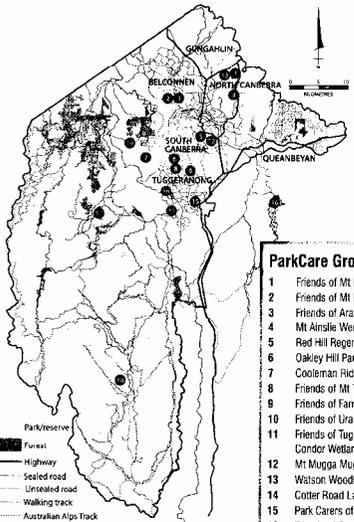


Continued from Page 6

## Watson Woodlands Working Group Update

Each of the participating ACT ParkCare groups, including the Watson Woodlands received a certificate as well. The Watson Woodlands Working Group is now literally on the latest ParkCare map (we are No. 13). While we can give ourselves a bit of a pat on the back for past achievements, there is no room for complacency. There is still a lot of work left to do if we want to preserve and enhance our natural environment for future generations. One of the great things about Watson is that our natural environment is at our back door. If you wish to be involved in any way, please ring the coordinator at 62413024. As always, there can never be too many hands, or too many minds for that matter. If there isn't a job, we can easily manufacture one for you!

### Get involved in the bush capital



ParkCare members are involved in a whole range of activities including:

- collecting native seed;
- growing and planting seedlings for bush regeneration;
- controlling highly invasive weeds that take over native bushland;
- monitoring plants, animals and water quality;
- restoring and maintaining early European settlement heritage sites;
- raising public awareness;
- producing the Volunteers Newsletter, 'Scribbly Gum' and
- fostering partnerships with local schools.

#### ParkCare Groups

- 1 Friends of Mt Majura
- 2 Friends of Mt Painter
- 3 Friends of Aranda Bushland
- 4 Mt Ainslie Weeders
- 5 Red Hill Regenerators
- 6 Oakley Hill Park Care Group
- 7 Cooleman Ridge ParkCare Group
- 8 Friends of Mt Taylor
- 9 Friends of Farrer Ridge
- 10 Friends of Urambi Hills
- 11 Friends of Tuggeranong Hill and Condor Wetlands
- 12 Mt Mugga Mugga ParkCare
- 13 Watson Woodlands Working Group
- 14 Water Road Landcare Group
- 15 Park Careers of South Murrumbidgee
- 16 Friends of Gociong
- 17 Friends of Tiltbinilla
- 18 Gudgeby Bush Regeneration Group

There are many ParkCare groups across Canberra. New members are always welcome. Most groups have at least one half-day activity per month on weekends. Some groups also conduct week-day activities.



The environment needs YOU

ParkCare map, 2008

Contributions to THE WATZON are welcome. The next deadline for submitting ads and other contributions is XXXXX. Email: aussies@grapevine.com.au



The WCA particularly thanks the Australian Catholic University (ACU), Signadou Campus in Watson, for printing this Newsletter as a community service

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Summer 2008

# THE WATZON

Newsletter of the Watson Community Association Incorporated

Number 63

Summer 2008

## WCA CONTACTS

### Chair & Woodlands Convenor

Richard Larson  
6241 3024

### Secretary

Julie Smith 6241 8861

### Treasurer

Jon Real 6255 4046

### Editor

Heike Phillips 0416942204



## MESSAGE FROM THE WCA CHAIR

### Season's Greetings

It has been a busy few months for the WCA Committee and I would like to convey my sincere thanks to the committee members as well as all in the community who have supported the activities and events during this time and over the course of the year.

The committee wishes you all a safe, happy and healthy festive season.

- Richard Larson, Chair

## ADVERTISERS

Please contact Jon for bookings and payment:

Ph 6255 4046

Non-profit community groups advertise free.

More than 2,500 copies distributed to Watson households.

## Commemoration for Martin Grace

A warm and sunny afternoon was on hand to greet 60 children and adults who commemorated Martin Grace for his long and fruitful association with both the WCA and the ACT Land Rover Club.

Continued on Page 2



The WCA particularly thanks the Australian Catholic University (ACU), Signadou Campus in Watson, for printing this Newsletter as a community service

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Summer 2008

Family members planted and watered 13 trees at the event and a large sitting rock was dedicated in honour of Martin.

The WCA wishes to acknowledge the Land Rover Club in covering expenses to obtain the rock.

The trees and the rock are located near Martin's favourite view, overlooking the dam. Unfortunately, the dam dried up the week or so prior to the planting. There were no frogs or ducks to greet us.

Coloured ribbons were cut with names written on them for each tree which has been planted for Martin. We can now look forward with pride in Martin's persistence in ensuring the survival of this remnant of endangered Yellow Gum – Red Box grassy woodland.

Drinks, nibbles and socialising followed the formalities and tree-planting event.



DES GRACE PLANTS A TREE FOR HIS BROTHER

## **WATSON Supa IGA SUPERMARKET**

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**PROBUS CLUBS**

Probus is a worldwide association for retired or semi-  
retired people. It is sponsored by Rotary & is non-  
fundraising. Meetings are held monthly, with a guest  
speaker & morning tea.

Outings, lunches & bus trips are organised.

**NEW MEMBERS WELCOME AT BOTH CLUBS**

**Canberra North Ladies**

10.00 am Yowani Country Club,  
2nd Monday of each month.

Membership \$20.00 per annum. Joining fee \$5.00

**Ladies contact: Beverley 6248 8236**

**Canberra North Mens**

10.00am Downer Community Hall,  
2nd Tuesday of each month.

No. of members: 42

Subscription \$25.00 per annum. Joining fee \$5.00

**Men contact: Ted Baker 6241 4853**



## TRAFFIC UPDATE

Two members from Watson, including a committee member of the WCA, attended a meeting with representatives from Roads ACT on August 20, organised and chaired by the Hackett Community Association.

The primary purpose of this meeting was to investigate a solution to the morning peak hour blockage being experienced at the Majura Avenue and Phillip Avenue T-intersection.

The problems experienced at this intersection are encouraging rat-running through Madigan Street in Hackett to connect with Phillip Avenue south of the T-intersection.

Following on from other discussions at the meeting, Roads ACT conducted a traffic survey at the Knox Street – Antill Street T-intersection between Saturday September 20 and Saturday September 27 (the week prior to school holidays).

Results of this survey were provided to the WCA in mid-October. A map which indicates weekday averages (vehicles/day) was included with the data.

The results of the survey indicate that 2135 vehicles per day exit Knox Street at the T-intersection. In the morning peak (roughly between 7:30 – 9:00) each vehicle exiting Knox Street has to make a decision whether it is safe to turn in the face of two-way traffic of 790 vehicles in the peak hour (on average, roughly a vehicle coming towards them every 4.5 seconds).

Hughes Trueman, in a traffic study prepared in 2004 for the Australian Heritage Village redevelopment proposal, classified Antill Street as a two-way subarterial road capable of supporting 5000 vehicles per day in both south-bound and north-bound directions.

The road survey conducted at the Knox Street – Antill Street T-intersection indicates that traffic on Antill Street between Knox Street and Madigan Street has now reached 3235 vehicles per



australian  
breastfeeding  
association

## North Canberra Mothers' Group

*A plate of food to share (except at Cafés etc.)  
is appreciated but not expected.*

All meetings will be confirmed by email the week before. Alternatively contact Ingrid (Ph. 6249 6684) to confirm and for further information, email: [abanorthcanberra@hotmail.com](mailto:abanorthcanberra@hotmail.com)

\*Dates/Times, Topics and Venues may change, please confirm with Ingrid (details above).

**7-day Breastfeeding helpline, Ph. 6258 8928**

[www.breastfeeding.asn.au](http://www.breastfeeding.asn.au)

| December 2008 |    |                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------|----|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday        | 15 | 3.30pm - 5.30pm  | Christmas get-together! Come and celebrate with a party in the park.<br><br>O' Connor Playground between Finn St and Quinn St (behind O' Connor Co-operative School, MacPherson St O' Connor) Ph Ingrid if you need more info: 6249 6684                                         |
| January 2009  |    |                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Tuesday       | 13 | 10am - 12 pm     | Discussion : <b>Feeling rejected: Breast refusal</b> including Morning Tea & Chat<br><br>67 Archibald St Lyneham Ph 6262 5959                                                                                                                                                    |
| Tuesday       | 27 | 10am - 12pm      | Group Planning Meeting: come along with your ideas for the group and future meetings: all welcome<br><br>28 Winnecke St Ainslie Ph 6262 5131                                                                                                                                     |
| February 2009 |    |                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Tuesday       | 10 | 10am - 12pm      | Discussion: <b>Sleeping like a baby: babies and sleep, ours and theirs!</b> including Morning Tea and Chat.<br><br>3 Lomandra St O' Connor Ph 62477833                                                                                                                           |
| Thursday      | 19 | 12.30 pm- 1.30pm | Question and answer session with a Breastfeeding Counsellor: <b>Combining work or study with breastfeeding and everything you ever wanted to know about expressing and storing.</b> Come and share your expertise!<br><br>Venue at a café in the city. Ring 61610620 for details |
| Tuesday       | 24 | 10am - 12pm      | Morning Tea, Cuppa & Chat<br>Meet other mums<br><br>24 Earle St Lyneham Ph 6249 6684                                                                                                                                                                                             |




**Notices & Local Services**

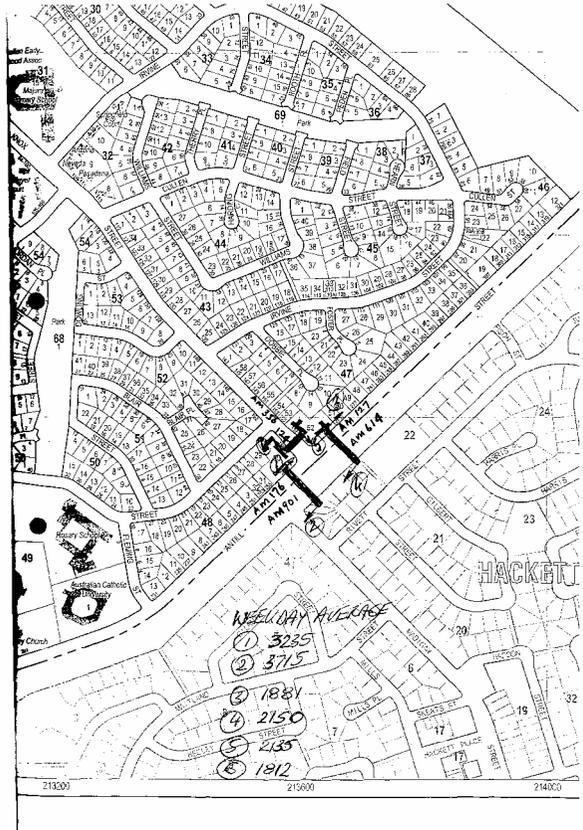

**MEG'S TOY BOX**  
 Is a community toy library run as a non profit venture with the support of St Margaret's Church.  
**Tel 6248 7467 during opening hours only:**  
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 Sat 2pm—4pm

**Justice of the Peace**  
**ALF (Noddy)**  
**FRIPP JP**  
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 Watson ACT 2602  
 Tel 6241 7475


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**YMCA gym at Hackett:** The YMCA Hackett gym is open from 6-8pm on Tuesdays and Thursday.  
 For more details visit the YMCA website on [www.canberra.ymca.org.au](http://www.canberra.ymca.org.au) or call 62306224.


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**WWW.NHWACT.COM.AU**  
 Or contact Mick Motion-wise,  
 NHW Coordinator on 043 747 9236



day in a north-bound direction and 3715 vehicles per day in a southbound direction. South-bound nominal capacity is therefore approaching 75%.

It won't take too many more Australian Heritage Village style developments in Gungahlin and Watson before nominal daily capacity is reached!

Traffic safety and noise issues are difficult to understand and can seem intractable. What the WCA requires now is a working group to study these issues. A beginning has been made. The WCA has already been approached by members of the Watson community who are concerned about road safety.

**PROPOSED WORKING GROUP:**

Are you prepared to join a small team to study our traffic issues? We will have to accumulate more data, and liaise closely with ACT Roads, the Hackett Community Association and the North Canberra Community Council to get solutions. There is a long lead time to implement any proposed solutions, which ultimately have to be progressed through the ACT Government. It is much better to be well prepared than to be sorry.



## Watson Woodlands Working Group Update

It has been a usual busy spring for the working group. Activities have involved weeding, wire cutting & tree guard construction, auguring, tree preparation & tree planting, and follow-up watering.

We can be proud that the last of the trees planned as part of our ongoing regeneration program have now been planted. The group officially logged over 62:30 hours in September and 63:30 hours in October. The working bee on September 27 attracted three volunteers; September 28 attracted two volunteers; October 18 attracted two volunteers. A well-advertised November 2 working bee to water newly planted trees attracted four volunteers.

The Watson Community Association became a member of the Molonglo Catchment Group Inc (MCG) in October. Members of the Watson Woodlands Working Group will be able to obtain concessions for workshops or field trips held as part of MCG activities. The MCG has a specially built display trailer which can be hired by affiliated ParkCare groups such as ours to publicise events and activities, which includes a fold-out whiteboard, display panels and other equipment.

The Watson Woodlands Working Group is now a fully recognised ACT ParkCare member. Our coordinator attended his second ACT ParkCare coordinators meeting on October 22. At this meeting ACT Parks, Conservation and Lands were officially acknowledged for winning two Sustainable Cities awards for 'The Park Care Program': one in the Community Pride category and the other in the Habitat Conservation/Protection of the Environment category.

*Continued on Page 12*



## Revitalisation of Majura Primary School Update

At Majura Primary School we are in the final stage of our playground upgrade. The students have been involved in all aspects of design and selection of the playground. You will also see changes around the front of the school quite soon. We had a working bee on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> October to begin this part of the overall revitalisation project. The plants have been grown for us and the ground works will commence soon. There will be opportunities for students and parents to help with planting.

The school's 'Courtyard Custodians' are working with the School and the Dept to put in place all the necessary checks and processes for some of our community to join us in gardening in the Environment Courtyard. About a dozen local residents responded to a call for expressions of interest in gardening at Majura. They have all expressed a desire to garden FOR the school and to share the produce. This initiative is in keeping with one of the four values for the Revitalisation project which is to 'connect with our community beyond the school gate'.

If you want any information about the changes you see occurring before your eyes don't hesitate to call the school on 62055711.

