# Exploring the reality of man and machine

This year's Willoughby Visual Arts Biennial kicks off in September and will feature a council curated solo exhibition by Wade Marynowsky at the Incinerator Art Space.

Algorithmic Pareidolia is a series of new experimental video, installation and robotic artworks that explore how our reality is increasingly simulated.

Pareidolia, is the psychological phenomena of seeing or experiencing things which do not really exist, for example seeing a face in the moon. Closely linked to this concept is Anthropomorphism: attributing human characteristic or behaviours to non-human agents, for example robots.

In an exclusive interview with Naremburn Matters, Marynowsky discusses his work including the launch of his latest robotic work

#### NM: Can you tell NM about your new exhibition?

Algorithmic Pareidolia is a series of new experimental video, installation and robotic artworks that explore how our reality is increasingly simulated and automated.

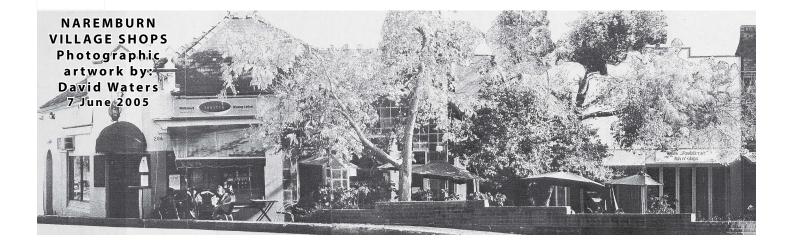
In addition to new video works, the exhibition will feature my latest robotic work; Synth-Bot, which investigates how humans perceive notions of robotic performance and robotic agency via a robotic arm which creates music, by playing a synthesiser. Julian Knowles is on sound.



NM: What inspired you to investigate the way in which we are constantly being stimulated and did you find things that surprised you?

I was inspired by the current state of machine learning and how this might affect art.

Algorithmic pareidolia, is used in machine learning by programming computers with deep digital neural networks, modelled on the brain. Recent developments in programming neural networks have provided significant insights into the way humans and computers 'think', which is exciting for both the scientific and creative communities. ... continued on page 4





#### NAREMBURN MATTERS

#### Naremburn Progress Association

Founded 1901 Incorporated 2004.

PO Box 393 St Leonards 1590

#### www.naremburnprogress.org.au

#### President

Roger Promnitz: 0419 227 986

#### Vice President

Helene Kemp 0403 015 004

#### Secretary

Ralph Youie

#### Treasurer

Carmen Loecherer: 0409 766 470

#### Committee Members

Kylie Field, Viviane Leveaux, Barry Shaw

#### **General Meetings**

Second Thursday of February, April, June, August, October and December Naremburn Community Centre 7 Central Street. Commencing at 7:30 pm with an Open Forum.

#### Naremburn Matters

Editor: Kylie Field Advertising Manager: Carmen Loecherer naremburn.matters@naremburnprogress.org.au

#### Typesetting & Design

Forest Design www.forestdesign.com.au

The opinions expressed in articles, letters and contributions published in Naremburn Matters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Naremburn Progress Association or its officers. While all possible care is taken to be accurate, no responsibility whatsoever will be taken by the Naremburn Progress Association, Typesetters or Printers.

## President - out and about

What an incredible winter we've experienced – cold nights, but lately we could be excused for thinking winter's over as the days have just been spectacular! Roll on spring!

And what a difference a few months make – last NM edition we were still wondering about the likelihood of Council amalgamations, but that course of action has now been officially abandoned and we can look forward to those Councillors elected in the Local Council elections to be held on 9 September serving a full term in office. Don't forget that voting is compulsory, and that you need to vote at a polling booth within your ward. For Naremburn Ward (which includes Artarmon), there will be booths at Naremburn Cammeray Anglican church, Naremburn Community Centre, Artarmon Community Centre and Artarmon Public School. Naremburn Ward has more nominations than any other ward in the Willoughby LGA, being a total of 18 candidates in six groups of three, for the three ward vacancies. We wish all candidates every success, and look forward to working closely with the elected Councillors over their term in office.

Willoughby Council recently approved webcasting of their Council meetings, so residents can listen to the meetings from the comfort of their own home, gaining deeper insights and greater transparency around controversial issue debates than has previously been available from the written Minutes.

Naremburn Progress Association (NPA) has also been very busy behind the scenes in developing a new Constitution, which was approved by members at the NPA meeting held on 10 August. Based on the Model Constitution, the new Constitution is the result of the first comprehensive review of the previous Constitution since its original drafting in 2004.

The proposed Western Harbour Tunnel and Beaches Link has been occupying a lot of media attention recently, as well as conducting a series of Community feedback sessions across the Lower North Shore. The need for this significant and expensive piece of infrastructure is most apparent, but community reaction has been mixed, as debate rages about preferred routes, positioning of ventilation stacks and geotechnical boring locations. Let's hope we can all work together to achieve a mutually-agreed design as soon as possible – see www.rms.nsw.gov.au/whtbl for more information.

Another activity requiring considerable planning and management by the NPA Executive Committee is the staging of a free Community Film night, to be held outdoors on 16 September at Naremburn Park. There will be competitions and games for the children, plus popcorn and coffee carts for attendees prior to the staging of a family film, "Paddington". So bring along some chairs and picnic rugs plus a simple dinner, or maybe purchase some delicious takeaway from the Naremburn shops prior to your arrival at the park. All in all, it should be a great night!

Till next time....

Roger Promnitz President

# Next Issue: December 2017

Naremburn Matters is a quarterly publication issued in March, June, September and December.

#### Next issue deadlines

Advertising: Friday 17 November Articles: Monday 24 November

naremburn.matters@naremburnprogress.org.au

## **NPA** Meeting

7:30 pm Thursday 12 October

> Naremburn Community Centre 7 Central Street

#### Letters to the Editor & Articles

Articles, comments or suggestions should be addressed to:

#### The Editor,

naremburn.matters@naremburn progress.org.au or mail to: PO Box 393 St Leonards NSW 1590

We do not publish anonymous letters. Please include your email address or phone number as we may need to edit items to fit the space available.

## **Editor's Note**

Welcome to the spring edition of Naremburn Matters. Its lovely to see all the gardens springing to life around the suburb after what's been a pretty cool winter...although no complaints from our house as winter is a welcomed season.

Naremburn Progress Association is gearing up for the event of the year – the Paddington Bear movie night on the 16 September from 4.30pm. The Premier of NSW Gladys Berijiklian will open the event and local businesses are offering great deals and prizes on the night. Forsyths will also have a coffee cart at the event so show your support and come along to this great community get together.

Naremburn Matters is getting a facelift. What has been a treasured community newsletter is moving into a new era and look. In addition to permanently being in colour we'll also be on recycled paper for the December edition. We are so excited at NMHQ and can't wait to show you all.

We are also interested in meeting locals and getting to know what you do. In this month's edition, we meet University of Sydney and Kolling Institute scientist Deborah Marsh and learn about her groundbreaking research into ovarian cancer and treatments. Deborah is a local and we are proud to bring you her story.

Until December...

**Kylie** 

# Join the NPA and have your say.

### Who can join?

- Naremburn residents 18 years and over;
- Non-resident Naremburn property owners;
- People who run businesses in Naremburn.

\$15 per person per annum/ \$10 Concession per person per annum

New members, please fill out the membership form at:

www.naremburnprogress.org.au

Membership renewals can pay online using your name as reference:

Acc Name: Naremburn Progress Association BSB: 032 297 Acc. no.: 201 474



Peter Chauncy at McGrath Crows Nest

We're here to shine a light on the Naremburn property market and give local buyers and sellers a keen insight into the state of the real estate market in the area. Since the last Naremburn Matters edition in May, there has been a lot of activity, even though the winter months are traditionally a quiet season in our business. In fact, in the past 10 weeks or so Peter and his team have sold 20 properties across the 2065 postcode. And the results have been exceptional!

Of the 10 sales in Naremburn, three homes were sold off market, and each of these achieved prices around \$2.5mill. We also posted a new price record for a townhouse in Naremburn with 3/60 Waters Road selling to a local family for \$1,910,000.

The spring season is fast approaching and it's shaping up to be a very busy period with plenty of Naremburn homes about to hit the market. The feedback we are getting tells us there will finally be a bit more stock for buyers to choose from in the coming weeks.

By now all local homeowners should have received a copy of our Naremburn Report. Each year we publish a detailed property statement for local sales of houses & semis, plus a separate report for the townhouse/apartment sector. If you haven't received this and you would like a copy, please email us and we'll gladly drop one off.

In between negotiating record price sales, Peter is busy training for the 10KM run leg of the Noosa triathlon. This is Australia's highest profile triathlon and is an annual McGrath team event. After finishing a close second last year, the McGrath team are looking forward to coming first this year! Peter is also looking forward to beating his last year's PB of 39 mins 10 secs!

#### **Peter Chauncy**

For the best real estate advice contact Peter Chauncy:

Mobile: 0402 036 489

Email: peterchauncy@mcgrath.com.au

Phone: 02 8115 0401

McGrath Estate Agents Crows Nest 1A/29 Holtermann Street CROWS NEST

# Exploring the reality of man and machine

## continued from page 1...

For example, in 2015 Google released its Deep Dream software, a computer vision program, which uses a convolutional neural network to find and enhance patterns in images via algorithmic pareidolia. The results are dream-like and hallucinogenic images that rival the work of Giuseppe Archicembalo and Hieronymus Bosch.

However, the problems arising from teaching computers to think for themselves reveals that neural nets think differently to humans. Sometimes their algorithmic pareidolia makes mistakes and when they do we don't know how or why. Not knowing the difference between a human and a tree that looks like a human may create interesting unpredictable artworks, but when the same algorithm is driving a car, it will most certainly crash. I am interested in this early stage of machine learning, when the machines make weird mistakes, as it is one of the best times for them to make interesting artworks. However through the process of making the works for the show I found that what surprised me most was not machine learning but personal creativity and to develop an understanding of the local environment by allowing myself to see more than what is really there.

The exhibition will show the results of my experiments in Google's Deep Dream, as well as new videos that are inspired by the notion of Algorithmic pareidolia or digital pareidolia.

# NM: How do you create an installation and what experience does it give the audience?

In the first work the audience will be a part of the artwork, seeing themselves on a screen though a live camera feed mixed with computer generated imagery. In the robotic work Synthesiser-Robot, I want to see if people will one day enjoy going to a concert by a robotic musician. This is common in Japan

# NM: Why do you think society has an ever-growing fascination with robots and robotics?

Robots and Robotics allow us to project our fears and desires onto non-human life forms. That is why there are so many different types of definitions for robots and why we attribute behaviours to them. We are fascinated with them because we want to understand ourselves.

Artificial intelligence and robots are the closest things we can create that can compare with our own intelligence, until and unless we are able to find alien life on other planets.

The exhibition opens on the 6 September from 10am and runs till 1 October 2017 at the Incinerator Art Space, 2 Small Street, Willoughby

The Incinerator is open from: Wednesday to Sunday 10am to 4pm

Wade Marynowsky in conversation with the curator

Saturday 16 September, 3pm - 4pm

## Contributors Wanted

Naremburn Matters is permanently seeking regular written contributions from interested community members. If you have a flair for writing or even just an interest in a local issue, we welcome all members of the community from students to grandparents to submit your story.

What do you have to lose?

Get in touch at: naremburn.matters@ naremburnprogress.org.au



## Thai Takeaway Food

294 Willoughby Road Naremburn

Tuesday to Saturday Lunch 11:30 – 2:00 Monday to Sunday

**Dinner** 4:00 – 9:30 Phone your order – Ready in 20 minutes

02 9906 1088

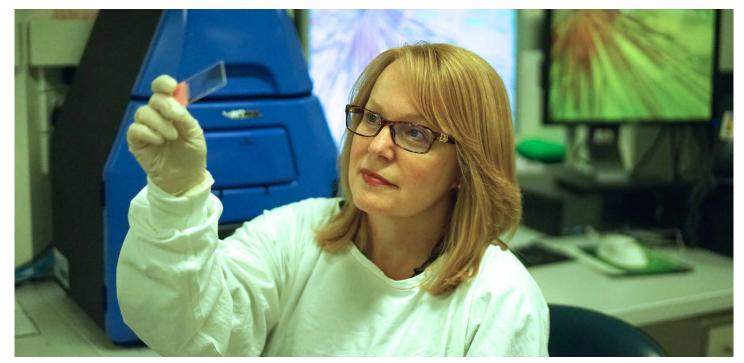


Serving Naremburns best Coffee & Tea since 1981

284 Willoughby Road Naremburn

Monday to Sunday 6:45am – 6:00pm

02 9437 5916



## Meet the people in your neighbourhood...

The Kolling Institute, associated with the University of Sydney, is located at the Royal North Shore Hospital, right on Naremburn's doorstep. Naremburn resident and University of Sydney scientist Deborah Marsh conducts her research program at the Kolling Institute focussed on how to develop better treatments for women with ovarian cancer by investigating the molecular causes of this cancer.

It is expected that around 1,600 Australian women will be newly diagnosed with ovarian cancer this year, and many will find they already have advanced disease. The early symptoms of ovarian cancer can be vague and might be dismissed as something less serious. Symptoms may include abdominal bloating or pain, appetite loss, changes in urinary or bowel habits, unexpected weight loss or gain and unexplained fatigue.

We hear a lot these days about "personalised" or "precision" medicine. Precision medicine is based on the recognition that every patient is unique, essentially the very opposite of a one-size-fits-all approach to therapy. A large part of this uniqueness is driven by the molecular changes occurring in tumour cells, including changes to the DNA code that make up our genes and other factors that influence how our genes act. One of the genes studied by Deborah's group is called p53, known as the "guardian of the genome". p53 is altered in almost all of the most common form of ovarian cancer and the Kolling team is investigating how this influences the molecular makeup of this malignancy. This work includes studying the "epigenome" of ovarian cancer, which means understanding what is happening "above" the DNA, with chemical changes to DNA itself and proteins that associate with it, that affect how our genes act. Her studies are expanding our knowledge of both the ovarian cancer genome and the epigenome, offering opportunities to develop new therapies for women with this cancer.

Deborah also leads the Royal North Shore Hospital arm of a study called INOVATe, standing for Individualised Ovarian Cancer Treatment through Integration of Genomic Pathology into Multidisciplinary Care, a collaborative study across NSW hospitals and research institutes, where tumours and blood samples from women with ovarian cancer are analysed in detail for molecular changes, to then take advantage of new precision medicine-based therapies. This program, which started in February, is in its early days, yet all are hopeful that it will make a real difference for women in our community with ovarian cancer.

As well as her research program, Deborah manages the tumour banking initiative at Royal North Shore Hospital where cancer patients consent to having a piece of their tumour and some blood stored for research. If you have had cancer surgery at Royal North Shore Hospital, North Shore Private or the Mater Hospital, Crows Nest, you may have been approached by dedicated staff to ask if you would like to participate in this program that has been running for 25 years and currently supports research into many different types of cancer. Researchers are grateful to cancer patients and their families in the community for supporting cancer research in this way at such a difficult time in their lives.

If you'd like to know more about ovarian cancer, helpful information is presented here - https://ovarian-cancer.canceraus-tralia.gov.au/.

Deborah Marsh is a Professor of Molecular Oncology at The University of Sydney and Head of the Functional Genomics Laboratory at the Kolling Institute, Royal North Shore Hospital. She aims to improve outcomes for people living with cancer through laboratory-based research.

To support her research or for more information about advances in cancer research being done by Professor Marsh's team, please contact David Meredith on +61 2 8627 0797 or david.meredith@sydney.edu.au.

## Letter to the Editor

### Why WeHaT BL?

The Western Harbour Tunnel & Beaches Link (WeHaT BL) was not on my radar three months ago. What a dramatic change it made listening to a few health and transport experts, friends and other parents! WeHaT BL now ranks as the single most important issue keeping me awake at night.

Without going into the well-known advantages of public transport v's toll roads, the issue that distresses me most about WeHat BL is UNFILTERED smoke stacks as information is surprisingly less publicised: diesel exhaust fumes are classified as carcinogen (WHO), children are more vulnerable (they breath faster, inhale more air toxins and have growing lung tissue which can lead to permanent reductions in lung growth), and small particulates from diesel emissions once in our lungs cause immediate and long-term respiratory diseases (the smallest ones may enter the blood stream and may lead to heart attack and strokes). Apparently, those particulates of very small size are lethal (meaning NO SAFE LIMIT for human exposure).

Call me paranoid, but my confidence that unfiltered smoke stacks (discharging significant volumes of particulates near our homes, schools and parks) is a brilliant choice has disappeared.

The obvious question remains unanswered: why would proponents of WeHaT BL allow this to happen when state-of-the-art-technology (deployed in Hong Kong, Madrid, Tokyo) removes most of these pollutants?

If planners in other cities are capable of building infrastructure that minimises health costs elsewhere, why would our health be neglected here?

Personally, I'd rather see efficient public transport being implemented to address congestion and growth but if we will be served with WeHaT BL, I'd like to see our leaders doing the right thing!

Carlos Crowley Vazquez, Garland Road, Naremburn



IN NAREMBURN SINCE 1990 286-288 Willoughby Rd

Walk to the best fish n' chips in Sydney

"For the freshest fish brought daily find out why we are consistently voted one of Sydney best fish and chip shops for quality and value. Don't forget our burgers Channel 9 winner Battle of the Burgers"

Call to pre-order 02 9438 4260

Open every day 10am–8pm (except Christmas day)





## FLAT ROCK BREW CAFE

290 Willoughby Road NAREMBURN

#### Some great things happening at your local brewery....!

- ✓ Award winning craft beer brewed on site
- ✓ Authentic English ale served from hand pump
- ✓ Great food
- ✓ Beer tastings and food pairing events
- ✓ Brewery tours upon request
- ✓ A fantastic atmosphere for everyone
- ✓ Function room for up to 40 people available - great for school class parent events
- Extensive local and international tap and bottle list
- ✓ Families welcome
- ✓ Trivia Night
- ✓ Monthly Home Brew Club

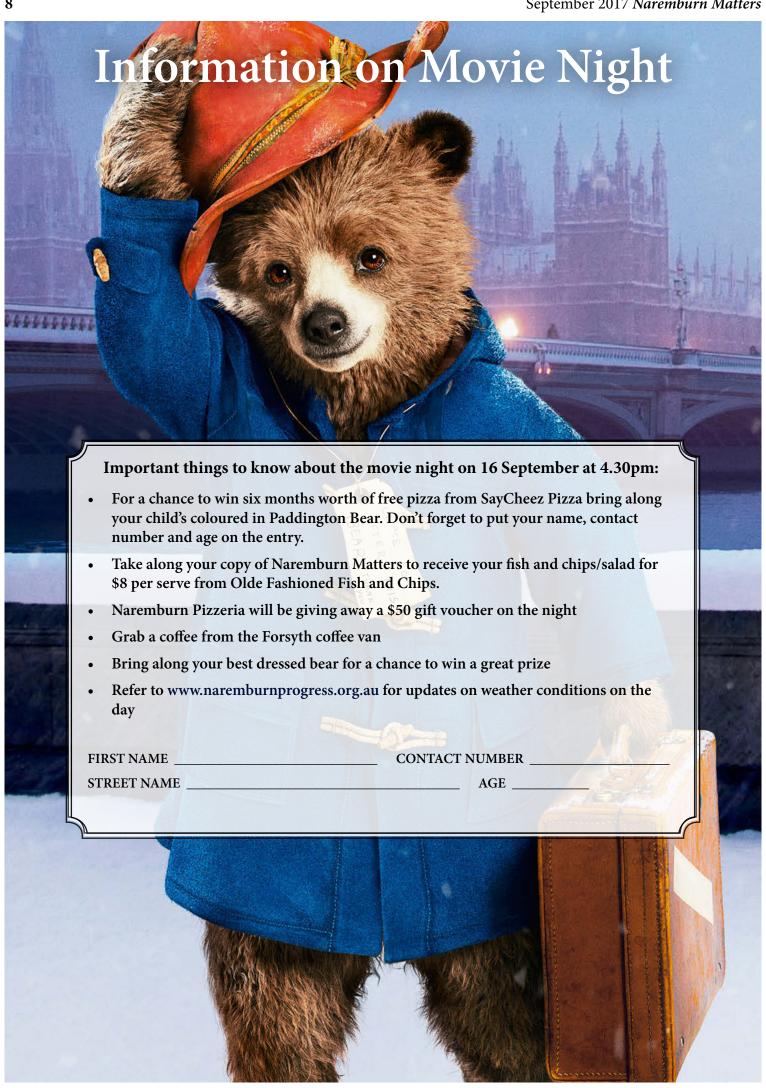
#### TO BOOK A TABLE

email: flatrockbrewcafe@iinet.net.au or sms: 0427 466 004

# Naremburn Family Movie Night Colouring in Competition

Bring your coloured in Paddington Bear drawing to our movie night (16 Sep. 4.30pm awards) to win a prize and an opportunity to have it published in the next edition of Naremburn Matters. More details over the page...





## Pampering for pooches

There is an array of pooches and hounds that live in Naremburn, and from the amount of tail wagging that goes on when they greet each other, they are all well adjusted and loved dogs.

Situated at Naremburn shops is Barber Paws, a renowned dog-grooming salon. In an interview with Naremburn Matters, award winning groomer Nancy discusses the local favourite breeds and what skills are needed to be a dog groomer.



#### NM: What is involved in being a dog groomer?

BP: It's all about handling skills and being patient and passionate about dogs.

#### NM: How did you get involved with dog grooming?

BP: I was a flight attendant but to be able to look after my own dog without leaving home so frequently, I chose to be a groomer

#### NM: What sort of dog clients do you have?

BP: We have dogs of all ages and breeds including many many oodles.

#### NM: Are Naremburn dogs well behaved?

BP: Naremburn dogs are the best and the owners are great so I guess it's related.

#### NM: Why is it important for dogs to visit a groomer?

BP: Grooming to a dog is like spa to us. It's important that they also enjoy the fresh grooming and nice appearance just like we do. Also in summer, we help to see if there are any ticks and fleas or any other skin issues.

# Yummy easy orange marmalade - Paddington Bears favourite

- 600g (approx. 6–8) small oranges, halved
- 1 lemon, juiced
- 1.4 l water
- 1.1kg caster sugar

#### Method

- 1. Before you begin making the marmalade, sterilise your jars. To do this, place the clean jar in a large saucepan. Cover the jars with cold water and bring them up to the boil. Allow to simmer for 10 to 15 minutes then remove the jars from the water with tongs. Set aside upside down to dry.
- 2. Scoop the flesh, juice and pips out of the orange halves with a metal spoon and whiz in a food processor until smooth.
- 3. Remove as much of the pith from the orange halves as possible and throw away. Then carefully slice the remaining rind into very thin strips.
- 4. Tip the orange purée and the orange rind strips into a heavy-based saucepan.
- 5. Add the lemon juice and water then bring the pan to the boil.
- 6. Reduce the heat to a slow simmer and allow to cook for 1–1 ½ hours until the mixture has reduced by half and the rind is very soft.
- 7. Over a low heat, add the sugar and stir it through until it is dissolved. Boil the marmalade for 10 minutes. Skim any froth that appears off the surface.



- 8. To check if the mixture is ready, take a teaspoon of the marmalade from the pan and place on a cold plate in the fridge
   if it sets to a jelly, it is ready. If it doesn't, it still needs a little more cooking. Test again in another 5-10 minutes.
- 9. Once ready, take the pan off the heat and allow to cool a little before pouring into the sterilised jars and sealing.

#### Recipe supplied by kidspot.com.au

# Naremburn Community Centre Activities

There are two spaces available for hire in the community centre.

There is a meeting room with its own kitchenette and toilet facilities and a larger area with its own projector.

These spaces can be hired through the Willoughby Park Centre (Ph. 9967 2917 or email

willpark@willoughby.nsw.gov.au)

#### Naremburn Progress Association

2nd Thursday – February, April, June, August, October and December 7:30 pm 0419 227 986 (Roger Promnitz)

#### Playgroup

Wednesday – for children 5 and under 9:30 am to 11.30 am naremburnplaygroup@gmail.com

# Northern Suburbs Philatelic Society

3rd Thursday, 7:45 pm Visitors always welcome 9419 7354 (Paul Storm)

#### **Breast Feeding Association**

1st Tuesday 10:00 am to 12 noon abamns.contact@gmail.com

# Willoughby Community Preschool

Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm 9437 4260

#### Naremburn Library

Mondays – 2:30 pm to 5:00 pm Thursdays – 2:30 pm to 5:00 pm Saturdays – 9:30 am to 12 noon 9439 5584

## 7 Central Street

# News from Naremburn Library



There is plenty to enjoy at Naremburn Library during spring.

#### WILLOUGHBY COMMUNITY PEACE QUILT WORKSHOP

Monday 11 September 2.30 - 4.30pm

Library customers of all ages had a lovely time at artist Emma Anna's patchwork session in August. Everyone also enjoyed seeing the stunning work she brought with her. Fortunately, she is holding another workshop at the Library on Monday 11 September from 2.30 to 4.30pm. No bookings or payments are required, and beginners and supervised children are very welcome. The work done in these sessions and in workshops at the other branch libraries will be combined to form the Willoughby Peace Quilt. The quilt will be on show at Chatswood Library on International Peace Day, Thursday 21 September.

#### SCHOOL HOLIDAY LEGO

Monday 25 September 3 – 4pm

Children of all ages are invited to a Lego afternoon on Monday 25 September from 3 to 4pm. There is no need to book — just bring your children along for an enjoyable free holiday activity. As always there will be plenty of great books and DVD's available for loan.

#### SOCIAL MEDIA DISCOVERY DAY

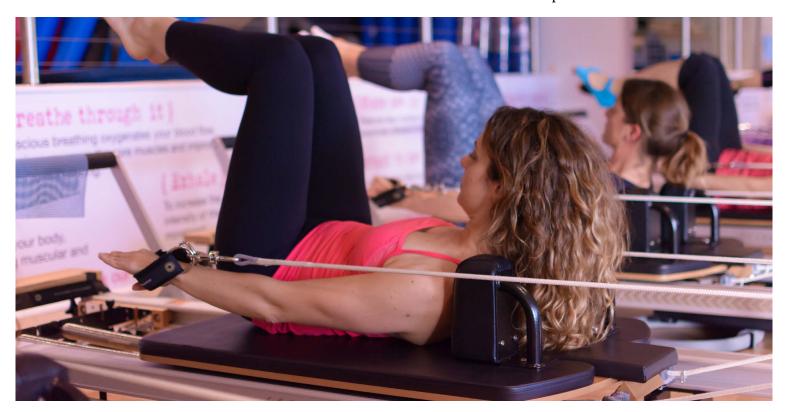
Thursday 2 November 2.30 - 4.30pm

Are you wondering what social media is all about? Drop in to explore at your own pace, or book for in depth assistance with Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and more. There will be mock accounts set up for you to try out for yourself. If you are already using social media, find out how to get more out of it. BYO your own device or use ours.

Books are just the beginning!

Diana Revington (Branch Librarian)





## Pilates for Prevention, Rehabilitation, General Health

Pilates is a wonderful low impact method invented by Joseph Pilates in Germany and further developed by him in New York. Its influence is from gymnastics and dance and it was originally focused on rehabilitation from injury. However, as the Pilates method has continued to develop it has now become a popular exercise option.

Pilates' popularity has taken the world by storm and is now regularly practiced by athletes and celebrities as well as people of all ages and conditions. Although mostly practiced by women, it was originally designed for men and is ideal for both men and women. It's a mindful practice that is progressive and encourages ongoing learning and improvement, while developing greater strength and flexibility.

Pilates is short for core strength, stability of the hips and torso, activation of balance (stabilizing) muscles, flexibility and strength of global muscles. It will prevent and alleviate pain from backs, knees, shoulders and hips. Physios and chiros often recommend Pilates to their patients to manage and avoid injuries. It will also improve everyday function of your body, including sporting performance. Done regularly and correctly, Pilates is the ideal way to strengthen and keep your body well from the inside out.

Some phrases you will hear in a Pilates class:

- Scoop the abdominals to protect the spine: One of the first things you learn in Pilates is how to properly scoop and engage the abdominal muscles in order to provide a stable centre and protect your spine. It's absolutely vital to protect the spine and lumbar region of your back, which can be injured easily during exercise.
- Stop when you're in doubt or feel unsafe: Your instructor will be guiding you through every exercise, explaining how to stay safe when performing it. If you ever have questions on the correct way to do things, experience pain in any area, or need a hand figuring out your alignment, stop what you're doing and call the instructor over. By waiting until you're absolutely clear on the correct technique, you avoid the risk of injury that comes with bad habits and improper alignment.
- Tell your instructor about pre-existing conditions and injuries: If you have an old injury that sometimes acts up or a medical condition that may at any time present a health risk to you, make sure to tell your instructor about it from day one. Even if it doesn't seem that important, there may be exercises in Pilates that aggravate your condition(s), posing a risk for injury. If your instructor knows the full story, he/she can modify any exercises that may put you at greater risk for injury.
- Stay hydrated and breathe: If you stop breathing and drinking water, your muscles become tighter, due to deprivation of the two key ingredients they need to function (water and oxygen). Always stay hydrated throughout class and throughout your day, cutting down on diuretics such as caffeine and high sugar foods. When in class, especially during difficult poses, breathe! The more stress your muscles are under, the more oxygen they need, so always remember to breathe. Holding your breath—especially with dehydrated muscles—causes tightness and, in the long term, brittle muscles and bones, making your body more injury prone.

Pilates 360 offers small group Pilates classes in St Leonards and Neutral Bay. For more information about your first Pilates class please call Pilates 360 on 9438 5050 or email info@pilates 360.com.au

One complimentary group class for all Naremburn Matters readers.

# **Local News & Updates**

#### **Artarmon Bowling Club**

It is nearly two years since the bowling club made the decision to close down. In doing so they made an extraordinary gesture in offering to sell the property to Willoughby Council for a very small sum on the proviso that it would be held in perpetuity for use as a communal recreation and activity area. To the great benefit of the local and wider community, WCC agreed to purchase the property and on a recent Sunday morning held a community consultation event, complete with sausage sizzle, at the club to gather suggestions as to what people would like to see on this site. This event was attended by over 200 and by the end of the morning literally hundreds of suggestions had been made ranging from a mini golf course to a Permapatch community garden. A collation of the suggestions indicates the community's support for the site is to have a predominantly passive recreation theme, with an emphasis on family-orientated recreation and older children's activities.

One of the recurrent themes was the retention of the clubhouse for use as a community centre, these being a very scarce item in the Artarmon/Willoughby/Naremburn area. This item is somewhat controversial in the light of

a WCC estimate that it would cost approximately \$1.5m to renovate the building and only \$150k to demolish it. While these figures are very approximate, WCC at this stage appears to favour demolition while the great majority of the community ask that it be retained for community use. Following the community consultation, the Council Officer's report came before Council at the 24 July general meeting to consider the next step in converting the site. After much discussion and explanation, Council agreed with the report's proposal for the establishment of a Citizen's Panel to undertake a preliminary assessment of the suggested uses, the availability of other community facilities in the area, and the cost of upgrading and maintaining the current building. The Panel will report back and make their recommendation to Council by December 2017. Once the future of the building is determined, the Master Plan for the adjoining Artarmon Reserve can be finalised.

Council will shortly be calling for expressions of interest in joining the panel.

**Bob Taffel** 

## What's Happening with Channel 9?

The Channel 9 Modified Concept Plan (MCP) proposing 510 apartments in lieu of the original agreed 400, and a maximum building height of 12 storeys in lieu of the original eight storeys, has met with opposition from both Willoughby Council (WCC) and the local community. It has been argued that the MCP is far more than a modification but the planning laws include a clause whereby such a major deviation from the original is still classed as a modification.

Following the submission of the MCP, Willoughby Council subsequently withdrew its agreement to sell the Council-owned section of Scott St into the redevelopment and the new owners, LEPC9, who purchased the property from Channel 9, took Council to court to try to enforce the original undertaking.

Later, LEPC9 decided to rejig the MCP, excluding Scott St from the redevelopment. Having made this adjustment, LEPC9 then resubmitted the MCP to the Department of Planning (DoP) who responded saying that although the

MCP excluded Scott St, the proponent would still have to refer back to Council to obtain its consent. This resulted in LEPC9 taking action in the L&E Court opposing the DoP's directive.

The L&E Court heard the matter last week and declared that the DoP should accept the proposed MCP, with Scott St excised, and proceed with due process, which will include placing the MCP on public exhibition again. Once the exhibition period has lapsed and submissions have been examined and answered by LEPC9, the matter will be passed to the Planning Assessment Commission for determination and it would be expected that the community will have a further opportunity to comment on the revised proposal. No timetable has yet been set for the process just described.

Note: at this time the DoP has not finalised its plans for proceeding with the application. This should become known over the next couple of weeks.

**Bob Taffel** 

#### Meet the councillors

Local council elections will be held on 9 September 2017, and like all elections in Australia, voting is compulsory. At the recent Naremburn Progress Association meeting the councillors running for the Ward of Naremburn were introduced to members of the local community.

The leading candidates from each group are Stuart

Coppock, Simon Fuller, Christine Tuon, Shree Napit, Nic Wright and Max Underhill.

Keep an eye out in the December issue of Naremburn Matters for an exclusive interview with the newly elected councillors for the Ward of Naremburn.