



TRRA COMES OF AGE

The Tomaree Ratepayers & Residents Association (TRRA) will hold its first Annual General Meeting on Monday 27 October at 7.30 p.m. in the main Auditorium (Ground Floor) of Nelson Bay Bowling Club.

It has been a year of considerable achievement for the fledgling organization, which brought together the resources of several Precinct Groups at a meeting in February this year. Membership has almost doubled in the short period since, and brings with it a range of professional knowledge and technical expertise that enables it to properly consider any aspect or proposal that affects the ongoing development and management of the Area.

Bob Young, Acting President of TRRA, said the Association:

'Has the resources to provide unbiased expert advice in the fields of law, engineering, architecture, planning, social work, tourism and development, to name a few. We can canvass our entire membership to obtain a consensus view, on any issue, that has a direct impact on the current or future directions of the Peninsula. It is in our mutual interest to ensure that this wonderful but fragile environment is properly and efficiently managed for us and for generations into the future.'

All East Ward Councillors are now members of the TRRA, and have been an important and appreciated conduit to Council for the Association. It is expected that the newly elected Central Ward Councillors will also take advantage of membership and the depth of experience of the TRRA membership base.

TRRA has concerned itself with several issues of paramount importance to local residents, representing the community in discussions with Port Stephens Council, State Government departments and other local groups. It has gained the respect of State Government Ministers, local councillors and senior council staff with its professional approach to numerous issues and development proposals confronting the community.

Primary issues addressed include the foreshore management plans, including the Lands Department Nelson Bay Marina area proposals, the Nelson Bay 2030 (CBD) Strategy, numerous development plans including the Diggers Club and recent Church Street plans, and the need for council to issue a Master Plan for the overall development direction of the Tomaree Peninsula as opposed to the current 'ad hoc' approach.

more on page 2

The Association sponsored three “Meet the Candidates” sessions before the recent local government elections, providing prospective councillors with the opportunity to inform voters of their background, experience, achievements and stance on important issues. The forum offered residents the opportunity to question and assess candidates prior to voting.

TRRA will continue, subject to agreement by members, to address and pursue all issues that affect the local environment, the community and the future amenity of the Tomaree Peninsula. Future issues of concern include crime - especially graffiti and vandalism - the Anna Bay Draft Strategy and Town Plan, the Anna Bay Drainage Union Acid Sulfate Soils Plan of Management, Tomaree Peninsula tourism black spots, Council transparency and financial management and local government electoral systems.

Residents who wish to comment on any of these matters or raise other issues of community concern are invited to contact TRRA on email trra@iprimus.com.au, attend a monthly meeting or phone on 4981 3916.

At the forthcoming AGM all Committee positions will be vacated. Resident members keen to nominate themselves for the Committee can request a nomination form by phoning 4981 3916 or emailing to the above address.

Nominations must be received by Monday 13 October.

All ratepayers and residents are most welcome to attend the Annual General Meeting and are encouraged to join the Association for a nominal annual membership fee of \$10.00.