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Association
North Canberra**

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association

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1800 686 268 or visit

www.breastfeeding.asn.au

to check venues:

abanorthcanberra@hotmail.com

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(during opening hours only)

Wed 10am—12pm

Sat 2pm—4pm

DROP BY AND JOIN



Canberra Central Combined Probus Club

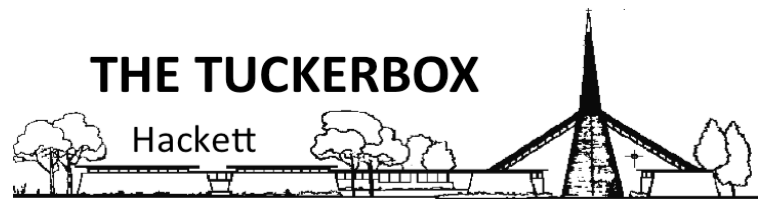
Meets on the 1st Wednesday of the month,
10:00-12:00 at the Ainslie Club.

Gentle Exercise Class

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9:30 – 10:30 am each Friday

Cost \$7.00



THE TUCKERBOX

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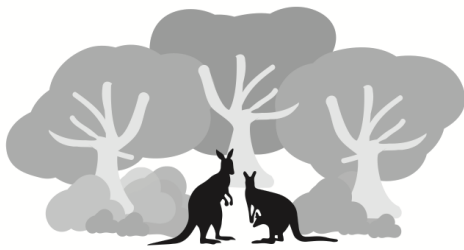
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THE WATZON

Newsletter of the Watson Community Association Inc.

Issue 93 – Autumn / Winter 2017

Message from the Chair

This issue contains a summary of reports presented at the AGM. It was a pleasure to welcome a few new faces at the AGM but, in a suburb of over 2500 residences, it is disappointing that more residents do not attend and/or take on committee positions. The same people have taken on the job again but this can't go on! We need your help. Please give some serious thought as to how you can contribute. You might like to comment on the new logo, submit photos or suggestions for the website, or consider organising a community social event.

The face of Watson is changing. Planning issues are a major concern and need to be closely monitored. Our contact with the ACT Government has taken a step forward in the last few weeks with the appointment of a Community Engagement Adviser to the Chief Minister, and a meeting with the Deputy-Director of the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Directorate.

Help us ensure local facilities, green space and transport options meet the needs of all residents. Please take the time to complete the Watson Community Survey (see Page 7 for more details).

As I write this it is raining but what a beautiful autumn we have had so far! On Saturday morning, the shops were buzzing and the coffee shops busy. I wonder how many people were local and how many come from elsewhere to enjoy the lively atmosphere. We are fortunate to have our great shops and, as always, we thank them for their support.

Please think about what you can do to become more involved in this thriving community. More people doing a little would ease the pressure on the few of us who sometimes feel overwhelmed.

Liz Grace, Chair

Visit the WCA Inc. at www.watsonc Canberra.wordpress.com

Or contact us via email at
watsoncommunityassociation666@gmail.com

Contact us

Chair

Liz Grace 02 6255 7235

Deputy Chair

Richard Larson 02 6241 3024

Secretary

Gillian Helyar 02 6255 0238

Treasurer

Carrie Wright 02 6241 1018

Watson Woodlands Convenor

Richard Larson 02 6241 3024

Next quarterly meeting

The next WCA Inc. meeting is scheduled for **Monday, 24 July 2017 at 7:30 PM** in the **Hall at the Fair, on Tay Street, Watson.**

All welcome.

Watson Community Association

The Watson Community Association Inc. (WCA Inc.) aims to promote, protect and enhance the social, cultural and physical environment of the community of Watson, and the welfare, community spirit and quality of life of its residents.

It also aims to inform the community about issues concerning Watson. One way the WCA Inc. does this is through the quarterly production and distribution of the Watson – a community newsletter.

Woodlands Working Group report

The Woodlands Working Group was formed as a sub-group of the WCA Inc. to protect, enhance and care for the valuable patch of threatened native Yellow Box/Red Gum Grassy Woodland known as Justice Robert Hope Park. Much work has been done over the past years to decrease the effects of years of commercial use, and increase the component of indigenous species of flora and fauna in the Park.

Autumn has been a busy period for our Working Group. Throughout summer and early autumn, it was necessary to water the shrubs planted in late winter and spring 2016.

In April, Parks and Conservation employed contractors to dismantle and remove the perimeter fencing and old internal fencing in the Park. A new ring-lock perimeter fence has been erected and new gates installed to allow both kangaroos and visitors to enter and leave the Park.

The developer will have to replicate the perimeter fence after they have completed preliminary earth works and infrastructure on the development site north of the Park. The work being done on the development site has resulted in heavy silt pollution entering all three dams in the drainage system downstream of the development site, in particular the retention basin inside the Park adjacent to Roma Mitchell Crescent. The two dams in the Stirling Avenue reserve have also been impacted by silt pollution.

Parks and Conservation have marked out sites for approximately 400 shrubs and 300 forbs which will be planted later this autumn and winter. Three 20 x 20 meter plots have been slashed for Kangaroo Grass (*Themeda*) trial plantings which will take place late in 2018 or early 2019. Kangaroo Grass was once the predominant grass species in the grasslands and grassy woodlands of south-east Australia. The Working Group has previously been successful in establishing patches of less commonly seen native grasses in the Park.

Are you interested in the neighbouring bushland, or want to become involved with caring for the Justice Robert Hope Park? Contact Richard Larson (Convenor) on 02 6241 3024.

On Sunday, 7 May 2017 from 2-3 PM the WCA Inc. will host a walk-through of the Justice Robert Hope Park. Join us to see the progress of works being undertaken in the Park by Parks and Conservation and the Woodlands Working Group. Meet at the Antill Street gate.

All welcome.



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Michael 0419 688 034
Mark 0401 829 087
Office Dickson 6230 0005
Email jenny.mcreeynolds@luton.com.au



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Hints for your winter garden – with Cedric Bryant

Winter time is Camellia sasanqua flowering time, one of my favourites being Camellia sasanqua “Hiryu”. This makes a superb hedge growing easily to 3-4 metres. In addition, it attracts the honey eaters for the nectar.

Winter is deciduous tree planting time from ornamental blossom trees to fruit trees. Keep in mind overhead power lines and underground services - gas, water, electricity etc. Work on the principle that the width of a tree in most cases equals the height. Apples, plums, pears and cherries all require two different varieties for the bees to cross pollinate. Your local garden centre can advise you on this aspect.

Remove plastic water timers or the frost will split them apart and store hoses and sprinklers under cover overnight out of frost. Cover young citrus by forming a frame of 3-4 tomato stakes and 90% shade cloth round the sides. Have a loose cover over the top and remove during the day before you go to work. Remember to replace the cover at night. Potted citrus trees need to be moved under cover.

Keep an eye later in the winter for the first signs of flowers on fruit trees, referred to as bud-swell before the flowers open. This is the time to spray with organic Bordeaux or Kocide to prevent fruit rot later. Do not spray once the flowers open or it will kill bees and upset pollination.

Plant pansies, violas, primulas and polyanthus as soon as possible for late winter/spring flowering. Remember, it takes about eight weeks from time of planting to full flowers providing plants are watered and fed regularly.

For pruning trees near powerlines, I recommend Brett O’Brien, a qualified arborist approved by ActewAGL on 0402 555 828.

Important Contact Details

Police, Fire, Ambulance - 000 (24hrs)
Police Attendance - 13 1444 (24hrs)
Storms and Floods - 13 2500 (24hrs)
Crime Stoppers - 1800 333 000 (8am to 9pm)

Local services

The Academy of Interactive Entertainment has rooms for hire.

Why not contact them about hiring rooms for your organisation?



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Watson's high fliers – our precious native birds

We hope you enjoy learning about the beautiful birds that we sometimes see (and hear) in our Watson gardens and neighbouring bushland.

Black-Cockatoos

When you see a Black-Cockatoo around Watson you will most likely be walking at Mt Majura or near the Watson Woodlands, even on Stirling Reserve. These noticeable and interesting woodland birds are declining or endangered through loss of woodland habitat.

Calyptorhynchus funereus (Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo) – ‘Canberra’s black cockie’

The more common Black-Cockatoo in our local area is the Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo, which can be distinguished by the yellow panels on its long tail and cheek patches. Its body feathers have yellow edging. Typically, around 55-56 cm in size, these Black-Cockatoos live in open forests, farms or pines. They feed on acacia seeds and tree grubs. Their call is like a wailing ‘kee-ow’ as the flock passes by. To breed successfully, these birds need deep tree hollows, usually trees more than 200 years old.

Calyptorhynchus banksia (Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo) – ‘tourist sighting’

Though the biggest of the Black-Cockatoos, at up to 63 cm in size, Red-tailed Black-Cockatoos are rarely seen in this part of Australia. Their main habitat is inland woodlands, open shrubland near water, and open forest. They mainly inhabit northern and western parts of Australia.

Calyptorhynchus lathami (Glossy Black-Cockatoo) – ‘missing in action’

Typically, around 48 cm in size, this Black-Cockatoo is an endangered species. These birds feed quietly on the seed cones of the casuarina trees (river she-oaks’). Their preferred habitat is shrinking, including in the ACT. The male looks similar to the Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo, but has less red in its tail and is brown-black rather than sooty. The female has red bars on its tail with some yellow edging, but yellow blotches on the head and neck.



Images courtesy of birdlife.org.au: L-R Yellow-tailed; Red-tailed; and Glossy Black-Cockatoos.

Sources: Ian Fraser, Peter Marsack & Peter Trusler, *A Bush Capital Year A Natural History of the Canberra Region*, 2011; Ken Simpson, Nicolas Day & Peter Trusler, *Field Guide to the Birds of Australia*, 1996.

A Master Plan for Watson

- Subsequent to WCA's most recent approach to the ACT Government seeking a master plan for the suburb as a whole, incorporating North Watson, a delegation met with the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (EPSDD) on 15 March 2017. This was a positive first step to open dialogue - and we have subsequently received written assurance that we will be able to meet again. A master plan as such may not be the outcome, but if we can gain assurance that future developments will meet the needs of the suburb, it will serve the same purpose.
- The idea of a survey to gauge residents' opinions on the needs of the suburb was supported by the EPSDD. **To this end, the WCA Inc. is prioritising the development of a survey, and we will seek input from as many residents as possible. The survey is available both electronically at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R2FMFX9> and in hard copy.**

Other developments

- The Carotel has sold housing blocks, but will be operating as normal for at least some months.
- The new Canberra Park Resort providing group visitor accommodation on the corner of Wells Station Road and Federal Highway has an 'open' sign, though works are continuing.
- The development at Negus Crescent is proceeding, with the storm water pipe installed at the western end of Justice Robert Hope Park. There is still to be a debris grate installed, an access road for maintenance from Roma Mitchell Crescent built and new fencing on the boundary. Concerns regarding the run-off from this site during the 21 March 2017 downpour have been registered with Access Canberra.
- The flood prone section of pathway between North Watson and Piddington Street has been fixed to the delight of the many people who use this path.

Help Wanted!

The WCA Inc. needs your help to get as many responses as we can to the Watson Community Survey - for example, visiting neighbours, sitting for a period at the shops, etc).

If you can help, please contact Gillian via telephone on 02 6255 0238 or email at watsoncommunityassociation666@gmail.com.

Do you own Watson's Wackiest Letterbox?

**Do you own Watson's wackiest letterbox?
Perhaps it's the worst, or the oldest?**

Wackiest Letterbox 1st prize

A 3 hour yard tidy with Complete Cleaning Solutions

Worst Letterbox 1st prize

A BRAND NEW Letterbox!

Oldest Letterbox 1st prize

A signed plaque to secure its status + Hoyts movie tickets!



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Andrew Grenfell
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andrew.grenfell@ljhooker.com.au



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WATSON

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Daniel has been a local of Watson his whole life, and brings his expertise to 'The Knox' – by locals, for locals.

Offering brunch 7 days a week, family afternoon teas, a gourmet lunch and dinner menu and, of course, great coffee every day.

Opening hours:

Monday-Wednesday 7:00 am to 4:30 pm

Thursday-Saturday 7:30 to late

Sunday 7:30 am to 3:30 pm

[https://www.facebook.com/
theknoxmadeinwatson/](https://www.facebook.com/theknoxmadeinwatson/)

Watson property sales

Ever wondered about house prices in Watson?

We've compiled a list of Watson sale prices for the period 1 January – 31 March 2017 for you.

Date	Address	Price =	Type
02/03/2017	22 Mccawley Street	\$945,000	House
25/03/2017	22 Andrews Street	\$910,000	House
25/03/2017	41 Dickinson Street	\$825,000	House
18/02/2017	9 Rooth Place	\$800,000	House
20/03/2017	139 Knox Street	\$797,500	House
15/03/2017	39 Mccawley Street	\$720,000	House
18/03/2017	39 Phillip Avenue	\$716,000	House
04/02/2017	9 Molesworth Street	\$700,000	House
03/03/2017	8 Hood Place	\$687,500	House
11/02/2017	36 Aspinall Street	\$630,000	House
11/02/2017	315 Antill Street	\$610,000	House
24/02/2017	77 Whitmore Crescent	\$499,950	House
03/02/2017	36 Tay Street	\$480,000	House
18/02/2017	29 Bettie Mcnee Street	\$655,500	Townhouse
02/02/2017	80/215 Aspinall Street	\$601,000	Townhouse
10/03/2017	17/14 Federal Highway	\$454,000	Townhouse
24/02/2017	49/23 Aspinall Street	\$401,500	Apartment
17/02/2017	60/21 Aspinall Street	\$360,000	Apartment
27/02/2017	58/20 Federal Highway	\$330,000	Apartment
17/03/2017	38/25 Aspinall Street	\$265,000	Apartment
31/03/2017	53/35 Tay Street	\$345,000	Unit
24/02/2017	69/21 Aspinall Street	\$345,000	Unit
23/02/2017	76/20 Federal Highway	\$330,000	Unit
08/03/2017	11/271 Antill Street	\$295,000	Unit
10/02/2017	3/8 Irvine Street	\$190,000	Unit
16/03/2017	22 Blair Street	\$881,000	Fluffy block
30/03/2017	57 Williams Street	\$725,000	Fluffy block
30/03/2017	17 Mccawley Street	\$705,000	Fluffy block
16/03/2017	6 Kerferd Street	\$670,000	Fluffy block
15/02/2017	119 Irvine Street	\$680,000	Fluffy block
30/01/2017	32 Simpson Street	\$565,000	Fluffy block

The contents of this list and other ACT house sale prices and information are freely published online.



Canberra Carotel Motel

Relatives coming to visit? Friends or family coming to Canberra for an event?

The Carotel Motel is an ideal place for them to stay. It has a wide variety of room styles that offer affordable, comfortable and convenient accommodation for their stay in Canberra.

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Watson Pharmacy

Pharmacy hours:

Monday to Friday : 9am–6:00pm
Saturday: 9am—1pm

Licensed Post Office & Sub-Newsagency

A selection of affordable gifts & wrapping, greeting cards & stationery items available

Post office hours:

Monday—Friday: 9am—5:30pm

Watson Pharmacy is a Quality Care Accredited Pharmacy and a member of The Pharmacy Guild of Australia. We have many services on offer:

- Pain management
- Webster packs
- Health checks and advice
- Medication checks
- NDSS diabetes scheme

Come in and talk to a Pharmacist to find out **WHAT WE CAN DO TO HELP YOU.**

Phone: (02) 6241 1506



The WCA Inc. particularly wishes to thank the Australian Catholic University (ACU), Signadou Campus in Watson, for printing this Newsletter as a community service.

The Campus has about 1,000 students and is conveniently located 5km from Canberra's city centre.

For more information on courses available please call them on 02 6209 1100—Mon to Fri 8:00 am – 5:00 pm or visit www.acu.edu.au.

WCA Inc. Annual General Meeting

The WCA Inc. Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on 16 March 2017 – and attended by old and new faces alike. Youth With A Mission (YWAM) kindly hosted the meeting.

The guest speaker was Mr Jacob Ingram (Advisor, Chief Minister's office). Mr Ingram outlined his role as a point of contact for local community groups. The WCA Inc. will continue to work with Mr Ingram to raise issues of concern to Watson residents.

The AGM covered the usual items – welcome and apologies, minutes of the previous AGM and matters arising, election of committee members and other business. Reports were provided by the Chair, Treasurer and representatives of the various working groups / subcommittees: Woodlands; Planning and Development; and Watson.

Eight written WCA Inc. nominations were received, seconded and accepted. The Chair, Deputy Chair, Treasurer and Secretary were prepared to continue in their roles, and all were duly re-elected. The results were as follows: Liz Grace (Chair); Richard Larson (Deputy Chair); Gillian Helyar (Secretary); Carrie Wright (Treasurer); Leonie Watts, Julie Smith, Rod Lestone and Fiona Hill-Stein (Committee members).

Chair's Report – Liz Grace thanked members of the Committee for their support and thanked the residents of Watson who worked on/supported the various activities of the WCA Inc. An overview of the activities of the WCA Inc. was provided.

Treasurers Report – those in attendance heard the vast majority of transactions in 2016 related to the publication of the Watson newsletter - expenses (paper) and income (donations by advertisers). At 31 December 2016, the WCA Inc. maintained a healthy bank balance of approximately \$6,200. The WCA Inc. accounts have and continue to be independently audited.

Woodlands Working Group Report - the Group ranked 15th on the Parks and Conservation list of 31 volunteer Parkcare groups for the 2015–16 financial year – with approximately 220 registered volunteer hours over an 8-month period. Those in attendance heard about the considerable work that has been done in Justice Robert Hope Park by volunteers, including weeding, fencing, collecting and testing water samples and planting. The work done by others associated with the Parks environmental offset status was outlined.

Planning and Development Report – An update was provided on each of the major developments directly impacting Watson, including those underway and pending. These included the light rail, new Canberra Park Resort and redevelopments of the Kamberra, Channel 9/ 10, Negus Street and Carotel sites. Work undertaken by the WCA Inc. to progress a Master Plan for the suburb of Watson was provided.

Watson Report – in the 2016 calendar year, the WCA Inc. produced four editions. The continued support of the Australian Catholic University (who print the Watson at no charge) and the team of Watson residents who deliver the Watson was acknowledged. Changes to the Watson introduced in 2016 were outlined.

Local events

The WCA Inc. is giving consideration to staging another 'Parties at the Shops' event, and is keen to hear from interested residents.



Please contact a committee member if you are interested.

Love living in Watson?

Have your say on our future – Watson Community Survey

Our suburb is growing! The number of residences in Watson doubled over the last 12 years – and, are forecast to rise by a further 15% in North Watson alone.

Help us ensure local facilities, green space and transport options meet the needs of all residents. Tell us what matters to you by:

- filling out the Watson Community Survey online: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R2FMFX9>
- keeping up to date on our Facebook page
- encouraging family and neighbours to have their say too.

Your input matters. The WCA Inc. will meet with the ACT Government to share our recommendations. The higher the number of responses, the more we can achieve for our suburb.

Survey closes 31 May 2017.

Questions or suggestions? Please contact the WCA Inc. via email at watsoncommunityassociation666@gmail.com.



Saturday 13th May
10am - 2 pm

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SWEET TREATS ♦ RAFFLES ♦ BBQ & CAFE

