

INQUIRY INTO CROWN LAND IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Organisation: 13 residents of Greenwich

Date received: 18 August 2016

Illustrative Addendum:

- Last Friday 22 July at around 4pm in the afternoon about 5 people were seen on the beach inside the locked Greenwich Baths with chairs set out in a semicircle around a container in which a fire was blazing

- **The people inside of these locked baths were consuming alcohol.**

Photos were taken by a local resident both at that time and also those of the open garbage bin were taken the next morning. These photos accompany this addendum

- In addition residents have advised that **a number of people (4/5 have been sighted) individually have access to a key to these baths and are able to regularly swim there during the six month period they are closed to the general public**
- Members of our community are locked out of these baths for almost 6 months of the year even on lovely days like Friday 22 July, so being denied their right of access under the crown lands act 1989
- Crown Lands Division and the Reserve Trust Manager are both clearly failing to ensure the rights of the community to access this land are preserved

Many thanks and kind regards

Liz

From: Liz Gill
Sent: Thursday, 18 August 2016 10:41 AM
To: Samuel Griffith
Cc: David Shoebridge; Emma Brooks Maher; John Owens
Subject: Further Addendum to Our Submission to the Crown Lands Inquiry: : Greenwich Baths Crown Reserve Trust

Dear Mr Griffith

The reply to our email to Crown Lands Division demonstrates that a total denial of responsibility.....as effectively the reply indicates that Crown Lands has no responsibility.....once it signs off/abrogates to a reserve trust manager.....

The reply is especially amazing given the Crown Lands Act itself.....and the fact that Crown Lands Division is a signatory to the lease to Lane Cove Council and that it also has signed off on the sublease for these Baths!!!!

The bottom line is that Lane Cove Council will do nothing about this issue.....as has been the ongoing case.....this is no doubt because it has a significant conflict of interest being both the Reserve Trust Manager and as a signatory to the sublease.....so looking after its private operator

Crown Lands Division appears to be acting as though the proposed amendments to the Crown Lands Act have been enacted and ownership of this Reserve Trust now sits with Lane Cove Council

I therefore request that a copy of the correspondence be added as an addendum to our submission and our first addendum but with my contact details removed please.

Kind regards
Liz Gill

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 17 August 2016 12:55 PM
To: Liz Gill
Subject: Greenwich Baths Crown Reserve Trust

Dear Dr Gill,

Thankyou for your enquiry in relation to use of the Crown reserves known as Greenwich Public Baths.

The public baths are located partly on Crown and RMS (Roads and Maritime Service) land. The RMS has directly leased its component of the baths to Council.

Lane Cove Council are the reserve trust manager of the Greenwich Baths comprising R 60749 and R 60751 Reserve Trust and as such has direct responsibility for the care, control, management, development and use of the reserve and all occupations and activities thereon.

I regret that Crown lands is unable to be of assistance in this instance. Please direct your enquiry to Council as trust manager for their consideration.

Regards,

Department of Industry-Lands
PO Box 2185 DANGAR NSW 2309

W: www.crownland.nsw.gov.au | www.trade.nsw.gov.au

Please Note: For all enquiries, including appointment requests, please call 1300 886 235 during normal business hours

From: Liz Gill
Sent: Wednesday, 10 August 2016 10:55 AM

Subject: Greenwich Baths Crown Reserve Trust.....Public Access Denial.....

To the attention of the General Manager of the Crown Lands Division

On behalf of a group of local residents I wish to formally lodge a complaint about the denial of the community's right of access to Greenwich Baths Crown Reserve Trust land.

This complaint has been prompted because access has been given to selected people during a time when these baths are closed to the rest of the community

The following forms the basis of our complaint:

Friday 27 July was a wonderful warm day with a mild afternoon.....So when walking our dog around the area of Greenwich baths about 4pm I was very surprised to see about 5 people on the beach inside the locked Greenwich baths with chairs set out in a semicircle around a container in which a fire was blazing

See attached photos as evidence.

- I did not recognise any of these people and the lessess was not with them;
- They were all drinking alcohol; AND
- They had a fire burning on the beach

In addition I would like to point out that the photos of the open garbage bin were taken on following Saturday morning taken the next morning as the bin was not closed

The gates to these Baths are locked between April and September, so they are closed to the community during this time.

During the months (Late September to early April) they are open, but they are open during restricted hours

It is very strange that Greenwich Baths is, to the best of our knowledge, now the only harbour side pool situated on Crown Land in Sydney that is currently leased to a private operator.

The current lease arrangements effectively mean that members of our community are locked out of these baths for almost 6 months of the year even on lovely warm sunny days when they could and would be used if they were open

As a consequence, we are being denied our right of access under the Crown Lands Act 1989 and what is happening here is not right nor fair

Further a number of residents have reported that the lessee of the baths has not been living in the caretakers cottage as he has not been sighted and his white four wheel drive has not been parked there for some time

Something needs to be done to rectify this situation

I know that building work has just started on the modifications to the caretakers cottage but this is no excuse for what has been happening there

I would like to know what action Crown Lands intends to take to protect the right of access of the community to this Crown Land covered by the Greenwich Baths Crown Reserve Trust as the current lease agreement with Lane Cove Council and Lane Cove Councils sublease with a private operator continues to undermine this right and also allow for misuse and mismanagement

Yours sincerely

Liz Gill