



# This is LUGARNO

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Priceless

## A Message from the President

On 24<sup>th</sup> May I enjoyed the opportunity of meeting with Vince Badalati, Mayor of Hurstville and Kevin Greene our local state member. Kevin handed over a cheque which signals the commencement of the Ferry walk – the largest project the Progress Association has instigated in the last 30 years. Construction will commence this year. Having received unprecedented support, this project will go down in history as making Lugarno a better community to live in. Thank you residents of Lugarno, the LPA, Hurstville Council and Kevin Greene who all worked together in a manner rarely seen in a project so large – well done!

It's time to celebrate the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of the LPA. If anyone has ideas on how we should celebrate, please let me know. Perhaps a picnic at Webs Dam or take over the Bowling Club?

In 1992 early Progress Association meetings were held in a private home, then in Cleveland Hall until the Progress Hall in Lime Kiln Road was built on land donated by Mrs. Wiltshire. £100 was raised and a wooden building was built.

Rob Clarsen ? 0412 568236

### Lugarno water pressure

By motivating the appropriate Government Departments we have been successful in securing a new pumping station in the Lugarno School grounds. This will ensure water pressure is always high.

This repeats history – in 1926 the Progress Association campaigned for a water tank to be installed at the local school to increase water pressure in the area. Water came from the Penshurst Reservoir via a 4 inch pipe. In 1956 a 50,000 gallon water tower was installed in Lugarno Parade to increase pressure again.

### History of the Lugarno Ferry

Did you know? Mr. George Buddivent a shipbuilder from Balmain heard about the proposal

of a new road to the Illawarra and saw an opportunity for business. On 30 December 1842 he wrote to the Colonial Secretary proposing to build a punt and operate it at his own expense in return for a portion of land and the right to collect a toll. Alternatively he would build a punt for the Government or repair the punt lying idle at the Cooks River. He gained the support of the Surveyor General, Sir Thomas Mitchell as it would open land sale to the south. He wished to pass the matter over to the district Council "as soon as the body shall be organised". On 7<sup>th</sup> February 1843 the Government invited tenders from anyone wishing to provide a ferry service. On 27<sup>th</sup> May 1843 Charles Roman accepted the lease of the old disused Cooks River Ferry. The

lack of adequate landing place caused a problem. A landing spot was required and six prisoners were employed on 20<sup>th</sup> July 1843 to improve the landing and departure places. Square stone from the quarry at Cooks River Dam was transported to Lugarno and is still visible today. The road gangs were the biggest users of the ferry in the early days as the Old Illawarra Highway worked its way down to Bulli. It wasn't until 1871 when the first wheeled vehicle travelled down to Wollongong. Many days and sometimes weeks lapsed before witnessing a human figure to break the monotony of the scenery or to relieve his necessities. In 1960 the Lugarno Ferry number 1 ceased operation and was transported up to Liverpool where it finally laid to rest.

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On 10<sup>th</sup> June 1887 the Government Gazette notified the re-establishment of the ferry at Lugarno. The new ferry was hand winched – on one side was a wheel with a handle attached which when turned propelled the ferry. It could take three horses and their carts. Early ferrymen included Alfred (Dad) Saunders. He was over 70 years old and needed a hand from passengers to get the ferry across. Understandably many complained though his contract was renewed. A lot more information is available – the ferry continued operation until 1974 when the Alford's Point Bridge opened to the public. All

information thanks to the National Trust.

### LPA membership

Membership fees for 2002 are now due. Fees are:

Family: \$5  
Single: \$3  
Pensioner: \$2

Memberships can be paid at Lugarno Hardware at Chivers Hill Shopping Centre or Lugarno Estates at the Lime Kiln Shopping Centre.

### Next meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June and Councillor

Phillip Samson will be joining us. The Mayor of Hurstville Vince Badalti has expressed interest in attending our meeting to be held on July 6. We know it's cold but please come along to show your appreciation of what is being achieved. Kevin Greene always attends and presents his "*Greene Report*". Attending our meetings gives residents the opportunity to get things happening and the chance to voice any concerns. Look forward to seeing you there.

## WHAT'S ON?

### NEXT MEETING

Monday 10 June - 8.00 pm (Come along and join us)

**St. Stephen's Church Hall (Opposite Allwood Crescent)**

Lugarno Progress Association Reg. No Y16702-28	Phone: 9153-5158 FAX: 9594-1061	PO Box 21 Lugarno 2210 e-mail lpa40@hotmail.com
Crime Reporting telephone numbers LPA Crime Reporting Hotline: 9500-2242	PAL: 131444	Hurstville Police: 9375-8533

LPA President receives a cheque from Kevin Greene signaling the commencement of the Ferry Walk Project

From left to right:

Vince Badalati, Hurstville Mayor; Kevin Green; Local Member, Rob Clarsen, President LPA

