



**NEWSLETTER – September 2019**

**Firstly - two very imminent events of interest**

- 1. The ONELAND charity evening on 19<sup>th</sup> September:** 6.30 – 8.30 at the Mosman Art Gallery. ONELAND aims to connect Mosman girls and remote Aboriginal communities by sending our girls out to play netball. The project is largely the work of one of our members, Susie Agoston. Do take a look at the attached flyer. It is likely to be an interesting evening.
- 2. The Sydney Climate Strike on 20<sup>th</sup> September:** 12pm – 2pm at the Domain. Your committee has decided to support this event.

I have been unable to establish the exact beginning and end of the march, but I attach a map. Speeches will be on Stage Road in the place marked. I shall be there with the Mosman Parks and Bushland placard held high. Do look out for the sign and join us if you can find us.

**Secondly – two community consultations concerning public land**

**1. Harbour Trust – Drill Hall Precinct**

Most of you will have received an email from the Trust or information in your letterbox, but in case anyone has missed out the information is copied below.

*The Harbour Trust is inviting the public to comment on two planning matters relating to the Mosman Drill Hall Precinct (Cross Street, Mosman). Please visit the Harbour Trust's website at <https://www.harbourtrust.gov.au/en/> for more information.*

**1. Draft Management Plan for Mosman Drill Hall Precinct (Amendment 1)**

*The Harbour Trust has prepared a draft amendment to the current Management Plan for the Mosman Drill Hall Precinct. The current Management Plan for the Drill Hall Precinct was adopted in 2006. Under the 2006 Plan, the use of the existing outdoor courts is limited to daylight hours, and no lighting is to be provided. The draft plan amendment includes provisions that would permit lighting of the three existing outdoor sports courts and their use for sports training up to 8.30 pm. The draft plan amendment also provides updates to reflect matters such as current site conditions and other relevant statutory planning considerations.*

**2. Proposed Development — Floodlighting of Outdoor Netball Courts**

*The Harbour Trust has received a Planning Application from Mosman Municipal Council for the installation of twelve 8-metre tall light poles (four light poles at each of the three outdoor courts) at the Mosman Drill Hall Precinct, and for the outdoor courts to be used for sports training until 8.30 pm for up to four evenings a week.*

### **Drop-in Information Session**

On Saturday, 12 October 2019, visit the Drill Hall Precinct (Cross Street, Mosman) any time between 10am and 2pm to view the draft Management Plan and Planning Application. You will also be able to speak with Harbour Trust planners.

### **Submissions Invited**

The Harbour Trust is inviting submissions from interested individuals and organisations on the Draft Amendment to the Management Plan as well as the Planning Application. **Interested parties have from Thursday, 12 September until Thursday, 7 November 2019 to make a submission** and may comment on one or both of the documents. Documents are available to view on line at <https://www.harbourtrust.gov.au/en/> or in hard copy during office hours at

Harbour Trust Offices, Building 28, Best Avenue, off Suakin Drive, Mosman, at Mosman Council, or Mosman Library.

**Submissions are invited until 5 pm on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2019** and should state whether they relate to the Management Plan and/or the Planning Application.

Submissions may be emailed

Email [consulttrust@harbourtrust.gov.au](mailto:consulttrust@harbourtrust.gov.au)

Or posted to Sydney Harbour Federation Trust, P O box 607, Mosman 2088

At the time of writing, we have not had time to examine the documents fully, but the Association's position has been that lighting on existing sporting facilities is preferable to losing more of Mosman's passive recreation parkland to further active recreation.

This is going to be an ever- increasing problem as the demands on our parklands for active recreation compete with the mental, emotional and physical wellbeing that quality green space provides.

## **2. Balmoral Oval Restoration Options**

In our Annual Report we wrote of our relief that bushfire risk had resulted in the abandonment of proposal to replacement the old Pippies Childcare Centre with one with a much larger footprint. Instead, the area would be turfed, creek decontamination and restoration would commence.

At its meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> September, Council resolved to demolish the old Pippies Childcare structure and plant turf to take advantage of the Spring season and to consult the community about four options for the space. The options include:

1. A grassed natural area
2. 2a. A Multi-purpose Sports Court which would require tree removal and

3.

include possible lighting OR

**2b. A practice court** with lesser impact and not requiring tree removal

**3. A Barbeque area with tables and shelters**

**4. A Community garden**

The consultation will be by voting on a webpage with graphics and will include preferential voting. The consultation is not on the council's website as yet.

The Mosman Parks & Bushland Association committee's first view was that the Barbeque area with interpretation of natural features would maximise the enjoyment of the area by the general public, but it seems that there is concern that cooking facilities would encourage overnight use of the area by campervans.

## **Other news**

### **From the Harbour Trust**

**The Recreation Strategy** has now been finalised.

Lighting of the Netball Courts at the Drill Hall (see above)

Other concerns raised, including those in our submission, were that the Trust had not ruled out the use of synthetic turf at Middle Head Oval and Georges Heights Oval or of lighting at Georges Heights. The finalised Recreation Strategy states that the Trust's preference is for keeping the playing surfaces natural and for maintaining the prohibition against lighting at Georges Heights Oval.

These issues will continue to arise.

### **A Review of the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust**

The Federal government Budget for 2019/20 has allocated \$22.3 million for the Harbour Trust - 21.4 million for capital works (10 m for Ten Terminal, 11.4 for Platypus) and \$900,000 for a "review".

At this stage we have not heard what the review will consist of, but whether the Trust will continue to exist after 2033, the current date for the vesting of the Trust, or whether the lands could be handed over to a State authority is a matter of great concern. The Mosman Parks & Bushland Association believes that a Federal body is the appropriate agency to hold and manage these lands.

### **Two Mosman Parks & Bushland projects**

**The Nesting Box Project** – we shall see what the Spring brings!

**The Archiving Project** – Thanks to the superb efforts of our committee member, Marg Woodforth, we now have a digitised record of the Association's first 20 years. Our next challenge is to make it publicly available.



Kate Eccles, President

15<sup>th</sup> September, 2019