



Hawks Nest Tea Gardens Progress Association Newsletter - July & August 2023

Hi Members,

Welcome to our mid-Winter Newsletter and we have lots of great things happening around our villages, starting with the arrival of our exercise equipment at Providence Bay Park, following manufacture in Wollongong. Installation will be completed by a combined project team comprising the supplier, Moduplay, MCC, the supplier, and members of the HNTGPA. It is anticipated that installation will take 4 to 6 weeks – just in time for summer!



Bruce Murray test seats the new park bench and HNTGPA native tree / flowers at the now fully completed Dorothy Parker footpath, linking Peter Sinclair Gardens to Hawks Nest Shops.

The Hawks Nest Tea Gardens Progress Association - PO Box 19, Hawks Nest, NSW 2324, AUSTRALIA
www.hntgprogressassociation.com - 0432 764 333 - Registered with NSW Fair Trading - INC9881748

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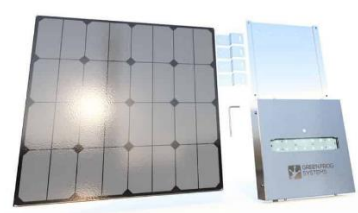


STRENGTH & DURABILITY
UrbanFIT products are Australian made, designed right here in the Illawarra for longevity in the harsh Australian climate.

SOCIAL IMPACT & IMPROVED LIFESTYLES
We believe movement is the key to a healthy and happy life, so our extensive range of outdoor fitness equipment has been designed to help communities get outside and moving.

CUSTOMISED SOLUTIONS
Our experienced team of designers has created a design in line with council's brief for the spaces and to suit the needs and desires of the community.

Breaking news! We did not require the \$19,000 solar lighting at Providence Bay Park (there is sufficient in place), and NSW Government and MCCC have approved a variation (following our application) to install solar sensor lighting at the Tea Gardens Skate Park and Lions Lookout (amenities and dump point). The robust Green Frog Systems lighting will be professionally installed and be managed as a MCC asset. The sensor lighting will improve safety and amenity. Refer the GFS 50-MSL Solar Shelter Light below:



MCC Projects:

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We have been tracking all local MCC projects, noting that all have been the subject of cost increases and schedule delays. Our concerns about the adverse impact of these issues have been directly raised with MCC Councillors and staff. We are seeing progress now and seeking to support where possible:

- **Bennetts Beach Sandstone & Shower upgrade:** This will commence before summer and will add an additional shower head and improve beach access. The sandstone blocks will be used to landscape around the SLSC and the new whale garden.
- **Hawks Nest Community Hall:** TPA will be applying for grant to have the floorboards fully restored as well as a new oven for the kitchen.
- **Apex Park Repair plus Jetty replacement:** Council has advised that Crown Lands have approved the extension to the boat ramp so that the project can now proceed. Council expects that the ramp will be completed by the end of the year.
- **Library Extension:** The library extension is under review, and we are waiting for further detail from Council.
- **HN Fishing Platform, upgrade:** Council advises the fishing platform upgrade will commence over next month.

General Matters

- **HNTGPA PPE Grant:** The HNTGPA won a \$1000 Stronger Communities grant for volunteer expenses - PPE. To date, the funds have been expanded on BBQ aprons, sunhats, and UV shirts with the HNTGPA logo. The new Worimi Reference Group logo for Hawks Nest and Tea Gardens will be included in future designs.
- **Cemetery Wall & Garden:** Following several work order submissions to the MCC, the retaining wall at the Tea Gardens cemetery has been upgraded from rotting timber to a concrete block wall. The HNTGPA will be holding a working bee to improve the gardens and plant native flowers.



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- **Myall River Dredging:** The HNTGPA is supporting the Myall River Action Group. At this stage, we have sent Letters to the relevant state and federal Ministers. We share MRAGs concerns about the state of the Myall River and need to ensure it remains open to navigation.
- **Bunnings Fundraising BBQ:** To date we have had two BBQ raising over \$2500. The next one is scheduled Sunday 17 December (all day) with a raffle as close to Christmas. Any raffle donations are welcome. The funds raised support covering our insurance costs and minor expenses. Volunteers welcome and roster (and aprons!) provided!



Raising community funds!!! Bunnings volunteers, Kay & Barry Jones plus Bruce Murray in new protective aprons (with logo) – thank you to all BBQ volunteers plus Men's Shed support with new sausage sandwich holders 😊

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Our new sun protection caps provided to volunteers working outside!

- **Singing Bridge Golden Jubilee 6 April 2023:** The planning Sub Committee had its first meeting 11 August and developed a draft event management plan. The HNTGPA will be applying for event grants to fund this historic and important festival. The event will span both villages and engage several community groups and businesses. We value your support for this significant event and volunteers will definitely be needed on the BIG DAY!!!
- **Seniors Week 11 – 24 March 2024:** The HNTGPA has been invited to reapply for a THIRD grant and (if successful) we are planning a FREE Seniors Concert at the Hawks Nest Hall (which will be renovated at that point!) on Saturday afternoon 16 March 2024. The theme of the festival is **Reach Beyond!**
- **Tea Gardens Pool:** With our second successful grant application for \$2500 we have already purchased the new lap timer, new clock, and flags. The old lap timer has been removed, cleaned and parts replaced, and will be reinstalled plus the Honour Board has also been repaired – both by the Men's Shed (thank you!!!) The remaining funds enabled the shower floors to be repaired (floors regouted and sealed), additional safety handrails, installed plus rustproof replacement hardware, The Winter Working Bees have continued to clean the pool deck, garden, paint, and maintain the facilities. The HNTGPA has

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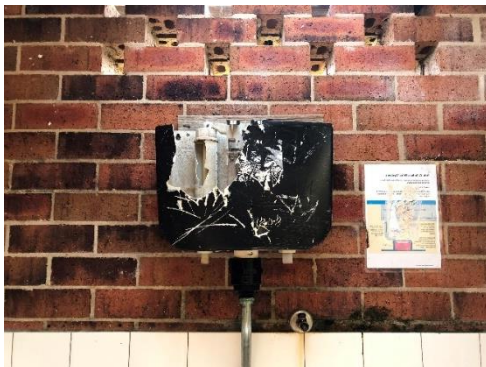
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requested MCC to provide a copy of the LGA-wide pool review which will, in part, inform the future operations of our pool. We have a number of serious concerns WRT the pool's future, and the importance of strong united community support needs to continue as it will be critical to its future operations and any upgrades following the 2023-24 season.

- **Toilet Amenities:** Following a spate of serious graffiti and vandalism plus the ongoing neglect and cleanliness issues, the HNTGPA provided a report to MCC with many photos of all nine blocks plus a damage assessment. MCC has since committed \$100k of capital funding to improve all blocks this FY. This is a great outcome, and we are committed to ensuring great clean safe amenities.





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TEA GARDENS POOL FUNDING



Congratulations to the Hawks Nest Tea Gardens Progress Association on securing funds to replace and upgrade equipment at the Tea Gardens Pool.

The funding has been made available under the 8th round of the Australian Government's Stronger Communities program which provides \$150,000 in assistance towards local community projects in each electorate across Australia.

I was pleased to have secured significant funding under the former Federal Coalition Government towards the Tea Gardens Pool redevelopment and I'm delighted the Progress Association and other groups are supporting this wonderful local facility through upgrades like this.

These funds have been used to replace the water damaged lap pool timer and old pool flags.

Myall River Art Walk Group Update

MRAWG in close partnership with the Worimi Reference Group (WRG) will commence painting the MCC approved bird and flower murals on the Marine Drive Toilet Block from Sunday September. The surrounding gardens will also be upgraded.

The MRAWG and WRG are collaborating on finalising a shared logo for our area featuring the legendary mullet run, as well as new art installations (and keeping the current ones looking good!).

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Community News & Events (well a few anyway!)

Event	Date	
5th TG Pool Winter Working Bee	Mon 21 Aug 23: 10am to 12pm	Installation of new equipment, general cleaning, gardening, painting etc
Opening of Providence Bay Park Exercise Equipment	October 2023 TBC	Official Opening of the Providence Bay Park Fitness Stations (3)
Lions Christmas Festival – Tea Gardens Masons Hall	Fri 15 Dec 23: 5pm to 9pm	Christmas Lights Competition Festival
Lions Fashion Show – Tea Gardens Public School	Sun 26 Nov 23: 11am-1pm	Paediatric Cancer Research – Fashion Show
HNTGPA Annual General Meeting & Christmas Nibbles	Wed 13 Dec 23: 6.30pm	AGM, executive elections, etc
Seniors Week Concert – Hawks Nest Community Hall	Sat 16 Mar 24: 2pm	Free live entertainment – limited seating so stay posted!
Singing Bridge Golden Jubilee	Sat 6 Apr 24: 11am - late	Lots planned – lots to do – stay posted 😊!

Finally, two important closing out points:

Management Committee (MC): Your MC has been meeting every month to ensure project management, grant applications, MCC Work Orders, advocacy, etc continues – and in compliance with Fair Trading. We are currently managing three grants plus applying for two more due end August. Thank you to our MC for volunteering your time and commitment week in and out.

Membership Drive: August is membership renewal time, and we also take the opportunity to update the members register to comply with Fair Trading and ensure we have the right insurance coverage. We have around 150 members and would very much value everyone renewing plus inviting more people to join to add weight to our advocacy, grant applications, and volunteer capability – the application is attached.

Thank you.

Management Committee of the HNTGPA 😊

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