



THE WATZON

Newsletter of the Watson Community Association Inc.

Issue 122 – Summer 2024



The Watson Community Association Inc. acknowledges the traditional Aboriginal custodians of Canberra and pays our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge that many other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples from across Australia have now made Canberra their home. We also acknowledge and celebrate their cultures, diversity, and contribution to the ACT and region.



IN THIS EDITION...

- Welcome to Watson
- WCA Webpage Relaunch + Volunteer Shout Out
- Watson Buzz
- Canberra Potters Christmas Fair 2024
- Endless Horizons: The Art of Hiroe Swen
- Majura Café Poets
- Deck The Smalls @GOST
- YWAM Spring Fair
- Street Video Games Night
- *Keeping Chugging Along*- Planning Notes
- Explore Our Local Shops (Cont.)
- Property Sales Brought to You by home.by holly
- Support Our Local Businesses
- Community Noticeboard
- Welcome to Watson Event

Spring Fair at YWAM on 27th October 2024
Photo credit: YOUTH WITH A MISSION (YWAM)

This newsletter was
printed by



Please note that the views expressed in this Newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Watson Community Association.

Welcome to Watson!

By Geoff Murray-Prior

Chair of Watson Community Association

The start of daylight saving usually signals changes in behaviour as people tend to be outside more often. As you wander around our great suburb, you will notice a new park, and another under construction. You will notice new gardens and plantings in the big easement that divides our suburb. If you are adventurous and explore Mt Majura you will notice weeding and other cleaning up of invasive species, which is also happening in Justice Robert Hope Park. You will soon see the replacement plantings in Irvine Street. You will also notice that this newsletter has appeared, like magic, in your letterbox.

Strange as it may seem, these things don't just happen. They are the result of quiet but persuasive representations and activities by the WCA on behalf of our community. But to be fully representative of our community, we need your involvement. As you enjoy the benefits of living in Canberra's best suburb, please give thought as to how you can contribute. We will be meeting again in February and our AGM is in April. Your involvement is actively sought.

And in response to some feedback we have received, we all know that "kids will be kids" – after all, we were all once in that category – but it is appropriate to ask that young people act with respect to others, and particularly to the elderly. After all, it's not that hard to be respectful.

Welcome to Watson*

WCA Webpage Relaunch

By Mary Sietsma

The Watson Community Association committee is pleased to announce that we have rebuilt our website after some years. You can find it now at www.watson.org.au. The website aims to provide useful information for the Watson community and visitors. It includes sections on

WCA WEBPAGE

• SCAN HERE •



• SCAN HERE •

• SCAN HERE •



the Watson Community Association and the activities of our various subgroups and affiliated groups, as well as a trove of information about our suburb, its facilities, people, history and local services. We're still working on the content, and would love to hear from Watson residents on what you would like to see included, as well as any glitches or errors you find as you browse around the site. We're also looking for your stories and photos, especially for the history section. The WCA committee would like to thank those who have worked on the site and provided input, especially John Harding for allowing us to use his magnificent photos of flora and fauna in the Watson Green Space* ❁

The last issue was brought to you by your neighbour volunteers

Petra, Aileen, Faseny, Chris + Helen, Simon, Matthew, Simone, Ingram, Jenny, Fiona + Bob, David + Vilaisan, Cheryl, Maggie, Living Streets Association, Ben @YWAM, Helen, Leigh, Peter, Arun, Pamela and Gene.


Thank you, Maggie and Petra, for orchestrating the last issue's printing, paper drop-off, and delivery. A heartfelt thank-you to Maggie, as the last issue marks her final issue as coordinator. Simone has stepped up to take on the role. Welcome, Simone! ❁



Watson Buzz

By Aileen Conroy

Know your POLLINATORS.....

 During Australian Pollinator week in late Spring, citizen scientists observe and report numbers of pollinating insects and the plants they use. Training is provided on how to recognise various insects. Can you?



Hoverfly in Watson Woodlands

🐝 Bees are the main pollinators but they are assisted by butterflies, flies, moths, beetles, wasps, thrips and ants.

🐝 Bees have 4 wings whereas flies only have 2. Bees also have a narrow waist between their thorax (chest) and abdomen. Hoverflies are also often black and yellow but move differently, hovering above flowers.

🐝 Sometimes beekeepers are called to catch a swarm and find it is a European wasp nest. A distinguishing factor is that wasps are thinner, less hairy and have thin yellow (rather than black) legs. These wasps are aggressive and sting repeatedly, whereas Honeybees die after stinging. Distinguishing some native bees from wasps can be tricky as there is a Wasp Mimic Bee and a Bee Mimic Wasp. Whilst bees eat pollen and nectar, wasps are predators and therefore many also benefit our gardens by eating other insect pests.

🐝 Last season I gave the caterpillars from my orange tree to my grandson, who raised them in a butterfly house and released the beautiful native Orchard Swallowtails with their red markings, with much joy. They are also called Citrus butterflies. I'm happy to sacrifice a few leaves.



🐝 For swarm collection please contact actbeekeepers.asn.au 🌸

A collage of images related to Canberra Potters. On the left, there are several mugs and bowls in various colors and designs. In the center, there is a white ceramic bowl with a green interior. On the right, there is a stack of white bowls with brown stripes, a hand holding a mug, and a plate of food with chocolate toppings. At the bottom center, there is a decorative sphere with a pattern of small holes. The background is a light, textured surface.

Canberra Potters Christmas Fair 2024

10AM-4PM DAILY
6-15 DECEMBER 2024

Canberra Potters
1 Aspinall St, Watson ACT

VIP SHOPPING EVENING
6PM 5 DECEMBER 2024

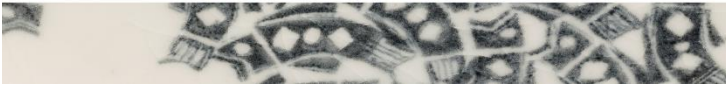
Endless Horizons: The Art of Hiroe Swen

By Emily Cunich- Gallery Manager, Canberra Potters



ENDLESS HORIZONS: THE ART OF HIROE SWEN

果てしなき地平線：スウェン博江の芸術」



Front cover: Image 1: Hiroe in the studio. 2019. Image by Brenton McGeachie. Image 2: detail of Hiroe Swen. Low Height Vessel. 2019. Porcelain. Image by Brenton McGeachie.

Endless Horizons, Hiroe Swen's retrospective, offers a rare opportunity to experience a collection of her ceramic works spanning over 50 years of artistic evolution in Australia. This exhibition marks the final chance to acquire Hiroe's highly respected pieces, reflecting her dedication to refined techniques and her unique artistic vision. Drawing from her Kyoto roots and the Japanese concept of Ma, Hiroe's work embodies simplicity and subtlety. Don't miss one of the last opportunities to own a piece of her extraordinary legacy.

Opening: 6pm Thursday 9 January 2025. Opening Address - Architect Catherine Townsend, Townsend + Associates Artist Talk: 2pm Saturday 18 January 2025 in the Canberra Potters Gallery Gallery hours: 10am-4pm Tue to Sat 11am-3pm Sun. Closed Mon*

Majura Café Poets

Ground

Sacred ground
walked across time
ground holding stories
marking songlines
of indigenous clans
ground holding meaning
of country and culture
ground where others can walk
where sovereignty was never ceded
grounded in the Land.

David Turbayne *

Mystery of Life No. 82

Isn't it overdoing it
Just a little overdramatic
That a word with only one syllable
Is said to be monosyllabic!

Thought for the Day No 7

Will a driverless car be as driverless
As a paperless office is paperless?

Laurie McDonald *

A couple of little spring haikus

1
clouds cluster
Behind the whispering trees
softening the breeze

2
sculpting the skyline
in one fell swoop, a magpie
stuns Mt Majura

Fiona McIlroy *

Lift

(With apologies to Psalm 121)

I will lift up my face to the knife
from whence cometh my help.
My help cometh from the king,
the king of cosmetic surgery.
He will not suffer thy wrinkles to show,
he that cutteth thee will not slum it.
Behold! He that keepeth patients
will neither slum it nor starve.
The surgeon's thy keeper,
keeps husbands from straying.
Thy sun damage won't show by the light of
day,
or minus makeup in the moon by night.
His knife will preserve thy mask and his Merc
from this time forth and forever more.

Jenny Burgess *

Annual Show at Gallery of Small Things

By Anne Masters

Director and Owner of Gallery of Small Things (GOST)

Our Christmas Show opens on 1 November in person and online until 22 December. GOST artists have been busy making new works to respond to our special theme- *Deck the smalls*. Artworks are rolled out on social media and online shop 🌟



Gallery of Small Things (GOST)

We are open Thursdays to Sundays.

11 am to 4 pm and online anytime.

Affordable art to love forever!

27 Wade Street, Watson ACT 2602

+61 422 263 533

galleryofsmallthings.com

[@galleryofsmallthingscbr](https://www.instagram.com/galleryofsmallthingscbr)

[facebook.com/galleryofsmallthings](https://www.facebook.com/galleryofsmallthings)

[pinterest.com/gostcbr](https://www.pinterest.com/gostcbr)

Spring Fair at Youth With A Mission (YWAM)

27th October 2024

By Leonie Watts

The Spring Fair at YWAM was a fun time for Watson folk to gather while enjoying the Spring sunshine and some lovely community connections. A dozen or so stall holders selling arts and crafts, gourmet food, plants, books and jewellery did a steady trade, as did the Canberra Reptile Zoo and the cute pink 'pop and floss' van (selling fairy floss, snow cones and popcorn). There was lots of free food on offer by YWAM (sausage sizzle, hot drinks with cakes and slices and Korean pancakes) but if so inclined, people could donate to 'Breeze of Hope Inc' (Baguio City Prison Project in the Philippines) which helps female prisoners (and soon male ones also) gain occupational skills and enhance social development & mental well-being.

WCA and Living Streets Association were on hand to keep locals informed on what's happening in Watson and promote action on planning issues eg the increased traffic flow on Aspinall St near Norrebro was one 'hotspot' of discussion. During the afternoon a diverse group of entertainers engaged the crowd – from Vince the local bus driver on his bagpipes (have you heard him practising between his bus routes?) to the young team from YWAM Vanuatu with their haka and beautiful harmonies, along with Indian dancing (a performance) and line dancing (participatory!).

Finally, it was a wonderful and relaxing end to the day as Janelee Li from Living Streets played several classical pieces on the keyboard during pack down – such talent! You can search for YWAM Canberra on Instagram and see the Spring Fair highlights reel a few posts back.



Webpage ywamcanberra.com | Instagram [@ywamcanberra](https://www.instagram.com/ywamcanberra)

Street Video Games Night

By Living Streets Association



Ever wondered how to get your teenager to join in the neighbourhood fun?

We always see gaggles of children and their parents out having fun and interacting with other neighbours during street events like Easter Egg Hunts and Halloween Trick or Treating. But as they grow older, they start to feel these activities are too childish for them, or they feel a disconnect from the street because they don't relate to the young kids or the adults. Many parents tell us they wished their teenage kids would hang out on the street with their communities more and connect with their neighbours in person, while others have expressed frustration at their children's addictions to video games and screens.

On our street, there are many teenage boys who are too shy to come onto the street and prefer to stay inside playing video games. That is why we set up a projector screen and borrowed a Nintendo Switch to play Mario Kart and Super Smash Bros on the street! As the sun went down, the shouts and laughter from the competitive boys filled the night. They chatted between rounds, took turns on the remotes, and had a chance to really get to know each other.

It was heartwarming to see how a simple setup could encourage these teens to reconnect with their community. If you're looking for a way to bring the older kids out onto the street this summer, give it a try 🌸



Website: livingstreets.com Instagram: [livingstreetsassociation](https://www.instagram.com/livingstreetsassociation) Facebook: [Living Streets Association](https://www.facebook.com/LivingStreetsAssociation)



Website



Keeping chugging along – Planning Notes

By Simon Clarke

WCA Committee and Planning Group Convenor

Hi Watsonians!

Planning continues to progress in our lovely suburb, albeit at a gentler pace. For most of us, of course, the business of Christmas is just starting!

The Block 76 land is slated for sale mid 2025. My contacts in ESSPD tell me that the pressure will be on to maximise the housing return so the DA's might be a challenge. I am also told that the trees which are removed will not be wasted – some will be used on site while the rest will be taken to the ACT log storage for use on future projects. The Maliyan Park playground has been nominated for a First Nations recognition award.

The Car-o-Tel site rezoning is proceeding with a change from CZ6 (Accommodation and Leisure) to RZ4 (medium density) going to the Minister in the coming weeks, then to the Assembly Standing C'tee. It won't be a quick process but it is happening.

The new Inner North PlaySpace is proceeding on schedule and is due to be completed in mid 2025.

I wish everyone a happy and peaceful festive season, however you celebrate, and a positive New Year. Keep the planning updates coming to planning2602@gmail.com



Explore our local shops (cont.)

By P Lean

Did you know that the Watson Shopping Centre employs more than 120 Staff (full-time, part-time and casual)? Over the years, many local kids had their first job here, at the check-out, restocking shelves, helping with food prep, cleaning tables, doing dishes, or delivering purchases. At times they were also the location for a Real Estate Agent and the GP Surgery.

The combination of shops, food and beauty outlets have contributed to making Watson and surrounding suburbs a neighbourhood.



The Watson Takeaway

It is a true family business and run by Con and his family. Con's father bought the shop in January 1988 and ran it for over 20 years, before selling it in 2007. Con worked in Eden for a couple of years before returning to Canberra and bringing the shop back into the family. The 4 family members, with the help of 14 staff run a one-stop takeaway shop that offers a wide variety of food. You can get anything from a Chiko Roll right through to a latte. The burgers, fish and pizzas are the most popular, but they also cater to vegetarians and vegans and offer gluten free options. The pizzas dough, salads and Fish & Chips ingredients are prepared in-house. For those who cannot make it to the shop, the Takeaway works with food delivery companies*

Watson Property Sales

Brought to you by home.by holly

23 Manning Street	\$1,700,000	31 Woolcock Street	\$1,060,000	15 Whitmore Crescent	\$698,000
12 Dobbie Place	\$1,600,000	31 Bettie Mcnee Street	\$1,058,000	75 Whitmore Crescent	\$695,000
38 Shewcroft Street	\$1,575,000	17 Higinbotham Street	\$1,055,000	48/14 Federal Highway	\$695,000
44 Piddington Street	\$1,500,000	33/9 Shewcroft Street	\$1,030,000	8/7 Shewcroft Street	\$688,000
14 Shewcroft Street	\$1,415,000	25 Dickinson Street	\$1,000,000	46/14 Federal Highway	\$680,000
1 Adams Place	\$1,370,000	31 Irvine Street	\$1,000,000	1/14 Federal Highway	\$680,000
29/35 Tay Street	\$475,000	3/64 Knox Street	\$430,000	86/20 Federal Highway	\$415,000
56 Piddington Street	\$1,354,460	53 Ehrlich Circuit	\$965,000	33 Ehrlich Circuit	\$656,000
11 Molesworth Street	\$1,270,000	116 Knox Street	\$960,000	55 Negus Crescent	\$620,000
54 Cullen Street	\$1,265,000	58 Piddington Street	\$950,000	136/395 Antill Street	\$610,000
5 Darley Place	\$1,225,000	1 McClemans Street	\$950,000	51/23 Aspinall Street	\$550,000
49 A'Beckett Street	\$1,222,000	11 Willunga Court	\$840,000	15 Kilduff Street	\$540,000

36 Mary Kitson Street	\$1190,000	54 Whitmore Crescent	\$720,000	44/21 Aspinall Street	\$510,000
15 Field Street	\$1,120,000	52 Piddington Street	\$1,130,000	13b Negus Crescent	\$715,000
21/19 Aspinall Street	\$700,000	56/35 Tay Street	\$480,000	11A/111 Knox Street	\$290,000
47/23 Aspinall Street	\$380,000				

Support Our Local Businesses



**EXPRESS
WATSON**

Phone: 02 6255 6800

Come in and experience the service for yourself!

*EFTPOS available – no minimum
FREE local home delivery services*



We are a local hub for families and friends to relax and enjoy excellent local & seasonal food and beverage.

We care about the earth and environment, and we do everything in our power to be sustainable and environmentally friendly in all our business practices.

Brekky and lunch - 7 days a week
Monday-Friday 7:00 am to 4:00 pm
Saturday-Sunday 7:30 am to 4:00 pm

**At the Knox we are for
the locals, by the locals.**

Dinner
Tuesday-Saturday from 4:00 pm

home.by holly

McReynolds + Cris



Michael
0419 688 034

Cris
0409 308 038

Jenny
0409 300 065

Mark
0401 829 087

ANDREW MCREYNOLDS PLUMBING

FOR ALL YOUR
PLUMBING SOLUTIONS

MOB: 0402 921 111

E: andrew.mcreynolds1@gmail.com

LICENSE NO. 20121001

ABN: 95548301062



Watson Takeaway

Opening Hours

Monday to Saturday
7:30am – 8:30pm

Sundays
Closed

Convenient one stop shopping in Watson for all your pharmacy needs

Watson Pharmacy

For friendly, efficient customer service

Vaccines for flu and Covid-19

- Covid-19 vaccines- Pfizer, Moderna and AstraZeneca
For adults and children over 12 years old
- Flu vaccines
For adults and children over 5 years old

Hard to park? You can hand in your scripts by ringing us on (02) 6241 1506

1 Watson PL, Watson ACT 2602

Mon to Fri 9:00am-6:00pm | Sat 9:00am-01:00pm

- QCPP accredited
- Leave/medical certificates
- Seniors' discounts
- We can price match
- Free script pick-up and delivery
- Stop smoking classes
- Blood pressure checks

Blocked drains. Hot water. Leaking taps.



Chris Williams

M | 0420 607 765

E | chrisjw100@gmail.com

P O Box 7179 Watson ACT 2602

ABN 27 638 504 284

NSW Licence 282355c ACT Licence 2019222



Overwhelmed with Clutter and a Disorganised Home...?

Get your home and life sorted with your FREE Decluttering Quick Start Guide **HERE**

<https://www.getwellsorted.com.au/guide/>

For hands-on or virtual assistance:
virginia@getwellsorted.com.au

WellSorted
Professional Organiser



Community Noticeboard

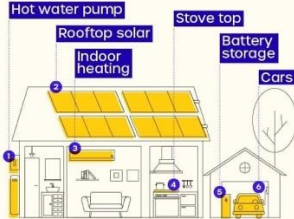
Live in Watson but not a member of the Watson Community Association?

To join, just send your name, address and email address to watsoncommunityassociation666@gmail.com and ask to join. Simple!



SUBURB ZERO

We're looking for 500-1,000 Canberra homes to be a part of a world-first program to electrify their suburb



Do you want to reduce your cost of living while safeguarding our environmental future?

Take our survey!

surveymonkey.com/r/electrifyACT



INNER NORTH COMMUNITY PANTRIES NETWORK

TURNING THIS:



Neighbours, schools, community groups, workplaces, collect your cans, bottles and donate your 10c redeemables to the Inner North Pantries Network



INTO THIS:

Funds are used for \$50 weekly Box Divvy fruit & veg and help fund supplies for Ainslie & Braddon Account number: 0432 947 136

Help with O'Connor supplies Account number: 0458 793 285

Drop to our collection points: O'Connell or Stephen Street, or drop to an Express or ReturnIT point



Meg's Toy Box is a community organisation which hires toys, puzzles and games for children aged from three months to eight years.

Email megstoybox@gmail.com

Address St Margaret's Uniting Church- Cnr Antill St and Phillip Ave, Hackett ACT 2602

Opening Hours (February to November)
Wednesday 10am - 12pm | Saturday 2pm - 4pm



WELCOME TO WATSON

**Please
join us**

The Watson Community Association Inc. invites newcomers to Watson to a casual, free event!

Friendly locals are also invited to welcome our new neighbours

Sun 12 Jan at 1.30 to 3:00 pm
The Knox Cafe, Watson Village
Shops

Local groups, organisations, businesses, sporting & hobby clubs have been invited

More information:

watsoncommunityassociation666@gmail.com