



# This is LUGARNO



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Priceless

## A Message from the President

It's good to get feedback from people who read the LPA Newsletter and look forward to its arrival each month in the week prior to the LPA meeting. Through the Newsletter we feel many Lugarno residents are in touch with local issues even if they don't get to come to the meetings. Don't forget, however, we do need your membership fees to keep the Newsletter viable and being distributed to every Lugarno home. Our aim would be to have every family belonging and supporting our Association.

Talking about the Newsletter, this is a good place to thank **Pat** and **Bruce Abbott**, Lugarno residents, who provide expert advice in setting up and designing the layout of the Newsletter each month so it looks very professional.

Thanks also to **Dennis Radcliffe** of Lugarno for his auditing of LPA's financial statements. As this is an Incorporated Association it is important that our record keeping meets appropriate standards and we are grateful for Dennis' assistance.

With winter setting the discussion on amalgamation of councils appears to be warming up. With Kogarah Council indicating it is the cheapest and best and Hurstville arguing the rubbery figures. We can look forward to a few months of selective journalism. In real terms the community should be the decision makers in our future. If Hurstville is to get married to Kogarah and Rockdale it would be pleasant if they were on good speaking terms. With Hurstville being the wealthiest Council by far, it would be fair to say we will stand to lose the most financially.

The LPA has, at present, an open mind on amalgamation and would appreciate open discussion on the subject of the future representation of the Peakhurst Ward. If you cannot attend our meetings, please write or email your thoughts. They would be appreciated to me at [robclarsen@optusnet.com.au](mailto:robclarsen@optusnet.com.au) or to [lpa40@hotmail.com](mailto:lpa40@hotmail.com).

Rob Clarsen    ☎0412 568236

### Last meeting

Despite the wet weather, and no guest speaker, many people turned up at the last meeting. It was a good time to talk about issues that need attention. Possible Council amalgamation was raised.

Most of these matters are mentioned separately in this Newsletter. Of great interest at the meeting was the presentation of a This is Lugarno Newsletter, dating back to the late 1950's. It mentioned that a new ferry would operate in 1961. Very soon you will be able to see this copy replicated on the LPA web site. See the address at the top of this Letter. Do you have any older Newsletters? Please let us know.

### Congratulations!

Seven Lugarno residents have been awarded the Centenary of Federation Medal for various aspects of community service. These people are Tom Burke, Christine Clausen, Bob Dillon, Ian McNamara, Bill Pickering, Alix Rainnie and Bryce Turner. Congratulations to all.

### Mentioned in Parliament!

The meeting had access to a Hansard extract where local member, Kevin Greene, commended the great work of voluntary organisations within the community. He mentioned the LPA and the St George Hurstville Lions Club. Kevin referred to the 81 years the LPA had been serving the

community and to the many projects it had been involved in along with the support of Hurstville Council.

Kevin also mentioned how much he and his wife, Frances, had enjoyed the Lugarno Ferry Cruise and the opportunity to see the river from another perspective. Kevin congratulated publicly all the members of the LPA.

### What's happened

Some weeks ago this Newsletter made a report of the great work that had been done by its members in cleaning up a section of the Georges River. Unfortunately, the recent rains have flushed out more tonnes of rubbish to pollute our foreshores. The river winds its way through 14 different Councils and all need to

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work together to ensure there are effective traps to collect the rubbish before it makes its way downstream and into the Bay.

An approach will be made to Craig Knowles, the Minister for Infrastructure and Planning and Natural Resources, to see if a concerted effort can be made to deal with this problem once and for all. Watch these columns in the future for progress reports.

It is good to see a new Riverkeeper, Simon Annabel, has now been appointed to oversee the River.

### **Amalgamation**

The LPA intends to run a forum later in the year so Lugarno residents can be better informed about the possible amalgamation of the three local Councils. Council members for and against the proposal will be invited to put their case. Watch out for further notice of this meeting.

### **Web site**

Part of the recent LPA Birthday celebrations focused on ways of recording achievements of the past 81 years and keeping the community informed of LPA's activities. To this end LPA is updating its Web Site as a means of keeping records for the future.

Newsletters for the past three years can be accessed and special records, like the one mentioned above, will also find a place on our site. Check this out now at:

[www.nsw.nationaltrust.org.au/historylugarno.html](http://www.nsw.nationaltrust.org.au/historylugarno.html)

Parents may note that this is a good site for those school projects requiring information on the local area. Our site has links to Hurstville Council and other associated areas.

### **Board walk**

Progress is being made on the Board Walk with the expectation that the first stage will be completed in July or August. The timber work is finished and the roadworks have started. An infestation of weeds in the wetlands has caused delay but this has to be dealt with before proceeding.

### **Pumping station**

The issue of poor water pressure has been mentioned at LPA meetings over many years. Residents will be pleased to know that Kevin Greene has advised that a new pump station is to be built and will have an impact on approximately 1000 houses, especially 400 in the immediate area. More details will be available in Kevin's next newsletter.

### **Give way sign in Banksia Ave**

It was proposed to ask for a Giveway sign to be located at the junction of Banksia Ave and Moons Ave. This is a blind spot and has potential for accidents especially if motorists are driving at more than the regulated 50 kph.

### **Neighbourhood Watch**

The latest Newsletter from Neighbourhood Watch stresses the importance of smoke alarms suggesting living in a home without a smoke alarm is a risky business. Contact your local fire station for further information on fire prevention or safety. Ring Fire Safety Division (of NSW Fire Brigades) on 9742 7400 or visit the website [www.nswfb.nsw.gov.au](http://www.nswfb.nsw.gov.au).

### **RTA speed camera trial**

The RTA has advised it has begun a trial of its static speed cameras at selected school zones. During the

first week warning letters will be sent to owners of vehicles detected in excess of the 40k speed limit. These cameras can detect vehicles travelling in both directions. Publicity will follow in the second and third week of the trial and infringement notices sent to offending drivers in the fourth week. Watch out and take care around schools.

### **Ducks**

This wouldn't be an LPA Newsletter without mention of the ducks. Domestic ducks are back on the dam in Evatt Park and causing the usual mess both in the dam and on the board walk. This matter will be referred to Hurstville Council as an ongoing problem.

### **Next meeting**

The next meeting will be on Monday 9 June. Coming to the meeting will be a nice way to finish the holiday weekend. Join in discussion of local issues, in particular Council amalgamation, and meet residents who want to be involved in their local community.

### **Membership**

If you are not already a financial member of the LPA for 2003 please consider joining up now. Membership is just \$5 a family or \$3 concession. Place fees in an envelope with your name and address on the front and pass in at Yates Newsagency, Lugarno Hardware at Chivers Hill or Lugarno Estates at Lime Kiln Road.

## **WHAT'S ON?**

### **NEXT MEETING**

**Monday 9 June - 8.00 pm**

**(Come along and join us)**

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

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