



THE PARKVILLE ASSOCIATION Inc.

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www.parkvilleassociation.org.au

NEWSLETTER

Editor: Heather Mathew

No. 5

October 2005

Cup Day – Champers in the Park

Tuesday 1st November 2005, from 5.00 pm to dusk.

Put on your best hat and join us in the Native Gardens, top of Gatehouse Street, for the annual Parkville Association Champagne-in-the-Park-Party. First glass of bubbly or soft drink supplied by the Parkville Association, with the famous ported cheese & biscuits kindly supplied by Norah and John Killip. Bring your own picnic basket if you wish and linger on for a pleasant evening.

If the weather is wet, the venue will be at the nearby College Church Hall, 188 Gatehouse Street.

All welcome: come along and bring a friend

Calendar of Events 2005 – update your Diary NOW! Friends & guests welcome.

Event	Date & Time	Details
Parkville Ensemble Concert	Sun 4 Dec	Time & program in planning
Committee Meeting	6 Dec. at 8.00 p.m.	College Church Hall, 188 Gatehouse St, Parkville. All are welcome to attend

Parkville Ensemble Concert

The much-loved Parkville Ensemble is planning a concert for Sunday 4th December 2005, at a time yet to be fixed. Be sure to keep that afternoon blocked out in your diary: a flyer will be distributed closer to the event to advise the programme details and the time.

Planning & Heritage

Royal Children's Hospital Redevelopment

Consultations and presentations on the options being considered for the siting of the new Royal Children's Hospital have been attended by many Parkville residents.

The Parkville Association wrote to the Minister, the Hon. Bronwyn Pike, on 6th October, to advise of the Association's position on the four options that were presented at the recent public expo.

The letter reads:

“Our very strong preference is for the Docklands site which would, in our view, be perfectly satisfactory from the point of view of access and operation for the staff and very convenient for current patients. We were disappointed to see the Docklands site depicted as a comparatively unattractive brownfields site in the consultation brochure, when the Royal Park options were presented with virtual green landscaping. The Docklands site provides an opportunity for green linkage to Moonee Ponds Creek and other attractive transport and linkage opportunities which the consultation brochure did not present. We hope that these positive benefits will be fully explored in the feasibility phase.

The presence of the hospital in Royal Park is an historical anomaly. The Parkville Association believes that the hospital should not remain in the park and the park should be returned to its former integrity. For this reason, we strongly oppose all of the Royal Park options and we urge you to seize this unrepeatable opportunity to create a hospital we can be proud of in its own setting which does not compromise an equally vital and even more remarkable public asset.

Without in the least lessening the strength of our opposition to redevelopment of the hospital in the park, we believe it is necessary for us to indicate that, of the three Royal Park options, the one which the Association currently considers may prove least detrimental is ‘New West’, provided

that the total development is as shown in the brochure – i.e. there is a wholly new facility housing the Murdoch and other teaching and accommodation functions and

the current Murdoch building is demolished;
all of the existing hospital, including the section in front of the H block and any car park beneath it, is demolished;
the east portion of the existing site is returned to Royal Park parkland as soon as practicable; and
Ronald McDonald House and the Centre for Adolescent Development return to non-hospital private residential usage.

The Association is, however, very concerned at the proposed title boundary for the New West option and the threatening suggestion of “future expansion”. This “future expansion” is not provided for in the Docklands option and should not be necessary in the foreseeable future. No justification for it has been provided. A feature which might enable the Parkville community to contemplate a degree of support for New West would be the ‘net gain’ for the park, if the title boundary were drawn significantly closer to the building envelope and the “future expansion” element removed. This would, of course, need to be a cast-iron guarantee.

The Parkville Association is, frankly, horrified by the East and West Integrated options and by the New West option on any but the above terms”.

We look forward to further news about the hospital plans.

Parkville Traffic Report, by *Frank Frok*

The Parkville Association President, Tim Todhunter, has forwarded a letter to the Hon. Peter Batchelor, Minister for Transport, requesting that Vic Roads and the MCC provide funding to initiate measures for the removal of through-traffic in South Parkville.

A frequently asked question with respect to any mitigation of traffic volumes in Gatehouse Street is, “**What impact would this have on other streets in South Parkville?**”. Any introduced traffic mitigation measures will be designed to reduce both through-traffic and rat running in all South Parkville streets. Under no circumstances would an outcome be acceptable to either Melbourne City Council or the Parkville Association if traffic were forced onto neighbouring streets. Moreover, before any changes are introduced a Traffic Mitigation Plan would be put to the community for consideration. It is hoped, however, that South Parkville residents are understanding of the traffic problems that Gatehouse Street residents are experiencing and supportive of their legitimate desire to have the street returned to its rightful status of **local collector street**. Failure to do so will continue to increase pressure on internal streets as traffic seeks to take shortcuts through South Parkville. A sound and supportable Traffic Mitigation Plan for South Parkville, agreed to by Vic Roads, MCC and the PA, will improve community amenity and have major long-term benefits for all residents.

E-Crime Watch, by *Frank Frok*

Read about the hilarious pursuit of a very fit but scantily clad, i.e. baseball cap and runners, deviant through the streets of Parkville (it must have been hot that day) by the Carlton Crime Investigation (CI) Unit personnel. It

had all the hallmarks of an episode of Keystone Cops. A good read and funny too.

See the upcoming events. In particular **Community Safety Month**.

Community Safety Month is a multi-award winning initiative of the Department of Justice and the Victorian Safe Communities Network. During CSM individuals, community groups, local councils and state government agencies organise activities to promote safety awareness and prevention measures in local areas. The aim of the month is to encourage Victorians to Take The Steps To Safety.

For further details visit www.carltonpccc.com/parkville

Parkville Nature Notes, by *Alexis Beckett*

- Willy Wagtails and Fairy Wrens nesting
- Admiral, Lesser Wanderer, male Common Brown and Cabbage White Butterflies appear in parks and gardens in October
- Black-faced Cuckoo Shrikes, Richards Pipits and Yellow-rumped Thornbills can be seen around Parkville.

Editor's note: This is the first of Alexis Beckett's rare bird/ plant sightings in the park or around Parkville. It is hoped that this may become an ongoing report. Alexis is always delighted to know of sightings – email her at whatsherface@ozemail.com.au

Parkville Postcard

Parkville now has its own promotional postcard, produced by the Association as a community service, using a City of Melbourne Community Information & Support Grant. Local businesses hold stock; ask for it at the Milk Bar,

Newsagency, the Parkville Store and the Post Office. The Association hopes that Parkville residents and visitors will enjoy using this free postcard.

Buying a House in Parkville?

A leaflet has been produced by the Association to enhance buyer awareness of the heritage environment, and the features to be aware of when planning changes. The leaflet is relevant, in fact, to all homeowners and a copy is included in the distribution of this *Newsletter*.

Reduce Unwanted Mail & Telephone Contacts

There is a way of reducing unwanted mail and telephone contacts, as detailed by the Australian Direct Mailing Association (ADMA) on 1800 646 664. You can register for do not mail/ do not call by visiting www.adma.com.au and selecting the ‘Do Not Contact Service’ option. Alternatively, you may write to ADMA at Reply Paid 464, Kings Cross, NSW 1340, giving name, address and telephone number and indicating that the requirement is to be removed from all ADMA mailing lists and telephone contacts. The register is used by all ADMA members. ADMA is not totally comprehensive, and it will not cut out those annoying market research calls that come around the

dinner hour. It will, however, reduce the inconvenience of unwanted promotional mailings and telephone calls. Thanks to Norah Killip for this tip.

Graffiti Removal – Help Available

City of Melbourne’s incentive program is still open, and assists homeowners to remove unsightly graffiti promptly by supplying removal kits or paint vouchers. For a rapid result, apply in person at the Front Desk, Melbourne Town Hall, with a proof of occupancy (e.g. Driver’s licence or bill) to obtain a kit or paint voucher. Alternatively, telephone 9858 9658 and ask for the application form to be posted: this can then be used to obtain the graffiti removal kit or the paint voucher.

Fly a Kite

The Australian Kite Association gathers for kite flying on the first Sunday of the month (except for January) commencing at 1 p.m. in Royal Park, Gatehouse Street side.

Don’t have a kite? The Association’s website has models that you can make, visit www.aka.org.au.

Contacting the association: Australian Kite Association Inc., P.O. Box 1032, Thornbury, Vic. 3071; Tel. 9484 8757.

Membership reminder – annual memberships cover January – December 2005. If you have overlooked updating your subscription, please use the renewal form below.

MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM	
Name:	Phone:
Address:	Email:
Renewal or New Member (please circle)	
Annual membership	– Individual \$15
Family \$35	Concession \$7.50
Life membership	– Individual \$150
And/or donation for Heritage Fund \$..... and/or General Fund \$.....	
Cheques should be made payable to The Parkville Association Inc.	

Send form and payment to The Treasurer, Parkville Association, PO Box 54, Parkville 3052.