

## Volunteer tree maintenance group

Have you noticed the improved landscape in the parklands on Newman and Gunn Street?

The YRA has signed an agreement with TCCS (Transport Canberra and City Services) for volunteers to do minor pruning in the park areas of Yarralumla. The agreement is for Yarralumla resident volunteers: to prune the base and lower trunk of trees in our urban open spaces and sports grounds using hand tools such as secateurs and pruning saws; to collect and consolidate the prunings for TCCS to remove; and also, to report to TCCS where a tree needs to be assessed, lifted, pruned or removed.

We've had 7 working bees since we started in February 2018. These have been in the two areas bounded by Guilfoyle, Newman and Gunn and Weston Streets and also between Gunn, Weston, Loftus and Ewart Streets. The next area we'll tackle will start at Weston Street near the childcare centre. To date we've had 10 volunteers but would love some more so we can really progress the work. No specialist skills are needed and no power tools are involved.



To join our volunteer tree maintenance group phone our coordinator Peter Pharaoh on 0418 351 260 or email [info@yarralumlaresidents.org.au](mailto:info@yarralumlaresidents.org.au)

## Lack of enforcement

The YRA is aware of a number of developments in the suburb and elsewhere that do not comply with their lease requirements. The YRA is actively seeking answers from the government on why such lease requirements are not being enforced in a timely manner.

## Garden waste dumping at Stirling Park

Friends of Grasslands (FOG) are seeking our help to stop rubbish dumpers in Stirling Park, Yarralumla. In particular, waste has recently been dumped off Fitzgerald Street behind the Danish and Norwegian embassies, by Empire Circuit and below Forster Crescent.

Please report rubbish dumping because lawn clippings, autumn leaves and other garden waste contains seeds from which plants that do not belong in Stirling Park can grow. Many garden plants take over the bush by outcompeting native plants for sunlight, nutrients and water. Examples include oak trees growing from acorns in dumped autumn leaves. Nature strips in Yarralumla have two particularly invasive exotic grasses, African Lovegrass and Chilean Needle Grass whose seeds are spread through mowing. Some of these weeds create more fuel for fires, such as African Lovegrass. Recently dumped waste has included nasty weeds like Ivy and Contoneaster. Dumped waste also smothers and kills indigenous plants and exacerbates weed invasion. FOG and the National Capital Authority current spend around \$50,000 per year controlling weeds in Stirling Park, resources that could be devoted to other amenities in the Park.

You can report rubbish dumping by immediately contacting Access Canberra on 13 22 81 so that City Services rangers can take enforcement action.

For more information about FOG and upcoming Stirling Park working bees go to: [www.fog.org.au](http://www.fog.org.au)

## Fix my street

If there is something that needs fixing in your street such as broken light pole, overgrown street trees, unsafe footpath, please report it. This website also shows a map of all the issues reported in Yarralumla in the past 90 days.

<https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/app/services/fixmystreet/>



## ISCCC (Inner South Canberra Community Council)

The ISCCC is a non-government organization formed in 2010 to provide a unified and strong voice for residents of Inner South Canberra. The YRA is an active ISCCC participant and automatically has two committee positions. The ISCCC looks at issues that are shared across boundaries and runs a series of public forums throughout the year, which we encourage residents to attend. [www.isccc.org.au](http://www.isccc.org.au)

## The YRA

The YRA is managed by a committee of volunteers from across the suburb. The committee is elected once a year at the AGM. Members pay an annual fee, which helps to support the administration of the association, fund community events such as Yarralumla Does Christmas, and implement community projects.

Our capacity and areas of interest depend on who is on the committee at any point in time as well as the level of support and/or suggestions we receive from individual members.

## YRA Membership

Membership is annual and runs from 1 July to 30 June. If you are a new member and join in May or June 2018, we will extend your membership through until 30 June 2019. The membership form is available on our website.

We send our members regular eNewsletters to keep them informed of issues and events in Yarralumla.

## Contact us

Web: [www.yarralumlaresidents.org.au](http://www.yarralumlaresidents.org.au)

Email: [info@yarralumlaresidents.org.au](mailto:info@yarralumlaresidents.org.au)

flickr: [groups/yarralumlaresidents](https://www.flickr.com/groups/yarralumlaresidents/)

@YRA\_ACT

## Yarralumla Shops Noticeboard

See local event information on our noticeboard at the shops.



Newsletter  
May 2018

## YRA drinking fountain

Have you noticed the new drinking fountain at the shops between the telephone box and the car park? This was donated by the YRA as part of our mission of “improving the quality of life of the Yarralumla community”.

This could not have been achieved without the annual membership fees paid by residents to support the YRA.

This project received grant funding from the Australian Government.



## Community garden

The YRA is currently investigating the possibility of a community garden for Yarralumla. We already have a small band of interested people, but we need more to make it viable. We are still in the preliminary stages, but are interested in hearing from anyone in Yarralumla with an interest in this sort of project.

## Defibrillators in Yarralumla

Late last year the YRA donated a defibrillator to the Yarralumla Primary School. We have had a second one installed at the Yarralumla Play Station. This is part of the YRA’s mission of “improving the quality of life of the Yarralumla community”, but we hope they never need to be used. Given the locations, the defibrillators are also fitted with child pads in addition to the standard adult pads. We thank our members for their ongoing financial support that makes these types of projects possible.

This project received grant funding from the Australian Government.

## Yarralumla dog park

After much agitation by the YRA, the car park outside the dog park in Banks Street is finally going to have a hard surface. There will be a slight extension to the northern boundary with an asphalt surface for 56 lined parking spaces, accessible car parks and additional trees. The car park next to the Yarralumla Play Station in Weston Park will be treated at about the same time.

## Canberra brickworks

The new CEO of the Suburban Land Agency John Dietz wrote on March 5, 2018 saying he assures us “the SLA continues to invest significant effort working with the preferred tenderer [Doma Group] to finalize the contractual documents required to capture the tenderer’s obligations. We remain confident contracts will be finalized and exchanged in the first half of 2018.”

Once the contract is signed, the successful tenderer [Doma Group] will need to seek approvals for their draft plans from various government departments as well as consult with the community.

## New park benches for Yarralumla

As part of the YRA’s mission of “improving the quality of life of the Yarralumla community”, the YRA is funding the installation of two new park benches in Yarralumla. We thank our financial members for their ongoing support in making this possible.

This project received grant funding from the Australian Government.



## Dudley Street/Brickworks access road

The ACT Government is planning an upgrade of Dudley Street and the construction of a new Brickworks Access Road from near the corner of Dudley Street and the Cotter Road. The new Brickworks Access Road is obviously required to ensure traffic in and out of the Canberra Brickworks Precinct is not a burden on existing streets in Yarralumla. The new Access Road is to be built prior to any construction to ensure most construction vehicles enter and exit via the Cotter Road.

We have raised concerns that the funding already allocated for the Dudley Street upgrade does not provide for fixing up the current congestion at the roundabout intersection of Novar Street and Dudley Street and on the Kent Street Bridge and that funds would be better spent there and/or on the Mint Interchange.

Also note that due to the environmental impact that the Dudley Street upgrade will have on the Golden Sun Moth and Natural Temperate Grasslands an assessment is required under the Commonwealth EPBC Act.

Construction has not yet been approved, although we understand the ACT Government still plans to commence construction in late 2018.

## Mint interchange

The YRA continues to push for a time frame for planning and construction of the Mint Interchange. We see this as the best long-term solution to the growing traffic congestion on Dudley Street and Kent Street in Deakin.

We are also aware that a decision to build the Mint Interchange (even if not in the immediate future) needs to be factored into planning for the location of stops in Light Rail Stage 2. This will be a major piece of infrastructure and has been on the government’s long-term plan for many years, but cost estimates have pushed the project down the list of many government competing priorities.

The YRA is on a mission to make it a priority.

## YRA Membership

Join in May or June 2018 and we'll extend your membership to 30 June 2019

To join (or renew membership to) the Yarralumla Residents Association complete and return this form to:

The Treasurer, Yarralumla Residents Association Inc.  
PO Box 7123 Yarralumla ACT 2600

### Annual Membership Fee (due July 1 each year)

Ordinary Member	\$20
Household Member	\$30
Additional donation	Optional

Name:

Title: Mr/Mrs/Ms/Other (Please circle one)

Address:

Email:

Telephone:

Method of Payment (please circle one):

Cash /Cheque /Direct Bank Deposit

**Cheques:** Please make cheques payable to the Yarralumla Residents Association

**Bank Deposits:** CBA, BSB: 062-902, Acc. No. 00903638  
Account Name: Yarralumla Residents Association

I/We live in Yarralumla and agree to abide by the Association’s Constitution.

Signature:

Date: