



## THE GUILDFORD ASSOCIATION INC

HISTORIC GUILDFORD - FIRST SETTLED IN 1829

P.O. Box 115, Guildford 6935 Western Australia

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# GUILDFORD MATTERS

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Newsletter No. 30. January 2013

### Happy New Year

Welcome to our first Newsletter for 2013. We hope everyone had an enjoyable and safe time over Christmas regardless of whether you went away for a holiday or stayed in Perth and braved the annual heatwave.

The Guildford Association is currently planning events for the coming year. We will be continuing with our monthly meetings with a range of guest speakers. We are happy to receive suggestions from the community on topics they would like to hear information about. Our popular speakers last year were Chris Ferreira from Landcare Solutions, Richard Offen from Heritage Perth and local resident Andrew Mills. Look out for notice about speakers on the Website and in forthcoming Newsletters.

### Annual New Year Members' Garden Party

The Guildford Association Annual Members' Garden Party will be held on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2013. Members will have received an Invitation in the mail by now. We would appreciate it if you could let us know of your intention to attend so that we can organise seating and catering.

If you are not yet a member of the Association, or have accidentally let your membership lapse, it is not too late to join and receive an invitation to the Garden Party. This is a good opportunity to meet other members of your community in a lovely private garden setting.

### Guildford Hotel Rally

We have been advised by the **Save the Guildford Hotel** group that another Rally is to be held to highlight the perilous state of the Guildford Hotel and to seek policy

statements on heritage from the political parties prior to the State Election in March 2013.

No work has commenced on the restoration of the Guildford Hotel even though the owners settled the matter with the City of Swan about the Planning Approval in September 2012. It is understood that the owners are in the process of seeking expressions of interest for the proposed commercial operations on the site. It is unclear what this means or what will happen if they don't get viable expressions of interest. The State Heritage Office has (to date) been unable to advise if all the required heritage documentation is in the process of being prepared.

This is an unsatisfactory situation. If you are outraged by the lack of action on the part of the owners and Government to protect this significant building in Guildford and to protect the heritage of this State for future generations, then you may wish to attend the rally.

It is being held on **Saturday 2 February 2013**  
At **10.30am**  
Opposite the Hotel

Wearing a hat and sunscreen is advised.

### **Rate Concessions for Heritage listed buildings**

The City of Swan has a policy (POL-C-146) which states that it will not grant rate concessions for buildings or places which are on the Register of Heritage Places under the *Heritage of Western Australia Act*. At its meeting on 12 December 2012, the City deferred re-adopting this policy and has requested an analysis of rate incentive options to support owners who maintain heritage properties. This is a step forward and would go some way to helping to conserve our precious heritage listed properties.

### **Guildford Primary School Graduation**

The Guildford Association was pleased to support and attend the Guildford Primary School Graduation ceremony. The Association presented the award for the Dux of the school to James Falzon.

The Guildford Primary School is the oldest state school in Western Australia and the third oldest in Australia. It is still operating from its original site and retains many of its original buildings.

## **Gardening in Guildford**

(from the garden of the President...)

As an older established area, the gardens in Guildford often contain plants which may have fallen out of favour or popularity. Though there is often a cycle and plants come back into vogue.

It was lovely to walk around the streets over the Christmas / New Year period and see massed blooms of Agapanthus. Mainly the blue shade but quite a few white ones as well. A mass planting of agapanthus is lovely to see with the flowers towering over the deep green foliage and moving in the breeze.

Agapanthus must be one of the hardiest plants around. They are almost bomb-proof, heat-hardy, will survive on very little water and tolerate considerable neglect. These characteristics mean that they are making a comeback in water-wise gardens. As a plant that flowers in summer they also have the advantage of providing colour at a time when other plants have already flowered. They do appreciate sunlight and if you have some which aren't flowering they may be getting too much shade.

Propagate agapanthus is incredibly easy and is usually achieved by dividing the clumps. This can be done at most times of the year but is best in winter. When I moved some last winter I was staggered at the treatment they survived. A couple of plants were almost cut in two when they were dug up, and both halves survived. A couple of ones I missed replanting were still viable after two weeks of neglect. Quite a few of the transplanted plants flowered six months later!

Unfortunately these good points come with a downside. In some areas of Australia they are considered a weed. The problem comes from the seeds which can spread to undesired areas. As Guildford is next to the Swan and Helena River flood plains this is something we need to consider. The recommendation is to manage seed production by removing spent flowers before the seeds have a chance to form. There are also some new varieties which are infertile which alleviates this problem. They are also available in some new colours, including a vivid deep blue. There are also dwarf varieties available in a range of colours.

## **Bits and Pieces ...**

The City of Swan has distributed Community Calendars for 2013. If you did not receive one or would like another we are sure the City will be able to supply more. Contact the City directly on 9267-9267 or email [swan@swan.wa.gov.au](mailto:swan@swan.wa.gov.au)

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While talking about the City, there is a Recycle-able drop-off day on January 19<sup>th</sup> at Jack Williamson oval, Eveline Road, Middle Swan. This is an opportunity to dispose of unwanted items without them ending up in land-fill. Please check the City's website to see what goods they will accept. If you miss this date, the City runs other recycling days throughout the year.

The proximity of Guildford to the river flood plains means that there is a slightly heightened possibility of fires. There is a prohibited burning period in place until the 31<sup>st</sup> March. Home owners can help to prevent fires by removing and reducing flammable material around their homes.

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School returns on the 4<sup>th</sup> February 2013. We wish all students well, especially first-timers, and ask drivers to please take care when passing schools.

We welcome any new residents to Guildford. The Association has a Residents' Information Package for new residents. If you have not received one please contact us and we will organise one to be delivered.

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*Did you know? Guildford has a unique postmark depicting its historic Post Office. On request, mail can be franked with the postmark at the Post Office.*

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**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 Incorporations 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.