

Dear Members and Friends,

Although this is a Spring Newsletter, today it feels as though we are already into summer! We are sending you this update about the way your community association continues to support initiatives and activities to maintain and improve the quality of life in St Lucia.

Street Libraries in St Lucia:

As part of our ongoing activities to build and foster community, and thanks to a suggestion made at our AGM, we now have a team of volunteers taking care of [Street Libraries](#) across the suburb.

We placed notices calling for volunteers to care for the Street Libraries and have been delighted by the response. Volunteers remove inappropriate items such as cooking equipment, shoes and clothes, take university text books to a more appropriate location, and keep each library well stocked, tidy and clean.

Many people in the community were doing this anyway on a casual basis, and our volunteers can share great ideas and appreciate the mutual support.

If you have any books you would like to donate please leave them in one of the street libraries or email us and we can collect them.

Street Libraries come from a number of sources - BCC, community donors, and private individuals who want to share the joys of reading. SLCA is contacting BCC and others to understand who is responsible for repairs. If you notice a Street Library needs repairs, or needs to be relocated, check to see if there's an indication of who donated or created it; if not, check in with BCC via the call centre 3403 8888. If you still can't find out whose job it is, let us know and we'll see what we can find out. And, if you do find out, please let us know so we can update the information for everyone.

Read in the Park

On Saturday 12th September at 3pm we will be holding our inaugural "Read in the Park" event. We invite you to join us for one hour quiet reading. Bring a book and a rug or chair to sit on and enjoy the company of others as we read

together. Please stay after 4pm if you want chat, recommend, exchange, or share books and/or ideas.

Donation and installation of bird box: Tarcoola Track Bushcare Group

We were delighted to be able to donate a bird box to this Bushcare group. As we participated in the installation last month, it was uplifting to see other members busy weeding. We are grateful to them for keeping this gorgeous walking track weeded and planted with native plants. For information about this and other Bushcare groups in St Lucia, check out our [web page](#).

Verge plantings

You may have noticed some beautiful verge gardens around St Lucia. We are featuring one a month on our [Facebook page](#). If you are interested in planting a verge garden you can find suggestions on our web page.

Lift at Hawken Drive Shopping Precinct

The lift has been out of action for many months and this has created difficulties, particularly for local residents. Parking is difficult in this area and often necessitates having to use the underground car park to access the shops. Using the steep stairway is dangerous and almost impossible for some people. We have already been in touch with the building manager and understand that although there is no legal requirement for the lift to be fixed there is a strong community need for this to be repaired. We mentioned it to the Councillor during a recent meeting and asked her to continue to press for this repair to be completed.

State of the shops on the southern side of Hawken Drive Precinct

The appearance of the blue awnings over the shops/restaurants on the southern side of the road is unappealing and does not reflect the thriving community around it. Some of them are broken and most are very dirty, which could ultimately be dangerous from both a structural integrity and human health perspective. Each of the premises is separately owned so negotiating the changes needed is difficult. Direct communication with the owners of each of

the units may be a useful strategy. It is wonderful to see that in the last week a striped awning has been erected over a new restaurant in Hawken Drive.

Tree deaths 180 Macquarie Street

A demonstration took place in Macquarie Street following the death of two trees at this address. We notified the BCC these trees had died very soon after this property had been purchased by a developer. The one at the front had a Vegetation Protection Order and the one on the river was covered by the Natural Assets Local Law. We understand that a fine of over \$600,000 can be applied for the wanton destruction of protected trees. We still have no news about the outcome of this investigation and have asked our Councillor to follow up on our behalf.

The Councillor advised that the Council owns the building next door to this development, what was St Thomas Kindy, and will be used by the developer as a site office, including for their equipment and parking. It will then be renovated and returned to the Council. We have no information about how the Council proposes to repurpose this building once it is handed back

Empty homes

We understand the Councillor has contacted the University of Queensland about the empty houses it owns around the University. It is indeed disheartening to see empty properties when we face a housing crisis.

Community Garden

The onset of spring sees the Community Garden flourishing. New people are always welcome to be part of this beautiful corner of our suburb. See our web page for details.

Women's Shed

We look forward to the opening of the Women's Shed in what was the Girl Guides' Hall at Ironside. We understand that a committee is currently working through the requirements to establish this facility with help from the Men's

Shed in Indooroopilly. If you are on this committee, please get in touch, we would be happy to support you in this endeavour.

River Walk

We are working on a project to establish a signed walk in St Lucia indicating points of historical, cultural and ecological significance. Signing would be provided by the Council through the Councillor's office.

Thanks to members and others who participate in our projects. If you have any suggestions for future projects, please let us know.

Thank you if you have already paid membership fees for the year, if not the fee is \$29.00. Bank details below:

Kind Regards

St Lucia Community Association Inc.

Bank details:

Bank: Bank Australia

BSB: 313 140

Account: 12117430

Use your name as reference