

Inner South Canberra Community Council

Welcome to our Inner South Canberra Community Council column.

We have now been operating for 11 years and are thinking hard about what our priorities should be for our second decade. In addition to our current work in planning, transport and the environment, we are hoping to become more active in other important areas such as health, education, and heritage, and on behalf of the more vulnerable members of the community.

If you are interested in joining us, please contact me on 0419 854 211 or write to us on info@isccc.org.au

The ACT Government is currently conducting a comprehensive review of Canberra's planning system. The ISCCC will be engaging closely with this process to ensure that the future needs and amenity of the inner south are taken into account.

Best wishes,

Gary Kent
Chair



ISCCC Public meeting, Tuesday, 11 May

Our next meeting will be at the Eastlake Club in Griffith, 7pm on Tuesday 11 May. Come along or join on-line via Zoom for updates on important local issues, such as the Canberra Hospital re-development, the Kingston Arts Precinct and a new not for profit funeral home. Also, reports from our local members of parliament and inner south residents' groups. Details here: www.isccc.org.au/events/category/meetings

Kingston And Barton Residents Group

Progress on the Kingston Arts Precinct remains unclear. We are still waiting for the advice the Heritage Council gave to the developers and their response.

We would have appreciated communication from the ACT Government about two significant projects - a wombat crossing on NSW Crescent and clearing of silt and vegetation on Bowen Park creek. The former is worrying as it could cause significant traffic problems.

The commercial serviced apartments operating on a residential lease in Leichhardt Street have had their crown lease changed so they can operate as a 'guest house'. We wonder if the guest house will bear a striking similarity to serviced apartments (which are prohibited in residential zones).

Forrest Residents Group

Our current focus is on:

- restoration/maintenance of historic Fire Hydrants. We are working with groups such as the Kingston Barton Residents Group, and the Yarralumla Residents Association on grants/support available to assist with these items.
- future plans for the former Allawah Private Hospital (more recently the former Sri Lankan High Commission)
- issues/activities impacting the nature and condition of Forrest as an historic part of our National Capital.

Griffith Narrabundah Community Association

More than 470 objections have been made to the ACT Government's plans to change the Territory Plan so that one 4-unit 2-storey Manor House with 9 car parks can be built in Griffith on a block, where the housing is low rise, predominantly single dwelling and low density in character (RZ1). This is being done under the umbrella of the 'Demonstration Housing Project'.

There is no need to test a Manor House in the ACT, as they have already been built in NSW. The largest investment for most families is the purchase of a home. They need to know what could be built next to them. If a 4-unit Manor House can be built on this site, they can be built anywhere throughout the suburbs.

Old Narrabundah Community Council

Located off Goyder and Matina streets in old Narrabundah, the Narrabundah Wetlands have transformed a section of Jerrabomberra Creek into a haven for wildlife, with a water management process to keep our waterways flushed and clean.

Originally co-funded by the Federal and ACT governments, the Wetlands have become a popular walking area for inner south residents. In cooperation with ONCC a Friends of Narrabundah Wetlands group has been formed, which you can contact through: info@narrabundah.org.au



Narrabundah Wetlands volunteers Eleanor Morison (left) and Sarah Liston.

Yarralumla Residents Association

We again co-ordinated Yarralumla residents and local students to person four drink stations during the recent Canberra Times Running Festival. We handed out drinks and snacks to the runners and cheered them on.

We recently completed the restoration of 1920s heritage street signs on the corners respectively of Banks and Hooker Streets, and Banks and Bentham Streets. The project was funded by a grant from ACT Heritage and Roads ACT, plus a YRA contribution.

As part of the Canberra Heritage Festival, we organised a short walk with about 70 participants around Yarralumla, stopping at several heritage locations including the Forestry School (1927), Forestry House (1952) and three 1920s cottages.

Deakin Residents Association

DRA has established a sub-group to look at bikeways, or rather the lack of them across Deakin. We would like to encourage participation in our discussions and consultation on this important matter. In a survey we conducted last year the following cycling issues were seen as important:

- Cycling routes through the suburb,
- Facilitating cycling routes to schools
- Improving safety for cyclists

Yet, there are no published cycle maps in Deakin. You can find more details of our aspirations at <https://deakinresidents.asn.au/bikeways-across-deakin/>

Heritage

The heritage characteristics of the inner south, part of original Canberra, are highly valued. However, there is increasing concern about the loss of heritage fabric and the apparent irrelevance of the Heritage Register. If you concerned please make your concerns known to your local residents' groups in order to inform the ISCCC.

Anne Forrest, ISCCC Committee member



The Inner South Canberra Community Council receives support and funding from the ACT Government
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www.isccc.org.au