



## BONYTHON AGAINST DRONES Action Group

### BULLETIN No: 7

email: [stopbondrones@gmail.com](mailto:stopbondrones@gmail.com)

Facebook: **BONYTHON AGAINST DRONES**

**GOAL** To raise awareness of the negative impact of the drone delivery service on residents, pets and bird life in Bonython.  
**MISSION** To stop the drones and their intrusiveness on the peace and quiet of our suburb and environment.

### **HAPPENINGS - Bonython Against Drones Action Group**

What a week it has been with the announcement that Project Wing have secured premises in Mitchell with a plan to deliver to five suburbs around Gungahlin. <https://www.canberratimes.com.au/national/act/drone-delivery-service-to-fly-to-canberra-s-northern-suburbs-20181108-p50erl.html>

Project Wing have not as yet actually applied to CASA for approval to operate the service but stated that they will shortly 'consult' with residents in the delivery range. Ed note: 'Consult'. What does that mean in drone talk? They claimed that Bonython was 'consulted' – Hah!

Added to the news above, there was also news aplenty with 11 articles or Letters to the Editor being published in the Canberra Times this week, two radio spots, an ABC TV news item that went national and an article in the Sydney Morning Herald. All this adds up to the fact that the Bonython people's voices are being heard and we are making noise! Congratulations and thank you to all of the people who have emailed, phoned, posted and generally spread the word about our plight with the drones.

To all the fears of some who have contacted the action group, NO, we are not folding the action group any time soon. We still have lots of hard work to do, getting submissions in place for the Parliamentary enquiry as well as continuing to research and rock the boat of Project Wing and authorities who should be performing regulatory or scrutinising roles. We are not going to sit back and let drones take over our city until proper consideration is given to keep residents safe in a physical and psychological manner, well thought out decisions are in place, and significant loopholes in legislation have been rectified.

The reality that drone technology will be at the forefront of many businesses for years to come is not excluded, however, the fact that technology is moving faster than legislation needs serious attention and technology should never override the human element. It is obvious that there is strong support for Project Wing from the ACT Government but we are of the opinion that there is a clear conflict of interest in that the concerns of the residents, those who elect the Government, are not being equally supported or protected from large companies like Project Wing who drop into our city and act like they can take over however they want for their own purposes without any form of regulation and policing by any authority. This has been without due care or consideration and has had a huge impact on our daily lives. The current legislation is very immature and has potentially huge risks on numerous factors, especially safety, so we will push on.

The action group has sent a letter to a number of community groups in the Gungahlin area offering to share the experiences that Bonython residents have had living the experience with drones. The petition has also been circulated on the northside. Hopefully some concerned residents will join with us to widen the fight to stop Project Wing encroaching further into our beautiful bush capital forever.

### **Membership**

Current membership of the Facebook page **BONYTHON AGAINST DRONES** now stands at 230.

There has been an increase in emails to the [stopbondrones@gmail.com](mailto:stopbondrones@gmail.com) account to 68.

### **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 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**

The petition continues to be circulated around the suburb as well as in the wider communities of the ACT.

To date we have over 700 signatures and still counting. While this number is more than the required 500 signatures to have a petition submitted, the more signatures we have the more weight it will carry.

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](mailto:stopbondrones@gmail.com).

### **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 .... THIS WEEK!!!

### **NEW Website**

Bonython Against Drones is about the launch its web site. We hope to showcase the issues surrounding the drone delivery service in a suburban area and highlight the problems that it has caused residents.

The plan is also to have a section where residents can express their lived experience and concerns about the drones. Your voices are incredibly important and powerful and having testimonials written in your own language will better endorse the impact.

It is hoped that the website will be a public resource for Canberra as we move forward with news that the delivery drones are leaving Bonython in a few months, (for now) and moving to the Gungahlin area. It is hard to anticipate how residents in Gungahlin will respond to the drones, but if they are made aware of the huge potential impact, our online resource will help them find kindred spirits who may be able to help them in some way.

Our other concern is that if Wing claim Gungahlin has been as success, they may return to Tuggeranong and start flying drones again to our suburb so we need to continue with our mission to make as many people aware and informed as possible.

Please send you contributions to [stopbondrones@gmail.com](mailto:stopbondrones@gmail.com). It could be just a few sentences or a few paragraphs and we would only publish your first name underneath your words.

### **Increase in drone hours of operation**

Some good news - some bad news. Project Wing are changing their hours of operation to accommodate dinner service Tuesday - Thursday during daylight hours but no longer will be operating on Sundays, commencing 20 November. They will also not be operating over Christmas and New Year (20 December to 6 January).

### **Drone Incident Reports**

There have been a number of reports of bird strikes on drones this week. If you witness any bird strikes could you please forward the location, time and date and bird type to [stopbondrones@gmail.com](mailto:stopbondrones@gmail.com). Importantly, if you get the opportunity to record it, could you please forward it to us.

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

### **SouthFest**

Due to the advice that Project Wing are effectively 'packing up their bongo drums' and leaving our town, a decision has been made to not hold a stall at SouthFest.

Thank you to all those who had offered to help out on the day.

**Snippets**

- Pause drones until community is heard  
<https://www.canberratimes.com.au/politics/act/press-pause-on-drones-until-community-is-heard-20181109-p50f1p.html>
- Drone hits athlete  
<https://www.smh.com.au/technology/river-of-blood-after-drone-hits-australian-athlete-20140407-zgruh.html>
- Are drones a technological marvel or a threat to privacy?  
<https://www.smh.com.au/technology/technology-news/drones-in-the-sky--technological-marvel-or-threat-to-privacy-20140226-33huo.html>
- The sky is the limit for airborne snoopers  
<https://www.smh.com.au/technology/drones-skys-the-limit-for-airborne-snoopers-20140315-34vt.html>
- Gai Brodtmans talk back transcript from ABC Radio interview  
[https://www.gaibrodtmann.com.au/transcript\\_breakfast\\_with\\_dan\\_bourchier](https://www.gaibrodtmann.com.au/transcript_breakfast_with_dan_bourchier)

**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.

Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development	<a href="https://www.aph.gov.au/M_McCormack_MP">https://www.aph.gov.au/M_McCormack_MP</a>
Have Your Say – Note: this is NOT a Gov’t site	<a href="https://www.haveyoursay.net.au/drones">https://www.haveyoursay.net.au/drones</a>
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
Gai Brodtman MP Member for Canberra	<a href="https://www.gaibrodtmann.com.au/contact">https://www.gaibrodtmann.com.au/contact</a>
ACT Legislative Assembly	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> Andrew Wall - <a href="mailto:Andrew.Wall@parliament.act.gov.au">Andrew.Wall@parliament.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>
Tuggeranong Community Council	<a href="http://www.tuggeranong.org.au/contact-us">www.tuggeranong.org.au/contact-us</a>
Parks and Conservation	<a href="http://www.environment.act.gov.au/about/contact">www.environment.act.gov.au/about/contact</a>
ACCESS Canberra complaints	<a href="https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/app/ask">https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/app/ask</a>
CASA	<a href="mailto:simon.denby@casa.gov.au">simon.denby@casa.gov.au</a>

**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](mailto: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](mailto:stopbondrones@gmail.com)