



THE GUILDFORD ASSOCIATION

HISTORIC GUILDFORD - FIRST SETTLED IN 1829

P.O. Box 115, Guildford 6935 Western Australia

GUILDFORD MATTERS

Newsletter #17, March 2011

Report on Guildford Flood Plain Study

In 2009 the Guildford Association supported a survey about the flora and fauna of the Guildford floodplains. Dr Harriet Mills and Barbara Dundas distributed surveys to all Guildford residents with land adjoining the floodplain, with the aim of collecting information on the location of particular fauna species and the perceived changes to flora and fauna over time, both on the residents' own properties and on reserves. Dr Mills & Ms Dundas are due to present the findings of this survey and will discuss some important recommendations for future management of the floodplains at our next meeting which is:

- at the newly renovated Mechanics Institute in Meadow Street
- on Tuesday 17th May 2011
- at 7.30 pm with tea, coffee & nibbles provided for the well behaved

Dr Mills is an Assistant Professor at the School of Animal Biology, UWA. She has a BSc (hons) in Natural Resource Management and a PhD in Zoology and has been involved in studying of native wildlife for 20 years. She specialises in population ecology of marsupials and collaborates with Perth Zoo, the Department of Environment and Conservation and the Australian Wildlife Conservancy. Harriet has supervised students working on a diverse range of wildlife management issues, including the conservation of bandicoots in urban Perth, genetics of the western swamp tortoise, ecology of northern quolls, translocation success of woylies and methods of counting ringtail possums. She has lived in Guildford since 1997.

Mrs Dundas is a renowned local historian, and a social & heritage researcher. She has an impressive academic background with a BA Psych, MSoc Wk, MPhil Urban Studies and Grad Dip Ed and a formidable track record in community projects. Mrs Dundas chaired the local Guildford Catchment Group for over 5 years and has been extensively involved with historical and environmental educative programmes. She rates "the raising of 5 children" as her proudest achievement - it is rumoured that she may live in Guildford.

We would encourage you all to come along and be involved.

GA website and email address

Your association has just launched its new website and the world will be able to communicate with us using our new email address. This exciting development will make communications with us much easier and help our members to stay up to date with Guildford matters. Please take the time to visit our web site and feel free to send us comments or constructive criticism. It is still very much a work in progress and we are much indebted to Mrs Sue Dowson (nee Hart) who has done all the hard work.

web: www.guildford.asn.au

email: ga@guildford.asn.au

Heritage Matters

In March, at our last meeting we were very pleased to have had Dr Ian Alexander as our speaker and he gave us a very entertaining and informative talk on heritage issues. This was most timely as the Government has recently announced a review of Heritage legislation and recently released their new Heritage Policy. The cynic might suggest that one should not get too excited but it is incumbent upon us all to maintain the passion, keep up the good fight and have our say.

Review of the Heritage of Western Australia Act (1990) - Are you concerned that State Heritage Listed buildings can be left open to the elements for years to deteriorate and possibly disappear like the Guildford Hotel? Are you concerned that the Heritage Minister and Heritage Council say they can do nothing to protect heritage places like the Guildford Hotel and Lynwood House? Please become involved in the review of the State Heritage Act. The closing date for comments is **June 10th 2011**.

There is a discussion paper which is available by various means. **Either** go on-line <http://www.heritage.wa.gov.au/about-the-heritage-council/review-of-the-heritage-act.html>

or you can ring Heritage Council on **9221 4177** and ask them to send you a copy.

In order to respond, you can complete an on-line survey www.heritage.wa.gov.au

or you can just write a short letter of your concerns.

The consultation document is daunting, but do not worry. Just comment on the areas you are concerned about. For example,

Section 4.2 - Is the Heritage Council effective? What changes or improvements are needed ?

Section 4.5 - Heritage Incentives - Are they adequate?

Section 4.6 - Demolition by Neglect - What can be done to prevent this?

Section 4.7 Local Heritage- Is this adequately protected & what more can be done?

If you write a letter of your concerns this is still a valid and vital contribution. Send it to: Executive Director, Office of Heritage, HCWA, PO Box 6201, East Perth WA 6892

Or you can Email your comments to: heritage@hc.wa.gov.au

Memory Gates

The Association is very pleased to announce that the City of Swan has arranged for a full and proper restoration of the Memory Gates in Stirling Square, which were damaged by a falling tree branch earlier in the year. They are to be restored to their former grandeur for which we are very grateful to the City and congratulate them for this excellent decision.

Increased Aircraft Movements

Having given all our residents the bad news on runway maintenance last newsletter, we have further bad news to report as the process has suffered significant delays. At the recent meeting of the Perth Airport Noise Monitoring Consultative Committee (PANMCC) on 6th May, Westralia Airports Corporation (WAC) advised of delays in their runway maintenance and grooving work. Further staged maintenance on the cross runway will be conducted between June and August, this will result in an increase in aircraft movements on runway 03/21 (main runway). For Guildford it would be anticipated that aircraft movements will increase between 5-8am and 5-7pm by between 15-30 aircraft for about 11 weeks from June.

The PANMCC is seeking to meet with the Minister for Planning to discuss concerns about the adequacy of State Planning Policy 5.1. This policy is permitting development of housing in areas presently affected by aircraft noise or that could be in the future. Rezoning of green fields(rural) property to residential is of particular concern.

Noise Complaint Reports for the month of February 2011 are illuminating:
Ferndale 435, Rivervale 371, Canningvale 306, Carlisle 63, Chidlow 51, Langford 12, Victoria Park 11, Belmont 10, Manning and Wandi 6, Guildford 5.

Noise complaints tend to occur when people experience a change in noise. Please continue to record your concerns if you think noise is unreasonably loud, the aircraft too low, you smell fuel or are bothered by ground running noise etc. More information can be obtained by calling Perth Airport's information line 1800 933 733. Noise complaints should be lodged on 1300 302 240 or 1800 802 584.

When future decisions are made about aircraft movements, community complaints are taken into consideration and are an important variable. **Please do not be complacent.** The Guildford Association has arranged fridge magnets that will be distributed with this newsletter or for some residents, with the next one.

Anzac Day The Association laid a wreath at the War Memorial in Stirling Square on Anzac Day. The wreath was beautifully made and presented by our Vice President, Mrs Wendy Dekkers. There was a wonderful turnout yet again.

Stirling Arms Hotel

In 2009, following sustained complaints of ever increasing anti social behaviour arising from activities associated with the conduct of the Stirling Arms Hotel, the Association lodged a formal complaint with the Department of Liquor, Racing and Gaming. Suffice to say it has been a very long process encompassing mediation, meeting with politicians including the relevant Minister and lodging comprehensive submissions.

In September 2010 the Director of the Department found for the Association and imposed restrictive conditions on the licence of the Hotel. This was later overturned on appeal and in March this year the Association took the matter to the next step, the Liquor Commission. Following a hearing some months ago, the Commission recently brought down a decision, finding in favour of the Association and imposing a number of conditions which are expected to greatly improve the situation. It is noteworthy that police attendance statistics offered considerable weight in support of the Association's concerns.

In essence, on any night where entertainment is in the form of Karaoke, DJ or live music then the new conditions will require the hotel to;

- Increase security by two **additional** personnel who are to be dedicated to the car park and immediate vicinity of the hotel, commencing one hour prior until 30 minutes after such entertainment,
- A restriction on trading in the bottle shop to vehicle sales **only** between 6.30pm and 9pm, after which time the bottle shop must be closed entirely.
- No re-entry or new entry from 10 pm
- No entry to anyone observed drinking alcohol in the car park or the streets
- Licensee to maintain a 'complaints register'
- The Licensee to convene three monthly meetings with the Association, Local Police and the City of Swan to monitor progress

However it will remain important that if lasting change is to occur, residents and businesses who are affected or feel the Town continues to be affected, should ensure they register those concerns with both the Hotel directly (9279 1015) and the Association (see new email & website details below) and keep a personal record of the complaint.

The Association is keen to make it clear that we look forward to working positively with the hotel and hope this marks the beginning of a new chapter for better relations and better outcomes for both parties and especially for the Town of Guildford.

Next Meeting: 17th May 2011, Mechanics Institute at 7.30 pm – every one welcome