



# Korowal On The Move

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**relocation update meeting**  
**this thursday**  
**march 13**

**6.30 pm**  
**at school (our current school)**  
**in the drama room**

**child care available**      **bring a plate**

## **Community update meeting this Thursday**

Everyone is invited to a meeting in the drama room this Thursday at 6.30pm to hear reports about the various aspects of our relocation and to find out how to help with the project.

Childcare will be available in the “pink room”. If possible, please bring something to contribute to supper after the meeting.

Unfortunately, our financial advisor, Paul Campey from Resolve Consulting, will be interstate and can't attend. Mark Thomas will report on financial aspects of the relocation. Questions can be referred to Paul Campey if necessary.

## **Intention to remain enrolled in 2009**

Every family should have received a letter last week asking you to confirm your intention to remain enrolled in 2009. We collected this information last year, but the banks which are finalising our loan offers require updated information. If you have not already done so, PLEASE RETURN THIS INFORMATION TODAY to the school office or by email to [cwalker@korowal.nsw.edu.au](mailto:cwalker@korowal.nsw.edu.au)

## **Can you help?**

You should have received a form two weeks ago seeking specific information about how you can contribute to the building/moving/fundraising project. Thank you very much to all of those who have responded so far. Cathy is recording all information on our community database and you will be contacted when we need the help which you have offered. If the form is still in your “things to do soon” pile, please move it towards the top. Information can be returned to the office or emailed to [cwalker@korowal.nsw.edu.au](mailto:cwalker@korowal.nsw.edu.au) or you can visit Cathy in the “on the move” office on Mondays.

## **Playground equipment**

Several parents have asked whether we will take our playground equipment with us to Hazelbrook. Our legal advice is that we **are** entitled to take it, because we bought and installed it with our own funds. Any offers to remove and re-install it????

## **Site visits**

“Oaklands” has been invaded by small groups of Korowal people investigating all parts of the buildings over the past month. (As usual, the staff there have been welcoming and tolerant.)

Structural, electrical and hydraulic engineers assessed the site last week.

Michael Shellshear and Jill Day spent a full day conducting an OH&S assessment.

Various groups of teachers have visited their particular sections of the buildings and have now draw up detailed plans which have been forwarded to our architects.

Rebecca Gilling from our sustainability committee visited to assess the possibilities for incorporating solar panels, water tanks, etc.

## **Development application**

We are still waiting, waiting, waiting ... for the Council engineers’ report and RTA report. As soon as the engineer’s report is in our architects will arrange a meeting to discuss any issues arising. At this stage we can only repeat that we do not foresee any significant problems with our application (other than the slow rolling of the bureaucratic wheels.) Council is aware of our tight time frame.

The Council meeting on May 13th now seems to be the earliest possible date for approval.

## **Finance**

1. The PURCHASE of the property will be funded with:

- bank finance
- our own reserves, and
- the funds from the Special Temporary Emergency Assistance Fund (see below)
- If any transitional interest subsidy funding becomes available, this will be applied to paying off the bank loan.

The BUILDING AND RENOVATIONS will be funded with:

- capital funding from the block grant authority (see below)
- donations to our building fund.
- community fundraising,
- in kind contributions, and
- specific purpose grants eg. for trades training, sustainability, or heritage preservation.

## 2. BANK FINANCE

Applications to various banks and to Australian Ethical Investments are being formally processed. By the time that our development application is approved we hope to have several formal offers to compare.

## 3. STEA FUNDING

We have been informed that our application for \$200,000 from the federal government's Special Temporary Emergency Assistance fund will be assessed by mid-March.

## 4. INTEREST SUBSIDY FUNDING

The NSW minister for education has refused our request for transitional interest subsidy funding. However, there is still active lobbying on the part of Phil Koperberg and the Association of Independent Schools to have this decision reversed due to our exceptional circumstances - so we haven't given up yet! Sometimes sheer persistence wins through. The interest subsidy is NOT a part of our financial projections, so it will be a bonus if it is restored.

The letter which we received from the Minister outlined a future plan for capital funding from the state government, which will begin in about two years and will assist us at that time.

## 5. BLOCK GRANT FUNDING

Our application for capital funding from the block grant authority will be submitted next week. A team of assessors will then visit to look over our project in detail. We should know the results of this application by June or July. The average block grant amount is about \$500,000. The Association of Independent Schools, which administers this funding, is well aware of our exceptional circumstances.

## 6. TRADES TRAINING FUNDING

The details of the Rudd government's capital funding for trades training in schools will be available this month. It might be possible to access some funds this year, depending on the requirements. IF YOU HAVE EXPERIENCE WITH SETTING UP/TEACHING VET PROGRAMS, PARTICULARLY IN THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY FRAMEWORK COURSES, could you please contact Annie Carment on [acarment@bigpond.net.au](mailto:acarment@bigpond.net.au) or 47573239 or Barb Fitzgerald at school.

## 7. SUSTAINABILITY FUNDING

Funding from state and federal governments is being explored with a view to contributing to our renovation costs.

## 8. BUILDING AND RENOVATION

We are in the process of assessing, with our architects, the various ways in which the project can be managed and supervised, and how sub-contractors and volunteers from our community could be incorporated into the project.

We have discussed possible contributions with some of the trades people in our community who might subcontract or offer voluntary time. It might be useful to organise a meeting with all of these people and our architects when the detailed plans are finished, before tenders are formally called for.

## **Thank you ...**

To Leanne Kent, who has offered one day per week to work on the relocation project and has taken on various funding application tasks.

To Michael Shellshear, for the OH&S assessment, and to Jill Day for assisting him.

To Pieter Oosterhoff, who has offered to assess and advise about the central heating system at "Oaklands".

To Cindy Babbage, who has offered to co-ordinate the physical move from Leura to Hazelbrook (no small task!!!)

To Tracey Barratt, for organising child care for the community meeting, and for her continuing fundraising work at school.

To the high school students who have volunteered to provide child care for the meeting.

To Lisa Parsons, who is preparing a fundraising strategy for corporate sponsorships.

To Lara Francipane, who is exploring handcraft fundraising options.

To Eamon Waterford, who is planning event/s to appeal to Korowal ex-students.

To all of those people who have offered their time and skills via the "how you can help" form.

To the teachers who invested time in providing detailed room plans for the architects.

And as always, to the members of our School Council, and our hard working executive, whose workloads have grown exponentially due to our impending move but who carry on cheerfully.

## **Re-use and recycle - raise \$\$\$'s for our re-location**

Would you like to de-clutter your life and contribute dollars to help establish Korowal's new home in Hazelbrook? Are there things lying around your home that are too good for the council rubbish clean-up, but that you just don't need? Every household has, on average, \$1,800 worth of unwanted possessions. Imagine what just a fraction of that from every Korowal family could contribute to our new school!

## **Korowal has established an ebay site "recycle4korowal"**

All you need do is donate your unwanted items to Korowal and we will do the rest. What will sell on ebay? Almost anything, provided it is clean and working.

Popular items include CD's & DVD's, toys and small furnishings/bric-a-brac, electronics, and larger items like furniture or whitegoods. Clean, quality children's clothes sell well, as do baby goods. Small stuff is easy to post, but many buyers will pick up larger items.

Drop off your smaller donations at Korowal on any Tuesday during term in the parking area at the West/Bate St entrance (top end of the school) between 2.30 and 2.50pm (just before school finish time) - look for the sign on my station wagon.

OR

If you have a larger item, I can arrange to pick it up or even photograph it in-situ and have it picked up from your place when it sells. Call me to discuss it on 4751 2774.

Leanne Kent

## **Building community as we fundraise for our new school - Community Events and Project Committee**

An enthusiastic group of Korowal parents, teachers and one of our past students met recently to consider potential community fundraising events. The group was brimming with ideas about ways we can share the skills and generosity of our community in generating the funds we need to make our wonderful new school site ready for next year.

Some of the ideas being fleshed out now by the committee include:

- cottage industry workshops and cards featuring children's artworks
- monthly markets and an on-line shop
- trivia nights and lawn bowls fundraisers, involving Korowal alumni
- sausage sizzles at Bunnings Penrith and K-Mart Katoomba
- Fun run and car boot sale
- term 1 community event at school
- 30th Anniversary celebration dinner

The group is also developing proposals for corporate and local business sponsorship and donations.

Other projects which will need longer-term development and planning include an art show, outdoor cinema evening and a publication of our community's favourite recipes.

So many great ideas can be realised with the collective enthusiasm, goodwill and generosity of our community. If you are able to contribute or would like to find out more, the committee's next meeting is on Monday 17th March at 6.00pm in the library. For more information, call Vittorio Cintio on 4757 3239 or speak to Cath in the office.

### **Garage sale at "Oaklands"**

The owners of "Oaklands" are holding a huge garage sale on Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th March. Anyone who has visited will know that the buildings store an enormous array of treasures, which will need to be moved before our arrival. The garage sale is the first step!

Recently Simon O'Brien auctioned quite a few outdated printer cartridges on ebay on behalf of the school.

The funds raised, have been allocated to our KOM fundraising.

Thank you Simon!