



Ken Beames' Linden Observatory
- K. Abel

LINDEN CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

Newsletter March 2014

Next Meeting

Thursday 20 March 2014 7.30 pm

Location: RFS Shed, Burke Road, Linden

■ 2014 Dates for your diary

March 16	Bushcare work afternoon
March 20	Members meeting
May 4	Welcome to new residents afternoon tea
May 15	Members meeting
May 18	Bushcare work afternoon
June 15	Bushcare work afternoon
July	Vine & Verse – date to be confirmed
July 17	AGM Members meeting
July 20	Bushcare work afternoon
August 17	Bushcare work afternoon
September	Linden Walk – date to be confirmed
September 18	Members meeting
September 21	Bushcare work afternoon
October 19	Bushcare work afternoon
November 16	Bushcare work afternoon
November 20	Members meeting
December 21	Bushcare work afternoon
December	Family Christmas Party – date to be confirmed

■ To dump or not to dump...there is no question!

In the past, garden waste was often dumped in bushland, leading to colonization by weeds, creating a fire hazard and is just an unsightly mess. This is no longer a viable or socially acceptable solution to waste disposal.

Unfortunately, our remnant bushland is adversely affected by disturbances coming from developed areas. As well as direct dumping of weeds, urban bushland is constantly bombarded with seeds from water runoff, dispersed by wind and in the droppings of birds. A lot of these weeds are now well established in our bushland areas, and are what we call 'environmental weeds'.

Maintaining healthy bushland remnants is of fundamental importance to maintaining diverse bird and plant communities of our towns. This is because they are reservoirs of biodiversity that generate many of the young birds and other animals, which disperse out into surrounding urban gardens.

Planting local natives is the best way of avoiding your garden plants becoming environmental weeds. Not only are they better adapted to local conditions, they require less maintenance through fertilising, pruning and pest control. Another responsible approach includes the use of sterile hybrids and non-invasive species.

What to do instead of dumping:

- Compost your garden waste
- Mulch your garden beds with leaf litter and composted lawn clippings
- Use Council's curbside chipping serve

In short, don't throw garden waste over the fence and make it someone else's problem. Dumped rubbish costs Council and the community thousands of dollars each year and damages our environment. Illegal dumping is a crime and Council can issue fines up to \$1500 for illegal dumping on public land.

Local residents can assist and show their support for Bushcare by calling the rangers when needed and keep their eyes open for antisocial activities. For more information on composting, Kerbside Chipping, or low waste gardens contact council on 4780 5000. Or visit our website www.weedsbluemountains.org.au for more information on Bushcare activities.

■ We ask just one small favour!

Come along to Bushcare just **once!** If everyone could come just once a year we could achieve so much more. Recently we have been working at Caley's Repulse and near the train station.

Bushcare basics:

- Every third Sunday of the month, 1:30 – 4:30pm
- Meet at the park **Sunday 16 March**

■ RFS community engagement update

After the devastation caused from the September/October 2013 fires it was encouraging to see a number of new members requesting to join our brigade. They have now completed their Safety Induction course and soon will be undertaking the Basic Firefighting course. Upon successful completion the new recruits will be able to merge in with our existing frontline firefighting members. If you have been thinking about joining Linden RFS we are always willing to accept suitable new members.

Our brigade activities since the big fires included:

- 8th November 2013 – firefighting assistance at the Kemps Creek fire in Austral.
- 8th December 2013 – our tanker transported Santa to the Linden Citz Family Christmas Party.
- 19th-20th January 2013 – 12-hour deployment to the Redbank fire, south of Bathurst.
- 23rd-26th January 2013 – a four-day deployment to the Hell Hole Fire, also south of Bathurst.

The summer is not over with many warm to hot days to come. Thus, it cannot be stressed enough that **EVERY** home in Linden be prepared with a completed Bush Fire Survival Plan. You can download your copy from <http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au>. Hard copies, ready for your completion, are available at our station. For details, and further information on joining our brigade, contact the Brigade Secretary, Jenny Anlezark, at lindenrfs@gmail.com or call Captain Colin on 041 000 2875.

Do not be complacent -
PREPARE! ACT! SURVIVE!

Suzanne Kinsley, Community Engagement Officer

■ Linden Residents Recommend 40

Brief history of the current initiatives:

1. Since the 1990's residents have sought a 40km/h speed limit.
2. January 2012, LCA carried out a survey of all Linden residents in Martin Pl, Chapman Ave, Numantia Rd, Glossop Rd and its feeder streets.

The results were:

Most responses (>98%), indicated that traffic in Linden urgently needed to be slowed for the safety of both pedestrians and vehicles. This was reflected in the fact that the majority of the responding residents (74%) were happy to consider options in more than one category presented, in order to achieve this aim.

3. LCA has negotiated with BMCC, RMS and the Minister for Roads (via local MLA Roza Sage). All discussions with the bureaucracy have proved unsatisfactory as (seemingly) to have a 40km/h speed limit would provide a precedent for many/most of the residential streets throughout the Blue Mountains.

Continuing to reflect the strong majority opinion of residents as gained from the survey, Linden Citizens' Association has agreed to continue with 'Moving Safely around Linden' by erecting our own signs stating: **'Linden Residents Recommend 40'**

- These signs will be erected at 6 locations; 2 in Martin Pl/Chapman Ave area with 2 signs inbound and 2 signs outbound in Glossop Rd.
- These signs will be placed, a minimum of 3m above ground level and in such a way as to pose no additional hazards to pedestrians and motorists.
- The signs will be erected to power poles/communication poles in locations which are clearly visible and marking 'at risk locations'.

As a courtesy, Linden Citizens' Association will be writing to the residents where it is intended to erect the 'Linden Residents Recommend 40' signs, seeking their comments.

Linden Citizens' Association appreciates the positive comments received over the past months; we seek your continued support for the initiatives to slow traffic within Linden. (This has been a tortuous process!)

Jon Rickard for LCA sub-committee 'Moving Safely around Linden'

■ Linden's piece of paradise

A number of residents have expressed concern over the number of visitors to Paradise Pool and the condition the area is being left in. **Thank you to the locals who have been cleaning up after visitors who don't clean up after themselves.** It would be a shame to see this amazing spot ruined, we are so lucky to have it in our backyard. Keeping this area special and in great condition is a challenge but if you choose to tell people about it please make sure you also tell them to leave it in the beautiful condition they find it.

■ LCA committee – contact details

President:	Robbie Beale	
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Treasurer:	Philip Moss	(ph. 4753 1214)
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