

# Cockburn Soundings

ISSUE No. 14  
MAY 1995

ISSN 1035-0956

## WANTED: WATCHERS FOR OUR NEIGHBOURHOODS

The Cockburn Neighbourhood Watch Committee has been formed under the chairmanship of Laurie Humphreys, an active member of the Community Policing Council.

This grass roots and most vital community crime prevention initiative will have representatives from throughout the Cockburn area on the inaugural committee. They are:

- Bill Curry - Banjup
- Patricia O'Brien - Bibra Lake
- Laurie Humphreys - Coolbellup
- Sarah Hunt - Jandakot
- Bruce Sharman - South Lake
- Bob Washbourne - Spearwood
- Loris Argentino - Spearwood (Secretary)



Council's representatives on the committee are Clr Brian Wheatley and Clr Ev Wegner (Deputy).

The committee's aim is to raise the awareness of self-help crime deterrent mechanisms and provide well-documented information to all local residents. It is hoped these measures will contribute to a significant reduction in crime against personal property.

Cockburn residents wishing to take advantage of Neighbourhood Watch resources should contact any Committee member, or call Council on 411 3444.

Residents who would like to be part of the scheme as area managers, especially in those areas not presently covered, can contact Council for more information.

Remember, crime is everyone's problem and one of the best ways to prevent it is to be a good, watchful neighbour.

## Your Chance to Have a Say on Future of Our City

The revised edition of the City of Cockburn Community Plan is now available for public comment.

The Plan, first adopted by Council in 1992, contains important statements directing Council in some key projects and strategies for the short term. The Plan addresses some key elements of Council initiatives which it wishes to see undertaken.

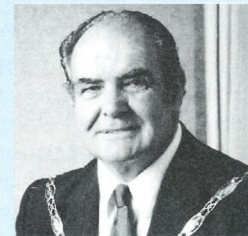
Prior to adopting the revised Plan, Council wishes to invite comment from community groups and individuals interested in the future direction of Cockburn.

Copies of the Plan are available free of charge from the Council offices or from the Spearwood and Coolbellup Libraries. Or by contacting council on 411 3444.

Comment is invited on any aspect of the Plan and should be directed to the City Manager, PO Box 1215, Bibra Lake, by June 30, 1995.

### INSIDE...

MEET COCKBURN'S NEW FREEMAN



CATCH UP WITH THE OTTEY EXPERIENCE

IT'S A FAMILY AFFAIR ON AUSTRALIA DAY



CITY OF COCKBURN  
Administration Centre  
Coleville Crescent  
(corner of  
Rockingham Road)  
Spearwood.  
Office hours:  
8.30am-4.30pm  
Monday-Friday  
Telephone: 411 3444

# WE HELP OUR JUNIORS TO REACH FOR THE STARS

The Cockburn Junior Sports Scholarship continues to reward high achievers in the district. The scholarships, inaugurated in 1991, are awarded to young citizens of Cockburn who are selected to represent either Western Australia or Australia in their chosen sport.

The scholarships provide funds to assist the young sports stars with the cost of travelling to their respective championships.

The latest award winners were honoured at a reception hosted by Deputy Mayor, John Grljusich. They were:

**Wayne Curran:** Selected to represent Australia in the under-19 lacrosse team on a tour of the United States this year.

**Louise Wai:** Selected to represent Western Australia in the under-16 division at the national track and field championships in Adelaide.

**Shannon Harvey:** Selected to represent Western Australia in the under-20 national all schools triathlon championships in Adelaide.



**Jonathon Parry, David Larkin and Michael Shaylor:** Selected to represent Western Australia at the national karate championships in Sydney.

**Rhys Coleman and Ryan Kelly:** Selected for the Perth Allstars team that competed in the South East Asia baseball tournament in Bangkok.

**Russell Seymour:** Selected for the Western Australian swimming team for a tournament in Hong Kong.



**Adam Dorey:** Selected to represent Western Australia in the under-16 national track and field championships.

**Brett Mathanda** was originally selected as a scholarship recipient but due to injury prior to the national track and field championships was unable to take part.

Further information on the scholarships can be obtained from the City's Coordinator of Recreation Services, Jocelyn McLennan, tel 411 3444.

## TEA AND BINGO

Cockburn branch of the Australian Pensioners' League of Western Australia (Inc) meets in the Old Council Chambers, cnr Rockingham and Forrest Roads, Hamilton Hill, every second Tuesday at 1.30pm. Afternoon tea is served, followed by bingo. Outings and social gatherings are also arranged. Anyone interested in attending is welcome and should call 331 1175 for more information.

## NO CHANGES IN LOCAL ELECTION POLLS

It's as you were with Cockburn City Council after the May Local Government elections.

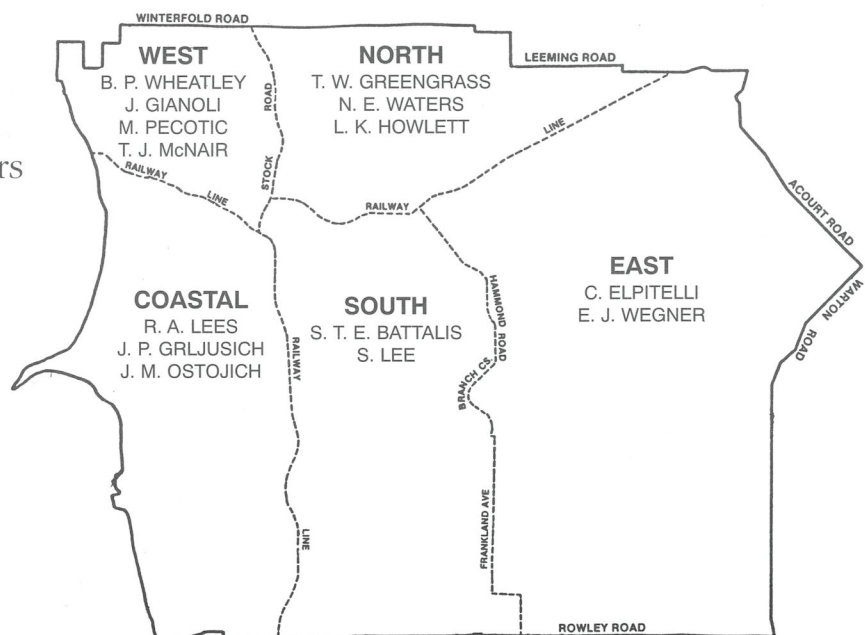
In the four seats up for election this year, Clrs Joe Ostojich (Coastal Ward) and Terry Battalis (South Ward) were re-elected unopposed, Clr John McNair held off a

challenge in West Ward, as did Nola Waters in North Ward.

Turnout was again very low but Council's thanks to all those who took the time to participate in the election.

At its meeting on May 9, Council re-elected Clr Ray Lees as Mayor, and Clr John Grljusich as Deputy Mayor.

Your Ward Councillors



# THERE'S A WHOLE LOTTA SHAKIN' GOING ON AT SOUTH LAKE

**T**erm Two courses at South Lake Ottey Family and Neighbourhood Centre are in full swing. Activities range from interior design to self-development and massage. Fashion parades and picnics are all part of the South Lake Ottey experience.

Still to come in Term Two are "Looking Good, Feeling Great! Colour Coding, Make-up Styles Workshop"; or "Unveiling the Mysterious East: Belly Dancing with Belyssa"; plus "Classic Curves: Short course in Calligraphy". And there's more...

It is possible to join an on-going course at any time. So why not consider Yoga & Relaxation or Meditation and Stress Management? For those keen on arts and crafts, the Centre offers two successful three-hour classes per week guaranteed to develop creative skills and abilities.

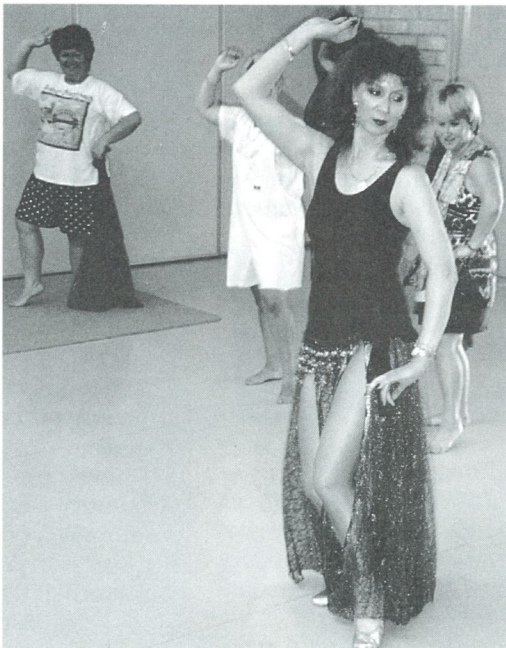
If you want an opportunity to relax and enjoy the company of others, try our "Friday Women's Coffee and Cake" from 9.30am-11.30am. Or join others for Senior Citizen's Cuppa and Chat on Tuesdays from 10am-12 noon.

Children are not forgotten. Dance and Drama Classes on Monday afternoons and a Holiday Programme for the school holiday breaks offer plenty of interest.

Another good reason to visit the Centre is the one hour Aromatherapy face, neck and shoulder massage for just \$15.

We also offer a free counselling and referral service to the local community.

Plus a 100-place Four Year Old Programme



■ *Unveiling the Mysterious East, Belyssa is back at the South Lake Ottey Family and Neighbourhood Centre due to popular demand.*



Kindy AND five playgroups per week.

There is also a meeting and activity room which can be hired out.

The Centre is a non-profit organisation run by a voluntary management committee. It is available to everyone in the community. Telephone the Centre Coordinator on 417 2372 for more details.

We look forward to treating you to the South Lake Ottey Experience.

## LETTERS

### THANKS FOR OUR FIREFIGHTERS

**I**wish to thank all members of the Cockburn Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade who were involved in fighting the recent fire in Henderson. You did a tremendous job.

It was most gratifying to know you were there, especially when the fire jumped across into Hurst Road. It was a very long day for you as we could see you checking until quite late in the night.

What a pity people who start these fires can't be caught and made to fight a fire at close range to see how difficult your job is.

Once again sincere thanks

*Vera and Ron Ruddick*

*215 Hurst Road, Henderson WA 6166*

### COOGEE BEACH NEEDS CARE

**T**he annual Between the Jetties swim/walk was held on Sunday, February 26, and attracted 40 swimmers. The walkers were a bit down on last year, perhaps due to the strong easterly winds.

I would point out that I am in no way connected with the Between the Jetties swim/walk but feel it is an event which has the right profile for Coogee Beach.

It was noticed that later in the day, the Coogee Beach and Reserve area was inundated with various sporting groups, including karate, touch football, cricket, soccer, jet-ski and scuba diving (on the beach), bowls, volleyball, as well as prize giving functions.

I can only assume that this was a "rent-a-crowd" exercise to justify the recent expenditure on new facilities and a caretaker, but I urge care must be taken that the fragile nature of the lawns and beach is not jeopardised in this pursuit of utility.

*Colin Crook*

*Doolette Street, Spearwood WA 6163*

# COCKBURN-BORN RAY IS A MAN OF THE PEOPLE

Ray Lees has become only the fourth person in the last 19 years to be honoured as a Freeman of the City of Cockburn.

The recognition follows unstinting service to the city for more than 20 years as a councillor, and for all his life as a private citizen.

The award certificate tells the story of Mr Lees' contribution to Cockburn. It is given to someone who "endears himself to the community by the manner in which he has devoted himself to the public welfare. And by his enthusiasm and sincerity has attained the respect and admiration of visitors to the municipality."

Few descriptions could better summarise Ray Lees' lifelong devotion and contribution to his birthplace of Cockburn.

Currently serving his third term as mayor - and in his 23rd consecutive year as a councillor - Ray Lees has seen Cockburn develop from a shire to township and now to a thriving city.

While much has changed in the area during his 67 years, some things remain the same.

"I first became a councillor in 1973 when the people of Wattleup asked me to represent their concerns about quarries in the area," he said. "And 23 years later I'm still objecting to quarries-some things never change."

But the modest mayor has instigated and

overseen many improvements to his beloved Cockburn. "As a councillor, my most satisfying achievement has been to help make Wattleup a nice little townsite.

"There was nothing there at all in 1973 - no facilities whatsoever."

The 'nice little townsite' is now complete with parks, community halls, child health and care facilities, as well as sporting facilities.

Improvements to the Bibra Lake foreshore also gladden the freeman's heart. "In the early days, Bibra Lake was a landfill - now it's an important environmental wetland system," he said.

*"And 23 years later I'm still objecting to quarries - some things never change"*

Manning Park - "the Kings Park of our district" and Coogee School are also recalled by Ray as he reviews his 20-plus years contribution to Cockburn.

He is equally quick to recall the contributions of his fellow councillors.

"These are not just my achievements-they are the whole Council's achievements," he said.

Ray believes his success in representing the interests of Cockburn's people comes from a lifetime of living and working in the area.

Beginning work at the age of 10, the man of the people has done almost everything, including delivering milk from a horse and cart, seen service as a merchant seaman, dug ditches, carried beef and owned and worked a family market garden.

His last 39 years were spent on the waterfront-a part of his life he recalls with pride.

The dogged spirit of the waterside worker was another important part of his longevity and success in local government.

"We worked hard in those days-shovelling coal and carrying sulphur," he remembers.

Retired for three years, Ray finally has time to devote to the almost full time position of mayor.

As well, he serves on the Bushfires Board, the WA Fire Brigade Board, he is a member of the Cockburn Underground Water Advisory Committee, patron of the Cockburn RSL, Cockburn Bowling Club and Jervoise Bay Sailing Club and the first life member of Cockburn Sea Rescue.

While no retirement date from local government is pencilled into his diary, he does have future goals for Cockburn already in mind. "The industrial buffer zones in Cockburn worry me," he said. "People have had this land for 100 years and now the government is telling them they can't build on it.

"I'm set to fight to get this changed. If I can benefit the City of Cockburn I'll do it."



Ray Lees . . . a lifetime of service.

INVITE A VETERAN TO YOUR SCHOOL  
An ANZAC Day service organised by Cockburn Sub-branch RSL was held outside Memorial Hall in Hamilton Hill. The service marked the 50th anniversary of the end of the war.

Schools and other community groups can invite an RSL 'veteran' for a visit and a talk. For details, contact Cockburn RSL President Ray Gray, tel 418 4180.

## WE'LL HELP YOU TO BECOME AN AUSSIE!

The City of Cockburn is able to assist people seeking to become Australian citizens. Application forms can be obtained at the Council's Administration desk or at the Spearwood Library.

Completed forms, along with a birth certificate and a \$55 fee, are taken to the Department of Immigration offices in Hay Street, West Perth, where applicants are interviewed by an Immigration Officer.



About one month after approval is received from Canberra, Council will invite successful applicants to a Citizenship Ceremony. These take place on Thursday evenings, every 6-8 weeks.

Cockburn welcomes around 400 new Australians each year.

For citizenship queries, contact Council or the Department of Immigration on 261 2292.

## Problems? Consult our JP service

The City of Cockburn can now offer a Justice of the Peace (JP) service for local residents. As from June 7, 1995, a JP will be available from an office within the Council's Administration building each Wednesday from 10am to 1pm, and on Thursdays from 2pm to 4pm. Appointments are required on Thursdays. These can be made by calling Council on 411 3444.

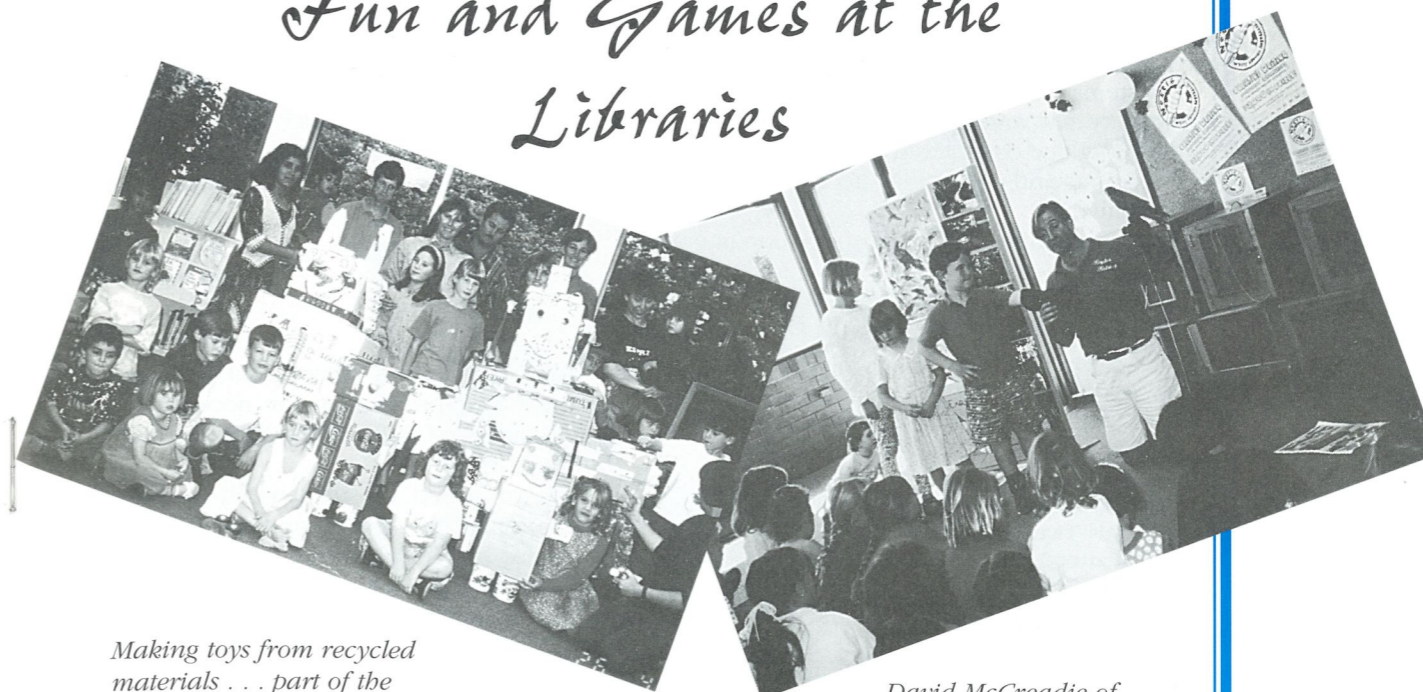
Residents can receive FREE legal advice from a JP on matters such as

- Affidavits
- Exhibits/Annexures
- Statutory Declarations
- Authorised copies
- Complaints
- Summons
- Warrants

Copies of relevant documents should be produced at the meeting with the JP.

In establishing this service, the co-operation and initiative of local Justices Miro Srdarov, Lindsay Crimp, Wally Hagan, Ron White, Don Miguel and Mayor Ray Lees is greatly appreciated. We hope residents will avail themselves of this opportunity.

## Fun and Games at the Libraries



Making toys from recycled materials . . . part of the school holiday fun at the library.

David McCreddie of Raptor Retreat entertaining children at the library.

# SOILS JUST AIN'T SOILS WITHOUT YOUR COMPOST

Every year Australians throw away thousands of tonnes of household waste. Approximately half of the domestic rubbish consists of kitchen and garden waste, most of which can be composted.

## **What is Composting?**

Composting is the controlled decay of organic matter in a warm, moist environment by the action of bacteria, moulds and other organisms. It has the effect of speeding up the natural breakdown of organic matter into a soil-like substance for use as garden mulch or soil conditioner.

Composting has been used in crop production for more than 4000 years and is one of the keys to soil care in rural and urban environments.

## **What are the benefits?**

The use of compost on your garden will:

- Save water by increasing the water-holding capacity of soil
- Improve soil structure
- Return nutrients that would otherwise be lost

- Save on fertilisers and soil improvers
- Reduce household waste by up to 50%. This will extend the life of landfill sites, and reduce problems caused by the leaching of organic matter into wetlands and the sea.
- Reduce smoke pollution from backyard burning or incinerators

## **How do I start composting?**

In the urban environment it is necessary to control the decomposition of waste in order to prevent the occurrence of nuisances (flies and odours). The best way to achieve this is by the use of a compost bin or tumbler.

Council sells compost bins for \$40. These bins, which have an open bottom, are best sited in a warm, sunny area in direct contact with loose soil to allow for drainage and entry of earthworms and micro-organisms.

For further information, please contact Council's Department of Environmental Services on 411 3444.

## **BIRDS CAUSE A FLUTTER**

*David McCreadie from the Raptor Retreat brought some of his feathered friends to local libraries during the recent school holidays.*

*David talked to children about birds of prey and how they are rehabilitated at Raptor Retreat.*

*Our libraries stock books and videos on birds, as well as information on plants that attract birds to gardens.*

*In another popular library attraction, Yvonne Ward, a child health nurse, demonstrated favourite toys that can be made from recycled materials at home. Children joined in by making library robots.*

# RECYCLING: WE CAN DO BETTER

Following a detailed assessment of options for the continuation of the kerbside recycling, Council decided in March to pursue the bag based system for the next two years. This option is clearly the most cost effective means of kerbside recycling for the City at present.

Detailed assessment of the bin-based systems will be carried out over the next two years and introduction of recycling bins will be considered should these investigations and community acceptance prove positive.

Recent surveys of the participation rate of

residents in recycling have shown that substantial improvements in participation are required.

Results showed participation rates across each of the City's suburbs to be as follows:-

BANJUP	51.3%
BIBRA LAKE	33.6
COOGEE	39.8%
COOLBELLUP	17.1%
HAMILTON HILL	29.1%
JANDAKOT	14.3%
LEEMING	35.0%
MUNSTER	35.8%
SOUTH LAKE	20.4%
SPEARWOOD	29.0%
WATTLEUP	21.9%
YANGEBUP	31.3%

While some areas show good participation levels, improvements are necessary to meet a target of 50% participation throughout the City.

It is proposed to substantially increase promotion of the service and the standard of service provided in order to raise participation rates.

Crates are also available to residents as an alternative container to bags should residents prefer them to bags.

Residents requiring further information on recycling, should contact Council's Environmental Services on 411 3444

## **ON THE WRITE TRACK**

A writing competition for year 6 and 7 students in Cockburn was launched in the libraries by Mayor Ray Lees in March.

The competition, sponsored by Nestle, involves writing a story of not more than 500 words. Twenty finalists (10 from each grade) will attend a workshop with WA author Glyn Parry. Final judging will be based on the entrant's original story, a reworked version, or a new version.

Nestle is also funding workshops by Glyn Parry at the Spearwood and Coolbellup Public Libraries for year 6 and 7 school groups during the week of June 26-29, 1995.

# From Dimboola to Day Care, Jean Willis Centre has it all

The Jean Willis Centre continues to provide a variety of services. They include day centre services, home respite, carer support, carer retreats, BBQ nights, library express and farmstay respite.

A recent activity was a Dimboola, held over several days to celebrate the marriage of Peter Murley, manager of day centre services. Similar to a wedding reception, the Dimboola included a special meal for guests in the Jean Willis Centre, which was decorated for the occasion with balloons, streamers, tulle and party lights.

Currently, the day centre requires volunteers to maintain its high standard of services. Volunteers mostly assist with clients,

and serve lunches and morning teas.

There is a special need for volunteers to help with craft activity.

Volunteers receive training and meals are provided both at the centre, and during outings.

Anyone who can help out should contact Peter Murley or Ann Kelly on 314 6363. You will be invited to the Jean Willis Centre for a chat and a look around.

Volunteers are acknowledged annually by Council and the State Government with a luncheon. The reward for those who help this most deserving cause comes in the satisfaction that you will experience, having given something back to your local community.

## OWZAT FOR A GREAT WAY TO CELEBRATE AUSTRALIA DAY

It began as a neighbours' get-together...and has developed into something of an Australia Day institution at Bavich Park. Four years ago, the Purdie, Ranford and Langridge families of Spearwood organised a cricket match, which included the other essential Australia Day elements of BBQs, snaggers, tomato sauce and eskies full of cold drinks.

A 20-metre "trek" across to the park from the homes of the contestants saw the Australian flag being raised prior to the start of festivities. "From humble beginnings,

several Spearwood families and numerous unknown kids have enjoyed the day," says Norm Purdie. "It has become a day we all look forward to...even the dubious umpiring decisions."

A trophy donated by former Sheffield Shield player Darryl Smith is awarded to the player of the match, which finishes with the lowering of the flag to the strains of Advance Australia Fair.

"Australia Day is special to all our families and we will continue our celebrations for many years to come," Norm added.



■ Australia Day becomes a family affair in Bavich Park.

# AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS FOR THREE OF THE BEST

Awards were made to three worthy recipients at Cockburn's second annual Australia Day function.

**Citizen of the Year** - Steve Srhoy, a silver medalist in the 1994 Commonwealth Games

**Young Citizen of the Year** - Janine Heath (Netball)

**Community Event of the Year** - Cockburn Volunteer Emergency Service



(May, 1994, storm damage response) Council is keen to hear of others who can be considered for these awards as a result of outstanding effort or achievement during the calendar year 1995.

Nominations will be called for later in the year, but residents are asked to keep note of people or events they consider worthy of mention. More details of the 1995 awards will appear in future editions of Soundings.

## Meals on Wheels from Yangebup

The City of Cockburn, in conjunction with the City of Fremantle's Stan Reilly Centre, is to launch an innovative way to deliver Meals on Wheels. Cockburn's meals will in future be delivered from the Yangebup Family Centre, in Dunraven Way, rather than from Fremantle.

Coordinator Julie Goor said: "The creation of a central distribution point for Meals on Wheels in Cockburn will ease the pressure on the resources of the Stan Reilly Centre while continuing the high standards of the present service."



Julie Goor

Julie said the scheme would also give the Cockburn community a greater opportunity to participate in the service, as volunteer drivers or assistants would no longer have to travel to Fremantle to help out.

If you can spare between one or two hours per week to help the Meals on Wheels service, please contact Julie Goor on 417 2156 or call the Yangebup Family Centre on 417 9995.

Full training and on-going support, plus a mileage allowance, is provided.

## HARRY IS SURE TO BE MISSED

It is with regret that the Cockburn Volunteer Sea Search and Rescue note the passing of one of its longest serving members, Harry Todd.

Harry donated over 15 years to the group in all areas of its operations. He gave first aid training to most members of the Sea Rescue Group.

Due to his length of service and his dedication to the group, Harry was made a life member in December 1992.

Our condolences go out to all of Harry's family and friends. He will be sorely missed in the group.

At Harry's request he was cremated in his Sea Rescue uniform at Fremantle. His ashes were scattered over Cockburn Sound from the rescue boat *Avail*.

## RED CROSS PLEA FOR EXTRA HELP

The annual Red Cross Appeal, held in March, was less successful than in previous years, a result attributed to a decrease in volunteers willing to doorknock. Cockburn raised less than \$4000 this year, as against nearer \$8000 in previous years.

Council extends its thanks to those people who generously donated their time and money to this very worthy cause.

Our thanks, also, to Wally Hagan for again coordinating Cockburn's collection, and to Watson's Foods, who have been feeding the collection team for many years.

Council would like to encourage residents to think about next year's Red Cross Appeal, and to offer their services as collectors.

Correspondence to  
Cockburn Soundings  
should be addressed  
to:

City of Cockburn,  
PO Box 1215,  
Bibra Lake,  
WA 6163

REMEMBER THE THREE R's . . . REUSE, RECYCLE and REDUCE