

[REDACTED]  
WALLACIA 2745

27<sup>th</sup> March 2019

IPC NSW

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**OBJECTION TO PROPOSED WALLACIA CEMETERY**

I wish to lodge an objection to the above. I consider that the golf course is a most inappropriate location for a cemetery, being right in the centre of Wallacia. The golf course is surrounded by residential homes, the local shops and Wallacia Hotel. Wallacia is a small rural village and to place a cemetery right in the centre of the village will change the atmosphere forever. It will cease to be a small rural village and will become known only for its cemetery. I think most people would agree that a cemetery should be separated and built away from existing residences.

The golf course is bounded by Mulgoa Road and Park Road, both of which are single lane roads in either direction. Should a cemetery go in, the amount of regular traffic attending funerals and funeral processions on these roads, as well as Silverdale Road, will cause long delays on all these roads. There is little or no opportunity to overtake on any of these roads and it is against the road rules to interrupt a funeral procession. Also, I am concerned that with the nearby Western Sydney Airport at Badgery's Creek, just a few kilometres up the road from Wallacia, opening in 2026, there will be a huge increase in the volume of traffic in the local area from both a cemetery and an airport.

I know that the golf course is flood-prone and regularly floods after heavy rain. I have seen lakes forming in various areas of the course every time heavy rain occurs and it takes a couple of days to drain away. This makes it unsuitable for use as gravesites.

The golf course has a long history, being opened in 1932. I believe it has the distinction of being the first course in Australia to open membership to Women Associates. This is important as far as the heritage of Wallacia is concerned. Also, I believe the land was originally bequeathed to the community by the late John Fowler, on the proviso that it always be used as a recreational facility.

I am concerned about the air quality in Wallacia following the opening of the nearby Badgerys Creek airport, with planes flying overhead, together with the increased volume of traffic in the area that a cemetery and an airport will bring.

I believe that the homes immediately surrounding the cemetery, including the 70 units in the retirement complex immediately across the road from the golf club, will most definitely be devalued in price. This is a major concern for local homeowners and unfair to all local residents. I also believe that a cemetery in the centre of Wallacia would affect the desirability of living here and make selling homes more difficult.

The proposal to close the golf course for a cemetery is ridiculous and disgraceful. Apart from a small bowling club, there are no other recreational facilities in this area to service the villages of Wallacia, Mulgoa, Luddenham, Silverdale and Warragamba other than the golf course. The golf club also provides a social outlet for local people from the same villages. Having lived in Wallacia for several years, I have found it to be a small friendly club where I have been able to get to know local people and because of this have been able to pick up some local work. The golf club is the hub of social interaction in Wallacia and its loss would have a huge impact on the lives of all local residents.

I am strongly opposed to the establishment of a cemetery in Wallacia and implore the IPC to say 'NO' to a cemetery.

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