**HAPPENINGS - Bonython Against Drones Action Group**

**Action items**

- At the request of Joy Burch MLA a meeting was held with the committee to discuss the drone delivery issues. See below for more information on this meeting.
- There was no formal action group committee meeting held last week, however we did meet with Andrew Wall MLA. See below for more details of our meeting.
- An email was sent to Gordon Ramsay MLA seeking his opinion on who in the ACT Government is responsible for the current drone delivery trial. A copy of this letter was also forwarded to the Canberra Times.
- An email was sent to the ACT Government Auditor – General with questions regarding transparency and governance of the drone delivery trial.
- A reply was sent to Andrew Wall with comments on the terms of reference for the committee enquiry of the drone delivery trial.
- An email, together with video evidence, was sent to Wing refuting their comment that birds did not attack drones.
- An email was sent to a representative of the Legal Industry offering information on the experiences of Bonython residents for current and future legal advising on the impact of delivering goods by drones.
- A petition and associated documentation was drafted for circulation and collection of signatures.
- A letter was sent to A Current Affair requesting they consider highlighting to the public of Australia community concerns and how this invasion of drones could impact them in the near future.
- Following a request to Wing to release data on feedback they had collected to date, a reply was received stating that a summary will be provided at the end of the trial to a number of bodies including the ACT Government. *Ed Note: a bit perplexed that a summary only will be provided to the Government???*
- Comments were received on the Facebook page from a lady who was involved in the Royalla drone trial group and who stated that a lot of residents were angry about the trial because of injuries to animals as they ran from the drones.

**Membership**

Current membership of the Facebook page **BONYTHON AGAINST DRONES** now stands at 194.

There has been an increase in emails to the stopbondrones@gmail.com account to 63.

**FOIs**

- CASA replied stating they will have to request release of information from a third party with an expected reply date of 28 Nov 2018.
- ACT Government – due 13 Nov 2108

**Meeting with Joy Burch MLA**

At the request of Minister Burch, the committee met with her on Thursday 18 Oct. Ms Burch attentively listened to our action group concerns and that of residents, not only in Bonython, but the extended community who are very apprehensive about the drone delivery service coming to their suburbs. She
herself has had a lot of communication from local residents. While Ms Burch had attended an official introduction session by Project Wing, she had no idea of the potential of the impact of the drones that would follow. Ms Burch has generously tendered her support by offering to sponsor the Bonython Against Drones petition. Please keep sending your emails detailing your issues to her at burch@act.gov.au.

Meeting with Andrew Wall MLA

An invitation to meet was forwarded to the action group by Mr Wall. Due to his demanding schedule of sitting week the committee met with him and his Senior Adviser in his office on Tuesday 23 Oct. We detailed the points of concern and issues raised by residents after which Mr Wall offered to support a motion to set up a Parliamentary Enquiry through the Standing Committee on Economic Development and Tourism that will be put forward in the Assembly on Thursday this week. This is a great step that will hopefully have a positive outcome for everyone in the ACT. We have written to all MLAs asking them to support this.

Gai Brodtman speaks up for us again

A champion of our cause, Gai Brodtman made another speech in Parliament last week questioning the transparency and authority of the drone delivery trials and seeking an independent review.

See her speech in Parliament - https://www.gaibrodtmann.com.au/what_s_happening_with_the_drone_delivery_trial?fbclid=IwAR1yIQbN5rGAgy45fTmnXbKVnlsox0B84nN8Upjdo0md1M38wpTpic8At0

In her latest speech Ms Brodtman is asking the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport:
- Why was the trial granted an exemption?
- Who granted the exemption?
- Did you grant an exemption?
- On what grounds and for how long was the exemption granted?

You also can write and ask for answers on these questions and more. Someone needs to be answerable and accountable for allowing this trial to happen ... and continue.

Did you sign up for drone deliveries?

If you originally signed up at an event that Project Wing held to promote their services and realise now that it is serves you no purpose, or you now realise the extent of problems the drones cause in the suburb, please write to Wing and asked to be removed for their active list. This will reduce the number of residents that they have recorded as ‘customers’. Please let us know if you do ‘opt out’ and particularly if there are any problems.

Petition: CEASE PROJECT WING DRONE TRIAL IN BONYTHON, ACT

Some very willing walkers circulated a petition around the suburb last weekend and many, many thanks to them for their efforts to knock on doors. An interesting comment from one of the signature collectors after talking with many was that some people still consider the drone delivery to be a novelty and do not take into account the effect on others living around them and also that they are not aware of the long term consequences which include loss of wildlife and a nice environment in which to live and raise children.

Ed Note: Sad, but totally agree.

To date we have 360 signatures, which is an outstanding effort in less than a week.

If you missed signing the petition, or you would like a petition sheet to collect signatures from family, friends, work colleagues, social groups etc, please contact the action group at stopbondrones@gmail.com.
**Drone Incident Reports**

While there have been no direct reports this week, below are a number of stories and quotes that have come to light as a result of residents wanting to share their experiences with those who collected signatures for the petitions.

- A young lady of about 25 suffers severe migraines. During a migraine attack the drones cause her unbearable pain.
- An elderly man, a WWII veteran, said the drone noise causes him anxiety and reminds him of the bomb noise.
- A lady said her way of life is destroyed. She lives in a lovely home with a beautiful garden and when out in her garden trying to enjoy it, all she hears are the drones all day.
- Another resident said that from Thu to Sun she is so angry she was yelling her dismay and could not wait to sign the petition and her husband also signed.
- From many ... “I am going to join a gun club and shoot them down”. *Ed Note: Not recommended but shows the anger.*
- “The noise constantly makes me feel angry”.
- “I am now fighting with my neighbours who get deliveries and we used to be friends”.
- “It has divided our community”.

If you have any of these stories to tell please let us know at stopbondrones@gmail.com or share your story with Gai Brodtman, Joy Burch and/or Andrew Wall as they are all campaigning for our cause.

**Canberra Times articles**

There have been two recent articles published in the Canberra Times, which have been very positive toward our cause.


**Have Your Say**

Mark Parton MLA has set up a feedback page about the drone trial. Please note that this is not a Government site nor is it the same as an online petition.

Please complete this feedback so that your views are known in this forum: https://www.haveyoursay.net.au/drones/

**Volunteers wanted:**

We now have five responses from members offering to help out at the SouthFest (Tuggeranong Festival) Saturday 24 November but still need more to help rattle the cages of Project Wing, as they also will be having a stall at the event. Please let us know if you can spare even an hour to hand out brochures and talk to people. * This will also be our last chance to collect signatures for the petition.

Please contact us also if you think there are other ways that you can help us out to fight for the cause so we can have the choice to live in a peaceful environment.

**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.
• Keep sending 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.

| NEW | Have Your Say – Note: this is NOT a Gov’t site | [https://www.haveyoursay.net.au/drones](https://www.haveyoursay.net.au/drones) |

| Noise complaints - EPA | environment.protection@act.gov.au |
| Wing drones | x.company/intl/en_au/wing/contact/ or wing-au@x-team  Att: Jesse Suskin |
| Canberra Times | Letters to the editor, opinions etc letters.editor@canberratimes.com.au |
| Canberra Weekly | news@canberraweekly.com.au |
| City News | editor@citynews.com.au |
| Member for Canberra | Andrew Barr – barr@act.gov.au  Mick Gentleman - gentleman@act.gov.au  Joy Burch - burch@act.gov.au  Andrew Wall - Andrew.Wall@parliament.act.gov.au  Nicole Lawder (Opposition)- lawder@parliament.act.gov.au  Caroline Le Couteur (Greens) - lecouteur@parliament.act.gov.au  Shane Rattenbury (Greens) - rattenbury@act.gov.au  or - [www.contactmyminister.act.gov.au](http://www.contactmyminister.act.gov.au) |
| ACT Legislative Assembly | [www.tuggeranong.org.au/contact-us](http://www.tuggeranong.org.au/contact-us) |
| ACCESS Canberra complaints | simon.denby@casa.gov.au |

**Snippets**

Is this the future we want?


**BONYTHON AGAINST DRONES Action Group contact**

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

email: stopbondrones@gmail.com  Facebook:  BONYTHON AGAINST DRONES

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