

Caroline Owen - Future Music Festival - SSD 4995-2011

Attention Caroline Owen
Re: SSD 4995-2011
PLEASE WITHHOLD ALL CONTACT DETAILS

Dear Caroline,

Please be advised that 4 additional emails relating to the Future Music Festival have been forwarded as a part of my submission and objection to the event being staged at Randwick Racecourse.

Affected residents reported overflow anti-social behaviour and noise disturbance in Coogee, Maroubra, Daceyville, Waterloo and Clovelly both prior to and after the event.

I have a great deal more correspondence and information in my possession which cannot be passed on due to privacy laws.

Thank you for your assistance.

Caroline Owen - FUTURE MUSIC FESTIVAL - SSD 4995-2011

[REDACTED]

Attention Caroline Owen

Re: SSD 4995-2011

PLEASE WITHHOLD ALL CONTACT DETAILS

FYI edited correspondence no 1

[REDACTED]

Norman Gillespie
Chief Executive Officer Australian Jockey Club
Sunday 9th March 2008

Dear Mr. Gillespie,

I am writing to advise you that on Saturday 8th March 2008 the Australian Jockey Club turned the street where I live into a slum. Although I complained bitterly to the former Chief Executive about the disgraceful conduct and excessive noise associated with the 2007 Future Music Festival we again this year experienced the most extreme and unreasonable disturbance in and about our home due to the anti social behaviour of drug and /or alcohol affected youths attending an event staged by the AJC.

My Mother, who is very, very ill and in severe pain, was particularly unwell yesterday while putting up with the outrageous commotion generated by the Festival and the conduct of the rabble attending it.

The Future Music Festival on Saturday 8th March and previous events have

- compromised years of hard work spent cleaning up the local area
- set an appalling example to students and student tenants attending The University of New South Wales
- caused ongoing consequences for our household involving residents who mimic anti social behaviour
- deprived us of the peace and privacy of our home
- extended a welcome to substance abusers
- placed residents at risk
- brought the Australian Jockey Club into disrepute
- broken undertakings made in 2002 regarding anti social behaviour associated with Randwick Racecourse
- made a mockery of any claim that the AJC is a responsible organisation
- contributed to the devaluation of residential properties - including our own

The AJC is not capable of staging this or any similar event without excessively affecting residents, degrading the amenity of the area and imposing a grossly unfair burden on police and the public purse. An event such as this is not suited to the Racecourse or Randwick City and must be abandoned and never held here again. No amount of planning, security presence or police

involvement could ever control the walking scourge that descended on this community on Saturday. Either management has no idea what they are doing or disregarded the impact of the riff raff imported into Randwick City in the knowledge that a very significant number would be under the influence of drugs as they moved through the area prior to entering the Racecourse and would be consuming alcohol and taking drugs at the venue.

The Jockey Club is setting a precedent for UNSW students attending the Festival and living in the area, declaring drugs, foulmouthed obscenities and dangerously reckless behaviour acceptable. There would undoubtedly be some of them exposed to this grand scale muck and mire for the first time; it is the stuff of the gutter Mr. Gillespie and nothing for the AJC to be proud of. God knows what the consequences, flowing from this one event alone will be.

I have spent years trying to make the area around my Mothers home the safe place it once was. Putting enormous effort into addressing problems associated with the University of New South Wales, The Roundhouse, the Doncaster hotel, the AJC and local stables and more recently Centennial Park Events whose patrons replicate the behaviour of AJC Festival attendees then in charges the Jockey Club consigning our household to another year of misery and delivering more mountains to move.

For the last seven years, I have fought a neighbouring property owner tooth and nail over successive groups of UNSW student tenants better suited to a reformatory or jail than living next door to respectable people. The very first time he installs a more decent group of tenants the Jockey Club sets them off, behaving in a way they had not from the time they moved in till the day of the Music Festival, giving them permission, by example, to do as they pleased.

I expected a much higher standard from new management.

On Saturday 8th March 2008:

- The behaviour of the majority of the very young people flooding into the area to attend the Music Festival was abnormal
- An excessively high proportion of attendees were affected by drugs
- Dozens of lunatics roared dangerously, at speed, around the streets in cars with music blaring sounding car horns and screaming their heads off
- The conduct of the drivers and their passengers was abnormally erratic and clearly drug and/or alcohol induced

The corner of Anzac Parade and Doncaster Avenue is a dangerous accident spot. I have witnessed many accidents in which people were seriously injured or killed and been present when some have died. Someone else will be injured or die too if this continues – I guarantee it.

- Youths shouted obscenities as they moved to and from the racecourse on foot
- Screaming ambulances and police cars raced about throughout the day and evening
- The noise and disruption of young people pouring into the area could be heard in every room in our house
- We were prevented from enjoying the peace and privacy of our home in any way whatsoever
- A dozen or more under age drug affected boys and girls called into a neighboring house on their way to the Festival creating a highly offensive disturbance
- Youths attended the Doncaster Hotel before, during and after the Festival causing extreme disturbance to our household
- Young men and women congregated in the street outside the Doncaster Hotel throughout the day and in the evening creating exceptional noise disturbance
- UNSW student tenants aped the noise and disruption
- The noise of young males and females and loud music made it impossible to work at my computer as planned
- A bus advertising www.qdance.com.au hurtled along Doncaster Avenue at high speed repeatedly throughout the day and into the night playing horrendously loud music

- Young girls hung off the upper open deck of the bus after the Festival ended endangering themselves while they screamed and called out
- Loud music from the racecourse prevented my Mother from resting or sleeping **in her home at a time of severe illness**
- My Mother and I lost a day of our lives to accommodate a commercial event staged by the AJC
- I did nothing but wander about the house unsuccessfully trying to escape the noise
- My Mother was mostly confined to her bed a victim of the cacophony the AJC unleashed
- The Festival ruined not only our Saturday but the entire weekend and is still interfering in our lives
- Neighbours were "set off" by the appalling example of Festival patrons resulting in extreme disturbance to our household
- I am advised the Police were stretched beyond their limit and local police stations overburdened by early afternoon
- People could still be heard screaming and calling out after midnight
- Parties held in rental properties in tandem with the Festival caused disturbance
- Police were so occupied with Festival attendees they were not available for other incidents
- I called the police several times and the "Resident's Hotline" on a number of occasions
- The response of Chris Wilson, the person who took some of my calls via the "Hotline" and later a man named Darwin was ineffectual and caused greater problems
- My Mother was forced to listen to distressingly loud screaming, shouting and obscenely swearing louts as they passed by our home
- There was nothing done by your security in our area until I called the Residents Hotline and demanded a response
- The ham fisted reaction of your staff told me they had no idea what they were doing nor did they grasp the consequences of what was occurring
- I witnessed a young man urinating inside the front fence of a next-door house in full view of passing cars and pedestrians in broad daylight
- The group of very young boys accompanying him screamed foul-mouthed abuse at a security guard when he tried to move them on
- The guard was powerless to control them and clearly intimidated by their fearless manner and their numbers
- They were abnormally vicious, threatening and intimidating – they were little more than babies – I was very frightened of them
- I believed they were about to attack the guard and called the police
- A security guard indulged in a disgraceful obscenity laced screaming match with these boys **outside our home**
- Joked with neighbouring tenants who were consuming alcohol at the street frontage of a property next door to ours thus encouraging them
- spent several hours pacing up and down almost exclusively outside our house

We saw and heard all of the above from inside our home unlike last year when we witnessed and experienced the behaviour both at home and in the streets where we live. Additionally when driving about the area and the perimeter of the Racecourse on the day of the 2007 Music Festival my Mother and I were exposed to danger due to the behaviour of out of control louts. Even if my Mother had not been ill this year, we would not have left the safety of our home. I am advising you that, in continuing to stage the Future Music Festival, the Australian Jockey Club is placing us at risk and depriving us of the freedom to leave our home with any sense of security.

I told Chris Wilson to send security to the area near our home **not to single our household out**, there were consequences for us because of that stupidity. It was a shambolic, ill planned and unprofessional response indicating the right hand does not know the left hand exists let alone what it is doing. No responsible organisation would ever identify a complainant beyond responding, ensuring there was no imminent threat then maintaining a watchful presence **in the vicinity**.

I do not blame the security guard so much as the person responsible for briefing him and ultimately

Racecourse management. He reacted to a situation and did the best he could with inadequate back up and no clear instruction exposing residents and your own security staff to risk. Not to mention the disgraceful behaviour the police had foisted upon them. The men and women of our police force are not chattels for the AJC's convenience, where is your respect for them?

- The noise level of the music did not decrease discernibly as I insisted it must when I spoke to Chris Wilson and became louder over time
- The heavy base beat made going into our backyard, kitchen, lounge room, 3rd bedroom and bathroom impossible
- We were surrounded and attacked from all sides by noise associated with the Festival
- The music became progressively louder towards the end of the evening when I again called the Hotline
- at 7.05pm on Sunday 9th March there were still people moving around the area who attended the Festival on Saturday 8th
- I believe a man who removed his board shorts and paraded about naked from the waist down in Doncaster Avenue was a leftover Festival attendee

We were never used to any of these behaviours in our house Mr. Gillespie. It is foreign to us; we are decent, respectable women of good character, my Mother and I. That there was an improvement on last year's event is, in my opinion, all credit to the police and very little, if any, to the Jockey Club given that they persist in staging this Festival. In actively seeking to attract youths who are or will be affected by drugs to the area, dumping the consequences on to the residents and leaving the police to clean up the mess you are treating this community with contempt. Holding an event catering to the most irresponsible, uncontrolled and addicted generation we have seen, in close proximity to other licensed premises, The University of New South Wales and residences occupied by student tenants, many living away from home for the first time, is the height of irresponsibility. You cannot make it work and must stop pretending that you can.

For your information:

- In 2002, I agreed to represent 69 residents in a complaint to The Liquor Administration Board regarding the anti social behaviour of patrons attending the Doncaster Hotel and Randwick Racecourse following a riot at the Hotel and in Doncaster Avenue involving hundreds of heavily inebriated Easter Carnival Race Day patrons
- After notifying Licensing Police of my intentions I agreed to participate in a mediation with the Doncaster Hotel and police
- We contacted the Chief Executive of the AJC advising him that the area had become a hell hole on race days - and had been for years
- The AJC narrowly avoided a formal complaint to The Liquor Administration Board on that and many occasions since
- Residents told me of disgusting incidents in addition to our own experiences
- We have personally witnessed thousands of incidents of anti social behaviour involving racecourse patrons over many years

I advised Licensing Police and later AJC representatives Terry Hooton and Lynell Peck, at a meeting in our home, of much that had occurred over the years and up to that point including the following:

- my Mother and I live at xxxxxxxxxxxxxx, our family home since 1935
- AJC patrons arrived from early morning on race days then roamed the area, often till late into the following day
- the AJC consistently over served alcohol to patrons and many race goers were drunk to the point of collapse, some did collapse
- residents were afraid to leave their homes on major event race days due to the anti social behaviour of racecourse patrons
- others refused to leave their homes at all and coordinated their shopping and outings around

race days

- they locked and some literally barricaded their doors (and several their windows) refusing to open them to anyone
- AJC patrons constantly trespassed on private property e.g. crawling through an open window and confronting a resident in a bedroom
- homes and cars were broken into and/or damaged
- We lost a brand new car, parked in Doncaster Avenue, when a heavily inebriated racecourse patron side swiped it after leaving the Racecourse
- men (and sometimes women) urinated and vomited in the street and inside residential property's and on occasions defecated on residents lawns
- engaged in sexual activity sometimes copulating in the stairwells of unit blocks or in the grounds of houses
- water taps were sometimes smeared with blood and residents found drops of blood on their lawns or paths and others saw men bleeding after fights as did we
- racecourse patrons flocked to the Doncaster Hotel engaging in very serious anti social behaviour
- patrons staggered down Doncaster Avenue bouncing off fences while trying to support one another, many left the course carrying and consuming alcohol
- fights broke out in the streets and people beat, punched, kicked and threatened one another
- men used disgusting language making vile comments to women and girls, women swore like troopers
- at times men threatened to kill their wives, girlfriends and other males
- men exposed themselves
- they played chicken with cars on the roads and were sometimes hit and injured while others bounced off vehicles so drunk were they
- stable employees were regularly affected by alcohol
- they engaged in disgusting acts of anti social behaviour within the various stables, in the streets, the car park of the now redeveloped shopping center next door to the Doncaster Hotel and at the hotel
- stable hands held raucous drunken and drug fuelled party's in houses and stables
- amongst other things they threw golf balls at our windows
- drugs were freely used by stable employees
- we felt unsafe leaving our home on race days
- the noise of raucous race goers was audible throughout our home preventing sleep or relaxation
- stable hands threw plastic bags of human excrement at one another every morning in an area on the racecourse along Doncaster Avenue
- they then threw the bags over the racecourse fence into backyards
- people were too afraid to complain – that was common amongst residents
- some residents wanted to pursue a class action
- men and women would drink at the races all day, at the Doncaster Hotel all evening then endanger themselves and residents while rampaging about the streets
- many of them moved on to other licensed premises including hotels at Coogee
- for years I placed a telephone near the front window every race day to call the police when, not if, trouble started
- we were repeatedly confronted by aggressive drunks when entering and leaving our home on race days
- UNSW student tenants residing locally would crawl out of race meetings and party in neighbouring residences for days afterwards
- we regularly experienced serious anti social behaviour when race day patrons attended the Doncaster Hotel
- we personally experienced many, many incidents that threatened our safety
- In one instance when approaching our house we saw eight men lined up in the street urinating on our front fence and gate – that was a relatively minor incident
- I advised the former CEO more than once, that my Mother and I could have been seriously

injured or killed by drunken, rampaging racecourse patrons

I have referred to matters affecting us directly in general terms only, the documentation relating to the incidents we witnessed personally involving racecourse patrons runs to many hundreds of pages. Had it continued there is no question we would have witnessed a death. As it was, we saw hundreds of incidents of drunken violence such as a large group of race goers, men and women, brawling on the roadway in Anzac Parade in amongst speeding traffic, the women were rolling around and kicking one another then lying on the road too drunk to get up. One man punched some of the women. Prior to this, they had walked along the street after leaving the racecourse in raucous harmony then something set them off as they crossed the road to hail cabs

And

Twenty or more drunken UNSW students leaving the racecourse then running riot along Doncaster Avenue then on to the University causing panic and fear amongst residents and pedestrians, some urinating into letterboxes on their way

And

A young woman dressed in full race day regalia including a feathered picture hat standing on the road in front of cars beating her chest and screaming for them to run her down after which her male companion punched her

And

A man picking his girlfriend up by the hair and repeatedly throwing and dragging her around the footpath outside our home then turning her upside down and attempting to "spear" her head first into the ground whilst screaming "I told you I didn't want to go to the expletive deleted races"

to mention a few only.

AJC staff, management and committee members, some of whom lived locally, of course went about with their eyes closed and wearing earplugs so naturally they knew nothing about it until I brought it to their attention. Tony King and especially Terry Hooton reacted immediately and, for a time, effectively, implementing, virtually overnight, an ongoing campaign, as per Terry Hooton, addressing responsible service of alcohol regulations and anti social behaviour. We emailed Tony King on a Wednesday, Terry telephoned me the next day, spoke to me for over an hour arranging to meet the following day and by the time he and Lynell Peck arrived at our house on the Friday he had a program set up to commence the next day, a Saturday race day.

Comment: Please note the swift and effective action taken on this occasion in comparison to the many years of the debacle of the Future Music Festival.

The anti social behaviour, which was extreme during Carnivals, occurred on a smaller scale on other race days. From the moment the dress code was relaxed, the youth market targeted then the AJC started pouring alcohol down young, vulnerable throats, securing the next generation of drunken gamblers, the Jockey Club abandoned the vaguest pretense of being a responsible organisation. Rejecting social responsibility and going down market that is, feeding off our youth, did not change the meaning of a day at the races for the better.

I understand implementation of the program set up by Terry Hooton took place in consultation with Licensing Police. They called in the union to advise stable employees of their responsibilities and took up serious problems connected with various stable complexes. Installed significant signage relating to the responsible consumption of alcohol, increased security and police numbers and stationed portable toilets near racecourse exits, cleaned the streets of bottles and glasses, patrolled the streets during and after meetings. They also made special arrangements for large numbers of taxis and buses to ferry patrons off the course quickly and enacted blanket coverage around the racecourse perimeter of police directing traffic and pedestrians.

Of course, there was more, which was not conveyed to us. Even though things ultimately

deteriorated due, in part, to the New South Wales State Government approving the sale of land used by the AJC for bus access to the course to a developer and other internal matters that should in no way affect anyone not connected to the Jockey Club I give credit to Tony King and especially Terry Hooton. I do not know the extent of Lynell's involvement but found her very agreeable. Terry oversaw arrangements and contacted us prior to major Carnivals with an update. There was no excuse for what had occurred for so many years but they had the common sense to recognise the magnitude of the problem and the consequences for the Jockey Club. They addressed the issues and I commend them for that.

We received a solid guarantee that "everything humanely possible would be done" to eliminate impacts on residents paying particular attention to the highly obvious problems related to the logistics of our section of Doncaster Avenue involving the University of New South Wales and the Doncaster Hotel. At no time was that commitment qualified to exclude the affect of any event, namely a Music Festival, nor did anyone say alcohol affected patrons only came under the terms of the compact but drug affected patrons did not. Staff and or management changes have no bearing, it was a blanket commitment given by AJC management. I expect it to be honoured in full and it will be.

Other matters, adversely affecting the area were addressed by various means resulting in not wholly satisfactory but never the less much higher standards. The most enduring improvements occurred from the time Sgt Gray took over Maroubra Licensing. The police deserve great credit for transforming what was essentially a Randwick Race Day rubbish dump into a far better place they cannot however perform miracles. It is the Jockey Club's responsibility to act like grown men and women, evaluate the consequences for residents, the local area, the community and their own standing and not stage any socially irresponsible event that

- threatens anyone living about the racecourse in any way
- brings Randwick City into disrepute
- overburdens police
- wastes public funds
- demeans the youth of our society
- diminishes the Jockey Club
- encourage excessive alcohol consumption and drug taking

It took good policing and a long overdue societal intolerance to create a radical shift in the management of race days. I know I was the initiator regarding the AJC. That the police find it necessary to use drug dogs not just at events like the Music Festival but also at Randwick Races says more than I could ever say about the need for an exceptional level of responsible management and scrupulous attention to raising the standards from the depths to which they have fallen. You have missed the best days of Randwick Racecourse Mr. Gillespie, we have seen and experienced them and it was never like this.

This is the situation my Mother is ill, I have my own health issues, the behaviour and disturbance is VERY serious, you are dealing with the well being of young people and the incalculable repercussions of hosting events catering to drug and/ or alcohol affected youths. I am not in a position nor prepared to wait any longer, after wasting years of my life in pursuit of a positive outcome, while the AJC fiddles about. It will stop or I will take whatever steps necessary to have the matter resolved. We expect to live in peaceful safety in our home and to come and go freely without fear or trepidation protected from the baser elements of life. We will not accept the introduction of degrading behaviour into our life on any day or evening of any year. That is our final word on the matter.

Caroline Owen - FUTURE MUSIC FESTIVAL - ssd 4995-2011

From:
To:
Date:
Subject:
CC:
Attachments:

Attention Caroline Owen
Re: SSD 4995-2011
PLEASE WITHHOLD ALL CONTACT DETAILS

FYI edited correspondence x 2

3rd February 2009
Ray Brownlee
General Manager Randwick City Council

RE: NOTICE OF AMENDMENT TO DEVELOPMENT CONSENT
77-97 Alison Road Randwick NSW 2031
Future Events Pty Ltd

Dear Mr Brownlee,

I wish to register my objection to the above application seeking to increase the number of festival patrons to 35,000 and the deletion of the requirement for a damage security deposit as per above.

Please note I telephoned Frank Ko shortly after receiving notification from Council of the application however due to his being away I was referred to Roger Quinton who was unable to provide detail regarding the "damage security deposit". We arranged that he would contact me via email after checking out the precise nature of the security deposit but as of writing I have not heard from Mr Quinton and therefore am unable to comment on that aspect of the application.

In strongly objecting to any increase in patrons I would like to draw your attention to the attached correspondence to the Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Jockey Club written immediately following the Future Music Festival of 2008. Due to ill health I have not been able to proceed with the matter however my position remains unchanged. On rereading the letter I must make the point that it goes nowhere near making plain how grossly unreasonable the behaviour on the day was nor how much of a blight the Future Music Festival is on Randwick City and its residents. There is no redeeming feature whatsoever associated with this event.

The organisers contribute very little financially when the cost of extensive pre-planning by police, police call outs on the day, arrests, paper work and court appearances, which all come out of the public purse, are taken into account. Not to mention the cost of drug dogs and handlers which to my knowledge are not yet covered by the organisers but are again ripped out of the police budget. The user pays arrangement with the police officers working at the event is insignificant when all associated costs are tallied into the overall expenditure of staging the event with a view to public safety.

In effect the organisers and the AJC are profiting whilst removing a good portion of the funds required for police to operate in other ways in Randwick City and depriving residents of access to police on the day the Festival is held as per attached correspondence. This is not the fault of the police but certainly of those staging this abomination of a commercial enterprise masquerading as a Music Festival.

I am still so outraged by what occurred on the day of the 2008 Festival, as well as the previous, that I am more than prepared to head up a campaign to have any residents adversely affected by noise disturbance from the Festival and attendees compensated for double glazing of all windows and/or doors. It took several days for my Mother and I to recover from the barrage we experienced last year and we are not weak willed by any means.

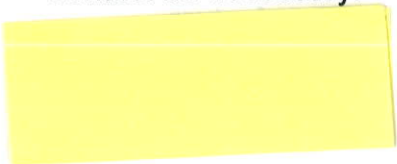
We have seen everything over the years that any licensed premises including the Doncaster Hotel, The Roundhouse, the University of New South Wales and the Australian Jockey Club could throw at us. Men threatening to blow each others brains out with a shot gun in the boot of a car, fights with baseball bats, men beating the tripe out of each other and near killing someone (too many times to remember), people running about naked and drunk, rioting patrons, hundreds at a time, any and all gross, depraved and disgusting behaviour, carried out on a regular basis until I took it up and over many years had it contained to the point where it has now to a large extent gone "underground" that is carried out within residences and therefore not as easily detected by those not living locally.

I have lodged complaints with the Liquor Administration Board, referred the riot at an under age dance party at The Roundhouse to the LAB and police, been in constant regular contact with the police for close to twenty years and become used to seeing and hearing things I had never seen or heard in my home represented by thousands of pages of correspondence, notes and files on incidents associated with the various premises mentioned above but I was still shocked at the behaviour of patrons attending the Festival and the utter contempt of the AJC for residents safety.

By way of comparison the disruption of World Youth Day and the Day of the Papal Mass was inconsequential and largely forgotten in contrast to the seared in the brain events, noise and behaviour of the Music Festivals held at Randwick Racecourse. The organisers in their haste to stage this event have exposed themselves to legal action by placing residents at risk.

There is little more I can add to frame my objection other than to ask that the contents of my correspondence be viewed as reason for my objection to increased numbers of patrons for the 2009 Music Festival.

I am contactable on this email address should further information be required or telephone contact be necessary.



Norman Gillespie
Chief Executive Officer Australian Jockey Club
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- The guard was powerless to control them and clearly intimidated by their fearless manner and their numbers
- They were abnormally vicious, threatening and intimidating – they were little more than babies – I was very frightened of them
- I believed they were about to attack the guard and called the police
- A security guard indulged in a disgraceful obscenity laced screaming match with these boys **outside our home**
- Joked with neighbouring tenants who were consuming alcohol at the street frontage of a property next door to ours thus encouraging them
- spent several hours pacing up and down almost exclusively outside our house