movie theatre and introduce some more commercial shops. I think that would appeal to a lot of teenagers." A sixteen-year-old male responded specifically by saying, "I would like the skateboard ramp at Waverton Park to be reintroduced. It was used by a lot of teenagers so if it was put back, that would be nice." Another sixteen year old male's response to the question was, "No, the only thing I would recommend is for the parks to be maintained and to be cleaned more frequently. I think that if some more interesting shops were introduced to the local area that this would appeal to many teenagers however I respect the facilities that are there for us to use already. I think the local area already provides young people with a great living environment."

**Venetia Gintel**  
Station Street

*NPA's young reporter is a Year 11 student*



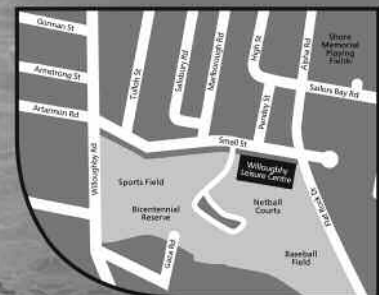
## Willoughby Leisure Centre

# OPEN DAY

9am to 12.30pm, Saturday 26 September

Small Street, Willoughby

**FREE ENTRY**, fitness testing, inflatable for the kids, face painting, music, BBQ, stalls, lucky door prizes and more.



Small Street, Willoughby  
Ph: 9958 5799 | [leisure@willoughby.nsw.gov.au](mailto:leisure@willoughby.nsw.gov.au)  
[www.willoughbyleisure.com.au](http://www.willoughbyleisure.com.au)

## School for Naremburn Public Meeting

On 2 July Willoughby City Council, supported by the NPA, hosted representatives from the Department of Education and Training (DET) at a meeting to update the community on DET current policies for schools in the area.

The meeting was chaired by Mayor Pat Reilly in the presence of State Member, Gladys Berejiklian, Councillors Barry Thompson and Kate Lamb, WCC GM, Nick Tobin, Father Frank Dineen msc, parish priest of the Catholic Parish of Lower North Shore, members of the NPA and parents.

Presentations were made by DET and Catholic Schools Office (CSO), Diocese of Broken Bay. Jane Simmons, Director, Northern Region, DET, stated that it is not an option to open a school here. The former Catholic School site is not suitable. DET has engaged an Assets Management consultant to look at all school facilities and plan according to prevailing demographics. On a positive note the Director said she was keen to work with CSO Broken Bay and WCC in school planning. A total of \$59,262,000 has been allocated for upgrade of school facilities in the Northern Region.

A representative of the CSO showed projected increases based on the ABS figures, bottom line being Naremburn's growth does not merit opening a school here. The Mayor stated with feeling that the demographics of the period when the Naremburn schools were closed in the 1990s did not successfully predict present population trends.

The CSO claims the decision not to open a Catholic School in Naremburn is based not just on demographics but on the unsuitability of the Naremburn site. While DET's Jane Simmons could not give any DET policy as to the ideal size of a public school, she was quick to point out that schools of less than 200 are not economically viable.

St Philip Neri Catholic Primary, Northbridge, which takes a number of Naremburn children, has less than 200 pupils. Northbridge also has the smallest State School – 482. NPA research has shown that twelve Naremburn families choose to send their children to St Mary's Catholic Primary, North Sydney.

Council at its meeting of 27 July resolved that: "Council maintains its position for the re-establishment of a public school in Naremburn as a priority and advise the government and opposition."

## DET's School Stats

DET's demographic snapshot of pupil numbers stated that there are seven schools within four kilometres of Naremburn. Of significance to Naremburn are the following pupil enrolment figures by year:-

**Cammeray:** 2009–705; 2014–808 pupils

**Artarmon:** 2009–692; 2014–770 pupils

**Northbridge:** 2009–482; 2014–560 pupils

**North Sydney Dem:** 2009–639; 2014–748

**Willoughby:** 2009–804; 2014–952 pupils

## Child Care Centre DA for Donnelly Street East

A Merrenburn Avenue resident has written a letter to the NPA detailing the saga of this Development Application for a 72 children Child Care Centre in the small cul de sac that is all that remains of Donnelly Street East. The letter in full is on our website.

## Ella Street Bridge temporary closure

This bridge will be closed for maintenance work between 21 September 2009 and 21 April 2010 resulting in traffic changes to adjoining streets. Updates on our website.



## Home Assessment Service



From 1 July 2009, NSW homes experienced a 20 per cent increase in electricity costs.

Learn how to reduce your energy consumption and save.



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**The ClimateClever Home Assessment Service will provide:**

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- ✓ FREE energy saving devices.
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- ✓ A tailored action plan to assist in reducing your household's carbon footprint and improve your NABERS rating.

**Book your FREE ClimateClever Home Assessment today on 9777 1000 or for more information visit [www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au/climateclever](http://www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au/climateclever)**

\* See our website for competition terms and conditions.

## True or False

### 1 FALSE

There are six. (1) Flat Rock Creek Bridge (1886) Willoughby Road north of Garland (2) Ella Street Bridge over the North Shore line, (3) Lambs Road Bridge over the North Shore line, (4) Shared User Bridge linking Slade Street to the Shops, (5) At the Shops car park, bridge over the Gore Hill Freeway, (6) Merrenburn Avenue Bridge over the Warringah Expressway

### 2 FALSE

Long Gully Bridge, originally called the Suspension Bridge, was opened in 1892. A 1935 inspection revealed serious corrosion in the steelwork and cables. In 1936 the then DMR upgraded the stone, timber and steel suspension bridge to a reinforced concrete structure. (See also page 1)

### 3 TRUE

Earlier this year residents of Slade and Central Streets received a flyer notifying that a film crew working on an episode of a new TV series would be encamped in Slade Street near the bridge steps. As it turned out it was 'Rescue: Special Ops'.

### 4 FALSE

We had at least four butcher shops. Eric Wilksch in 'The Naremburn Story' – copy at Naremburn Library – tells of the friendly rivalry between them.

### 5 TRUE

Constable First Class Thomas Manktelow appointed to Naremburn in 1909, held the position until his 1926 retirement. He lived at 'Kent' now 3 Glenmore Street, where NPA member, Gordon Prentice has lived for 40 years.

## Shops set to return

*An article from the North Shore Times, Wednesday 22 April 1992*

Naremburn shopkeepers and residents have told Willoughby City Council and the Roads and Traffic Authority they want to have a say in the rehabilitation of their suburb. The shopping centre has suffered with noise, dust and traffic from nearby Gore Hill freeway construction work during the past year. Land resumptions and disruptions to car parking areas have led to the closure of 14 shops.

But with roadwork finishing in August, locals who called the shopping centre "the gateway to the city of Willoughby" believe it can be restored to a village-style family shopping area, with the right sort of planning and landscaping.

Naremburn ward alderman, Kate Lamb said the roadworks had left the suburb in a poor state of appearance. Fruit shop owner, Aldo Disanto said the roadworks had divided Naremburn into two suburbs.

Mr Disanto said that although he had lost up to \$3500 a week since roadworks started last March, he had survived at the centre since 1967.

DCM Project manager Harry Andrews whose company is refurbishing a butcher shop and a seafood and poultry shop said he was aiming to restore them to their original Edwardian style.

While 14 shops have disappeared from the centre, some buildings which have survived the roadworks and resumptions were built in the early 1900s.

## Chatting with Older Residents

*(NPA Oral History)*

In 1958 Keith Brittliffe, his wife and two children, moved from the Central Coast to Naremburn and opened a Deli selling cut meats, bacon, groceries, and frozen vegetables at 292 Willoughby Road – now Cream. He leased the shop and the upstairs accommodation for £3 per week. Miss Ferris, the owner, had just doubled the rent from 30 shillings. Keith described Naremburn as a good place for children to grow up. The school was just down the road. The locals were great people and would do anything for you. The shopkeepers were like a family, they looked after each other especially when one of them was sick. Kiri Constantura had a men's barber shop at 296 while Stormon's the Chemist was next door. Kiri grew vegetables in his backyard, quite a change from the present concrete parking lot. As Woolworths and Coles moved into the area, Keith's mentor, Jim Carrol who lived in the flat above his brother's medical practice at 1 Central Street, advised Keith to meet the challenge by changing his business to a Pet Shop, selling pet accessories and pet food, definitely no pets! With 4 children, it was time to leave. In 1972, the Brittliffe Family moved to Campsie.

*Note: A classmate of mine worked at Stormon's and is still in touch with Keith who was happy to visit Naremburn for a chat. Keith said that he and Jim Carrol had watched the Cassius Clay-Sonny Liston fight on TV in my current living room. Tell me your stories of Naremburn life – 9439 8119.*

**Kevin FitzPatrick**  
Central Street

### How to Join the NPA

- Get an NPA membership application form
- Download from: [naremburnprogress.org.au](http://naremburnprogress.org.au)
- OR, phone 9439 8119 for an application form
- Fill in NPA application form and sign it
- Mail to PO Box 393 St Leonards 1590
- Membership Fee \$10 pa or \$5 pa Concession
- If by mail, pay by cheque to NPA, OR,
- Internet banking to BSB 032 297, Account number 20 1474, put your last name on the transaction so we know who sent \$\$
- OR at the next meeting, \$10 with application form

**We look forward to your support!**

### Why join the Naremburn Progress Association?

**Because you have chosen to live in Naremburn!**

If Naremburn is the suburb you live in before moving up or on, then you may think that there is no reason to join the NPA. However, if you own the home you live in, you are sure to be interested in property re-sale values. You being counted as an NPA member will help us in our negotiations on behalf of us all. Every advance that improves lifestyle in Naremburn helps increase property values. If you rent, you win too! **Quality of Life!**

If Naremburn is where you want to stay, then there is every reason for you to support those who are prepared to work for the betterment of life in this suburb.

No need to volunteer to help. No need to stand for office. Although if you want to do or be, that would be good. But, realistically we do not expect you to and we will not hassle you. Your choice entirely. \$10 and a completed form get you in - \$5 Concession. **How good is that?**



## Naremburn Neighbourhood Watch

September 2009

### Do you know what your teenagers are up to?

Many teenagers like to go out with their friends on a Friday and Saturday night. While this is a perfectly reasonable thing, we suspect that many parents think that their kids have gone to the movies or the mall or have a meal together.

Unfortunately, this may not be where our kids are congregating, and it may not be in the small group of close and trustworthy friends we thought it was.

In Naremburn on Friday and Saturday nights it has become cool for teenagers to hang out together in the grounds of St Leonard's Church. There can sometimes be around 50 teens gathered in this area.

Some of these teenagers are local, some come from further afield. A gathering such as this would generally not be a problem, except that there has been an increase in some anti-social behaviour that has been creeping into these gatherings.

The first aspect of this is that some of the participants that travel to the church in groups have been quite loud and unruly – much like teenagers, really – but often rude and disrespectful to others. Some members of our community have been frightened by this behaviour and now

avoid going near this area from about 5pm on these nights.

There have also been a number of incidents late at night involving some of the participants at these gatherings.

There have been groups of teenagers running through streets damaging property and defacing buildings and the like.

More recently there have been a couple of violent brawls, which seem to involve 'gangs' settling their differences and exacting retaliation.

Now, no one is suggesting that we ban youthful hi-jinks – we were all young once. The issues are, though:

- All members of our community should be able to travel around the neighbourhood when they want to. Ideally, having more young people out and about should make other people feel more safe.
- The damage being done to cars and other property costs people a considerable amount to get fixed and wastes a lot of time.
- The teens involved in this are often quite young – 13 or 14.
- These young teens are mixing with much older teenagers, which introduces different social norms and behaviour.

- The last couple of incidents have involved a considerable level of violence.
- Shopkeepers and passersby should not have to risk personal injury to intervene in brawls to keep these children safe.

### What can parents do about it?

- Know where your children are going and with whom.
- Monitor your children if you are concerned that they might be getting involved.
- Talk to the Youth Liaison Officer at Chatswood if you need help or would like some assistance with strategies.
- Let Neighbourhood Watch know if you would like a community meeting to be organised on this issue. (naremnhw@tpg.com.au)

### Email network

If you would like to join our email report service please email us at [naremnhw@tpg.com.au](mailto:naremnhw@tpg.com.au)

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## NPA Meetings

Naremburn Community Centre  
7 Central Street

**15 minute Open Forum  
ahead of main business  
7:30 pm start**

Thursday 10 September  
Thursday 8 October  
Thursday 12 November  
Thursday 10 December  
No meeting in January  
Thursday 11 February 2010  
Thursday 11 March 2010

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**9436 0306**

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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 phone Trisha on 9439 8119

**The following are held at the Naremburn Community Centre 7 Central Street, Naremburn**

## Naremburn Progress Association

2nd Thursday (except Jan & July)  
7:30 pm to 10:00 pm  
9439 8119 (Kevin or Trisha)

## Playgroup

Wednesday and Thursday  
10:00 am to 12 noon  
Runs through school holidays  
naremburnplaygroup@gmail.com  
0424 890 849 (Kim)

## Naremburn Over Fifties

Most Mondays  
10:30 am to 2:00 pm  
9436 2607 (Margaret)

## Northern Suburbs Philatelic Society

3rd Thursday, 7:45 pm  
Visitors always welcome  
9419 7354 (Paul Storm)

## Breast Feeding Association

1st Tuesday  
10:00 am to 12 noon  
9966 1591

## After School Care

Monday to Friday  
3:00 pm to 6:00 pm  
(School Term only)  
9439 8814

## Willoughby Pre School

Monday to Friday  
9:00 am to 3:00 pm  
(School Term only)  
9437 4260

## Naremburn Library

Mondays – 2:30 pm to 5:00 pm  
Thursdays – 2:30 pm to 5:00 pm  
Saturdays – 9:30 am to 12 noon  
9439 5584



## A Message from the Mayor

Council is continuing to work to provide solutions for the pressing challenges of providing recreation facilities for our growing community through the development of a recreation plan. Currently nearing completion, the plan outlines how we will provide additional facilities for both indoor and outdoor sporting activities as well as more facilities for passive recreation. Our planning for new and upgraded sporting

facilities gives major consideration to the generation change of our local neighbourhoods.

The well-resourced Willoughby Leisure Centre provides a wonderful well-being and recreation facility for the local community. If you have not been to the centre recently I invite you to drop by on the centre's open day from 9:00 am – 12.30 pm, Saturday 26 September, Willoughby Leisure Centre, Small Street, Willoughby.

Construction of Civic Place is on schedule and every week the work is presenting a new and changing face to the Chatswood CBD. You can keep up to date with the progress by viewing photographs of the site on the Civic Place website ([www.civicplace.com.au](http://www.civicplace.com.au)) or by visiting the site and taking a tour. Site tours, held regularly, provide a tour of current construction work from the upper level of the builder's hoardings. Attendees can meet the builders, ask questions and get a taste of what is to come. If you would like to attend a site tour phone Council on 9777 1000.

While it appears we have been unsuccessful in providing a new school facility in the local Naremburn neighbourhood at this stage, Council is continuing to lobby the Federal Government for public and private school funding to benefit all nearby schools. We are also working to try and improve public transport to these schools.

The local Naremburn shops provide a wonderful service to the local community and are supported by strong patronage. It is a concern when there are problems with lease arrangements. While Council can not dictate to an owner their rights on lease holdings I do believe it is a pity if owners aren't fully aware of the popularity of the shops and services. I encourage local patrons to support the local businesses and make their feelings known.

I would like to thank those who have shown their gratitude over the recent park upgrades in the local area. We are continuing ongoing work and upgrades on parks and playgrounds across the City of Willoughby.

The continued provision and management of new and innovative services and programs and to ensure the needs of the community are addressed are of utmost importance to me. If you have any concerns or suggestions you would like to raise please do not hesitate to contact me.

I invite you all to join me in celebrating the City of Willoughby and the emergence of spring with the Willoughby Spring Festival. There are more than 45 events happening right across the City throughout September. Visit the Council website ([www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au](http://www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au)) or pick up an Official Guide from any of Council's community centres for information on each of the events.

Finally I would like to congratulate the Naremburn Progress Association for providing such a comprehensive and valuable publication. The newsletter continues to offer articles of significant and community interest and has my full support.

**Mayor Pat Reilly**  
[pat.reilly@willoughby.nsw.gov.au](mailto:pat.reilly@willoughby.nsw.gov.au)

