



# OAKLANDS ESTATE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC.

CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Established 1952

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## JUNE 2020

### **Covid-19**

The last few months have certainly been a trial for the way we live. Many people have been housebound and unable to exercise. For the residents of the Oaklands Estate there has been truly one saving grace and that is our open space. Our Reserve has become the go to place for many people from far and wide. We have been able to maintain ample social distancing while still enjoying a walk and some exercise.

At the same time many of our homes have a large back yard which has provided a sense of freedom that people in other places have not had the advantage of. I know that my garden has given my wife and me a sense of freedom that would be sorely missed if we lived in an apartment.

During events like this I wonder what people in Adelaide will do when Government planning reduces and even wipes out much of the open space that to date we have had. Our district, for now, has been able to hold on to its Character Area classification which will allow us to keep our larger blocks and space. We must ask ourselves how strongly we want to continue to keep this because I can see the time coming when this area will be greedily viewed as the next developer's goldmine.

At the moment the State Government has continued with the development of its new planning regulations. There are many community groups that are calling for a slowing of this implementation and closer scrutiny but it is unlikely that a slowdown will occur. The basic premise for development in South Australia is population growth. The assumption is that more people will provide a continuing stimulus to our economy.

This will see pressure being put onto the State's housing needs with an ever increasing high density city developing.

There have been many factors that have affected the way Covid-19 has impacted the

planet but one major aspect is the way in which the high population density zones have suffered in a way that South Australia has not.

Fast action by the State Government has worked but would it have been as successful if we were racked and stacked like people in some of those overseas cities?



### **Annual Barbecue**

It was disappointing that we had to cancel our annual barbecue for residents in April due to the Covid-19 situation with groups of people being limited. The Committee has decided to defer the next barbecue until April 2021, by which time we are hopeful of having the opportunity for a successful gathering.

### **Annual Subscriptions**

At this time of year our Committee Members are usually out and about visiting residents for a chat and to collect \$5 annual subscription which funds this Association.

Due to the Covid-19 situation personal collections have temporarily been put on hold, however we would very much appreciate your support for your Association by way of transfer by Electronic Funds Transfer of \$5 per household.

Our BSB is 325-185 and Account Number is 03168175. Please include your surname, street number and street name in the reference box and we can organise a receipt to be left in your letterbox. Thank you.

### **Graffiti**

Regretfully the scourge of graffiti is back with us and a number of fences and the like have been targeted. If you leave a note in the letterbox of No. 12 Melanto reporting location of graffiti a Graffiti Volunteer with Council will arrange removal. This will take away the "hit" that the offenders get when they see their work continually on display.

### **Intruders**

A recent sighting of a fox in the Oaklands Estate Reserve and also roaming down Tait Avenue has nearby residents on alert.

### **Drain Works**

Many of you walking the path between the Wetlands and the Army Barracks will have noticed activity behind the Wetlands Information Centre by contractors.

Workers are reinforcing and relining the section of the drain that runs under the pond towards The Parade. This has required new reinforcement rods to be installed and concrete spraying of the lining.

### **Heritage Sign**

The recent installation by Marion Council of the new sign at the western end of the Oaklands Estate Reserve car park detailing the history of the Oaklands Homestead and surrounding trees is most welcome.

David Jarman from the Marion Historical Society made a significant contribution to the preparation of the information displayed for which we thank him sincerely.

David's book "The History of 'Oaklands' and Its Tragic End" can be purchased for \$10 from City of Marion Administration Centre, 245 Sturt Road, Sturt and is an excellent insight into how the home came to be built and the lives of the four families who lived there from 1843 to 1948. It also includes some wonderful photographs.



### **Street Trees**

It was heartening to observe over the warmer months the regular watering of new street trees by the City of Marion truck carrying Wetlands water for the job. With a wet winter to get them fully established this will give them an added boost.

### **Verge Tidy-Up**

Our thanks go to the Marion Council staff members who recently undertook a tidy up of the verge between The Parade and The Parade West. The new plantings along this strip of land adjacent the Wetlands are doing well.

### **Footpaths**

Thanks to everyone who reported unsafe footpaths (tripping hazards and the like) to Marion Council during May. We have already seen works to repair some of those reported with the remainder a work in progress. A great initiative by Council.

Next financial year the drive will be to repair any of the kerbs and pedestrian slipways that are identified.

### **Marion Council Facebook Page**

Whilst the Marion Council website has a plethora of information available their Facebook Page is another resource offering regular updates on what is happening around the City. The Upcoming Events tab is a great way to keep informed about various activities in which you can participate.

### **Demise of Messenger Newspaper**

Publication of the free local Messenger newspaper delivered to households weekly was suspended on 9<sup>th</sup> April initially due to the Corona Virus situation. The paper had been available in a digital version also however no updated versions have been available for some weeks.

This informative local newspaper, founded in 1954, appears to be no more following various announcements by News Corporation.

For those of you missing this publication you can still access some local news at the following website:

<https://www.adelaidenow.com.au/messenger> Type

in your postcode and it will customise the view to news specific to our area. It's not quite the same.

**Fred Hill President**

## NEW RECYCLING FACILITY

In March 2020 the Southern Region Waste Resource Authority (SRWRA) announced that Marion, Holdfast and Onkaparinga Councils will jointly build a new material recycling facility at SRWRA's existing Seaford Heights resource recovery and landfill site.

This new plant is expected to be operational in 2021 providing a facility for recyclables to be re-processed and manufactured locally, as well as creating approximately 20 full time equivalent jobs depending on the level of automation. It is estimated 30,000 tonnes of recyclable materials per annum will be processed with scope to increase to 60,000 tonnes if needed. It will also allow Councils to sort different types of waste and to look for more useful ways of re-use rather than sending it to landfill.

The project will be funded by the three Councils, hopefully with support from State and Federal Governments, and will deliver better outcomes for the environment whilst maximising a return on investment. The effective recycling and reuse of our own waste without the need to ship these materials overseas will be a huge win and will put Councils in a strong position to manage waste efficiently and have greater control over how materials are recycled.



Recently SRWRA completed a separate joint venture which has resulted in all General waste (red lidded bins) going through an initial sorting process which removes all organic matter. This has resulted in a significant amount of waste being diverted from landfill. The organic material is composted on site and is being used as capping material. SRWRA had to previously buy capping material. This organic material is heavy so a much lower waste levy fees (currently \$140 per tonne) is paid to the State Government.

In addition SRAWRA has a water storage project, a large solar array on the current building and is undertaking a small solar farm as well as the new recycling facility. This is good news for our environment and well done to these Councils for their initiative.

### WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

If you have any concerns or issues which need to be addressed in regard to our Estate we'd love to hear from you. Your Association is here to help and whilst we do our best to keep abreast of what is happening in our community there might be something we've missed.

e-mail us at [info@oaklandsestate.org.au](mailto:info@oaklandsestate.org.au) and we'll be in touch.

If you have an item you'd like us to cover in our quarterly newsletter to residents also let us know.



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## COVID-19 Update

In early March the world and real estate market changed. Since COVID-19, we have seen the number of new listings decrease by almost 50%. Buyer Enquiry, inspection attendance and bidder registrations have remained strong and coupled with very attractive home loan packages, we have seen the number of sales remain strong and prices have held tight.

With the JobKeeper set to end in September and unemployment sure to rise, we are inevitably going to see an increase in properties on the market and a decrease in buyers which will unfortunately have a negative impact on the market and prices.

If you are thinking of selling, I urge you to consider marketing your property now while supply and demand are still on your side.

If you are interested in receiving our quarterly market update for Marion, please SMS your name to my mobile number below. Thank you!

**RayWhite.**



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