

WONGA PARK - NEWS & NOTES

NOVEMBER, 1994

Published by the Wonga Park & District Residents' Association

| | | | |
|-------------|---|------------------|---------------|
| Chairperson | : | Barry Box | |
| Secretary | : | Philip Glenister | (03) 722-1539 |
| Treasurer | : | Glenda Ballinger | (03) 722-1624 |
| Editor | : | Bill Howitt | (03) 722-1070 |

All are welcome to the next meeting at the Community Cottage, Wonga Park at
8 pm Friday, 11 November, 1994.

Our Own Wonga Park Post Office & Newsagency Opens

Residents are delighted that these services have been opened conveniently in the centre of the Wonga Park Village Shopping Centre and we wish Margaret and her competent staff every success.

WONGA PARK VILLAGE - NEWSAGENCY & LICENSED POST OFFICE

4 LAUNDERS AVE, WONGA PARK 3115
PHONE 722 2333 FAX 722 2234

EXTENSIVE RANGE OF PAPERS, GREETINGCARDS, MAGAZINES,
STATIONERY FOR OFFICE & HOME, PHOTOCOPYING & FAX SERVICES,
ORDER HOME DELIVERY OF YOUR NEWSPAPERS

FULL POSTAL SERVICE INCLUDING PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS
SUCH AS TELECOM, MELB WATER, ELECTRICITY, AUST TAX OFFICE, GAS & FUEL,
ELGAS, AGC, AMP, AMBULANCE, GIO AND OTHERS

COMMONWEALTH SAVINGS BANK AGENCY
POST OFFICE BOXES AVAILABLE

HOURS: MON TO FRI 6.30 AM TO 6.30 PM
SATURDAY 6.30 AM TO 1.00 PM
SUNDAY 7.00 AM TO 11.00 AM (PLUS PUBLIC HOLIDAYS)

Local Government Board Interim Report regarding Shire Amalgamations

On Friday 21 October, 1994 the LGB released the results of their review of municipal boundaries and Wonga Park has been excluded from the proposed Shire of Yarra Ranges which comprises the current Shire of Lillydale and other specified surrounding shires.

Wonga Park west of Brushy Creek and Lower Homestead Road to the Yarra River is to be incorporated into the new City of Bulleen. An intolerable situation occurs with the use of Brushy Creek as the new boundary as the Creek flows through a number of properties and hence the owners will find part of their farm in the proposed Shire of Yarra Ranges and the other part in the proposed City of Bulleen!

The LRB suggests that the southern boundary between Wonga Park and the current City of Croydon may be changed to the Northern route which the Wonga Park Residents' Association believes is a logical boundary.

THE SIGNIFICANT ISSUES RAISED BY THE PROPOSED MERGER

- ◆ Will the 3300 Wonga Park residents lose the environmental protection given by the Upper Yarra Valley and Dandenong Ranges authority's regional strategy plan when they move out of the Shire of Lillydale?
- ◆ The Residents' Association main concern is to preserve Wonga Park's environment and conservation assets including the Warrandyte State Park.
- ◆ Jumping Creek Road, which provides access between Wonga Park and the City of Doncaster/Templestowe, requires improvement to minimise the tragic accidents that have occurred along this road in recent years. Improvement that is sensitive to the fact that it runs through Warrandyte State Park, a native flora and fauna protected area, and that many protected native animal trails cross this road. Such an improvement would be difficult and expensive.
- ◆ The Warrandyte State Park forms a natural boundary between Wonga Park and the City of Doncaster/Templestowe and it is in fact the current municipal boundary and it would appear sensible to keep it this way.
- ◆ The employment, lifestyle and age profiles of the Wonga Park residents are more rural in character than are those of the residents of the City of Doncaster/Templestowe.
- ◆ Wonga Park residents have a greater affinity with the rural lifestyle, sporting activities and shopping facilities of the Yarra Valley and the Shire of Lillydale than those of the City of Doncaster/Templestowe.

COUNCIL AMALGAMATIONS

**DO WE WANT TO BE PART OF THE CITY OF BULLEEN?
PUBLIC MEETING WEDNESDAY 9th NOVEMBER
AT THE WONGA PARK HALL.**

HOW WOULD THE PREDOMINANTLY URBAN CITY OF BULLEEN TREAT WONGA PARK?

To date no answers have been forthcoming from the City of Doncaster and Templestowe. In fact they failed to make any contact with residents during preparation of their submission. And still have made no attempt to inform residents of their views on a range of issues raised by our Association.

A PUBLIC MEETING has been organised by the Shire of Lillydale but Councillors and senior staff from Doncaster will be there to answer you questions.

Venue Wonga Park Hall, cnr Launder Ave/Yarra Road
Time 8 pm, Wednesday, 9 November 1994

Other issues raised by residents include:

1. Loss of the use of a tip.
2. Mobile Library.
3. Who controls the hall and other community and sporting facilities.

VIEWS OF THE LILLYDALE SHIRE AND YARRA RIVER CONSERVATION GROUPS

- The public land bordering the Yarra river from Warrandyte to Warburton is protected under the Heritage Rivers Act 1992, Act No. 36/1992, and
- the Land Conservation Council has recommended that the land along the Yarra River between Warrandyte and Yarra Glen should receive Victorian Heritage River status because of its "particularly picturesque" nature.
- 31 fairways of the 36 will be built on the flood plain. The proposed amendment to the Planning Schemes of Lillydale and Healesville shires removes flood prone land from the restrictions on the use and development of the area as they currently apply. This will leave the developer free to modify the banks of the Yarra, the flood plain and the billabongs as they see fit. The submission accompanying the Amendment does not give details as to how protection from floods will be achieved, although it does refer to..." fill importation decreasing the flood plain area and capacity."
- Golf courses need to be well drained, well watered and fertilised and the greens free of weeds. We are neither told where the water will come from nor where the sub-surface drainage of the greens and fairways will go to and how much fertiliser will it contain.
- The submission recognises the presence of sites of significance but does not give detail as to how they will be protected, it does not give a full list of what is present in the way of native vegetation, pond life, animal life or birds especially waterbirds.
- Other questions as yet unanswered are: What effect will modification of the river and floodplains have on neighbouring properties, established natural vegetation, wildlife and general ecosystems of this valuable regional resource? Which species of trees, shrubs and grasses are to be planted?
- An Environment Impact Assessment must be an essential pre-requisite for this proposal. Write to the Minister for Planning (above address) to ask for an Environment Impact Assessment of the project. Remember to sign the petition at the Wonga Park Newsagency and Post Office. The deadline is before Monday, 14 November, 1994.

WONGA PARK CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUP

Playgroup gives our children the chance to get used to being part of a group during play and gives Mums and/or Dads time to relax and make many new friends. Session times are Tuesday to Friday 9.30 - 11.15 am. For further information ring Janine on 722 1547.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held on
8 PM TUESDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 1994 at WONGA PARK HALL.
ENROLMENTS FOR 1995 will be taken during supper at the A.G.M.
A \$6 DEPOSIT WILL ENSURE YOUR PLACE FOR TERM 1 NEXT YEAR.

ST MARK'S ANGLICAN CHURCH WEEKLY SERVICES

The Church, located at the corner of Yarra and Toppings Roads, and congregation INVITES YOU TO THE WEEKLY SERVICE EACH SUNDAY AT 9.30 AM. ALL WELCOME.

4. Pre-school enrolment procedures.
5. Recycling collection.
6. Burning off is not permitted.
7. Tree preservation
8. Future subdivision (Doncaster has already been contacted by residents wishing to subdivide)

It is very important to be at THE PUBLIC MEETING and express your views. This will be your only opportunity to hear both sides. If you are unable to attend you can still express your views before Monday, 14 November by writing to:

Mrs. Leonie Bourke, Chairperson
Local Government Board
19th Floor Myer House
250 Elizabeth Street
MELBOURNE, 3000

WILL CHIRNSIDE PARK GOLF RESORT IMPACT THE YARRA RIVER?

The proposed \$100 million golf resort at Chirnside Park will be known as the Heritage Golf and Country Club and involves the construction of two championship golf courses designed by golfing identity Jack Nicklaus. The project features 165 condominiums, business convention facilities and a residential village of 120 houses. The resort will be situated on the flood plain of the Yarra River involving the old St. John of God site in Hughes Road in the current Shire of Lillydale and the property at 789 Henley Rd on the opposite side of the river in the current Shire of Healesville.

Planning amendments were needed to the local planning schemes and the regional strategy plan to allow the development to go ahead. The State Government Planning Minister The Hon. R. Maclellan, MLA has the power to act as the planning authority over the matter. The amendments are on display at the Lillydale Shire Offices in Anderson Street and submissions about the amendment must be sent by Monday, 14 November to:

Minister for Planning,
Planning Coordination Branch,
Department of Planning & Development,
PO BOX 2240T,
MELBOURNE, 3001

Concern has been expressed that an environmental study has not been proposed. Also because the golf courses go to the river edge on both sides, this would preclude any extension of the State Park along the river. According to the Lillydale Express "...the developers warn they will dump their plans if forced to 'waste time' getting an environment study."

A Petition requesting an Environment Impact Study be prepared before the Golf Resort project be approved is available for signing at the Wonga Park Newsagency & Post Office.