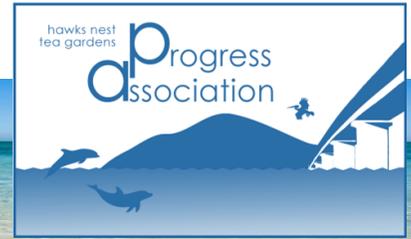


Progress Association Newsletter April 2022



MEMBERS UPDATE

Dear Members, I hope you are well and find this newsletter of value – feedback and additions always very welcome. This Easter month I am pleased to advise that we have renewed the Progress Association Management Committee with Vice President Trevor Jennings, A/Treasurer Jeannette Hart, Treasurer Kay Jones, Secretary and Public Officer Sandra Bourke, and our experienced Management Committee members, Kath Verdon, John Verdon, Leigh Allen, Christian Patterson and Dan Holmes. The team has met and is very committed to working together for the benefit of our community and environment in compliance with NSW Fair Trading.

Seniors Week was a documented hit, and a big thank you to all. We are hoping to apply for grants for similar fun community events in the future. This month we also won another \$3500 Federal Stronger Communities grant to upgrade the audio-visual equipment in the Hawks Nest Community Hall for all users.

ANZAC Day was well supported and the PA donated books to the Tea Gardens Public School in lieu of a wreath (see photos). Thank you for the support of this important day, especially considering current global unrest.

On 19 April, I had an extended and productive meeting with Mayor Pontin, General Manager. A summary of those discussion is included in this newsletter. The key outcome was relationship building (including renewing the SARG) and how to clear the backlog of local infrastructure needs, many of which have been on the PA agenda for years.

Please note our key dates for 2022 and we hope to initiate a few informative breakfast meetings, local volunteer working bees, and fun fund-raising events. And as per our agreed process, this Newsletter and the NOTA version have been endorsed by your new Management Committee.

***Cheers - Bruce Murray, President
25 April 2022 – Lest We Forget***

Key Dates 2022

02 May: Draft MidCoast Aboriginal Action Plan yarn up, HN Community Hall 11am-1.30pm PLUS Management Committee Meeting, HN Hall 6.30pm

11 May: Community Conversations Event, 6-8pm, Baptist Church TG

06 Jun: Management Committee Meeting, HN Hall 6.30pm

20 Jun: General Meeting (TBC), HN Hall 6.30pm

4 Jul: Management Committee Meeting, HN Hall 6.30pm

01 Aug: Management Committee Meeting, HN Hall 6.30pm

08 Aug: General Meeting

05 Sep: Management Committee Meeting, HN Hall 6.30pm

03 Oct: Management Committee Meeting, HN Hall 6.30pm

10 Oct: General Meeting, HN Hall 6.30pm

07 Nov: Management Committee Meeting, HN Hall 6.30pm

05 Dec: Management Committee Meeting, HN Hall 6.30pm

12 Dec: AGM and Christmas Event



MEETING WITH THE MAYOR

This month, on the 19 April, Bruce Murray met with Mayor Claire Pontin, General Manager Adrian Pannuccio, and the Director Liveable Communities, Paul De Szell. The purpose was to provide an update on the HNTGPA, to strengthen our working relationship, and to progress a range of issues in our area, many of which are long standing. Bruce Murray advised that the PA is in the process of updating their strategic plan based on member and community consultation. Bruce Murray was advised the Local Community Plan tools were available online for PA use. Key strategic issues include overall traffic management, improving roads, footpaths & infrastructure, new & upgraded community hall & public spaces, optimising erosion management & dredging, ensuring compliance with current zoning, waste management, environmental care & compliance, plus preserving what makes our unique coastal & riverside villages so special. Issues raised included:

- ✓ **Tea Gardens Pontoon & Jetty:** This has been delayed. MCC has completed a redesign incorporating local input and will provide a written update to the PA (MCC Project 101448).
- ✓ **Tea Gardens Pool:** The planned site access improvements will commence this winter (MCC Projects 101452 and 101455). The pool will remain closed until summer. I highlighted that the early closure and inconsistent hours of operation in last season had adversely impacted on locals and visitors' health and wellbeing. *Note a review of the MCC pool contract across the LGA underway and the PA (and residents) can provide a submission.*
- ✓ **Hawks Nest Community Hall Extensions:** The DA has been submitted with works on the demountable scheduled to commence mid-2022 (MCC Project 101725).

We Need You!

Your support and involvement are important!

The MCC is hosting a Community Conversations Event in Tea Gardens on Wednesday 11 May, 6-8pm at the Baptist Church.

We will also be starting guest speaker breakfast presentations on community issues hopefully at the Surf Club from May – more to follow. We hope to see you soon.



- ✓ **Providence Park:** The amenities upgrade has been delayed due to weather and supply constraints (MCC Project 100798).
- ✓ **Winda Woppa Birdwatching Platform:** Safe removal has been programmed (\$10k - Project 101725). Update to be provided from MCC.
- ✓ **Traffic and Footpaths:** This area has the oldest demographic in Australia yet most of our area's submissions to the PAMP have not progressed at all. Many of our traffic and footpath issues are long-standing and have been communicated to MCC many times with little or no action. This includes the Singing Bridge issues. Locals with access constraints and/or mobility scooters remain forced to use damaged roads to access shops and services, placing their safety at risk. The roads (in places) lack footpaths, with no gutters, and are seriously damaged. These deficiencies will be compounded by the pending increase in residential numbers from developments such as Parry's Cove. It was agreed that a Traffic Management Plan for TGHN was required and would be progressed.
- ✓ **Traffic Line Marking:** This is outstanding for Marine Drive, parking spaces and other local roads. It is a clear safety need. The same applies to outdated or missing signage. It was agreed that this would be reviewed.
- ✓ **Parking:** Discussions included HN congestion and the terrible state of our beachside carparks (Providence Park, South Bennetts beach, Jimmies Beach access). In addition, the recent changes to the Coles carpark entry are causing the parking area to be grid-locked in busy times creating safety risks and driver frustration. MCC advised this change has been requested by third parties and will be reviewed.
- ✓ **Myall Way and M1 Intersection:** Bruce Murray advised MCC of the recent announcement by Dr. Gillespie that flashing lights will be installed at the Myall Way/M1. While not an MCC responsibility, it was agreed that their support of this project and the future construction of an overpass was important for safety and access and should be part of the pending local Traffic Management Plan.
- ✓ **General Maintenance:** The lack of general maintenance evident in all our community spaces was discussed. This included, for example, dirty, broken, and unpainted picnic tables, broken fences and retaining walls (Bennetts Beach), etc. The MCC advised that the local council depot does not appear to have a regular general maintenance regime nor staffing resulting in disrepair and on failure response only. This will be reviewed. Bruce Murray advised that the HNTGPA was establishing an "About Town" sub-committee to identify basic maintenance requirements and how we could work with MCC and volunteers to improve this protracted issue.

So what next? Clearly strategic planning is essential including identifying and prioritising our requirements and problems as well as what projects are needed to remedy them. This discussion did not have the time to cover all our issues so documentation, letters/emails, work requests, and grants will need to be completed. Some projects will require either the MCC or us to apply for grants, or even both. Working with the MCC will be important. Volunteer work in and around our community remains more important than ever to get things done. We will continue to meet with the Mayor, Councillors and MCC staff and keep them accountable.

The Hawks Nest Tea Gardens Progress Association is registered with NSW Fair Trading - INC9881748.
 Our members & all volunteer work is insured with Local Community Insurance Services.

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You can follow us on Facebook

APRIL SNAPS



Seniors LIVE LIFE Expo on 2 April - our first at Hawks Nest & thank you to everyone & NSW Seniors 😊

