



Frencham Place, Downer ACT 2602

AROUND DOWNER

2010 ISSUE No.3, OCTOBER

DISTRIBUTED BY

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:

- *Promote, protect and enhance the social, cultural and physical environment of the community of Downer; and*
- *engage in activities conducive to the attainment of these objects.*

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

Next Committee meeting Monday 6th December 2010, 7 pm

(Management Committee meetings are held in the Community Centre at 7 pm on the first Monday of each month, and are open to all members)

Our new Centre Coordinator

We have been fortunate in finding Anne Clarke to replace Sue Harkness as Centre Coordinator. Anne is from Ainslie and has been working for SEE-Change, which operates out of the Downer Centre (see article on SEE-Change over page). She will continue working for them and us on a part-time basis. Anne has settled in well and we are very happy with the way the Centre is running. Please ring 6249 6443 or email downercentre@gmail.com if you have any enquiries about the Centre, or to arrange a time to drop in at the office to chat with Anne.

IMPORTANT DATE: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday 29th November 7.30 PM

INCLUDES LAUNCH OF CD "PS" (a postscript to DOWNER@50)

Why don't you stand for the Management Committee?

We need interested people to help run the Community Centre, and represent the interests of Downer residents.

2011 Focus: Central Downer area, including the old Shops.

Come along to the meeting and nominate for election!

Follow-up from Downer's 50th

- Information has been coming in since April to be included in the CD, a sequel to the book 'Downer@50'. The CD will be officially launched at the AGM on 29th November. Note that you will not be able to 'play' the CD on a normal domestic CD or DVD player. Text and photos will be viewable on a computer monitor (PC or Mac), and a limited number of printed copies will be made available for those who do not wish to use a computer. However, for reasons of cost, these will not be professionally printed, as was the case for 'Downer@50'. However, the printed copy will cost more than the CD.
- ACT Heritage has agreed to erect a sign commemorating the Downer Mural painted on the western wall of the Community Centre. This will provide information about the significance of the mural and, hopefully, alert other artists to the fact that it should not be defaced, or painted over. Genuine artists usually respect each others work.

Planning Issues

- Many residents will be aware that 17 new apartments have been erected on the corner of Bradfield and Frencham Streets. DCA made a submission to ACTPLA on the original design of these, and we are disappointed with the standard of the finished product. A similar development of 19 apartments is planned on the next 3 blocks in Frencham St, and DCA has made comments to ACTPLA on this as well. We are aware that other residents have also made separate submissions to ACTPLA.
- DCA has also made a submission on DV303, which includes proposed changes to the planning laws, some of which have the potential to change the character of our suburb.

From the DCA Archives

DOWNER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

14 October
Saturday
10am - 4pm

CRAFT & HOME PRODUCE MARKET
at **DOWNER VILLAGE SQUARE**
at the Downer Shops

■ Pottery	■ Buskers	■ Art
■ Painting	■ Refreshments	■ Plants
■ Childrens Stalls	■ Produce	■ Craft

Stall enquiries:
Ted Smythe 41 5430

Also Saturday:
11 November, 9 December and 20 January

**OCTOBER FEATURES:
AFRICAN and SOUTH AMERICAN
CRAFT DISPLAYS**

Design by Deborah Tyson Design, Co-ordinator: New Resident Centre

Advertisement for DCA Markets, early 1990s

Downer Community Centre User Profile

This Newsletter we are featuring: **SEE-Change**

SEE-Change emerged from the work of two much-admired ANU academics. Professor Stephen Boyden for many years researched the subject of human-earth relations, and wrote about the potential for community centres ('Life Centres') in which citizens of all ages and backgrounds could work together to learn from each other. Professor Bob Douglas knew Stephen's work, and in 2006 assembled a round-table to talk about making this dream a reality. SEE-Change was born (The SEE stands for Society, Environment, Economy).

Stephen had envisaged physical centres, buildings in which people could meet and share knowledge, which could house a shared collection of useful resources to help citizens change their lifestyles. Such venues are not yet a part of SEE-Change (although our central office in Downer is a start), but suburb-based activities have always been at the core of SEE-Change. We see our role as one of enabling groups of citizens to work together on projects that matter to them, and we have several groups which meet all over Canberra to do just that.

Woden's focus has been on community education, and continues to foster a wonderful array of skill-sharing and knowledge-sharing events and workshops. The Inner North group has shown itself to excel at running community events that bring people together on topics of sustainability (movie nights, fairs, open house days). The Inner South group writes well-researched submissions to government inquiries, offering intelligent community perspectives on ACT Government plans. And our Belconnen group has co-ordinated two solar panel bulk buys and a bike trailer hire program.

SEE-Change Inc maintains an office at the Downer Community Centre and coordinates annual reviews, webpage services, financial services, a membership system, a newsletter and annual student internships. If you are interested in learning more about the activities of SEE-Change, please visit our website (www.see-change.org.au), call the office on 6162 2320, or visit us at Downer Community Centre to pick up a flyer and membership form. We're in the West Room, and if you see our sign on display, then we're open!

MISSED OUT ON THE BOOK?

'Downer@50', published for the 50th Anniversary in March, has been very popular. We still have copies left, so if you or your family or friends missed out, they are still available from Denys and Jennifer Garden (6249 8392) or Miles Boak (6262 5851) at \$10 (## but see Special Deal below ##). Copies can also be bought at the DCA office, if it is open.

ORDERED YOUR CD?

A CD containing further photographs, stories of the suburb and records assembled from archives, as well as private sources, will be launched at the DCA Annual General Meeting on 29th November. This will be called "PS", a postscript to the previously released book, 'Downer@50'.

If you haven't already ordered your copy of the CD, an order form is included on this page. Fill it in, include your payment (\$5) and post or deliver to 11 Allport Street, Downer (secure locked letter box). Alternatively, give to any DCA Committee member or to the Office at the Downer Centre.

DCA Website and Email

Website: <http://tinyurl.com/downerassociation>

If you have a community event you would like to advertise on the site, or you have suggestions for additions to the site, please email details to downerassociation@gmail.com. For matters concerning the Community Centre, use downercentre@gmail.com.

If you have skills in developing Google Sites using Google Apps, and would like to help improve our website, please contact us at the above association email.

Feedback & future Newsletter items

If you have any comments about this newsletter or would like to make any contributions to the next issue please contact Denys on 02 6249 8392 or email us on downerassociation@gmail.com.

If you would prefer to receive copies of *Around Downer* electronically, please send your email address to downerassociation@gmail.com.

ORDER FORM FOR CD "PS"

Cost: \$5
Print version: \$10
Book (Downer@50): Still \$10:

SPECIAL DEALS

Book + CD "PS" \$12
Book + Print version of "PS" \$17
(i.e. Book reduced to \$7)

NAME:

PHONE:

ADDRESS:

EMAIL: