

Guildford Floodplain Study

The survey committee thanks all those respondents who completed and returned the survey. We have had about 20 forms returned having distributed about 130 to Guildford residents living adjacent to the Swan and Helena Rivers. If you have not filled in your form or have misplaced it, please contact us and another will be forwarded to you. The survey takes about 1/2 hour to complete and will enable a picture of flora and fauna changes to be developed. It will also form the basis for future questionnaires. It is hoped that the Guildford floodplains may become the focus of research for university students in the coming years. To obtain a copy of the survey, please ring Harriet on 9379 0535 or Barbara 9279 7057.

Guildford and the Council

The Association wishes to remind residents that Guildford will be looking for a new councillor to represent our ward this year. Please give the matter some thought and consider what would be best for Guildford.

Guildford Association AGM

The Association AGM will be coming up in September. If you are interested in being on the committee or making a difference please come along to the meetings. We already know that we will be looking for a new secretary this coming year.

Membership Fees are currently \$10.00 per person per annum but will increase for the first time in 20 years to \$15.00/annum/person after September 15th 2009.

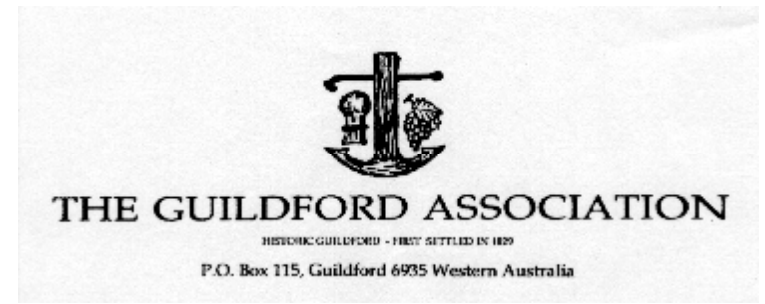
Aircraft Noise

It is alleged that in the last reporting period that there were more complaints from residents in Dalkeith than there were from Guildford! Please make an effort to keep the following numbers handy and use them if you consider aircraft noise or fuel dumping to be unreasonable. There has also been a letter drop by Sharryn Jackson, MP which gives an opportunity to residents to give feedback.

1300 302 240 or 1800 802 584

If you are a Guildford resident but not a member, please consider supporting your local association by joining.

Membership only \$10 per person for the next 3 months. From 15/09/09 - \$15/person/annum. Please send your money, with your details, to The Treasurer, Guildford Association Inc, PO Box 115, Guildford WA 6935



GUILDFORD MATTERS

Newsletter #9, July 2009

Guildford Hotel

Members of the "Save the Guildford Hotel Action Group" and the Guildford Association have recently been in contact with staff at the Heritage Council and with Mr Luke Martinovich - co-owner of the Hotel. Mr Martinovich also sent a written update dated 16 June 2009.

The update indicates that the owners expect to have final reports on the scope and cost of reinstatement of the hotel by the end of June. These reports will then be considered carefully by the owners and the insurers.

We have learnt that the owners had expected to be much further ahead by now however several key professionals involved with preparing reports on the Guildford Hotel damage were redeployed into providing assistance to those affected by the Victorian bushfires.

An engineer, who was commissioned by the owners to assess the burnt-out structure, has issued a report which we understand from the owner's update has commented that the building will not be [further adversely] affected by one season of wet weather. The community's concern about the very large basement under the hotel becoming waterlogged during the winter has been passed onto senior Heritage Council staff who have indicated that they will look into the matter.

The owners have explained that they are now seeking appointments to meet the Acting Director of the Heritage Council and the Chief Executive Officer of the City of Swan. They have also commented that they are proposing to approach the State and possibly also Federal Governments for assistance.

Meetings held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, 7.30pm at Mechanics Institute Hall, Meadow Street, Guildford
Next meeting 7.30 pm, 21st July 2009

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2009 - Year of the Sugar Gums

Activities for this important year are continuing. We are pleased to announce that the City of Swan has agreed to the installation of a public art piece to mark the 10th anniversary of the agreement between them and the Guildford community to preserve the iconic gums in James Street. Many of you will recall a previous gift of a bench (1999) however it unfortunately did not withstand the vandals. The new piece, ironwork by a noted local artist, will no doubt generate a great deal of interest and discussion in the community. The artist will examine the archives held on the trees, including the public campaign to save them and produce an interpretative work. A display currently in the Guildford Library as part of the Poetry and Art competition provides very interesting historical background to the trees.

The Poetry and Art competition held in collaboration with the National Trust of Australia has closed with more than 60 entries. Judging by an independent panel commences shortly and presentation of awards, sponsored by the Guildford Association will take place at 5.30 pm on July 30 at Woodbridge House where the entries will be displayed. Prize money of \$600 has been provided by the Association with an overall prize of a framed pastel of the Sugar Gums generously donated by the noted artist, Drewfus Gates.

Regrettably our application for funding to undertake Banner Making Workshops struck strong competition for limited funds and we were unsuccessful.

Friday August 14 brings another memorable anniversary – the candle lit dinner in James Street (1999) attended by so many and visited by Professor David Bellamy. A campfire has been organised for Stirling Square for those who would like to bring along some comforts and sit around the fire and reminisce. It gets underway at sundown.

Early November will bring an end to our anniversary celebrations with a major community event in Stirling Square to unveil the public art piece and install the accompanying time capsule - more on that closer to the day.

Sugar Gums Memorabilia on Sale

Commemorative postcards, fridge magnets, bookmarks and contemporary photos are available from the Association by telephoning 9279 7057.

Our quality etched “Year of the Sugar Gums” wine glasses have now arrived – a great gift or acquisition at \$20 a boxed pair. Glasses (including pre ordered) will be available for sale on Saturday July 18 between 9am – 11am at Curio Warehouse, 175 James Street, Guildford. If you cannot collect your pre order at this time, or wish to make additional purchases please ensure you contact Christine 0413 770 654.

I think that I shall never see,
A billboard lovely as a tree.
Perhaps, unless the billboards fall,
I'll never see a tree at all.

(Ogden Nash, *Song of the Open Road*)

Suburbia is where the developer
bulldozes out the trees,
then names the streets after them.

(Bill Vaughan)

Guildford's Royal Show Connection

2009 is another celebratory year for our town. It is 175 years since the first Cattle Show was held by the Agricultural Society in Guildford, in November 1834. This show was the start of the Agricultural Shows and the forerunner of our present Royal Show. The first show day commenced with the Governor touring farms in the neighbourhood of Guildford, inspecting cattle, and awarding prizes to shepherds and servants. Members of the Society concluded the day with a dinner for 48 persons held at the Cleikum Inn, West Guildford (now known as Bassendean).

The show grounds were located on several sites in Guildford, including the river foreshore near the present Bassendean Bridge, the Railway Reserve opposite the Guildford Hotel and then to land now occupied by Fauntleroy Park, James Street. The Royal Show relocated from the Guildford Showgrounds to Claremont in 1905.

1990 was the centenary of the granting of the royal letters patent to the title – Royal Agricultural Society. This occasion was honoured in Guildford with a large street procession, a mini show, a morning tea presented by the CWA and the unveiling of a plough donated by the Royal Agricultural Society. An interesting feature of the old show grounds site, is the large sugar gum tree standing on the north boundary (Swan Street), this was one of two trees planted at the original entrance to the Show Grounds. This entrance was adjacent to the Woodbridge Railway Station and formed the main entry for visitors and livestock. Today this magnificent tree stands as a living celebration of Guildford's landscape and social history. *(Prepared by B.Dundas)*

Guildford Potters- exhibition

The Sugar Gum Committee is delighted with the community support and recognition of this special year. The Guildford Potters at 22 Meadow Street, Guildford, are holding an exhibition of work in July, celebrating the 10 year anniversary of retaining these trees. We are sure the Guildford community and visitors to our town will be interested to view this ceramic display and support our local potters. Pottery opening hours are:

Monday to Friday, from 9.30 am to 3.00 pm
Sat., Sun. & public holidays from 10.00 am to 4.30 pm

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Next meeting 7.30 pm, 21st July 2009