



THE GUILDFORD ASSOCIATION INC

HISTORIC GUILDFORD - FIRST SETTLED IN 1829

P.O. Box 115, Guildford 6935 Western Australia
ga@guildford.asn.au www.guildford.asn.au

GUILDFORD MATTERS

Newsletter No. 36: December 2013 / January 2014

Happy New Year

It is hard to believe that 2013 has come to a close and 2014 is upon us. The Association wishes its members and the Guildford and South Guildford communities compliments of the season and we hope you had a safe and happy Christmas.

Member's New Year Function

Our New Year Function – a Garden Party – will be held on Sunday 9 February 2014. Invitations to members will be sent out soon. If you would like to join the Association, or have forgotten to renew, please post your application or membership renewal as soon as possible so that you don't miss out. Our 2013 function was a gala event attended by some of our Parliamentary representatives, City of Swan Councillors and other distinguished guests. You will have the opportunity to meet members of the community in a relaxed atmosphere at a lovely heritage listed home and enjoy a sumptuous afternoon tea and some cool beverages. If you missed the Royal Garden Party, then this is the one to attend!

Midland-Guildford Ward Councillors

At the City of Swan elections held on 19 October 2013, Daniel Parasiliti was elected to the Midland-Guildford Ward joining incumbent Councillors Sandra Gregorini and Mark Elliot. Our Councillors welcome contact and feedback about matters affecting you. Cr Parasiliti can be contacted by email on Daniel.Parasiliti@swan.wa.gov.au; Cr Gregorini on sgregorini@globaldial.com and Cr Elliot at mark_d_elliott@live.com. The Association has requested a meeting with our Ward Councillors to discuss matters concerning our important heritage Town.

** Newsletter kindly printed by Michelle Roberts MLA, Member for Midland **

Centenary of Artillery in Guildford

This highly successful commemorative event was held in Stirling Square on Sunday 3 November 2013. The event recognised 100 years of the Artillery in Guildford and South Guildford and was held in conjunction with Gunner's Day. A parade was led by a military band with servicemen, reservists and cadets. A

service was given by the Chaplain from Guildford Grammar School, the Rev Dr Philip Rayment. A plaque was unveiled by the Mayor of the City of Swan, Charlie Zannino, and the newly installed Hobbs Gate was dedicated. Wreaths were also laid at the War Memorial by community groups, including the Association.

The Hobbs Gate is in memory of Lieutenant General Sir Talbot Hobbs who was instrumental in the design of many significant public buildings and fine private residences in Perth and Fremantle in the early 1900s and was a decorated soldier having commanded troops in the Great War and other conflicts. The Memorial Gate is constructed using the gates and timbers salvaged from the original entry gate to Sir Talbot Hobbs' own residence in Peppermint Grove.

The Centenary of Artillery was attended by many local dignitaries, members of the Royal Australian Artillery Association (WA), Guildford Grammar School and the community. An informative exhibition was held in the Guildford Town Hall and the City of Swan provided a very fine luncheon.

Our sincere thanks go to the City of Swan for making this historic event possible and to those who participated. We also thank our Executive Committee member, Barbara Dundas, for her diligent commitment to this project. A limited number of Commemorative Booklets are still available. If you would like one, please contact us.

Guildford Hotel

The damage to the Guildford Hotel by highly visible graffiti is extremely disappointing. This building does not deserve such indignity but neither does it deserve to remain unprotected for so long and in a state of abandonment by the owners. We receive continual reports that things are being done but the lack of positive visible work on the site is disturbing.

This is a situation that would not be tolerated in other States or overseas yet the destruction of heritage buildings and demolition by neglect is rife in Western Australia. The Association calls on the State Government to step in and save the State and Nationally listed Guildford Hotel from further damage and to strengthen the Heritage Act so that this situation cannot happen to other important heritage buildings.

"We learn about our future by protecting our past."

Development on Floodplain

The Association is extremely alarmed to learn of the rapid progress apparently taken by the City of Swan to relocate the Swan Valley Visitor Centre to the Caversham floodplain. Not only is this an environmentally irresponsible proposal but it flies in the face of all reports done about Guildford over the past 20 years, with community input, **none of which advocate major development on our valuable floodplains.** The Association is very disappointed that no consultation has been undertaken with the Guildford community on this matter and we fear that by the time community submissions are sought, it will be a done deal.

We also question why thousands of dollars of ratepayers money may be spent on upgrading the Museum Precinct in Meadow Street if tourists and visitors in cars and buses simply bypass Guildford to go to the new Visitor Centre over Barker's Bridge and then continue on to wineries and chocolate factories. Our local businesses may suffer if there are fewer tourists to Guildford to support the shops, cafes and restaurants if the Swan Valley is the only focus. We are intrinsically linked to the Swan Valley but we want tourists and our local Western Australian community to appreciate Guildford too. The Association has written to the City of Swan to request information about this matter.

Aircraft Noise

It is very important that you report any significant aircraft noise so that the Association can continue to push for a better deal for noise impacted Guildford and South Guildford residents. If there is a "go-around", that is when an aircraft is instructed not to land after it has already started its low descent over Guildford and South Guildford, this creates significant noise intrusion. Imagine if you had just come home from shift work and were trying to get to sleep? Please report any noisy aircraft or notable increase in aircraft movements on **1800 802 584**. It is a free call and you will be making a difference.

Guildford Primary School Graduation

The Association offers its congratulations to all the students who graduated from Guildford Primary School and who will make their way to senior schools and colleges in 2014. The Dux Award, which is sponsored by the Guildford Association, was presented to **Cedar Hardiman**. We wish Cedar the very best in his transition to higher education.

Guildford Primary School is the oldest state school in Western Australia. Its motto is Truth, Trust and Tradition.

Next General Meeting

The Association's first meeting of the New Year will be on Tuesday 18 February 2014 at 7.30pm in the Mechanics Institute Hall in Meadow Street, Guildford. Please come along and support your local ratepayer association. Everything we do is in the interest of maintaining the heritage and historic fabric and amenity of Guildford and its rural hinterland. We will be undertaking some events and projects in 2014 and would welcome new members and helpers. Events and dates will be published on the website soon. ☺

Did you know?

The Vaudeville Theatre in James Street, next door to the Guildford Hotel, was Guildford's first purpose built theatre. It was designed by architect GWE Broome and built in 1897 by Mr George Hiscox who also built the hotel. In recent years, it has been used for car smash repairs and a home furniture and giftware shop. The property has recently been sold to new owners who, we understand, are researching the building's history and will hopefully give the old theatre new purpose.

The Guildford Association is your local resident and ratepayer Association. The Association's objectives as stated in the Constitution are to:

- Preserve and promote the historic and rural nature of Guildford and its environs;
- Enhance and protect the quality of life of residents and ratepayers in the area.

The Association is constituted under the *Associations Incorporation Act 1987* and operates under the requirements of that Act. Membership is **\$15** per person, per year. New members are welcome.

Application for Membership

I hereby apply for membership of the Guildford Association Inc. I support the goals of the Association as stated in the Constitution.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number(s): _____

Email: _____

Signed _____

Renewing Member

New Member

Please forward **\$15 per person** to Guildford Association, PO Box 115, Guildford WA 6935.