



**Marrickville Local**  
**Action 21**  
from agenda to action for the  
21 century

**INTRODUCTION**

**Agenda 21** was developed in 1992 following the United Nations Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. It was established to accelerate the adoption of ecologically sustainable development (ESD) principles. **Local Agenda 21** is for local government as many of the problems and solutions being addressed by **Agenda 21** have their roots in local activities. During the World Summit for Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg in September 2002 local government leaders from around the world, along with representatives from the United Nations, World Health Organisation and the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives, launched **LOCAL ACTION 21** as the motto for the second decade of **Local Agenda 21** (a copy of the Local Government Declaration to the WSSD can be found in appendix 1).

**LOCAL ACTION 21** provides a new direction for local government to move from agenda to action by building on the progress already made in the move towards ESD...

The **Marrickville Model** is the basis upon which Council operates. It directs what Council does, how we work with the community, the skills we need as an organisation and how we measure and report our success.

The **Marrickville Model** identifies 4 key goals for the organisation:

- Sustainability
- Social Capital
- Value For Money
- Citizenship

Marrickville Local Action 21  
Marrickville Council 2003

[www.marrickville.nsw.gov.au/edrawer/Files/981686638/TRIM\\_TR\\_REC\\_576526.pdf](http://www.marrickville.nsw.gov.au/edrawer/Files/981686638/TRIM_TR_REC_576526.pdf)

accessed 13 August 2005

A response to the Marrickville Local Action 21 from Massbug is available at <http://www.massbug.org.au/twiki/pub/MASSBUG/Resources/Notesonbrief.pdf>

## ADDISON ROAD COMPLEX

### "Addison Rd Centre for Arts, Culture, Community and the Environment

The Addison Road Centre (ARC) is Australia's largest and foremost not-for-profit community centre with more than 300,000 visitors a year.

From humble beginnings as a disused Army barracks, the centre has become Australia's first, largest and longest surviving multicultural centre. Today the ARC encompasses an extraordinary range of activities from arts, culture, and community, environmental and childcare services.

Since 1976, the ARC has been able to develop a level of economic sustainability and through this provide accessible and affordable accommodation to community not-for-profit organisations. The ARC has recently entered a 50-year lease with the NSW State Government. A Board of members elected from the membership as well as local residents and one Council representative oversees the management of the Addison Rd Centre. The ARC leases its premises to not-for-profit groups and organisations.

The ARC is an organisation that pursues the goal of providing a site where the arts, community and environment work in unison in providing a community owned and utilised asset. The ARC aims to be a showcase of how a diversity of communities defined either by locality, ethnicity, sexuality, gender, age, ability or interest can operate together to achieve social and environmental outcomes in a context of economic self sufficiency."

Addison Road Complex - About Us  
<http://www.addisonrdcentre.com.au/>  
accessed Wednesday, August 31, 2005

## TILLMAN PARK

### "Tillman Park Children's Centre - a fitting example

#### The puzzle in perspective

In 1999, Marrickville Council introduced a new development control plan known as **Energy Smart Water Wise**. The plan addresses the principles of sustainable development. To demonstrate the benefits of the policy, Council undertook to apply these principles to one of its own buildings.

Tillman Park Children's Centre is owned by Council and was badly affected by aircraft noise. The centre had to be rebuilt to comply with the required Australian Standard.

Council seized the opportunity to use the renovation as a demonstration of best practice in development. Tillman Park Children's Centre now stands as an example to the community and the building industry of sustainable development, using the **Energy Smart Water Wise** policy.

#### Fitting the pieces

Tillman Park Children's Centre is a fitting example of **Energy Smart Water Wise**. It brings together all the elements of sustainable development under one roof.

#### Energy

- ◆ energy efficient electrical appliances
- ◆ building design makes use of natural light - stays cooler in summer, warmer in winter eg. orientation, use of glass blocks
- ◆ electricity generating solar power system (photovoltaic cells)
- ◆ heat pump water heater collects energy from air and transfers it to heat water. It works day or night, rain or shine.

#### Earth

- ◆ landscaping to deflect noise, and make use of excess soil on site
- ◆ insulation to control temperature and noise

- ◆ re-use of building materials on site
- ◆ thermal mass - absorbs and releases heat slowly to moderate room temperature eg. glass blocks, concrete slabs

### **Water**

- ◆ water efficient taps and shower heads (Triple A rated)
- ◆ rainwater used for irrigation and toilets
- ◆ native plants - require less water, and provide privacy and help reduce impacts of noise

### **Air**

- ◆ cross (horizontal) ventilation
- ◆ stack vertical ventilation greatly reduces need for air conditioning

### **Form and function**

The renovated children's centre meets the challenges presented by the site through the use of appropriate design and technology. The building satisfies its dual purpose as a Children's Centre and early childhood clinic by providing a bright, comfortable and environmentally responsible space for the children and their carers."

from brochure available from Marrickville Council  
brochure prepared by The Institute of Sustainable Futures  
on behalf of Marrickville Council

## **TEMPE RESERVE**

"The Aboriginal use of Australia's resources for 40,000 or 50,000 years has been possible only because Aboriginal culture has always involved deep respect for nature and an intimate understanding of its cycles. This consideration for the environment is a lesson which industrial societies may now have to learn from the Aborigines in order to maintain an acceptable quality of life on the planet." (V.Charikoff & J. Isaacs, 1992)

Marrickville Council have instigated or become involved in several strategies to regenerate the native vegetation within the Marrickville LGA and surrounding areas.

The Council is creating a huge new area of community parkland at [Tempe Recreation Reserve](#). The Cooks River Valley Garden is part of the Reserve and being planted and maintained by the local community. It showcases the vegetation of the Cooks River Valley prior to European settlement with plants selected from the 1999 book 'Missing Jigsaw Pieces' by Doug Benson, Danie Ondinea and Virginia Bear (published by Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney)."

[www.cadigalwagal.com.au](http://www.cadigalwagal.com.au)  
accessed 25 May 2005

## **SYDNEY BUS MUSEUM**

1b Gannon St, Tempe, NSW (02) 9558 1234; 9558 2157  
Group bookings, Roy Gould -: 9797 9046 after 7pm  
Operations Manager: 9586 3526 mob: 0403 753 708  
Curator: 0422 004 221  
Hours: 10am - 3pm Wed Sat Sun  
Entry: Adults \$10 / Conc. \$5 / Family \$20 includes unlimited double decker rides.

### **"The Beginning**

The **Historic Commercial Vehicle Association (H.C.V.A.)** was formed in 1964 by a small group of people that had an interest in road transport commercial vehicles. The Association is a non - profit Co - Operative and was incorporated in September, 1976.

### **Association Aims**

- ◆ To cover the road transport industry both historically and contemporarily by means of research and recording matters of the past and the present.
- ◆ To produce a magazine at regular intervals to disseminate information to members and to other persons interested in the subject.
- ◆ To provide a forum or meeting place for members to meet and discuss matters of interest at regular intervals.
- ◆ To facilitate the preservation of road transport commercial vehicles and administer the vintage vehicle number plate system enabling roadworthy vehicles to operate from time to time on club organised events...

The **Association** has been operating its vintage vehicles at various community functions since 1978. These activities have included open days at various bus depots and workshops of the **State Transit Authority** and its antecedent bodies. Vintage bus services have also been operated for the **Sydney Festival Committee, Australia Day Council, Powerhouse Museum, the N.R.M.A.,** schools and community festivals, special occasions such as transport to bring back the tunnel walkers prior to the opening of the new **Airport Railway** and many other events in and around **Sydney**. Vehicles are at times even taken to country N.S.W and Interstate venues.

In recognition of the earlier activities and to achieve a balanced approach to public transport vehicle preservation in **New South Wales**, the State Government in 1986 made available the former **Tempe Tram Depot**, off Gannon Street, to the **H.C.V.A.** The purpose was to establish a working museum, storage and work site, so that buses and trucks could be restored and exhibited in a similar manner to fire engines, trams, trains and maritime items. Consequently the overhaul and display of vehicles now takes place under reasonably satisfactory circumstances. The threat that many elderly exhibits "would simply rust away has been removed. Further recognition was also given to the importance of the museum by the local **Marrickville Municipal Council**. The museum was opened to the public only a matter of weeks after the **Association** took over occupation of the building on the 19 July 1986. Thus the **Sydney Bus Museum** was born and immediately became a community organization. The exhibits housed at Tempe are a unique collection of examples of our road transport history and the concept is truly a hands on working museum."

Sydney Bus Museum - About Us.  
[www.busandtruckmuseum.org.au/aboutus.htm](http://www.busandtruckmuseum.org.au/aboutus.htm)  
accessed Wednesday, August 31, 2005

## **COOKS RIVER VALLEY**

"The Cooks River is located in the inner South West of Sydney. It runs through some of the most heavily urbanised and industrialised areas in Australia. It is located within the inner south western Sydney area in New South Wales. The Cooks River begins as a small watercourse near Graf Park in Bankstown and flows 23km in a generally easterly direction to enter Botany Bay just south of Sydney's Kingsford Smith Airport.

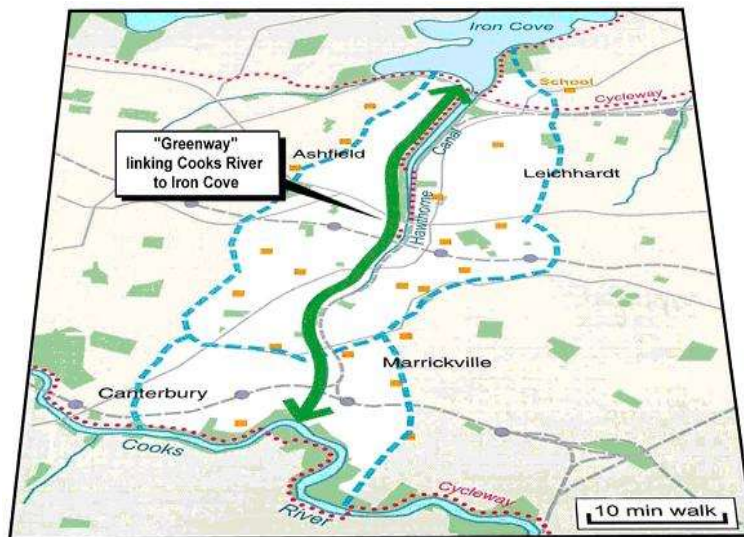
The rivers "catchment" area covers about 100km<sup>2</sup> across 13 Local Council areas. Care and control of the river is a complicated issue, where responsibility is shared between local Councils, the community and the State Government through agencies such as:

- Sydney Water Corporation,
- Environment Protection Authority, and
- Land & Water Conservation.

Over recent years, the condition of the river has improved considerably, due in large part to the efforts of these stakeholders and our local community, however it remains a heavily polluted river with much more to be done. In 1991, the Cooks River Catchment Management Committee was formed to co-ordinate the work of these different organisations. This committee meets regularly and has representatives from each organisation and the community.

<http://www.canterbury.nsw.gov.au/cooks/factsheet.htm>  
accessed Wednesday, August 31, 2005

## HAWTHORNE CANAL ACTIVE TRANSPORT CORRIDOR / COOKS RIVER TO IRON COVE GREENWAY



### "Vision

To provide a recognisable environmental, cultural and non-motorised transport corridor linking the sub-catchments of two of Sydney's most important waterways. A coherent "greenway" would be formed between the Cooks River and Iron Cove by linking the scattered open space reserves, utilise available railway land, water reserves and the existing road and footpath network. The greenway would be integrated with the existing community pathway and vegetated corridor between Marion Street Leichhardt and Grosvenor Crescent Summer Hill.

The map attached shows the potential alignment of the corridor. Open space, schools and CityRail stations within close proximity to the corridor are highlighted."

[http://www.greenway.org.au/p1\\_body\\_01.htm](http://www.greenway.org.au/p1_body_01.htm)  
accessed 15 August 2005

***"Thurs 6 June 2002: Talk by Mac Monks from the Inner West Environment Group (IWEG)***

This group was started at the Summer Hill festival a few years ago, when a number of people expressed interest in developing a native plant area on the Hawthorne Canal at Cadigal Reserve (between the western railway line crossing

and Parramatta Road). The objective was to try to approximate the original bush of the area, as best as it is known, using indigenous seed stock, where it can be obtained. Apart from these challenges, the soil profile has been drastically changed over the years by building, 'improving' and pollution.

The Hawthorne Canal was originally the Long Cove Creek, which rose near the junction of Old & New Canterbury Roads and drained an area including Dulwich Hill & Lewisham, Ashbury & Ashfield down to Haberfield and Leichhardt. It appears to have marked the boundary between the Cadigal and Wongal aboriginal group lands.

There is now a core group of 12 people running IWEG and up to 50 attend working days, planting and weeding. The areas for attention have extended to the land behind Kegworth Primary School and the Richard Murton Reserve at Haberfield. The project has taken on a life of its own as other groups have joined in, ranging from the local Bicycle Users Group to the Ashfield Chinese Community to the graffiti artists who regard 'the Valley' as their own territory.

In a curious way, the graffiti artists are following the aboriginal tradition of decorating their environment with specific symbols, renewing their work as it fades, incorporating new themes and overlapping ownerships. They have a good relationship with IWEG and help to keep an eye on the gardens, removing their rubbish and respecting the shared sense of ownership.

The bicycle group have a dream to make a path from Iron Cove along the goods line and connecting to Cooks River. They are working with IWEG and the local councils on this project. This will be a new challenge to find suitable ways to link the patches of green that exist and work out how to protect the frontiers of a long narrow strip which borders onto all sorts of unmaintained land. More local groups will be needed to achieve this dream. Ashfield, Leichhardt & Marrickville Councils have already agreed to support the project and insist that Development Applications bordering the proposed corridor have a plan to interface with it.

The project has become a social group for people who don't have gardens and has created a strong sense of community and ownership. Members ritualistically weed, plant and repair their sections of the canal, 'singing up the site' in a faint echo of the aboriginal traditions.

IWEG is a registered [Landcare](#) group, which has been quite successful at getting grants for its projects. It has a management plan to protect & enhance the Hawthorne Canal, based on the research of Peter Jensen & Doug Benson.

Working days are the first Sunday of each month from 10am to 3pm at the following locations: Contact Mac Monks ([macmonks@bigpond.com](mailto:macmonks@bigpond.com)) for further information."

Some Previous Meetings Of Inner Sydney APS  
[www.homepages.ihug.com.au/~bfing5/ISAPS/oldmeetings.html](http://www.homepages.ihug.com.au/~bfing5/ISAPS/oldmeetings.html)  
accessed 15 July 2005

## WHITES CREEK CENTRE

### Overview

The concept and construction of the Whites Creek Wetland is a reflection of changing community values. Many people now believe that our urban environment should not be devoid of 'natural' settings; that water is a precious resource worthy of protection; and that wildlife - plants and animals - has a right to exist and flourish, even in the heart of the city.

This wetland is designed to:

contribute to improved water quality over time; provide a semi-natural, tranquil and aesthetically pleasing environment to be enjoyed by residents and visitors; highlight the water cycle and the cause and effect of our actions within a catchment; serve as an environmental education resource; and provide an opportunity for native flora and fauna to prosper in an urban setting.

### **Community involvement**

So far the wetland has been used for community planting days, bird identification workshops, catchment tours, University lectures, Streamwatch community water quality monitoring and as the focus of a range of environmental education projects...

Changes you might have noticed include the cycleway now being cleaned every second day to prevent the build up of material that could make the path slippery and replacement of the sand bags around the edge of the wetland with more permanent sandstone edging.

If you have questions or suggestions about wetland function or management please direct them to the wetland working group - C/O Jade Herriman 9367 9051 or e-mail [jadeh@lmc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:jadeh@lmc.nsw.gov.au)

### **More information**

As well as the information contained on this website, the Leichhardt Local Studies Collection features many maps, diagrams, photos and reports relating to the Whites Creek Wetland project. The Local Studies section is located at Leichhardt Library, Italian Forum - Norton Street. Phone 9367 9226 or check Council's website for more information about library services and opening hours."

[http://www.leichhardt.nsw.gov.au/environment/03/1066014156\\_11650.html](http://www.leichhardt.nsw.gov.au/environment/03/1066014156_11650.html)  
accessed Wednesday, August 31, 2005

### **Local Links**

Massbug

[www.massbug.org.au](http://www.massbug.org.au)

Bicycle New South Wales

[www.bicyclensw.org.au](http://www.bicyclensw.org.au)

Marrickville Council cycling information including Routes Map

[www.marrickville.nsw.gov.au/MARRICKVILLE/TEMPLATE/me.get?site.SectionS&how&FFFF162](http://www.marrickville.nsw.gov.au/MARRICKVILLE/TEMPLATE/me.get?site.SectionS&how&FFFF162)

Addison Road Centre

[www.addisonrdcentre.com.au/](http://www.addisonrdcentre.com.au/)

Reverse Garbage

[www.reversegarbage.org.au/](http://www.reversegarbage.org.au/)

The Bower

[www.bower.org.au/](http://www.bower.org.au/)

Tillman Park

[www.abc.net.au/rn/science/earth/stories/s96786.htm](http://www.abc.net.au/rn/science/earth/stories/s96786.htm)

Tempe Reserve

[www.lgsa.org.au/docs/newsandinfo/awards/bluett/2002-2003/Marrickville/2.%20Major%20Projects/2.Bluett%20Award%20-%20Major%20Projects.pdf](http://www.lgsa.org.au/docs/newsandinfo/awards/bluett/2002-2003/Marrickville/2.%20Major%20Projects/2.Bluett%20Award%20-%20Major%20Projects.pdf)

Sydney Bus Museum - Tempe

[www.busandtruckmuseum.org.au/](http://www.busandtruckmuseum.org.au/)

Cooks River Cycleway

[www.canterbury.nsw.gov.au/cooks/cycle.htm](http://www.canterbury.nsw.gov.au/cooks/cycle.htm)

Iron Cove to Cooks River Greenway

[www.greenway.org.au/](http://www.greenway.org.au/)

Whites Creek

[www.leichhardt.nsw.gov.au/environment/03/1066014156\\_11650.html](http://www.leichhardt.nsw.gov.au/environment/03/1066014156_11650.html)

RTA (Roads and Transport Authority)

[www.rta.nsw.gov.au/trafficinformation/bicycles/](http://www.rta.nsw.gov.au/trafficinformation/bicycles/)

STA (State Transit Authority)

<http://www.131500.info/realtime/default.asp>

ABC Weather

[www.abc.net.au/news/australia/weather/](http://www.abc.net.au/news/australia/weather/)

### **International Links**

Sustrans (Sustainable Transport UK)

[www.sustrans.org.uk](http://www.sustrans.org.uk)

**MASSBUG, the Marrickville-South Sydney Bicycle Group is a group of local people working together to improve the local environment by:**

- **Encouraging cycling**
- **Working to improve cycle ways**

All persons joining these rides do so as volunteers in all respects and as such accept sole responsibility for any injury howsoever incurred and Bicycle NSW Inc., MASSBUG and the appointed ride leaders cannot be held liable in respect of any injury or damage resulting from participants engaging in any such ride activity. Marrickville South Sydney Bicycle Group is affiliated with Bicycle NSW.

Meeting: First Wednesday, 7.30pm Newtown Neighbourhood Centre. All Welcome

[www.massbug.org.a](http://www.massbug.org.a)

Phone (02) 9294 5900

Email: [massbug@massbug.org.au](mailto:massbug@massbug.org.au)

More ride listings around Sydney and NSW go to  
<http://www.australiancyclist.com.au/showarticle.php?s=6&a=1197>