



Frencham Place, Downer ACT 2602

# AROUND DOWNER

ISSUE OCTOBER 2009

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THE DOWNER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION  
FRENCHAM PLACE, DOWNER 2602  
(02) 6249 6443

*The Downer Community Association is a not-for-profit organisation, whose goals are to:  
(a) Promote, protect and enhance the social, cultural and physical environment of the community of Downer; and (b) engage in activities conducive to the attainment of these objects.*

*Membership in the DCA is free, and open to all residents of the suburb. Non-residents are welcome to submit an application to the Management Committee for approval.*

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**IMPORTANT DATE: 30 November 2009 Annual General Meeting**

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## **DCA Annual General Meeting 30<sup>th</sup> November 2009**

The Annual General Meeting of the Downer Community Association will be held at 7:30 PM on Monday, 30 November 2009, at the Downer Community Centre in Frencham Place.

We urge you to attend and find out more about the Association and what initiatives are underway particularly in relation to the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations next March.

The meeting will be followed by drinks and nibbles.

Next year will be a busy one for the Association and we would be delighted to welcome new members to the Committee. Nomination forms will be available on the night.

Come and make a difference for where you live and get connected with your local community.

The Association has the following positions for which nominations will be taken: Convenor; Secretary; Treasurer; Centre Co-ordinator; Public Officer; Assistant Secretary and a number of general committee positions.

If you would like to know more about the roles and responsibilities of any of these positions don't hesitate to contact Miles on 62625851 or Di on 62411372.

**Help wanted for organising,  
planning and participating on  
the day for the  
Downer 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
Celebrations  
Saturday 27 March 2010**

**Ring Sue on 62496443  
All Downer residents have  
something to contribute**

### ***The Downer Story – The Book***

A commemorative book is under preparation for the 50<sup>th</sup> celebrations. The contents are to be:-

#### *Downers Past*

- Pre-20th century early settlement
- 20th century pre-CSIRO farm land, aerodrome
- CSIRO occupation
- Downer the suburb – Stories of early residents and community life
- Present day Downer

*There will be features on significant groups in our past*

- Downer Primary School
- Downer Scouts Group
- Downer United Soccer club
- Downer Community Association
- Downer Pre-school

#### *Significant Events*

- Royal visits to Barnardo's
- 1988 Bicentenary and the Oral History Project

We are also keen to obtain copies of old photos and peoples recollections in regard to the above. Please contact Miles on 62625851 or Denys 62498392.



Frencham Place, Downer ACT 2602

20 October 2009

To All Downer Residents

**Re: Downer 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations on Saturday 27 March 2010**

Downer was gazetted as a suburb on 7 April 1960 with the first building and construction commencing soon after that date. The suburb is named after Sir John Downer, Premier of South Australia and a member of the first Senate and significant contributor to the Federation of the Australian states.

To commemorate the occasion the Downer community is holding the Downer 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration day on Saturday 27 March 2010. This will be at the Downer Community Centre and surrounding area (Downer Oval). The ACT Government through a grant from the ACT Heritage Fund has provided substantial funding to run the day. The focus will be on a community celebration and the preparation of commemorative material.

A community working group has been formed to manage the anniversary celebrations. If you would like to be part of this you will be made to feel very welcome. Even if you just want to help with one aspect of the preparation for the day just contact Di on 6241 1372 or see Sue at the Community Centre office (62496443).

The day will see the unveiling of the Downer Heritage Walk; the launch of a book and CD of Downer's past and the unveiling of a mural commemorating the CSIRO poppy fields that used to be onsite. Significant progress is already being made with the celebrations. We are talking to CSIRO about their history in Downer; seeking out former Downer Primary School teachers and talking to the ABC about a segment on Stateline.

On the day there will be lots of entertainment for both young and old; stalls, art and craft exhibitions by our centre users and plenty of good food to be had. Yet another highlight of the day will be an art exhibition for our young residents. Details of the subject, competition rules and prizes will be in our next newsletter

Don't forget to put the date in your diaries – 27 March, 2010.

Thanks

*Miles Boak*

Miles Boak

*20 oct 09*

Convenor

Downer Community Association