

## **Guildford Association Inc. Presidents Report 2017**

The Guildford Association has had a very busy year. In early 2017 Mr Ted Williams President resigned, due to his relocation to Pemberton. We greatly appreciated the time and effort Ted put into his time as President over the last 18 months. I was nominated by the Executive to stand in as Interim President and Pat Irwin agreed to take on Vice Presidency. I wish to thank my excellent and hard working committee, in particular I would like to acknowledge the hundreds of hours worked by Andrew Kiely as Secretary. Andrew's enthusiasm and vision for Guildford has been a big asset to the Association in these busy and challenging times. I would like to thank Yvonne and Kim for their work on the inaugural Song Fest. I would also like to thank Clive, Tanya and John who have frequently given deputations for the Association at Council.

The objectives of the Association are to preserve and protect the historic town of Guildford and the residential amenity and rural character. These objectives have seen the Association take on debate and discussion about traffic and parking over the last 12 months, in particular challenging the data and methodology of the City's GAPs reports. The recent McDonalds JDAP was also a challenging and lengthy process and I would like to acknowledge the work of the say No to McDonald's Group and thank all persons who presented at this panel discussion and forum. This DA cannot be viewed as past history as there is still the opportunity of an appeal to SAT or another application to JDAP. The Association employed Traffic Expert Zuhair Ebrahim to research, collect data and present his findings on traffic, parking and safety. We were pleased with his professionalism, research and findings.

There is a need to have adequate protection of the historic town and its amenity to prevent the continual re-occurrence of inappropriate development applications. The Association has been actively engaged in meeting with Ministers including State and local government representatives to look at options for the town. At this stage State Heritage Listing could be beneficial, however, the City's own Policies and strategies need updating, reviewing and enforcing.

Residential amenity has to be considered alongside Tourism Potential and has to be balanced in its approach, as Guildford is primarily an historical residential area

The continual problem in Guildford is the need for wider recognition of its unique character and the detrimental affects of medium density infill, traffic and loss of vegetation. The City of Swan has not enacted its 4 years heritage Strategic plan which may have seen Guildford and other heritage areas better protected. The promotion of the Town's tourism potential has been recognised in the GA 2015 tourism forum, where a number of key actions and recommendations were identified. These are being actively pursued.

During the year, the GA has been represented on a number of committees including the Stirling Square Working Group, The Perth Airport Forum, we have had Traffic Committee meetings and are represented on the Guildford Light Horse Statue committee. The Association supports the establishment of a community Working Group to examine the needs and resources for a library in Guildford.

The Guildford Anzacs Project continues, with Poppy Home owners being contacted about their house being included on an Anzac Walk Trail Brochure (fold out with map and details). It is hoped to have A7 flyers printed in the next 12 months for distribution to museums, schools hotels etc.

The GA as usual contributed poppies to the ANZAC ceremony and Gunner's Day ceremony in Stirling Square, and also contributed financially to the Christmas tree in the square, a project initiated by Mr Andrew Kiely.

At the conclusion of this financial year, I would like to thank the Association members who have been so actively involved in the many campaigns within the town from traffic and parking,

McDonalds battles and now library issues. Your continued involvement is critical to the future of our town. Thank you.

I would also like to thank our ward councillors, in particular Cr Ian Johnson, who has been very active in supporting the community and is always willing to listen to community concerns and help in any way he can.

Finally, I would also like to make particular mention of Trish Richardson who provides the wonderful suppers at every GA meeting.

Barbara Dundas 24.8.2017