



Newsletter

June 2010

Borthwick Park Biodiversity Project – Working Bee – Sunday 6th June

Calling all volunteers for an hour or so at 11 am on Sunday 6 June in Borthwick Park! After our first fabulous morning in early May we now have more mulch to spread and with the recent rain there are sure to be some weeds pushing through! Please bring a spade and/or rake for spreading mulch and a trowel to attack those pesky weeds!

Our native plants are coming along nicely in Burnside Council's native nursery and we are still on schedule for a planting day as soon as conditions are right. So if you have not already registered as a volunteer, please email us at contact@kra.org.au or call coordinator John Legg (0422 909 710) direct. Remember there are plenty of things to do between bio-bees if you have any occasional time in the park. You are most welcome to be involved.

Please contact us to confirm your attendance on the day. It will be fabulous to see you involved, even for a short time. Don't forget that afterwards we'll be having our (now quarterly) **Sundays in the Park** social gathering so bring the family and we'll see you on the 6th.

Sundays in the Park – Sunday 6th June

Sundays in the Park is now a quarterly, seasonal gathering in Borthwick Park. Held 12-3pm, residents gather for a barbecue, social ball games and a chat to celebrate the new season. On Sunday 6th June the KRA will provide hot soup, bread rolls and mulled wine to mark the beginning of winter. A soccer ball will be on hand for those preparing for the World Cup. Others may prefer to relax and take in the view of the Borthwick Park Biodiversity Project or enjoy a friendly game of boules.

Rising Sun Inn application for redefinition and extension of licensed area

Late last year the Rising Sun Inn applied to the Liquor & Gambling Commissioner to amend its licence to serve food and drinks in a new small outdoor dining area. The Inn is seen as an asset to Kensington adding to the charm and appeal of Bridge Street and our Association supports the eclectic mix of uses in Kensington. However in response to concerns and objections to the application from many of the nearby residents, KRA lodged an objection with the Commissioner.

An initial hearing at the Liquor Licencing Tribunal was held on the 15th of December, 2009. The issues of conflict between the parties represented were not resolved. The matter was then heard in the Licencing Court by Judge Griffin with representation from the Rising Sun Inn, residents and the KRA. The decision was handed down on 18 May. Judge Griffin approved the application but noted that the objectors had raised a number of genuine grievances that were recognised by the licensees. As a result, a number of conditions were imposed including an 11pm curfew and a limit to the number of people to be seated in the outdoor area, fitting of an automatic closer on the front door and closing of louvre windows in the skylight after 6pm. A request for modifications to the conditions has been made (for example a 10pm curfew) and is now under consideration. Refer to the website for updates, to view the KRA submission and to have your say.

2010 Kensington Garage Sale Day

Following the overwhelming success of last year's Garage Sale Day initiated by the KRA, plans are well underway for 2010. Once again the Garage Sale Day is planned for the weekend before Council's hard-rubbish collection. We are waiting for the Council to give us a date (probably late August or September) and then it will be all systems go! The KRA will advertise and coordinate a day of garage sales throughout Kensington.

How does it work? You register with the KRA and pay a small fee. (This also gives you membership of the KRA for 2010.) You organise goods for sale from your garage on the day. The KRA does the rest – advertising in local papers, the Advertiser and our website. On the day, interested purchasers collect a map of Kensington pinpointing your house and listing specific goods. Signage will be placed on all arterial roads and you will receive a sign to display outside your property so buyers can find you. Unsold items can then simply be left out for hard-rubbish collection the following week. Brilliant! Start planning your Garage Sale now.

Plot ratios for Kensington

Significant parts of our city have plot ratios defined in the Development Plan with maximum building coverage varying from 40% in College Park, to 50% in areas such as Maylands, to 60% in Stepney and 70% in Hackney. Plot ratios guarantee space for recreation, gardens, trees and permeable surfaces that will allow some water to return to the ground rather than flow out from gutters into the gulf. For some time the KRA has been concerned that there are no plot ratios set down for Kensington. The existing minimum requirement of 40 square metres of open space in Kensington translates to a maximum building coverage that varies from a low of 80% to greater than 90% depending on the size of the allotment. In short, the absence of a fixed maximum building coverage both permits and results in massive overdevelopment within Kensington. The KRA has written to Council requesting that realistic plot ratios are introduced in Stage 2 of the Development Plan Amendment process. To find out more and to have your say visit the KRA website: www.kra.org.au

Winter Solstice Happy Hour– Tuesday 22 June, 5-7pm

Join local residents and celebrate the winter solstice. The Kensington Hotel in Regent Street is providing a Happy Hour for residents with cheap drinks and free nibbles from 5-7pm on Tuesday 22 June. So come along to share a drink and meet your neighbours and KRA committee in a local hotel.

2010 Membership

Subscriptions for 2010 are overdue. To maintain credibility as the body representing the views of residents it is important that KRA maintains as large a membership base as possible. If you haven't already renewed your membership for 2010 or would like to become a member please do so using the tear-off slip below.

KRA Membership and Borthwick Biodiversity Project Registration

Name(s):	
Address:	
Phone:	Email:
1. 2010 KRA Membership: New or Renewal	\$10 membership fee enclosed: Yes or No
2. Participate in the Borthwick Biodiversity Project:	

Please complete, detach and send to: The Secretary, Andrew Dyson, 42 Regent Street. Ph: 8331 9654
Email: contact@kra.org.au Website: www.kra.org.au