

HACKETT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

INTRODUCTION

I will start by reminding everyone that unlike the Treasurer's Report, which covers the last financial year, the Chair's Reports are from AGM to AGM.

HCA, amongst its many tasks, endeavours to create a sense of community in Hackett. Many of its activities relate to this. In a suburb this is harder than it would be in a country town. It's more comfortable, and A GREAT DEAL SAFER, to live in a REAL COMMUNITY, than in just a dormitory suburb, a fact fully realised a considerable time ago by Hackett Neighbourhood Watch.

THANKS

HCA would like to express its appreciation to the local groups with whom we enjoy mutual support - North Canberra Community Council; Hackett Neighbourhood Watch and Friends of Mount Majura. We are now engaged in a mutually supporting relationship with Folkdance Canberra'

We would also like to thank three of our representative, Andrew Leigh; Steve Dospot and Shane Rattenbury for their support in a number of areas'

PERSONAL THANKS

As the 2014 - 2015 Chair I would like to express my own personal appreciation to the outgoing Committee and especially to Greg, my Deputy, who in the last few months has taken over many of my duties! Thank you all for your support.

LAST AGM

See the Minutes you just approved.

MOVE OF MEETING PLACE

Having been kicked out of our last meeting place, the HCA Committee now meets in the Folkdance Canberra kitchen on the second Tuesday of the month.

WEBSITE

This site, www.hackett.com.au is maintained, at present, by the Public

Officer.

CONTACT DAYS

These are some of our most important means of contact with the Community. In 2015 we amended the format a trifle by inviting other groups, causes, etc. This year, as well as our usual participants, HNW and FOMM, we have had, at different days, Folkdance Canberra, ACTION, Capital Metro, the ACT Greens and others. The Days have been visited by Andrew Leigh, Steve Dospot and Shane Rattenbury. Cross fertilization is ONE of the benefits of these contact days! Please come and talk to us at the next one, which is on Saturday, 14 November. Neighbourhood watch could do with a few volunteers to man their table - contact the Convenor.

FOOTPATHS

At a number of Contact Days the issue of surfaced footpaths has been raised, particularly that alongside the entrance to the south parking area at the shops and between Holy Cross/ St. Margaret's and the bus stop in Antill St. This has been raised directly with Urban Services and through Steve Dospot. We have been informed that the first is now ranked as B out of 2B1 and work should take place in this financial year, while the other is now rated 77 out of 281.

PUBLIC TOILET

We have continued to push for this and the current state of play is still that Hackett is still "first cab off the rank", whatever that may mean with the current financial state of ACT finances.

BUS SHELTERS

We also received complaints about the state of the suburb's bus shelters and these were passed on to Urban Services. There seems to have been some improvement but, unfortunately, this has been partly due to some public spirited citizens taking the matter into their own hands and cleaning them themselves!

SHOPS

There have been a few changes here! A warm welcome to Orchid & Vine florist. Michael Beacher has left us, but North Canberra Osteopathy will be opening, in the shop Michael vacated, shortly! We wish them good luck and prosperous trading.

HISTORICAL PROJECT

This project, which has been underway for some time now, has acquired a large amount of data, but we have reached the stage where we need to put some flesh on the bones! This means that we need your contributions. We need people to fill out the questionnaire, available on the website, or to be

interviewed, SOON. It is this information, only obtainable from residents, which completes the historical picture of life in Hackett. Please, complete the form and/or volunteer to be interviewed!!!

PARTY AT THE SHOPS

Saturday saw this year's very successful Party at the Shops. This success was largely owing to the Working Group of one, Greg Haughey and to those committee members who turned out on the day to help set up, and to man the table and the sausage sizzle. Greg has placed a fuller account of the party, with pictures, on the website. Our thanks go to the ACT Government and to Bendigo Bank who sponsored this event.

NEED FOR SUPPORT

Please allow me to point out that, as with the other local groups, we need more support. Many of the Committee Members are no longer as young as they were yesterday! We need some more help! With some of the activities, we need physical assistance.

WELCOME TO INCOMING COMMITTEE

Welcome to the new committee and especially to its new member. Good Luck!

Thankyou,

J.D.Walker,

2014-2015 Chair, 15 September 2015.