



Ken Beames' Linden Observatory
- K. Abel

LINDEN CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

Newsletter July 2014

Next Meeting – AGM Members Meeting

Thursday 17 July 2014 7.30 pm

Location: RFS Shed, Burke Road, Linden

■ 2014 Dates for your diary

July 17	AGM Members meeting
August 30	Vine & Verse
September 13	RFS Open Day & Garage Sale
September	Linden Walk – date to be confirmed
September 18	Members meeting
November 20	Members meeting
December	Family Christmas Party – date to be confirmed

■ Goodbye Bushcare, thank you BMCC and Bushcare volunteers

The unfortunate decision has been made to end the Bushcare group in Linden as we did not have enough volunteers to sustain the group. We are now the only town in the Blue Mountains not to have a group. A **HUGE thank you** to everyone who came along, especially the regular members & those who supplied the most delicious cake!

In the year that Linden Bushcare operated there was weed removal along Caley Lane, at Caley's Repulse, on Glossop Road and near the station car park. This also included significant rubbish removal. Council worked with us and also ran a weed removal program alongside of our efforts.

Thank you to Blue Mountains City Council for supporting our group for over a year, providing us with terrific Bushcare Officers, training the members in a range of weed removal techniques and educating us on weeds in Linden. Council remain very supportive of a Bushcare group in Linden. If there is sufficient interest again, they are looking forward to supporting us again.

■ Linden Park update #winning!

Blue Mountains City Council have supported our proposal to provide trees in the park to shade the new seats. Council are happy to work with us on this initiative and have asked if we have a particular type of tree in mind. If you have a suggestion, please let the Linden Citizens' Committee know. We are

currently considering a deciduous tree for shade in summer and sun in winter or alternatively natives that are endemic to Linden. **Another win for Linden!**

■ Vine & Verse – Saturday 30 August

Come enjoy all the fruits of the vine crammed in Two Furlongs Winery's wine. If you miss Vine and Verse then you'll probably curse; while the poetry's good, it's d'vine!

Limerick written by our very own bush poet Greg North!

Vine & Verse is on at the RFS shed, there will be a reminder flyer circulated closer to the date. Everyone is welcome!

■ RFS Open Day & Garage Sale

With the long range weather forecast for a dry winter and dry spring, we need to support our volunteers with all the right gear to ensure their safety (and the safety of the community) in the months to come.

The RFS Open Day and Garage Sale will be held on **Saturday September 13, 2014** at the Fire Shed.

Now is the time to have a clean out and pass on those unwanted items at the back of the cupboard or taking up room in the shed!

For arrangements regarding donations, please call Kathie on 4753 1208.

Kathie Winchcombe

■ RFS community engagement update

Last week I attended a Senior Field Officers meeting of the Rural Fire Service, Blue Mountains District. We were given a presentation of the Weather Bureau's latest long range weather forecast. Dry weather is predicted into spring with a 70% chance of an El Nino occurring. This means hot dry conditions into the beginning of the fire season. The North Coast of

NSW is already experiencing substantially dryer conditions than normal. Remember we had our first bad fire in September last year. It could be earlier this year.

Are you prepared?

- Have you written and discussed your household Bush Fire Survival Plan? Are you staying or going? What if the highway is blocked and you cannot go? Prepare for the worst, then anything less will not be a problem.
- Have you checked if your insurance is enough? A lot of people who lost their homes last year were very disappointed. The new building codes for houses in bush fire areas is a big extra cost in rebuilding.

More information can be obtained from the RFS Web site: <http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/> or pop into the fire station in Burke Road one Wednesday night. We are happy to help.

Lastly, we always welcome new members. It's a great crew with great reward for you and the community.

Colin Anlezark, Captain

■ Linden Residents Recommend 40 - update

Linden Citizens' Association has liaised with council over the removal of the 'Linden Residents Recommend 40' signs. Council have explained their position and have made the signs available for return.

Council's position on the signage is clear as is the legislation. **It is very positive that council have stated their intentions to work with the LCA on road safety.** This is a great opportunity to move forward and seek a positive outcome for everyone whilst maintaining a positive working relationship with BMCC.

Council's response:

A review of the signage "Linden Residents Recommend 40" was undertaken by Council's Traffic Team and the following issues were identified prior to removal of the signs:

- The installation of the signs were not approved by any road authority and therefore displayed illegally. Council is delegated by RMS the authority to regulate traffic (such as sign posting and linemarking, however not speed zones which are still regulated by RMS) as per the Transport Administration Act 1988, Section 50 and 52A.
- Section 138 of the Roads act 1993 governs the erection of structures within the road area, the signs are non-standard and could cause confusion to drivers and consent to install would not be given.

- No signs can be displayed on power poles without prior approval from the relevant authority, e.g. Endeavour Energy. It is our understanding that this did not occur.
- The signs would not be considered approved or allowed signage as per Development Control Plan 21 'Advertising and Information Signage'.

It is acknowledged that the residents of Linden, and the Linden Citizens Association in particular, have a desire to improve road safety in the Linden area for all road users. Therefore it is our intention for Council's Road Safety Officer to engage with the residents of Linden, via the LCA, on the potential for participation in some of the upcoming road safety projects in the 2014/15 Road Safety Action Plan.

■ On the spot fines up to \$1,500

Illegal dumping is a crime with **on the spot fines for individuals up to \$1500.**

What is illegal waste dumping?

It is the unlawful deposit of waste larger than litter onto land or into water. Illegal dumping varies from small bags of rubbish in an urban environment to larger scale dumping of waste materials in isolated areas, such as bushland. It includes green waste from your garden being dumped over your fence.

Report incidents to BMCC, or the Environment Line on 131 555, or NSW Police or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000

■ Welcome to new residents!

New and 'old' Linden residents got together for a welcome afternoon tea in June at the RFS Shed. Thank you to everyone who helped organize the event and for those who came along. Welcome to one of the best kept secrets in the Mountains!

■ LCA committee – contact details

President:	Robbie Beale president@lindencitizens.asn.au	
Vice-President:	Jeremy Leather	(ph: 4753 1211)
Secretary:	Greg North greg@gregorynorth.com.au	(ph: 4753 1197)
Treasurer:	Philip Moss	(ph. 4753 1214)
Executive Officers:	Barbara Gow Patricia Hall Margaret Smith	

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