

WACRA wins concessions on Ramsgate Hotel outside dining and drinking.

Negotiations have taken place with the Ramsgate hotel management relating to their application to increase their outside dining and drinking area and numbers.

The negotiations were cordial and positive and it is a great pity that Council didn't provide the same opportunities to the community to have a voice in the negotiating process.

The deals were done in early December well before the community were advised on 3rd Jan 2016 that significant changes to the dining arrangements were made.

The agreement by Council put the community on the back foot however WACRA were able to achieve agreement to remove two tables on the very southern end of the hotel and also reduce hours on sections of the outside dining areas.

We also reached agreement on the need for visual physical markers in the form of planter boxes to clearly define the outside dining area on Seaview Road.

This is a six months trial and we ask residents to report any incidences to SAPOL, Council compliance, WACRA or the Hotel management.



Dining area located on footpath Seaview Rd

WACRA in negotiations with Government on 3rd and final Wetland on Torrens River.

Positive negotiations have taken place between WACRA and the Natural Resources Management Board on the installation of the 3rd and final stage Wetland out to Gulf St Vincent.

We encourage you to view the concept plan <http://www.naturalresources.sa.gov.au/adelaide/loftyranges/water/managing-water/water-courses/breakout-creek> that will soon go out for public consultation.

The horses are an issue as WACRA have a best practice environmental improvement position to remove the horses from the water way and find more suitable agistment, however, we recognise that this would need to be done over time and we are looking forward to the outcome of the negotiations that are presently taking place between the Lockleys Riding Club and SA Water to negotiate a lease arrangement that will have the horses agisted in a more suitable and less environmentally sensitive area.

WACRA have offered over many years our assistance to find suitable alternate agistment.

Our primary goal is to have cleaner water entering Gulf St Vincent and to increase the biodiversity similar to what you can experience along other sections of wetlands nearby.



Torrens River Breakout Creek concrete drain presently occupied by free roaming horses polluting the waterway. The NRM Concept Plan is recommending a wetland from Tapleys Hill Road to the Torrens Outlet.

Main Street Poles Apart Community Art Project – A HUGE SUCCESS

The launch of this project was celebrated on 1st March in the Henley and Grange Community Centre and officially opened by Mayor Evans and attended by 60 community residents who participated in the project.

Have a walk down Main Street and treat yourself to some amazing art work created by the community.



WACRA makes Place Making application for Pole Painting in South Street Henley

Continuing on from the success of the 'Poles Apart' project in Main Street Henley Beach WACRA have submitted an application for funding through the Council 'Place Making' initiative for a similar project in South Street.

If successful, this project will include a connection to the nearby Johns Reserve, a well used area for children's play, picnics and a quiet place to meditate.

We are proposing connections with the St Michael's parish community and local traders. The theme for the project will be chosen by the residents of South Street with assistance from a paid professional artist.

South Street will have a significant face lift and a true sense of place if we are successful.



President, Jim Douglas with his Pelicans

WACRA Unhappy with Police Review Proposals.

The recent Police Operations Review has a raft of recommendations that cause serious concerns to Metropolitan Seaside suburbs.

There are high expectations that the new Police Station at Henley Beach would bring about longer hours of operation and greater accessibility however the review is proposing to cut hours and reduce the number of days and will not be open on weekends.

Whilst the new Station is being built the community have accepted some disorganisation however expectations have been high ever since the State Government announced as part of its election promises that a new and fully operative station at Henley would be built.

The old station was open from 8am to 11pm seven days a week while the new station is set to operate from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

We are experiencing expansion in population, a huge increase in dining and drinking activities, alcohol and drug related incidences, increased numbers of aged residents living at home, increased enrolments at primary and secondary levels, increased motor vehicle traffic, encouragement to ride and walk for health and a safe house in case of domestic violence so it just doesn't make sense that the hours of operation are decreased. In fact, it should be the other way around and community policing increased.

The Police are part of the fabric of society and assist in making our communities safe.

WACRA have written to our Ward Councillors in Henley and Grange and in addition we have met with our local MP Paul Caica and the Police Minister's Advisor expressing our concerns.

We urge you all to obtain a copy of the report and voice your concerns to your local MP and The Minister for Police - Peter Malinauskas, about what is being proposed.

Jet Ski Exclusion Zone Huge Success.

Once again the Jet Ski Exclusion Zone between the Torrens River and Grange Road has proven to be successful and of significant benefit to beach users and residents.

There has been the occasional jet ski 'playing in the zone' and in most incidences the ever alert community have contacted SAPOL, Dept. of Transport, and Council by notifying their location and recording their registration.

Some jet ski users have been fined or warned and it is pleasing that this number is becoming less each year.

WACRA have written to Council and Transport Minister Mullighan expressing strongly the need to make the Exclusion Zone permanent each summer.

Council should not be made responsible to carry the liability and a sure way for a permanent zone is to have it written into Government Regulations.

The Minister has given assurances that the Zone will become permanent. To make things ever safer WACRA would like to see the Zone extended north of the Grange Jetty to the West Lakes inlet platform that would clearly determine the boundary and the distance from the low water mark.

What has happened to West Beach? Can it be saved?

Over 600 residents campaigned vigorously in 1998 to stop the West beach Boat Harbour being built because all good science was advising that it would have dramatic and detrimental effects on West Beach and all beaches norththe science was correct and we are now experiencing the consequences.

Over 2 metres of sand depth has been lost off West Beach, the rock wall is unstable and collapsing and beaches north are being starved of natural sand replenishment.

"The whole natural sand replenishment system is out of equilibrium".

In accordance with the Local Government Act the SA Government is responsible for any damage relating to the construction of the boat harbour however getting them to accept liability is meeting resistance.

The Government are calling on City Charles Sturt to meet 20% of the total cost to repair the rock wall and this will amount to \$millions and also does not take into account the vulnerable situation of the West Beach SLSC nor the sand starvation and a lack of an alternative sand source.

Dr Ian Dyson a Coastal Geologist has presented a 'Plan' to the Environment Resources Committee of State Government and the Metropolitan Sea Side Councils to 'stop the destruction'.

Two field trips have taken place from Kingston Park to Henley Beach to view the destruction first hand and to discuss a 'trial' of the Dyson Plan that may very well have the construction engineering and science to save our beaches.



TENNYSON DUNES - SHARED PATHWAY

A Concept Plan for a shared pathway through the Tennyson Dunes has been released for public comment and can be found at:

<http://yoursay.sa.gov.au/decisions/yoursay-engagements-tennyson-dunes-coast-park-concept-report/about>

WACRA is considered a key stake holder in the process and will shortly be meeting

Government consultants (15th March) to put forward our position.

The Concept Plan is proposing 2 pathway options and WACRA will continue to support our original position of a sensitive pathway furthest away from the sea with the least disruption to the dunes.

The kind of path being suggested is what WACRA proposed from the very beginning, being a sensitive path built with extreme care, accessible to all people, restricted speed limits, narrow width using compacted natural earth elements with passing nodes, seating at various intervals for educational opportunities with clear interpretive signage.

We are aware that some resident groups are not happy with the concept plan however they would be well advised to take into consideration the wishes of the overall majority of the community and the Tennyson Dunes Group who have endorsed the Concept Plan to go out for consultation.

Illegal extraction of precious Groundwater continues to discharge onto Henley Beach.

82,000 litres of groundwater continues to flow from the Antunes Development.

Latest response from Department of Environment Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR) advises WACRA that the "Department is committed to work with stakeholders to resolve this issue. The issue is complex and time consuming due to the need to ensure that the solution maintains the long term integrity of the aquifer and surrounding soil structures"

DEWNR have given an assurance that "the Department is actively seeking to achieve compliance to cease the escape of ground water through a suitably designed solution that crosses private and public infrastructure"

How many more times are we going to receive the same response? It is over 4 years now that this water is being illegally extracted from this site.

DEWNR go onto say "The Department considers this issue a high priority and will continue to monitor and progress the issue until resolved."

It is a great shame that the Minister didn't see things in the same way as the Department for if he did he would have shown far greater interest in resolving the issue when WACRA met him late last year.

We call on our members and supporters to write to the Minister for Environment and Water Resources, Ian Hunter MLC calling on the Government to resolve the issue immediately. minister.hunter@sa.gov.au

WACRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual general meeting of the Western Adelaide Coastal Residents' Association will be held on Wednesday 30th March commencing at 7.30 pm in the Henley & Grange Community Centre, 196a Military Road, Henley (next door to new police station)

Guest speaker will be Adapt West coordinator Verity Sanders. Adapt West is an initiative of three West Adelaide Councils, West Torrens, Port Adelaide-Enfield and Charles Sturt, with support from State Government to plan and advise on ways our region can adapt to climate change. Over the past two years Adapt West has worked to identify and assess the vulnerability of the West Adelaide region to climate change across the five themes of Planning and Development, Environment and Open Space, Coastal Management, Social and Community Health and Resilience, Assets, Infrastructure and the Economy. From this they have developed an Action Plan for climate change adaptation that will allow for flexibility of action dependent on intensity of climate events, the speed at which they occur and changes to vulnerability due to unforeseen events.

The meeting, which is open to all WACRA members as well as the general public, is an opportunity to hear Verity outline what impacts rising sea levels, higher temperatures, lower rainfall, and more frequent and intense storms are likely to have on our local region and what plans are in store to deal with them.

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Photos courtesy of Fernando and Anne