### **GRIFFITH/NARRABUNDAH COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP**

PO Box 4127 MANUKA ACT 2603

Volume 4

### NEWSLETTER

4 March 2001

## **PICNIC RALLY**

# Saturday 24 March Noon On the Oval between the Griffith Shops and the O'Connell Centre

PLEASE bring your family and friends and pets to show that we want to save our open space and library and community facilities. Bring a picnic hamper and a beach umbrella.

- Sausage Sizzle
- Speakers, including Members of the Legislative Assembly
- Entertainment
- Fun/Games/Sports

# WE NEED TO <u>ACT TOGETHER</u> NOW TO SHOW OUR RESOLVE

Our membership is now OVER 400, and we have to send a clear message about what we want. The government's consultants, SKCM, will be holding the final "Information Session" sometime in March to announce their plans. They have not given any indication what they will announce. Up until now, they have been ignoring the expressed wishes of the majority of the community. Their plans may well be even worse than we originally thought, because the government has just proposed high density, 3 storey apartments and townhouses just about 500 metres away in Narrabundah! (See the story in the next column.)

This will be one of the most important events in our fight, and a great opportunity to get Canberrawide publicity for our cause. YOUR group critically needs YOUR support to make the rally a success.

### DO YOU KNOW ANY ENTERTAINERS?

If you know of any musicians, singers, bands, choirs, buskers etc. who would perform at the rally for free, or anyone who would lend us a Public Address System, please call Trish Bootes 6295 9663 or Frank Mestrov 6296 1152.

# DEVELOPMENT PLANS MAY BE WORSE THAN EXPECTED

The government has proposed high density, 3 storey development (up to 12 metres high) in Narrabundah. Is Griffith Section 78 next? On 27 January, the government published its plans for 101 apartments and townhouses in Narrabundah on the site of the Hungarian-Australian Club, and some adjoining "Community Facility Land" (Corner of Kootara St. and Keira St.). That is 101 units on only 1.1 hectares, just about 500 metres from Griffith Section 78! The government initiated a Draft Variation to the Territory Plan (No. 174), and it will allow high density, 3 storey, 80% plot ratio residential zoning called B11 in South Canberra for the first time. Previously, this type of zoning was used only in inner North Canberra, in areas near Northbourne Ave.

The government's consultant on Section 78, SKCM, told the community that any development on Griffith Section 78 would be limited to 2 storeys. Interestingly, SKCM just happens to be a consultant on the proposed high density, 3 storey B11 development in Narrabundah. How can we be sure that the government isn't planning the same sort of B11 development for Section 78?

#### **ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE**

- Please talk to your neighbours and your friends and ask them to join our group and come to the rally. The more numbers we have, the better.
- Please keep writing to Members of the Legislative Assembly, including the independents, telling them that you oppose residential development on the site. Please send copies to the G/NCAG Secretary so we can keep informed.
- Please keep writing Letters to the Editor.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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