

Naremburn Matters



Dec. 2017 Vol. 14 No. 4

Circ. 3,000

The Good Mayor... in conversation with Gail Giles-Gidney

With a resounding vote of confidence the residents of Willoughby re-elected Gail Giles-Gidney for another term of Mayor. In an exclusive interview with Naremburn Matters, Mayor Giles-Gidney discusses the plans and strategies for the next term of office and what the current issues are facing Willoughby.

NM: Congratulations on being re-elected Mayor of Willoughby. What are the current issues facing Willoughby?

Mayor: The City of Willoughby is growing, with the population expected to increase by 18% in the next 20 years to more than 89,000 people. The Greater Sydney Commission has also set a target of an additional 92,000 dwellings in the Northern District.

How we manage and plan for this future growth – whether in our local centres, the Chatswood CBD or residential areas – is of vital importance.

In June, Council approved its CBD Plan and Strategy, aimed at strengthening the status of the Chatswood CBD - Sydney's sixth largest commercial office centre, finding a balance between commercial and residential development, and improving the overall design and attractiveness of the CBD.

Key directions of the CBD Strategy include:

- Seeks to encourage commercial office use in the core of the CBD, which is considered critical for Chatswood's future as a true mixed use and sustainable centre. The office core is essential to growing jobs in the area which will play a vital role in supporting Chatswood's retail centres and residential areas and will help fulfil the potential of the new Metro Rail line linking Chatswood to other parts of metropolitan Sydney.
- Create a 'green' CBD and lift the profile of Chatswood for new and continuing business investment and the enjoyment, health and wellbeing of the broader community.
- Provide for increased residential opportunities around the periphery of the CBD to the north and south.

The Chatswood CBD is currently at a crossroads with regard to its long-term future. The economic future and resulting character of the CBD depends on choices made. The CBD Plan sets a course aimed at finding the right balance – with a majority commercial core, residential periphery, and making it an attractive destination for our workers and local residents. ... *continued on page 3*



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE
NAREMBURN PROGRESS ASSOCIATION (NPA)

NAREMBURN
VILLAGE SHOPS
Photographic
artwork by:
David Waters
7 June 2005





NAREMBURN MATTERS

Naremburn Progress Association

Founded 1901
Incorporated 2004.

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St Leonards 1590

www.naremburnprogress.org.au

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Carmen Loecherer: 0409 766 470

Committee Members

Kylie Field, Viviane Leveaux, Barry Shaw

General Meetings

Second Thursday of February, April,
June, August, October and December Naremburn
Community Centre
7 Central Street.
Commencing at 7:30 pm with an Open Forum.

Naremburn Matters

Editor: Kylie Field
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Typesetting & Design

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President – out and about

With 2017 nearly over and our thoughts turning to the run up to Christmas many of us are wondering where the time has gone – the year seems to have just passed in a blur. Yet much has been achieved, so we must look forward to 2018 in anticipation of it being another hectic and challenging year.

So what should we take from 2017, and what will happen in 2018? The big infrastructure construction projects will continue to make progress, with the Tunnel Boring Machines for the Sydney Metro line arriving at the Chatswood Dive Site during the next year, in preparation for boring the 16km long tunnels through to Sydenham. Demolition and construction work will continue at the new Metro station sites. The geotechnical drilling for the Northern Beaches Link Tunnel will have been completed, with preferred routes released and location of exhaust/ventilation stacks finalised.

On the real estate front, indicators are pointing to a slight easing of the buoyant levels we've witnessed over the last few years, but the market is still strong. The interest and growth is not just confined to existing buildings either, as Council is seeking input from the community to ensure development strategies for both housing within our area and any changes to the Local Centres (ie the Naremburn Shopping strip) are in step with residents' expectations and in keeping with the village atmosphere. This will always be a challenge, as there is only a fine line between appropriate, sustainable development, and overdevelopment. One approach that should be resisted is the steady stream of shop-top housing projects as that concept now seems to have run its course, given the number of empty tenancies seen in nearby developments.

Council will also be seeking community input for significant review and updating of Local Environment Plans (LEPs) for the area. This initiative largely flows from the recently-released Revised Draft North District Plan from the Greater Sydney Commission (GSC), which is currently out for public comment until 15th December – all our readership are encouraged to make a submission.

Some of the long-running redevelopment projects such as the Channel Nine site on Artarmon Road are reawakening, as the latest Modified Concept Plans are tabled. The community needs to stay abreast of these latest MCP's, as much effort was expended in arriving at the compromise position a few years ago so any improvements need to add value to the community as much as to the developer.

Finally, may I extend our best wishes to the recently-elected Council & Mayor Gail – they've hit the ground running with a long list of improvements to be bedded in, as well as seeking feedback to a review of several Advisory Committees which will be concluded by August 2018. These Committees are highly valued by the community, so any changes will need to be carefully considered.

And a Happy and Blessed Christmas Season to you all – see you again in 2018!

Roger Promnitz

President

Next Issue: March 2018

Naremburn Matters is a quarterly publication issued in March, June, September and December.

Next issue deadlines

Advertising: Friday 16 February
Articles: Monday 19 February

naremburn.matters@naremburnprogress.org.au

NPA Meeting

7:30 pm

14 December 2017
8 February 2018

Naremburn
Community Centre
7 Central Street

Letters to the Editor & Articles

Articles, comments or suggestions should be addressed to:

The Editor,

naremburn.matters@naremburnprogress.org.au
or mail to:
PO Box 393
St Leonards NSW 1590

We do not publish anonymous letters. Please include your email address or phone number as we may need to edit items to fit the space available.

In conversation with Gail Giles-Gidney

(continued from page 1)...

Council will also soon start community consultation for our Community Strategic Plan – which underpins Council operations for the next 18 years and sets the direction for the City, its policies, services and activities. More details will be available soon but we plan to have some fun, interactive and meaningful ways in which the community can tell us what they love, and hope to see created and improved within our city.

There are also the ongoing issues of parking and traffic, preserving 'village' lifestyles and pressure on sport and recreation facilities mentioned previously.

NM: What do you enjoy about representing Willoughby as its Mayor?

Mayor: It is an honour to have this very special job. My role is varied, from reading stories to pre-schoolers to working on strategic planning for the city. I love talking to the community. Everyone had their own story and challenges. If we can make their life better or easier it is a very satisfying achievement.

NM: What are the challenges?

Mayor: Unfortunately, it is sometimes difficult to please everyone. As Mayor and Councillors, we have to act responsibly in spending ratepayer's money and this means that we can't deliver everything on everyone's wish list.

NM: When you're not Mayor what do you do to relax?

Mayor: I love walking, and we have some wonderful bush walking trails in our City. I do two Pilates classes a week and also try to get to the gym.

Family time is very important to me and often on weekends we will all walk together with Roxy the wonder dog to a local cafe for breakfast.

I've also just taken up golf lessons again after a break of a few years. And I am a member of a book club, and yes I do read the books.

Mayor Giles-Gidney's Christmas Message

I hope to see many of you out and about at some of the fabulous events coming up over the festive season. The ever-popular Carols at Willoughby Park will be held on Saturday 2 December from 4pm.

The Family Festival on The Concourse will provide a great range of events all through January including performances, movies on the Urban Screen, a family fun day, reading sessions and more.

**Interview conducted by Kylie Field
Editor, Naremburn Matters**



Peter Chauncy and his team at McGrath Crows Nest

With the Spring selling season coming to an end I have decided to have a look back at the figures and compare them to the same season last year. Despite the media reporting that the Sydney property market is plummeting, Naremburn has still had 26 properties sell since the 1st September. In 2016 we saw 36 properties sell in the same period, however it is the apartment sales that we have seen lower with only 7 selling this Spring compared to 13 last year.

What I find most interesting and proves to me that the Naremburn market is still strong is the average price of a property in Naremburn has raised across both apartment/townhouse's and houses. Spring 2017 has seen the average price of an apartment/townhouse rise to \$1,324,318, compared to \$1,134,498 last year. In the semi-attached and housing market we have seen a 10% increase, with it currently sitting at \$2,231,000 for Spring 2017.

With the end of the year just around the corner some people may be thinking they have missed the mark to successfully sell their property until February/March next year. However, although you may not be able to be out of your house by Christmas, December and January are still a good time to speak to professionals about preparing your home for sale. It's also worth remembering that not all buyers have the same routine. While some will be out of town over the Christmas/New Year period, many expat buyers return to Sydney and take the opportunity to inspect properties first hand. We also have qualified buyers who have not been able to secure a home prior to Christmas and are keen to buy before the majority of Sydney return post New Year.

In recent years we've started to see a trend towards sales ending later and starting earlier in the year. Across the city as a whole, it's no longer uncommon for inspections and auctions to start well before Australia Day and the return to school. Our team still spends time working with these sellers over this period to prepare for strong January/February sales and to take advantage of any active buyers who are not leaving the market for the Christmas/New Year break.

If you have been thinking about selling next year contact me this year to start the ball rolling and to take full advantage of the holiday period to prepare your home.

Peter Chauncy
McGrath Crows Nest
0402 036 489



Naremburn Community Gardens – Summer 17/18

The long dry spell over winter has had the effect of slowing down or stunting the growth of a lot of the plants.

While they have been receiving regular watering it is not the same as rain and does not bring the nitrogen with it that they need to be in peak condition. The good thing they have most recently received has been excellent, though, and the plants are starting to grow strongly. In the Bongalong garden we have taken the opportunity to rework several of the beds and they are now fully planted with summer veg, including lots of cherry tomatoes.

We would request, please, that people pick from plants and not take whole plants as it is very disappointing to spend a lot of time nurturing a seedling, planting it out and seeing it settle in only to have someone come by and rip it out and take off with it. And whoever took the drawer from our wall garden with the strawberry plant in it, could we have the drawer back please as they are almost impossible to replace.

Sue Howes
Community Garden
Naremburn Resident



Image sourced from Flickr cc: Kevin Foreman

One foot in front of the other

at Naremburn Podiatry

Coming into summer, one of the most common nail issues seen at Naremburn Podiatry is onychomycosis – more commonly known as fungal nails. If you are worried about fungal nails, you are not alone! Approximately 10% of Australians and up to 33% of diabetic Australians are affected with onychomycosis.

Fungal nails can be worrying as it affects the appearance of the nails and often the skin around the nails. Beyond the appearance, fungal nails can cause pain, discomfort, and disfigurement and may become more serious, causing physical and occupational limitations.

The podiatrists at Naremburn Podiatry have spent years treating various types of fungal infections, which can present in differing ways and require different treatments.

If you have any concerns about the state of your feet - or are worried about other people seeing your feet this summer - it's time to book an appointment with one of your friendly, local podiatrists at Naremburn Podiatry!

Shelly Du – Podiatrist
Naremburn Podiatry

www.naremburnpodiatry.com.au
Tel: 02 8964 6648

What's been happening at the pre-school...

We've had a very exciting few months at the preschool. Two of our educators, Joanne and Angela, recently completed an exchange with our sister service in Brewarrina, while Rose and Cheryl from Gainmara Preschool spending time in our preschool here in Naremburn. Prior to the exchange the children made up "care packs" (consisting of toiletries and other small personal items), which were well received by the children at Brewarrina. A market stall was set up, with each child selecting items to include in the care packs – a great way to introduce maths concepts and involve our children in the exchange.

On October 23, the preschool held its annual fundraising event. The evening is a highlight of the preschool calendar, raising much-needed funds for the special needs teacher resources at the preschool. The theme was "Masquer-



ade", and live and silent auctions were held with items donated by the preschool parents, and artworks created by the children. Peter Chauncy and team members from McGrath Crows Nest were in attendance, continuing their strong support of our preschool community. Damien Cooley (parent and professional auctioneer) was our fabulous auctioneer for the evening, creating a lively bidding process.

Our "three day" children are now getting ready for school, with many trialling their school uniforms at preschool. A great way for the children to identify who they will be attending school with next year.

We wish all our families and members of the Naremburn community a very happy end to 2017. Thank you for helping us make the preschool such a special part of our wonderful community.

Dianne Minnett
Director – Willoughby Community
Pre-school



Christmas Recipe: GINGERBREAD COOKIES

Recipe sourced from www.bestrecipes.com.au/recipe/gingerbread-cookies-L7409.html

One of the best things about Christmas is the range of delicious biscuits you get to enjoy. Beautifully fragrant, dark-golden in colour and oh-so hard to resist, gingerbread is one of the season's most-loved biscuits.

STEP 1 Preheat oven 160 °C.

STEP 2 Combine ingredients in a large bowl.

STEP 3 Knead until smooth.

STEP 4 Roll between 2 sheets of baking paper until approximately 2.5 cm thick.

STEP 5 Refrigerate until chilled.

STEP 6 Place chilled dough on bench and cut out shapes.

STEP 7 Place on baking paper-lined tray.

STEP 8 Bake for 10 minutes until slightly golden.

STEP 9 Ice when cool, if desired.

INGREDIENTS

- 3 cups plain flour
- 120 g butter chopped
- 2 tsp bicarbonate of soda
- 1/2 tsp ground cloves
- 2 tsp ground ginger
- 1/3 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cup golden syrup
- 1 egg
- 2 tsp ground cinnamon

Contributors Wanted

Naremburn Matters is permanently seeking regular written contributions from interested community members.

If you have a flair for writing or even just an interest in a local issue, we welcome all members of the community from students to grandparents to submit your story.

What do you have to lose?

Get in touch at:

naremburn.matters@naremburnprogress.org.au

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Naremburn Matters wishes all its readers a very Happy Christmas and a safe and exciting New Year. Naremburn Matters would not exist without NPA members and in particular its Advertisers, so thank you to Peter Chauncy, Flat Rock Brew Café, Naremburn Podiatry, Olde Fashioned Fish n Chips, Naremburn Pizzeria, Barber Paw Grooming, Forsyth and ThaiTanium.

See you all in 2018!

It has been confirmed Naremburn residents love Paddington

On a cold night at Naremburn Park, locals huddled together for the Naremburn Progress Association's movie night, Paddington Bear. Rugged up against the cold, they settled in with popcorn, free pizza from SayCheez and coffee from Forsyth. The SES set up an information stand and special guest NSW Premier Gladys Berejiklian was on hand to announce the winner of the raffle and to give her support for the community event. Lots of bears came dressed for the occasion with one lucky winner receiving a \$50 pizza voucher thanks to Naremburn Pizzeria.

The winner of the colouring in competition was Ernie Abbott (4 Years old) who won 6 months' worth of free pizza from SayCheez.

Runner up was Emma Brady (14 years old) who won a free pizza/pasta deal from SayCheez, with special mention to Mena Kelly (6 years old), Ava Hubbard (7 years old) and Owen Echt (4 years old). Well done to all for your beautiful artistry.

The Naremburn Progress Association would like to thank the community for getting behind this event and to Willoughby Council. Special thanks also to freelance photographer, Alex Hubbard. A selection of Alex's photos from the event have been published in this edition of Naremburn Matters but for more pictures go to www.naremburnprogress.org.au





News from Naremburn Library

It's hard to believe the year is nearly over, but Christmas is just around the corner and so are the school holidays. There are plenty of great books and DVD's for all age groups waiting at Naremburn Library. The Christmas/New Year opening days at Naremburn Library will be:

CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR OPENING HOURS

Saturday 23 December 2017 – 9.30am to 12.00noon

Thursday 28th December 2017 – 2.30pm to 5.00pm

Thursday 4th January – 2.30pm to 5.00pm.

The library will open as normal for the rest of January and there will be some fun holiday Lego sessions for all ages to help you entertain your children. I hope you can enjoy at least one of the sessions below with your kids.

HOLIDAY LEGO SESSIONS IN JANUARY

Monday 8th January – 3.00pm to 4.30pm

Monday 15th January – 3.00pm to 4.30pm

Monday 22nd January – 3.00pm to 4.30pm.

WILLOUGHBY CITY LIBRARY WITHDRAWAL FROM SHORELINK

Willoughby City Libraries (Chatswood Library and branches – Naremburn, Artarmon, Castle Cove, Northbridge, and West Chatswood) formally withdrew from the Shorelink Network at the end of November 2017. The decision to leave Shorelink forms part of Council's organisational-wide approach to

improved service delivery and reformed business processes, enabling Council to have a more tailored approach to meet the aspirations of the community by delivering more library programs and building on social, capital and digital literacy. Some of the benefits you'll see include a more relevant collection for the community, a new and improved Willoughby Library catalogue with more direct access to eBooks and other eCollections, and improvements to our public Internet and free Wi-Fi reliability.

If you don't already have a Willoughby library card, now is a great time to join – simply bring ID with proof of address with you when you next visit Naremburn, or any of the other Willoughby branches listed above. Items borrowed from any Willoughby library now must be returned to a Willoughby library. Staff have been working hard to make this transition as smooth as they can. More information is on the website www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au/library or ask staff at one of our library branches.

Season's greetings,

Diana Revington
Branch Librarian



HEALTH MATTERS - Cholesterol

Ischaemic heart disease is the leading cause of death in Australia and elevated cholesterol is a major risk factor in this condition.

Cholesterol is a fatty substance that is carried around the body in the blood. While your body needs cholesterol to continue building healthy cells, having high cholesterol can increase your risk of heart disease and stroke.

High cholesterol can be inherited, but it's often the result of unhealthy lifestyle choices.

Cholesterol is carried through your blood attached to proteins. This combination of protein and cholesterol is called a lipoprotein. High density lipoprotein (HDL cholesterol) is called the 'good cholesterol' because it helps to keep cholesterol from building up in the arteries. Low density lipoprotein (LDL cholesterol) is called the 'bad cholesterol' because it is the main source of cholesterol build-up in the arteries. It is therefore best to aim for a low LDL cholesterol and a high HDL cholesterol. Triglycerides are another form of fat in the blood that can also increase the risk

of heart disease.

High cholesterol has no symptoms. A blood test is the only way to detect high cholesterol.

The National Heart Foundation of Australia recommends that all adults



aged 45 years and above should have a cholesterol test. Frequent testing may be required if you have a family history of high cholesterol, heart disease, or other risk factors such as smoking, diabetes

or high blood pressure. The more risk factors you have the higher your overall risk of developing coronary artery disease.

Lifestyle changes such as exercise and a healthy diet are the first steps in managing high cholesterol. Your doctor can advise you on the foods you should and should not eat. But if your cholesterol remains elevated despite lifestyle modification then your doctor may recommend medication.

Statins are the most effective and widely used drugs used to reduce cholesterol levels. The main side effects of statins are muscle pains and abnormal liver function tests. These potential side effects can be monitored with blood tests. Ezetimide and fibrates are other drugs which can be used if statins are not tolerated.

A final point is the reported link between statins and memory loss. While there have been reports of memory loss in those taking statins, studies have not found evidence to support these claims.

Dr Raffi Sahagian
Willoughby Medical Practice



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your say.**

Who can join?

- Naremburn residents – 18 years and over;
- Non-resident Naremburn property owners;
- People who run businesses in Naremburn.

\$15 per person per annum/ \$10
Concession per person per annum

New members, please fill out the
membership form at:

www.naremburnprogress.org.au

Membership renewals can pay on-
line using your name as reference:

Acc Name: Naremburn Progress As-
sociation BSB: 032 297 Acc. no.: 201 474

What's so great about parkrun?

People all over the world are springing out of their beds (on weekends no less) to be a part of the run revolution, and now parkrun is here...

When Willoughby Living member Lee Christian posted about 'parkrun' arriving in Willoughby, the positive response in our Group was one of the largest to date. Obviously many in the local community had already heard of this weekend venture where everyone runs together. In a park!

Parkrun started in southwest London in 2004, and came to Australia a few years later. There are now 239 events in Australia, and over 1200 worldwide with over 3 million registered parkrunners. Willoughby parkrun launched in November 2016 and has now notched up 45 events. Willoughby run director Grant Berthold was only too happy to answer our questions about what makes this event so special.

What is it about parkrun that incites such motivation and devotion?

It's for everyone, and (although there's now a head office and team), it's done week to week by everyone. It's hundreds of local, all slightly different events with the same friendly ethos offering a free, timed, 5km run/walk event every Saturday.

People plan their holidays around parkrun locations, and a few have been to every parkrun on their state, or Australia. We're more about the fun than the run. Juniors get a free t-shirt after 10 runs (both my kids have them), adults at 50, 100, 250, 500.

What should a new participant expect?

Unless they're keen runners, it's more about the fun than the run. Everyone needs to sign up online first, for free of course, and print out their barcode. We start at 7am, most start at 8am depending on local conditions, and there's a briefing by the run director before the start. We call out new parkrunners and tourists from other parkruns.

At the start you'll notice people of all shapes, size, and demographics from 4 year olds to 80+, visually impaired runners, prams, dogs, and in our case lots

of under 16's, probably 20% of the field some weeks. Run, walk, skip, or some combination thereof around the course. Collect your finish token at the end, take that and your personal barcode to the scanning volunteer to record your result. Stay, chat, cheer on others, maybe come for a coffee afterwards (we meet at the Incinerator afterwards), and eventually head home feeling great.

Are there any particular park run moments that stand out for you?

I love running, and have run 84 times at 22 different parkruns in Australia and the UK. It's been great helping initially at Mosman parkrun, and joining the Willoughby event team just as it was launching to see it become such a well attended and supported event each week. The stand out for me is when I volunteer to hand out the finish tokens, and watching the different way people choose to finish the 5ks. Flat out sprints, big grins, high fives, cartwheels, kids out-sprinting their parents, friends holding hands, or just ambling over as they've done for the whole course.

The achievement of doing 5km means different things to different people – for some it's just another week and another result, for some it's their first time, maybe they've set a new personal record, or they've overcome man flu, a hangover, or something far more serious and didn't think it would ever be possible.

For more information visit www.parkrun.com.au/willoughby or get yourself down to Artarmon Reserve for a 7am start every Saturday morning.

This interview was first published on Willoughby Living. This is an edited version. To read the article in full please visit www.naremburnprogress.org.au



Unfiltered pollution stacks near our homes & schools

The New South Wales Government is installing 30m high unfiltered Carcinogenic Pollution Stacks in North Sydney/Cammeray, Artarmon and Seaforth as part of the multi-billion-dollar Western Harbour 7km Road Tunnel and the 7.5km Beaches Link Road Project. These projects will also add a further 6 lanes (3 x each way) to the existing 10 lane freeway running through Naremburn, Crows Nest, Cammeray and North Sydney and potentially dump 60 tonnes per annum of Carcinogenic Particulate Matter on our doorstep.

Four shafts between 20 and 30 metres high are planned in Cammeray with a further two in Artarmon, resulting in Naremburn being practically surrounded by Pollution Stacks. These Stacks will disperse the fumes from thousands of trucks and cars expected to access the new underground toll-road.

The main concern will be the microscopic particles (Particulate Matter) which are found in exhaust fumes and were declared Carcinogenic by the World Health Organisation in 2013.

According to respiratory specialists, Particulate Matter embeds quickly and deeply in the lung tissue and has an immediate, cumulative effect. The impact of the damage will be like smoking was in the early 21st century. This Particulate Matter causes asthma, strokes, arrhythmia, vascular diseases and dementia. In children 8-15 years old it causes permanent reduction in lung growth. This Particulate Matter will also disperse as its being released into our air, which means it will land on the ground and get disturbed again with wind, etc, impacting a broader group of our community.

A planning document which was recently leaked to the Media pinpoints the locations of the Stacks and maps the air quality impact zones surrounding them. The zones considered 'sensitive receptors' are within a 500m radius of the Stacks, however, reports indicate that the Carcinogenic Particulate Matter and other pollutants can be present up to 3kms away.

Pre-Schools and Schools highlighted in the impact zone according to the leaked report are;

North Sydney stack

- Wenona School
- North Sydney Boys High School
- Marist College North Shore
- St Mary's Primary School
- Cammeraygal High Senior Campus*
- Crows Nest Kindergarten
- Anzac Park Public School
- Monte Sant Angelo Mercy College
- Cammeray Public School
- KU Cammeray Preschool
- KU Grandstand Preschool

Gore Hill stack

- Butterflies Early Learning Childcare Centre
- Puddleducks Early Learning Centre

A number of schools have already voiced their concerns to the Local and State Government requesting that they not only look at alternative, more sustainable means of transport, such as public rail, but also, at a minimum, filter the Stacks. There is no safe pollution limit. Major European and Asian cities are filtering Stacks for shorter tunnels, so why aren't we? Is our health, and the health of our children not as important as theirs? What value are we willing to put on a life? Surely the health costs of asthma, dementia, and strokes alone offset the cost of filtering? Countries which do not filter long road tunnels include India, China (until now) and Turkey.

In Australia the Brisbane Clem Jones M7 tunnel (4.8kms long) opened in 2010 and the Brisbane Airport link tunnel (6.7km twin tunnels) opened July 2012. Each has been built without filtration. High levels of emission pollutants are being detected at sensors in areas near the Stacks, including 2 high schools, particularly in peak hours. Can we not learn from our mistakes?

Now is the time for us, the community, to come together and ensure we fight for a healthier and safer environment. Northern Residents Tunnels Action Group (NORTAG) are local residents working together to get the Government to provide sustainable transport options for the health, safety and amenity of the communities where we live, play and work within. A single action taken by an individual can make a difference in the community... a collective action can effectively lead to the permanent change needed.

Please take the time to visit, Like and Follow our Facebook page www.facebook.com/NBeachesHarbour-Tunnels to further familiarise yourself with valuable information, and if you are as passionate as we are in living in a healthier, safe environment, please go to our website and sign our petition. Use the letters and contact details of Politicians under the "Take Action" button and write and phone the Premier, cc'ing other Politicians on the list. They need to hear loud and clearly from our community that we will not stand for this huge health problem – make your voice heard. nortag2017.wixsite.com/nortag.

Still the one... keeps changing the plan

The Department of Planning has recently sent notification that the new owners of the Channel 9 site have applied to modify their approved development application.

The latest modification involves many changes. The most significant is the development now covers essentially only the main Channel 9 site whereas the approved development was for an expanded site that incorporated Scott St and "the Loft" building.

Although the land area is being reduced, the developers still want to increase the number of apartments in the development by 25% from the approved 400 to 495.

Once again, the community needs to make submissions to the Department of Planning demonstrating why the proposed plans are an over development of this site.

WAAG will shortly organise an information meeting to explain the new development and the reasons why it should not be approved. Following this meeting we will also distribute a fact sheet on what is being proposed and the issues that you might want to incorporate into your submission.

We have limited time to act and we need as many submissions as possible by the 15th December. An updated version of your original submission would be acceptable.

For further information please contact WAAG Convenor, Peter Wilton, 0418 645 600 or Bob Taffel, 0425 312 474.

Voices need to be heard

Earlier this year Council issued a draft Planning and Urban Design Strategy aimed at taking the Willoughby community into the 2020s. The strategy covers four separate aspects: Chatswood CBD, Housing in Willoughby, Local Centres in Willoughby and Industrial Lands.

Council's notification of community consultation meetings to give us the opportunity of telling Council what we'd like to see as improvements to the shopping areas in our local community. This will largely involve the shopping strips along Penshurst St from Mowbray Rd to Laurel St, Mowbray Rd, opposite Willoughby Girls' School and all down Willoughby Rd as far as Artarmon Rd. Your Progress Association has long highlighted the need for improvement to both the range of

shops and the look of the shopping precinct and we think you'll agree that the look of our shopping strips needs a lot of work to bring them up to today's standards.

We strongly recommend that you set aside some time on Saturday 16 December, between 9am and 11am to visit the drop-in session at St Michaels Church hall, 10 Clanwilliam St Willoughby to have your say to Council officers about what you think needs to be done and the sorts of shops you'd like to see.

If you are not able to make the drop-in session you can make a written submission by going to www.haveyoursay-willoughby.com.au/local-centres

The future planning of Naremburn
Earlier this year, Willoughby Council

started to discuss with the community plans for the future growth and sustainability of local centres including the Naremburn shopping area.

Members of the Naremburn Progress Association and Naremburn shop owners attended a workshop on November 28, to discuss some of the planning concepts for the local area. A drop in session was also held on December 2, at the Naremburn Community Centre. Local residents can still have their say even if they missed these meetings by going to www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au or www.haveyoursaywilloughby.com.au/local-centres or contact staff from the councils strategic planning team on 02 9777 1000.

NM will be following developments and will bring you further details over the next year.



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TO BOOK A TABLE

email: flatrockbrewcafe@iinet.net.au or sms: 0427 466 004

Naremburn Community Centre Activities

There are two spaces available for hire in the community centre.

There is a meeting room with its own kitchenette and toilet facilities and a larger area with its own projector.

These spaces can be hired through the Willoughby Park Centre (Ph. 9967 2917 or email willpark@willoughby.nsw.gov.au)

Naremburn Progress Association

2nd Thursday – February, April, June,
August, October and December
7:30 pm
0419 227 986 (Roger Promnitz)

Playgroup

Wednesday – for children 5 and under
9:30 am to 11.30 am
naremburnplaygroup@gmail.com

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
abamns.contact@gmail.com

Willoughby Community Preschool

Monday to Friday
8:00 am to 4:00 pm
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

7 Central Street

And we're back!

Council elections are over and we're back to business. I would like to say thank you to the people of Naremburn who have put their trust in me by re-electing me as one of their Councillors. It is an absolute honour to be elected to such a position and I look forward to continuing to serve our local community.

Local Centres

During the last council term, I fought hard for our local shopping strip to be included in the short-term budget for re-vitalisation. The strip looks tired and is in dire need of some street scaping.

In your recent rates notice however, you will have received a flyer from Council regarding consultation on our "local centres", of which the Naremburn Village is naturally one. Willoughby Council is seeking community feedback about the future of these local centres, including what is appropriate bulk and scale for any future development. This will form part of our development plans going forward. During the campaign many residents expressed concern that our village could face over-development and that the "village feel" was an important aspect that they would like maintained.

To be clear: this is a different consultation process to whether the shops need a facelift – those plans are already in the works. This is about what is acceptable in a development context and whether, for example, it is appropriate the shops are redeveloped into multi storey shopping complex?

Now is the time to send Council this feedback and the easiest way, especially if you are unable to attend one of the public information sessions is to email me your thoughts. If this is important to you, now is the time to speak up and a quick email is all you need send. My details are below.

Community Committees

Council has recently implemented a 12 month trial of a new community committee and reference group structure. I made it clear during the campaign that I was in favour ensuring that if residents want to volunteer their time and knowledge to better our local community, Council should facilitate this as best we can. The time and money involved is minimal, but the loss of community knowledge by ignoring this local knowledge can be immense. I will be monitoring the new committee structure closely and welcome your thoughts on how it can be improved.

Happy Holidays

That's all from me this year. I hope you and yours have a relaxing Christmas and New Year, and that if you have the opportunity to get together with neighbours for a celebratory drink, you do that – the sense of local community is what makes our suburb so great.

nic.wright@willoughby.nsw.gov.au

0481 033 442

facebook.com/CrNicWright

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