



30 January 2013

Dear Member

Welcome to 2013 for Tomaree Ratepayers & Residents Association Inc. We look forward to positive progress on issues which affect us all on the Peninsula.

Our first meeting for 2013 will be held on Monday 11 February commencing at 7.30 pm in the Crows Nest at Nelson Bay Bowling Club. Frank Future will be along to tell us more about the 16 hectare rezoning and residential subdivision being proposed at the entrance to Nelson Bay (Local landmark - "white whale"). Colin Howard will also present an update on the revised Soldiers Point Marina.

Our busy Committee members will also have updates on developments since our last general meeting in October last year. Many will affect each and every ratepayer and resident so we do hope you will make the time to come along and keep yourself well informed on what's going on in your community. The final agenda will be sent early next week.

Check out Our Website:

Our TRRA Webmaster Dick Appleby has been continually updating our website. Check out Hot Issues [HERE](#) if you cannot make the meeting. Submissions made by TRRA Inc since October are there on issues such as LEP; Axeing of Webcast; Subdivision at Salamander Shopping Centre into 3 Lots & associated stockpile of sand at Diemars Quarry; Halifax Park Caravan Park Extension into our Public Park; PSC Reserves Trust for PSC Holiday Parks; Repealed Section 94 Community Funding List prepared by 7 Councillors at the exclusion of 3 and the actions of those 7 at the Extraordinary meeting of Council on 18.12.12; Mackas Sand Alternate Access Road and the related Public Meeting at Salt Ash; Watch on "Tourist" Complex at Lavis Lane; to name but a few.

Meeting Dates and Mode of Operation for 2013

TRRA Inc will be meeting at two monthly intervals during 2013 at 7.30 pm in the Crows Nest at Nelson Bay Bowling Club on the second Monday, ie, 11 February; 8 April; Tuesday 11 June; 12 August; 14 October (AGM); 9 December (Christmas). Please make a note of these dates. If the Committee decides other meetings need to be held to address particular issues or we have the opportunity for a guest speaker to inform us on an issue, then members will be advised.

It is with our regret that our President Geoffrey Washington and his wife Judy, who has been of immense assistance to TRRA with media and general organisation, have confirmed they intend to take a back seat this year and our February meeting



will be the last meeting chaired by Geoff. The Committee has decided to trial a rotational President with the first offer to hold the position for 3 months coming from a new Committee member, Terry Wall from Shoal Bay (and ex NZ). Thank you Terry. Our Vice President Dick is to take a well earned overseas holiday.

Assistance from Members

Many Committee members have served the Tomaree community for several years and they would really appreciate back up from the general membership, particularly when asked to send in comments/objections on particular issues. TRRA Inc Committee members cannot continue to take up all issues and the Committee will be more selective in the ones we do take up in the future.

One Example Where TRRA Inc needs your Assistance Now – Send a Protest!

Council voted to discontinue the webcasting of Council meetings [HERE](#). If you could simply send an email to council@portstephens.nsw.gov by 5 pm tomorrow protesting this move, this would at least send a signal to the 7 Councillors who voted for the discontinuation that “we are not happy”. Council has advertised the required change to their “Code of Meeting Practice” and this is out for public comment until 31 January 2013.

Related to the discontinuation of the webcast, we are now **calling on volunteers from the community to be included on a roster** to attend Council meetings at Raymond Terrace. The Committee cannot do it all. If you could assist, even a couple of times during the year, we’d like to hear from you. The meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays commencing with a Committee meeting at 5.30 pm, immediately followed by the general Council meeting.

Another Example of Assistance – Have you Renewed your Membership?

Our website has now been updated to make it much easier for you to organise a direct debit or do this online – Check out Join Us/Renew [HERE](#) and assist TRRA Inc by becoming financial or making a donation. We are a non profit organisation and our running costs are high, particularly for some of the bigger issues which crop up from time to time.

Community Liaison Plan

New Committee member Colin Howard has kindly taken on a new role for TRRA Inc as Community Liaison Officer. Colin has the plan well underway and is looking for information about community groups which TRRA Inc can work with for a common purpose. For example, if you are a member of the Nelson Bay and District Business Chamber we’d like to hear from you so that networks can be formed to mutually benefit the community of the Tomaree Peninsula, and particularly our ailing CBD.

Margaret Wilkinson
Hon Secretary

To save postage costs, this notice will only be sent to postal members with their agenda early next week. Please tell any postal members you know about our first meeting date for 2013.

