



NEWSLETTER SUMMER EDITION JANUARY 2018

COASTAL PATHWAY

It is with heavy heart that we advise the Coastal Pathway between Semaphore South and Grange could be held up for a very long time as a result of groups of beachfront residents having a Supreme Court decision made in their favour based mainly on a flaw in the Council's consultation process. However, it is reassuring that the section of the Tennyson Dunes Conservation Reserve between Bournemouth Street and Cormorant Court, managed by the State, will install a North-South Discovery Trail that will be accessible to all.

WACRA realised at an early stage in the process that there would be a need for compromise to reduce the width and composition of the pathway and to keep the path as close to the eastern boundary as possible ensuring that the residents still had their privacy and safety. We wrote & spoke to all five resident groups located along the beach front and also to Council providing them with a plan we believed could be considered. The Tennyson Dunes Group were the only group who made contact with us and as a result have come to a very similar position as our compromise proposal. The majority of the SA community want a continuous pathway and WACRA remains open minded and encourages those groups who remain opposed to meet with us and to find a way through.

HENLEY LIBRARY

What a wonderful outcome for the community to retain their Library and to stop council in reconsidering their proposal to downsize, demolish part of the historic building and rebadge it as a Boutique Library somewhere in Henley square. Council's proposal was purely an economic one to create land to sell off and shunt the money into general revenue. Very little thought went into the proposal and it had the effect of making the community concerned and angry. WACRA joined forces with the wonderful Community Library Action Group (CLAG) and together we set about taking actions such as an 'online' survey and petition in addition to extensive media coverage and presentations to Council. The result of these actions were recognised by Council and the outcome is that the Library will remain and community consultation will take place to work through options on how our library will best serve its community.

TELSTRA TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWER, EAST TCE, HENLEY BEACH

Can you imagine the horror of living within a few metres or even 200 metres away from a 35 metre TELSTRA Tower? This is what residents living on East Terrace and surrounding streets inside a Historic Conservation Zone are facing. The Development application by TELSTRA was overwhelmingly refused by Council Development Assessment Panel and as a consequence TELSTRA appealed the decision in the Environmental Resources Development Court and threw everything but the kitchen sink at Council and our two community representatives inside the court room. Threats and intimidation seemed to be the modis operandi adopted by TELSTRA in their attempts to get Council and the residents to back out. Council undertook reviews of alternate land possibilities in addition to a structural inspection of the existing site on Seaview Road and residents raised very large amounts of money for legal representation and an expert heritage report but TELSTRA would not give favorable consideration to any alternate options and the big Corporate have so far won the day. For many residents, the outcome has been devastating but they still had the belief that we must try for a better outcome than a 35metre Gun Metal tower standing 10 metres above the tallest iconic Norfolk Island Pines. Our constant 'never say die' attitude has created a glimmer of light at the top of the towerTELSTRA are talking to Council with the view to "do something for the community" to lessen the visual impact. Our Action group recently conducted a Street Meeting opposite the tower location and over 70 residents turned up to have their say. The resolution from the meeting called on TELSTRA and Council to enter into meaningful consultation with the community to 'Hide the Tower'. Residents have submitted very creative models of how a painted and shrouded tower could look to lessen the visual impact and retain some semblance of a significant heritage place. TELSTRA and Council have agreed to meet with the Action Group on 17th Jan to work through options and endeavor to find some common ground. If you have an idea, a photo, a prototype model please contact us and we will ensure it is given every consideration. You might like to remind TELSTRA to live up to their mantra of being a 'Responsible Corporate Citizen' as this is their opportunity.



An example of how the tower could be shrouded and camouflaged

SCIENTIFIC REPORT TO CONSIDER WEST BEACH AND METROPOLITAN COASTLINE

WACRA have been working closely with Save West Beach Sands Group to find a better and more scientific method of managing the coast. You have all seen the devastation of West Beach, the massive loss of sand, the collapse of the rock wall, the threat to the Surf Life Saving club and what is described as a 'wet beach' (no sand). Productive meetings have taken place with Council and the Coastal Protection Board and after a lot of head banging a package of \$70,000 has been directed to conduct an independent scientific study of how we can do things far better than using a sand pipeline, a frontend loader and truck to plug holes in the eroding system. This report is due soon and will be made public.

DREDGING OF THE OUTER HARBOUR

Here we go again - another deepening of the harbour by screw and suction dredging to provide passage for the giant sized container vessels all in the name of progress and improving our economybugger the outcome that will turn the Gulf St Vincent waters into a murky mess for over 12 months or more. You may remember the murky turbid waters last time this was done in 2005 with reduced visibility making the waters unsafe for swimming. Perhaps if you are a crab with goggles and a snorkel you might be just OK or just manage to survive. Calls have been made to the Environmental Protection Authority to collect the dredge spoil on barges or pipes and dump on land but no one wants that option due to costs so what we can expect is one hell of a sediment plume stretching north and south along the coast and the dredged spoil collected and dumped 30 kms out to sea providing the weather is suitable of course and if not, well dump it where you can. That was the method with the previous dredging and nothing much has changed. So, when you see the sediment plume heading your way you will know what it is and please don't swim in it because that will be the warning issued by the EPA who are managing the licence. WACRA have made a submission to the State Commission Assessment Panel which can be found on our web site www.wacra.org.au.

Recent discussions with the EPA provide some hope that the method of dredging this time will contain far greater conditions and more regular monitoring. These results need to be made public.

COUNCIL KICKS OUT PROPOSAL FOR 40KM/H ZONING IN HENLEY BEACH

Henley Ward Councilor Robert Randall doesn't seem to be able to get on a winner and who could really wonder if he continues to bring items into the Council Chamber without engaging with community. His latest proposal to introduce a blanket 40km/h limit on all roads in the Henley Beach Ward fell well short and failed to break the sound barrier. A blanket speed restriction fails to take into account that many roads are better constructed to take faster speeds and this is the case for the major arterial roads. Cr Bob wasn't satisfied when he spoke for himself on what he believed to be a good idea he also wanted to have talks with the West Torrens Council to bring them into the restriction zone. We wonder if Mayor Trainer was as much in the dark and taken by surprise as the Henley community. Imagine Cr Bob travelling at 40 Km/h doing his round trip over to his new abode at Tumby Bay with his promised commitment to attend the occasional council meeting. BUT there is more.... Cr Bob has made another non consultative media announcement that Seaview Road should be a 25 Km/h speed zone against the advice of the RAA...we really wonder if Cr Bob ever talks to his own staff about the proposed Traffic Management Plan for this section of Seaview Rd that is on the books inside the Council offices.

NOISY MOTORBIKES ON THE COAST - ENOUGH TO MAKE YOUR EARS BLEED...

Motor bikes can be a wonderful and joyous piece of engineering genius BUT not when the noise is deafening and disturbing a peaceful day for a quiet coffee or a stroll. In fact they can be bloody annoying and in some instances painful and debilitating. We have reports of these noisy beasts revving to maximum capacity along the coast roads doing not much else that spewing CO2 into the atmosphere and quite intentionally doing the 'look at my bike and look at me' Well a lot of residents, traders, patrons, visitors and leisure seekers have had a gutful and the matter is now in the hands of the local member for Parliament Paul Caica MP and Police to find a way of stopping this senseless behavior.

PAID PARKING METERS – HENLEY SQUARE GONE: WATCH OUT FOR THE INGROUND SENSORS

What an amazing reaction of opposition by the people when they found out that Council almost overnight installed Paid Parking Meters in the north and south car parks.

Traders opposed them, the community hated them, petitions collected tallied over 10,000 signatures calling for their removal. The media ran the story with their usual vigour when people reacted to something that took all by surprise (other than the Council). Plenty of TV

Cameras, headline stories in the local rag and the Advertiser, social media and eventually a ‘back flip’ by the Mayor and Council. This was a classic example of why there is a need to consult with the community. Let us hope it is a lesson well learned by Council that we will never see or experience another blunder like this again. A great victory for the people and democracy.



Summer is here and the Antunes (Bayspring Pty Ltd) site continues to illegally spew 82,000 litres of precious ground water onto Henley Beach every day from his H2O and Baju apartments on Seaview road.

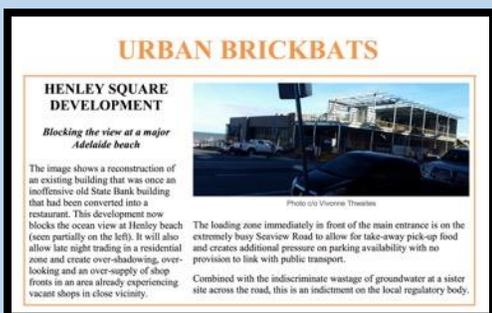


For more than 7 years this **Illegal Water Affecting Activity** has been allowed to continue with harm to the environment and great concerns and frustrations to the community. The Department Environment Water Natural Resources (DEWNR) are well aware that the Developer is breaking the law and the matter drags on. However, there is hope there is an engineering plan of what needs to be done to construct a circulatory system close to the western boundary of this

development. Recent correspondence from Minister Hunter and a meeting with DEWNR representatives sound more positive and hopeful that there maybe some movement on reaching an agreement on design and who pays.

R A INVESTMENTS PTY LTD WINS ANOTHER CIVIC TRUST BRICKBAT AWARD

This is quite an achievement that Richard Antunes has won the Brick Bat Award for poor design and irresponsible development two years in a row. His recently completed two level and upper deck development at the northern end of Henley Square which partially blocks out western views of many of the residents living in apartments opposite was judged by the Civic Trust Panel of experts as ‘out of character for the area’. The construction of precast concrete slab walls fails to add any real charm to the area other than it opens up opportunities for some extraordinary public art works on the massive northern wall and that must be a good thing surely?



**WACRA QUIZ NIGHT
GREAT PRIZES, PLENTY OF FUN BOOK NOW**



WESTERN ADELAIDE COASTAL RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 10 February 2018

Fullham Community Centre
Corner Fitch and Halsey Roads,
Fullham (car parking available inside Centre)

6.30pm for a 7.00pm start

GREAT PRIZES:
Silent Auction • The famous Baileys roll
Heads & Tails • Guess Who

Tables of 8 (could squeeze to 10)
Only \$15 per head, \$10 concession
and under 12 free
BYO: Nibbles/drinks/glasses

DON'T MISS OUT - BOOK NOW
Pay via EFT or on the night. Bookings essential.
RSVP by 3 February 2018 to cococs@adam.com.au

Visit us at wacra.org.au or find us on  Facebook

**Where to find out what we are doing and what is going on around the place
Facebook ...Western Adelaide Coastal Residents Association Inc.
General meetings & all minutes and activities.... see Web Site www.wacra.org.au**

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Photos courtesy of Paul Laris, Weekly Times Messenger, Chrissy Schultz, Civic Trust, Anne Wheaton, Lara Hollamby

