

Artarmon Public School shining 100 years on by Jane Rowley

More than 2000 people celebrated Artarmon Public School's centenary on October 24. Staff, students and parents were joined by alumni from all decades, including 97-year-old Owen Kimberley who started at APS in 1918.

Re-enacting part of the 75th anniversary celebrations, the school band marched from Jersey Road into Abbott Road to herald the official ceremony.

In her speech to the crowd, former school captain and Minister for Education and Training Verity Firth said she had made life-long friends at APS. Current School captain Madeleine McDonald spoke of the diverse cultures represented in the school community. She said students were "taught to appreciate the differences in each other".

Attendees viewed an original school room, memorabilia from the past 100 years and displays of current students work. Entertainment was provided by the school bands, choir and dance groups.



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DET Minister Verity Firth...old APA girl

Artarmon has spoken – WCC revises WLEP

by Michelle Sloane, Artarmon Progress Association president

Willoughby City Council (WCC) has listened to the Artarmon community and, at its public forum on October 20, revealed it had revised its proposed rezoning of the Soldiers and Sailors precincts from medium density to low density residential, effectively coming on its side.

Since March 2010, many in the Artarmon community have been greatly concerned about the proposed rezoning of two residential areas. WCC refers to them in its Draft WLEP 2009 as site 7 (Brand, Hawkins, Drake, Raleigh streets, 340 Mowbray Road, and 44A-52 Elizabeth Street) and site 8 (Rimington, Kitchener, Broughton, French and White streets) but to locals they are commonly known as the "Soldiers and Sailors" precincts.

Soldiers & Sailors: Many individual residents, alongside the APA, worked tirelessly to inform and engage the community. The Soldiers and the Sailors residents in particular made relentless efforts, taking their concerns to the WCC and keeping the issue top of mind for many.

The key recommendations for the Artarmon community in WCC's *Consideration of*

Submissions and Amendments to the exhibited Draft Willoughby Local Environment Plan 2009, Draft Amendments to Willoughby Development Control Plan and Associated Draft Plans and Documents that councillors approved at a special meeting on November 3 are:

The proposed rezoning of Sites 7 and 8 from R2 low density residential to R3 medium density residential will not proceed. The recommendation is to amend Draft WLEP 2009 by zoning sites 7 and 8 to R2.

Economically viable: The most compelling issue against the R3 rezoning was its economic viability. In response, WWC sought an independent economic viability study. The International Property Group study concluded the substantial redevelopment of sites 7 and 8 would not be economically viable in the next five to 10 years because their proposed floor to space ratio (FSR) would bring redevelopment land values substantially below existing residential property values.

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