



Katoomba Chamber of Commerce & Community
www.katoombachamber.com



CittaSlow Katoomba Blue Mountains
www.cittaslow.org.au

We would like to extend a welcome to Katoomba residents and business people who would like to come along and participate in future meetings, or as a way of keeping in touch with recent issues, receive a copy of the monthly minutes.

For more information, please contact Chrissie Thompson at swaggy@westnet.com.au or secretary@katoombachamber.com or www.katoombachamber.com

- Annual Subscription fees for membership of the Katoomba Chamber of Commerce & Community are just \$100 for companies, **\$50 for a sole traders** and \$10 for individual community members.
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Please join and help us grow our membership and our voice for Katoomba

NEXT MEETING -11th August 2011 All welcome!

Monthly Meeting opened at 6.05pm, The Library, Carrington Hotel, Katoomba

1. Present: 9th June 2011

Robert Stock (RS) (President), Peter Carroll(PC) (VicePresident) Chrissie Thompson(CT) (Secretary), Mark Jarvis(MJ) (Treasurer), Marie Wood(MarieW), Christine Killinger(CK), Guy Fordy(GF), Anton Curnow(AC), Juliet Green(JG), Karim Rizkalla(KR), Anne Elliott(AE), Margaret Weatherall(MW), Janet Cahill(JC), Bill Swan(BS), Michael Begg(MB), Bob Kemnitz(BK), Chris Davidson(CD), Katharine Bayliss(KB), Pam Seaborn(PS).

A special welcome to Peter Adams, Creese Syred representing the Peter Carroll Statue Project, Patricia Lane-Gonzales BMCC Program Leader Sustainable Town Centres, and Nicole Hogan and Lorraine Droga from Leura Cellars .

Apologies:

Cllr Janet Mays, Robyn McAdam, Tom Colless, Harry Box, Carole Box, Bruce Ferrier, Linda Colless.

2. Minutes from the previous meeting 12th May 2011
Moved accepted CK, seconded MJ.

Matters arising from the previous minutes: When noting in the minutes persons of position, such as Members of Parliament, their title and position should be acknowledged.

Randal Walker, as a courtesy, has spoken with the President of the Leura Garden Festival John Ewan, in regard to the Festival Walking & Garden Festival overlap- Agreed for the future a week between events might be better.

Katoomba Chamber website up and running – check it out: www.katoombachamber.com

Amendment to spelling: Peter Carroll ('professional hitchhiker').

3. Correspondence In

Invoice to Mountain Press paid in full on behalf of Springwood, Wentworth Falls and Biznet – reimbursement progressing.

Letter received from Attorney-General's Department acknowledging final paperwork has been received.

Letter from BMCC acknowledging KCCC submission on the Rate Review.

Invitation from BMCC to attend the information session on the Pioneer Place Master-plan for the upper and lower tiers of the Council owned car park.

Correspondence Out

Letter to BMCC seeking information on the proposed RSL car park tree planting.

4. Liquor Licensing Authority Petition

There is local concern about the number of liquor outlets in Katoomba/Leura.

Woolworths in Leura had said all along and right up to a couple of weeks before opening that there would not be a liquor outlet in the Leura development. The effect of Woolworths and Dan Murphy's, and with Coles' First Choice on the cards, it's too much. BM Action Group looking to form a working group and raise a petition. Locals are asked to make a submission direct to the Liquor Licensing Board website.

Discussion ensued around Woolworths & Coles having between them 70 -80% of the retail market in Australia and this means we have less & less competition. Crime rates are also related to easy access to alcohol and that becomes a problem for our local community.

5. Presentation by Patricia Lane-Gonzales BMCC Program Leader Sustainable Town Centres

A footpath plan of the CBD has been undertaken by a consultant working closely with Patricia. Funding will be spread over 2 years 2011-2012 and 2012-2013, at \$150,000 per year. The consultant's fee is separate from this funding. Concerns to address: public safety, a 'tired' streetscape, and drainage. The consultant's brief is to advise what BMCC needs to do to make it better – whether to re-use or re-fit; the existing pavers are not available anymore. Consultant started in May and by mid June will present review. In July the Councillors will be briefed, followed by a week's exhibition. August- the documentation will be finalised, and 3 to 4 options to choose from are expected. Patricia will be seeking extra funding at the end of this year.

Noted: restoration works after Telstra or Sydney Water have been through, needs to be of a higher standard.

Question from the floor: are volunteers allowed to work on public property/streetscape?

Discussion covered the point that Katoomba Chamber members, as volunteers, are covered by the Chamber's insurance.

Patricia advised that a new generic flag for the CBD is being worked on and should be ready soon.

6. Peter Carroll & his dog Aurora Statue for Lawson

Website is up and running – the public are invited to add comments

www.peterandaurora.org.au

Bob Debus (former Minister of the Arts) is the patron of the project to build a statue of professional hitchhiker Peter Carroll and his dog Aurora, supporting Peter Adams, and Creese Syred and his wife, to make this happen. The committee invite the public write to the Gazette with their views. Well known Wentworth Falls sculptor Terrance Plowright has provided the initial work, and auctioneer Steve Archer has offered to cast the statue, for a very good price. The committee want community involvement and are looking to raise \$150,000 to \$200,000. The website can take donations (one can use PayPal) and it will be receipted.

Collection boxes are ready to go into clubs and pubs. Organisers are looking at this as a long term project possible 3 to 6 years.

7. BMCC Rate Review

There has been substantial response in Katoomba & Leura over the proposed hike in business rates – 2,000 signatures on a petition presented to Mrs Rosa Sage (Liberal MP for Blue Mountains) on Wednesday 8th June. Quite a few Councillors may have had a change of heart before the imminent June 28th vote, due to the number of phone calls and letters. There's a bit more information due to go into the Gazette before the 28th June vote. Council needs to review some of the zonings as they are unfair. There is apparently a LEP report on the way and so some Councillors may wait till the LEP is in. Form to make your submission is available on the Council website.

8. Winter Magic Festival

Extending around Bathurst Road and around to the Carrington Cellars this year. There are signs on the highway notifying bridge closure. Matt Hope is doing a great job visiting all businesses and asking everyone to be involved. ABC Radio with Simon Marnie will be set up in front of the Carrington Hotel. There will be bigger and longer fireworks this year. Artstreet is on 2 weeks before WMF. There will be 80 performances on 11 stages. The BM Flyer steam train is coming up Sydney –Strathfield- Katoomba. The theme for this year's ball is King Arthur's Court and a castle battlement with lights will be erected on top of the Carrington's roof facade.

9. Supermarket/ Cultural Centre Development

It's still unclear what is going on in the proposed Cultural Centre development. We do know however, that there will not be a Tourist Information Centre. When it's completed there will be no reason for visitors to come into the main street. The idea of having a cultural centre was originally generated out of the need for an Information Centre in Katoomba town centre!

Have your say – if you run a business, click on the link
<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/9TP2SSL>

Or print the .pdf file attached and sent to us KCCC PO Box 543 Katoomba NSW 2780

Welcome to **New Members** this month

Peter Adams

Karim Rizkalla from Greenwell & Thomas Pharmacy

Juilet and Anton from Sherman & Betty

Tim & Sheryl from Kookaburra Cottage

Meeting Closed 7.45pm

Next meeting **11th August 2011**

Chairman Robert Stock.....Date.....

Minutes Chrissie Thompson, Secretary.