

# COCKBURN

CITY OF COCKBURN OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER ISSN 1035 - 0956 No. 39 MARCH 2001

# SOUNDINGS

## Message from Your Mayor

Local Government Minister Michelle Roberts recently confirmed that the Labor Government would be standing by its pre-election commitment to write off the outstanding amount of one million dollars, still owing from the "Douglas Inquiry" legal bill.

Equally as exciting is the fact that the State Government is also going to refund to the people of Cockburn the total amount of the \$670,000 we have already paid towards the "Douglas Inquiry" costs.



So now the question has to be asked - what do we do with the \$670,000 once it is returned to us?

Should the money be put back into the bank to sit in the Henderson Rubbish Tip Reserve Fund until it's needed? Should we treat it as a windfall and allocate it to some worthwhile projects? Or perhaps we could set it to one side and offset it against any future rate increases that may occur?

I personally am leaning towards spending the money on making a start to improve verges, particularly on our main roads into and out of Cockburn. This of course would be in accordance with our new Greening Plan. Or perhaps we could expend these monies reticulating our dry parks, especially those in suburban areas.

Ultimately of course, the decision on how to best utilise these funds rests with the whole Council, so you must let us know what you would prefer us to do. Remember it is always the squeaky wheel that gets the oil. So with this in mind, contact your Ward Councillors or my office and give us an indication of your preferences.

*- Mayor Stephen Lee*

## EVENTS CALENDAR

20 March	Council Meeting	7.30 pm
21 March	Meet the Mayor-Phoenix Shopping Centre	10.00 am
25 March	Community Day Beeliar, The Grange	1.00 pm
28 March	Meet the Mayor - Gateways Shopping Centre	10.00 am
31 March	Reserve Awareness Program, Bakers Square	10.00 am
2 - 8 April	Youth Week	

# What's on at Gateways Shopping Centre

Joining in the celebrations with the opening of the new Beeliar Drive Bridge over the Kwinana Freeway and into the Gateways Shopping Centre, Julie Keale from Atwell was the winner of a fantastic trip for two to Sydney and a special tour, which includes climbing the Sydney Harbour Bridge! Congratulations Julie, thank you for shopping at the Gateways Shopping Centre and have a wonderful time in Sydney.

Customers are enjoying the ease of access to the centre with ample parking and two great Supermarkets in the one location - Action and Woolworth's. Gateways is both convenient and time saving, with a mix of service and speciality stores, which includes Australia Post.

Meet the Mayor on the 28th March between 10am and 11am at Gateways. Stop in and

have a chat with the Mayor, Stephen Lee, about any issues you may have.

Saver Card members can collect their complimentary coffee voucher between 10am and 12pm from the Centre Management Office on 28th March and receive the latest copy of store discounts available for Saver Card members at Gateways.

Visit our Giant Cadbury Easter Bunny and wonderful friend Alice appearing at the centre from Monday 9th April to Saturday 14th April (excluding Good Friday 13th April). Our Easter Bunny will be giving out hundreds of complimentary Easter Eggs to all the children so join in the fun at Gateways Shopping Centre.

## IT PAYS TO SHOP AT GATEWAYS!



### Gateways Saver Card Bonus

**FIXIT MULTI SERVICES** - Any shoe repairs over \$20 receive a complimentary Waproo Quick Shine Polishing Pad valued at \$9.95 \*Limited stocks.

### Surprise Visitor

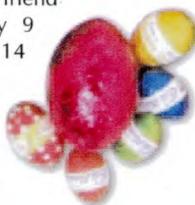
Fat Cat joined in the School Holiday fun at Gateways with hundreds of small children delighted to catch up with him. Children will have another special visitor during the April School holidays, so keep watch at Gateways!



### Easter Fun at Gateways

Join in the Easter fun at Gateways with customers being invited to join in Food Sense Supermarket Tours, which have been introduced to assist our customers with food selection and value shopping ideas. Simply contact the Management office for details on 9498 5577.

Plus Easter treats from our Great Cadbury Easter Bunny who will be visiting Gateways with his friend Alice from Monday 9 April to Saturday 14 between 2pm and 5pm daily. There will be loads of Easter Eggs and lots of fun for everyone!



### Saver Card Easter Bonus

**100 FREE 6 PACKS OF HOT CROSS BUNS**  
Another great reward for the first 100 members who simply make a \$10 or more purchase at Gateways during our Easter celebrations. From Monday 9 to Saturday 14 April, you can claim your reward at the Management office simply by showing your receipt of purchase.

### Clear Image Skin Clinic

See double when you present your Gateways Saver Card at Clear Image Skin Clinic. You will receive:

- Two facials for the price of one
- Two body massages for the price of one
- Two back massages for the price of one

\*Conditions apply

'International Clarins Gold Salon Award' 1999, 2000, 2001

'MD Formulation Best Addressed Salon' 1999, 2000, 2001

'WA Beauty Therapist of the Year 1998'

Shop 8, Gateways Shopping Centre  
Telephone 9498 5188



# ENVIRONMENT

## Update on the Greening Plan

There has been great community interest in the progress of the proposed Greening Plan. Council resolved at its January 2001 meeting to adopt the draft Greening Plan document, for advertising for public comment. The advertising period will last for eight (8) weeks, to allow the community plenty of time to read, digest and comment on the detailed document.

Council resolved to appoint consultants, Alan Tingay and Associates, to undertake the Greening Plan study in January 1999. The project was the key initiative of the Arboricultural Advisory Committee and the aim was to develop a detailed plan for the maintenance and enhancement of remnant vegetation within the City and the revegetation of previously cleared areas, road reserves and public land, to enhance ecological values, landscape, streetscape and community amenity.

● In developing the draft Greening Plan, there has been extensive public consultation, including the development of a Greening Plan Steering Committee, which consisted mainly of ratepayers and interested community members, and Council Officers.

In summary the draft report covers the following areas:

1. What is a Greening Plan, and the methodology used;
2. The existing environment, including heritage and social values such as Aboriginal and municipal heritage, and community and recreational values;
3. Environmental and landscape attributes, including landforms, landscapes, and soils, wetlands, bushland and fauna;
4. Existing Streetscapes;
5. Objectives of the Greening Plan and implementation including strategic, operational, monitoring and review, research, resourcing and links with other Councils;
6. Recommendations.

● The advertising period commenced on the 5th February 2001 and will close on the 2nd April 2001. Copies of the draft document are available for inspection and purchase at the Council Libraries, the Council Administration Centre and also on Council's web site. If you have any queries, please contact Council's Environmental Services on 9411 3441 or Council's Parks Department on 9411 3476.

## AGED AND DISABLED SERVICES

### Are You a Carer?

A carer is a person who looks after a relative or friend who is unable to manage without help due to disability, illness or frail age.

Do you need help, but don't know where to go for assistance or what's available?

Could you benefit from information about the range of services and resources available to Carers?

For more information please contact Cockburn Aged and Disabled / Carers Support Services on 9314 6363.

# **H E A L T H**

## **New Laws Mean Safer Food**

With a new millennium comes a new direction for food law in Australia. After being drafted, reviewed, put out for comment and generally talked about by anyone at all who had an interest in food safety, the long awaited National Food Safety Standards are here.

Most of the new laws take effect from 24 February 2001 and will make proprietors of food businesses even more accountable for the food they produce. But wait, there's more! In February 2002 even more changes will mean food businesses will have to make sure that all staff have the appropriate skills and knowledge to carry out their duties. So check out your training options now.

The final details of the new Food Act have not been completed, but it's likely that Council EHOs will continue to have a key role in enforcing the new standards. So you'll still be seeing their smiling faces at your door.

Where can you find out more? ANZFA has produced a document called "Safe Food Australia", which provides a practical guide to the new standards that's easy to read and full of lots of good examples. Council has placed copies of this handy guide and the new standards at the Spearwood and Coolbellup Library as well as the Front Counter at the Council building. Or if you're into the internet check out the ANZFA website [www.anzfa.gov.au](http://www.anzfa.gov.au).

If you're still mystified or prefer to have a chat about the changes, give Council's Health Services a call on 94113589 and one of our friendly EHOs will only be too happy to discuss the new standards with you.

# **F I R E P R E V E N T I O N**

## **Light my Fire, NOT**

**FIREBREAKS** - Most people realise that a firebreak will not stop a fast moving fire. They do stop slow running fires that may have been slowed by either a low fuel area close to the fire break or if fire fighters have been fighting the fire and knocked down the flames. Until Emergency Services can get sufficient fire crews on to a scene, the initial crews cannot watch every metre of a fire edge. If a correct fire break has been installed the crews can keep moving with the fire front knowing that the fire break will contain any small edge that may be slowly burning until they can get back to patrol and "mop up" any smouldering edges.

Firebreaks are in place to save the landowners from fires threatening their property. The majority of people in Cockburn install good firebreaks with only 3% of properties identified for faults on their firebreaks. Most people picked up for firebreak fault have not checked their own firebreak properly or have driven around on a tractor, where they duck under trees or stop at fences that run across the firebreak.

The safety of the land owners and our fire fighters is the main concern that Council staff take into consideration when checking fire breaks. If people have any questions or concerns about their firebreaks please call the City of Cockburn on 9411 3444.



# LIBRARY

**Library System Upgrade** The upgrade of the City of Cockburn Libraries computer system is now in full swing. Unfortunately, it was necessary for both libraries to close in order to install the system and train staff. The closure and the minor hiccups that such changes always bring are far outweighed by a host of new features.

**OPAC (On-Line Public Access Catalogue)** Using the old OPAC's in each library was about as easy as knitting a cardigan for an octopus, however all that has changed. The upgraded system has an inviting and easy-to-use keyboard function. Type in a word or two and you're off. The system will retrieve a list of all available works. The display lists the location, availability and quantity of matching materials. It also contains hyper-links (those blue things you click) which instantly take you to a list of items on similar subjects. A search can be simply refined. For example if you wanted to see a collection of videos but not books on Shakespeare, it can be done quite easily. You'll find a whole range of materials and options are available to you. Avid and casual library users alike will reap a range of benefits.

**Reservations** Another exciting feature of the Spydus upgrade is that users may now place their own reservations using the OPAC system. There's no more filling in request cards for those game enough to give it a shot. All you need to take advantage of this function is a current library membership and a PIN. Ask a library officer about getting a PIN on your next visit and reserve away. Inter-Library Loans at this stage still require a pen and paper but we're working on it. A new form letter is now being sent to notify clients when their reservation is available. This form of communication is clearer and has resulted in people being notified of requested items much sooner.

**Your Loan History** It is now possible to keep a record of your loan history. At your request only, the library can store a record of all the items borrowed by you. If you lead a busy life like most of us and can barely remember yesterday, let alone what you read last week, then you won't have to worry about whether you've read that one before.

**Your Virtual Library** In the very near future the library database will be able to be viewed on the Internet. Not only will you be able to view our catalogue but from the comfort of your own home you'll be able to reserve items as well. Co'Info (an easy way to learn what's happening in Cockburn) is also hooked up to the OPAC system and community information is now there at the touch of your fingertips.

**Events Database** The OPAC also features an Events Database displaying current and future events held by The City of Cockburn. There are a lot of behind the scenes features of the new library system and staff are endeavouring to master them all. A new Inter-Library Loans module is being introduced over the coming months and should streamline the process resulting in a more efficient service and faster processing of loans.

**Success Public Library** The Success shopfront public library is expected to open on 19 March 2001. It will be located in the Gateways Shopping Centre. The new branch will be small; relying heavily on its technology based concept, with more OPAC's and Internet access than either Spearwood or Coolbellup libraries. Users will be able to access information, request items and select from a relatively small home collection.

**Coolbellup Public Library** A second Internet terminal is now available in Coolbellup to satisfy the heavy demand in the area. A launch promoting new stock is planned for 14 March 2001. The library recently purchased a selection of compact discs, videos, games and books and they will all be available for loan after the launch.

# PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

## Housing Growth Continues in Cockburn

The City of Cockburn continues to be a significant growth area for new residential development as evidenced by the latest lot creation and sales data released by the Ministry for Planning and Urban Development Institute of Australia.

During the 1999/2000 financial year, 1063 new residential lots were granted preliminary approval in the City of Cockburn. Only the Shire of Wanneroo (1367) and the City of Swan (1108) had a greater number of lots approved in the metropolitan area during the same period.

Whilst 1063 new lots was a significant increase from the 765 lots granted preliminary approval in the previous year, it

was well short of the 2281 lots approved in 1997/98.

In the first quarter of the 2000/2001 financial year residential lot approvals slowed somewhat with only 100 lots being granted preliminary approval. However, with several subdivision applications currently being processed by the City's Planners for large new estates in areas such as Atwell South, Success, Beeliar, Yangebup and Banjup, the year's figure of 1063 lots is likely to be surpassed by the end of this financial year.

In terms of residential lot sales, Cockburn currently accounts for 9.7% of all vacant lots sold in the metropolitan area.

# FAMILY DAY CARE

## Up, Up, and Away with JET

The Jobs Education Training (JET) program was set up ten years ago to enable sole parents to go back to studies and back to the work force. There have been some changes made to the original program since it began ten years ago. Two parent families (who meet the criteria) are now eligible to be part of the JET program. This program has helped people go back to study, update their skills and return to the work force.

If you are receiving one of the following payments from Centrelink  
You may be eligible to be a JET client.

- \* Sole parent pension
- \* Additional parenting payments (partnered)
- \* Carer pensions
- \* Widows B pensioners
- \* Widow Allowees
- \* Partner Allowees (special beneficiaries)

How can JET assist you?

Going back to school, TAFE or University will enable you to gain new knowledge and skills, which will enable you to look into new possibilities.

Council staff at Family Day Care understand how important your children are to you. We will do our best to meet your requirements for childcare. Family Day Care staff and the JET Adviser work closely together to cater for your needs with childcare and studies/work.

Once you are ready to go back to studies or look for work and need childcare please contact the staff at Family Day Care on 9337 7177. The staff will do their best to help you in any way possible. If we are not able to help for any reason, we will refer you to other specialist staff for assistance.



# COMMUNITY BANK

The City of Cockburn, on behalf of the Hamilton Hill Community Bank Steering Committee, is asking for assistance in establishing a Community Bank, based at the Hamilton Hill Shopping Centre. The City of Cockburn fully supports the local community in establishing its own bank. It is very important that the local community supports the initiative. The Hamilton Hill Community Bank Steering Committee requests residents to show their support by becoming Shareholders (owners) of the new bank.

The Steering Committee has set the following goals on behalf of the community:

- to raise \$400,000 by way of pledges from community shareholders with the minimum being \$100 and the maximum \$10,000; and
- to locate the community bank at the Hamilton Hill Shopping Centre.

## How does it work?

The community purchases from Bendigo Bank the right to operate a banking branch. The community also secures the premises and purchases branch fittings and systems. Working capital will be the responsibility of the community. Each branch will be designed to suit local requirements. Bendigo Bank provides the coverage of its banking license, selected and appropriate banking products, training staff and ongoing support.

The banking services made available are determined by Bendigo Bank after consultation with the local entity, which runs the branch with Bendigo Bank's support. As with all bank deposits, depositors are protected by Bendigo Bank which makes all the day to day banking decisions and protects the privacy of individual clients.

Bendigo Bank and the community are each entitled to agreed proportions of the revenue of the local branch. The community is responsible for paying branch running costs. Bendigo Bank supports the bank branch, product development,

systems, acquisitions of additional services (eg. trustee services), and fully supports the Community Bank branch with operational requirements such as marketing support, training, stationery etc.

Any net profit of the local entity - after payment of the branch running costs and Bendigo Bank's entitlement to revenue - is available to be reinvested back into the community.

## What are the benefits of a community bank?

Providing face to face, full time banking facilities to Cockburn. By supporting our Community Bank, you are directly supporting the future of our community as it directly shares in the branch revenue, with the opportunity to make local profits.

## What are the benefits of being a contributor?

If we proceed with our own bank, it is proposed to establish a structure that recognises all contributors by providing the opportunity to vote in board elections, be nominated, or nominate a board member, and to both nominate and vote on community projects that will use future branch profits.

## If the project proceeds what will happen to my pledge?

If the level of financial interest, through pledges, is adequate, your Steering Committee will endeavour to raise \$10,000 to engage a firm of accountants to conduct a feasibility study. By making a pledge, you will be given the opportunity to participate in the ownership. Ultimately, your pledge will be converted into a share in the Community Bank company through a prospectus offer.

## What are the transfer fees?

In order to help you move your banking to our local branch, Bendigo Bank will waive its transfer and establishment fees, wherever possible. (continued on page 8)

# COMMUNITY BANK

(continued from page 7) Generally speaking, the more your business you have with Bendigo Bank, the lower your fee structure.

## How safe is my money and privacy?

As with all deposits, depositors are protected by the Bendigo Bank. Community Bank staff will be bound by the Bank's confidentiality requirements, and any breach will result in instant dismissal. No board members will have access to any individual's banking details, however, the board will be given weekly/monthly aggregate branch totals, in order to monitor performance.

## What will the bank offer you?

Bendigo Bank offers a very wide range of services, from all forms of personal banking, credit cards, etc. to commercial lending, leasing and a variety of additional services from financial planning to wills etc. The Community Bank will offer all the services of a major bank.

## The facts about your Indicative Pledge of Support:

- The amount you have indicated as your pledge of support is the amount of money you intend to contribute to the equity (ownership) of the Hamilton Hill Community Bank. These amounts raised will be used towards the establishment and the initial set-up of the Bank.

- A feasibility study will be carried out by an independent adviser to show whether a

Hamilton Hill Community Bank branch of Bendigo Bank would be feasible in the locality of Hamilton Hill/Hilton Park.

- If the feasibility study is favourable, and your Steering Committee decides to proceed, money will need to be raised to fund the establishment and initial set-up cost of operations of the Hamilton Hill Community Bank branch, including the cost of the feasibility study. Your indicative Pledge of Support is an indication of the money you intend to contribute to this fundraising and this will become your equity (ownership) in the Hamilton Hill Community Bank.

- This document is not legally binding. When the Steering Committee formally commences the process of actually raising funds via a prospectus, you should then decide how much you wish to contribute. At that time, information about your contribution and the Hamilton Hill Community Bank branch proposal will be distributed to you. It is important that you read and consider all that information.

- Your Indicative Pledge of Support or if you would support the Bank by becoming a customer only of the Community Bank in Hamilton (not shareholder), can be returned by completing the form below and posting it to:

Reply Paid Permit No.2  
City of Cockburn, Community Bank Survey  
PO Box 1215  
Bibra Lake WA 6965

## Hamilton Hill Community Bank Survey

Indicative Pledge of Support \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone, Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Business: \_\_\_\_\_

### Customer Information

YES, I am interested in using a Community Bank in Hamilton Hill, but do not wish to pledge any funds towards the establishment of the Bank.

### Community Bank Steering Committee

I request that this information be forwarded to the Steering Committee.

I request that this information remain with the City of Cockburn and not be used by the Steering Committee.