

## ***A milestone for our Linley Point Get-together***

*. . . . . a time to celebrate, a time to move on . . . . .*

*This year is the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our biennial community gatherings held at the time of daylight saving changeover.*

*The get-together was seen as a way to help new and existing Linley Point residents to meet and keep in touch with each other. With Linley Point being such a compact community on a small peninsula, it has been easy to contact all residents through a letter-box drop to every household.*

*Robyn Stutchbury and Marion Rowell consider this year's milestone to be a very appropriate time to hand over to new co-ordinators (dare we say younger?) to keep in play what we feel is a very worthwhile neighbourhood function.*

*Please contact Robyn on 9427 6747 or Marion on 9427 4715 for any details.*

## **A Potted History . . . . .**

**The move to start the Linley Point Get-together** was triggered in 1989 as an alternative to the meetings of the Progress Association, which at the time were not making too much progress. David Briggs, former president and Robyn Stutchbury, former secretary/treasurer decided another way to bring residents together might be to hold more informal social functions so that they could get to know each other and discuss matters of community interest.

During the mid-1970s, when Linley Point was starting to expand through sub-divisions and the development of battle-axe blocks, Marion Rowell and others organised lunch-time barbeques at Cunningham's Reach so that new-comers could meet existing residents. Considering the purely altruistic motives behind these Get-togethers, it was disappointing that there was a distinct absence of older residents at the time. We learnt later they had thought the letter-box dropped pamphlet that suggested 'leave your cars at home and walk to the park' was a ploy to get **all** residents out of their homes to allow a wholesale burglary across Linley Point!

When the 1989 initiative came up, Marion Rowell and Robyn Stutchbury decided to join forces and work on it together. Thus was born the Linley Point Get-together as a time for 'Cocktails and Conviviality' – a phrase that has, for some reason, persisted from the beginning. The first was held at Cunningham's Reach, but 'Briggs Park' in the Crescent became the preferred venue.

The name 'Briggs Park' has never been accepted by the Council, but it seems totally appropriate in the light that David Briggs, a distinguished architect and long time resident, mounted a valiant battle to retain the RTA-owned land along the cliff top for public use. It is a fragment of that land we now use for our gatherings. David was president of the Progress Association for many years and in 1998 Lane Cove Council honoured him with a Citizenship Award.

Both Marion and Robyn have lived in Linley Point for many years. Marion, from 1952 as a teenager and returning in 1971 married with a family, and Robyn since building her first and only family home in 1963.

As far as the Linley Point Get-together goes, little has changed over its 20 years. The internet has helped in publicising the event, but basic organisation simply relies on the preparation and printing of notices, letter-boxing, and then hoping for fine weather on the day. These tasks are undertaken by Marion, Robyn and her husband Noel Tait (letter-boxer par excellence with Mr Phoenix Dog) and Carl Moser, who prints out the notices, posts them to the website and captures the images of Linley Pointers 'getting to know each other' on our Linley Point website. It was Carl who set up the website and a free e-mail service for residents. No doubt everyone has visited [www.linleypoint.net](http://www.linleypoint.net). There is also a special thanks to Barbara and Armando Jago for conscientiously setting up the table on Briggs Park and checking that all has been cleared away after the event.