

Guildford Hotel

Over the last 6 months, members of The Save the Guildford Hotel Action Group have met several times with Heritage Council representatives. As more than a year has now passed since the fire occurred the Group has recently written to Heritage Minister John Castrilli seeking his direct intervention to ensure protection and restoration of the building. An immediate priority is to ensure that remaining fabric of the Hotel is properly protected from weather well before the onset of the autumn and winter rains in 2010. Beyond drawing the Minister's attention to this urgent practical measure, the Group has also asked the Minister to consider whether there may be a need to strengthen the State's existing heritage legislation to ensure that the Guildford Hotel does not eventually become another local example of "demolition by neglect". The Save the Guildford Hotel Action Group continues to meet on a regular basis and further updates will be provided as information becomes available.

Guildford Kite Flying Workshops

The City of Swan is facilitating a school holiday activity suitable for all ages where people are taught to build their own kites. The Association will support the exercise by supplying snacks and drinks for participants. It all happens at Lilac Hill Cricket ground on Friday, 22nd January morning from 0.00 am to midday. Participation is free but registration with the City of Swan is essential - contact Dianne Gates on 9267 9136.

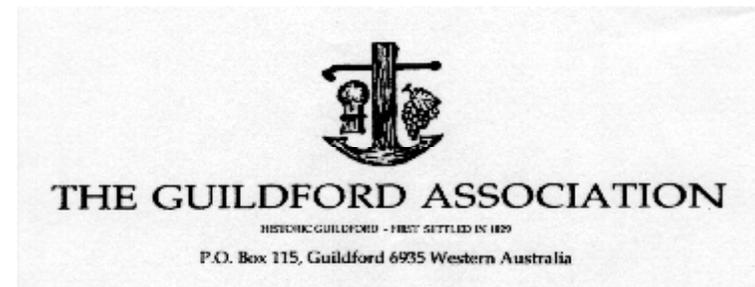
2009 - Year of the Sugar Gums

The culmination of the "2009 - Year of the Sugar Gums" will be the formal ceremony to mark the gift from the City of Swan to the Guildford community of a commemorative bench. The exact date and time are to be confirmed but the Association expects it to be Sunday 13th December 2009. The Association intends to put out a special edition newsletter dedicated to celebrating "2009 - Year of the Sugar Gums", sharing many of the works of the school children who participated in the event and raising the profile of the commemorative bench gifted by the city.

Guildford Association Annual Member Function

If you haven't renewed your membership or would like to join the Association now is the time to do so. The Association's annual member function will be held on Sunday 7 February 2010 at the President's house, 9 Market Street. Join up and come and meet your fellow Guildford residents and learn about the objectives and other activities of the Association. Membership is only \$15 per person per year.

Please send your money, with your details, to
The Treasurer, Guildford Association Inc,
PO Box 115, Guildford WA 6935



GUILDFORD MATTERS

Newsletter #11, December 2009

Guildford Library

Over the years and again in recent months the Association has sought and gained assurances from the City of Swan that there are no proposals to close the Guildford Library and its services. However we are aware that proposals under active consideration may again place the Library at risk. The library is an essential service that provides much more than books and resources and is highly valued. Lack of physical resources may result in groups being forced to compete for space. This is unacceptable and very destructive to a cohesive community and the Association is committed to preserving Library Services and getting behind other valuable community contributors to ensure their needs are met without damaging relationships and losing valuable services. **Let your councillor and the City of Swan know how much your library means to you – but do it soon – don't take your library for granted.**

Railway Precinct Development Proposal

Many residents will have received notice of the call for submissions on the re-zoning of the land north of the Guildford Railway Station bounded by the railway line and Victoria Street. The land is now Urban under the Metropolitan Region Scheme and the City of Swan must rezone the land to comply under its own Town Planning Scheme. Submissions will not be considered if they don't address zoning considerations. The Association attended a briefing on the options available and recommends residents consider the following issues:

- The intention is to create 2/3 storey apartments and "cottage" blocks. The elevation of the land will result in Victoria St being "overlooked" by some of the new developments. Two storey residential development is the exception rather than the rule in Guildford and is inconsistent with its heritage values.

Meetings held at Mechanics Institute Hall, Meadow Street, Guildford
Next meeting is at 7.30 pm, 15th December 2009

Although not a formal "park and ride", about 60 vehicles park on the northern side daily to commute by train. It is proposed that the loss of this parking can be accommodated in nearby Victoria Street as street parking. The Association regards this as most undesirable as it has the potential to degrade the amenity of Victoria Street.

The timber framed goods shed on site (1898) has been identified as having heritage merit and is noted as a possible community space – although it would be up to the City to plan for and financially support such a use – and there is no agreement to do that in place. The Association believes the building must be retained and made purposeful.

The City is proposing to rezone the land to Residential Development, however, the Association believes there is an opportunity to provide the foundation for two important needs in the Town, and that **part of the land should be reserved for Public Purposes**. This is an option available to Council. Reserved land can be used for parking purposes and Community purposes.

Parking. The Town has little street parking to support the business community leading to great pressure on small residential side streets. Increase in rail patronage can only worsen this problem. By applying the usual retail floor space indicator of parking needs, it can be shown that we have less than 50% of current parking needs and few options for the future.

Community Needs. The Goods Shed, large and interesting, has an interior rail line that an imaginative group could put to good use. The development of Tourism support facilities in the Town is on-going and it may be that this site and building could provide a permanent home for such services. It could be provided by the State Government (owners of the land) free of charge, given the value of tourism to the state and local economy. **This obviously needs much more discussion but without the land being appropriately zoned - this opportunity to preserve future options will be lost.** Although this involves only part of the land, it may soften the impact of the intense residential development.

Submissions close 23rd December 2009. Remember your comments must address zoning but you may comment on the desired objectives of particular zones.

Guildford Primary School

The Guildford Primary School has been the recipient of a significant grant of approximately \$2 million in the last round of stimulus funding from the Federal Government's BER program. As a result the school is replacing the mountable that houses the second pre-primary class with a purpose-built building. It is also replacing the Bristol demountable buildings that have been there for decades and gaining a music and art room in its place.

Guildford's new ward councillor

An ordinary postal election was held in the City of Swan on Saturday 17 October 2009. The successful candidate for Guildford ward was Ted Williams whose election material included the following information about him: *"I have lived in Guildford since 2007. We chose to live here because of the history associated with the area and the fact that we had the opportunity to conserve and preserve this history... I am a graduate in engineering from the University of Melbourne and in commerce from UWA. I have five sons, the youngest living with us and attending school in Guildford. My wife and I strongly support the "village" concept for Guildford and wish to retain as far as possible all historical links. If elected I will bring to bear my project management skills developed over more than 40 years of major development. I believe rate payers funds should be spent wisely, capital projects carefully monitored, recurring expenses critically reviewed and rates minimised. Hme 9378 3996, mob 0402 080 704, 11 Turton St., Guildford."* The Guildford Association congratulates Ted on his election to council and looks forward to a close and fruitful relationship with him in the future.

175th Anniversary of The Royal Agricultural Show

On 22nd September the Guildford Association, together with the City of Swan and the Royal Agricultural Society, hosted a ceremony to plant a Sugar Gum in Fauntleroy Park.

The tree planting was to mark the 175th Anniversary of the Agricultural Show in Perth and to acknowledge the role of the Guildford Township in the early days of the Agricultural Society where it all began. Ben Allen, as president of the Guildford Association, welcomed Mr Tony Devitt, President of the Royal Agricultural Society and Mr Charlie Zanino, Mayor of the City of Swan, who together had the honour of planting the Sugar Gum. Celia Miller, president of the Swan Guildford Historical Society was also there with a number of local community members. The group then headed back to King's Cottage, Meadow Street to enjoy a sumptuous tea put on by the Guildford Association and hosted by the indefatigable Barbara Dundas. The event was a great success and the Association is grateful to all involved in bringing it all together.

Guildford Heritage Festival

Sunday the 6th of December will see Guildford celebrated. The Guildford Heritage Festival will be held in Stirling Square with further activities along James St, Lilac Hill Park, Kings Meadow Polo Field and at the various historical buildings and churches of Guildford plus lots more.