



News

September 2008 - Newsletter of Glen Eira Residents Association Inc.

IN BRIEF

Our Committee

President: Don Dunstan
Vice President Cheryl Forge
Treasurer Joy Steward
Secretary Alexander Scutt
Committee Anne Abbott
Jack Campbell
Kevin Robins
Christine French
Geoff Paterson

INVITATION TO MEMBERS

We invite any member who may be interested in attending a Committee meeting to come along. Please ring Don or Cheryl for details.

CONTACT:

**Don Dunstan Ph. 9578 7134
Cheryl Forge Ph. 9509 6290**

NOTICE OF AGM

The GERA Annual General Meeting will be held at 7.30 pm 14 October 2008, at the Elsternwick Club, 19 Sandham St Elsternwick (Further details later)

BREAKING NEWS

Remember this? Way back in February, the Legislative Council Select Committee on Public Land Development conducted hearings at Glen Eira City Hall.

The Parliamentary committee was 'in town' to conduct a hearing especially to examine the situation of the Caulfield Racecourse (aka Public Recreation and Public Parkland). The committee's Interim Report wants the Crown land to be properly opened up to the general Public. At the moment the MRC is continuing to restrict access, but we have many irons in the fire. We all want to **repossess** our city's biggest asset..

GERA committee members, and others, are intensively lobbying Glen Eira Council and Councillors to help us. Things are slowly starting to move on this. So watch this space.

GERA Level Crossing Submissions: Two submissions were made to government in July. Both covered the need for level crossings to be replaced with bridges. The Eddington inquiry gave us the opportunity to press for change on the two rail lines from Caulfield Station. A second Inquiry into Melbourne and Victoria's Future Liveability gave us the opportunity to send a similar submission into the Department of Transport. Some excerpts of these submissions are printed on the next page.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

Council Elections will be on Saturday 29 November 2008. This will be our only opportunity to select our councillors for the next four years. Nominations for candidates must be made by 28 October.

A "**Meet the Candidates**" meeting will be held at the Auditorium, City Hall on 9 November 2008. This will be your opportunity to check out who you want to represent you for the next four years. (Further details will be published later).

- NEWS IN DEPTH -

Submission on Level Crossings in Glen Eira

(Excerpts from the GERA 'Level Crossing' submission to the 'Eddington' East-West Needs Assessment Report - 14 July 2008)

1. In the city of Glen Eira, there exists a public transport system which is suffering the stress of over-use and inadequate infrastructure. In particular, the inter-connectivity between the rail system and the road network has all the hallmarks of dysfunctionality. This is particularly the case on the rail lines leaving Caulfield Station, one line going to Oakleigh, and the other to Moorabbin Station.
2. The road – rail crossings on these two lines, show an historical hodge-podge of rail bridges, some under and some over roads, together with a number of level crossings. The lack of planning and timetable co-ordination results in long time delays for road traffic negotiating level crossings. The worst are those at Carnegie, Murrumbeena, and Ormond Stations. The economic cost of the resultant delays to the whole community is obvious.
3. Below is the **GERA Level Crossing Survey**. There are a total on nine level crossings. These must be urgently replaced with environmentally friendly over or under-passes.

Table One Rail–Road Crossings between Caulfield and Moorabbin Stations

CROSSING	LOCATION	TYPE OF CROSSING
Queens Avenue	(near) Caulfield Station	Road under
Neerim Road	-----	Level
Glenhuntly Road	Glenhuntly Station	Level
Oakleigh Road	-----	Road under
North Road	Ormond Station	Level
McKinnon Road	McKinnon Station	Level
Centre Road	Bentleigh Station	Level
Brewer Road	-----	Road over
Patterson Road	Patterson Station	Road under
South Road	(near) Moorabbin Station	Road over

Table Two Rail–Road Crossings between Caulfield and Oakleigh Stations

Queens Ave	(near) Caulfield Station	Road under
Grange Road	-----	Level
Koornang Road	Carnegie Station	Level
Murrumbeena Road	Murrumbeena Station	Level
Poath Road	Hughesdale Station	Level
Warrigal Road	Oakleigh Station	Road Over

4. CONCLUSION: But, in the light of the world crisis with Global Warming, the green-house pollution from the thousands of stationary motor cars, all waiting at level crossings with engines running, patiently awaiting the passing of often non-existent trains, all just spewing out green-house gases, is simply horrendous and economically stupid. All the level crossings must be replaced urgently.