

Ken Beames' Linden Observatory
- K. Abel

LINDEN CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

Newsletter September 2014

Next Members Meeting

Thursday 18 September 2014 7.30 pm

Discussion topic: What's the Future of the LCA?

Location: RFS Shed, Burke Road, Linden

■ What is the future of the LCA? For discussion at this week's meeting



In its 55 years of existence, the LCA has achieved very many positive outcomes for Linden and its community (see page 4). More improvements are needed and issues will continue to arise in the future.

A connected community is a healthy community and the LCA is the best means we have for keeping connected.

Many residents are committed to maintaining and improving conditions and community in Linden, but, without wider support, the LCA is in danger of disappearing. This would be a sad loss for our village and make lobbying government and organisations more difficult and less effective. Together we have strength and credibility, but only with your support.

If you recognise the advantages of group representation and have ideas and suggestions, we would like to hear from you. If you can contribute to your community, we will all benefit.

The LCA needs a President and people who are willing to play a part, however small, to support the community that provides you with the environment you and other residents enjoy. Be an active part of your community to help it flourish.

Greg North, Secretary

■ Dates for your diary



September 18 General meeting – all welcome

December 8 Family Christmas Party

■ You missed out on a good time if you didn't make it to Vine & Verse!!

No need to coerce, many guests were immersed

In a diverse array of rehearsed verse interspersed

With divine fine wines, combined with punchlines.

Come rain or shine, you will hear on the grapevine

That next year's event will be better (worse reversed).

Interpretation:- Around 20 people including artists attended Vine & Verse this year, with performances by hilarious bush poets and talented musicians playing various instruments. The Two Furlongs Winery in



Mudgee was represented by Lillian who did an awesome job describing and serving the beautiful wines and cocktails, complemented by a delicious array of cheese, biscuit and fruit platters. Many orders were placed, and 10% of the value of all orders will go to the LCA. Look out for next year's Vine & Verse – it can only get bigger and better.

Christine Davies – event organiser

■ Current committee contact details

President:	Vacant	
	president@lindencitizens.asn.au	
Vice-President:	Jeremy Leather	ph: 47531211
Secretary:	Greg North	ph: 4753 1197
	secretary@lindencitizens.asn.au	
Treasurer:	Philip Moss	ph. 4753 1214
Executive Officers:	Kenvyn Davies	0411 605 641
	David Ford	
	Marilyn Pride	

■ RFS Community Engagement update



The winter period has been busy for the brigade. In a change from last year, we continued our weekly training program throughout the winter period and have seen excellent attendance. In addition to this, we've had members complete numerous formal training programs covering bushfire fighting, property protection, motor vehicle accidents, first aid and chainsaw operation, to name a few. The brigade has also attended numerous hazard reductions in this period.

The brigade Open Day will be held on September 13, commencing at 9.00 am and we encourage you to pop in. The garage sale will be in full force, you can meet some of the members, grab a sausage sandwich or have a go at using a fire hose. We'll also have members on hand to help you with doing a bushfire survival plan or just answering any questions about how best to prepare your property. At 2.00 pm there will be a Linden Residents Q&A Seminar, *Winmalee 2013 Fires - Lessons for Linden*. Hear firsthand from Winmalee residents who lost their homes, those who saved them and crew who fought the fire.

Despite all the recent rain that we have received, the long term weather prediction has not changed. It is still looking to be a hot and dry fire season.

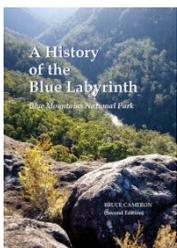
Because of this, the Bush Fire Danger Period for the Blue Mountains has been brought forward by a month, starting on September 1.

Are you ready? Is your property ready? If you're unsure, pop in on Open Day and have a chat to one of our members. There is also the new 10/50 legislation that has come into effect that may help you better prepare your property - check out the RFS website for more details.

Lastly, we now have a presence on the social media space. Check out our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/LindenRuralFireBrigade>.

Simeon Ross, Community Engagement Officer

■ New edition of Blue Mountains history book available



Mountains resident Bruce Cameron has just published the 2nd edition of his book entitled *History of the Blue Labyrinth, Blue Mountains National Park*. The previous edition was published in 1992 and the new edition is a major revision with many more photographs and a great deal more information. The price of the book is \$60 - for details of where to buy a copy, refer to <http://www.david-noble.net/blog/?p=5425>.

■ Responsible dog ownership



There is an increasing incidence of dog faeces being deposited on our roads and nature strips, as well as along the road past the National Park gate. **A reminder then to residents who are not aware of the Companion Animals Act legislation: it is an offence to leave your dog's faeces in a public place** and it is a requirement under the Act to pick up after your animal and dispose of the faeces in a responsible manner, ideally in your bin, not into the bush or someone else's bin.

Please help keep Linden's roads and open spaces clean and a joy for all to walk on.

Jose Obbens & David Ford

■ Let's stop littering in Linden



Residents, visitors and passers-by continue to throw litter in our pretty village to the detriment of all. Some regular walkers make the effort to pick up and dispose of that litter, but it is a never ending task! Particular (probably residential) offenders include someone who loves their McDonalds every week and is always dumping on Tollgate Drive and occasionally on Glossop Road. Another is someone who obviously has a problem with headaches and their Neurofen packets and foil sachets get regularly thrown out!

Other regular items over recent times include cigarette packets, interminable drink containers both plastic and metal, plus items which we don't pick up including paper tissues and disposable nappies, etc. Unusual items of late have included a perfectly good white plastic chair, gypsum plaster board, a torch in working condition, undamaged clothing and irregular dumping of loads of rubbish by trucks and utes (which we get BMCC to deal with), a load of wood chips on Railway Parade (which was put to good use!!), plastic plant pots, rubbish dumped by contractors and utility service vehicles, etc., etc.

There is an enormous temptation to establish the address of the residential McDonalds offender and take their rubbish and dump it in their front yard, but alas that address has yet to be found!

Please help make our village even prettier and take your litter home!!

Jeremy & Ann Leather

■ **Win a great prize in our raffle**

We are offering the following great prizes in this year's raffle to raise funds for the LCA, particularly to cover the cost of the Family Christmas Party.

1 st prize		Meal to value of \$150 at Vesta Restaurant at Blackheath
2 nd prize		\$100 voucher from Thomas Landscaping at Lawson
3 rd prize		\$100 oral health package from Katoomba Dental Centre
4 th prize		Wines from Two Furlongs Wines at Mudgee

You can buy tickets from any member of the committee. Better still, come along to the meeting on 18 September and buy some tickets there.

The raffle will be drawn at the Family Christmas Party on 8 December.

■ **Eurama Estate eyesore**



You can't help but have noticed the extensive and extremely ugly graffiti on the remnant sandstone wall of the historic Eurama Estate opposite the Fruit Market at Faulconbridge – this has been a blight on the Mid-Mountains landscape since early 2013.

A while back, we sought the help of the Mid Mountains Graffiti Group, based in Hazelbrook, to assist us in achieving the cleaning of graffiti from the building. However, they have enough on their hands managing graffiti in their own local area and have asked if someone from Linden could be found to manage this important graffiti removal project.

There are a number of issues to work through including how to remove the graffiti, obtaining permission to remove the graffiti, organising a working team and protecting the site from future graffiti attacks. The Mid Mountains Graffiti Group would be available to provide advice and guidance.

Please contact Greg North if you are willing to drive this issue or assist in some way.

Barbara Gow

■ **Linden Residents Recommend 40 – update from sub-committee**

**LINDEN
RESIDENTS
RECOMMEND**



Thank you to the families who have written to the BMCC with their Linden road safety concerns. It is perhaps not surprising that those most concerned with BMCC's lack of support are those living closest to the many **at risk locations** along our narrow and winding lanes/roads.

Nearly 3 years ago, a **survey of vehicle speeds** was carried out near 43 Glossop Road. The result was that the 85th percentile was about 38km/h – very close to the 40km/h limit sought. However, we believe that **the 85th percentile is used to confirm a speed limit (as about 15% of drivers will exceed any speed limit by various margins).** The result in Glossop Road would confirm that **a 40km/h speed limit should apply**, NOT the default 50km/h used in residential areas.

The LCA has again written to the BMCC seeking to re-establish an ongoing relationship to further develop our road safety concerns.

Jon Rickard, Chair, Moving Safely around Linden Committee

■ **Have your say on options for achieving a better Blue Mountains**

The Council has recently sent residents the brochure *Resourcing our Future* in which three resourcing options are detailed:



Option 1: Service Levels Improved

Option 2: Service Levels Maintained

Option 3: Service Levels Reduced

Residents have until 15 September 2014 to vote for their preferred option.

It is possible to make an online submission at bluemountainshaveyoursay.com.au/ResourcingOurFuture.

■ **Join now or renew your membership!!**



Membership of the LCA costs a mere \$5.00 per family per year. Or you can become a life member for \$50.00. It's a very small contribution towards helping keep the LCA afloat.

LCA ACHIEVEMENTS OVER THE YEARS

The LCA has achieved a great deal for the community of Linden over its 55 years of existence. You would surely agree that Linden is a better place to live than it might otherwise have been without this extensive list of achievements and this list is not exhaustive!!

- Park in West Linden
- Telstra Tower more appropriately located
- Community events such as Christmas parties, Vine & Verse, Australia Day barbeques
- William Dawes anniversary walk to Mt Twiss and other ridge and Mount Twiss walks
- Bus service on weekends
- Stopped railway station from being closed
- Cleanup at Turtle Rock
- Naming of Ken Beames Bridge
- Visits from State and Commonwealth local members and Councillors
- Snippets of LCA history from Kathy Winchcombe
- Highway upgrade, traffic lights at station, lighting that didn't impact Observatory, relocation of historic graffiti rock
- History talks
- Ban the bulb
- Regular bus service in Linden
- Railway station centenary celebration
- Gastronomy event at Observatory
- Woodford Dam access for recreation and preservation of water supply
- Small equipment grant for new copier
- Additional pedestrian warning signs installed
- LCA 50th birthday celebrations
- Secured use of fire station for LCA meetings and functions
- New Linden town signs on highway with '17 Mile Hollow' slogan
- ADSL2+ faster broadband internet petition and subsequent connection
- LCA website and MailChimp email communications
- Cleanup Australia Day participation
- Historical walks
- Improved pedestrian access to Linden station, additional parking spaces, handrails from car park up to station and improved lighting
- Guest speakers at meetings
- New resident welcome events