



# This is LUGARNO



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Priceless

## A Message from the President

This Newsletter and the previous one have highlighted the significance of the Georges River and its protection, as a major issue for the LPA, in particular, and Lugarno residents in general. It was good to note in the Hansard report of 19 June 2003, that our local member, Kevin Greene, MP, has commended the LPA among other community interest groups, for the promotion of the Edith Bay, and other similar projects, within the local area.

A grant of \$476k was made by the State Government to support the Edith Bay and Lugarno boardwalk being undertaken by Hurstville Council. This will provide community access to the foreshores by building a boardwalk and pathway and will include the site of the heritage ferry crossing. There is also a bush generation project underway to protect the foreshores of Edith Bay. An additional \$96k to Hurstville Council has allowed for the construction of an artificial wetland and a wetland observation deck.

We appreciate Kevin's efforts to keep the preservation of the River as a frontline issue.

This Newsletter has now gained a new status. One of our articles has been used in a Hurstville Council Meeting to assist a councillor in his argument against amalgamation of the three Councils. It's great to see we can assist in the debate though it is a pity the article appeared to be used in an attempt to reduce debate on the subject. It is healthy for the community to have a forum such as the LPA to air their thoughts, either for or against. It is unfortunate that not all councillors consider it necessary to come along and meet the people.

Rob Clarsen    ☎0412 568236

### Last meeting

Again the meeting was addressed by Jim Fairlie from Sydney Water. Jim indicated the prescribed work had been successfully carried out and residents should experience the benefit of increased water pressure in those areas where previously it was piteously low.

Jim also handed over to the LPA an aerial map of Lugarno and its foreshores. This current map shows all streets and houses in the area and it is interesting to note the rate of development in Lugarno in the last ten years since such a map was provided. It is hoped this map will soon be available on our website.

### Book launch

Local resident, Glenyss Barnham, is nearing completion of her book on

the History of Lugarno. Glenyss hopes to launch the book in Evatt Park about the end of October. Look out for details of how you can obtain a copy of this valuable documented research. This book is a must have for all Lugarno families and will make an ideal gift, especially for any residents who may now have moved away from the area.

### Amalgamation

All over the State there is much discussion on the possible amalgamation of councils to rationalise procedures and to present a more effective system of local government. The LPA will keep abreast of these developments and is likely to host a forum toward the end of the year when our local Councillors will be invited to address an LPA meeting to outline

the pros and cons of Council amalgamation in our area. Further details will be presented in this Newsletter when they are finalised.

### Next meeting

The last Newsletter gave an extensive report on the Georges River National Park. This area is undoubtedly one of the major reasons people like to live in the Lugarno area. It River is, however, a living asset and it is need of constant care.

Over the years the LPA has been vigilant in looking after the River, being concerned about the purity of the water and taking opportunities to clean up debris that is washed downstream after heavy rains.

The Georges River flows through 14 different Council municipalities and is given differing priority according

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to competing needs of each Council. As Lugarno is near the mouth of the River, as it flows into Botany Bay, there can be an accumulation of problems in the River by the time it reaches this area.

Needless to say, the LPA is delighted that now a new **Riverkeeper** has been appointed by the combined councils to find out what is taking place on the River.

He will be looking out for development-related pollution and any consequent destruction of the river habitat. He will also be watchful of stormwater pollution within the catchment area. The Riverkeeper wishes to establish relationships with residents along the River and to understand residents' attitudes towards sustainable development in this area. To this end, the LPA has invited the new Riverkeeper, **Mr. Simon Annabel**, to address the next LPA meeting on **Monday 11 August**. Please take the opportunity to come along and let your views about the importance of the River to Lugarno residents be known.

### Neighbourhood Watch

The LPA has undertaken to pass on news from the Neighbourhood Watch central committee in Hurstville. Below are extracts from its July Newsletter that encourage residents to be good neighbours and keep a watchful eye on unusual happenings in your area.

"Over the last few weeks a number of homes have been broken into during the hours of darkness while the occupants are at home. The thief in many instances has stolen property, which has been left on the bedside table while the occupant was sleeping.

Hurstville Police are concerned about the break, enter and steal offences and are seeking community support to reduce these kinds of problems. In many instances the thief has gained entry to the premises through open or unlocked doors and windows.

Hurstville Police asks that you carry out a security assessment to identify any areas where thieves may be able to access your home. Good locks, simple precautions, neighbourhood alertness and common sense can prevent most property crimes. See some ideas set out here.

#### **Secure your home**

Ensure your house number is easily visible if Police or emergency services need to locate your home. Consider deadlocks and hinge pins on the inside of garage doors. Use key locks on sliding doors and windows can be fitted with nails or screws or key operated locks.

#### **Outside**

Trim trees and shrubs away from windows, which may conceal entry by intruders. Use quality lighting around the perimeter of the home. Keep the yard well maintained.

#### **Key sense**

Don't hide keys in the garden or round about the door and avoid personal identification on key rings should they be lost. If you move into a new home, consider changing the key cylinder in all locks for security.

#### **Opening the door**

Install a peephole or viewing port in your main door so you can identify any visitors to the home before admitting them. Check the identification of anyone you don't know before admitting them to your home.

#### **Answering the phone**

Take care when giving any information to 'wrong number' callers. Rather ask what number they were dialing. Check references from people carrying out surveys before volunteering information. Offer to call the person back instead of responding immediately.

#### **Going away**

When you are going away try to give your home a 'lived in' appearance by leaving lights and radio on. Use timer devices to regulate these. Ask neighbours to check mailboxes and occasionally put out your bins. Stop all deliveries. Notify neighbours and local Police that you are away and leave an emergency contact number.

#### **Good and discreet neighbours**

Are the best deterrent against household theft. If you notice anything suspicious in your neighbourhood, report it to the Police immediately".

After this message from Hurstville Police the LPA advises residents that it has engraving tools are available for borrowing from Lugarno Hardware. Expensive equipment should be engraved, usually with a driving licence number to allow the return of stolen goods.

### Community news

The Dinner Meeting of the Lugarno View Club will be held on Monday 18 August 2003 at 7 for 7.30pm at Roslyn Gardens, 764 Forest Road Peakhurst. This Dinner will be in celebration of 31<sup>st</sup> Birthday of the Lugarno View Club. It will be an "Evening of Elegance". New members and guests are welcome. For details please phone 9596 0121.

## WHAT'S ON?

### NEXT MEETING

**Monday 11 August - 8.00 pm (Come along and join us)**

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

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