

# COCKBURN

CITY OF COCKBURN OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER • ISSN 1035-0956 • No.29 • NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1999

# SOUNDINGS

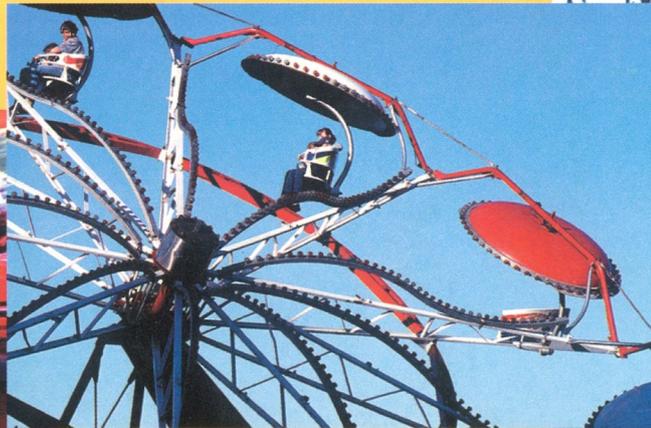
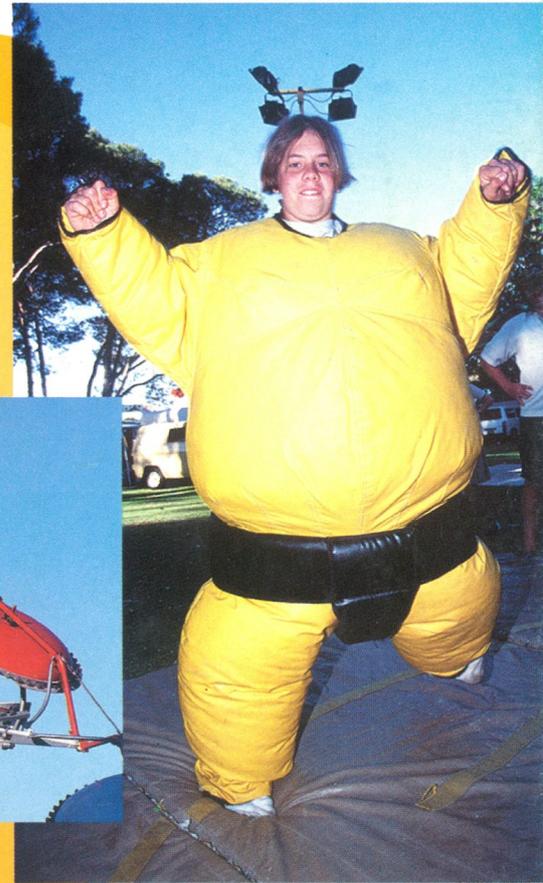
## Cockburn Springs into Summer

There's nothing like a good old-fashioned fair to celebrate the last day of Spring and this year was no exception when the Cockburn Rotary Spring Fair lured the people in their thousands to one of the Fun Coast's premiere annual events.

Proudly sponsored by the City of Cockburn, this year's all-day Spring Fair at Manning Park in Spearwood on October 31st drew a record crowd of 10,000 - around 2000 more than the previous year according to Manager Social Services, John Gregg.

"We were absolutely thrilled with the turn-out - the Rotary Club did an amazing job," John said. "The sense of community spirit that this event brings never ceases to amaze me and the people of Cockburn should be very proud indeed."

*Continued page 3*



## Phoenix Shopping Centre has all your favourites and a few surprises too.

**Over 50 specialty shops including Big W, Coles and Woolworths.**

At Phoenix Shopping Centre, you'll find a huge variety of fresh food, fashions, homewares, gifts and more. But we're more than a great place to shop - we're an important part of the community. Each year we open our doors to local charity and community groups. We are also proud to support local sporting groups, schools and senior citizens. If you enjoy variety and shopping somewhere with a real community feel - come to Phoenix Shopping Centre.





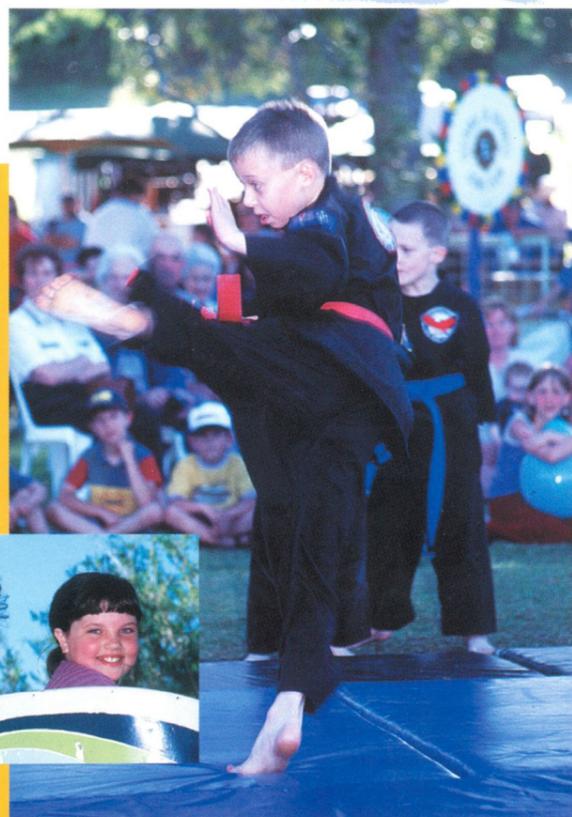
# Merry Christmas

Julian Donaldson  
Jenny Smithson  
Murray Jorgensen

It's been a rather busy, constructive and highly productive time for the City over the past few months, with many key decisions being made on several important "housekeeping" duties.

As you are probably aware by now, the verdict is out for the people of Cockburn to have last say in who gets elected Mayor in the future. We (the Commissioners) made this decision after the City's community survey of 1000 residents, independently conducted by Australian Market Intelligence (AMI), found that 70% of you favoured election of the Mayor by the people.

In addition, elections, polls and referenda will be conducted by the Electoral Commission rather than the City. A postal voting system will be implemented after AMI concluded that although the community had no clear preference about in-person and postal voting. We believe postal ballot will draw a significantly higher voting participation.



The 1999 Cockburn Rotary Spring Fair was the best yet.



## Atwell takes a job

Thanks to a recent health review by Senior Environmental Health Officer, Daryl McLauchlan, parents in Atwell no longer have to travel outside their immediate district to make use of free Council immunisation clinics.

A new immunisation clinic has been opened at the Atwell Child Health Centre, at the Atwell Community Centre on the corner of Lydon Boulevard and Lombe Gardens. Clinics are now run each fortnight on Mondays from 12 noon to 12.30pm.

"We decided to relocate the current immunisation clinic at Memorial Hall to Atwell, to make sure residents throughout the municipality were being equally catered for," explains Daryl. "We recognise the positive impact this important community service provides to all our residents, and the southern corridor was missing out on an immunisation clinic close to them while the western corridor had two."

Daryl reveals that in addition to being one of the City of Cockburn's youngest suburbs, Atwell also has one of the highest birth rates in Western Australia.

"More and more young families are opting for the peaceful lifestyle of this flourishing community, so it's not surprising that children's health is a top priority in the area," he says. "We are aware that there has been an absence of nearby medical amenities, exacerbated by the significant barrier caused by the Kwinana Freeway, and this clinic is a clear step to help rectify that."

From page 1

Stage performances which ran from morning till night showcased local talent from schools, community and multicultural groups, musical bands, dancers, street theatre, and seniors – with the newly-formed Silver Gum Seniors Theatre making its debut before their premiere stage performance last month. Renowned Celtic band FLING also performed before a spectacular fireworks display capped off the day's events.

More than 75 stalls were set up with arts and crafts, community service displays and information, refreshments and lively activities such as the Horizontal Bungee, Sumo Suit Wrestling and Tug of War. All profits are generated back into the Cockburn community through supporting initiatives such as aged care, respite, youth services and activities.

Next year's Spring Fair will be held on October 29th, 2000.

## Bibra Lake full up

They came from everywhere. Runners, walkers, families, young people, old people, even babies in prams. More than 300 people, in fact, who crammed the perimeter of Bibra Lake for the inaugural Fun Run/Walk/Blade in September.

"The atmosphere was buzzing with a real community and family spirit," enthused Andrew Ward, Recreation Services Co-ordinator, after the event.

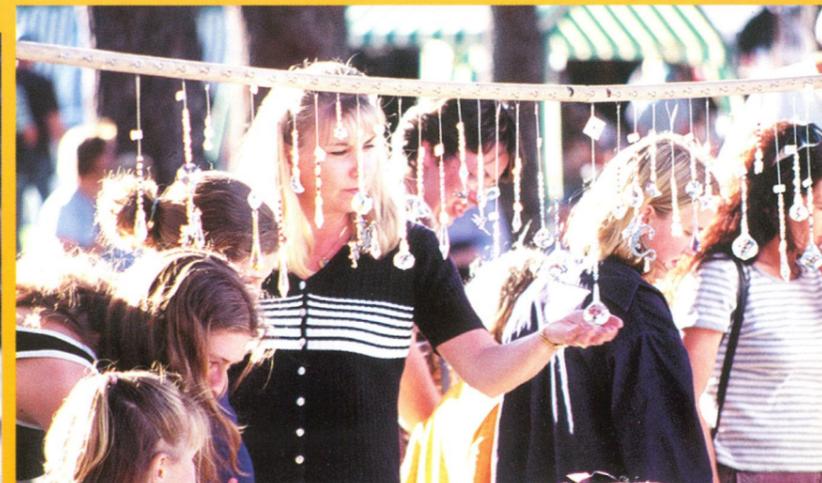
Local runner Chris Maher was first to cross the line in under 21 minutes (20.33.49 to be exact), with first junior Nikita Gabrielson not all that far behind. Volunteers from the Jandakot Lions Club helped keep things moving along for the first-time event, co-ordinated by the Cockburn Recreation Committee and sponsored by Healthway, Traveland Spearwood, South Lake Leisure Centre, Phoenix Shopping Centre, Bicton Travel, Gateways Shopping Centre, Bungee West, Bunnings and Cable Water Ski.

"I think we can safely say we'll be putting this event on again in the year 2000," Andrew says. "It's clear families love to get involved in things like this together, especially with roller blading being so popular these days."



Turn to page 6 for a nomination form and drop in to the Council Office.

Help us pay tribute to the fantastic achievements of our local people whose efforts may otherwise go unnoticed.



# Around the Traps

An Update on What's Happening in the Community



**It seems there may be a misconception by some members of the community about volunteer services getting paid.**

The fact is that volunteers are just that – volunteers. They give up their time freely and generously to support what they consider a worthwhile cause, many of which provide invaluable services to the entire community. Volunteer agencies in Cockburn include the Bush Fire Brigades, State Emergency Services, and Sea Search & Rescue. So next time you come into contact with a volunteer, do the right thing and thank them for a job well done.



**Bibra Lake Primary School students paid tribute on Remembrance Day with a special Peace Pole unveiling ceremony in the school assembly.**

Peace Poles are used as an international symbol of peace, bearing the message "May Peace Prevail on Earth" to promote hope and peace. Principal Doug Booth says the Peace Pole Project originated in Japan in 1955 as an initiative of the World Peace Society, a non-profit/non-denominational organisation recognised by the United Nations. He believes the school may be first in WA to have a Peace Pole.



**Centrelink wants to remind its customers in the City of Cockburn that it provides a telephone service for non-English speaking customers in several different languages including Italian, Chinese, Croatia, Spanish, Portuguese, Polish and Serbian.** Simply contact 131202 and tell the operator which language you need to speak in. The service can help you with information about social security payments and services, and/or give advice about looking for work.



**Thanks to the Friends of Manning Lake Bushland, a local environment group set up in early 1997, popular spot Manning Park is treated to an annual Australia Day Clean Up campaign to clear illegally dumped rubbish and general litter from the bushland and lake area.**

And just recently, the pro-active group hosted a Survey and Bushland Management Workshop in August on behalf of the Wildflower Society of WA, as part of their 1999 Bushland Plants Survey Project – becoming one of seven successful survey submissions out of 44 this year. The group is now forming a Year 2000 Plan of Action to inspire wider community involvement in the guardianship and restoration of the bushland and lake's fringing vegetation. For further information please contact Deirdre (9418 6651) or Teresa (9418 7321).



**Watch out Rupert Murdoch there could be stiff competition coming from our very own local newshounds in the form of students at the Atwell Primary School.**

In just over three weeks, a group of Year 6 pupils turned around an 8-page newspaper which broke front page news screaming "Baby Boom Prompts Action" on the launch of Atwell's new immunisation clinic to keep up with the suburbs rapid population growth. Out of more than 100 schools that entered the West Australians' "Newspaper and Education Competition", the intrepid editorial team from Atwell Primary School was awarded in the top 10.



**A local couple living in Banjup were horrified recently when they woke to find their three sheep had been mauled by a wild dog.**

To make matters worse, several other neighbouring farms had also lost sheep as a result of dog attacks – presumably by the same dog. The couple has made a plea to dog owners to be vigilant about their pet's whereabouts and make sure their yards are adequately fenced. Ranger Services also reminds dog owners that unprovoked dog attacks carry a fine of up to \$10,000 to the owner, whether they were with the dog or not at the time. A copy of The Dog Act 1976 can be obtained at Council Offices.



**The Pinakarri Community Open Day in October was a tremendous success, according to group spokesperson Robyn Williams.**

Around 80 people turned up to get a feel for the concept of "community housing" and enjoy a free sausage sizzle, circus skills and face painting. Visitors were warmly welcomed into the homes of residents at the cohousing co-op in Bottrill Street, Hamilton Hill. The community living project is an initiative of the Federation of Housing Collectives WA. The Pinakarri Community is extremely pro-active in its efforts to promote a safe and friendly living environment, including supporting initiatives such as Neighbourhood Watch to tackle issues relating to crime which threaten the peace and security of all members of the community. For further information, contact Robyn Williams on 9331 8642.



**Congratulations are due to the wonderful cast of The Silver Gum Creative Theatre Workshop (for Seniors) which made it's official stage debut of "Living Free!!!", written and produced by the cast, early last month at the Memorial Hall in Hamilton Hill.**

A joint enterprise between the Jean Willis Centre and the City of Cockburn, the musical extravaganza performance was the result of a three-month "journey" of self-discovery, imagination and conquering fear for the 22 cast members who ranged in age from 48 to 74. Workshop facilitator Martin Bergeron and Project Co-ordinator Pia Madrigali said the "pilot" workshop was a tremendous success and are now hoping that further funding in 2000 will allow the continuation of this worthwhile project for the Senior community.



**Registered walk leader Jenny Green is keen to hear from anyone over 50 interested in joining her Coolbellup Walking Group.** Jenny's group is listed with the Heart Foundation and Healthways, and has members ranging from 30 through to 81. There's absolutely no cost, so why not give her a call now on 9331 1325.



# Environmental Update

## Cockburn helps combat Greenhouse Effect

**E**ight WA Councils, including the City of Cockburn, have joined forces to spearhead a massive reduction in greenhouse gas emissions within local communities.

Together, the Councils represent almost 20% of all WA emissions, prompting top praise from the Federal Government which presented awards to each Council last month for their pioneering efforts. Commissioner Julian Donaldson accepted the award on behalf of the City of Cockburn.

Environmental Officer, Paddy Strano, said it took nine months for Cockburn's greenhouse gas emission inventory to be completed with the help of the Cities for Climatic Protection.

"We now have a much clearer understanding about greenhouse gas emissions produced by council activities and the local community," Paddy explains. "This inventory makes it possible for us to forecast at what level greenhouse gases will increase if we continue operating as we are without making changes to the way we use energy and generate waste".

In 1995/1996, the City of Cockburn community produced 127,802 tonnes of carbon from residential energy use. The Council alone produced around 8000 tonnes of carbon in the same period.

"If our community continues to use energy in the same manner and grow at an expected rate, we will be producing 227,590 tonnes of carbon by the year 2010," Paddy reveals.

The seven other Councils involved in the to have completed their own Greenhouse gas emission inventory. Other councils involved are Canning, Fremantle, Kwinana, Melville, Nedlands, Perth and Subiaco. The inventories will be used to design a 'Local Action Plan' for greenhouse gas reduction.

Several other WA councils have also committed to doing their own inventory including Armadale, Gosnells,

Joondalup, Mandurah, Serpentine - Jarrahdale, Swan and Vincent. Two hundred local governments, covering more than half of Australia's population, are expected to join the program by the year 2003.

Maria Simonelli, Program Manager for the International Council of Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) program, administered by the Cities for Climate Protection (CCP), claims local governments can make a huge impact on reducing greenhouse gases from their own operations.

"By making changes to operations such as landfills or streetlights, the Councils can make big financial savings on their energy bills at the same time," Ms Simonelli said. "These savings can be reinvested to find even more ways to cut energy use and many new jobs in new industries are being created along the way."

She added that Councils could share the benefits with their local community by helping to reduce the CO<sup>2</sup> produced by households, local businesses and transport systems.

"We already have over 300 local councils around the world involved in this campaign - from Berlin to Budapest, Bangkok to Oslo. But of all the countries that have taken part, Australia has seen the fastest rate of growth," she said.

Senator Ian Campbell, representing the Federal Minister for Environment commended the leadership of the Western Australian councils and highlighted the need for all sectors of the community to play their part in addressing greenhouse if Australia was to meet its Kyoto greenhouse target.

The Federal Government, through the Australian Greenhouse Office, and the International Council for Local Environment Initiatives (ICLEI) have joined forces to establish the Cities for Climate Protection campaign in Australia. The campaign is being funded by a commitment of the Federal Government of \$13 million over five years.

**For more information,  
contact Paddy Strano at the  
City of Cockburn on 9411 3448**

# Snakes, Friend or Foe?

With Winter well behind us and Spring just gone, the arrival of Summer brings with it a change of both season and the environment.

Snakes that have lain dormant for most of the year will now become active, searching for food and wanting to breed. Snakes are cold blooded animals, which means they can't maintain body heat through metabolic processes, so they sleep through the colder months to conserve their energy reserves.

To survive, snakes find their heat from outside energy sources to warm their bodies to a level that allows them to move freely and have the necessary reflexes to stay alive. These sources come directly from the sun or via heat stored in inanimate objects such as rocks. By basking in the sun or lying on rocks or road surfaces, they can heat their bodies to the required temperatures.

Now, as the days become warmer and there is adequate sunlight, snakes are beginning to get active again as they seek out prey such as frogs, lizards, insects, rats, mice and other snakes. Of the 100 species of snakes in found in Western Australia, only 8 are considered to be potentially dangerous to humans. They do not intentionally set out to bite people;

it is only when a snake feels threatened that it will bite.

A snake will feel threatened if surprised, stepped on or prevented from escape. Remember that a snake will probably be just as frightened of you as you are of it.

The vast natural landscapes throughout the City of Cockburn make this area particularly susceptible to snake activity, so we need to be extra aware of the ways to reduce potentially dangerous encounters.

For the most part, a little bit of common sense is all that's required. For example, avoid entering areas where you believe snakes to be, such as in wetlands, bushland, long grass and areas that have accumulated rubbish. If you must venture into these areas, wear protective clothing such as boots, long pants, long sleeved shirts. If you're working with your hands in these areas, wear thick gloves. If you do encounter a snake, try to keep your distance and move away from the snake slowly. Do not come between the snake and its most likely path of escape, which will usually be towards the nearest cover. Do not try to catch or kill the snake. Most bites occur when people try to catch or kill snakes. Leave it alone

By Environmental Officer,  
Paddy Strano.

and allow it to leave the area. Remember prevention is better than cure.

Snakes are often found in backyards - especially in rural areas such as ours. They have also been known to enter houses in search of prey, such as rodents. If you come across a snake in your backyard or in your home, allow it to move away of its own accord, making sure there is an escape route for it and keeping your eyes on it so you know it has left the area. Do not try to remove it yourself.

If the snake can't leave and is looking for cover in a place you believe poses a threat, call an expert to remove the snake. City of Cockburn rangers are fully-trained to remove snakes, and there are also people who specialise in snake removal and relocation (some are volunteers and others charge a small fee for the service).

If you encounter a snake on your property and require some assistance you may contact CALM or City of Cockburn. But please remember, snakes play an important role in maintaining a natural ecological balance and helping reduce the level of introduced rodents, so respect them and allow them to exist as they have done for many millions of years.

## Nominations for Australia Day Awards 2000

Across Australia on 26 January each year, communities pay tribute to special Australians by announcing local Australia Day Award winners.

These Awards are bestowed on people who are local heroes, even though they may not be well known outside, or even within, their local communities.

They are, however, local champions who provide outstanding service or have performed extraordinary feats within their local area.

The City of Cockburn is a proud and enthusiastic supporter of the Awards and wants to hear from local people who have a super story to tell about any Great Aussie Heroes in the District.

There are three Award Categories:

1. Citizen of the Year
2. Young Citizen of the Year (26 years of age and under)
3. Community of the Year (Event or Organisation)

If you know anyone who has achieved, in any walk of life, something special during 1999, why not complete the attached nomination form and return it to Council by no later than December 17, 1999.

That way we can pay tribute to the fantastic achievements of our local people which may otherwise go unnoticed.

If you need any further details, give the Council office a call on 9411 3444.

### Nomination Form for the City of Cockburn's 2000 Australia Day Citizen of the Year

Fill out, cut off, put in an envelope and post. No stamp required.

I would like to nominate.....

Citizen of the Year     Young Citizen of the Year     Community of the Year

My reason for this nomination (attach details if space is insufficient).....  
.....  
.....

Nominator's name.....

Address.....

Suburb.....

State.....

Postcode.....

Telephone.....

Address to:

City of Cockburn

Reply Paid No.2

PO Box 1215

Bibra Lake WA 6965

(No postage

stamp required)



# Council turn up the heat on Fire Control

**F**irebreaks should have been in place by the 30 November 1999 in order to avoid a fine. If not landowners also risk incurring the full cost of Council doing the job for them.

Jim Johnson, Chief Bush Fire Control Officer, said Council has a major duty of care to the community to reduce the hazards of fire outbreaks in the area during summer and would not tolerate landowners who ignored the order.

From the first of December Fire Control Officers began inspection of properties to make sure they conform with the requirements of the Fire Control Order. Any landowners not doing the right thing will receive a letter of warning giving them 14 days to install a firebreak to Council standards.

Jim warned, "If they don't do anything in that time, we will have a firebreak installed for them at their expense.

"They will also be issued with an infringement notice, the minimum fine is \$80, and what should have only cost \$60 - \$80 originally could now cost over \$250!" he added.

People who have previously experienced a bush fire on their property emotionally describe the heartbreak of seeing their property just after a fire. All this anguish would probably be avoided if proper precautions had been in place.



Firebreaks not only provide a cleared barrier to minimise the spread of fire, they are necessary for access for firefighters.

Jim also cautions landowners to watch out for branches protruding into firebreaks.

"It happens every year and can cause real problems," he said. "Some landowners don't realise that the firebreak has to be kept the same width from top to bottom, both vertically and horizontally, with no branches whatsoever growing into the area.

The upshot is that if a firebreak isn't set up properly the potential danger is rife, putting firefighters in particular, at tremendous risk. Intruding branches from a canopy, that if alight, can end up creating deadly fireball."

## Local Training Company Wins Huge Contract

XLT College of Welding, which is part of XLT Industrial Training Pty Ltd in Spearwood, have just won WA Department of Training contracts for the year 2000 of \$1,040,970. In fact, it's possibly one of Spearwood's best kept secrets that this company has been winning major training contracts since its inception.

Director, Clive Langley established XLT in 1997. Coming from a Training/Management background, Clive recognised the need for this kind of facility and the success of his venture is now a matter of record.

XLT clients include the Navy, Tubemakers, Alcoa, Western Mining, CMM Fluor Daniels and the list goes on and on.

### Unique Underwater Welding Training

XLT operates from 1000sqm premises in Mell Road, which are fully equipped with all the latest technology and incorporate the only Underwater training tank in South East Asia, possibly the world.

This tank offers simulated conditions such as water movement, turbulence and current and also working in confined spaces, day and night time and also TKY repair and salvage simulation. It has 2 viewing windows and a large diver access platform from where communications and breathing controls are supervised. An underwater video sends information to an adjacent classroom monitor.

XLT College of Welding attracts students from all over Australia and South East Asia, yet is almost a City of Cockburn "secret". Another service offered by XLT is their subsidiary, SkillNet.

### Opportunity for Employment

For a minimal fee SkillNet carries out a 5-6 hour assessment of tradespeople looking for work. This assessment includes practical skills associated with their trade, covering all processes, codes, materials etc.

Once assessed a tradesperson is entered into the SkillNet website. A potential employer can scroll through specific skills areas, (eg Welders, Poly Welders, Pipe Fitters etc) and they will see a photo, description of current skills, any other relevant skills and the outcome of the XLT Assessment.

Because of XLT and SkillNet's excellent results and reputation, many employers in the metal trades are now using this unique service which is saving them money and time.

Congratulations to XLT!!! It's great to see a local company which is West Australian owned and operated providing such great service to Australia and the world and doing it so well.

**If you want to find out more about training or assessment call XLT on 9434 3774.**

# Teddy Bear's Picnic a Knock-Out!



The party almost doubled at this year's City of Cockburn annual Teddy Bear's Picnic, with an estimated 1500 excited "little tikes" setting alive MacFaul Park in Spearwood on October 27th.

Children's Services Co-ordinator, Jill Zumach, was positively stunned as the crowd kept growing with babies, toddlers, pre- and primary schoolers with their teachers, carers, friends and teddy bears in tow.

Jill claims the humble Teddy Bear is like a universal symbol of love and security among kids, but even she didn't expect it to bring such a huge turnout this year.

"It was certainly a fantastic way to celebrate Children's Week," she enthused. "We thought 1998 was a good turnout with 800 children - we had no idea it would be so much bigger this year. The weather was perfect for a picnic and the atmosphere just buzzed from start to finish."

This year's free activities included a children's craft workshop, bouncy castle, merry-go-round, animal farm, face painting, puppet show, clowns, circus performance, Fat Cat and Mandy, performances by students from St Lukes Beeliar Primary School and Spearwood Alternative Students School, and most appropriately, a Teddy Bear Hospital.

# Internet Communication Questionnaire

• PRIZE • PRIZE • PRIZE •

\$250.00 worth of goodies thanks to  
**SuperNova Computers Tel 9535 3958**  
A 56K external Modem valued at \$170.00 and  
free internet access with an unlimited account for  
3 months valued at \$120.00 (\$40 per month)

Council is seeking information on the potential for internet communication between ratepayers and members of the community and Council. People completing the survey will go into the draw to win the above prize.

Complete whichever section of questionnaire that's relevant to you and it can be returned to any Council office or mailed in the free post envelope provided. Present internet users may also complete the questionnaire online at the council web page:

[www.cockburn.wa.gov.au](http://www.cockburn.wa.gov.au)

## PERSONAL INTERNET USAGE

1 Do you have access to the Internet?

- At home  At work  
 At school/university  Other  
 Not at all

2 If not, are you planning access to the Internet?

- Within three months  Within 1 year  
 After 1 year  Not at all

IF YOU HAVE ANSWERED "NOT AT ALL" TO Q2, YOU NEED NOT CONTINUE.

3 Do you access the Internet?

- Daily  More than once a week  
 More than once a month  Infrequently  
 Not at all

4 Have you used the Internet for the following?  
(more than one option may be selected)

- Email  Research and information  
 Banking  Internet relay chat  
 Newsgroups/bulletin boards  On line games  
 Other

5 Have you purchased goods or services via the Internet?

- No  Once  
 Sometimes  Often

6 Would you use the Internet for the following Council Services, if available? (more than one option may be selected)

- Accessing Council information laws  
 Council Minutes and Agendas  
 Community information  
 Events  
 Tourist information  
 Searching library catalogue, reserving books  
 Making appointments with Councillors or Council officers  
 General correspondence to or from the Chief Executive Officer  
 Email enquiries, eg rates enquires  
 Search requests, eg rates searches  
 Reporting issues, eg maintain required  
 Payment of rates or other charges  
 Payment of dog registration fees  
 Lodgement of development applications  
 Other.....

Suggestions

## BUSINESS INTERNET USAGE

1 Do you have access to the Internet?

- Yes  No

2 If not, are you planning access to the Internet?

- Within three months  Within 1 year  
 After 1 year  Not at all

3 Do you access the Internet?

- Daily  More than once a week  
 More than once a month  Infrequently  
 Not at all

4 Have you used the Internet for the following?  
(more than one option may be selected)

- Email  Research and information  
 Ordering from supplier  Receiving orders from customers  
 Paying creditors  Receiving payments from debtors  
 Payroll  General banking  
 International business  Internet relay chat  
 Newsgroups/bulletin boards  Other

5 What methods of funds transmission have you used?

6 Would you use the Internet for the following Council services, if available? (more than one option may be selected)

- Accessing Council Information  Local laws  
 Council Minutes and Agendas  Tourist information  
 Events  Completing forms and applications  
 Searching library catalogue, reserving books  Making appointments with Councillors or Council officers  
 General correspondence to or from the Chief Executive Officer  Email enquiries, eg rates enquiries  
 On line searches and certificates, eg planning  Reporting issues, eg maintenance required  
 Payment of rates or other charges  Lodgement of development applications  
 Requesting inspections  Lodging plans and other documents  
 License applications and payment, such as advertising signs  
 Other.....

Suggestions

7 What is the typical size of files you would be transmitting to Council?

- <1Mb  1 - 10 Mb  
 10 - 100 Mb  >100 Mb



## Our Joanne's a Smart Cookie



*John Day  
and Jo Abbiss*

Local Council gal Joanne Abbiss, City of Cockburn's Environmental Health Officer, did the City proud in September when she took out the two top awards at the Australian Institute of Environmental Health's 54th Annual State Conference.

Joanne (28) was presented with the 1999 Institute Gold Medal Award for best scholastic achievement and the Harold Salter Award for most professional potential in her course by the Minister for Health, the Hon. John Day, at a special function in the prestigious Observation City.

She is only the second person to take out both awards simultaneously, not to mention the first female ever to win both.

As Chairperson at the three-day State conference, Joanne presented a paper entitled "The Jandakot Airport Noise Environment", drawing on her intimate knowledge of the subject as full time Environmental Officer with the City of Cockburn.

She is currently completing her Masters by thesis into aircraft noise and marking post graduate papers in Environmental Health, after graduating with distinction from Curtin University in 1998 - making the Vice Chancellor's List of the top 1% students every semester of her undergraduate studies.

Joanne is also a member of the Golden Key National Honour Society, a member of the University of Sydney School of Physics International Science School Alumni and was a member of the Conference organising committee.



## Bibra Lakes goes for Green and Gold

Almost 600 people celebrated Father's Day in a very special way in September by rolling up their sleeves and getting their hands dirty at Bibra Lake, all in aid of Olympic Landcare's challenge to sow 4,500 plants in the soil.

The weather was glorious as hundreds got down on their hands and knees near the "golden Tuart tree" landmark situated just a stone's throw from the Cockburn Wetlands Education Centre.

The City of Cockburn was thrilled that Bibra Lake was chosen by Olympic Landcare to showcase their national Day of Action, managed by Greening Australia (WA) in WA. Olympic Landcare, the "green" arm of the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, intends to plant two million trees before next year's Olympics to rehabilitate sites across Australia.

Olympic sports stars proved their winning ways by turning out in force to support community volunteers, who dug in alongside sponsors' staff and Green Corps volunteers from the Australian Trust for Conservation Volunteers. Among them were Perth Wildcats player Scott Fisher, Hockeyroos Jenny Morris, Clover Maitland and Claire Mitchell-Taverner, men's hockey player Damon Diletti, 2000 Olympics hopeful, female weightlifter Caroline Pileggi, Paralympians swimmer Elizabeth Mills and shot-put/discus field athlete Lynda Holt.

In just two hours the job was done, including a special Avenue of Honour created as a tribute to all Olympian sportsmen and women. Stout Paperbark trees (*Melaleuca preissiana*), a sturdy species which can grow to 15 metres' height, was the species chosen because of its suitability to lake-side sites and its attraction for a wide variety of birds and nectar-loving insects.

Volunteers included members of the Coolbellup Junior Soccer Club, Wildflower Society of WA (Murdoch branch), Native Arc wildlife rehabilitation centre, WA Conservation of Raptors Group, Friends of Telstra, Bibra Lake Scouts, the Wetlands Conservation Society, Friends of Cockburn Wetlands Education Centre, and Trevor Walley who contributed Aboriginal cultural items such as "mia-mia" shelter-building, hand and face-painting, and a guided "bush tucker" tour around the lake.

Olympic Landcare is the biggest ever landcare program in Australia, funded for \$4-million by the Commonwealth Government's Natural Heritage Trust. It is a partnership of Landcare Australia with the Sydney Organising Committee for the Olympic Games, Greening Australia and the Australian Trust for Conservation Volunteers. Supporting sponsors are the Commonwealth Government's National Heritage Trust, BHP, Telstra, Challenge Bank, Fuji Xerox, Visy Industries and Network Seven Television.

# Heaven on our earth

**T**he City of Cockburn's new Parks Manager, Allan Conroy, is ready to "out" us. After decades of keeping our pretty secrets under wraps, he's itching to spread the word about this beautiful slice of Heaven we live in.

And he ought to be a good judge. Allan has spent 12 years in the landscape construction and maintenance industry keeping the parks beautiful parks for several other local governments, before joining our fair City in July. He was Parks Maintenance Coordinator at both the Cities of Canning and Melville, and Parks Design Coordinator for the City of Stirling.

Now he is rising to the challenge of innovative forward planning to maintain and enhance the City of Cockburn's parks and streetscapes – and the vision he sees has got him very excited.

"There's certainly plenty of wonderful parks to take care of and loads of potential in this beautiful City," Allan says enthusiastically. "It's easy to see why more and more people are regarding this City as one of the most progressive and fast-growing in the State."

## Streetscaping

Over the next few years, the streets of Cockburn will be a key focus for Allan.

"Essentially, streetscapes include everything you can see within the street," he states simply. "That means not only the vegetation but also the median strips, footpaths, signs, seats, power poles, the type of lighting and even the type and colour of the road surface.

"All these things have to be considered because they make quite an impact on the emotional responses of street users. It's my job to know what those responses might and should be within a certain setting. I mean, the requirements for ratepayers in commercial areas is obviously going to be different to residential in rural areas."

Allan says Cockburn's remarkable multi-cultural community, with all the different needs and aspirations they present, is both challenging and vital.

"What's important is that we recognise how rich and diverse our community is and to make sure we are choosing what they want for their streetscapes - by liaising directly with them," he said. "The people of Cockburn are the ones who positively drive the push for streetscaping as it becomes of much more value and interest to them."

## Green Green Fields of Home

Cockburn is highly regarded for its largely untapped territories of sweeping green masses and natural assets. So it's hardly surprising that our parks are held in high esteem by residents, ratepayers and visitors alike for the beauty, health and recreational benefits they offer.

"Perhaps I'm just a little biased, but parks really are part of what gives people a sense of place and belonging," Allan claims. "I encourage people to express what they want from their parklands so that we can form a true picture of the differing needs and desires within all sections of the community."

Amusingly, says Allan, park landscapes cannot escape fashion trends.

"Like most other things, fashion does influence decisions on the types of landscapes people want," he says. "Recently there has been a leaning towards more exotic settings, rather than the native ones which predominated in the 80s. That doesn't mean native landscapes are no longer "in", it just shows that the community has broadened its tastes."

## Management Strategies

A crucial aspect of Allan's job is to act as a mediator for the community, Councillors and service providers to make sure the level and type of park services expected are clearly defined and agreed upon.

"Our role is to develop and maintain a skilled and adaptive workforce, using both internal and external labour, particularly with the City's rapid expansion," he says. "It sounds like an old cliché, but it does mean getting the right people in the right place at the right time for the right price."

Allan admits that carrying out maintenance and/or improvements to all the City's parks can be "immensely challenging" with all the different functions and characteristics of landscapes within a 148 square kilometre span.

"Every job has to be prioritised and judgement calls have to be made," he said. "It wouldn't be logical to maintain grass growing on a rural road reserve the same as the grass on a sports field, for example.

"We (Parks) are responsible for letting Council know what the available options are, what the community wants and the costs involved. The final decision is left to full Council on the method used to set the standards - and what those standards will be."

"But," he adds quickly, "the bottom line is that whatever the agreed standards are, we will deliver them in the most efficient way possible."

# Prize Winners:

The winners of this year's Rates Incentive Draw were:

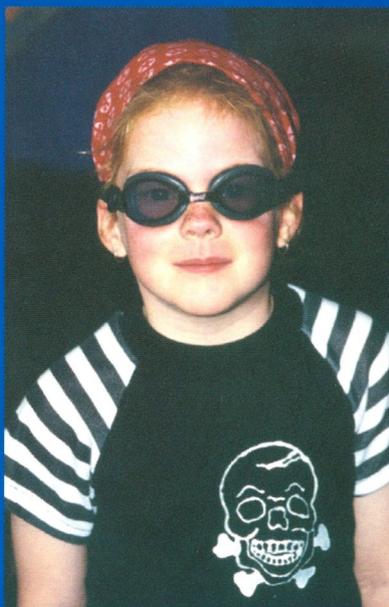
- **R.B Jasper & E. Curtis**  
Bibra Lake
- **I. & B. Blagaich**  
Spearwood
- **M.A. Fazio**  
Spearwood
- **J.R. & J.M. Jones**  
South Lake
- **M. & D. Covich**  
Munster
- **K.J. and D.J. Allen**  
Coogee
- **B.F. Sinclair**  
Jandakot
- **P. & V. Separovich**  
Spearwood
- **J.A. & P. Corbyn**  
Papua New Guinea
- **M.W. Dixon**  
Spearwood
- **R.T. Turpin**  
Fremantle
- **W.U. Neumann & S. Hanson**  
Beeliar
- **E.L. Steenholdt**  
Leeming
- **J.G. & S.L. Knox**  
Yangebup
- **R. Dragovic**  
Wattleup
- **L.M. & D.J. Gray**  
Hamilton Hill
- **L.P. Humphreys**  
Coolbellup
- **L.A. & M.Z. Fernandes**  
Spearwood
- **D.R. Dillon & M.J. Cown-Guthrie**  
Success

## Thanks to this year's sponsors:

- Greyhound Pioneer Australia
- Phoenix Shopping Centre
- Adventureworld
- Cables Water Ski Park
- Esplanade Hotel Fremantle
- Gateways Shopping Centre
- South Lake Leisure Centre

### City of Cockburn Facility Survey

**First prize** of a night's accommodation with breakfast at the plush Esplanade Hotel Fremantle was won by Stella Platt. **Runner-up** prize of a dinner for two at the Atrium Buffet Restaurant was won by Morris Newton.



Six-year old Alexander Shaw happily "walked the plank" with other kids who went to South Lake Swim School's recent Pirate-theme week to add a splash of fun to learning how to swim. Swim School Co-ordinator, Lari McDonald, said the idea of having a special theme from time-to-time helped motivate kids to learn and get a kick out of their "aquatic education".

# Summer Revival

**B**eaches and swimming pools provide the perfect environment for everyone to enjoy fun and frolics during Perth's glorious summer, but don't be fooled - they are also fraught with hazards.

Last year 27 lives were lost through drowning, with eight of those being babies or toddlers. Another 82 people were hospitalised as a result of incidents in the water. Almost half were under 4.

According to South Lake Swim School Co-ordinator, Lari McDonald, summer is definitely not the time to get complacent about water safety or first aid.

"Knowing how to resuscitate could save someone's life," she says frankly. "It only takes two hours to learn the basics."

"We hear all the time about people who have been saved because someone nearby knew how to resuscitate them, and it shouldn't take much convincing for anyone who has anything to do with children to learn this life-saving skill."

The Swim School regularly runs two-hour basic resuscitation courses and is more than happy to organise special group sessions for workplaces, playgroups, schools or even in the home.

"We use baby, child and adult mannequins for people to learn and practice on, and the course itself is non-qualifying and non-examinable so there is nothing threatening about it," Lari assures. "We strongly recommend anyone from the age of 8 should learn how to resuscitate."

Bookings and enquiries  
can be made by contacting the  
Swim School on 9417 3003.

Cost • \$12 adults  
\$10 children under 15  
\$30 family



# Klaas gets a hoist up

**W**heelchair bound Klaas De Boer is an independent man. Thanks to his wife Toni de Boer and a team of community care workers from Aged and Disabled Services at the Jean Willis Centre, 53-year old Klaas is able to live in relative autonomy within the community.

It's a huge achievement for anyone who is physically challenged, but it's rarely smooth sailing either. Transport, for instance, has constantly presented its fair share of hassles for Klaas because of his sizeable electric wheelchair which must travel with him wherever he goes.

So it was with enormous gratitude that Klaas received \$700 financial assistance from the Lions Club of Leeming & Districts to re-fit his vehicle with a special rear hoist to get him and his trusty wheels in and out of the van with greater ease.

"Klaas was absolutely delighted," says Jan Scott, Community Care Co-ordinator. "He had a hoist that needed to be refitted into a new vehicle."

"Then I got a call out of the blue from a Sylvia Jackson eagerly wanting to know if there was anyone we knew of who would benefit from the help of the Leeming Lions Club."

Mrs Scott praised the Lions Club for their pro-active and compassionate efforts to seek out individuals within the community who were in need, physically disabled, struggling on a pension or on a low income.



## Outta this Century

**Cockburn's End of Year Party**  
**Saturday, December 18th • 5 to 10pm**  
**Cables Water Ski Park • Cost: \$2**

**W**hoa! Far out! What better way to see out the End of the Millenium than strapping on the skis and skimming across the water under a summer evening sky at Cables Water Ski Park at the City of Cockburn's "End of Year Party" on Saturday, December 18th.

For a measly \$2, anyone "young in spirit" can be part of a five-hour entertainment blitz featuring live bands, DJ, waterslide and pool party, beef on a spit, and fireworks.

The party is an initiative of the Youth Advisory Council and Cockburn's Youth Services Team to help celebrate the end of studies, the end of the year and, dare we mention it again (sigh), the end of the Century.

"The Youth Advisory Council was craving for the City to have a party complete with fireworks and full-on, non-stop music to mark the end of the year," says Pamela Parkin, Youth Services Co-ordinator. "Over the next year, we're going to have a much greater line-up of entertainment and social options for young people. We've already got an all ages gig program in progress and we're targeting anyone in the under-30s scene to take advantage of getting into more live music at our free concerts."

Pamela added that Youth Services is keen to support as many up-and-coming local bands as possible by giving them the opportunity to play at gigs. **If you want to know more, ring Pamela on 9411 3447.**

### IN BRIEF:

**Re-Generate youth mag** is always on the look-out for contributions of letters, articles, short stories, jokes, photographs, pics and cartoons with a local slant. Watch out for our latest edition, due out on December 13th. Contributions can be sent to the Re-Generate Editor, Youth Services, PO Box 1215, Bibra Lake 6965.

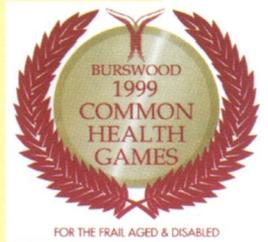
**Interpreting dreams**, graffiti art, screen printing, making jewellery, cartoon drawing, video production, painting, learning to be a DJ, sculpturing ... the possibilities are limitless for our upcoming *Art & Culture Program 2000* specifically for Cockburn youth - but we need your input to come up with the right goods. Pick up a survey at your school, the Library, at Council or call Pamela Parkin on 9411 3447 to make your imprint.

**Participation** in any of the Youth Advisory Council (YAC) or Youth Service activities are open to all young people in the Cockburn area. Call us on 9414 9055 to make your enquiry or join the team.

**U-FUND OPEN:** Grants of up to \$400 are still up for grabs for young people aged between 13 - 18 years to organise their own activity or project which is based locally and provides something social, recreational, creative, cultural, adventurous or simply helps develop positive skills. For more details ring Pamela on 9411 3447.



# Seniors Gather in Force for Commonhealth Games



**T**hey came in droves. They came in tracksuits. Best of all they came with wheelchairs and walking frames and orthopaedic shoes and smiles so bright that bystanders couldn't help getting caught up in the fever.

The 1999 Burswood Commonhealth Games began and for four days in October, around 2000 frail, aged and/or disabled athletes showed their grit in basketball, golf, target volley, quiz and shuffleboard.

Event Co-ordinator Dave McLaurin described it as the only major sporting event in the world where drug taking was allowed to take place.

"And it happened right here in Perth!" he reveals with sheer delight. "There was absolutely no drug testing allowed and I'm happy to say that performance enhancers were not frowned upon during the Games."

In a more serious tone, Dave talks about the crucial role events such as the Commonhealth Games plays in helping the elderly and frailead lead happy, healthy and productive lives.

"Our Seniors are such wonderful and valuable members of the community and yet they are so often forgotten, neglected and overlooked. This event is a true affirmation for them to age with dignity and prove their ability to actively participate in the community."

Dave, who is also Co-ordinator of the Jean Willis Centre centre-based respite daycare facility in the City of Cockburn, said the Games had been running for 12 years and was a positive way for the "forgotten section of our community" to make their presence felt.

"Well, just listen to them," he says, referring to the noisy cheers generating throughout the auditorium.

"Unfortunately, no matter how much we promote our seniors and the enormous value and wisdom they have to offer us, there are still difficult barriers to break down," Dave adds. "Research has shown that socialisation is helping people live longer and stay out of nursing homes, and it's imperative that we keep reinforcing and supporting initiatives that keep them active and stimulated."

This year, students from Mount Lawley TAFE Recreational Studies and the Beeliar Primary School supported the event as umpires and torchbearers. The Games was sponsored by Burswood International Resort Casino and supported by the neighbouring Cities of Cockburn and Melville. Home and Community Care (HACC) has also provided \$7,000 in funding to support the event ■



# BULK WASTE COLLECTION DATES

## GREEN WASTE COLLECTION

29 November 1999

## GREEN WASTE COLLECTION

20 March 2000

## GREEN WASTE COLLECTION

17 July 2000

## JUNK COLLECTION

2 October 2000

## RURAL VERGE COLLECTION

(For Rural Areas Only)

17 October 2000

## GREEN WASTE COLLECTION

13 November 2000

### MARK YOUR DIARY

All collections are for the two week period commencing at 6.30am on the date listed above. Waste should be ready for collection by 6.30am on the first day of the collection.

Waste placed on the verge more than two weeks prior to a collection or placed on the verge after the truck has been past, will be considered to be 'illegally dumped' and could result in a fine.

The rural collection is for properties in rural areas only (Banjup, parts of Wattleup and parts of Jandakot) and will be by registration of the property address.

### PLEASE DO NOT THROW OUT SURPLUS FURNITURE



There is a big need for clean, undamaged, reusable furniture (not whitegoods).

Call St Vincent de Paul Society on 9444 5622 for pick up.

To all our friends, customers and many employees throughout the community, we wish you a very Merry Christmas from

## WATSONIA



Watsonia and Watsons are among the few names known to all West Australians for generations.

The firm's founder, William Watson, opened his first luncheon room in Fremantle in 1895. His business grew because he sold quality product at a reasonable price, and soon he had 11 outlets throughout the metropolitan area.

Mr Watson moved to the present Watsonia site in Spearwood in 1909 where he used the latest technology - including a sausage machine powered by a horse - to produce his smallgoods.

In the 90 years since that historic move, Watsonia in Spearwood has carried on its founder's tradition of providing quality and value.

