

HANDS OFF OUR HERITAGE



North Parramatta Residents Action Group

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LAND AND ENVIRONMENT COURT DATE SET

On Friday 23rd April NPRAGs barrister Tim Hale SC met with the judge and government lawyers to set the date for the court case objecting to the Powerhouse Parramatta DAs approval. Good news is no court security bond was requested of NPRAG by the government. The lawyers for Infrastructure NSW and Planning Minister Rob Stokes have requested an expediated hearing, with the two day hearing now set for May 24th - May 25th.

This is open to the public to attend and watch the proceedings - we encourage you to attend as it looks good for the court to see a large public interest in the case. The Land and Environment Court is at 225 Macquarie Street, Sydney (Windeyer Chambers) It is diagonally opposite the Sydney Eye Hospital and 30 metres from the top of Martin Place.

LEGAL FUND DONATIONS STILL NEEDED

NPRAG still need more funds donated to help take the NSW government to court over not complying with their own planning legislation.

Depositing funds into NPRAGs Bendigo Bank Account is the easiest way you can help us to cover costs like court filing fees, printing of evidence to be submitted to courts and of course the barristers fees.

SAVE WILLOW GROVE



North Parramatta Residents
Action Group Inc
Bendigo Bank
BSB – 633000
Ac No - 154015820

DONATE NOW TO LEGAL FUND

We have also been very lucky to have the continued support of long time NPRAG friend, Home and Away's Shane Withington who last week recorded this message for us to use for our campaign. You [can watch it here](#)

WALL ERECTED TO HIDE WILLOW GROVE

On the same day the first court meeting took place the government erected a 3 metre high imposing timber wall on Phillip Street to totally obscure Willow Grove and its gardens from any public view. Probably hoping OUT OF SIGHT OUT OF MIND - well nothing could be further from the truth this has only invigorated community to fight harder against the secrecy and lack of democracy that has been shown on this project by our government.



In total stark comparison they have erected a measly 2m wire fence beside the side of Willow Grove right next to the former David Jones Carpark that commenced being demolished last week.



CFMEU have 1000s of workers in Parramatta on sites and we are in regular contact with them with any changes reported to us. When the hoarding went up on Phillip Street a group of CFMEU representatives immediately went down to speak to the contractors to ask them what they were doing. We are very grateful to have such vigilant protection from the union.

MAY DAY MARCH - SUPPORT THE GREEN BAN

This May Day (Saturday May 1st) for the first time ever the unions have moved the march from its traditional route in Sydney CBD to be held in the streets of Parramatta all to support the CFMEU Greenban on Willow Grove. We have been working with the CFMEU in making sure this runs smoothly by directing them on the best routes (available with so many road closures), assembly areas and meetings with the Parramatta Police to arrange road closures.

Assembly will be at Prince Alfred Square from 11am but march will not commence till NOON. There will be speeches and music at the Square

leading up to march starting. We will march across Bernie Banton Bridge up Marsden Street, turning onto George Street at the courthouse and down to Horwood Place to end at Willow Grove where we will hear speeches from the CFMEU, MUA and NPRAGs Suzette Meade. The event should conclude no later than 130pm

Please start making your banners for Willow Grove and the Greenban to proudly march along side the unions that are backing our community campaign to save Parramatta's heritage. Bring a hat, and sunscreen and water and remember that you will be required to sign in on a QR code for Covid Safety Plan Regulations.

Thank you to all our volunteers who have been letterboxing Parramatta this past weekend with our small flyer encouraging the community to attend.

Spread the word for everyone to join in, you can download a pdf copy of the full CFMEU two page flyer by clicking on the image of poster below

NPRAG will have a few banners to be carried and would like all our members marching together. Please make sure you meet the committee at the Band Stand in Prince Alfred Park at 1130am.



TEACHERS FEDERATION JOINS THE GROWING LIST OF UNIONS SUPPORTING GREENBAN

Fabulous to announce the Teachers Federation Union have now announced their support of the CFMEU Greenban on Willow Grove. The motion was raised at the Parramatta Branch of the Teachers Federation and then supported at the State Conference a few weeks ago.

Their public statement included the following " Whilst we are not opposed to the development of the Parramatta Powerhouse Museum that progresses the quality of life of workers and their local communities, we are deeply concerned about the complete lack of local democracy in

this decision and we stand ready to defend Willow Grove. The Federation supports the CFMEU and the MUA in placing a greenban on the construction work the places this historic site at risk of destruction"

NPRAGs Suzette Meade was invited by the Teachers Union to announce this publicly last weekend at the public screening of the new documentary of Jack Munday screened at the NSW Teachers Federation Auditorium in Surry Hills.

SAVE WILLOWGROVE CAMPAIGN SHORTLISTED ON NATIONAL TRUST ANNUAL HERITAGE AWARDS

We are very excited and honoured to announce that NPRAG's Save Willow Grove campaign has been shortlisted on the National Trust of Australia (NSW) annual awards list for best heritage advocacy. Full announcement of finalists can be read [here](#)

NPRAG have been working with National Trust for many years on a local level with the late Brian Powyer and most recently with Cheryl Bates the now President of the Parramatta branch.

To be recognised for our communities almost four year campaign to try and Save Willow Grove (and successfully saving St Georges Terrace) is great validation in itself for all our hardwork.

Winners will be announced at a lunch held by the National Trust on May 13th at Doltone House.

If you are interested in attending please send us an email so we can discuss booking of seats. You can email us [here](#)



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