

GUNDAROO COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

FEBRUARY UPDATE



MAIN STREET PROGRAM

The Yass Valley Council displayed detailed concept plans for upgrading of Cork Street prior to Christmas. Council staff and the landscape architects engaged on the project attended the display at the Soldier's Memorial Hall and answered questions on the design and concepts. The GCA was represented throughout the session and noted most comment seemed positive. Some concerns remain on over-urbanisation of the village main street and the GCA will report on the shape of development as plans firm up. However villagers should note that the GCA is not party to the decision processes involved in this program and individuals should copy any submissions to the Yass Valley Council General Manager and or local Councillor.

OLD CATHOLIC CEMETERY

The GCA has recently secured a \$3000 grant from the Yass Valley Council Heritage Fund improvements at the Old Catholic Cemetery. A great effort by Sharon Roberts's in securing the grant. The GCA has approached the local Catholic parish to ascertain interest in contributing to the restoration effort. Graeme Challinor has also provided the GCA with a published manuscript on Cemeteries in and around the Gundaroo District. Any villagers interested in cemetery history or contributing to the project should contact Sharon or any other GCA Committee Member.

VILLAGE MONUMENTS SUBCOMMITTEE (VMS)

The VMS has successfully applied for a substantial DVA grant to finish the next stage of work on the Gundaroo WW1 Memorial. It is hope to add the details of Gundaroo residents who fought in WW2 and later campaigns in a way that fits in with the design of the Monument. Thanks again go to Sharon Roberts for the legwork in developing the application. Planning is also under way for ANZAC Day 2006 and associated festivities. GCA efforts to fix the open culvert near the WW1 Memorial have yet to achieve an outcome and Yass alley Council have written to the GCA suggesting this public safety issue may need to wait for works to be scheduled as part of wider Cork Street upgrades. The GCA extends a get-well message to the Chair of the VMS, Clive Mitchell-Taylor.

POLICE PADDOCK SUBCOMMITTEE (PPS)

The PPS has yet to be formally ratified and this should occur at the Feb Meeting. However the GCAs PP licence has been officially initiated with the Dept of Lands and fencing costs, insurance, rates and annual fees have all been acquitted for the first year at no cost to the GCA. The horse agistment group who are providing some of the

financial backing for the licence, have also commenced activities and have started construction of a rustic shade structure for horses on the Paddock.

URBAN SIGN RENEWAL

Gundaroo has been included in sign renewal and upgrade works by Yass Valley Council. The most noteworthy improvement has been the replacement of the previously dysfunctional and overlapping sign cluster at the Rosamel / Cork Street intersection.

TOWNS AND VILLAGES PROGRAM

New applications can now be submitted from 01 Jan 06 for grants under the Dept of State & Regional Devp, Towns and Villages Grants scheme. This would principally benefit hospitality and retail interests in the village through development of a marketable Gundaroo brand or 'destination'. The GCA has promulgated details to GCA members and local businesses that may be interested in pursuing this opportunity.

CROWN ROADS IN VILLAGE AREA

As noted in a previous Gazette, the Dept of Lands has formally transferred all former Crown Roads within the Village to Yass Valley Council. The intent of this change, which was sought by the GCA, was to ensure more locally relevant decisions are made in regard to usage of these roads. While these public roads provide legal access to the community (whether constructed or not), there seems little utility in opening all roads without a clear and practical rationale. The GCA has been asked to assist in determining which roads might offer real benefit to the village and this project may partly link to the Village Waling Track noted above. The GCA has been unable to progress this project to personnel limitations and if you are interested in facilitating this process please speak to the Committee.

OUTSTANDING COUNCIL ACTION

Several items remain outstanding from 2005 correspondence with Council. Updates on these issues will be provided during 2006.

- Subdivision of WW1 allotment from the privately owned title of the corner lot.
- Resolution of safety and maintenance issues at Lot Street Swimming Hole.
- Progress and funding on the Village Walking Track.
- Update on Gundaroo Bridge and status of RTA plans.
- Next stage of planning / works on the Main Street Program

MEMBERSHIP OF THE GCA

GCA membership is important for participating in the community and for being kept informed of issues and events. Joining the GCA does not mean a resident need be active in the association, or even agree with all the initiatives undertaken. But your membership of the GCA does allow the committee to reach out to a wider and more relevant group within the community and to provide more valid representation. Your email address allows the GCA to disseminate information to association members quickly and effectively and GCA members can participate in all General Meetings to help shape the community's response to a multitude of issues. Please lodge your GCA membership forms at the PO or with a Committee Member – remember it only costs \$5!

GCA WEBSITE AND EMAIL ADDRESS

The GCA has web pages at <http://gundaroo.alphalink.com.au> (select Gundaroo Home Page and GCA link). The GCA web-link already provides recent Gazette articles,

Committee contacts, the GCA Objective and Plans and the Association's constitution. Thanks again to Mr. Graeme Challinor for managing and updating the site. There is also an email address for feedback to the GCA on any issue from community members. The address is gundaroo@gmail.com – please feel free to provide information, issues for GCA consideration and feedback as you wish.

NEXT GCA MEETING

The next meeting of the GCA Committee is to held **Wednesday 8 February 2006 at 7:30** in the Function Room at the Wine Bar. All members of the GCA are welcome to participate in the Meeting, which commences at 7.30pm (other local residents / property owners may attend and join on the night).

