

Traffic, filtration and the Lane Cove Tunnel - Where to from here? By Michelle Sloane

Over the last few months the APA has been following the progress of key issues raised by the Artarmon community regarding the impact of the Lane Cove Tunnel (LCT). As many of our readers would remember, after the APA's public meeting in February, the Mayor, Councillor Pat Reilly, organised a delegation of community representatives to meet with the then Minister for Roads, Michael Costa, in March, to discuss the issues of greatest concern. Michelle Sloane attended the meeting as the APA representative. The outcomes of this meeting were extensively reported in the May edition of the Gazette.

The question of tunnel filtration was the most contentious of the issues discussed at the meeting. However, the delegation was pleased that the Minister indicated at the meeting that if the Federal Government increased its offer of \$10 million for filtration to a commitment to fully fund half of the cost via a special purpose grant, he would direct the RTA to hold discussions aimed at raising the other half with the Lane Cove Tunnel Company (LCTC).

At the meeting, the RTA advised that the most recent cost estimate of filtering the LCT ventilation stacks is approximately \$70 million. This is despite an independent report prepared for the RTA by consultant Noel Child, which says an "electrostatic precipitation system" could be installed in the M5 East tunnel for about \$40 million. The precipitation systems, which reduce particle emissions in a tunnel before the polluted air from exhaust fumes is pumped out via a stack, are used throughout Japan.

The debate concerning filtration continues to be confusing, disappointing and disturbing at best.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Jeff Organ, WCC Infrastructure Services Director, recently advised that a further meeting to provide an update on the various issues raised with Minister Costa took place between senior RTA offices and Council officers recently. Issues addressed included:

Artarmon Traffic Study

The RTA has engaged traffic consultants who are undertaking modelling based on the existing traffic flows. A community engagement process is planned to commence early August, including calling for community representatives to comment on the study as part of the Local Area Traffic Management Plan (LATMP).

Road Safety Issues at Artarmon Public School

As directed by Minister Costa, the RTA carried out traffic and pedestrian counts to determine whether pedestrian signals could be installed at the Barton Rd crossing. Preliminary advice was that the counts indicated that volumes do not meet the requirements for signalised school crossing. However, the RTA is reviewing the accident history to determine whether a special case can be made to install signals. This issue will also be looked at in conjunction with the traffic study, taking into account predicted future traffic flows.

Bus Stops on the Gore Hill Freeway at Artarmon

The RTA undertook further design work to determine the extent of work required to provide bus bays that meet current safety standards. Work previously completed was limited to examining options within the current freeway reservation. While these new designs are not finalised, they do indicate that significant property acquisition would be required along with relocation of the shared pathway. Further plans are to be presented to Council. The RTA has also referred the option of providing additional bus routes/services through the industrial area to the Ministry of Transport.

Cost of Filtration

Minister Costa has agreed to provide a "true" costing for the filtration of the tunnel. The RTA has asked the LCTC to provide a detailed estimate. Due to contractual obligations, the LCTC estimate is the only reliable estimate that can be used. It has been suggested, that given it is in the commercial interest of the LCTC to have the contract



Artarmon's community-based air quality monitoring station now in operation

extended to include filtration, it is likely that the cost estimate will not be inflated.

Residue Lands

The RTA is currently preparing an inventory and assessment of all residue land, including land that will need to be acquired from Council. This inventory will be provided to Council in the new few months.

WHERE TO FROM HERE?

The Mayor, Pat Reilly has confirmed that the RTA will be calling on community representatives in August to comment on the Artarmon Traffic Study. He has also written to the new Minister for Transport, John Watkins, to encourage the ministry and RTA to take a proactive approach in installing traffic signals near Artarmon Public School given that current traffic flows in the area will continue to increase.

The Mayor has also called for another meeting with Artarmon residents and the Minister for Roads to continue to lobby for bus stops on the freeway, the status of costing of filtration on the Lane Cove Tunnel and the report on the RTA's assessment of residue lands, which Council and residents would like to see become pocket parks.

In addition, the Mayor has personally moved for Willoughby Council to consider Artarmon and St Leonards Chamber of Commerce signage regarding filtering the Lane Cove Tunnel. The APA will continue to lobby for the best results for our community in relation to these key issues. ■

Artarmon Progress Association

ABN 77 319 108 019

Established 1914

The APA Committee usually meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month, excluding December.

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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 and provide them with a forum in which to discuss matters of interest and concern.

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

View and opinions expressed in the Artarmon Gazette are not necessarily those of the Artarmon Progress Association or its members. While all care is taken for accuracy, no responsibility can be taken by the Association, the Editor, Designer or Printer.

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FUTURE DATES

Tue 30 Aug 05	<i>Public Information Meeting, 8pm, Artarmon Library</i>
Thu 20 Oct 05	<i>Gazette copy closes</i>
Fri 28 Oct 05	<i>Gazette advertising closes</i>
Tue 22 Nov 05	<i>Gazette delivery complete</i>
Tue 29 Nov 05	<i>Public Information Meeting 8pm, Artarmon Library</i>

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Editorial

This issue, we welcome John Yates, who has taken on the advertising coordination role, to our team. Thanks to John's great efforts, we can again bring you a 16 page Gazette, supported by both our regular, and a number of new, advertisers.

We must make a special mention of Gil Davis, who has supported the APA and the Gazette in many ways over the last few years. Gil celebrates 20 years in Artarmon this month – our heartiest congratulations to Gil and his team!

We have also brought together a number of articles about animals in our 'Companion Animals' feature on pages 8 & 9, which we trust will be informative and interesting.

As always, we welcome your letters and feedback.

Anne Weinert editor@artarmonprogress.org.au

Letters to the Editor

JP in Artarmon

On looking through some Artarmon Gazettes, I noticed your article on the difficulty some residents may have encountered in locating a Justice of the Peace or other qualified witness on occasion. I am a Solicitor who resides in Artarmon and would be willing to help out in such a situation. I believe the only documents I could not sign would be for use in an overseas jurisdiction which would have to be made before a Notary Public. I am home most evenings except Thursday and my number is 9411 1306. There is an answering machine should anyone ring during the day.

Gerald F. Donovan, Artarmon

Station Access

Councillor Stuart Coppock's comments on "Easy access to Artarmon station", [Gazette, May 2005] raise the question of how you would achieve "easy access" for wheelchairs, prams and for those who have difficulty climbing stairs. The immediate answer is to install a lift. But I cannot see where a lift would fit into the current layout of the station. However, I think the access requirement could be met by building a graded 1:14 ramp from the pedestrian tunnel at the southern

(St Leonards) end of the station up to the platform.

Advantages of a ramp over a lift are:

1. There is no ongoing maintenance cost for CityRail,
2. It can't break down or be vandalised, stranding people who have come to depend on it.
3. It could be built without disruption to train services, or inconvenience to passengers.
4. It would also provide direct access to the platform for other people who approach the station from the south.

Disadvantages would be seen to be:

1. It would be a long (and thus costly) ramp in order not to exceed the 1:14 grade - but still probably cheaper to install than a lift.
2. Council would need to re-work the existing ramp from Hampden Rd to the tunnel to ease its grade.
3. CityRail would probably object to the idea because it provides a second access point to the platform, claiming that it is harder to check the tickets of exiting passengers.

Michael B Haynes

Public Information Meeting & AGM

Tuesday 30 August 2005

8.00 - 10.00pm, Artarmon Library, Elizabeth Street

Chatswood Transport Interchange

In February 2004, the APA committee attended a Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation presentation of plans for the new Chatswood Transport Interchange. APA raised concerns about some aspects at the time, but the APA's overall impression was positive. With construction works now under way, the APA has recently learnt of potentially unfavourable changes to the plans. The State Government's new essential infrastructure legislation applies, and APA is concerned that changes may be pushed through without adequate community input and consultation.

APA has invited the developers of the new Chatswood interchange to present the most recent plans and explain the rationale behind the changes. So please join us to learn more about this major development in Chatswood.

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Agenda items: Minutes from previous AGM • Committee Reports • Election of Committee

Be informed, get involved and have your say!

President's Report 2005

By Michael Dawes

As another year draws to a close, I would like to extend my thanks to the committee and many others who have actively supported and contributed to the success of the APA this year. Unfortunately, with a number of resignations from the committee during the year, the work has had to be spread over fewer people and I thank those in the committee who have carried the extra burden.

Our general membership continues to grow indicating good community support for the APA and adding credence to the APA's voice on issues that affect Artarmon. Your support contributes to the financial stability of the organisation and I would urge you to renew your membership in the new financial year.

I have been asked a number of times during the year what the APA actually does and my answer, in summary, is along the following lines:

- monitor and generate an awareness of issues that may affect Artarmon residents and ratepayers and acting on these as required
- developing a sense of community within Artarmon.

This is achieved by:

- The APA committee meets on the fourth Tuesday of most months to review and discuss issues. Committee members are responsible for either executive positions or various portfolios such as Membership, Public Information Meetings, Government Liaison, Federation of Willoughby PAs, Gazette and Heritage Fair. Non-committee members are welcome to attend these meetings to raise or present viewpoints on issues by contacting a member of the committee.
- Public Information Meetings, where we endeavour to present a speaker on a relevant or interesting local issue, are held quarterly. All members are welcome to attend these meetings. The Annual General Meeting is held in conjunction with the August PIM.
- Producing the quarterly Artarmon Gazette, which is delivered free to all homes and businesses in Artarmon. The Gazette is supported by a sub-committee, a number of regular contributors and local business advertisers.
- Maintaining the APA web-site, www.artarmonprogress.org.au, which provides access to meeting minutes and past Gazette issues.
- Organising & running the Artarmon Fair and heritage events which provides an opportunity for other local community groups to raise funds and for the school to display the artistic and musical skills of its students and staff. A sub-committee and local businesses assist greatly in the success of this wonderful community event.
- Ongoing dialogue with WCC, RTA and other government bodies regarding various local issues.

Issues we have been working on this year include:

Lane Cove Tunnel

Despite APA being instrumental in organising a number of well attended meetings regarding air quality, traffic concerns and visual impacts arising from the LCT, which led to a meeting being organised by the Mayor with the Minister for Roads, the APA continues to be frustrated by the RTA's lack of resolve to address the issues properly. The RTA has still not produced a timetable for the proposed trials or an accurate costing for tunnel filtration. Rather than addressing the cause of forecast increased traffic through Artarmon, the proposed Local Area Traffic Management (LATM) plan provides a band-aid solution. APA is committed to ongoing involvement with the development of the LATM in an attempt to minimise traffic impacts and will continue to lobby for improved bus availability in the industrial area. A positive outcome of APA activities was the location of an air quality monitoring station in Artarmon.

Artarmon Railway Station

APA has had some success in persuading Railcorp to reduce the gap and the step between the platform and the trains. APA continues to lobby for lift access despite having been advised by RailCorp that Artarmon is not included in the current 4-year 'Easy Access' program.

APA – What's happening By Keith Anderson

Artarmon Reserve to retain more water

It has been suggested that further retention capacity at the Artarmon Reserve oval, which was modified to act as a detention / retention basis when the Gore Hill Freeway (GHF) was first constructed, may be required to allow run-off to clear quickly from the expanded GHF / Lane Cove Tunnel works, with water from the oval to be released after the "peak". Council advises its staff have been negotiating design solutions with the RTA and its contractors to mitigate the impact on the fields and it is expected designs will be completed shortly. APA is monitoring developments in an effort to ensure this valuable community asset is not degraded.

Artarmon Industrial Area (AIA) – public transport access

APA continues to make representations to State Transit (Buses) and the Minister for Transport in an effort to have an effective public transport service introduced to the AIA by having a Pacific Highway "mainline" diverted through the area.

APA believes it is imperative that the authorities give practical effect to their campaign for more use of public transport by providing appropriate services.

Wilkes Ave Redevelopment

APA attended and contributed to WCC's meeting when the plans for the redevelopment were presented.

We have committed \$1000 to assist with the development of a mural which will portray local themes in the new paving (see story on page 5). APA will be involved in any longer term planning for this area.

State Electoral Boundary

Our submission calling for all of Artarmon to be covered by the same state electorate was unsuccessful.

You will see from what the APA does that there is ample opportunity for people to get involved at different levels. We desperately need some new people to help, so if you are interested, please attend our Annual General Meeting on 30th August and put your hand up. If you are unable to attend please e-mail me at pres@artarmonprogress.org.au and I will be in touch.



Michael Dawes

Join the APA - membership form Page 7

People of influence: Keith Bryant

Chief Operating Officer, The Benevolent Society

with Glenda Hewitt for the Gazette

48-year-old Keith Bryant and his wife Lesley live in Artarmon. They have two children, one of whom still attends Artarmon Primary School and one who is at high school. Both Keith and Lesley are local community volunteers, Lesley at Artarmon Primary School and Keith with Northbridge Sailing Club. Keith has worked with the Benevolent Society as Chief Operating Officer for the past four years.

What is The Benevolent Society?

We are Australia's oldest charity, formed in 1813. It's an organisation that has always recognised social dysfunction in the community and works to be part of the process that changes that. We have a staff of 700 and 700 volunteers and an annual dollar turnover of about \$35 million.

Throughout the Sydney basin we operate at 20 sites through 67 programs that work with ageing, children, women's health and social leadership issues. Although the Benevolent Society is not as well known as other major charities such as the Smith Family, Mission Australia or the Salvos, we rely on having good relationships with government, business and a small number of loyal donors to fund our programs.

What's the vision that you operate under?

Our vision is about initiating change. We like to see ourselves as reflective practitioners who work with social issues and continually try to improve the social and community outcomes of our work.

As a 192 year old organisation, we have seen much social change and modified our programs over the years to be reflective of current social priorities. We can pinpoint a number of major innovations that we started or were involved in, such as the introduction of the aged pension. We ran the Royal Hospital for Women for 90 years but when we could not add any more to it, we asked the NSW Government to take over its services, which they did and still do.

What are some of the most recent initiatives of The Benevolent Society?

We are now growing rapidly in the area of early intervention. This is all about nurturing the bonds of the child-parent relationship particularly in the first year of life. We recognise that a lot of new mums don't find motherhood an easy process and they often no longer have the community support networks that used to exist. We recognise that the first five years is a critical part of a child's development and critical for avoiding problems later in life.

As a charity we aim to get to the root cause of problems rather than get involved in the emergency relief. Our goal is to continue finding new models for ways to help before problems arise.

Domestic violence is another area that is not given strong levels of funding so we also run a program to address this in Campbelltown.

What do you mean when you say you run programs in social leadership?

In spite of the many benefits that it brings, globalisation and other trends in western society have fragmented many communities and many aspects of community life, with the result that there are now large gaps in understanding between different sectors of the economy. Recognising this, for the past seven years we have run a program called Sydney Leadership which brings together participants from government, the community and from business. Participants are required to commit for 18 days over a year and they are put through a program that enables them to experience different social conditions in the community. For example, among other things they go to a housing estate, visit a jail and meet with indigenous communities.

We encourage people to reflect on the issues that they see and ask 'what does this mean', 'what can we do'? We want people to work across sectors to see if there is a better way to try to crack the problems that exist in these settings. If you just live in your work place we are convinced that you won't ever really see or understand the potential solutions.

The Sydney Leadership program works at one level because corporate Australia recognises that they employ some incredibly well educated people whose work experience tends to be confined to operating in large glass offices. Often the judgement of these people in relation to social issues is very limited by where they live, the education they've had and the social circles they move in. Businesses are recognising that this also affects their judgement on business issues.

For these people when they get involved, it's not just a case of them giving something back, it's a case of growing in awareness of broader societal issues as well as developing as better managers of their businesses.

What is your role as the Chief Operating Officer?

One of my obligations is to make sure we run our programs well. I am responsible for the day-to-day management of the organisation. This includes the smooth running of our 67 programs and making sure our processes support them. Most of my day would be spent dealing with the problems that emerge.

Is The Benevolent Society involved in Artarmon?

While we operate out of Allambie, our aged care service supports clients in Artarmon.

The 700 volunteers who work with you must play an important role in delivering your programs?

Volunteering is important in compensating for decreasing social networks; the thinking behind how people become volunteers is interesting.

Research shows that people who become volunteers in later life usually started volun-



Keith Bryant

teering in high school. The best volunteers are often the ones that do a little bit all through their life.

I'd like to see employers encouraged to look for this type of community engagement from the people they hire and make it a requisite part of every employee's career profile.

Where to from here?

I'm always going to be interested in developing stronger connections between corporate Australia, individuals who represent the new wealth in our country and institutions and organisations that want to build better social networks and outcomes across Australia. The Benevolent Society is a great vehicle for doing that.

New Counselling College in Artarmon

By Heather McCabe

The high level of anti-depressant use in our community is alarming, especially when many of the problems for which people are prescribed medication can be resolved with counselling or just having someone to talk to. Counselling fees can be beyond the budget of many people and finding someone to listen with empathy and objectivity is not always possible.

A new counselling clinic in Artarmon provides a low-fee counselling service with graduates and advanced students from the College of Holistic Counselling. Consultation fees are from \$20 to \$50 per hour session on a sliding scale according to clients' means.

These counsellors take a holistic approach - a client is treated as a 'whole' person rather than a cluster of symptoms and problems and this philosophy underlies all the training and counselling services offered by the College.

The counselling training courses are VETAB accredited and the college is an AQTF Registered Training Organisation, and a member of the Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia (PACFA).

Enquiries - phone 9904 6748 or visit www.collegeofholisticcounselling.com.au

People deal with huge life issues every day - depression, relationship breakdown, loneliness, job loss, divorce, addictions - some cope - some don't.

Wilkes Plaza Refurbishment and Artwork Launch

**Sunday 18 September, from 12 noon
Wilkes Plaza, Elizabeth Street Artarmon**

Join the Artarmon Progress Association and the Mayor of Willoughby Cllr Pat Reilly to launch the exciting new work in this heritage Plaza including mosaic pavement inserts by artists Christina Macaulay and Steven Vella. The artworks reflect significant architectural features of the Plaza and the history of the site. Then join a free public art tour around Willoughby from 1pm.

The Plaza refurbishment also features new lighting, rubbish bins, relocation of phone boxes, undergrounding of power poles and removal of tired planter boxes. All the new street furniture is in keeping with the existing buildings and street-scape, the current red brick paving will be enhanced and new paving has been installed in Elizabeth St to the end of the shops.

The refurbishment process has involved close consultation and involvement with local small businesses, building owners, patrons, pedestrians and commuters as well as children and residents.

For more information contact Council's Cultural Project Officer on 9777 7972.

The launch of the new artwork and refurbishments in Wilkes Plaza follows the Artarmon Guides Bike-a-thon at 10am - see more on Page 15.



Art on Wheels - Public Art in Willoughby Bus Tours (A Spring Festival event)

**18 September, 1pm - 4pm
Depart from Wilkes Plaza, Artarmon**

Learn the history and stories of Willoughby's Public Art including the newly installed mosaic pavement artworks in the Plaza. Led by Willoughby Council's Arts and Cultural Manager Jacky Talbot.

Free tours, bookings essential.
For bookings and further information contact 9777 7994.

Photo by John Pearce



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Amy Taylor OAM, AM

By Toni McKay

Artarmon resident of 15 years Amy Taylor OAM, AM, attributes her interesting and varied career to being in the right place at the right time.

The outbreak of war saw Amy in her first job after graduating from Business College, but with the establishment of the Women's Australian National Service, Amy joined one of the many branches throughout New South Wales where women were instructed in such things as morse code, first aid, air-raid precautions and drill. After doing advanced training and with the establishment of the women's forces in 1941, Amy was ready to join the Australian Women's Army Service.

Early in 1945, she was one of 350 women sent overseas to Lae in New Guinea to the headquarters of the 1st Army. Apart from nursing sisters posted to the Middle East, some of whom later joined the forces, these were the only Australian women to see overseas service and to later become eligible for a War Service Loan - but only if they married. In the aftermath of war this was not always an option and Amy has campaigned successfully since for single women to also be eligible for these loans.

In 1946, when she was discharged, it was time to think of a career. She considered opening a coffee shop as she felt that, with the many friends and acquaintances she had made, she would have an assured clientele. But her policeman father persuaded her to try for the Police Force. Despite not being the required age of 25, on the strength of her Army service she was judged to have 'experience'. So Amy Millgate, aged 22, became the youngest member of the NSW Police Force. Her intake of five brought the total of women in the force to fifteen.

After two years in plain clothes on the streets of Sydney looking for run-aways, girls with insufficient means of support, taking statements and doing court escort duty, Amy was ready to go into uniform and make her mark on post-war Sydney. She and another woman were chosen in 1948 to direct traffic, and the honour of being



Amy Taylor in her Police Constable's uniform

the first woman to do so was won by Amy with the toss of a coin. She walked out, put her hand up, and the traffic stopped - in all directions - so surprised was the population to see a woman on the job. These two young women caused an increase in traffic flow whenever they were on duty and were much photographed and talked about.

On marrying, Amy, in accord with police rules, had to leave the force. Her husband Bruce Taylor went on to the position of Assistant Commissioner of Police and she to be the mother of two while lobbying for public recognition of the contribution of 70,000 women to the armed forces and making sure that female veterans are cared for in their twilight years.

Tasks that have made and continue to make an enormous workload for Amy are: helping produce a Medal Board to compliment the one for male service personnel; fund-raising to build twelve aged-care units at Narrabeen (and similar projects in the pipeline); membership of the State Council of the RSL; presidency of the Australian Women's Army; and guest-speaking.

Yet she discharges these responsibilities with an apparent ease that belies her contention that she was in the right place at the right time. Any time, any place is right for Amy Taylor.

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Companion Animals Regulations

The APA has recently been made aware of an Artarmon resident who was issued with an offence notice by WCC for leaving her dog unattended tied to a Council seat on the Artarmon shopping strip. The APA has since consulted Council about the matter, and as a result, **Brian Hall** has compiled the following information from the Council's Local Companion Animals Management Plan (LCAMP), which was prepared in response to the Companion Animals Act 1998.

DOGS

Off-leash areas: Two of Council's declared off leash area are in Artarmon:

- Reserve - off the southern side of Parkes Road, Artarmon between Hampden/Cleland Roads;
- Artarmon Oval - off Burra Road.

In providing these areas, the Council exposes itself to potential public liability claims in the event of a dog attack. However, the Act primarily places liability for such claims with the offending dog owner.

Public places where dogs are excluded:

Under the Act, dogs are prohibited in the following public places:

- Within 10 metres of any children's play areas;
- Food preparation or consumption areas;
- Recreation/public bathing areas where dogs are declared prohibited;
- School grounds and child care centres;
- Wildlife protection areas; and
- Shopping areas where dogs are prohibited.

Dog faeces: Under the Act, owners are required to remove their dogs' faeces and dispose of them properly. Local authorities must provide sufficient rubbish receptacles for owners to dispose of the faeces in off lease areas.

Nuisance dogs: The Act defines a dog as a nuisance if it:

- Is habitually at large;
- Makes a noise by persistently barking or otherwise interferes with the peace, comfort or

- convenience of a person on any premises;
- Repeatedly defecates on another person's property;
- Repeatedly chases any person, animal or vehicle;
- Endangers the health of any person or animal; or
- Repeatedly causes substantial damage to anything outside the property on which it is kept.

There has been a rise in barking complaints in recent years. This consumes a large amount of Council officers' time, as enforcement is often difficult to define and measure.

Dangerous dogs and restricted breeds:

The owner of a dog declared as a 'dangerous' must comply with specified conditions, including keeping the dog in a childproof enclosure. The Council must enter the dog's details in a Dangerous Dog Register.

Breeds defined in the Act as 'restricted dogs' include: Pit Bull Terriers; American Pit Bull Terriers; Japanese Tosas; Argentinean Fighting Dogs; Brazilian Fighting Dogs; and any other dog of a breed, kind or description prescribed by the regulations (eg guard dogs).

CATS

Cat management relates predominantly to the impact of cats on wildlife, but also the matter of nuisance to surrounding neighbours. A distinction is made between feral cats and owned domestic cats. The Council can also prohibit cats from entering designated public places.

Prohibited areas and nuisance cats:

Domestic cats are prohibited in food preparation or consumption areas and wildlife protection areas. A cat is a nuisance if it makes a persistent noise, or, repeatedly damages anything outside the property on which it is ordinarily kept.

REGISTRATION AND IDENTIFICATION OF COMPANION ANIMALS

The Act requires all companion animals to be micro-chipped/tagged from 12 weeks of age. Since 1 July 1999, all cats must be identified by either a microchip or an identification tag. Since 2001, it is compulsory for all dogs to be micro-chipped.

COUNCIL'S MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Council's approach to companion animal management ultimately relies on regulation, but the Council also seeks to achieve good public education on requirements via brochures, the Council's website and State government activities.

The Council also has a role in disseminating house/property design guidelines and the planning/design of public parks and the installation of pet facilities in public areas.

The LCAMP is currently being reviewed by the Willoughby Local Companion Animals Advisory Committee, and will then go on public exhibition. If residents have concerns about the Management Plan, or ideas for its improvement, they should make these known to Jeff Knight, Administrative Services Manager on jeff.knight@willoughby.nsw.gov.au or 9777 1020.



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Pets in high density residential areas

While pets play an important role in our lives, the more people who live in a small area, the greater probability that one person's pet may become another person's problem.

Pet ownership requires thoughtful consideration for the impact it has on neighbours, plus there is state and local government legislation that must be considered. The more neighbours you have, and the closer you live to them, the more you must take this into consideration.

It is particularly important to ensure that the presence of a pet does not become unpleasant for other residents in a strata scheme.

Keeping animals in living spaces governed by a strata scheme raises issues such as cleanliness, common property, noise and unsociable behaviour.

An Owners' Corporation may register its own By-laws in relation to keeping pets which means it is important to check the By-laws before buying a unit or townhouse. Every owner and occupier must comply with the registered By-laws. Renters, as well as complying with By-laws, also need to check the provisions of their lease because a tenant requires the permission of the landlord/letting agent which is separate from the By-laws of a Strata scheme. In addition, Willoughby City Council has developed a Companion Animals Management Plan. It is important to know what responsibilities this places on the pet owner who lives in the Council area.

For information about the Council's Companion Animals Management Plan phone the Help and Service Desk on 9777 1000.

State legislation for the Companion Animals Act can be viewed at www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/viewtop/inforce/act+87+1998+cd+0+N

The Young Lawyers Animal Rights Committee has also produced an informative leaflet which is available on the internet at www.lawsociety.com.au.

PHYSIOTHERAPY



For fifteen years, Physiotherapist Ann Liebert has run her practice in Artarmon, specialising in:

- Back pain
- Musculo-skeletal pain
- Sports injuries
- Occupational-related pain
- Neck headaches

Ann Liebert

M.A.P.A. M.M.A.P.A.

Suite 5, 112 Hampden Road
Artarmon (above newsagent)

PH: 9419 3404

Enough to Drive You Batty...

By Erica Waalkens

Local Artarmon resident Mina Bassarova first became interested in bats when working at Kukundi Wildlife Shelter, in Lane Cove National Park. She joined Sydney Metropolitan Wildlife Group in 1998 and undertook a general training course in wildlife care and rescue. A special interest in bats now sees her rescue many varieties of wildlife and hand rear bats. Mina juggles her wildlife care whilst completing her Thesis in Palaeontology. Mina will generally care for one bat at a time - usually from a baby or juvenile stage, until they can be released in a bat 'crèche' where they then learn to become bats.

The babies require a lot of interaction with their carers; they need to bond with a 'mother' or they do not develop well. The young need their play time and a carer becomes an important part of their development. The juveniles join their crèche at a bat colony in Gordon.

This is a well-recognised establishment as part of the Ku-ring-gai Bat Conservation Society.

Mina enjoys her bat-rearing but has interesting tales of other animal encounters as well. Together with the usual possum and bird rescues, she has rescued a lost echidna in High Street, Chatswood and a tree snake (well, she thinks it was the harmless variety!). Her most memorable experience was when hand rearing a red kangaroo joey. As they require constant care, the joey had to attend a friend's wedding. All was going well until the joey decided to stretch its legs- escaping to steal the limelight from the bride! The joey was eventually recovered and the bride saw the humour. Just another day in the life of these dedicated volunteers who provide such a valuable service to injured and fostered wildlife.

Injured wildlife should be kept in a dark, quiet box or container and taken to your local Vet or collected by volunteer carers from Sydney Metropolitan Wildlife on 9413-4300.

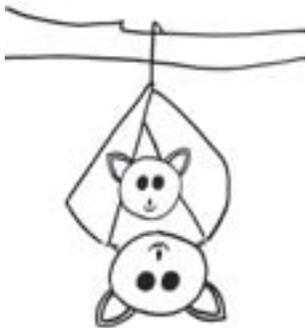


Illustration by Sonia Powell

AVA moves on

Companion animals have an extra connection to Artarmon in that until recently the Australian Veterinary Association, the professional body for Australia's vets, was based in Hampden Road near Francis Road. The Australian Veterinary Association has recently moved to larger premises in Herbert Street, St Leonards, but the interests of companion animals have been advanced here over many years due to Artarmon being the AVA's headquarters.

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Councillors' feedback...feedback...feedback



Kate Lamb

Wow - what a beautiful city we live in! Today was Sunday and I did my favourite ride with Bike North - the "A to Z". We start at Artarmon station (well, I start at the GHF underpass - which

gives me another 10 minutes in bed) and go to Balmoral for coffee via Cammeray and the golf course. Then we whizz down to the Zoo, hop on the ferry to Circular Quay and head home, via the bridge. I tend to be a recreational cyclist, but I'd really like to cycle to work. Alas, Blacktown is just too far!

I used to live in London and have been thinking about how different things are there now. At one time, Stockwell was my station - in those days even with the IRA, the thought of 'Bobbies' shooting people in the head was unthinkable - they never even carried guns. Evans, the biggest chain of bike shops in England sold 400 bikes the day after the first bombs. People used to think it was too dangerous on the roads. One of the shop managers said that most people who try cycling to work for the first time realise they can get there quicker. I think the same might be true in Sydney.

Although the numbers of people who live in Artarmon who report riding a bike to work are still low (less than 1%), they have more than doubled since 1996. Profiles of Willoughby's local communities are now up on Council's website at www.id.com.au/willoughby/com-profile. Compared to Willoughby LGA, Artarmon has a significantly lower share of households owning motor vehicles and it says "this may be indicative of the comparatively greater use of non motorised transport in the area". Overall, 44% of us walked, cycled, caught the bus or train to work compared to 38% of people living in Chatswood / Roseville. On the subject of public transport, I think that access arrangements to and from the new

Chatswood station look like being no better and quite possibly worse than the current situation. Whilst a lift to the platform from the concourse will be an improvement, connections between the two ends of Victoria Avenue are not being improved and neither is north/south movement through the development. It remains to be seen whether the public will be provided with bathrooms you don't have to buy a platform ticket to use (as at St Leonards). And, as was the case with the new Police Station, our Council and community will again be robbed of Section 94 (developer) contributions - this time worth millions. 'S94s' are part of the planning system - for everyone other than government, that is. The principle is that when you develop property, there is recognition that additional service and infrastructure needs are created and it is the developer's responsibility to contribute - through a transparent process - to the cost of providing for these needs. This is the Section 94 Contributions Plan, and all Councils have them.

The Chatswood Rail Interchange is our first experience of the state government abandoning any semblance of public participation in significant development. The legislation making it all possible happened quite quietly, early in June. An 82-page amendment to the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 was passed by both houses and opposed only by the independents. In Elizabeth Farrelly's words "It exempts government from such irritants as heritage, culture, community and those pesky endangered species, maxes out ministerial discretion and virtually ends public consultation. Except for backyard extensions" (!)

So after 10 years without a plan, our remarkable city is to become a Ministerial plaything, released to the development industry in unencumbered chunks of 'critical infrastructure'. Sufficient to guarantee maximum profits and campaign contributions - for those who make it all possible.

kate.lamb@willoughby.nsw.gov.au



Stuart Coppock

Gorehill Freeway Works

The notification and report back mechanism to residents set up by Thiess John Holland (TJH) for the Lane Cove Tunnel works appears to be

functioning well, at last. If it is not, then I would like to hear of omissions and errors. Hurrah for email, as it has allowed same day replies to sent messages, eliminating the need for hanging on the telephone.

Work on the vegetation plans for each affected pocket of land is about to commence. TJH will be working with Council and the community to develop detailed plan and associated works. These plans will set the blueprint for revegetation and how the pockets will look in the future. If you can, please have your say.

Community engagement by way of seeking representation on local area traffic management is to occur around the time the Gazette is published.

Easy Access to Artarmon Railway Station

Councillors have accepted a notice of motion I moved to lobby the State Government to have Artarmon Railway Station placed on the State Government's 'Easy Access' program. That lobbying to date has consisted of a letter from Council. I have taken the matter further and made Ministerial Representations and had a useful conversation with the Minister's Chief of Staff. I will report further in due course.

Child care

Church grounds in Willoughby City are currently zoned not to have commercial child care facilities. Yet churches have grounds and buildings which are largely under utilised Monday to Friday when the local demand for childcare places is the greatest. Following an approach by one of the mainstream church organisations I have successfully moved a motion that has been passed by Council, which has called for priority to be given to this matter. The next steps are to get the zoning changes into the Willoughby Local Environment Plan, and then to get the NSW planning department (DIPNR) to process the changes without delay.

Royal North Shore Master Plan

Council has been advised that the Master Plan process is about to commence. Further details will be available in due course.

Chatswood Station Interchange Towers

501 residential units are to be constructed in the Interchange Towers. The initial proposal was for the building to have both commercial and residential space, but the developer has opted for residential towers on the basis that Chatswood has an 18% -20% vacancy rate in its commercial space and what is let is not regarded as A grade rental. From experiences at Bondi Junction and North Sydney, this will be Chatswood's loss in the future. I also suggest a basic lack of medium planning policy by Willoughby Council.



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Councillors' feedback...feedback...feedback

Freeway Hotel

The Freeway Hotel has opened. A local MP and a Councillor of Hunters Hill Council have reported that the venue is very pleasant. This project has been a long time in planning and with some local opposition. As a local Councillor I would like to hear of good and adverse reports as it helps with future decision making.



Barry Thompson

Civic Place

Councillors have recently reviewed the Civic Place project at the 50% completion point of the schematic design. The project team continues to do a magnificent job in

converting the community's desires into a far-sighted, sustainable and elegant design. By the time you read this, a public forum will also have been held to allow stakeholders to review the design to this point and to provide further input and comment.

As the design becomes more tangible, many groups are being asked to show their support for this important regional project:

- A capital funding appeal is underway.
 - Federal funding has been sought. Grants are available under water and energy programs.
- Civic Place appears to meet the criteria for

funding under these program grants. Funding is a competitive process and assessments by the government departments concerned have not yet been completed.

- Council is in discussion with the State government in relation to earlier indications of financial assistance for the regional aspects of the project.

In relation to the government support, it seems to me to be time to marshal all the persuasive resources that Council has at its disposal in order to provide a united voice to both levels of government about real partnership and the merits of Civic Place. No one will benefit if this vital project flounders.

Strategic Planning Study

I hope you are aware of the SP Study that is underway at Council. It is roughly half complete. The study seeks to provide a vision and general direction for development of the City over the next 15 years. This is the first time Council has attempted such an overarching and future-centred plan. I have endeavoured to provide as much input and attention to the plan as I can muster since I believe it is the most important activity that will be undertaken in the life of the current Council – provided we get it right. While there have been extensive calls for community participation, we seem to be light on input from young and/or newly arrived families, from apartment dwellers and from non-English-speaking-background stakeholders. If you fall into

one or more of these categories, please consider contacting Council (or me), with a view to contributing. It will not be too late.

Artarmon Industrial Area (AIA)

I had a call recently from an industrial landowner seeking advice on his development application. It became obvious that he was unaware of pending changes to development conditions in the AIA. Perhaps I have been remiss in not advising through this column that the Floor Space Ratio allowable for redevelopments will shortly be increased from 1.0 to 1.5. The change has been voted by Council and it, with a raft of lesser measures, is awaiting approval from State authorities. State support is expected since the change is consistent with the State's recent pronouncements on a denser city. It is Council's expectation that any increased traffic impacts of the change will be mitigated by provision of local public transport within the area. Again, feel free to contact me (or Council) if you need further information or want to comment on this issue.

Childcare Followup

In the last Gazette, I asked for feedback in relation to availability of childcare places within the City. I have heard nothing. I am inclined to confirm my belief that, while there may be a national shortage, it is not acute in Willoughby – but I remain open to being proved wrong!

Barry.Thompson@Willoughby.nsw.gov.au,
9412 1596 (phone/fax)

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North Shore Times

ADSHEL

Westfield
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Highlights include

StreetFair - 10th September
Funnybone Comedy Festival - 17th September

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Public Art Tours - 17th September

Willoughby Art Prize - 3rd September

Willoughby Symphony Orchestra - 18th September

Children's Art Workshops - 24th September

Wokathon at the Melody Markets - 29th September

Multicultural Moon Festival Celebrations - 16th September



For further information to Spring Festival 2005, please call

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Artarmon Public School News By Katrina Weir

Reputation for Music and Performing Arts Continues to Grow

Artarmon Primary School is well known for its excellent music and performing arts programs. As part of each program, the children are encouraged to participate in numerous festivals and events around Sydney. The consistently high performance standards and discipline of the students in all groups continues to astound the school's staff, parents of the performers and, as the recent successes show, the organisers and judges of the various events. Some of the recent performances from Artarmon Primary School include:

Sydney North Dance Festival

The Sydney North Dance Festival is held each year over two weeks at the Glen St Theatre in Belrose. This year, there were more than 120 entrants from public schools and high schools located in the Northern Beaches area. This event is not a competition; the emphasis is on performance and providing a positive experience for participants.

The passion and commitment of two teachers from Artarmon Primary School, Dana Kroenert and Louise Pope, led them to choreograph "Suit Yourself", a modern funk dance that involved 23 girls from Years 5 and 6. Following two terms of after-school rehearsals and extra time for the girls to make their costumes, "Suit Yourself" was launched at the festival. The experience



"Suit Yourself" involved 23 girls from Years 5 and 6

was extremely positive for all and the festival provided a great environment for the girls to develop self-esteem and confidence.

McDonalds' Performing Arts Challenge

The McDonalds' Performing Arts Challenge is an open competition which helps nurture the development of artistic, elocutionary and creative skills. It offers a broad range of events. First held in 1933 and originally known as the City of Sydney Eisteddfod, it is the largest festival of its kind in the world.

Artarmon Primary School's Kameraigal Choir (named after the original aboriginal inhabitants of Artarmon) is made up of 62 students from Year 5 and Year 6. This year it entered the John Lamble Australasian Championship for Primary School choirs, one of the

events that comprises the Performing Arts Challenge. This event alone had 15 other entrants, including one from Canberra.

The Kameraigal Choir sang "The Birds" by Eleanor Daley and "Under my Command" by Mary Goetze, and was selected as one of four finalists to perform at the Sydney Town Hall. This was an outstanding result, particularly as this was the first time the choir had entered such a prestigious event. The Kameraigal Choir also entered the Primary Sacred Choral Award and was awarded a highly commended.

Yamaha Festival

Three of Artarmon Primary School's four bands performed at the Yamaha Festival, with excellent results. From 280 bands entered in the event, Concert Band 2 (CB2) and Jazz Band received silver awards and Concert Band 1 (CB1) was awarded gold. CB1 was subsequently invited to perform at the Festival's Gala Concert held a couple of weeks later.

All the bands not only played extremely well but the judges commended the children on their outstanding behaviour. CB1 set a new standard for the Festival and received three 'excellent' ratings from the judges. This is the first band in the history of the Festival to achieve this level.

In addition to the brilliant performances from all three bands, Josh Laming (Year 6) was presented a special award for outstanding percussion work.

The silver award for CB2 is a particularly important achievement as the band was competing against many much more experienced school bands that were eligible to enter a higher grade in the Festival.

Artarmon School Races to State Cross Country Carnival

For the first time in recent years, seven Artarmon Primary School students joined the North Shore team to compete against 50 other schools in the area cross country carnival held at the Gosford Racecourse in June. The results were outstanding with two students coming in the top five places in their race. This qualified them to compete in the state carnival also being held at Gosford at the end of July.

David Coon is fitness coordinator at Artarmon Primary School. He helped prepare the area team by providing fitness and nutri-



The Artarmon Primary School area cross country team

tion advice in the lead up to the area carnival. "The children were encouraged to go for a run each afternoon in the weeks leading up to the race. We also held extra fitness sessions at school, including a couple of early morning sessions, plus we had considerable discussion on nutrition and the right kinds of foods to eat," David explained.

While crediting much of the team's success to the School's fitness program (for children of all ages), David recognised the personal efforts and determination of each member of the team. "The team's performance was amazing. I was so proud of them and thrilled to see them do so well, especially after all their hard work," he said.

The state cross-country carnival was held in Gosford on 22nd July. Ruairidh MacDonald (Year 6) came 6th in his age group, and Maddie Bart (Year 3) came 42nd in her event. Congratulations to both runners on an outstanding effort. Ruairidh is now a reserve for the national championships. ■

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Control the garden baddies safely

with Mollie Shelley

One of the pleasures of the garden is small visitors, birds and animals that enjoy the sanctuary you've created. The challenge is to protect our beloved plants from the ravages of pests and diseases without hurting these small guests. We know how much damage has been done by indiscriminate use of chemicals. Here are a few suggestions for a more environmentally friendly way of controlling baddies.

Piercing, sucking, chewing insects - mites, aphids: Hosing or washing aphids with soapy water is a time-honoured practice. Garlic spray is death to aphids, cabbage moth caterpillars and mosquitos. The recipe: soak 90 grams chopped garlic in 2 teaspoons of medicinal paraffin for 48 hours. Dissolve 8 grams of oil based soap (eg Lux), in a little hot water then add water to make half a litre. Add the garlic mixture. Use one part solution to 99 parts water. There is also a relatively new product on the market, *Nutrasoap*, developed for this purpose. It is recommended for mites causing discolouration of Camellia leaves and azaleas and for Citrus Bud mite.

Slugs and snails: Hunt them with a hand-held torch at night; easier are snail and slug traps. These are available commercially or you can make your own. You need a small cup-sized container set into the ground to rim level and a cover to keep out the rain. Leave

space between the container and the cover so the snails can crawl into stale beer or soapy water in the container. I've had most success with beer. Clean out the container regularly or it becomes really yucky.

Fruit fly: Into a small plastic drink bottle put a mixture of one teaspoon of vegemite and one teaspoon of honey dissolved in a cup of warm water. Around the upper part of the bottle (above the liquid level) make a number of holes using scissors and/or a big screwdriver. Cut the funnel-shaped top off another bottle and insert it into one of the bigger holes making easy access for flies. Hang bottles in citrus trees or near tomato plants.

Powdery mildew and other fungal diseases: Pest Oil has proved effective against powdery mildew on plants like tuberous begonias and sweet peas and rust on fuchsias and geraniums. Last year I had as much success using a spray made from milk. Use full cream (not skim) milk at the rate of one part to nine parts water. The good news for 'non-dairy' people is that milk powder works equally well, if not better. Both sprays are preventatives, not cures.

Compacted clay soil (courtesy of our cartoonist, Wendy Bishop): Spread potatoes with sprouting eyes over the soil, cover with a thick layer of grass clippings. Water well. The potatoes send down roots that break up the clay. Roll back the cover at the end of the growing season. You will have a small crop of potatoes, the soil will be broken up and you can then dig in the surface mulch.

My thanks to gardening friends who have contributed their ideas for this article.

PERMACULTURE NORTH meets 3rd Monday evening each month in Lindfield.

Info: Wendy Bishop, 9420 4884.



Illustration by Wendy Bishop

Graffiti on the move By Anne Weinert

Artarmon has been identified as one of the problem areas in the Graffiti Management Policy and Plan which was completed and presented to the Council last month. The plan outlines graffiti prevention, protection and removal methods as well as education and law enforcement.

Mayor Reilly continues to call for a no tolerance stand on graffiti. "Defacing a building with graffiti should carry the same consequence as physically damaging a building", he said. "The City of Willoughby has been very successful in managing graffiti over the years and its current increase around the local region will not go unchecked".

After a study tour in America and Canada this year, Willoughby's Environmental Services Director Greg Woodhams said cities with a 'no tolerance' stance were almost completely void of graffiti. "We saw next to no graffiti in the cities with 'no tolerance' legislation. Cities

such as Portland, Vancouver and Seattle were practically graffiti free".

Councillor Barry Thompson has recently asked Council Officers to look at methods of removing graffiti from trees and vegetation, as this problem is particularly bad in Artarmon Reserve. Anecdotally, it appears that the graffiti problem in Artarmon generally has escalated since the old noise barriers on the Gore Hill Freeway have been blocked off for the Lane Cove Tunnel works.

Thiess John Holland (TJH) have undertaken to provide 'clean' walls on the expanded freeway, and originally proposed translucent walls to the south of Artarmon Reserve. These were initially rejected at a Council review meeting; however, TJH and the Council have now agreed to hold public consultation on this matter since translucent walls may be one way to reduce graffiti.

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Hope to see you there!

Gordon Peterson (WM) 9953 6402
Alan Olsen (Secretary) 9498 3925

Talking 2064

A Palmer Street resident is wondering who is perpetrating the **ficus follies** on their courtyard, which has become the holding yard for unwanted ficus trees. The first tree was adopted and duly delivered after some friends undertook a garden redesign. However, the second one appeared totally unannounced a week later, and no one has owned up to delivering it. Even more bizarre is the fact that several weeks later the family came home to find that both trees had been very neatly pruned!

Armond is the new owner of renamed **Pizza Luna** in Francis Road. Armond also runs a pizza restaurant in Potts Point. Welcome to Artarmon and best wishes for the new business!

Coffee Express was inundated by an **unexpected deluge** after a Sydney water pipe burst directly outside in late June (see photo). That water could have made a lot of cups of coffee!



Photo by John Peacock

Artarmon Guides Bike-a-thon 2005 - it's on again and bigger than 2004!

10.00 am Sunday September 18
Artarmon Reserve Oval and bicycle track

For everyone - bring your bike, scooter or pram! Plant some native shrubs to help the local bushland. Raise sponsorship donations for **Noah's Ark Toy Library for Children with Special Needs** based in Artarmon. Win prizes for the most funds raised. Last year's event raised over \$3,000 for autistic children and this year we hope to raise nearly \$5,000 to help Noah's Ark expand their services to children with special needs on the North Shore.

\$20 household entry fee includes a family sausage sizzle and drink.

Have you received your registration form yet? Return your completed form with a cheque for \$20 by Sept 2, and we will send you a sponsorship information pack. Then use the sponsorship forms to raise donations for Noah's Ark and you could win a range of prizes from food hampers and cameras to bike-related prizes.

Contact us now to help Artarmon Guides help local children with special needs.

Email artarmon_guides@yahoo.com.au or call Leisa Davidson on **9427 7156** or Michael Swinsburg on **9419 6931**



Artarmon Guides Bike-a-thon 2005 is a Willoughby Spring Festival Grant recipient.



GUIDES
AUSTRALIA
NSW & ACT



WILLOUGHBY
Spring
Festival



St Basil's Anglican Church Artarmon

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

ADVANCE NOTICE

ST BASIL'S MARKET DAY

Saturday 15 October
at St Basil's
from 9.00am

Jesus and the Movies

Sundays 3, 10 & 17 September
ST BASIL'S @ 6

For three Sunday evenings at our regular 6.00pm service, Michael Bennett, from the Bible Society, will be presenting talks on how Jesus has been portrayed in the movies.

Jesus has been presented on many occasions, and in many ways, on the silver screen, Mel Gibson's attempt being the most recent. These three sessions will be a good opportunity to explore those portrayals, and how well they have been done.

We start with a light meal, followed by an informal service and the talk. You will be given a warm welcome if you have never been to ST BASIL'S @ 6 before.

SUNDAY 10.00am • Parish Communion with children's programme
SUNDAY 6.00pm • ST BASIL'S @ 6 Informal service with light meal
WEDNESDAY 7.30am • Holy Communion

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.

Celebrating 20 years in Artarmon

This month marks my twentieth year owning and running my real estate agency in Artarmon. It has been challenging and profitable yet also rewarding in ways I could never have imagined. Lots has changed, notably the way in which Artarmon has matured into a vibrant, culturally diverse and incredibly friendly community. I trust readers will allow me these self indulgent reminiscences.

When I first came to Artarmon, it was largely on the advice of my late father, himself an architect and agent. "Find an area" he said "that has a good mix of properties. Not too expensive or you will only sell in the good times and face too much competition. Not too cheap or you will never get anywhere financially".

Armed with that advice came my pleasure at finding this suburb which had obvious locational advantages but was so comparatively undervalued.

I set about trying to change the perception of Artarmon in the wider community. This became easier when the freeway mostly hived off the light industrial area. I also tried to get to know as many people as possible by doing detailed surveys. This gave me a good understanding of what residents wanted and valued. I became involved with the community by supporting the schools, and as many social and recreational clubs and associations as possible (as I still do to this day).

In a way, I have matured along with the suburb. I was in my mid twenties when I bought the business having had five years experience (post uni) in the city. Many of the people to whom I sold early on are still here. Some have bought and sold several times within the suburb. A whole generation of kids has grown up looking forward to getting minties at open-houses.

Now the office employs fifteen staff, has changed name twice (L.J Hooker to Richardson & Wrench to Home Traders), sells a majority of property in the suburb and manages over 650 properties. Our marketing techniques remain always at the forefront of agency practice.

Personally I have listed and/or sold almost 2000 properties in the district. My father's forecast has been proved correct, and little old Artarmon has enabled me to outsell all the other agents in my former franchise groups including those from far more fancied suburbs. I have been critically and wonderfully involved in the lives of so many fantastic people. All have taught me something and I am eternally grateful.

Regards

Gil Davis

Telephone: 9411 7299
Mobile: 0439 817 299
Email: gil@hometraders.com.au

Gil Davis is the Principal of Home Traders Gil Davis & Associates (formerly Richardson & Wrench Artarmon).



Gil Davis

FUN FACTS

Dearest house 1985	\$120,000
Dearest house 2005	\$2,270,000
Dearest unit 1985	\$117,000
Dearest unit 2005	\$626,000
1st sale over \$1 million	20/11/99
1st sale over \$1.5 million	15/9/01
1st sale over \$2 million	8/4/04

Home
Traders

Gil Davis & Associates

110 Hampden Road, Artarmon
www.hometraders.com.au

