

Artarmon's LCT concerns bypassed

By the APA Committee

The recently-released Representations Report for the Lane Cove Tunnel (LCT) outlines and responds to community representations made following the earlier Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Under the headings below is a summary of the RTA's responses which appear, unfortunately, to have done little to alleviate the APA's main concerns.

Air Quality

Air quality, emission treatments, assessment levels and associated modelling are of great concern to us locally, and a large number of submissions were received.

RTA modelling of pollutant levels was carried out at ground level (apparently adjacent to Epping Road, between the M2 and Gore Hill Freeway (GHF)) and at theoretical 30m high levels at three low rise Artarmon office buildings. The conclusion was that Lane Cove air quality should improve because of the stacks and better traffic flow, and general

Sydney air quality should improve slightly owing to better traffic flow. The proposed ventilation stacks "would generally be expected to meet NSW air quality goals". The RTA's conclusion in relation to emission filtration treatments is that available technology has not proven effective in bringing about significant reductions in pollutants. Application of this technology overseas was not necessarily comparable to the conditions in which they would be applied to the LCT stacks. Concept design of the stacks allows provision for future installation of treatment systems should effective technology become available.

Regarding associated health impacts, the RTA concluded that the overall effect will be that the only people identified as being at

risk of higher pollutant levels are those who live or work within 10 metres of tunnel entry or exit points, and that "those in the stack precincts are expected to be exposed to reduced levels of pollutants".

The APA is happy to leave the technical issue of air quality itself, to the experts at WCC. However, the APA has requested that additional base data be collected from at least 3 further identified locations within postcode 2064, both pre- and post-tunnel, for at least 12 months, so that any changes can be adequately assessed. This has not been offered.



APA president, Keith Anderson (centre), with new State MPs Anthony Roberts (Lane Cove) & Gladys Berejikian (Willoughby), where the electorates meet in the centre of Artarmon Village.

Local Traffic Impacts

A large number of submissions were received on a range of issues. The overall response was to refer to the Local Area Traffic Management Plan (LATMP) process which would be part of the detailed design phase. As part of the recommendations for the LATMP, some consideration was given to "Artarmon, west of Hampden Road", as requiring specific consideration. However, it was stressed (and not for the first time) that "issues that are not directly associated with changes resulting from the Lane Cove Tunnel would not be considered" in the LATMP.

Regarding concerns about the predicted 58% increase in traffic using Reserve, Barton, Jersey, Hampden Rds, Brand & Elizabeth Sts, and the assertion that increased traffic in

local streets of Artarmon is a direct contravention of the RTA's stated objective of keeping local streets for local traffic, the report does agree to consider increased signposting to direct Chatswood bound traffic to the exit tunnel near Delhi Rd rather than Reserve Road, but then proceeds, once again, to refer to the LATMP.

Route Alternatives – Pacific Highway

RTA believes that, based on its analysis of the Pacific Highway (PH) /Mowbray Road intersection, traffic flows will improve owing to less traffic on the PH and Mowbray Road

west. As a result of this, they say they will be able to modify the timing of the traffic lights thus removing the need for a second right hand turn lane from the PH into Mowbray Rd.

Provision of 2 lanes or a flyover for eastbounders turning on to the PH heading north was considered not possible for physical design reasons.

The Report does add that removal of the existing left turn for GH Freeway traffic to travel south on the PH is necessary. This will push another 70 vehicles per hour to access the PH via Reserve Road,

but justifies this in light of the decrease in PH traffic. However, it is difficult to find any substantiation in the Report for how or why the RTA can state that it expects a reduction in the PH traffic flow.

Falcon St Tolls

A number of points were made to the RTA, including a representation that the ramps would be of benefit to the residents of several suburbs, including Artarmon, by redirecting traffic bound for Neutral Bay (and beyond), but that a toll would discourage use.

The Report's response is that the LCT was based on a \$2 toll for the tunnel and a \$1 toll for the ramps. If the ramp toll was removed, the tunnel toll would have to increase to make the project viable. *Cont . p.3*

Artarmon Progress Association

ABN 77 319 108 019

Established 1914

The APA Committee usually meets on the 2nd Monday of the month, excluding January.

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artarmon GAZETTE

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The Artarmon Gazette is published quarterly by the Artarmon Progress Association. It is distributed by volunteers, free of charge to Artarmon residents and businesses.

The Artarmon Gazette seeks to inform residents and business people about current local events and issues to provide them with a forum in which to discuss matters of interest and concern.

Written contributions and photographs are very welcome. Please submit all non-advertising material to the Editor. Material can be received on disk or via email. Some minor editing may be necessary for considerations of space and layout.

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FUTURE DATES

Tue 27 May	Public Information Meeting - Artarmon Library
Thu 17 Jul	Gazette Copy closes
Fri 25 Jul	Gazette Advertising closes
Wed 20 Aug	Gazette delivery complete
Tue 26 Aug	Public Information Meeting Artarmon Library

APA - Notes from the President

By Keith Anderson

Having just returned from 6 weeks away, I am reading the pre-and post-election press with great interest. So, Willoughby is now the most marginal electorate in NSW, to the tune of somewhere between 140 and 150 votes. When we left for our holidays, nominations had not even closed, so we were not able to cast our votes in a contest with several important local issues, as well as the wider Party policy positions.

Despite this, I am inclined to comment that some candidates still did not address these issues down to the level that the local electorate wanted. Take some of our own examples. Elizabeth Lodge redevelopment – local issues became submerged in a wider SEPP 55 debate: LCT – traffic impacts on Artarmon and air quality monitoring didn't even seem to rate a mention; or what about more effective public transport in the Artarmon Industrial Area? Now that both Willoughby and Lane Cove electorates have new MP's, we hope that this will also bring a new enthusiasm and that local issues might gain a higher profile that has previously been the case. Memo to the Member for Lane Cove – most of Artarmon, west of the railway, including the AIA, is in your electorate.

On a more positive note, having spent many nights in hotel rooms with only constant coverage of the Iraq war 'CNN style', I have been heartened by the reports of large numbers of volunteers who gave of their time to help out with the campaigns of the various candidates. I am also hearing stories of those who fronted up to the Artarmon polling booth and ended up spending most of their day there – handing out Greens pamphlets because no-one had turned up to do it; or working the long line of voters who stood for over half an hour in the sun just to get into the hall. (Note to the Electoral Commission – let's see if we can find a convenient booth with sufficient capacity for Artarmon before we go to the polls again!)

Of course, many of these volunteers are the same people we see helping out on many of our local committees and with all of the activities that take place in Artarmon. Those who were manning the cake stall on election day work hard for the school in many other areas; those who house-sat and helped out with the recent APA Heritage Tour work diligently for Neighbourhood Watch or other activities like the Gazette or APA Committee.

But what of those who were moved to volunteer for the first time in support of local candidates and issues? Has this ignited a passion in them to give a little more back in order to help keep our local community such a great place in which to live? If so, the APA would love to hear from them!

APA PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

8.00pm - 10.00pm, 27 May 2003, Artarmon Community Library

Chatswood Railway Station • Wilkes Avenue Upgrade

Speaker: Nick Tobin - Corporate Services Director, Willoughby City Council

Plans for the upgrade of Chatswood Station as part of the PRL project are currently on exhibition. The plans allow for substantial residential and office tower developments around the station, which is in itself a major re-development which will change how the heart of Chatswood will look in the near future. You should take an interest in what is happening. Nick Tobin will provide the latest comment on the status of the station re-development.

Wilkes Avenue (between the Artarmon railway station and Elizabeth street) has the potential to be an even more charming area for cafés and shops. The APA has held some discussions with WCC about "brightening up" this area, and we would like your input. Nick will speak about how we might work with Council to have some funding committed to such a project.

These are two important local issues, which both affect the character of Willoughby and Artarmon. Hear the latest and provide your input.

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APA...what's happening in your association

A round-up of issues the Committee is currently following on behalf of members:

Artarmon Reserve – On behalf of a WCC resident involved in an incident which could have been much worse, WCC has agreed to install a **Shared Traffic Zone** along the roadway leading down to the carpark in Artarmon Reserve. This will mean that a strict 10 km/h speed limit will be in place, and motorists **MUST** yield to all pedestrians in the zone. In addition, speedcounts will be undertaken before and after the installation of the signage. The APA has felt for some time that safer pedestrian access into the Reserve is necessary, and we will also push for a separate footpath to be constructed away from the roadway.

For those who have been waiting eagerly for the upgrade of the **playground**, Julie Whitfield of WCC has informed us that as Artarmon Reserve is a Crown Land reserve, and is subject to the Crown Lands Act, the DA requires the consent of the Department of Land & Water Conservation (the owners) – who have tarried in providing such. Let's hope that now the election is over, such matters will be dealt with.

Wilkes Ave – Council recently received another petition from residents and businesses requesting an investigation into determining the emission of odours near Wilkes Ave & the Railway Station. This is the second time that this issue has been raised with Council in the last few months, but it has not been raised with the APA and we have been unable to find out further information.

Shell Service Station site – Continuing enquiries to Council show that no further DA has yet been lodged for the redevelopment of the old Shell Service Station site on Hampden Road. We understand that the site was purchased by a commercial developer who has other interests in the area. Perhaps it will remain as is until there is the chance to amalgamate with other sites?

Public Noticeboard – Just a few weeks ago, the noticeboard near the station was set on fire. WCC officers report that it is the only noticeboard in the municipality that is subject to such continual acts of vandalism. If you have any ideas as to how we can help curb this vandalism, they would be much appreciated! ■

Postscript to the State election

By Geof Cameron

Yes, the election has well and truly come and gone, but we would like to thank the candidates who came together for the only time during the campaign at the APA Public Information Meeting in February. Each candidate was allowed 10 minutes to speak on what they felt were the issues of concern locally, and the floor was then opened up to questions. More than 100 people packed into the Artarmon Library for the meeting, one of our best attendances ever. Congratulations to Gladys Berejiklian, the new MP for Willoughby in a very tight 'finish' with Mayor Pat Reilly. We look forward to welcoming Gladys to future APA meetings.

Willoughby is unlikely to be regarded as a safe seat at the next election. Therefore we can expect that well prepared and documented appeals to the Carr Government will receive a better hearing than they might have in the past. In the same vein, if our new Liberal member is to consolidate her position, she will have to prove herself a capable and effective advocate for local issues. Both of these outcomes will be to the benefit of the residents of Artarmon.

Uncertainty of outcome at the next election will be increased because of the likelihood of a redistribution of boundaries. Residents of Artarmon might be expected to prefer that our suburb be reunited by such redistribution. ■



Candidates Pat Reilly, Cas Mayfield, Imogen Wareing, Mike Steel and Gladys Berejiklian meet with the APA members prior to the election.

LCT concerns *continued from Front page*

That would have the effect of discouraging tunnel use, pushing traffic back on to Epping Road.

The RTA goes on to say that their modelling concludes that ramp usage would not vary because of the toll. However, they do not detail how they came to the conclusion that ramp usage would not vary, but tunnel usage would through application / variation of tolls!

The Falcon St ramps are essential to remove traffic from the 'rat runs' through the AIA, Naremburn and Crows Nest. The APA argues that the RTA could fund the loss of income by negotiating a modest increase in the tunnel toll (spread over a vastly larger user base), or by extending the contract toll period by, say, 2 years. There is a recent precedent for this.

Public Transport

The impact of the proposed replacement of existing PH peak-hour transit lanes (one lane each way) by all day "Bus Only" lanes has not been addressed. The important issue of bus stops on the GHF near the AIA, similarly, remains up in the air. As part of the LATMP, a number of consultative committees will be formed, including a Public Transport Consultative Committee, and the APA will ensure that the chosen tenderer is aware of our willingness to participate.

Cycleways

On this issue, in regard to which several suggested alternative placements of cycleways were rejected due to geographical complications or the need for further compulsory land acquisitions, the Report does appear to indicate a reasonable willingness to be flexible when it comes to the detailed design phase.

Where to from here?

Despite the efforts of Councillor Coppock, Richard Tarte and others in mobilising strong community support for the petition presented to parliament last year by MP Peter Collins, and a subsequent meeting with the Planning Minister, Andrew Refshauge, our representations appear to have fallen on deaf ears.

The APA plans to continue to push our issues by:

- looking to our new parliamentary representatives, both in Willoughby and Lane Cove, to press the Government and RTA to achieve a more equitable outcome;
- asking for additional air quality benchmarking; and
- requesting an RTA representative attend a Public Meeting to hear and address community concerns.

If our local community does not feel strongly enough to make its voice heard, we can expect our representations to continue to be ignored. It goes without saying that we shall also need interested parties to volunteer to be involved in the consultative process when the chosen tenderer is announced. ■

New DCP2 Passed by Narrow Majority of Council

By Barry Thompson

DCP2, now titled Transport Requirements for Development, deals with the amount of parking that must be provided with new developments of all types within the City and with related traffic and road management issues. One of its most controversial clauses reduces car-parking provisions for new developments in close proximity to transportation hubs and arterial roads.

At its April 14 meeting, Council accepted the recommendation of staff to amend DCP2. Many groups and individuals including APA submitted comments on the draft document. Some were in support, others against the thrust of the changes. In the wash-up, the public comments produced just a few changes to the draft document. Comments by State Government authorities were generally favourable since the proposals are consistent with State guidelines and planning instruments that seek to reduce dependency on private motor vehicles within urban areas.

APA supports the thrust of the new DCP2. Whenever APA has questioned our members, their first concern relates to traffic congestion on local and regional streets. Demand management strategies, as applied in DCP2, appear the only feasible solution to problems caused by ever-increasing car ownership and usage. Past increases in road and parking capacity, both here and overseas, have been shown to facilitate greater use of cars. That process is not sustainable.

Rainwater tanks in Willoughby City

By Anne Weinert

The recent drought has hopefully made us all think about use and conservation of water. If you have been thinking about putting in a tank, there are planning controls that you must be aware of.

Council's Rainwater Tank Policy has now been superseded with the introduction of Planning NSW's SEPP 4 (Nov 02) which permits the installation of rainwater tanks up to a capacity of 10,000 litres without a Development Application, provided other WCC requirements such as location behind the front building line and with a side boundary setback of at least 900mm are met. Tanks must have an overflow which connects back into the existing stormwater system, and must conform with construction and installation guidelines. WCC may also allow part of the on-site detention storage requirement for new or existing buildings in



rainwater tanks, provided that this is additional to normal storage.

If you live in the Conservation Area, there may be additional considerations such as providing screening or planting to reduce visibility of the structure from the street frontage, although

DCP 19 makes no specific mention of rainwater tanks.

WCC staff are presently reviewing all aspects of stormwater management. There have been many recent changes to the way in which the public and professionals view the efficient management of natural resources, and these will hopefully be effectively reflected in the new Stormwater DCP which will incorporate water quality, water quantity, floodplain

management and water conservation. It is envisaged that Council will reflect the SEPP 4 requirements for rainwater tanks as part of the new DCP, and

Continued page 10

APA's submission was limited to comments and suggestions that are pertinent to Artarmon's industrial, business and residential areas and which we believe will need to be addressed as part of an equitable and feasible demand management process, and called for:

- Encouragement of future residents who are likely to be less dependent on private motor vehicles for transport.
- Ensuring that parking and traffic issues are central to the recommendations of the study group about to report on planning changes to apply to the Artarmon Industrial Area (AIA).
- Actively pursuing strategies to develop and fund a sub-regional public transport system.
- Encouraging Council to manage public and on-street parking equitably and in a manner that maximises the amenity of these facilities for all Willoughby stakeholders while discouraging excessive car ownership.
- Discouragement of overflow parking into residential areas by workers from adjacent industrial or commercial areas.
- Discouragement of all day parking around Artarmon railway station, especially by commuters whose journey begins outside the City of Willoughby.
- Steps to explain the thrust of demand management of traffic in the light of experience in other cities and trends in traffic volumes and related demographics.

Some of our suggestions were deemed outside the scope of the DCP document and have been passed to other groups within Council. APA plans to follow up to ensure that those suggestions receive full consideration. ■

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APA's Heritage Tour explores the house and garden diversity of Artarmon

By Michelle Sloane

For the fourth year in a row, our local community again ensured the success of the APA's Heritage House Tour held on Saturday 12 April 2003. Just on 100 people attended the self-guided tour of superb examples of the architectural styles that characterise the Artarmon Conservation Area. Wonderful examples of the California Bungalow style and later styles including Spanish Mission were

available for view. The National Trust theme for the 2003 Heritage Festival was "Freshwater – Water, Waves and Wanderings" so our focus this year embraced both architecture and gardens.

Again, this year where possible, we presented information and displays from architects and landscape designers who had worked on the homes, along with valuable input from all the homeowners concerning what they wanted to achieve with their renovation and restoration work. In addition, information about the history of each of the houses along with significant architectural, landscape and design features was also provided.

An enormous thank you goes to all the homeowners - Garry Backhouse, Anne and Mark Bryant, Margaret and Chris McGowen, Mollie Shelly and David Young- who so generously opened their homes for this significant local event.

We would also like to extend our thanks to Architect, Barbara Meyer who for the last two years has very willingly given her time and professional expertise becoming the "consultant" architect to the tour organisers!

Thanks also must go to Horticulturist, Helen Young who provided considerable assistance to the Committee in identifying homes and gardens.

The support and encouragement of our sponsors and supporters is sincerely appreciated. Very special thanks also go to all our many volunteers who helped on the day as "house sitters", directing traffic and handing out leaflets. You all did a fantastic job. Gil Davis of Richardson supplied the leaflets, and his assistant Michelle managed last minute typing, proofing and printing with considerable patience yet again!

The Heritage House Tour Sub-Committee included Marianne Nestor, Glenda Gartrell, Graham Firth and myself. Without the tremendous energy and support of this Committee the tour would not have come together so well. To all those residents of Artarmon and folk from further afield who supported our Tour, thank you! We look forward to seeing you all again next year during Heritage Week 2004! ■

THE PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Wishes to thank the following organisations and individuals for assisting the Heritage House Tour:

Richardson and Wrench - Artarmon

9411 7299

Sydney Water

Willoughby City Council

Diversity Management

Management Consultants - 9410 0481

Barbara Meyer

Architect - 9417 2707

Helen Young

Horticulturalist - 9411 1167

Northside Flowers - Hampden Rd

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Thanks also to all those individuals who gave their time so willingly.



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Artarmon Public School news By Katrina Weir

Meet the Principal

Michael Simmons, principal for the past five years, was born in Wigan, Lancashire, a mining town with a strong rugby league culture. His first exposure to Australia was as a child when he used to watch the Northern England Rugby League team battle it out against the visiting

Australian team... and occasionally win. He arrived in Australia in 1972 and since then has held a range of teaching and executive positions in Sydney and surrounding schools including Tempe, Daceyville, Regents Park, Cammeray and Somersby on the NSW Central Coast. Prior to his current role, Michael was

principal of Hornsby Public. Michael describes himself as a hands-on principal who enjoys working with the teachers and getting to know the students. He is personally dedicated to



Michael Simmons, Principal, Artarmon Public School

helping students achieve qualities of self-confidence, optimism and a commitment to personal excellence. One of the main strengths of the school, he says, is the shared core values between parents and teachers.

Michael is married with two teenage sons and enjoys music, sailing, reading and renovation. ■

Meet Ann Liebert, physiotherapist

By John Peacock

Ann Liebert, Artarmon's physiotherapist, has recently had time to reflect on her close involvement with the local community.

"I established my practice in Hampden Road in 1990, and was always impressed by the close feeling of Artarmon. This really came to the fore in 2002 when my northern beaches house was burnt down. I received a tremendous amount of support and it made me appreciate the Artarmon locality even more", says Ann.

Ann, her husband Brian (a university lecturer in microbiology) and three children used this awful loss to take a sabbatical and moved to Gothenburg, on Sweden's west coast, for four months whilst their home was being rebuilt.

"Sweden was a wonderful life experience – and made me appreciate Australia's health system."

Ann cites the rebate on physiotherapy treatment from private health insurance, allowing small health businesses like hers to be able to operate in a local area, as an example. "The Aussie system is so much more responsive. Although not free coverage as in Sweden, you don't have to wait 18 months for an appointment and you can see the right practitioner for your condition directly, rather than needing a medical referral. And you are readily able to seek a second opinion, which isn't possible in Sweden."

Ann employs two other physiotherapists, Jackie and LeAnne, in her practice, and has an in-house

gymnasium for her patients. She also conducts home visits. "The gym is an ideal way for recovering patients to learn how to exercise and regain fitness under our initial supervision." As well as her university



Ann Liebert

degree, Ann has a Graduate Diploma in Musculo Skeletal Physiotherapy to assist with joint manipulation and has an interest in back pain, neck pain, sports injuries and headaches.

"I love the diversity of Artarmon. My patients range from children to people 100 years old, from office jobs to businesses in the Artarmon Industrial Area. Our extended treatment hours until 8pm and on Saturday mornings cater for this mixture of clients. People appreciate our quality service and availability by their loyalty to the practice. I can't imagine a better area to have a business than Artarmon." ■

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Representing My School

By Iain Guthrie,
School Captain 2003, Artarmon Public School

I became the school captain by election, there were many fine candidates and I am sure it was a close election, as there is a very good team of prefects and an excellent vice-captain. I was lucky to be elected by my peers. To me this says they believe in me, that they trust me to help manage the school successfully, that they believe I will make the right decisions for them. To me, being a captain means responsibility; I have to be a good role model for younger children, and show them how to show respect, be polite, and be model students. It means that I have to represent my school and the students in it. It is a great honour being school captain. ■

Student leaders shine

The School encourages leadership among its

students and each year, seeks four prefects, a Vice Captain and a Captain. Students who are elected office-bearers are expected to participate in all levels of school life and demonstrate leadership skills such as a strong sense of responsibility, good interpersonal skills, effective planning and excellent public speaking ability.

Their responsibilities include conducting special assemblies and assemblies for Years 3-6, welcoming visitors to the school, assisting in orientation days, participation in the Student

Representative Council and representing the school at special functions both in and out of school. ■

Voters get more than their say on Election Day

At 7.00am on Saturday 22nd March, 2003, carloads of cakes, chutneys and hot cross buns were delivered to Artarmon Public School and arranged on tables for the inaugural P&C Association Election Day cake stall.

Margaret McGowen and Peta Herschderfer had worked tirelessly to capture the enthusiasm of the Artarmon Public School parents and encourage them to 'bake for a cause'. They also

captured the enthusiasm of the school students by offering double movie tickets as prizes for the best artworks on the cake boxes. The drawings were so colourful and it was a thrill to see the students had gone to such efforts.

A total profit of \$2,055.85 was raised towards this year's P&C fund raising target; an outstanding effort. Monies came from sales of the cakes and other food, the fantastic student buskers who donated their time on the day, sales from hamper tickets and the generous support of local businesses: Bakers Delight, Artarmon Fruit Market, Artarmon Valet Service, Gardenia Café and Nick Logan's pharmacy. Hoyts Corporate Sales and Hoyts Westfield Chatswood also donated movie tickets.



Buyers and sellers at the Artarmon P&C Election Day stall.

Congratulations and welcome to Anni Kavanagh who recently moved into the Artarmon area and held the winning hamper ticket. ■

Do you want to know more about Colds and Flu and your medicines?

Colds and Flu are most common during winter. Many medications are available to treat the many forms of winter illness.

When you come into **Nick Logan Pharmacist Advice** to purchase your prescription medicines, our pharmacists will offer to sit with you to help you understand your medication so it works safely and properly for you and your family. We'll explain how it works, its interaction with food and other medicines and its possible side effects. We'll ask if

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Councillors' feedback...feedback...feedback



Last week the State Government postponed all Council elections until March 2004. Their reasons - the Electoral Office was exhausted by the recent state election and many felt

the Council budgetary cycle was out of kilter with a September election. Still, what price democracy? None of you knowingly elected me for 4.5 years. It would have been better if Council elections were held as planned in August this year with the proviso that residents would be electing the new Council for 4.5 years to make the necessary adjustment. At least it would have had the whiff of democracy. Even more worrying is the grapevine whisper that this March date might be delayed again. Somehow I feel I've heard this all before. Right here in Artarmon.

The Chandos St Link Bridge has been delayed since 1989. First the original developer went broke. Then there was a delay in getting the Section 96 funds with the money only released once the second developer started building the western tower. Within the space of 5 years there was a complete loss of corporate memory on the part of Meriton, the developer of the nearby Oasis apartments, as to the purpose of the bridge which they had erected as part of that development's requirements.

Ten years down the track the current Oasis unit dwellers were dumbfounded to learn that the Bridge which serviced their apartments was in fact an integral part of a busy link between Chandos and Herbert St. Then just last week, Council discovered that the structure had not been built to the correct weight-bearing specifications for a collector road. Harry Trigaboff has been sent a "please explain and rectify letter", but there are some gloomy faces around Victor Street's 5th floor. With each delay the community has had to re-establish the rationale for the bridge in sometimes bruising encounters. The residents now doubt they will ever see it built.

DCP 29 has been delayed. The community had their reasons. Given the need to bed down the residential and CBD strategies under the new Local Environment Plan, Council regarded the review of DCP 29, the blueprint for the industrial areas, as a lower priority and it took a back seat for a number of years. By the time Council was ready to move, however, the industrial community had decamped in search of more visionary high tech pastures with less WD40 grime. The 5 year old document which underpinned the review was scorned. Council's treatment of the ABC rezoning was regarded darkly by Artarmon Industrial Area property owners. Delay once again had wrongfooted what should have been a simple process to provide better controls in the interim.

The redevelopment of Kids Cottage Community Centre is yet again delayed. The reasons in the Council file are perhaps the most painful recent reminder of what can happen when there are delays. Community agreement disintegrates when the originators of that agreement move on. A series of notifications is no longer enough. What was meant to be a beloved community asset has become a blowtorch freely applied to Council's more vulnerable parts by residents and Councillors alike.

Delays are part of life. No amount of notification can override the flow of residents in and out of our suburbs or reconcile determined opposition who find surer footholds with every extra week. One thing is clear. If you want it to happen, do it now. Carpe diem. Or just plain carp until it does. For who knows what tomorrow brings. And don't, what ever you do, let the above happen to Civic Place. We will all be the losers.

As always you can reach me on 9979 9477 or send an email to lesley.stevens@prismpix.com ■



Deputy Mayor
Kate Lamb

Have we got a Plan for you!

I know the year is well underway when those overly stuffed, heavyweight, A3 manila envelopes from Council arrive - the draft 2003 - 08 Management Plan and Budget are with us! We reviewed the contents over Easter, had a briefing/workshop last Wednesday and will now put the Plan out on Exhibition for you to have a look - if you're so inclined! Its basically a 'steady as she goes' approach - for 2003/4, capital works projects for Artarmon include improvements at the Abbot Rd Children's Centre and at the Pavillion in Artarmon Reserve. The much anticipated

Playground upgrade and drainage works at Thompson Park are also identified. The Chandos St Link, which is the biggest single ticket item, is also listed.

Because we believe that you are pleased with the results of our e.restore special levy, we are also exhibiting a proposal to continue it for 10 years at \$1.75m annually.

Whilst the Management Plan is the centerpiece of Council's planning activity, the array of supporting plans generated is astounding. Because of the difficulties experienced as a result of the ill fated Industrial Areas DCP, we asked for, and have now received, the work schedule of the Strategic Planning Branch. It lists no fewer than 21 major projects due for completion by September, a further 8 which can be required by the State Government at anytime and then some 41 projects which are of an 'operational' nature - that they get on with as and when they can. As the branch consists of a manager and 3.5 staff, I can only admire their stamina. Examples of their work currently on exhibition are the LEP amendment relating to Foreshore Building Lines, the Northbridge Masterplan, S94 Plan for Open Space, Recreation & Community Facilities and DCP 2 (Carparking).

The Civic Place plan is also generating its own

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Councillors' feedback...feedback...feedback

share of healthy interest. This is the most comprehensively consulted forward plan the Council has ever undertaken. The project moves into its final planning stage with the Exhibition of the Masterplan which opened on April 30 (see the information below). A program of community information sessions targeting specific population groups and communities of interest has been scheduled throughout May, June and July.

With all this on the go, it's just as well the State Government has given Councils a six month extension!

kate.lamb@willoughby.nsw.gov.au ■



The 2003-2008 Management Plan incorporating the **2003-2004 Budget** will soon be out on exhibition. Rates in the Budget for the next year are to increase by 3%, the

waste levy by \$26. If the Minister approves Council's application, overall rating income would increase by 5.5% over 2002-2003.

I voted against the Management Plan going to exhibition for reasons I set out below.

Council has resolved to extend the **e-restore**

project by 10 years, which will mean an additional rate increase of 2.5%. Ten years takes this project over the life of three elected councils. As the Council is going to a poll on the issue of Civic Place next year, is it appropriate to ask the voters if they want to run this project for a further ten years? The budget should be amended with respect to e-restore, to allow for an extension of one year with a possible extension of nine if voters are in the affirmative.

I would like to hear views either way on this issue and invite readers to contact me on stuart.coppock@willoughby.nsw.gov.au.

The e-restore budget is \$1.75m for the proposed ten years and has line items of 'restore creeks, rivers and harbour, enhance habitat and wildlife, cleaner production, environmental management system, resource conservation, stormwater harvesting, transport management, transport access guides, walk this way, streets to creek, community environmental support, environmental education plan and environmental monitoring'.

The transport component of the ten year plan has as outcomes changing the modes of travel within the City through surveys and integrated transport projects and assisting people to take alternate modes of transport.

A public meeting where you can ask questions about the Management Plan and the e-restore

proposal will be held at Council Chambers at 7pm on Tues 20 May 2003.

Council has resolved in principle to support the temporary location of the **Chatswood Police Station** to the car park on the corner of Albert Avenue and Archer Street. Any lease to be signed is subject to a maximum term of 2 years, and a DA being lodged with a minimum annual lease payment.

Council has resolved to paint the roof of the new **Kids' Cottage Community Centre** to ameliorate the impact of the white colorbond roof on neighbouring residents.

Council has requested an internal but independent audit by the General Manager of the construction and planning process. Whilst the horse has well and truly bolted on this one, it is hoped that the audit will provide some answers as to why Council built over an existing park and did so poorly in notifying its own DA to the local residents.

A draft Council **notification policy** is currently being exhibited. I moved a motion seeking such a policy in 1999, and about the same time, another seeking a system that provided ongoing notification of Council projects pre-DA stage to residents, such as Kids' Cottage and the Chandos Street Link Bridge. It now appears as though this motion might be resourced before the end of this Council term. ■



CIVIC PLACE

MASTERPLAN EXHIBITION



Civic Centre foyer
409 Victoria Avenue
Chatswood

April to September 2003
10.00 – 4.00 Mondays to Fridays
10.00 – 2.00 Saturdays
Also open for Information Sessions

Civic Place Project Manager on 9777 1000

www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au/civicplace for details

open space • new library • concert hall • theatre • exhibition & rehearsal spaces • cafes • parking

Saving your garden

By Mollie Shelley

It is a long time since we have experienced such a hot dry summer. Now, with rain along the coast, one can almost hear the community sigh of relief. Everywhere is vivid green. BUT, as I write this towards the end of April, there is little rain in the catchment area and Sydney is facing serious compulsory water restrictions.

Looking at the abundance everywhere it would be easy to forget how our gardens have suffered. We have been warned: global warming will mean more summers like the one just past. The possibility of tighter water restrictions next summer is a sobering prospect for gardeners.

All we can do is look to our defences. The questions we should ask ourselves: How did my plants respond? Which ones thrived in the heat? Which ones were scorched or died? What can we do to help them? Now is the time to plan and take action. Are there plants you should transplant or remove? Is there any way you can protect affected plants by screening either with taller plants or structures? At the very least we can work at increasing mulch depth.

Don't wait until Spring to think about your soil. Humus retains moisture; it would be difficult to overdo it. Save everything. If you can't compost it, put it back on top of the soil. Now is the time of greatest leaf drop. If you rake the lawn, sweep the front path or the drive, use the sweepings. If you prune an overhanging branch or cut back a vine, chop up the leaves and smaller branches; save and compost them if you can. Eucalypt leaves and twigs are best on native gardens or plants; the deeper the litter, the moister it will be underneath and the quicker it will decompose. Keep piling them on, but not against the trunks. Keen gardeners can help decomposition and soil balance by putting a

sprinkle of blood and bone underneath their sweepings.

It has been interesting watching how plants responded to the heat. Grey leaved plants come mainly from dry Mediterranean or desert climates, and dealt with the heat well. Given reasonable, though dry conditions, Lavenders,

Artemesia (Wormwood), Senecio (Dusty Miller), Lambs' Ears (*Stachys lanata*), Snow-in-Summer (*Cerastium tomentosum*), Catmint (*Nepeta faassenii*), and *Convolvulus cneorum* will all thrive in heat. Roses loved the extra sunshine. There has been little black spot. Many of our native plants responded with a magnificent flowering - Angophoras, Grevilleas and Callistemons.

Tibouchina 'Alstonville', and other autumn flowering *Tibouchinas* have excelled themselves but the pink spring flowering *Tibouchina 'Noeline'* has suffered badly in dry locations. Plants that like cooler climates (e.g. Magnolias, Maples, Elms) have been burnt. Some Camellias have fared better than others. Many plants against brick walls or subject to the reflected heat from concrete paths or drives, particularly if exposed to northern or hot afternoon sun, have badly scorched leaves. Some look as though they may never fully recover. These are plants you should consider moving to a more protected location. At the very least mulch them to a depth of at least a dozen centimetres.

Many tree ferns are seriously burned. Some have died. *Cyatheas* cope with sun better than *Dicksonias* but it is possible to cut the trunk of a *Dicksonia*, trim back its fronds, and replant it in a more sheltered location where, with adequate water, it will form new roots.



Wendy Bishop

How you reshape your garden to meet the challenges ahead is a question you should ponder. ■

PERMACULTURE NORTH meets 3rd Monday evening each month in Lindfield.
Info: Wendy Bishop, 9420 4884.

Rainwater tanks *continued from page 4*

encourage the use of various water-sensitive urban design parameters, of which rainwater tanks is one.

If you have been thinking about installing a tank, now is the best time to do it – unless Sydney receives substantial rainfall in the catchment areas, we may well be on compulsory restrictions by the time you read this article. In addition, Sydney Water is offering rebates for any new tanks installed before 30 June 2003, and the free installation of backflow valves. Since the scheme began operating in late 2002, over 300 applications have been received. Most tanks will be used for garden watering and will operate independently of the Sydney Water supply.

Applications can be downloaded from the Water Conservation and Recycling section of Sydney Water's website and brochures are available from Customer Centres. For further information, call Julie Antill on 9952 0687 or Andre Boerema on 9350 6485. ■

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BushCare in Artarmon Reserve

Talking 2064

By Paul Bullock Willoughby Council Bush Regenerator & Trainer of the weekend Artarmon BushCare group

The Artarmon BushCare Group, which meets every second Sunday of the month from 9.00 till 12.00noon, now has as many as ten adults and four young children involved. BushCare gives the volunteers a sense of achievement in doing something very positive for the environment, and a sense of belonging to the local community, with time to catch up over a cup of tea in a peaceful bushland setting amongst tall Blue Gum and Blackbutt trees. The group has never been stronger with great people who warmly welcome new members.

Artarmon Reserve now has a newly formed mid-week BushCare group, who will be supervised by Liz Powell, an experienced bush regenerator who works for WCC. Liz knows Artarmon Reserve very well, as she works in different parts of it one day each week. She is also an experienced BushCare trainer, supervising a bi-monthly weekend group in Castlecrag. **The new group will meet on the first Wednesday of each month, from 9.00 till 11.00am.** It will provide a great opportunity for residents around the reserve to meet other local people with the same interests in the environment.

If any readers would like to learn more about Willoughby's BushCare program, please contact Mandy Wilson, BushCare Co-ordinator at Willoughby Council on 9777 7718. ■



Leaves, buds and fruit of a Blue Gum (*Eucalyptus saligna*). Remnant Blue Gums from the endangered Blue Gum High Forest are found at the railway station end of Artarmon Reserve.

What are the Police up to?

A number of comments have come our way recently from locals who have seen an increase in Police foot patrols in Artarmon both before, and happily, after, the State Election.

Superintendent Doreen Cruickshank has told us that there is a concerted push underway for more Police presence across the Local Area Command, and in shopping precincts in particular, so that the Police can better understand the areas in which they are working. Residents should feel that they are able to approach the patrols and talk to them about any issues concerning them locally. ■

Readers will be interested to know **Nick Logan** has purchased Jim Watson's share of their jointly owned pharmacy, Watson and Logan Pharmacist Advice, in Hampden Road. The APA thanks Jim for his many years of dedicated service to Artarmon residents and congratulates Nick on his sole ownership of the Pharmacy - a vital part of our community.

Congratulations to the **"Junior Cooks"** from the Public School who featured recently in 'delicious' magazine. I'm sure they inspired many a new lunchbox menu at the start of this school year!

Centenary Medals were awarded recently to at least 6 Artarmon residents. Service medals were awarded to: William Atkinson (public housing); Antoni Karbowiak (telecommunications); Margaret Reidy (Community); Amy Taylor AM (Veterans community); Ronald Ward (parliament). John Poppitt also received a medal on the Centenarians' List. In the next issue, we hope to profile Prof Antoni Karbowiak, whose pioneering work in the field of fibre optics meant that his wife, Grace, received the first call that was made over the fibre optic network. A complete, searchable list of medal recipients is available at www.itsanhonour.gov.au.

Contributions to 'Talking 2064' are welcome - editor@artarmonprogress.org.au ■

St Basil's Anglican Church Artarmon

6 BROUGHTON ROAD, ARTARMON • RECTORY 9412 1315 • OFFICE PH/FAX 9413 9713

St Basil's Patronal Festival

Sat 28 Jun 4.30 for 5.00pm Festival Dinner

Sun 29 Jun 9.00am Festival Service

Preacher: Reverend Malcolm Babbage

A warm welcome awaits you to share with us on this special occasion.

Who was St Basil?

Basil was born in Cappadocia (modern day Turkey) about 335AD. He studied in Constantinople and Athens and returned home to take up the life of a monk. He became an ascetic and formulated a monastic 'rule'.

The monastic life for Basil was fundamentally a life in community where one could not only love God, but also love one's neighbour.

But theological cares and obligations drew Basil back into public life as debate raged over the Nicene Creed.

He was ordained Presbyter in 364 and six years later was made Archbishop of

Caesarea in Cappadocia where he continued as a champion of the Nicene Party.

Basil was a fully convinced Trinitarian theologian whose theology was based above all on the scripture. He died in 379 just before the Second Ecumenical Council accepted the Nicene Creed as the basis for unity between the Eastern and Western Churches. Sadly, ecclesiastical politics were to prove too strong for that unity to be achieved.

In search of St Basil's

We only know of three St Basil's in:

- Moscow
- Cappadocia
- Artarmon

Perhaps you know of other churches around the world which take the name of St Basil.

We would love to hear from you if you do, especially if you have a photo.

Market Day

Our next Market Day is planned for 20th September, but good saleable items are needed now. They can be left at the church.

Alpha Course

Fifteen people attended the last course and another one is planned. Please phone the Rectory.

Anyone interested in Christianity.

Learning and laughter.

People meeting together.

Helping one another.

Ask anything.

Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals by arrangement with the Rector.

If we can be of any other help or if you have an enquiry about the Christian faith or Church activities, please phone on 9412 1315.

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An inclusive Christian church where all people are always welcome.

A SNIPPET OF LOCAL HISTORY



Gil Davis
Top selling R&W
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By ... Gil Davis

Principal
Richardson & Wrench Artarmon

Recently I received a visit from long time local resident, George Nicholson. He lent me an amazing original document which he had got from his father. Dating to 1925, it is the promotional brochure for sale of the 'Artarmon Heights Estate.' The 'Estate' consisted of some two hundred housing lots mostly north of Shepherd and Onyx Roads and west of Sydney Street.

Prices were based on so many pounds per foot of frontage and thus reflected the size and desirability of each block. The average price was around £300. Terms were 10% deposit with balance in quarterly payments over 4 years. Interest at 6% per annum.

Much is made of the planned building of the Sydney Harbour Bridge with extraordinary hyperbole about the benefits of Artarmon (all true of course).

According to the blurb:

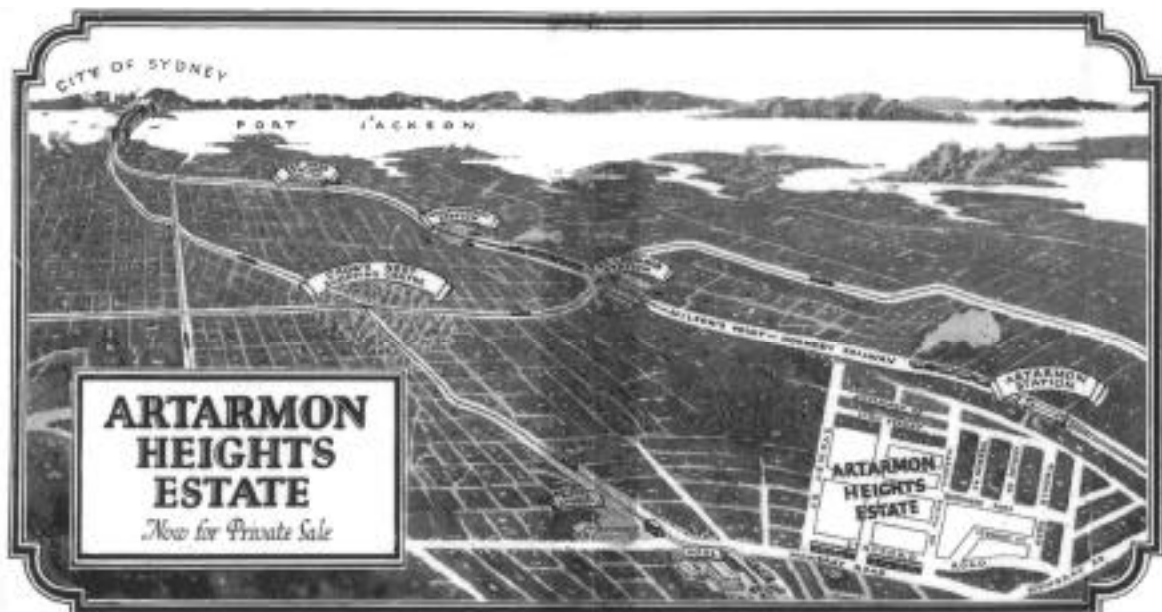
'To live in Artarmon is to live in an atmosphere perfumed by its hundreds of magnificent gardens. No suburban residence community in Sydney is more desirably located. The entire neighbourhood is built up with hundreds of excellent homes. The surroundings are a guarantee of future value.'

Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose.

For more information, contact me or see our website – www.rwartarmon.com.au.

Regards,

Gil Davis



RICHARDSON & WRENCH

ARTARMON
110 Hampden Road, Artarmon

9411 7299