



Frencham Place, Downer ACT 2602

Around Downer

Downer Community Association Newsletter

April 2015

IMPORTANT DATES

- Saturday 2nd May,
10 am - 2 pm
Party at the Shops
- Sunday 17th May,
10 am - 2 pm
**Downer Preschool
Autumn Fete**

DCA Management Committee meetings

DCA members and other Downer residents are always welcome to attend these meetings, held on the 1st Monday of each month at 7 pm.

DCA COMMITTEE, 2015

A new committee was elected at the AGM of the DCA on Monday 24th November 2014. The Office bearers for 2015 are:

Convenor: Di Fielding
Secretary: Jane Ahern
Treasurer: Stephen Sedgwick
Public Officer: Brian Callahan

Other Committee members are: Miles Boak, Caroline Le Cou-teur, Denys Garden, Patti Kendall, Chris Paterson and Philida Sturgiss-Hoy.

PARTY AT THE SHOPS Saturday 2nd May 2015

Downer Community Association invites all to a **Parties at the Shops** event at the **Downer Community Centre/Downer Shops** on **Saturday 2nd May 2015**.

Featuring music, face painting, sausage sizzle, coffee stall, cake stall, craft stalls and kids activities, this promises to be another great day out in Downer!



For more information see our website at www.downercommunityassociation.org or visit the Parties at the Shops Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/PartiesattheShops?ref=photo> or their website at <http://partiesattheshops.com.au/>.

If you would like to be involved in running a stall on the day or assisting in any other way, please call the DCA Convenor, Di Fielding on 6241 1372 or email us on downerassociation@gmail.com.

"Suitcase sale " If you have anything to sell other than mass produced goods, such as handmade and second hand goods, you are welcome to bring your suitcase and spread out under the wide verandahs of the Downer shops. You can come on the day - no need to book ahead.

DOWNER SCHOOL SITE UPDATE

The Draft Variation to the Territory Plan (DV322) to allow the rezoning of the former Downer School site for development is with ACT Planning. Twenty one submissions were received in the exhibition period. These can be viewed on our website at

<http://www.downercommunityassociation.org/downer-primary-school-site.html>

No decision has been made yet.

DICKSON SHOPS DEVELOPMENT

This is a large development with two new supermarkets, shops, offices, 155 apartments and two levels of underground parking. The period for comment on this Development Application closed on 10th February.

Things have gone a little quiet since the closing of the comment period, perhaps because of the 59 submissions the government received on this development.

COMMUNITY CENTRE

For room rentals and any other issues to do with the Centre, contact the Centre Coordinator, Jingwen Wang on 6249 6443 or email downercentre@gmail.com
For further information about the Centre facilities see our website (address below).

DOWNER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

To reach the Management Committee by email for other matters, use downerassociation@gmail.com

DCA WEBSITE

www.downercommunityassociation.org

The website has information about the Community Centre, room rentals, membership and other forms, etc. There are copies of previous Newsletters and Management Committee minutes, and information and photos from previous Fairs.

BOOKS & CDs

There are still copies of the book 'Downer@50' and the follow up CD released in 2010. If you don't have these, they are available at \$10 for the pair. Phone 6249 8392 or email downerassociation@gmail.com

People have queried the scale of this development, its effect on the present shops and the overall direction of planning in Canberra. For example, see the following article:

<http://the-southern-cross.com/dickson-shops-6/>

DICKSON DEVELOPMENT PETITION

Some of you will have signed the petition organised by the Dickson small business owners about the proposed major development at Dickson shops. This was signed by 1517 ACT residents and was tabled in the Assembly at the end of March. Unfortunately, it was ruled

out of order, as it was incorrectly addressed to the Minister rather than the Assembly. A revised petition is now doing the rounds. Please sign it, even if you signed the original. **There will be opportunities at Dickson Shops and at the Downer Party at the Shops.**

If you would like to print your own blank copy of the petition and gather signatures from your friends or at an event, there is a copy on our website at

http://www.downercommunityassociation.org/uploads/1/2/4/3/12436620/revised_dickson_shops_petition.pdf

Don't miss this!

Downer Preschool will be holding their **Autumn Fete** on **Sunday 17th May**.

Activities will include: Lucky dip, White elephant stall (clothes, books, toys, etc), Face painting, Balloon sculptures, Sausage sizzle, Cake Stall, Plant stall and Café.

Hopefully there will be performances by Lyneham Primary School choir and a visit by the Fire Brigade. **Come and support our local Preschool!**



Downer Preschool Fete, 2010

But don't forget Watson!



Information at Party at the Shops

If you want information about planning issues or light rail, the following will attend the Party on 2nd May.

- ACT Government
- Capital Metro

The petition about the Dickson Shops development will also be available for signing on the day.