HAPPENINGS - Bonython Against Drones Action Group

This week

• A letter was sent to CASA advising them that the petition, with over 1000 signatures was formally accepted in the ACT Legislative Assembly and a Parliamentary inquiry was underway. A request was made that the drone deliveries in Bonython trial be ended immediately as the trial has served its purpose and does not need to gather further information and create further suffering by residents. A response was received with the following statement

“As CASA has no adverse aviation safety reports, or evidence that indicates Wing has operated outside of the conditions of its approvals or certificate, CASA does not have any reasonable grounds to revoke or limit the existing legal instruments issued to Wing that permit the trial. Accordingly, I am unable to agree to your request that the Wing trial cease”.

Not the result we were hoping for as we would have liked the drones stopped pre Christmas.

• A template for writing a submission to the Parliamentary Inquiry has been completed. This will aid those who may not be confident about writing a submission. Click on the link to view the template, then copy into your own document and fill in as you wish - Inquiry Submission template

• Following receipt of the FOI from CASA, the action group has methodically checked through the document for anomalies. As a result, a letter has been forwarded to CASA with numerous questions seeking clarification on a number of issues. We will be taking up further issues with the ACT Government on the risk management plan that was included in the FOI.

FOIs

• ACT Government FOI – now due 18 Dec 2108.

Drone opposition on Perth news

A resident reported that his daughter was watching a news program in Perth WA and heard about the opposition to the drone delivery trial in Bonython. Ed Note: Good to hear that the rest of Australia is being forewarned about the impact of drones.

Report unsafe drones

Should anyone observe any unsafe drone activity, please utilise CASA’s online drone complaint form available at www.casa.gov.au/webform/report-unsafe-drone-operations. The dynamic form guides you through the sorts of information CASA requires in order to review a complaint. Examples of unsafe activity could include - if you feel the drones are flying too close to you, either on your own property or when out in public space; they are flying too close to wildlife; they are too noisy; you note that drones are flying outside of the permitted times etc. It is important that you report any incident and it is recorded by CASA.

The following operational rules apply to Project Wing drone delivery trial.

Drones must not fly

- more than 400 feet above ground level; or
- at night; or
- outside public gatherings; or
- over Athllon Drive, Drakeford Drive or Woodcock Drive; or
- less than 5 metres overhead a person, or 2 metres horizontal distance from a person.

Operating hours - 7:00am to 8:00pm Mon - Sat; and 8:00am to 8:00pm Sun and public holidays.
Media comments
There has been numerous Letters to the Editor from the wider Canberra area with resident’s comments in opposition to the drone delivery service. Letters to the Editor are great in that our voices are heard wide and loud about the disapproval of drones.
Likewise, there are lots of comments still being posted on our Facebook page. Check it out at Bonython Against Drones Facebook page and keep those posts coming.

Membership
Current membership of the Facebook page BONYTHON AGAINST DRONES now stands at 236
The current email membership to the stopbondrones@gmail.com account is 68.

NEW Website
The Bonython Against Drones web site is continuing to be developed. We aim for this to be a public resource for all Canberra residents, extending the awareness of the huge impact drones have had on our lives and creating an online resource, clearly and justly, to highlight the numerous evils that we have had to put up with.

The website 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.

Please send your contributions to 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. Below is an example

I was home on Sunday and absolutely horrified at the fear my dog showed when a drone came over the house and this occurred numerous times during the day. He frantically raced around the yard and became oblivious to anything in his way and I was unable to distract him as he was so terrified. If he had been able to escape the yard he would have been gone.

I investigated on google what they were doing and I learnt that Project Wing is trialling a delivery service in Bonython and this will avoid ‘traffic congestion' and allow faster delivery of your food - in this instance burritos! I am terribly concerned for the safety and damage psychologically these drones are causing to my dog. I have not had him for very long and he has only just got used to noises in the area and I am also very concerned about neighbours lodging complaints about him barking as the barking is caused because of his fear of the drones and I have no control over when they will be in the area.

I have a number of garden stakes surrounding plants as having a new dog, I wanted to prevent damage to these plants. I am concerned, after witnessing his behaviour, that he may impale himself on one of these stakes even though they are high - he is a large dog and was up on his hind legs. He is also at risk of breaking a leg.

I also believe there are major privacy issues with these drones flying over and then hovering in suburbs especially when the majority of residents would have no interest in this unnecessary ‘delivery service’. Such a service may be useful in a high density area such as Sydney or a remote area but definitely not in the Canberra region.

Coleen

Bonython Against Drones Sponsor
We very much appreciate and acknowledge the support to Bonython Against Drones Action Group by Tuggeranong Square Capital Chemist. This local pharmacy, and the resident pharmacist Rob, really cares about people and their safe use of all pharmaceuticals. Do pop in and say hello and mention that you also support Bonython Against Drones.
Parliamentary inquiry - INQUIRY INTO DRONE DELIVERY SYSTEM IN THE ACT

The ACT Assembly Committee inquiry has commenced accepting submissions.

Your voice and your views matter! You have the right to be listened to and making a submission is an important way of being heard. Your experiences are incredibly important and will shape what happens next with the drone deliveries. Your experiences may be unique, or they might be similar to other people’s experiences. Either way, whoever is conducting the review will want to hear what you have to say.

The best way to get your views considered by the committee is to prepare a written submission. For those unsure of what to write in the submission, a template has been designed to give you an idea of what to include against each criteria - Inquiry Submission template

Written submissions preferably need to be lodged electronically by email to - LACommitteeEDT@parliament.act.gov.au by 22 February 2019 at the latest. All submissions will need to have included your name, postal address and telephone number.

If a person is unable, for whatever reason, to prepare a written submission, the committee secretary should be contacted as early as possible to discuss the possibility of giving oral evidence at a public hearing.

Peace at Christmas

Project Wing have advised that they will NOT be operating over Christmas and New Year, 20 December to 6 January.

They have changed their current hours of operation to accommodate dinner service Tues - Thurs during daylight hours but no longer operate on Sundays, commencing 20 November.

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 across Canberra.
• 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.
* Please note the new email address for CASA.

| Minster for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development | https://www.aph.gov.au/M_McCormack_MP |
| Have Your Say – Note: this is NOT a Gov’t site | 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 |
| Gai Brodtman MP  
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| **ACT Legislative Assembly** | Andrew Barr - [barr@act.gov.au](mailto:barr@act.gov.au)   
Mick Gentleman - [gentleman@act.gov.au](mailto:gentleman@act.gov.au)   
Joy Burch - [burch@act.gov.au](mailto:burch@act.gov.au)  
Andrew Wall - [Andrew.Wall@parliament.act.gov.au](mailto:Andrew.Wall@parliament.act.gov.au)   
Nicole Lawder (Opposition) - [lawder@parliament.act.gov.au](mailto:lawder@parliament.act.gov.au)  
Caroline Le Couteur (Greens) - [lecouteur@parliament.act.gov.au](mailto:lecouteur@parliament.act.gov.au)  
Shane Rattenbury (Greens) - [rattenbury@act.gov.au](mailto:rattenbury@act.gov.au)  
or - [www.contactmyminister.act.gov.au](http://www.contactmyminister.act.gov.au) |
| **Tuggeranong Community Council** | [www.tuggeranong.org.au/contact-us](http://www.tuggeranong.org.au/contact-us) |
| **Parks and Conservation** | [www.environment.act.gov.au/about/contact](http://www.environment.act.gov.au/about/contact) |
| **CASA** | [rpas@casa.gov.au](mailto:rpas@casa.gov.au) |

**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)