

SOUTH-EAST CITY NEWS

EDITION 21

JUNE 2009

Stop Press!

Sunday June 7th Lord Mayor's Ramble at Victoria Park. Meet at 9.30am in front of the heritage grandstand. View works in progress.

Saturday June 13th 10-11.15am. *Adelaide and Inner Suburbs* Branch of the National Trust of SA, Ayers House. Illustrated talk on commercial Adelaide.

Sunday June 14th 7pm. Sung Evensong led by the Quire St Nicolas at the heritage-listed St John's Anglican Church, 379 Halifax Street.

Your committee supported the ACC Budget and Business Plan 2009-2010 (including the 5% increase in rates) but have asked for more information on the reasons for phasing out of the residential owner occupier grant.

Some excerpts from our submission (which you can read in full on our website):

SE16 Victoria Park Masterplan Implementation – Packages 1 & 2

We believe that initial redevelopment must focus on *both* the repair and enhancement of the natural systems such as tree planting etc *and* the creation of people-friendly elements such as the plaza next to the heritage grandstand (so that this building can be quickly re-used), and an attractive and well-lit east-west dual bicycle and pedestrian path.

However the tree planting could become an important community activity signifying that this will be, indeed a "people's park."

We would also like signage that alerted visitors to the Park that the Hutt Street shopping and café strip is only a short walk away.

SE20 City Improvements (Jan Gehl)

Long overdue - strongly supported.

Transportation Program

Residents that use wheelchairs or gophers report that they feel unsafe when travelling on uneven footpaths or streets where stobie poles make it impossible to traverse the narrow footpath (such as Vincent Lane and St John's Lane between Gilles Street and South Terrace).

Pedestrians could be accommodated better by street calming measures especially on those streets adjacent to Park Lands where children and families are entering and leaving the parklands.

We recommend a measure to discourage traffic from avoiding the traffic lights on Hutt Street to the detriment of pedestrian traffic and residents on East Terrace between Wakefield Street and South Terrace. This may take the form of speed control entering the East Terrace section between Wakefield and Angas Street and traffic calming on East Terrace between Halifax Street and South Terrace. Another option could be the closure of East Terrace at its southern junction with Wakefield Street.

There is also "hoon" driving on East Terrace before and after the car race. Car race marking should be painted out and "temporary" gravel arrestor beds should be removed from East Terrace and Victoria Park after the race.

Lighting and Electrical Program

Poorly-lit streets such as sections of Gilles Street, west of Hutt Street, make pedestrians feel unsafe. Backlighting to illuminate the footpaths should be given a high priority

There is a huge disparity between the services and aesthetics of some streets relative to others. Last year we suggested that the Council put on its website the timetable for improvements to street lighting and undergrounding of power lines so that residents can see when their streets will be done. Residents often don't understand why some streets get done before others. This needs to be made clearer.

Noise management

More emphasis on how noise is managed in the Park Lands. People living close to licensed premises, a busy road, or a factory might expect there to be noise issues. But people living near Park Lands generally do not. The ACC needs to address the issues of the competing interests of those who use the Park lands for "quiet time" and Events which regard noise as part of the "atmosphere". We would like the Council's "Noise Committee" to meet more often than once a year and to consider these matters.

City Heritage Development Plan Amendments (10)

SECRA looks forward to the details of the two Development Plan Amendments for additional local heritage places. We support an open, rigorously debated process that leads to mandatory heritage listing for significant buildings and streetscapes.

Victoria Park Upgrade Horticulture Stage 1 (11)

We want the ACC to "run" the maintenance of Victoria Park and not leave it to leaseholders. Provision should be made for transferring the unsightly Clipsal 500 contractors' camp closer to Wakefield Street. This will increase the safety of Park users (from reduced movements of trucks and other vehicles across the Park) and reduce the effects of dust and (early morning, seven days a week for six months) noise on residents.

Adelaide Connector bus service.

We would like the provision of a second larger bus which should be a hybrid, if not solar electric, to accommodate increasing patronage and the commendably extended hours of Friday's timetable. The Connector service is well patronized and the larger bus makes it possible for the elderly and the disabled to better use the service. We note that the universities provide an afternoon bus for their students but not one in the morning and this causes problems for others trying to use the service.

Support for older residents

We see little in the budget for this group. Our organisation is fortunate to include a number of "vibrant" octogenarians. We would like them to be able to stay in our community.

Water Quality Management (68)

We also support the wetlands in the South Park Lands and the possible use of aquifer storage in this and other locations.

Carparking

SECRA is of the view that the Council has a conflict-of-interest in trying to promote an environmentally sustainable city while owning and operating so many carparks.

We note the Council support for the Clipsal 500 car race patrons to use public transport (a SECRA suggestion). However hundreds of cars were parked on Victoria Park during the event, many under trees on the Western boundary further compacting the ground and exacerbating the precarious state of already-stressed trees. We urge the Council to make representations requiring the SA Motor Sport Board to manage car parking at the Clipsal 500 event in a more responsible and sustainable way

Rubbish Bins

There is still some confusion among residents and businesses about the three bin system. And there seem to be a lot of bins in the streets. Emptied bins are not always left on the edge of the footpath making it difficult for pedestrians.

To reduce the number of red bins SECRA asks the ACC to contact the relevant Body Corporate organisations of blocks of flats or apartments to encourage residents to share bins. And not to leave bins out in the street after they have been emptied.

We know of one block of 20 flats in our area that now puts out only 5 red bins a week. This apartment block has also successfully introduced communal compost bins.

Some cities use community recycling bins and so cut down on the number of bins put onto the streets.

Community Gardens

We support careful use of the Park Lands for productive community gardens as part of a wider sustainability agenda. However we are unsure how such gardens would keep out the possums (and others) without the use of substantial fencing.

From Sophie and Marjon at the Box Factory Community Centre:

A refurbished and revitalised version of the Box Factory Community Centre opened its doors on May 16. The morning tea was attended by over 200 excited community members. Visitors were treated to a performance by the Gilles St Primary School Taiko drumming group; the ACC provided free seedlings for *Secateurs* gardening group to pass on to the public; there were demonstrations of mah-jong, bridge, sewing and knitting, an art display organised by Indigenu and tours of the Centre. We were welcomed to country by Auntie Josie and the Centre was officially opened by the Right Honourable, The Lord Mayor Michael Harbison.

The Box Factory is home to the University of the Third Age [U3A] from 9am – 3pm. U3A offers a wide range of classes for the over 50s. The Community Centre is staffed 4pm – 9pm Monday to Fridays and 10am – 3pm on Saturdays. It offers community-access computers, printing and photocopying for small jobs, exhibition space, and books for borrowing.

The program is being developed but it already includes:

- ❖ Knitting – Mondays 4pm-6pm.
- ❖ Feldenkrais – Mondays 7.15pm-8.15pm
- ❖ Brown Owls Craft Group – 2nd Wednesday of the month, 6.30-9pm
- ❖ Tai Chi – Wednesdays 6pm-7pm
- ❖ Esperanto Association – 1st Wednesday 6pm-8.30pm
- ❖ Secateurs (South East Corner Community Garden Group) – 3rd Tuesday of month 7pm-9pm, 1st Saturday of the month 2pm-3pm.
- ❖ Playgroup – Saturdays 10am-noon.
- ❖ Early morning guided meditation– starts as in July on Tuesdays 6.30am – 7.15am
- ❖ The first community shared meal will be on Saturday 4 July at noon.

Classes in yoga, mah-jong and bridge are in the works. We are also planning film nights. Please let us know if you can offer to lead a class or organise an event, or if there are certain activities you would like to see the centre provide. Many local groups and organisations are also using the centre for meetings and events. Get in touch if you think the venue might be appropriate for your meeting or event, or if you know of anyone who is looking for a venue.

Please drop by and visit us at 59 Regent St South, or contact us by phone or email if you have queries and ideas. We will do our best to make your ideas happen

Box Factory Community Centre

Address: 59 Regent St South, Adelaide (between Carrington and Halifax Sts)

Opening Hours: Monday-Friday 4pm-9pm, Saturday 10am-3pm

Phone: 8203 7749

Email: bfcc@adelaidecitycouncil.com

The *Adelaide and Inner Suburbs Branch of the National Trust of SA* will be presenting

Saturday Morning at Ayers House: architect Sandy Wilkinson will deliver an illustrated talk on the architecture of commercial Adelaide, focusing on buildings in Rundle Mall and Hindley Street.

Open to all members of the National Trust and the public.

Saturday 13th June, 2009, 10-11.15am.

Ayers House,
288 North Terrace,
Adelaide 5000

RSVP Heather Nimmo hnimmo@westnet.com.au or 82234458

The ***Cheltenham Park Residents Association (CPRA)*** has won the right to challenge the Ministerial rezoning of the racecourse in the Supreme Court beginning on June 15th at 2.15pm. Water-expert Colin Pitman will be giving evidence in support of the CPRA's case.

“As many of you know, this last great open space in the west is also a prime stormwater recycling site and has been identified by dedicated environmental groups as the key site for reducing the amount of polluting stormwater runoff into Gulf St Vincent, and mitigating the serious flood risk in the north-western suburbs.

This campaign has much wider implications for the future of our city and the rights of communities to have a say in the future of their own suburbs and towns.”

They are urging supporters to write to Premier Rann asking that the land be preserved as Crown Land.
www.savecheltenham.info

What's happening at St John's, Halifax Street?

Tearing down fences.

The beautiful St John's Church and garden is becoming very popular for christenings, weddings and funerals and all that hatch 'em, match 'em and dispatch 'em is paying for the new low bluestone wall on St John's Lane and around the memorial rose garden on Halifax Street. Father Christopher is turning his accidental poisoning of the roses into a positive for the neighbourhood. He and the Parish Council hope that the Priory garden can also be used for birthdays, anniversaries and other celebrations.

History Week

Many people turned up during History Week to enjoy Ted Ward's illustrated talk on the people and buildings of the South-east corner and to view the Church.

Community Store

There are three types of people in the world: those that make deposits to charity shops, those that make withdrawals from charity shops and those that do both. And then there are those who come to the community store intending *only* to make a deposit.

The store is open on Saturdays between 9.30am and 3.30pm. All donations of clean clothing, books, small electrical items (which are checked by an electrician parishioner) and interesting bric-a-brac gratefully received.

Finally, St John's kicks off its Steinway-inspired ***Winter to Spring Concert Series 2009*** on Sunday 28 June at 3pm. Wine and nibbles in the hall afterwards. Entry \$10 or donation towards the new piano. More details of this and other concerts (19 July, 23 August, 20 September, 8 November) by ringing the Church Office: Tues & Thurs 8223 2348 or www.stjohnsadelaide.org.au

WE WELCOME YOUR COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS.....

COMMITTEE: ANNE MELROSE (CHAIRPERSON) HEATHER NIMMO (SECRETARY) DOUG SWEET (TREASURER) JAN DAVIS, JOHN UNDERWOOD, MICHAEL HENNINGSEN AND GLENYSS STEEDMAN

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