HAPPENINGS - Bonython Against Drones Action Group

Meetings were held on 2 and 8 October.

Volunteers wanted:

This meeting group/committee consists of some foundation members who instigated the Bonython Against Drones (BAD) Action Group. At this point we are trying to keep the meetings to a minimum number, only to best manage the tasks and ideas, however if you have any particular skills that you may feel can be useful please let us know, otherwise check below to see if you can help out with any of the following

- To work on the BAD Action Group stall at SouthFest (Tugg Festival) Saturday 24 Nov.
- Organise a residents meeting.
- MC a Residents meeting.
- Manage an online petition.
- Research skills.

Action this week

• A letter was sent from the BAD Action Group to the Chief Minister and Mr Gentleman, on behalf of the BAD Action Group seeking urgent answers to a number of questions regarding the end date of the trial, results etc.
• A letter was sent from the BAD Action Group to MLAs Rattenbury and Le Couteur, focusing on the environmental issues.
• BAD Action Group Bulletin – Bulletins Nos 1 and 2 together with the Core Issues paper was emailed to all members of the ACT Legislative Assembly as well as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Joy Burch was the only person to reply with a request to meet with her to discuss issues.
• A request will be sent to Mr Gentleman to organise a meeting, at his nominated time and venue, so he can hear from residents the other side of the drone story, that being the negative effect of drones that is causing so much anger and concern in the suburb. We will keep you posted on this.
• Nev was interviewed about the destruction of our peaceful suburb by drones on Radio 2CC last Friday 5 Oct. Listen to the Podcast. [http://www.2cc.net.au/podcasts/11436-bonython-residents-say-drones-are-bad.html](http://www.2cc.net.au/podcasts/11436-bonython-residents-say-drones-are-bad.html)

IT’S WORKING!! - Bonython Against Drones Facebook page and email account

You all are doing great adding your posts and comments to the Facebook page and sending emails from which comments are collated.

Our little suburb and our big cause to remove drones from our peaceful suburb are being heard far and wide. Not only has the issue been mentioned by Gai Brodtman MP in Parliament but a reporter from Roanake Times in Virginia, USA, has written requesting an interview with us about our experience and concerns in our suburb as Wing have just commenced drone deliveries in that community.

A number of emails are also being received from people across the ACT supporting our cause and categorically stating that they would NOT want drones in their suburbs.
Membership
Current membership of the Facebook page BONYTHON AGAINST DRONES now stands at 137
Additionally there has been an increase in emails to the stopbodrones@gmail.com account to 54.

Canberra Times article
Dan Jervis-Bardy wrote an article which was published in the Canberra Times on 3 October.

The committee was not enthused by the headlines that suggested that the drones had become a permanent fixture while reality is they are still in ‘trial phase’. There have been rumors that Project Wing are looking for an industrial site to move their operations to but they would still be potentially flying into the suburb which defeats our aim to have them totally removed from the skies for home based deliveries.

Pharmacy Journal article
An editorial journalist from the Australian Journal of Pharmacy contacted the BAD Action Group to ask if an article could be placed in their publication regarding serious concerns about pharmacy products being delivered by drone. A well written and very interesting article. See the link below

Tuggeranong Community Council (TCC) meeting – 2 Oct.
A number of residents attended the TCC meeting with a view to being able to have their say about the drones. Unfortunately the drones issue was not a separate agenda item, however a number of people did speak up and as an outcome the TCC are going to take up the cause and write to the ACT Government relaying residents anger and frustration on a number of fronts regarding the drones.

Drone discussion on ABC radio: Future tense.
This goes for 28 mins but is very interesting, stating that Australia is a test bed for drone trials. It highlights that drones are at present a novelty but should be used for much more appropriate and purposeful actions such as saving lives and looking for missing children etc but are not being utilised for such.
http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/futuretense/getting-serious-about-drones/10316700

Drone Incidents
There have been three reports of incidents involving drones.

What you can do
. Spread the word about the BONYTHON AGAINST DRONES Action Group – tell your neighbours, family and friends. Project Wing intends to expand testing zones of the drone delivery service.
. Check out the Facebook page BONYTHON AGAINST DRONES and leave comments – ask your family and friends to do the same.
. Please contact Gai Brodtman and send her your feedback. She is very aware and concerned about the issues of the trial and asks that residents share their thoughts about it with her.
. Send us emails with your complaints, issues and let us know if you have any information that you might think we can employ.
. Send emails addressing your complaints and grievances to any or all on the attached list – ‘Who you can contact’ below.

Who you can contact
If you have any more people or organisations to add to this list please let us know so we can let others know.

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<td>Andrew Barr – <a href="mailto:barr@act.gov.au">barr@act.gov.au</a>  Mick Gentleman - <a href="mailto:gentleman@act.gov.au">gentleman@act.gov.au</a>  Joy Burch - <a href="mailto:burch@act.gov.au">burch@act.gov.au</a>  Nicole Lawder (Opposition)- <a href="mailto:lawder@parliament.act.gov.au">lawder@parliament.act.gov.au</a>  Caroline Le Couteur (Greens) - <a href="mailto:lecouteur@parliament.act.gov.au">lecouteur@parliament.act.gov.au</a>  Shane Rattenbury (Greens) - <a href="mailto:rattenbury@act.gov.au">rattenbury@act.gov.au</a>  or - <a href="http://www.contactmyminister.act.gov.au">www.contactmyminister.act.gov.au</a></td>
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**Snippets**

- This Project Wing has been going on for years, we are the latest guinea pigs - see this link: [http://www.theverge.com/2014/8/28/6080369/googles-project-wing-is-a-secret-drone-based-delivery-system](http://www.theverge.com/2014/8/28/6080369/googles-project-wing-is-a-secret-drone-based-delivery-system)

- “Small drones are just toys and should be treated as such”. [https://youtu.be/7gt8a_ETPRE](https://youtu.be/7gt8a_ETPRE)


- World Drone Conference Presentations [https://www.worldofdrones.com.au/speakerpresentations](https://www.worldofdrones.com.au/speakerpresentations)  [https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/d3911b_b795f89628724b38b253f297c8fe5a1c.pdf](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/d3911b_b795f89628724b38b253f297c8fe5a1c.pdf)

**BONYTHON AGAINST DRONES Action Group contact**

If you can help out in any way or have new ideas or information please contact us.

email:  stopbondrones@gmail.com

Facebook:  Bonython Against Drones

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NOTE: If you do not wish to receive these Bulletins please contact stopbondrones@gmail.com