

Dear YRA Members,

No doubt you have all been busy over the last few months. Can't believe that we are half way through the year already!

Before we get to the updates below, let's reflect on something uncomfortable that has happened to the family of one of our members over the current school holidays. As you all know, there are just 340 or so homes in our area of Yatala and we would hope that all of us care for each other. Sadly that is not always the case and a school holiday prank has devastated one family. A small group of kids (they were spotted and ran away to another area in the neighbourhood) thought opening any gates they could find without a lock or could be prised open would be good fun. The upshot of this action resulted in an elderly large dog that was nearly blind getting out of its space and in its efforts to find its home wandered onto the busiest road in the area and was killed. The dog was owned by the elderly parents of the family and they could not take it with them when they moved to care themselves. As we understand it, every week the elderly parents visited their children and were reunited with their dog for a few hours of total joy for them all - not anymore! OK so it is a lesson for us all to secure our properties but the bigger lesson is that we really must care for each other in this small piece of residential paradise and in doing so, it will hopefully be passed onto the kids growing up in the area.

We have also recently received reports from our Neighbourhood Watch informing us that Rivermount College and another residence in Sears Road were recently broken into. Again we stress the need to be aware of anything out of the ordinary and also let your neighbours know if you are going away.

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## **STANMORE ROAD**

Traffic Lights have now been installed at the intersection of Stanmore Road and Paterson Road. (Refer to YRA Newsletter 10 for all the comments / information on this matter).

Now is the time for feedback as to the effects the installation of lights has had on you as members of YRA. Please reply to the following poll and email your replies to: [yra@yatala.info](mailto:yra@yatala.info) We will collate all replies and copy you in before sending the information to any authority.

**Q: Do you think the Traffic Lights are a good idea?**

A:

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**Q: Has the noise level changed since the installation of lights – be specific on the time of the day / night?**

A:

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**Q: Is the addition of street lighting around the traffic lights of benefit?**

A:

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**Q: How long have you waited at the intersection for the lights to change?**

A:

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**Q: Any other comments / feedback?**

A:

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YRA requested that the GCCC take note of the bad condition of the Stanmore Road / Peachy Road intersection and to rectify it as soon as possible. This has now been actioned and the road resealed to remove the deep potholes that had formed due to constant use of heavy turning vehicles.

The other issue on this intersection is the loose gravel that accidentally falls from the Quarry Trucks and we have asked that this matter be kept high on the list of priorities for attention by the authorities, so that this intersection is safe for all road users.

## **STOP THE QUARRY**

Permission has been given by Stop the Quarry representatives to provide the following information to YRA Members. Please do all possible to assist this group as they fight hard to save our local environment.

At the OPA meeting, Campbell Staines advised that the application for a quarry by Wagner Investments Pty Ltd is far from over, notwithstanding the contract by Boral Limited to purchase Wagner's quarrying interests and produced a letter from the Australian Competition and Securities Commission, that evidenced the intentions of the parties that the land is the subject of Wagner's application, has been disclosed as "a quarry development site" and is proposed to be purchased as such by Boral Limited.

Campbell stated that if Boral Limited complete the purchase they will have the opportunity to continue the current appeal proceedings in the Planning and Environment Court and if the sale does not go ahead Wagner Investments Pty Ltd will surely continue with the appeal.

Campbell stated we run the risk of losing this Gondwana remnant and endangering the survival of the Ormeau Bottle Tree and numerous other unique species of flora and fauna. He also said that the Macadamia industry appears to have been founded from specimens taken from this site to go to Hawaii and then be re-introduced to Australia to provide the current industry and stressed the importance expressed by the Macadamia industry to ensure the survival of the "genetic bank" of macadamia trees on the proposed quarry site.

Campbell presented a very compelling and passionate argument to the three representatives of Stockland to financially support the Community in the Court Proceedings and they agreed to review their previous decision to not provide such support.

## **HOLCIM QUARRY**

On the 27<sup>th</sup> of May we forwarded information issued by Stop the Quarry Holcim Subcommittee of OPA to give all YRA members an opportunity to understand the issues that face the area and to ask if any YRA member would like to help the residents in Ormeau and surrounding areas who have opposed the scope of the development at Holcim. We do understand that some YRA members have responded and that is gratifying to those trying so hard to keep the development to a reasonable level.

Now it is time for YRA members to give their thoughts on the noise pollution along Stanmore Road, if the extended operating hours for Holcim eventuate. Email: [yra@yatala.info](mailto:yra@yatala.info) with your comments.

## **DARLINGTON PARK**

There is no further information on Darlington Park, however it does appear that mediation is still happening, so the court process is still a way off.

## **ODOURS**

This is just not going away but we do know that the GCCC and DERM are very conscious of the issue.

An YRA Member returning from a meeting at approx. 9pm experienced a very bad odour when on the flat part of Peachey and Stanmore intersection. She decided to retrace her path and drive along Sandy Creek Road to see if the odour could be isolated, but it was not anywhere on the high part of the hill. However, when she reached Pagan Road roundabout it was very evident again, so obviously the odour had settled in the valley over the residential estate. The weather was still with no wind so moving the odour was not happening.

This incidence was reported to DERM and GCCC who both said that they had not had any other reports for some months, so it is possible that this may have been a one off incident or the company responsible was using hours later at night when people are normally not out and about in winter to expel their odours.

Phoenix Recyclers MCU Application: Checking of the application online shows that another document has been added/processed 26/6/2011. Basically this advises that DERM'S assessment period has been further extended to 30 August 2011.

## **SICK NATIVE ANIMALS**

One YRA resident who backs onto Stanmore Road has had two very upsetting incidences in relation to our native brushtail possums within the past 4 weeks. A condition called Exudative Dermatitis, which is mainly a result of stress due to loss of habitat and fighting. The condition may just be mild loss of hair with dry flaky skin on small areas of the body, but in more severe cases the skin can become so ulcerated on the face it can be literally eaten away. The animal becomes weak, unable to eat and blindness. It is also highly contagious to chickens and other animals if where the sick possum has been is not thoroughly cleaned and highly disinfected and can be contagious to humans.

Obviously with all the development that has already occurred in our area, this has had a huge impact on our wildlife. If you see a sick possum, cover it with a warm cloth and take them to the Emergency Wildlife Care facility at Springwood or contact Wildlife Carers on 07-5527 2444.

***DO YOU KNOW ANY NEIGHBOURS WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF YRA? PERHAPS A SUGGESTION FOR THEM TO JOIN WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA – THE MORE RESIDENTS WE HAVE AS MEMBERS THE STRONGER THE YRA VOICE IS HEARD. HOW TO JOIN YRA: Email [yra@yatala.info](mailto:yra@yatala.info) for details.***