

# Mount Lawley Matters



**Secretary:**

**Michael Faraone  
9271.3281**



## **ANNIVERSARY OF THE MOUNT LAWLEY SOCIETY**

**SOCIAL and brief AGM**

**Friday November 2  
2007  
7:30pm**

**INGLEWOOD HOTEL,  
REAR RESTAURANT**

**Platter dishes and  
drinks provided  
\$20 per person**

**RSVP: Secretary  
above No or to PO  
Box 15, Mt Lawley  
6050**

## Mount Lawley Society

Volume 30, Issue 2

16 September 2007

WEBPAGE : [www.mountlawleysociety.org.au](http://www.mountlawleysociety.org.au)

### MLS PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The 20th October 2007 is the date for Local Government elections. One of the two Lawley Ward Councillor positions is open, with the retirement of long-standing Councillor Trevor Clarey. Trevor has always been a strong supporter of the Menora restrictive covenants. The Ward will continue to benefit from his work to preserve and enhance the protection that Menora enjoys from its R10 zoning, character protection guidelines and the restrictive covenants applying in the area. The Valuer General's median sale price figures show that long term growth in Menora's house values exceed those of Mt Lawley and indeed many of the blue ribbon western suburbs. This illustrates that low density and heritage protection can deliver both high capital growth and a more family-friendly and environmentally sustainable neighborhood.

The upcoming elections for the Lawley Ward offers electors a field 4 of candidates:

- NIAZOV, Valery
- COLLINS, Paul
- BRUERS, Daina
- SHAW, Alex J

Only one of these candidates, Daina BRUERS, is a member of the Mount Lawley Society and for this reason I would encourage our members to vote for her.

The Society remains concerned with the rate of demolition of original homes in the Mt Lawley heritage protection area. Demolitions continue to be approved by the Stirling Council in the Lawley Ward inside the heritage protection area despite the Council adopting a policy to preserve the character of the suburb. The Society has made a number of submissions to the Council regarding demolition. Our position is that where a structure is capable of being renovated then this should be preferred to complete demolition. Preservation of original streetscapes, setbacks and frontages should be a priority in order to retain the character of our suburb. Council should not approve a demolition application where a property is capable of renovation. This is not only the best way to preserve the character, streetscapes and amenity of our suburb, but is also more environmentally sustainable than demolition.

### **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DUE**

If there is a cross in the box to the right,  
your membership fees of \$40 for the next  
three years are due.

Please use the enclosed form

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# MLS PATRON'S REPORT (continued)

Notwithstanding the advice of the Council's own heritage advisory committee, and in the face of protestations from the Mt Lawley Society and the Ward Ratepayers Association, Council has in the last few weeks approved demolition of 22 Storthes Street. Recently Council also allowed demolition of 52 Queens Crescent (on the corner of Storthes Street). This is despite the replacement only last year of the Heritage Protection Guidelines with new Character Protection Guidelines that are meant to better integrate with the town planning scheme. Unfortunately our ward councillors failed to stand up for the retention of 22 Storthes Street. Mayor Tyzak on the other hand was in the minority in opposing demolition. It is a credit to the Mayor that he acted consistently with community views and council principles by opposing the demolition.

The Society committee holds bi-monthly meetings on the first Monday of each other month (or where that Monday is a public holiday, on the following Monday), at the Mt Lawley Bowling Club, Rookwood Street Mt Lawley at 8pm. As always, all members are welcome to attend.

*John Lightowlers*

I share the concerns we all have in retaining the unique character of Mt Lawley, Menora and Coolbinia.

The development of our suburbs should reflect consistently those community values that encouraged many of

## INTRODUCING OUR ENDORSED LAWLEY WARD CANDIDATE - DAINA BRUERS



us to purchase here originally. As a local resident for 32 years, I was recently involved in trying to prevent the demolition of the house alongside mine in Storthes Street. Sadly it has been demolished in the last week. Its demolition was supported by the Ward councillors, despite the recommendation by the Council and its independent Heritage Consultant's opinion that it was an excellent example of the area's architecture and that it added significantly to both streetscape and ambiance and should be retained. The Storthes St home was unoccupied apart from a very short period when first purchased by the current owner approximately 2 years ago, and as their expressed intention was to demolish the home, it was simply left to deteriorate. This very common scenario as was seen at 17 First Avenue is a situation that the Council must address.

I am not against demolition per se or development. Many residents have chosen to downsize and remain in the area and infill developments in areas with zonings to permit this provide them with this possibility. However I believe that every development application should be assessed on its merits and if a demolition licence is sought, then expert opinion needs to be respected. **I believe the Council should have greater power to ensure that deliberate lack of maintenance does not guarantee approval to demolish and the penalties for illegal demolition should be raised to ensure it is a deterrent.**

I would also strive for consistency In the case of Storthes Street, the Council, after consultation with heritage experts recommended the retention of the property as they did for a property in Ninth Avenue. The Ward Councillors supported one decision and argued against the other.

Although this decision led me to stand for Council, I do not see myself as a single policy campaigner. Having raised 4 children while having a busy working life, I am acutely aware of the needs of all sectors of our community.

My children have been students at Coolbinia Primary, Mt Lawley Primary and also Perth College. As an actively involved parent, I've been associated with many school fetes, excursions, and committees.

Having retired from the workforce earlier this year, in addition to passion and energy, I now have the time to

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devote to what I believe is an integral role in ensuring the Lawley Ward is indeed a place we're all proud to call home.

I have on-the-ground first-hand knowledge of what the people of the Lawley Ward believe makes a good councillor and furthermore what makes the ward a great area to live, work and play.

I want to ensure what I like about the Lawley Ward is preserved for my children's children.

As your Councillor I will not view the Council as a CLUB, but a forum for RATEPAYERS to have their concerns address. I believe I represent a fresh approach for our community and I will ensure that I follow consistent decision making process.

The key POLICY platforms I represent are:

- Preservation of our unique heritage / character;
- Open and transparent community consultation;
- Better outcomes in all planning and traffic matters;
- Thorough assessment of development applications;
- Commitment to long-term sustainability;
- Better amenities for all sections of the community from preschoolers to seniors;
- Integration of more passive recreational areas;
- Strong support for our Clubs;
- Responsible financial management – a fair share of Ratepayer dollars for the Lawley Ward.

I believe I have a firm grasp of the aspirations of the local community and it's my objective to ensure that the concerns of ratepayers in my ward are not only heard, but addressed. I am committed to honest and full time representation.

With your support I will be – **'PUTTING COMMUNITY FIRST'**.

As a true independent candidate, I have no alliances to any political party or faction. It is my objective to be a councillor representative of the views of the people who matter most – the constituents within my ward. I will be open, transparent and accountable.

### HOW TO VOTE FOR ME

*Daina Bruers*

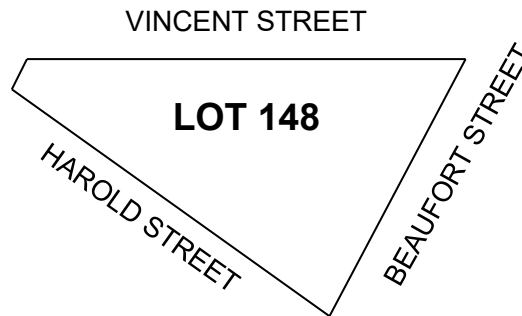
NAIZOV, Valery	2
COLLINS, Paul	4
<b>BRUERS, Daina</b>	<b>1</b>
SHAW, Alex	3

# HOW MOUNT LAWLEY CAME TO BE DEVELOPED

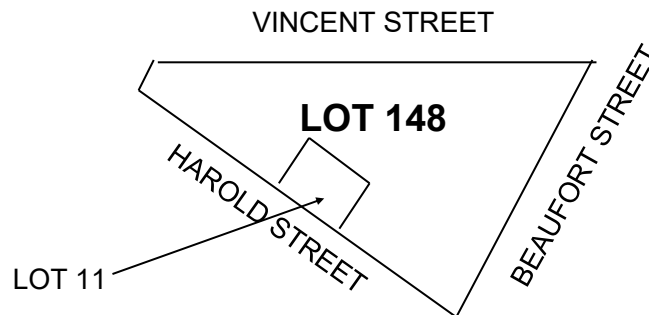
**M**ount Lawley is one of Perth largest suburbs, covering approximately 443 Hectares. It is an amalgam of seven large parcels of land, called Crown Grants or lots, carved out of the bush in the early days of settlement between 1829 and 1878.

In the last few issues I have traced the history of some of these original lots. This is continued. The research provides an interesting picture of land development and the developers who were involved. There will be some names that you will recognize from your knowledge of Western Australia's history.

## 7 THAT PART OF MOUNT LAWLEY IN PERTH TOWN LOT 148



- 1) Perth Town Lot 148 Crown Grant to Police **Detective Sergeant Thomas Rowe**. Granted 21 June 1876. Total area 1.3770 Ha



- 2) Lot 11, 650 m<sup>2</sup> transferred to **Christian Alt**, cordial manufacturer, 22 November 1886.
- 3) Lot 11 transferred to **Leonard Levy**, 44 Little Collins Street, East Melbourne, 20 June 1890.
- 4) Remainder of original Lot 148 transferred to **John Thomas Chipper**, storekeeper of Narrogin, 19 December 1891.
- 5) That remainder of original Lot 148 transferred to **James Thomas Peet**, and **Arthur Dunn**, 2 June 1896.
- 6) Lot 11 transferred to **John Dunlop Stephenson**, accountant, 15 July 1896.
- 7) Lot 11 recombined with the remainder of the original Lot 148 and this parcel transferred to **J D Stephenson** and **J D Chipper** as tenants in common, 24 November 1896

# Heritage

## THE LIGHTFOOT FAMILY



Wedding photograph of Arthur Allan Lightfoot and Lilian May Clark, taken 27 April 1904

Arthur Allan Lightfoot was born 1874 In Victoria. He trained as an accountant and joined Peter Albany Bell, owner of a string of tearooms and confectionary shops in Perth, Kalgoorlie and Bunbury, as the company accountant in 1910. He continued in that capacity until shortly before his death in 1934, although there had been a serious rift between him and P A Bell in 1930 over financial matters relating to the collapse of the tearoom business in 1929. Arthur Lightfoot suffered from chronic ill health especially in the last four years before his death.

There was a strong social connection between the two men as the wives of both were sisters.

Between 1910 and 1914 the Lightfoots lived at 187 Mueller Road (now Roberts Road) Subiaco. They bought the large river-fronted block of over 2,000 sq m in Thirlmere Road, Mount Lawley, and built a large three-level California Styled house there in 1914. It remained in the family until 1982, after which it was demolished.

The house had a landscaped garden of flowers and vegetables going down to the Swan River, as well as a tennis court fronting on to Thirlmere Road. It had spectacular views of the Swan River and across to Belmont, Rivervale and Goodwood. The house was near the P A Bell mansion at 50 Guildford Road and adjacent to the home of Arthur Daly at No 3 Thirlmere Road. Relations between the Lightfoots and Dalys were close, as the photo of the combined tennis party below indicates. The Daleys had two children Eric, who became a medical doctor and Phyllis who be-



came a music teacher. The house was sold by Phyllis to the Mercy Sisters in the early 1950s and demolished some 10 years later.



Family Photograph taken 1914  
REAR: Lilian May Lightfoot; Arthur Allan Lightfoot; Leonard Charles Lightfoot  
FRONT: Enid Emily Lightfoot; Rosalie Baird Lightfoot; Marian Edith Lightfoot

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## THE LIGHTFOOT FAMILY (cont)



Lightfoot family in 1920

REAR: Lilian May Lightfoot; Arthur Allan Lightfoot

FRONT: Leonard Charles Lightfoot; Edith Emily Lightfoot ; Rosalie Baird Lightfoot; Marian Edith Lightfoot

1. Leonard Charles, born 6 July 1905. He was educated at Perth Modern School, and later became a Commissioner of Ag Dept. He died 14 April 1984.
2. Allan James, born 1907, dying as an infant on 3 January 1909.
3. Enid Emily, born 16 June 1909. She was educated at Perth Girls School and Perth Modern School and later opened a ladies' couturier shop. She married John Oakes. She died in 30 June 2005.
4. Marian Edith, born 3 March 1911. She was educated at Perth Modern School and later became a senior secretary. She married Ray Miles. She died in 7 December 1993.
5. Rosalie Baird, born 22 January 1913. She was educated at Perth Modern School and later became a teacher. She married Ken Wansborough. She died in 26 December 1993.

From 1945 to 1982, the house was operated by John Oakes as a bed and breakfast, accommodating architectural students, etc. The essential character of the house did not change. Although Lilian died on 16 December 1970, aged 91, the house was also the home of the Oakes family. Their children, Lewis (born 1937), later a director of Boans Ltd, and Janet (born 1943), an interior designer, grew up there. After Janet married Ed Lazarus in 1966, she moved with him to Sydney.

After the sale of the house in 1982 to a developer, the house passed into the hands of the Mercy Sisters and was demolished in 1984 and the land absorbed into the growing hospital complex.



Lightfoot family home, 1 Thirlmere Road, Mount Lawley  
Taken 1914, shortly after construction



## THE LIGHTFOOT FAMILY (cont)



No 1 Thirlmere Road from the Swan River bank. The lady in the hat is Enid Lightfoot, and the little boy to her right is young neighbour Eric Daly, who later became a doctor.



Front gate to No 1 Thirlmere Road about 1950: Janet Oakes with bike



## THE LIGHTFOOT FAMILY (cont)



View of No 1 Thirlmere Road, Mount Lawley, taken from the nearby Albany Bell Tearooms Confectionary Factory at 46 Guildford Road. Note the tennis court at the front, the property extending down to the Swan River, and the large Federation bungalow at No 3 owned by Arthur Daly.



View of No 1 Thirlmere Road taken in the 1970s, prior to its demolition. Note the large St Anne's Hospital building, replacing the old Daly home, hard up against the Lightfoot home

## THE LIGHTFOOT FAMILY (cont)



Tennis party at the Lightfoots' in 1940



John Oakes ' Model T Ford motor car: Enid Lightfoot holding the door

The editor is indebted to Janet Lazarus for the material in this article.