



This is LUGARNO



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Priceless

A Message from the President

A recent report in The Leader indicates there has been a 22.6% increase in the median price paid for houses in Lugarno in the past twelve months, that is, from \$559k to \$685k. Also a number of places have sold for well over the million mark. No wonder Lugarno is considered a special place to live.

Part of the main attraction of this leafy, peninsular suburb can also be a hazard if not managed correctly. Now with the advent of spring, it is time to inspect your property to ensure there will be limited risk should the bushfires of last year return. This means removing any leaves and twigs from the guttering and ensuring the area around your house is clear of dry grasses and dead leaves and branches.

There is plenty to do about the garden, as we get ready to enjoy the coming of spring in Lugarno.

Rob Clarsen ☎ 0412 568236

Last meeting

If you weren't at the last LPA meeting then you missed an impressive presentation by the newly appointed Riverkeeper, Simon Annabel. Using Power Point slides, Simon showed aspects of the River, where inappropriate, and sometimes illegal, development caused massive erosion and subsequent silting of the River.

On a more positive note, Simon referred to the great success he was gaining by enlisting community groups to take responsibility for various parts of the River. Also he was hopeful of getting Councils to cooperate to rejuvenate the River and protect this beautiful waterway for future generations.

If you are interested in becoming a Georges River volunteer contact Simon on 9586 4288 or 0417 243 456. Your support will be most welcome.

Book launch

The Back to Lugarno event mentioned in the last Newsletter is now confirmed as being held on Sunday 26 October in Evatt Park, near Webb's Dam. The launch will occur at 11.00 am and then families are invited to bring a picnic lunch and enjoy reminiscing and meeting old friends.

The Lugarno story is a significant historical record of life in a rural part of the Hurstville District since 1831. Evatt Park has been chosen for the venue because its history goes back to the first Land Grant made to Thomas Lawrence, on the site of an extinct volcano.

This year will mark 160 years since Sir Thomas Mitchell surveyed and built Old Illawarra Road (now Forest Road) and commenced the Lugarno Ferry to bridge the Georges River and provide a shorter route to

Wollongong. It is also the 70th anniversary of the Lugarno Public School.

It is hoped everyone will spread the word and invite former residents back to Lugarno for a day of reunion and celebration. It is expected that some descendants of the original pioneers and early settlers in the area will be keen to return for this special occasion.

There are some sporting events scheduled on the playing fields starting about lunchtime on the same day, so there will be ample opportunity to come early and be involved in the Book Launch which will be held near the Dam. Hurstville Council is supporting this important event.

Next meeting

Following some incidents reported in the Neighbour Watch report, it seemed worthwhile to invite the Youth Liaison Officer from the Hurstville LAC to speak

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about her role in dealing with a range of incidents that have involved juveniles in this community.

Constable Ally Watts has agreed to address the meeting on her role in the community and some of the strategies she uses to help young people who have offended.

This is a matter which should be of interest to every family and it is hoped many people will be able to attend this meeting to hear about Ally's work. All members and guests are welcome.

Progress report on the Boardwalk

The work at the end of Forest Road, as tendered, is almost complete. The handrail is being installed and landscaping and fencing work is underway.

The construction of the first vehicular threshold adjacent to the road level boardwalk and the formalizing of car parking at the boat ramp, will be done as the final part of stage 1, following the road pavement reconstruction adjacent to the boat ramp.

There have been problems in the construction of the wetlands area because of the identification of the noxious Alligator weed growing in some material that was imported to the site. Plans

are in place for dealing with this problem and spaying will continue in September after the dormant winter season. The construction work will continue.

Hurstville Council apologises for inconvenience caused by the delays in this work and shares the public's desire to have this work completed as soon as possible but within an environmentally responsible manner.

The end result will be well worth waiting for in the Edith Bay Reserve.

Hurstville's vision for the future

Over the past year or so, Hurstville City Council has been working within the community to come up with an agreed vision for the future.

Many people and community groups from all backgrounds were consulted through workshops, surveys and visioning exercises.

The key outcomes of this process are as follows:

- A clean and green city, which protects the natural environment
- A city with well-designed and affordable housing

- An accessible city with integrated transport and traffic systems
- An inclusive city promoting strong, safe and healthy communities
- A major regional centre with a prosperous and thriving CBD, main streets and commercial centres
- A city with responsive and responsible leadership working together with an empowered and knowledgeable community.

The above considerations will be used as a guide for community leaders to achieve the Hurstville of the future.

If you would like any further information of the vision project then phone Julie Williams on 9330 6177.

Community news

The Dinner Meeting of the Lugarno View Club will be held on Monday 15 September 2003 at 7 for 7.30pm at Roslyn Gardens, 764 Forest Road Peakhurst.

The speaker will be a representative from the Garvan Institute of Medical Research and so will be of great interest to all. New members and guests are especially welcome. For details please phone 9596 0121.

WHAT'S ON?

NEXT MEETING		
Monday 8 September - 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	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