



Frencham Place, Downer ACT 2602

AROUND DOWNER

ISSUE NOVEMBER 2011

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

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 or phone on 6249 6443.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Our present Community Centre Coordinator is moving on, so there is a position available for part-time work from the start of 2012. If you are interested, there is more information available on the DCA website: <http://tinyurl.com/downerassociation>

DCA Annual General meeting 28th November 2011, 7.30 pm

The Annual General Meeting of the Downer Community Association will be held at 7:30 PM on Monday 28 November 2011 at the Downer Community Centre in Frencham Place. We urge you to attend and find out more about the Association. Your contributions are welcome on how to deal with the challenges facing the suburb, including the changes proposed in the central Downer Area.

Next year will be a busy one for the Association and we would be delighted to welcome new members to the Management Committee for 2012. Come, get connected to your local community and make a difference to where you live.

From the Committee members elected on 28th November, the following officers will be appointed: Convenor, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Centre Co-ordinator, Public Officer; there are also a number of general Committee positions. If you would like to be on the Committee (or know someone who could be interested), [nomination forms are available on the back of this Newsletter, or from the DCA website.](#)

What should happen to the former Downer School and shops sites?

The ACT Government is making positive sounding noises on action within the next 12 months to resolve the future of the former Downer School and shops sites. The indications are that this is not another false dawn, but that something is going to happen. Development on some sections of the site where community uses are permissible is expected to commence in 2012.

To hear what the Government has in mind, come to the AGM, where representatives of the Economic Development Directorate will provide information on possible plans for development of the site, including the possibility of the Government buying back the old shops for community use.

A representative of Territory and Municipal Services will also present information on the proposal to install lights on Downer Oval. There will be an opportunity to question speakers.

Focus on our User Groups

INCLUSIVE  DRAMA

**inclusive community arts
inclusive learning culture**

Inclusive Drama uses improvisation, games, voice and body to explore what is of importance or interest. During our meetings we explore interaction with others for fun and enjoyment - like having a conversation - sometimes serious, sometimes funny.

Drama strengthens skills in communication, listening and expression, both verbally and non-verbally. Drama builds confidence in interaction, by cultivating the ability to read others' feelings and deal with your own. Drama encourages us to stand in other people's shoes, teaching us to value and maybe even understand their viewpoint.

Integrated or inclusive drama is part of a larger practice of Community Cultural Development, working creatively with communities on their own ground, on their own issues, through cultural practice.

**(for more information see:
www.ccd.net/about/index.html);**

Inclusive Drama meets in the West Hall of the Downer Community Centre at 3.30 pm on Wednesdays during term time.

Contacts: Bren Weatherstone 6249 1221
Mica Cochrane 6161 5394

**Agenda, Annual General Meeting
Downer Community Association
Monday 28th November 2011, 7:30pm**

Item	Time	Matter
1.	7:30	Welcome
2.	7.32	Presentations by representatives of ACT Government on possible Central Downer development, and the proposal to establish lights on Downer Oval. <u>Followed by Question time.</u>
3.	8.15	Break for refreshments - Drinks and Nibbles
4.	8.30	Commence AGM - Apologies, Minutes
5.	8:35	Reports by Convenor, Treasurer and Centre Coordinator. Appointment of Auditor
6.	8:50	Elections for 2012 Management Committee and co-opted Central Downer Working Group (to provide information to Government on what we want).
	9.00	Close

What is the Downer Community Association?

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 of the DCA is free, and open to all residents of the suburb. The DCA is one of the oldest community associations in the ACT, and has been operating continuously since 1985. It is an incorporated body under the ACT Incorporated Associations Act.

The main activity of the DCA is to run the Downer Community Centre in Frencham Place. The Centre currently has 25 user groups including craft, drama, yoga and exercise classes, and provides meeting venues for various organisations. The Association is run by a Management Committee which meets on the first Monday of each month at 7pm at the Centre. These meetings are open to all residents and we welcome your attendance. A newsletter, "Around Downer", is produced on a quarterly basis and goes to all residents in the suburb. In 2010, the DCA published a history of the suburb, "Downer@50", plus a follow-up CD, both of which are still available.

The Committee is involved in a wide range of issues that impact on the suburb and its residents. Planning issues and the future of the Downer school site and former shops have been matters that the DCA has been closely involved in for a number of years. The DCA has also been successful in obtaining a number of community grants to fund works in the suburb. Events such as Clean Up day are run annually in March. A recent event was the Community Fair & Swap Meet, run in conjunction with SEE-Change, which operates out of the Downer Community Centre.

The DCA has a part time coordinator who manages the Centre and who can be contacted at the DCA Office, or by phone on 02 6249 6443.

Nomination Form for the Management Committee of Downer Community Association (or Central Downer Working Group) for 2012

Name¹: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____ Email: _____

Signature of applicant: _____

Nominated by¹: _____ Name: _____ Signature _____

Seconded by¹: _____ Name _____ Signature _____

Committee or Central Downer Working Group (Circle One)

¹Has to be a DCA member – forms available at AGM or on website (<http://tinyurl.com/downerassociation>).