



Residents Against Western Sydney Airport Incorporated

Blaxland NSW  
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## **Update 6 – 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2018 – What’s the latest!**

Dear Members and Volunteers,

Here is the latest update to keep you informed about our fight against the building of a Western Sydney Airport.

## **What’s been done**

### **Protest at P.M.s Place**

The protest outside the Point Piper residence of the Prime Minister on the 15<sup>th</sup> May went very well. We had a busload of volunteers turn up and were joined by others who came by car. To ensure our political neutrality, on the way home we stopped for a protest and photo shoot, outside the office of Dep. Leader of the Opposition Anthony Albanese. We were able to highlight our cause in the public eye and received good publicity on Ch. 7, Ch. 10 and ABC News 24. **Thank you to all those who came along and made the trip successful.**

### **Global Anti-Airport Video**

For several years now, RAWSA has been liaising with a number of international groups, who like us, are engaged in their own community battles against aviation expansion and airport development. Community groups are actively opposing the might and power of large commercial interests and Govt. policy on the grounds of social, environmental and cultural impacts of airport projects.

Many countries are developing or planning to develop airport projects including in Germany, Australia, France, USA, South America, Indonesia, UK, Africa and Canada. To this end a European group have produced a video detailing the adverse impacts of these projects. While there are a large number of projects highlighted in the video, WSA does get a mention. However, the video concentrates on those projects where the strong-arm tactics against citizens, is at its worst. The video can be viewed by copying this link to your internet browser:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oEXe6qxL-Qo&feature=youtu.be>

## **What’s being done**

### **Protest at WSA Talkfest**

The Business Council of Australia are having yet another function to again try and boost investor interest in the WSA project. At \$90 a seat, I can’t see RAWSA members being interested in listening to the “Yay Airport mob’ rehash their one-sided view on the project. However, we will mount a wobble protest at the Mulgoa Road entrances to Panthers. As it will be held on 17<sup>th</sup> May (a weekday) at 12 noon, most RAWSA volunteers will be at work – but if you could make it along to help from 11 am to noon, it would be appreciated.

### **Blacktown – Medieval Fayre & Festival**

NoBCA are seeking help to staff information stalls at: **Blacktown Medieval Fayre on 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> May** and at the **Blacktown Festival on the 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> May**. You can fight the WSA cause and have some fun at the same time. So if you can help for a few hours (morning or afternoon) on any of these dates, please contact Andrea Grieve directly at: [andreanobca@outlook.com](mailto:andreanobca@outlook.com) Your assistance will be very much appreciated.

## [FOWSA Forum](#)

As the FOWSA website does not show records of their March meeting (site not updated since 17<sup>th</sup> Dec.) we will have to wait and see what actually eventuates. However, indications are that the previously mentioned open public forums arranged by FOWSA will be advertised from the 7<sup>th</sup> May, for the following:

**Glenbrook Forum: will be at Glenbrook Arts School on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2-4 pm**

**Penrith Forum: will be at Panthers on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2-4 pm**

## [Jobs for Western Sydney Working Party](#)

You may recall in a recent Newsletter, we mentioned that a Working Party (WP) had been formed and was researching the employment claims by our Govt. and other WSA proponents. While RAWSA has representation on the WP, it is a group of concerned citizens operating independently of political and commercial interests.

While there are many adverse social, environmental and lifestyle impacts of the WSA project, the role of this WP is focused mainly on researching the extent of realistic employment opportunities that may come from an airport and developing alternate uses for the Badgerys Creek site that will produce a larger number of jobs, better quality jobs and a wider range of jobs.

Progress of the WP to date is showing a large disparity between what the Govt. claims might be the outcome on employment and what is realistically more likely to be the outcome, when compared to similar sized airports at other Australian locations. All going to plan, the WP is aiming to release its report in June.

## [What's still needs to be done](#)

### [Coffee with a Pollie](#)

Emma Husar, Federal Member for Lindsay wants to chat to her constituents on **Thursday 26th May**. We need as many of you live in her electorate to go along to one of the four sessions and have a chat about the airport.

Times and locations are:

- Caddens - 9:00am to 10:00am at Gilfillians Cafe, 11 Morello Terrace
- St Marys - 10:30am to 11:30am at Cassandra's on the Park, 131 Queen Street
- Jordan Springs - 12:15pm to 1:15pm at HCafe, 61-63 Watergum Drive
- Cranebrook - 1:00pm to 3:00pm, Leaf Cafe, Cranebrook Village

You don't have to book – just turn up and have your say!

### [ICAC Enquiry](#)

The Channel 7 News (30<sup>th</sup> Apr) announced that the arrangements between Sydney Airport and Botany Council (pre-amalgamation) have been referred to the Independent Commission Against Corruption, due to suspicions that Council administrators may have entered into agreements for open space management at KSA, which will ultimately have to be paid for by Botany residents.

If the ICAC enquiry validates the complaint, it may have implications for Western Sydney Councils in relation to any future WSA project.

## Reminder - The 'Greens' efforts to make Airservices Accountable

The Greens are in the process of introducing new legislation to Parliament that is aimed at making Airservices Australia (AsA) more responsive to the concerns of community members in regard to aircraft noise.

An [Aircraft Noise website](#) which contains details of the Bill as well as other efforts by the Greens to stand up for communities affected by aircraft noise. A Senate Committee Inquiry is seeking submissions from the public.

The committee asks for written submissions to be lodged by the **closing date of 30 May**. This is very important as this provides an avenue for us and any affected citizen to make a written submission.

So the Senate Inquiry is a great opportunity to get your/our common concerns specifically conveyed to the Committee. You can make a submission [via the website here](#), please note submissions close on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2018.

## Reminder - Contact IUCN regarding World heritage concerns

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)<sup>1</sup> keep a watch on World Heritage areas, give a ranking for each site based on the prevailing threats to continued World Heritage listing and advise the United Nations on World Heritage issues.

RAWSA research team member Chris Whiteman had drafted a letter and many people used this as the basis of their email to IUCN. Our collective emails have sparked interest of IUCN and to keep the issue on the boil with them I ask you send follow up emails to IUCN.

All you have to do is copy/paste the following text into an email and send it to: [worldheritageoutlook@iucn.org](mailto:worldheritageoutlook@iucn.org) and cc: [mail@iucn.org](mailto:mail@iucn.org) and [oceania@iucn.org](mailto:oceania@iucn.org)

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*I am writing to express my concern over the Blue Mountains National Park, World Heritage area.*

*The IUCN currently gives the area a threat ranking of "Good with some concerns" however, the Australian Government's intention to build a Western Sydney Airport in such close proximity to the Blue Mountains World Heritage area, will have an inextricable adverse impact on flora and fauna through pollution and noise impacts from operations at this airport.*

*I am very concerned about this developing situation and ask that IUCN take appropriate action to:*

- *Ignore the information derived from the Australian Government's assessment of impacts,*
- *Investigate with local conservation and community groups as to the true adverse impacts of the project, and*
- *Increase the IUCN threat rating to "Significant Concern"*

*Yours sincerely,*

*Enter your name*

*Enter your address*

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Thank you and regards,  
Trevor Neal  
For and on behalf of the  
RAWSA management Committee

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<sup>1</sup> For those who wish to find out more about the IUCN, go to: <https://www.iucn.org/about>