

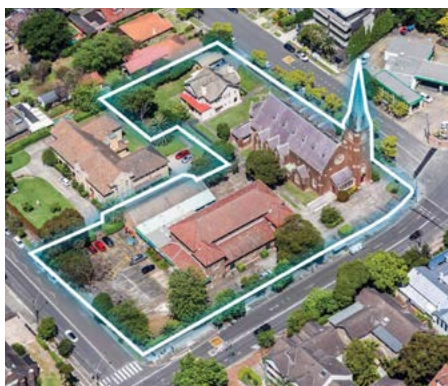
43 DONNELLY ROAD

Has been listed as a boutique commercial development opportunity

Calls for Expressions of Interest for the development of this 5,893m² site, in partnership with the landowner, has been advertised. The site is located in a prime position, complemented by the impressive St Leonards Catholic Church which will continue in operation and remain the prominent feature under any redevelopment scenario. This property is in close proximity to the local Naremburn shops as well as the buzzing cafes and shops of Crows Nest Village.

Church parishioners expressed a clear desire to protect and enhance the curtilage of the heritage listed St Leonard's Church. The need to continue to maintain it and ensure as the result of any potential development that newly developed Parish hall and parish facilities would be provided along with adequate car parking and additional income to sustain the parish well into the future.

Two development scenarios would be considered: retaining CatholicCare on the current presbytery site as an adaptive reuse development option; and a development option that does not include a parish use (ie CatholicCare), also an adaptive reuse option.



The use of the words "For Sale" in some of the online marketing collateral has caused some confusion. This is a development partnership, 99 year long term leasehold structure. Freehold sale is NOT being considered.

The Church will remain in operation during the works and into the future, and remain the prominent feature under any redevelopment scenario.

The Church itself will not be subject to redevelopment (with the exception of an enclosed link connecting it to a new parish hall).

It is a requirement for any interested parties making a submission that they are to include the two development options (regarding CatholicCare's potential adaptive reuse of the current presbytery building and surrounds). It has also been made clear that any development plans to be considered for the current presbytery building is to be 'adaptive reuse'.

Fr Brian Moloney from St Leonards Catholic Church, has had the intention from the outset to honour the vision of the parish as a result of the consultation undertaken to date and to continue to be very transparent with the parishioners regarding the results of the marketing campaign, mindful of the need to discern the outcomes with the parish.

The EOIs received will be evaluated with a view to shortlisting possible development partners, with the hope of having a preferred developer identified by Christmas. This will then provide an opportunity to present the outcomes for consideration in early 2021 via a parish consultation forum.

ON THE BUSES



Bus service changes will occur to the Lower North Shore in December, most of them impacting Mosman to Northern Beaches, and some affecting the Willoughby area, notably:

Route 257 Chatswood to Balmoral will be scrapped. Commuters will have to catch the 343 to Crows Nest and connect to new Route 114, Crows Nest to Balmoral Beach.

Route 143 Manly to Chatswood via St Leonards and 144 Manly to Chatswood via Royal North Shore Hospital will be replaced by a new Route 144 from Manly to Chatswood via St Leonards. This service will operate via the Pacific Highway, with stops for Royal North Shore Hospital near Reserve Road.

Route 136 Chatswood to Dee Why service will be withdrawn and replaced by a frequent service 160x Chatswood to Dee Why via Frenchs Forest (limited stops).

More information can be found at <https://transportnsw.info/news/2020/northern-beacheslower-north-shore-bus-service-improvements>.

TRUE OR FALSE

In 1902, a year after the NPA was founded, there were two postal deliveries every day..

ANSWER ON PAGE 12



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SUPPORTERS

McGrath



THE IVY LEAGUE

infocus



NAREMBURN PODIATRY





What a year! We've all felt the effects of COVID-19, while at national and state levels the pandemic has created many different action plans and roadmaps, some effective, some not.

It has been a difficult year but we have a lot to be thankful for. We have a seemingly endless stream of proposals, infrastructure developments, covering private and community facilities, requiring careful analysis and feedback.

This will be our final edition of Naremburn Matters for 2020, so it is timely to thank the many people who volunteer their time and talents to make this newsletter and the NPA a success.

Personally and on your behalf, I would like to show sincere appreciation for the efforts of:

- The NPA Executive Committee members (Helene Kemp, Ralph Youie, Carmen Loecherer, Viviane Leveaux, John Melville and Matthew Smythe)
- Naremburn Matters committee (Helene Kemp, Meredith Shimmin, Shaun Greenwood and Louise O'Kelly)
- Naremburn Matters distribution coordinators and walkers

Thanks also to our regular Naremburn Matters contributors, including:

- Diana Revington – Naremburn Branch Librarian
- Dr Raffi Sahagian – Willoughby Medical Practice
- David and Linda Stickland – Neighbourhood Watch
- Sue Howes – Bongalong Street Community Garden
- Kevin Fitzpatrick – local history questions and quizzes
- Larissa Penn - Beaches Link tunnel updates
- Julie Waddington and her NAG team – protecting Local Conservation Areas
- Our Ward Councillors
- All those businesses that steadfastly support our publication through thick and thin

And finally to you, our Members!

To each and every one of you, thank you, Merry Christmas; see you again in 2021.

ROGER PROMNITZ
PRESIDENT

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I would like to congratulate you and your editorial team on the excellent publication Naremburn Matters. The newsletter is very interesting and keeps the residents current on issues affecting the community.

While we have relocated from Naremburn to Central West NSW, we still have a strong interest in the developments (or over-developments) and other issues such as transport and infrastructure that impact Naremburn. All the information you publish is extremely relevant and an opportunity to find out what businesses are in our locality by their advertisements - which we use and support wherever possible.

Thank you for taking the time and effort to put together such a valuable communication for our Naremburn community. It is wonderful to witness how Naremburn Matters has progressed over the years. I am sure those who have been previously involved in the newsletter would be very impressed with its progression.

Keep up the good work and we wait in anticipation for the next edition.

JEAN AND FRANCES O'BRIEN

I have noticed an ever-increasing number of Indian (or Common) myna birds in the area. I have also read about the negative impacts they have on native birds and mammals. Are you aware of any programs to protect our native species by humanely dealing with the Indian myna issue?

Grateful for your advice in a future publication.

CHRISTOPHER SULLIVAN



Naremburn Progress Association

NAREMBURN MATTERS
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NAREMBURN PROGRESS ASSOCIATION (NPA)

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Founded 1901, incorporated 2004
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Article deadline 6 November 2020

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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 NPA, Typesetters or Printers.

Peter Chauncy – McGrath



The local property market has been performing better than expected with many record sales and strong buyer competition. A recent Financial Review article mentioned that while many Australian property markets are still reeling from the effects COVID, sales across the lower north shore have continued steadily.

In September and October my team and I successfully negotiated the sale of 32 properties across the lower north shore, 18 of which were in Naremburn alone. Some standout results include the sale of 51 Park Road, 9 Probate Street, 56 Northcote Street and 303 Claire Street, all of which sold prior to auction for \$3,350,000, \$3,105,000, \$2,950,000 and \$2,740,000 respectively.

The townhouse and apartment market has also been performing well, with recent sales including 27/55 Garland Road and 3/36a Park Road, both selling prior to auction for \$2,100,000 and \$1,395,000.

We also had some great results off-market with the sale of a 44 Darvall Street, a two-bedroom, single-fronted home, which sold to a buyer on our database for \$2,210,000.

While many buyers are looking for property, available real estate is missing. There simply isn't a lot of stock available and this is creating strong competition for quality properties that do come on the market. Increasing this demand is the numerous buyers looking to secure a purchase before Christmas, with a 2021 settlement.

If you're thinking of selling, whether it be now or in the new year, get in touch with us today and we can advise you on the best approach for the outcome you are looking for.

**PETER CHAUNCY
MCGRATH CROWS NEST
0402 036 489**

NCA Christmas

We have a few special ideas at Naremburn Anglican Church this Christmas:

1. The Christmas Workshop

This is a two day event for children (K-6) on 17 and 18 December. The program has been running for almost 20 years now. Each year over 100 children from our local community come together to celebrate Christmas making Christmas crafts and friends and having fun.

2. Christmas Services

This year has made gathering together in religious services quite difficult. Our morning congregations have had to meet bi-weekly and we have learnt how to livestream. Despite restrictions, we wish to ensure everyone who wants to celebrate in person can. We will be running 4 services. (8.30 and 10am at Naremburn and 8.30 and 10am at Cammeray).

An Advent Calendar

We will be providing people with 24 individual postcards telling the Christmas story. The postcards will create a beautiful mosaic. Get a free copy from office@ncachurch.com

**ADRIAN FOXCROFT
NAREMBURN ANGLICAN CHURCH
WWW.NCACHURCH.COM**



Christmas Bells

The bell ringers of St Leonard's Naremburn have been keeping the spirit alive during COVID with many activities. A group of us have been learning to ring hand bells in the hope of sharing our new skills with the community at the Naremburn Christmas party (assuming it goes ahead).

We have been practising our bell ringing with a simulator, which makes ringing rounds, calls changes and methods by using a program known as Virtual Belfry.

Ringling on Sundays is restricted to just four bells because of physical distancing requirements but we are all looking forward to ringling on six bells again in the near future.

Christmas Mass times:
St Leonard's Naremburn
Christmas Eve 6pm
Christmas Day 10.30am
Royal North Shore Hospital: 4pm

Anyone is very welcome to attend but please register through the Parish Office or the Parish website (lms.org.au) beforehand.

GEOFFREY GEMMELL

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CHANNEL 9



Mirvac's planning is moving right along and a start on site is expected by the end of this year. Channel 9 has already started to move out and by the end of November should be substantially off the site. Work started around mid-November with site establishment followed by commencement of demolition on the main site. It is anticipated that early next year work will start on the demolition of the TV tower. It is likely the tower demolition will be done using a very large tower crane alongside the TV tower. The DA for demolition work has been approved as has the modification of the Concept Plan to include the removal of the TV tower and the addition of building K in its place. The DA for building K will be submitted in October and will result in a total of 441 apartments over the whole site.

With the approval of the demolition plan it is assumed that Council has accepted Mirvac's Traffic Consultant's study showing that for heavy trucks coming to the site during the morning peak period, they will head south along Alpha Rd, Flat Rock Drive and Brook St before turning right into Merrenburn Ave and then turning right into Willoughby Rd. Mirvac states an average of 8 and a maximum of 14 heavy trucks per day can be expected to use this route during the demolition phase of the project though less during the morning peak period.

Hours of work on site will be 7am to 5pm Monday through Friday and 7am to 3pm Saturdays. It is envisaged work will shut down over Christmas between December 24 and January 4.

BOB TAFFEL AND PETER WILTON
WAAG CO-CONVENORS

Request for Extension on WHT Submission



North Shore schools and community groups wrote to the Premier and Felicity Wilson to request a suspension and re-exhibition of the Western Harbour Tunnel (WHT) and Warringah Freeway projects post COVID-19.

Several community groups, Progress Associations and Precinct joined to support this, escalating the request to the Planning Minister after the Premier said she is not responsible for the decision.

With COVID restrictions, families have been unable to engage with the project or read the 9,000-page technical document, which prevented them from making an effective submission. Any submission received would thus show just a small view of the widespread community dismay.

This caused concern, as the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is distressing.

Effects include soil contamination at the Rosalind Street site, contamination of Flat Rock Creek, increased upstream traffic due to expressway changes, air and noise pollution – requiring noise attenuation on homes, and a safety hazard to children during works.

One statement from the Mayoral Minutes said, "In its current form, this project trashes our open space, undermines our economic and sustainable future and may jeopardise the health of our residents. I don't believe I am going too far when I say that this project will leave a trail of devastation."

At the time of going to press it appears our submissions for suspension and re-exhibition were unsuccessful and both projects are going ahead.

LARISSA PENN
COMMUNITY ADVOCATE



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Chatswood Library Christmas/New Year Closure

Chatswood Library will close from 1pm, Thursday 24 December 2020 and re-open on Friday 8 January 2021. So please make sure you stock up on your holiday reading before our short break.

Also, don't forget our digital collections are always open and available online 24/7, from which you can choose from a great selection of the latest adult and children's eBooks, eAudiobooks, eMagazines and videos to stream.

Our 'Summer of Silly' Reading Challenge for kids will be starting again

in December, so please keep an eye on our website for details. We're gradually reintroducing our face-to-face programs at Chatswood Library including a Tech Bar, workshops and story-time. There will be limited numbers so bookings are required to conform to current health guidelines.

The council is working hard to ensure safe delivery of increased library services to our community; for the latest updates on Naremburn and our branch services, please visit libraries.willoughby.nsw.gov.au.

LIZ PARKER
**COMMUNITY INFORMATION
AND PROMOTIONS LIBRARIAN**

Tribute to Trisha Fitzpatrick



It is with sadness that we note the recent passing of a long term stalwart of the Naremburn Progress Association (NPA), Trisha Fitzpatrick, who passed away on 4th September 2020, aged 81 years. She is survived by her husband, Kevin, and two daughters Carolyn and Melissa.

Trisha provided a very strong contribution to the NPA, as she was part of the committee that launched our newsletter, Naremburn Matters, and

was its editor for a number of years. She also filled the role of Public Officer with distinction for many years, drawing on experience gained in corporate life. With Kevin, she was instrumental in setting up the NPA Records Room within our local Community Centre.

With a keen sense of humour mixed with an unshakeable belief in what she saw as right or wrong, Trisha was a very strong advocate for local services such as branch libraries and other community centre services, and was determined to get the best result for Naremburn residents and businesses.

Both the Willoughby City Council Mayor, Cr Gail Giles-Gidney and Naremburn Progress Association President, Roger Promnitz, attended Trisha's funeral on 18th September in recognition of Trisha's contribution, with the church bells ringing 81 times to celebrate her life.

LOCAL RABBITOH RISES TO HIGH OFFICE

Naremburn was the first village on Sydney's Lower North Shore, known originally as Central Township, then Dog Town and Pension Town.

It produced several characters. There was 'Frontend Phil' aka 'Aeroplane' because of his ample girth and habit of extending his arms for balance when he'd had one too many. There was also William Mathers Jack aka 'Silent Billy', a Scottish immigrant and local businessman who represented the area as Federal Member.

Billy opened a grocery shop in Walker Street, North Sydney in 1914 and purchased a horse and cart to sell butter, eggs, ice and freshly trapped rabbits. He married Annie Smith and settled in Pine Street, Cammeray before moving to Holtermann Street, Crows Nest and later 35 Merrenburn Avenue, now The White Rabbit Childcare Centre.

During the Great Depression our suburb had its share of battlers and Billy had a heart for those in need. Families never forgot his kindness.

His community service started on the NPA. He was then elected Alderman for the Naremburn Ward in 1939, then Deputy Mayor in 1947. Later, he was elected Mayor for 1949 to 1950.

At the local level Billy, his wife and daughter Ella worked tirelessly to establish the Naremburn Amenities Development Association (the present-day Community Centre) in Central Street.

Billy was elected to Federal Parliament in 1949 with a modest majority of 750 votes but continually increased this margin until he retired from Parliament in 1966. He was also known for his silence here, although one of his Billy's speeches commenced, "I can contain my silence no longer."

Billy received the OBE in 1968 for service to Parliament and the community. On his death he was remembered as the local Rabbitoh who rose to high office and was given the final tribute, "he lived respected and died regretted."

KEVIN FITZPATRICK
CENTRAL STREET



Summer 2020

Naremburn Community Gardens

Our working bee was successful and the new wicking bed has been completed. Now we are in the process of planting.

We discovered that the entire frame needed replacing once we started to take it apart, but the build was completed on the day, thanks to a great band of hard-working volunteers. We are very appreciative of everyone's hard work and of Council for collecting and disposing of the leftover wood and rubble. Many thanks!

We left a couple of artichokes too long and they are going to seed – but at least we get some seeds for next planting.

Lost Property

We end up with an incredible collection of lost property in the garden. In addition to the usual potato peelers, vegetable knives, sink plugs and sieves, we currently have a pair of prescription sunglasses and a North Face brown cap. These are in the garden, waiting collection.

SUE HOWES
BONGALONG STREET
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Warm congratulations to Carla and her family at Ivy Florist at Naremburn Shops on the birth of their daughter Poppy Dorothy Ashcroft on 20 August.

Whatever the occasion or feelings you wish to express, you cannot go wrong with the gift of flowers. It's the perfect present for Christmas, birthdays, anniversaries and the arrival of a new baby. Why not pop into the Ivy at Naremburn Shops for some fresh ideas!



HOW DO YOU MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE?

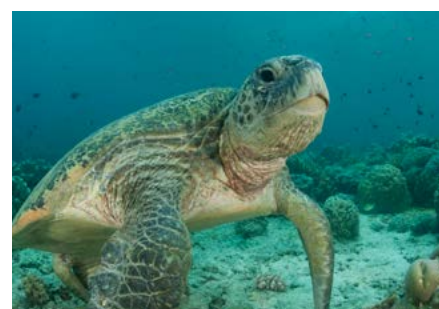
Hello neighbours, I trust you're looking forward to plenty of drinks and good food with friends and family over the Christmas break after the year that was.

If we had to be stuck anywhere in the world it was better here than Melbourne or the USA that's for sure. I have two teenage boys and a daughter in Year 3 at Cammeray Public, and I asked them this question recently, "how can you make the world a better place?"

I had fascinating responses from them, ranging from "leading the government with no bullshit" to "Dad, I want to save turtles."

Most adults don't ponder this question often, but it reminds us of the legacy we want to leave behind.

I HOPE YOU HAVE A WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS.



MATTHEW SMYTHE
NAREMBURN RESIDENT
0410 280 280

As the Bush Regenerator and Team Leader for Flat Rock Gully, with Willoughby City Council, we have sought expressions of interest for a bushcare team along the Southern (Naremburn) side of the Bicentennial Pathway in 1997, which is the southern ledge of Flat Rock Gully.

This area has been devastated over the years. Most of the trees were taken, predators wiped out the native animals, a tip buried the waterfall, and market garden eventually filled the entire gully from Willoughby Road before it was stopped, mainly by the work of the Progress Association.

Help was needed and an enthusiastic bunch of locals turned up and began work in 1998. The tunnel under the Drive was completely cleared, weed matted, munched then planted.

Other large areas were done this way as we moved towards Henry Lawson Cave, which needed weeding as there were many original plants still there. Much of this area was lost to developments later on.

The group absorbed another smaller team from Nyree, now called 55 and work continued above the Cave as well and along to Gaza Road. We now meet once a month while the rest of Bicentennial



to Willoughby Road is maintained by the Regen Team.

With training, imagination and hard work, the Bushcare Team has created a diverse and beautiful area. Poetry events at Henry's Cave fit in well and most of the birds and other local wildlife have returned.

If you would like to be involved, call Sue on 0409 443 040.

DON SWONNELL
TRAINER, BICENTENNIAL
BUSHCARE GROUP



Helping Neighbours

During the COVID-19 pandemic many people in Naremburn made an extra effort to contact their neighbours to see if they needed help.

This festive season, more people are likely to be alone and feeling isolated than in any year because families and friends may be unable to travel across borders to meet.

Perhaps you could chat with your neighbour over the fence when you see them outside and ask about their

Christmas plans. You could also organise a neighbourhood drinks party or even a festive card or slice of cake might be appreciated.

Also, setting up this contact you can make your neighbourhood safer. Neighbours who know each other are more likely to keep an eye out for suspicious behaviour and look after packages you have delivered to prevent theft.

For more tips about safety, join the Willoughby Neighbourhood Watch group on <https://www.facebook.com/groups/WilloughbyNeighbourhoodWatch>

DAVID AND
LINDA STICKLAND



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Coping with a COVID Christmas



It will be a very different Christmas this year for Australians due to the global pandemic.

It is very unlikely that a COVID vaccine will be rolled out before Christmas so the best we can do is to cope until the pandemic ends.

Despite the negative news, it's important we remain positive as this is a core ingredient for successful coping. Some ways we can do this include:

- Savour the small positive moments, this boosts serotonin, a brain transmitter that contributes to a sense of wellbeing and happiness.
- Strengthen your connections, spend more time with friends and family, even if only on social media.

- Stay active, as exercise is good for physical and mental health.

Even though Christmas will be different, it is important to note that the spirit of Christmas remains the same. Santa visits will be different this year but children are resilient.

One thing is for sure, we can expect gifts of face masks and hand sanitiser under the tree.

We wish all our readers and patients a Merry Christmas and a healthy and wonderful New Year.

We are also delighted to welcome two new female doctors to our practice, Dr Lalana Kapuwatte and Dr Radeeka Liyanage.

DR RAFFI SAHAGIAN
WILLOUGHBY MEDICAL PRACTICE



NORTH SHORE

Veterinary Hospital EST. 1935

Summertime pet care

Thank you for all your support in 2020, North Shore Vet Hospital has managed to keep the doors operating through a trying 2020 for everyone. We have had a different sort of a year!

It has been so delightful to see all the puppies and kittens being cared for by passionate owners. Many of you are experiencing the joy of owning and caring for a pet for the first time. We have had the leptospirosis cases, but were delighted we could offer a vaccine immediately.

Over summer, please look out for your pets. If you own a Brachiocephalic breed - Frenchie or Pug, please be careful in the summer sun to avoid them becoming overheated.



PETER CHITTY & HIS TEAM

Ticks are still around so please make sure your pets are on preventatives and watch out for the Christmas nasties as well such as onions, chocolate, sultanas, grapes, and barbecue skewers.

WE HOPE YOU HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER AND REMEMBER WE WILL BE OPEN 24/7 AS ALWAYS. STAY SAFE

AND LOOK AFTER YOURSELF AND YOUR FURRY FRIENDS.

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APOLOGY Our September issue incorrectly listed an additional address for North Shore Vet. Please use the address above. We apologise for any confusion.

Optimising foot health post-isolation

Suddenly resuming pre-COVID exercise schedules after emerging from lockdown and being isolated for so long, can have a negative impact on our lower limbs.

Issues such as heel pain, arch pain, muscle imbalances and leg cramping are quite common once activity levels increase abruptly. A biomechanical assessment is an excellent way of investigating malalignments in the body.

Podiatrists generally see a large decrease in the general foot health during winter. Wearing tight, enclosed footwear, can result in Athlete's Foot, toenail fungus, ingrown toenails, sweaty feet, callus and corns. A general podiatry treatment can relieve these afflictions.

Exposing our feet in the summer is great, however, problems such as sweaty feet, plantar warts and dry, cracked skin can occur. We provide a range of assessments and treatments to improve

your foot health so you can keep moving! And remember to select good quality, supportive footwear in summer which will help to prevent injury and ensure comfort.

Please call into Naremburn Podiatry for an assessment. We also have a teleconsulting service available so call or book online.

AVRIL CLANCY PODIATRIST



WE TREAT:

- Lower Back Pain
- Knee Pain
- Foot Pain



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Building minds & bodies for superior quality of life

“Hi, I'm Vik Hawksley, owner of Anatomy In Motion here in Naremburn. Having been a part of the community for nearly three years, I am well overdue to contribute to Naremburn Matters and share a little about why and what we do here at AIM.



We've been helping North Shore locals build minds and bodies for better quality of life for five years now. Nearly three of those years here in Naremburn above the shops on Willoughby Road, although we had six months out this year when our roof blew off! Back up and running in our brand new studio for three months now, we help everyday people move better; get stronger, more mobile and learn new skills, like handstands and movements on the gymnastic rings.

Our Tribe learn about optimal function of the moving body as part of their training as we believe having an understanding and being in control of our own bodies enables longevity of health and freedom of movement.

We're carving a different path in the fitness industry, where quality of movement and personalisation is the heart of what we do. We tailor every part of your time with us, marrying your wants and what the body needs in a personalised program to help you achieve your goals. Every AIM Tribester trains their own personalised program, working either one on one with an AIM Coach or in a Squad of four people per coach. We supplement personal training with 14 timetabled Tribe small group classes per week. When we train in groups we limit the number to 12 people and two coaches, so individual feedback is continual and quality of information remains super high.

If you'd like to learn more about our methods and check out our brand new studio I invite you to reach out to Sarah on 0497 371 009 and schedule a time to come in for a casual chat. I'd love to get to know more Naremburn locals and see if we're a good fit to help you with your strength and movement goals.

I hope to welcome you to AIM sometime soon,
Vik

JOIN THE NPA NAREMBURN PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Become an active member of your Naremburn community and have your say.

Join or renew your membership at www.naremburnprogress.org.au/membership/join-renew/

Annual membership due 1 January

Fees: \$15 (\$10 concession), plus \$5 joining /lapsed member.

If you would like to volunteer to assist on the Committee, or could help prepare Naremburn Matters please call Helene on 0403 015 004

COVID Restrictions Fuel Possible Rat Plague

COVID-19 restrictions and the closing of many Sydney restaurants and offices could be causing a rat plague in the suburbs, experts say.

With many Sydney food outlets and offices closed, food waste has lessened and city rats have moved into the suburbs in search of food. Andrew Adler, owner of Pestworks pest control service, has noticed an increase in business.

"Some of my customers have reported seeing rodents on their property when they haven't had this issue in the past," Adler says. "The more densely populated suburbs now have 'rat runs', he says – essentially highways in which rats travel.

Naremburn and Chatswood are said to be receiving migrating rats. Willoughby Councillor Lynne Saville says she has received an increase in rat sightings from residents, particularly around Chatswood CBD and parks in neighbouring suburbs.

Numbers are predicted to increase even more as COVID restrictions ease and suburban restaurants reopen. The increase in food waste is predicted to create a spike in breeding.

"Rats are prolific breeders," says Dr Grainne Cleary of the University of NSW. Female rats can give birth to 70 new rats every year. Experts estimate Sydney currently has a population numbering more than 500 million.

Sam [last name withheld] from Crossfire Pest Solutions, however, is not convinced by the claims of numbers rising.

"With COVID, people are home more, so they are noticing more pests in general," he says.

This doesn't explain the increased sightings in parks though, says Councillor Saville.

Black rats are known to carry Lung Worm, a parasite that can be fatal to humans, Hantavirus and Tularemia, which attacks the skin, lungs and eyes. Vets in Chatswood and Crows Nest have recommended vaccinating pets for Leptospirosis while rats are on the move.

"I've seen black rats out during the day, and they are meant to be nocturnal," Dr Cleary says. "This shows they are in really high densities."

**SHAUN GREENWOOD
EDITOR**



Air8 Digital is now supporting NPA's website. They work with clients who run successful small businesses and have limited to no knowledge of the digital space. If you would like to more information on what they do contact Ben Charlton.

ben@air8digital.com
0417 265 792
www.air8digital.com

QUICK CHRISTMAS CHOCOLATE PANFORTE

This cheat's version of the classic Italian sweet uses ready-made fruit mince and wraps up nicely for Christmas.



INGREDIENTS

- 110g caster sugar
- 175g honey
- 50g unsalted butter
- 300g fruit mince
- 250g plain flour
- 100g cocoa powder
- 1 tsp grd cinnamon
- 1 tsp mixed spice
- Grated zest of 1 orange
- 100g each roasted hazelnuts, slivered pistachios and macadamias
- 1/2 cup (100g) chopped dried figs
- Icing sugar, to dust

METHOD

Preheat oven to 160°C and line an 18cm x 28cm lamington pan with baking paper.

Stir sugar, honey, butter and mince in a pan over low heat for 3-5 minutes until sugar dissolves. Sift flour, cocoa and spices into a large bowl. Add zest, nuts, figs, mince mixture and a pinch of salt. Stir to combine well – it'll be quite stiff. Tip into the prepared pan and use wet hands to press the top all over until smooth.

Bake for 15-18 minutes until firm on top. Cool in pan, then invert onto a board and dust with icing sugar. Cut lengthways into 5 thin sections, then cut widthways into 8 sections to form about forty 3cm squares.

Keep for up to 1 month in an airtight container in the fridge, then pack into muslin gift bags or cellophane. Makes 40.

SANTA AT THE SHOPS

Due to COVID-19 restrictions Santa will stay at the North Pole and not visit Naremburn Shops. We hope to see him in 2021.



COUNCILLORS REPORT FIGHTING DEVELOPERS WHO PAY FOR PLANNING

You see a lot of craziness in local government but in the decade I have been on the Council, nothing comes anywhere close to the revelations that property developers, with developments in the planning zone, are paying for studies that determine what the planning rules will look like.

The very strategy that will define how our city will take shape, has had its heritage, traffic and interface reports secretly paid for by developers.

If we let 'whoever pays the piper, play the tune', I think we know why development in Willoughby is so fundamentally misguided.



I will continue to oppose this ridiculous arrangement and fight to put residents' amenity back at the centre of our planning requirements.

It's been a long year, so I hope that you get some time to relax this Christmas. Thank you for your support and I'll see you all next year.

COUNCILLOR NIC WRIGHT
NIC.WRIGHT@WILLOUGHBY.
NSW.GOV.AU

Now's the Time to Save Thousands on Your Home Loan

RBA rings the bell to review your Home Loan

There has truly never been a better time to review your current lending, given the recent Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) decision to reduce the cash rate to 0.1% and the subsequent pricing movements from lenders.

Last month we refinanced our clients Roy and Cheryl's loans from a major bank to a more competitive lender. Roy and Cheryl had been with their bank for years and felt comfortable and familiar with them.

Our post settlement analysis confirmed that Roy and Cheryl's new loan structure resulted in their repayments reducing by more than \$3,750 per month (that's not a typo). In the longterm, this saves them over \$386,000 in interest, clearing their loans 10 years sooner.

We didn't charge Roy and Cheryl a fee to get this result, in fact

their new lender is paying them \$3,000 in cash to welcome them as new customers.

Here are some more reasons why you should use a mortgage broker to get better lending outcomes:

- We research the market to find you a better deal (like the example above)
- We work for you, not the lenders, to get you the best results
- We don't charge you a fee and it doesn't add to the cost of your loan
- We save you time, money and stress.

So don't hesitate to get in touch if you'd like a free lending review.

We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy holiday season from

JIM, JANE AND THE TEAM



- PERSONAL WEALTH CREATION
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- MONEY COACHING

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Community activities

Due to COVID please use contact details below for current availability.

Naremburn Community Centre Activities

9967 2917

willpark@willoughby.nsw.gov.au

Contact the Centre, for room hire availability.

Naremburn Progress Association

0419 227 986 (Roger Promnitz)
2nd Thursday bimonthly 7.30pm
February, April, June, August,
October and December

Playgroup

(for children 5 years of age and under)

naremburnplaygroup@gmail.com
Wednesday 9.30am - 11.30am

Northern Suburbs Philatelic Society

9419 7354 (Paul Storm)

Breastfeeding Association

abamns.contact@gmail.com
1st Tuesday 10.00am - 12noon

Willoughby Community Pre-school

9437 4260
Monday to Friday 8.00am - 4.00pm

Naremburn Library

7 Central St | 9439 5584

Next NPA meetings

We hope that readers are all coping with the challenges COVID-19 is creating and are safe and healthy.

The next NPA meeting is 11 February 2021

The August and September general meetings were conducted via video-conferencing, but hopefully the February meeting will be at Central Street. Stay tuned!

All members and residents are welcome

Next issue, March 2021

issue deadlines:

Advertising: 5 February 2020

Articles: 8 February 2020

Letters and articles

Articles, comments or suggestions
email: naremburn.matters@naremburnprogress.org.au

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

Message from the Mayor

As 2020 draws to a close, we can reflect on a year that has brought us extreme situations to test our resilience, including storms, bushfires and COVID-19. Thank you for your patience and support.

As we learn to live in the 'new normal' and continue to open services and facilities, I'm pleased to advise that the Naremburn Branch Library has recently reopened with reduced hours in a COVID-safe capacity. Visit the library website for opening hours and more information: www.libraries.willoughby.nsw.gov.au/Locations-and-Hours/Naremburn-Library.

In my previous column I announced a \$625,000 revamp to the Naremburn Park Playground to cater for a greater range of children's skill levels. We are currently reviewing tenders and we expect construction to commence around April 2021.

The \$350,000 design and consultation phase of streetscape improvements around the Naremburn shops will also commence with the consultants being engaged soon. You'll be able



to put forward your views early next year, so keep an eye on www.haveyoursaywilloughby.com.au.

May I take this opportunity to wish you a safe and happy holiday period and encourage you supporting local business where possible this Christmas.

Please get in touch with me directly to discuss anything further on Gail.Giles-Gidney@Willoughby.nsw.gov.au.

MAYOR GAIL GILES-GIDNEY
WILLOUGHBY CITY COUNCIL
MAYOR@WILLOUGHBY.NSW.GOV.AU

TIME TO CLEAN THE INCINERATOR

After 34 years living in Naremburn I feel lucky to live in such a leafy suburb so close to Sydney. Walking from Willoughby Road through the valley to Tunks Park can make you feel hundreds of kilometres from city life.

There is one blot on the landscape though, the Incinerator. It's a fabulous building, with the café and art gallery,

but when will Willoughby Council do something with the rear of the building?

The plastic fencing has been there for many years. Builders' signs go up but nothing happens. Surely this could be cleared up and made into a picnic area or overflow seating for coffee drinkers.

Please Willoughby Council, see what you can do. It could be another fabulous benefit to our community.

LAURA HANSEN
LAURA56@LIVE.COM.AU

