

## Chatswood CBD to be transformed

By Keith Anderson and Barry Thompson

These are indeed exciting times for the City of Willoughby. The Council has unveiled its plans for the proposed new Civic Place and, more recently, the Parramatta Rail Link (PRL) organisation has shown plans for the redevelopment of Chatswood station and its environs to Councillors and community representatives.

### Civic Place

The scope of the redevelopment is ambitious. In response to public calls for a 'heart and soul' for the centre of Willoughby City, Council retained the architects of the Parliament House in Canberra to develop an imaginative design for a somewhat difficult site, based on various briefs detailing a range of



*Illustration of proposed Civic Place*

community needs. Their plan has now been on display for several months and has met with a positive response from nearly everyone who has seen it. At a series of public meetings, interested parties have been taken through the detail of the studies and designs. Subjects covered have ranged over the uses to which the many features will be put; the cost assumptions made for capital cost and revenue streams; the environmental innovations included to make the development sustainable; and the opportunities for the community arising from the project.

The few concerns expressed so far have

centred around the loss of the present Town Hall, still relatively young, the wisdom of spending so much on a 'single project', and transitional arrangements for cultural groups using facilities which are to be upgraded. Ratepayers will have the opportunity to give their opinion on the project at a plebiscite that will be held in conjunction with next year's Council elections. The Federation of Willoughby Progress Associations (FPA) has questioned whether/how a 'no' case for that vote might be presented. That 'no' case cannot be a 'do nothing' case since it is evident that some of the facilities to be affected are in urgent need of expansion or improvement, eg. the library and Bailey Hall. In fact, the rationale behind Council's plan is to make such needed changes in a visionary and coherent manner, optimising rather

than compromising, the social, financial, and environmental returns. Your Progress Association believes that the plan is sound, that the funding proposals are realistic and will not unduly burden ratepayers, that the completed project will greatly enhance the amenity of Chatswood as a regional centre, and that property values will be enhanced as a consequence. But don't just take our word for that. If

you have not yet reviewed the project yourself, take time to do so in coming months so that you will be able to make your own informed decision at next year's poll. Details of the Masterplan Exhibition can be found on p 9.

### Chatswood Station and Interchange

Well, the big news here is that PRL has bought the Interchange shops' leasehold. That unloved facility is earmarked for replacement as part of a far-ranging development. At a recent presentation, the chief government architect and PRL executives outlined plans for the new station precinct. Whereas APA, FPA and others had been arguing to have the station under-

grounded, the plan is to slightly lift the railway and station so that there is side-to-side access **below**. The raised lines will give new bridges at Help and Albert Streets adequate traffic clearance. The bus interchange will be moved to the north, will be naturally lit, and more people-friendly.

Councillors showed keen interest and sought assurances about the Remembrance Garden, integration of the facility with other Council initiatives and developments in the area, minimisation in changes of levels on what will be three tiers of public space, and enhancement of amenity. They requested schedule and costing details to satisfy themselves that the project is achievable.

If there is a downside, it is related to cost. PRL explained that, while they fully support 'doing the job properly', it is unrealistic to expect the State government to pick up the entire tab. So, to finance the 'amenity' portion of the project (the difference between just a station upgrade and what is planned), the project will include some commercial and residential floorspace. PRL has figured how many square metres they need but has yet to decide a configuration. They showed a scale model with three towers of different heights, all located above the rail corridor.

The PRL will have a direct impact on the Artarmon community. Obviously, timetabling and journey times to the city could become issues for our commuters, whilst the convenience of the new station, personal security aspects and accessibility of the Interchange to the station itself will be important for those of our residents who will use the facility in the course of their travelling requirements to Chatswood itself and destinations beyond. The APA has chosen to support the PRL because the improvement in public transport and other amenity that it brings will benefit our area greatly. We believe the trade-off in further residential development is reasonable under the circumstances. FPA and APA will continue to monitor this project and its impacts on traffic flow, heritage and other significant issues as it passes through the development and public exhibition phases. ■

# 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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<b>V P/Treasurer</b>	Michael Dawes
<b>Secretary</b>	David Bruce-Steer
<b>Committee</b>	Brian Hall Tony Kemm Barry Thompson Anne Weinert Geof Cameron Michelle Sloane

## artarmon GAZETTE

PO Box 540 Artarmon 1570

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.

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, Typesetter or Printer.

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## FUTURE DATES

<b>Tue 26 Aug</b>	AGM & Public Information Meeting 8pm, Artarmon Library
<b>Thu 16 Oct</b>	Gazette Copy closes
<b>Fri 24 Oct</b>	Gazette Advertising closes
<b>Wed 19 Nov</b>	Gazette delivery complete
<b>Tue 25 Nov</b>	Public Information Meeting Artarmon Library

# Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir,

It appears that I am not the only Artarmon resident who feels they have been lucky to avoid a serious accident at the intersection of Artarmon and Willoughby Roads. Twice within 2 weeks in peak hour during the recent school holidays I was seriously endangered when cars in the **right turn only lane** travelled **straight ahead** into Small Street, cutting off cars in the left hand lane legitimately travelling straight ahead or turning right. On talking to other Artarmon residents, it seems most have had similar experiences.

So I wrote to the Council with the suggestion that a **RIGHT LANE MUST TURN RIGHT** traffic sign, clearly visible on the downhill eastbound Artarmon Rd approach to Willoughby Rd, be installed. I have since received a reply from Tony Lehmann, Group Leader Transport Management, informing me that Council supports the request, and that the sign will be installed by late August.

As Willoughby Rd is a State Road, Mr Lehmann has also asked the RTA to investigate the possibility of installing curved continuation guidelines, to direct right lane motorists into Willoughby Rd. A very positive outcome for what was certainly an accident waiting to happen!

Jan Cumming

Dear Sir,

In the interests of accuracy, could I correct a detail in the report "Postscript to the State election" [Gazette, May 2003]. The report states that "... the candidates ... came together for the only time during the campaign at the APA Public Information Meeting in February."

The five (out of eight) candidates who addressed the APA meeting also spoke at the Naremburn Progress Association, while all eight candidates were represented at St Mark's Anglican Church hall in Northbridge on the Sunday before the election. All three organisations are to be congratulated on their initiative in giving the voters a chance to meet and question the candidates.

If there are any lessons to be learned from this exercise they are:

1. that the Artarmon library is too small a venue for the crowd which attended,
2. the meeting should not be held before the close of nominations, to give all candidates the chance to be heard.

I look forward to similar meetings being held before the Local Government elections, due next March.

Michael Haynes

## WARD COUNCILLORS TO SPEAK AT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

26 August 2003, 8.00 - 10pm, Artarmon Community Library, Elizabeth St

The Association has extended an invitation to WCC Ward Councillors to attend our August meeting to provide their comments on current Council and community issues. There are many 'live' issues in Willoughby presently, such as the Lane Cove tunnel and related traffic issues, the Civic Place development, the railway station and bus interchange development and many more. The Councillors will be available to answer questions from the meeting relating to these and other issues so don't miss your opportunity to meet and talk to them.

The meeting will commence with the 2003 APA Annual General Meeting, which will cover the following agenda items:

- Minutes from previous AGM
- President's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Council Matters
- Artarmon Gazette
- Membership
- Election of Committee

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# APA Annual Report 2003

By Keith Anderson, President

2002 – 2003 has been another busy year for your Association with many important issues requiring on-going attention in an endeavour to ensure the most acceptable outcome for our community which extends to include all of 'Artarmon 2064', i.e. our picturesque shopping village, Artarmon Industrial Area, and residential areas on both sides of the railway. Where possible, the 2064 community has been kept informed of our approach to key issues through the Gazette which is published quarterly. During the year under review, our activities have included:

- **Gavemer Centre** - Re-development of the old Uniting Church site in Artarmon Rd. Your Association contributed to the achievement of an outcome generally acceptable to the local community.
- **Artarmon Reserve Playground** – Long awaited enhancement of the Children's Playground is expected to commence shortly.
- **Lane Cove Tunnel Impacts** – Notwithstanding efforts on the part of the APA, Councillors and local MPs, we have been unsuccessful in achieving the desired changes. Major worries include the expected increase in traffic volumes through both industrial and residential Artarmon and the Village because of the RTA's unwillingness to sufficiently modify traffic management at the Pacific Highway / Mowbray Rd intersection and the proposed toll on the Falcon St ramps. Provision of adequate air quality monitoring, pre and post tunnel, has not yet been conceded, and questions remain over future air quality and the RTA's stance on exhaust gas filtration.

In continuing efforts to have our concerns addressed, we have secured an August meeting with a senior representative of the RTA and are confident of support from our new parliamentary representatives.

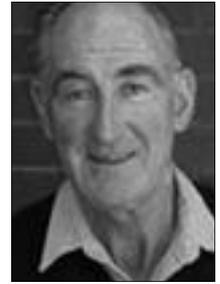
- **Kids Cottage / Community Centre** – A disappointing outcome for what could have been a fine development for our community, especially for those on the western side of the railway. An earlier involvement may have achieved an outcome more acceptable to the nearby residents. Only time will tell whether our community will be able to take full advantage of this fine, but expensive development.
- **Artarmon Industrial Area (AIA), DCP 29** – Having been a prime mover in calling for a review of Council's planning for its industrial areas, including the key ABC site, APA continues to be active in monitoring developments. See Barry Thompson's report on page 5 of this issue.
- **Parramatta Rail Link (PRL)** – The new Chatswood railway station and transport interchange are important for Artarmon residents, both as users of the new facilities

and because of the natural interest of our residents in the sound development of what is a major piece of infrastructure comprising an integral part of their community centre.

Read more about this and the Chatswood Civic Place re-development in our lead article.

- **Artarmon Railway Station** – The long awaited improvement to commuter access for those travelling by car has been completed with the new "Kiss & Ride" facilities in Elizabeth St at Wilkes Ave. A request for wheel chair / lift access to the platforms has been denied.
- **Heritage Tour** – The Association's interest in recognising the inherent character of our residential areas continued with another successful tour of outstanding properties in April this year. Our thanks to Michelle Sloane for her great effort in organising the event again. Also to Neighbourhood Watch for helping to man the properties and to Gil Davis for his valuable support.
- **Public Transport** – Our endeavours to influence the Government to re-route some "mainline" bus services through the AIA have been unsuccessful so far but this is another issue on which we hope to enlist the support of our new parliamentarians. An effective public transport system is a virtual prerequisite to any upgrading of the AIA and the option of a locally based, free service is being explored.
- **Elizabeth Lodge** (Mowbray Rd / Sydney St) - APA supports the proposed extension along Sydney Street, which provides welcome infrastructure for our community. However, there are some traffic, privacy and over-development concerns which we have communicated to the Council. At the time of writing, the matter had not been determined.
- **Council Programs / Planning Changes** - Proposed changes are routinely advised to the Association for comment. It is important to review these for potential impact on our community. This year we have commented on such diverse issues as Section 94 Contributions Plan; DCP 19 Heritage & Conservation; DCP 2 Transport Requirements for Development; DCP 27 Notifications; E – Restore project; WCC's Annual Budget and Five Year Management Plan.
- **Traffic** – Local traffic and parking issues are regularly discussed with Council.
- **Federation of Willoughby Progress Associations** – APA maintains an active involvement with this group which is able to present city-wide views to the Council on those issues which transcend local areas of interest. Our thanks to Barry Thompson who is our dedicated representative.
- **Development Applications** – A watching brief is maintained on local developments.
- **Public Information Meetings** – These have been held quarterly. Mayor Pat Reilly

presided at our AGM in August 2002 and subsequently, we have enjoyed informative presentations from Council spokespeople on E – Restore (Alfred Bernhard), Civic Place (Linda Cardew), and Chatswood Railway Station and Wilkes Avenue upgrade (Nick Tobin). Our pre-State election meeting, "Meet the Candidates", was a great success.



Keith Anderson

- **Gazette** - The Gazette has proven an excellent medium for keeping our community informed of developments and activities on both local and wider City matters but it is very dependent upon continuing advertiser support and the dedicated efforts of a small group. Sustainability is absolutely dependent upon a constant flow of advertising and after a good first year, it is a continuing challenge just to break even financially as production costs rise.

We commend our advertisers to our readers. Please let them know we and you appreciate their support and, in turn, give tangible support to their businesses.

We do need additional support for our production group – articles, editorial, selling advertising space, deliveries etc. All volunteers would be welcome, and should contact either the Editor or the APA Secretary.

- **Web Site** – [www.artarmonprogress.org.au](http://www.artarmonprogress.org.au) The site is currently being updated with the help of Tristan Gutsche, a Crows Nest TAFE student. We hope to launch the 'new look' site in the November Gazette.
- **Willoughby City Council** – We have been fortunate to enjoy excellent working relationships with Council's General Manager, John Owen, his Directors and Officers as well as the Mayor, Pat Reilly and Ward Councillors, Kate Lamb (Deputy Mayor), Lesley Stevens and Stuart Coppock. A public thanks to them all.
- **Committee** – My thanks to your Committee for another year of dedicated service to the community. Congratulations to the team comprising Michael Dawes (VP & Treasurer), David Bruce- Steer (Secretary and Website), Anne Weinert (Gazette and Website), Barry Thompson (Federation), Brian Hall (Membership / Meetings), Tony Kemm (Gazette), Geof Cameron who joined us last year for his expert help especially with Gazette advertising, and more recently Michelle Sloane.
- **Membership** – We can only be as strong as our membership and I extend an invitation to all residents and owners to join our Association. As well, we would welcome assistance at Committee level to help reduce the heavy work load on our dedicated, individual committee members.

I am sure there are residents who would appreciate the opportunity to play a role in helping to mould council policy and community outcomes.

*Continued page 5*

# Antoni Karbowskiak

## Communications Engineer & Centenary Medallist

By Mollie Shelley

Professor Antoni Karbowskiak was among the Artarmon recipients of Centenary Medals we congratulated in our last issue, being awarded his medal for services to Telecommunications. He was Head of the School of Electrical Engineering at the University of NSW for four years and held the Chair of Communications for twenty-four years. Those years, however, represent only a small part of his long and distinguished career.

Toni was born in Poland in Silesia, an area annexed by the Germans at the outbreak of war in September 1939. He was not quite seventeen then and away on holiday in Warsaw with an uncle. His distressed mother wrote to the German authorities requesting her son be allowed to return home. This plea was granted, with the unfortunate result that he was conscripted into the German army.

He was trained in setting mine fields and found himself on the beach at Normandy when news was received of a large Allied armada gathering off the English coast. Toni talks of the



*Professor Karbowskiak with one of his grandchildren.* experience of digging in to escape the RAAF carpet bombing. He was slightly wounded but eventually he and a Polish mate escaped from the German army and in the deserted city of Cherbourg found a house with an open laundry door. Here they exchanged their German uniforms for overalls and caps. Eventually, while in terror of being caught and shot as deserters, they came across a volunteer unit of the American army who, to their amazement, were conversing in Polish – perhaps there might be a God after all!

Toni was sent to England where he established his Polish identity and was befriended by a refugee teacher from the college where his

father had been Head Teacher. He served with a Polish Engineers' unit in northern Scotland collecting and destroying war debris in the North Sea. After peace was declared he took advantage of Churchill's offer to assist such volunteers complete their education in Britain. He matriculated and, with the sponsorship of the teacher who had befriended him and recognised his talents, obtained scholarships to complete his degree and eventually his PhD in the "Propagation of Surface Waves". This marked the beginning of his distinguished career in the field of communications.

At STL (Standard Telecommunications Laboratories) he worked for eight years on what is now known as trunk wave guide communication, the largest research project in Europe, becoming Principal Engineer. He moved on to optical communications research where he did seminal work leading to the development of optical fibre communications.

Toni, now 41 years old, and married with four children, was approached by UNSW which offered him the Chair of Electrical Engineering. The University agreed to refurbish the laboratories to help him to continue his research, and he and his family took up residence in Australia in 1964.

As a world expert in microwave technology, he continued his association with STL for a number of years while building up the facility for optical communications research at UNSW. In the 70's, with students, he did research for Telecom whose network was in urgent need of modernisation. Without the introduction of a computerised network to replace the old crossbar switches, services such as the internet would not have been possible.

In 1980 he took leave of absence from UNSW to help Telecom implement this new technology. Then in 1982, as a member of the government appointed committee, he wrote the report for "The Committee of Enquiry into Telecommunication Services in Australia." He retired from the University in 1987 just before his 65th birthday but kept office two days a week for one or two PhD and many Masters students.

In retirement he enjoyed sailing and with the family spent time at their house on the Hawkesbury. He now serves as a Catechist in State Public Schools. He said although his luck in meeting up with a Polish American Unit in Normandy had helped him recover his faith after his experiences, "I learned wisdom later, in Britain, reading and thinking, solving problems." He now believes that "God is not walking around with a broom to sweep away the filth of selfish people but still has the broom with him. He needs caring people to clear away the mess because most miracles that God enacts He does through people." ■

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# Industrial Areas Study moves ahead

By Barry Thompson

The wheels of local government grind slowly; just as well the outcomes are generally fine! The Industrial Areas Study has been a slow grind so far. The study was proposed 12 months ago as a consequence of community objections to provisions of DCP29, a Development Control Plan for the Industrial Areas of the City. Council endorsed the study at its meeting of Dec 9, 2002 and the hope was that the study would be complete before the end of the life of the present Council, then expected to be Sept 2003. The study was to be part funded by Industrial Area owners, and the result of the call for funding was very satisfying and raised most of the money needed. APA chose to make a small contribution as an indication of our support for the process. In mid-June, Council further resolved to add some concerns from ratepayers in Barcoo St, East Chatswood to the terms of reference for the study and to make up a small shortfall in funding.

On July 31, the Steering Committee (SC) for the study met, and was disappointed to learn that Council has lost the services of the consultant chosen to carry out the study. The SC will review other nominated candidates as a matter of urgency and plans to recommend an alternate consultant to Council by mid-September.

The parties involved with Barcoo St were well represented at the meeting. It was agreed that their issues will be incorporated into the terms of reference of the Study. I hope that those issues, which include rezoning some properties from industrial to residential, are not allowed to crowd out the larger issues of the original brief. The SC endorsed the original brief as distributed and awaits the Barcoo St additions. The SC heard about a community bus service

that has been operating between the Lane Cove West Industrial Area and the Lane Cove shopping centre for some months and which was recently extended. That operation may serve as a model for a similar service within Willoughby, with some funding coming from beneficiaries in the Industrial Areas.

The SC will meet monthly as the study proceeds and provide feedback to the consultant. I will continue to represent the Federation of Progress Associations as well as the APA. Please feel free to contact me if you have issues that you wish to place before the Study Group. I understand that the public may attend SC meetings, and those who contributed to the Study will receive updates. It remains my hope that this study can be completed and its contents accepted by the current Council (prior to elections now scheduled for March 2004).

I was interested to note a recent Sydney Morning Herald article relating to the marketing of the rezoned ABC site. It seems Council and the ABC's agents have a different interpretation of how the site can be developed. The ABC agents' interpretation allows any hi-tech organisation to develop the site even without the presence of such industry onsite. Not so, said Council officers, though the matter was not so minuted by Council at

its meeting on June 10. Councillors instead chose to accede to the ABC's wishes and withdrew the matter. Watch this space for further developments. It would be ironic if this matter of relevance to the ABC site were to be referred to the Study Group. After all, it was the inconsistency of treatment between the rezoned ABC site and the rest of the AIA that gave rise to some of the objections to DCP29 in the first place. ■

## APA Annual Report *cont. from page 3*

As can be seen from this report, there are a diverse and extensive range of issues that impact upon us and in which it is in the Community's interest to play a role in the decision making process. Obviously, the more enthusiastic support we can generate from within our ranks, the more we can do to achieve acceptable outcomes for our mutual benefit.

Our AGM will be held on Tuesday, 26th August, and I extend an invitation to all to attend and if possible, offer yourselves for election to our Committee. All executive and Committee positions are open for election.

On behalf of the Committee, my thanks to members and readers for your support and we look forward to another productive year ahead.

## Susan Lovejoy

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# Artarmon Public School news

By Katrina Weir

## Strong Partnership Brings Effective Leadership

Jan Cohen is Deputy Principal of Artarmon School. Her responsibilities include working collaboratively with the school's Principal Michael Simmons, staff and parents; coordinating professional development; the general administration of the day to day running of the school and teaching classes and small groups.

She has been Deputy Principal at Artarmon School since 1995 and has a firm belief in the

benefits of a strong Principal/Deputy Principal partnership.

"The Principal and Deputy Principal need to be a cohesive, collaborative unit in order to effectively lead and manage a dynamic school", Mrs Cohen explained.

Mrs Cohen maintains that the partnership she shares with Michael Simmons provides a common vision for the school, improved educational outcomes for the students and a culture of striving for best practice.

Born in Inverell in country NSW, Mrs Cohen



Deputy Principal Jan Cohen

chose to train as a teacher because 'teachers can make a difference'. She also believes that teaching is extremely rewarding and provides opportunities for creative thinking. ■

## Silkies thanks Artarmon

By Geof Cameron



Left to right: Melanie, Aida and Corina.

Corina Miller has owned and managed Silkies for the last seven years. Early this year, Corina was travelling on a boat from Palm Beach to Wagstaff where she was spending the weekend with friends. Minutes from their destination, the boat struck a channel marker and Corina, at the front of the boat, took the main impact of the collision.

Once ashore, Corina's friends alerted local residents who came to their assistance and called an ambulance which rushed Corina to Gosford Hospital. After a week, Corina was transferred to St George hospital for a further five weeks of treatment, followed by another

six weeks of convalescence staying with her parents. Corina's list of injuries included a fractured pelvis, a crushed right hand, a broken left wrist, a broken bone in her foot and a lost tooth.

During the months of hospitalisation and ongoing treatment (she is still undergoing physiotherapy, with Artarmon's Ann Liebert, hydrotherapy and dentistry), Corina has been overwhelmed by the support she has

received from her clients, friends, family and the Artarmon community. Indeed, at one stage, hospital staff had to ask Corina's mother to remove some of the flowers and cards from Corina's room as they were impeding access to the patient.

Corina said that when she was initially looking to buy a business she was looking for an environment where a relationship could be developed with her clients. If she was ever in any doubt (which she wasn't) as to whether she had found that in Artarmon, she isn't now.

Corina said her greatest vote of thanks went to Melanie and Aida who filled the void left by her absence, thus keeping Silkies salon "afloat".

Corina would like her loyal clients to know that she is back at Silkies and is looking forward to thanking them all in person. Silkies is open all day Monday, Friday and Saturday and stays open late on Tuesdays and Thursdays. ■

## PHYSIOTHERAPY

**For over twelve years, Physiotherapist Ann Liebert has run her practice in Artarmon, specialising in:**

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**Ann Liebert**  
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## Artarmon School Girls 'state' their sport

Jana Parker and Shori Hijikata are both students at Artarmon School. They both represent NSW in their chosen sport and both aim to represent Australia in the years to come.

Jana started playing soccer when she was three years of age and now, aged 12, plays for NSW. She originally became interested through her brother's soccer training and now trains herself between two and five times a week. Jana's team travels all around Australia to compete and that, she claims, is the highlight of her sporting career so far.



Jana Parker



Shori Hijikata

One day, she hopes to play for the Matildas, Australia's women's soccer team.

In contrast, Shori was interested in swimming from the time she was five months old. She started swimming lessons at an early age and qualified for the under nine event in the state



Artarmon Primary Jazz Band

championships when she was seven.

Now age 9, Shori trains four times each week for two hours at a time. Earlier this year she competed in the national swimming titles in Adelaide where she was awarded 1st in the 4x50m free relay and medley relay, 2nd in the 200m individual medley and 2nd in the 50m breaststroke. Her ambition is to represent Australia in swimming in an Olympic Games. ■

### Awards Get Children in Tune

Artarmon School has a strong commitment to music, and a large number of children from years 2 – 6 participate in one of the many music groups available. Amid much celebration, the Year 2 choir and primary jazz band have recently been rewarded for their hard work and dedication.

Under the guidance of Mr Shaw, choir and strings director, and Mrs Cohen, the Year 2 choir won second place for their performances

of 'Reflection', a two-part harmony, and 'Hey, Ho, Anybody Home', a two part round, at the Warringah Eisteddfod held in May. A mix of seven private and public schools competed in the competition held at Allambie Heights Community Centre.

The 70-children strong choir has also performed at the school's Grandparents Day, and the primary assembly, and will perform at K-2 assemblies and kindergarten orientation days later in the year.

The 20-piece primary jazz band, comprising saxophones, trumpets, trombones, drums and keyboard won a gold award for their performance of big band music at the Yamaha Festival held at the Willoughby Civic Centre last month.

Both band director, Matthew Walmsley, and the band members were thrilled with the result and hope to participate in other music festivals throughout the year. ■

# Do you want to know more about Osteoporosis and your medicines?

## One-minute osteoporosis risk test

- |   |        |
|---|--------|
| 1. Have either of your parents broken a hip after a minor bump or fall?   | Yes/No |
| 2. Have you broken a bone after a minor bump or fall?   | Yes/No |
| 3. For women: Did you undergo menopause before the age of 45?   | Yes/No |
| 4. For women: Have your periods stopped for 12 months or more (other than because of pregnancy)?                        | Yes/No |
| 5. For men: Have you ever suffered from impotence, lack of libido or other symptoms related to low testosterone levels? | Yes/No |
| 6. Have you taken corticosteroid tablets (cortisone, prednisone, etc) for more than 3 months?                           | Yes/No |
| 7. Have you lost more than 3cm (1 inch) in height?  | Yes/No |
| 8. Do you regularly drink heavily (in excess of safe drinking limits)?  | Yes/No |
| 9. Do you smoke more than 20 cigarettes a day?  | Yes/No |
| 10. Do you suffer frequently from diarrhoea (caused by problems such as coeliac disease or Crohn's disease)?            | Yes/No |

If you answered **yes** to any of these questions, you may be at risk of getting osteoporosis and it is recommended that you consult your doctor. Take this checklist with you and your doctor will advise if further tests are necessary.

(One-minute osteoporosis test from Osteoporosis Australia, [www.osteoporosis.org.au](http://www.osteoporosis.org.au) 1800 242 141)

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 you remember your doctor's instructions about your medicine and we assure your privacy at all times.

There are many things to know about Osteoporosis and medicines. **Nick Logan Pharmacist Advice** is dedicated to help you understand all your medicines to ensure they work effectively for you. Come and see Nick, Kara or Matt for verbal and written advice. You'll love our service and we're **OPEN 7 DAYS**.

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# Councillors' feedback...feedback...feedback



## What's on in Willoughby in August?

Whilst it's often tempting to zoom in on the current issue or local controversy, I thought Gazette readers might be interested to read about some of

Council's programs which have a lower profile. What follows is a round-up of events for August however these are the kind of things your Council is involved in sponsoring all year round!

2nd August was Arbor Day and Willoughby residents were invited to celebrate by coming to collect a free native plant at our newly established Environment Centre in Warner's Park Northbridge (the former Women's Bowling Club). For more information about the Centre call Donna Fitton on 9777 7732.

On the 5th August, people who find themselves caring for grandchildren attended a morning tea at the Dougherty Centre in Chatswood. This group meets regularly (on the 4th Tuesday of the month) - call Liz Kiel on 9777 7975.

Guided Bush Walks are scheduled for 21st (Flat Rock Gully) and 24th August (Blue Gum Reserve). Special outings include the Pre-schoolers Bush Scramble on the 27th, and an early morning birdwatch on 17th. Bookings are essential - Diane Eva 9777 7755.

On the 19th August, Sir Nicholas Shehadie will be providing an Author's Talk at our central library. His book *A Life Worth Living* recalls his many roles - as captain of the Australian Rugby Team, as Lord Mayor of Sydney and as Chairman of SBS and the Sydney Cricket Ground Trust. Book early on 9777 7900!

On the fourth Thursday of the month (28th) Wheelies (people using scooters and wheelchairs) meet at the Doherty Centre over morning tea. As a city that takes pride in its accessibility, this is an important group whose needs are at the forefront. Prospective members call Liz Kiel - 9777 7975.

From the 14th - 17th August our Bushland Team will be participating in the Gardening Australia Live Exhibition at Olympic Park, raising awareness about bushland issues. They will be very pleased to see you if you drop by at their stall!

MOSAIC is our Multicultural Centre at Brown St Chatswood. The cultural diversity of Willoughby is represented by the groups regularly using this centre. These include the social groups SALAM (Farsi speakers), SANGAM - a group of people from the Indian subcontinent - and a regular gathering of Korean speakers. Maria Lopez on 9777 7952 can tell you more about the Centre's users and its services.

This year's WSF was launched on 7th August.

Bigger and brighter every year, the Festival highlights the diversity of this fabulous city! Keep an eye on your letterbox for the full program - or you can collect one at any one of our Libraries, Community Centres or at the Council offices. For further information call 9777 1000 or visit [www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au](http://www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au). ■



## Artarmon Station Heritage

Two of my election promises were to move to establish the heritage value of Artarmon Station and fight any proposed development of the site.

An initial report (which I would be pleased to show ratepayers) on the Station's heritage value is shortly to come before Council before the final report is prepared.

I understand the PRL does not impact on the built fabric of Artarmon Station and that the SRA Heritage Committee has recognised the importance of its heritage fabric.

## Civic Place

When the redevelopment of Civic Place was proposed I supported the vision, but since Council Officers put forward the proposal for its financing, I have voted in the negative. A recent public opinion survey of Council's performance revealed that the project had an extremely low recognition within the survey group. An extensive public briefing program has been advertised. I have asked for the attendance figures at each of these sessions but at the ones I have been to, Council officers and Councillors are the majority in attendance.

The first estimate of the project cost is \$130 million (before any tender process). Already the project has cleaned out the S94 open space

account, and the GM has advised the cost of the project to date has been \$22m (this does include the acquiring of assets). The financial plan looks at selling a lot of Council's CBD assets. While the Mayor has promised that no rate increase will fund the Civic Place project, the GM has stated that ratepayers will have to pay if public fund raising and Government grants do not eventuate. The sum of \$130m will place all the eggs in the Willoughby basket on one site, squarely in the middle of the CBD.

Finally, this year's WCC budget was the tightest for some time, and it appears that the Civic Place project is already having an impact. Is this what ratepayers want? Are there other priorities? I think so. I urge all ratepayers to consider this matter as you will need to inform yourselves for the March 2004 poll on this issue. I ask for feedback from you on this issue, if I am to be persuaded that the financial issue is not such a concern.

## Correspondence to Council

Council has spent over \$1m to improve the tracking and replying of correspondence from ratepayers. Two workshops have been held during this Council, and my understanding was that WCC was setting a benchmark.

It was therefore a shock to learn in late July

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**justcurry.**  
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# Councillors' feedback...feedback...feedback

that no correspondence sent to the Mayor is entered into the Council correspondence system. A ratepayer contacted Councillors complaining that three letters to the Mayor remained unanswered.

Why the Mayor's letters are the exception to the general Council directive is an interesting question and can only have originated in a personal Mayoral directive, which technically cannot override Council's directive. Letters to Councillors are entered into the system.

If you want a reply from Council, write to the GM and copy the Mayor. ■



Lesley Stevens

## Folks, it's Review Time

The State Government wants to fast track the DA process and sort out interminable delays for the home owner hoping to put in a backyard pool

for the kids in time for summer.

Willoughby is not on the list of Councils where the complaints level is sky-high. That doesn't mean to say WCC is happy though, as the DA process is still WCC's most complained about area. For many it's the first

and only time they come into conflict with local regulations or worse, become the meat in the sandwich between two conflicting regulations. The most glaring example of this is the inherent conflict between Council's tree preservation and protection of natural heritage policies and the new Rural Fire Service regulations which envisage asset protection zones or no tree canopy for a minimum of 20 metres in every direction!

WCC already has a list of developments which do not need an application to Council. Council also allows private certifiers to sign off the various stages of construction although a number of serious mistakes have been made in this area. Councillor Hickie has suggested we look at the City of Ottawa's approvals process which provides each applicant with a check list of the development controls. If your development complies with every control, the approval is granted within 24 hours. This has great appeal.

Under the new Infrastructure Planning and Natural Resources Minister, Craig Knowles, the Department is reviewing 'Plan First', a comprehensive state-wide planning document designed to underpin all regional and local environmental plans, which never made it off the starting blocks. Once we have a coherent state-wide plan in place, WCC might then

envisage a review of its own – one which concerns our 'Big Issues' document - our Local Environment Plan (LEP).

WLEP 1995 was fifteen years in the making and a huge leap forward in planning terms. But in the absence of any overarching statewide plan it had to be all things to all people. Consequently, it is a complicated document which needs continual updating as our city becomes more crowded and communal views change. Already there have been fundamental shifts in the community's attitude to a number of environmental issues. With a state-wide planning document in place, Council could refocus on the big issues and use the changes at State level to advantage.

Planning by numbers (2a, 2a2, 2b, 2c etc) could become obsolete. We could instead plan by locality using our embryo guidelines for desired future characteristics in every suburb as the planning tool. This would be meshed in with regional policies dealing with issues such as housing for the aged or coastline development and with policies at the metropolis level such as transport and waste. This revised Plan would provide the pathway while a new slimline LEP could deliver both greater clarity and flexibility at the grassroots level.

9979 9477 or [lesley.stevens@prismpix.com](mailto:lesley.stevens@prismpix.com) ■



## CIVIC PLACE



The Civic Place site in Victoria Avenue, Chatswood is Willoughby City's most valuable community asset.

The aim of the Civic Place Project is to deliver the best possible social, environmental and financial outcomes for the community through the redevelopment of the site for open space and public facilities.

**Do you think the Civic Place Masterplan provides the City's much needed 'heart and soul'?**

### THE CIVIC PLACE MASTERPLAN EXHIBITION

Civic Centre foyer: 409 Victoria Avenue Chatswood • 10am - 4pm Mondays to Fridays and 10am - 2pm on Saturdays  
[www.civicplace.com.au](http://www.civicplace.com.au) or contact the Project Manager, Willoughby City Council 9777 1015

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# Native plants for Artarmon clay soils



Wendy Bishop

## By Mollie Shelley

Many of the native plants we would like to have in our gardens grow naturally on sandstone soils. Our clay Artarmon soils do not have the free draining qualities they need. If you want to grow sandstone flora you may be successful if they are planted in raised, free-draining beds. There are several gardeners in the district who are successfully growing Waratahs, particularly the hybrid 'Shady Lady'. It is well to remember that Waratahs need free drainage but would not survive a summer like last without some watering. Cut the flowers to encourage strong dense growth

There is however a range of plants that either thrive in, or tolerate, heavy soils. It is obvious from a walk around the local streets that Callistemons and Grevilleas do well here, particularly G. 'Robyn Gordon', 'Ned Kelly', 'Moonlight', 'Honey Gem' and 'Bronze Rambler'. Banksias that tolerate clay soils are the fine-leaved B. ericifolia, B. integrifolia, marginata, integrifolia, serrata, spinulosa and its dwarf form. Lower growing shrubs include: Eriostemon myoporoides and its cultivar 'Star Dust' with their pink and white star-shaped flowers opening in July. Thryptomene saxicola with its pink diosma-like flowers and fine

foliage flowers in late autumn through winter.

Low growing plants providing many months of colour are the ever popular blue daisy, Brachyscome multifida and several Scaevola cultivars, 'Blue Wonder' and 'Maue Clusters'. I first saw these growing in window boxes and planters in Europe, particularly in Finland! They made a grand display. Plants for shade or part shade include the Lilly Pilly family.

There are many cultivars including dwarf varieties, 'Little Gem' and 'Royal Flame'. I'm growing one in a pot to serve as my Christmas tree. Clip the foliage to get the shape and density you want. A walk along the bicycle path with its delicious mint scent will convince you that Prostanthera, or purple Mint Bush, grows well here. P. baxteri, incana, melissifolia, phyllifolia and rotundifolia are possible. In the past Prostanthera have been unreliable but more often they are being grafted onto Westringia stock which is increasing their life span.

Smaller flowering shrubs for shade include Bauera rubioides and alba, and the Boronia family deanei, microphylla, mollis, muelleri and megastigma. The Boronias are for the native enthusiast as most are short-lived. Crowea exalata and its cultivars with their fine foliage and deep pink star flowers do well here. Correa 'Dusky Bells' is an attractive plant. It grows to about 60cm with a spread of a metre and flowers throughout winter.

Plants for damp shade include the ferns, particularly the long-suffering Birds' Nest fern, Asplenium nidus, Doodia aspera, and the Hen and Chicken Fern, Asplenium bulbiferum. Of the commonly grown tree ferns the Cyathea

species withstand more sun than the Dicksonias. On the other hand you can cut off Dicksonias, cut back the fronds and replant the top piece, thus achieving a new plant of a suitable height. Don't forget to water the planted piece while it is growing new roots. The Stream Lily, Helmholtzia glaberrima, has flax-like leaves to 1.5 metres with a tall one to two metre tall flower spike with a plume-like head of small pale pink flowers. It needs to be grown in damp shade.

Finally, remember to tip prune your native shrubs as they grow to encourage denser growth and then give them a good prune after flowering. ■

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

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44 Hampden Rd, Artarmon 2064

# Artarmon loses two lovely sisters

By Gerald Beckett, Minister at St Basil's Church

Joyce Butler, a long time resident of Artarmon, passed away in RNSH on 26 May. Her sister, Ida Bruchhauser, also a patient in the hospital at the same time, passed away two weeks later on 6 June.

Joy and Ida lived with Joy's husband of 58 years, Arthur ("Hoddie"), in the family home in Cameron Ave which has belonged to the Butler family since 1919. Our hearts go out to Hoddie as he copes with this double loss, but his faith and the loving and generous support of family, neighbours and friends are enabling him to face the sadness and look to the future.

Family and friends, as a consequence, found themselves at two funerals in quick succession. The sisters' cousin, the Rev'd Barry Bevis of St Peter's Hornsby, spoke of the sisters' often uniquely expressed faith and their generous and warm personalities. To visit them was a delightful experience, always entertaining and sometimes hilariously funny. They were bright and cheery ladies, always interested and concerned for others and generous in their attitudes. The numbers of people, young and old, at their funerals, and the wonderful support Hoddie has received is testimony to this.

Ida (born in 1916), Joy (1921) and their brother, Russell (1925) grew up in Bega where

their parents, Arthur and Lillian Smithers, owned the newsagency. Ida met and married Neville Bruchhauser in Bega, and the newlyweds lived in Brisbane before moving in the early 1940's to Pacific Highway, Artarmon.

Around the same time, the Smithers bought the newsagency in Artarmon and came to live in Broughton Rd opposite St Basil's. Ida and Joy attended St Basil's regularly, and Joy met Hoddie through the choir. They were married at St Basil's in 1945 and moved into the family home in Cameron Ave. So began a life-long association with St Basil's and the local community.

In the mid 1950s, Ida and Neville moved to the Peninsula where Ida became involved with the community and pursued her interest in, and talent for, painting wildflowers. Ida was awarded the British Empire Medal for services to art and the community, especially for her support of the Bush Brothers, an interest she shared with Joy. In 1989, after Neville's death, Ida came to live with Joy and Hoddie in Cameron Ave.

Joy's doctor summed up much of what both ladies meant to those who knew them - "What a great pleasure it was to look after your wife. She was an extraordinarily vivacious and happy person who did liven up the clinic in a dramatic fashion. ■

## Talking 2064

**Barbara Bryan** (whose Artarmon Residents Photography and Oral History project was exhibited at Willoughby Council last year) will be showing "Alpine Images" along with Jan Glover of Gordon at the Dale Thomas Gallery, 41 Whiting St from 30th Oct until 15th Nov. The exhibition focuses on the Alpine regions both pre and post-the recent devastating bushfires. The exhibition will also continue at the Willoughby Council Foyer Space from 1-6 December. The photographers will also be raising funds towards restoration of historic alpine huts damaged in the bushfires. Visit [www.kosciuskohuts.org.au](http://www.kosciuskohuts.org.au) to see some post fire photos. Contact Barbara Bryan on 9411 3114 or [rbryan@bigpond.net.au](mailto:rbryan@bigpond.net.au) for enquiries about the photography.

**Artarmon Newsagency** recently sold a Lotto First Division prize worth \$187,000. Owner, Guven Fiasson, said that the winners were regular customers and that the prize couldn't have gone to nicer people.

**Contributions to 'Talking 2064'** are welcome - [editor@artarmonprogress.org.au](mailto:editor@artarmonprogress.org.au) ■

 **Neighbourhood Watch**  
**Mon Aug 18, 1.30pm.** Meeting Artarmon Library with speaker on 'Developments in Residential Security'.  
**Sunday Oct 26, 4.30pm.** Celebrate the start of daylight saving with a sausage sizzle in the Gully at Onyx Rd/shared path.



## St Basil's Anglican Church Artarmon

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

### Questions I would like to ask God: what is Alpha?

You may have seen signs on churches with a little man balancing a question mark and inviting people to *Alpha Courses*. Or you may have read some of the pamphlets St Basil's has been distributing titled *Questions I'd like to ask God*. Either way we would like to invite you to our next *Alpha Course*.

*Alpha* is for:

**A**n anyone interested in Christianity  
**L**earning and laughter.  
**P**eople meeting together.  
**H**elping one another.  
**A**sk anything.



St Basil's is starting its next Alpha Course on Sunday 28 September at 5pm. We'd love to see you there with your questions.

### Market Day Activity

20 September 2003

On Saturday 20 September we will be holding our annual Market Day in the Church Hall and environs. Activities will include White Elephant (preloved items), cakes and jams, home-made gifts and clothing, books, 'pick-a-packet' stall, BBQ and Korean food, and plants.

Items for the White Elephant, books and 'pick-a-packet' prizes would be appreciated. Please deliver them to the Church any time between now and 20 September. If you require assistance in arranging delivery to the Church please contact Tracey Cameron on 9411 6080. If you wish to provide items for the plant stall, cakes and jams and other gifts, please deliver them to the Church on Friday 19 September.

### 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.

### Welcome Wednesday

*Are you new to this area? Lonely and need friendship?*

**Well** *Let's do coffee* at Welcome Wednesday.

We are a small group of people (women and men) who are happy to share 2 hours.

**When** The 2nd Wednesday of the month.

**Where** St Basil's Anglican Hall, Broughton Road, Artarmon.

**What's it all about** Friendship - sharing experiences of travel - fun times - short stories - enjoying morning tea and sometimes brunch.

Regular Sunday Services. Parish Eucharist/Holy Communion: 9.00am.  
An inclusive Christian church where all people are always welcome.

# REAL ESTATE FEATURE

## Connecting home and lifestyle

*Gil Davis is the Principal at Richardson & Wrench Artarmon. He has been the suburb's leading agent since 1985. He can be contacted on 0439 817 299 or email [gil@rwartarmon.com.au](mailto:gil@rwartarmon.com.au)*



**Gil Davis**

'Artarmonites' are putting more money into their homes than ever before. Recently this has been a better investment than shares but the primary purpose is to have a nicer home. I enjoy discussing proposed extensions with people and have successfully completed a number of projects personally. Naturally everyone asks how best to spend their renovating dollars, so here are a few of my general recommendations.

It should all be about your lifestyle. For every room you must consider how you would use the space. For instance, is the kitchen a place where the family congregates and the kids do their homework, or a designer showpiece? Do you entertain a lot and if so, how formally? Are you looking to display art or family photos?

The tendency is for Artarmon people to stay put rather than aspire to other areas. If this holds true for you then you should design an extension that can cater for changing needs, whether these be the family expanding or contracting or even diminishing mobility.

The floorplan needs to flow well and have good proportions to each room or space. As a rule, close to square is best for it to "feel right." There are also matters of practicality. Can you place the furniture sensibly and without tripping over it? How do the groceries get from the car to the cupboard? Can the bathroom, kitchen and laundry surfaces be easily cleaned?

Aspect, of course, is crucial. This does not mean the property has to face north to rear (though it helps). It does however require placing rooms to suit their uses and passive solar consideration. A family room might have glass to the east with a full brick laundry restricting heat absorption to the west.

A favourite issue of mine is lighting. A house should not need lights on during the day nor be excessively heated by skylights. It is crucial to make an equally pleasant environment when the sun goes down. A blaze of halogens beaming light in spots around a family room is not conducive to relaxing or entertaining.

Also worth considering are current trends to smaller, sleeker kitchens, bigger and more luxurious bathrooms, larger laundries, easy clean and non-allergenic flooring, cabling and home automation, and especially open floorplans that integrate living areas with sunny, level, low maintenance gardens.

Finally, design and decorative elements should be carried through the whole home and must create visual interest. Don't be afraid to be bold. Thankfully the days of decorating in beige and grey are over. At the end of the renovating process your home has to be the place where you want to be.

- Consider how you would use and furnish each space.
- Allow for changing needs and mobility.
- Provide a pleasant environment at night as well as day.
- Follow the trends to lower maintenance living.
- Ensure the finished home is the place you want to be.



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