

Cockburn Soundings

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A VISION FOR THE FUTURE UNVEILED

The City of Cockburn has taken another step towards quality customer service with the launch of an action plan and vision statement for 1996.

Both the plan and statement are the result of almost 12 months of enterprise bargaining consultations involving Council management and staff.

This new strategy aims to promote an environment of total customer focus through a combination of staff empowerment and accountability for actions.

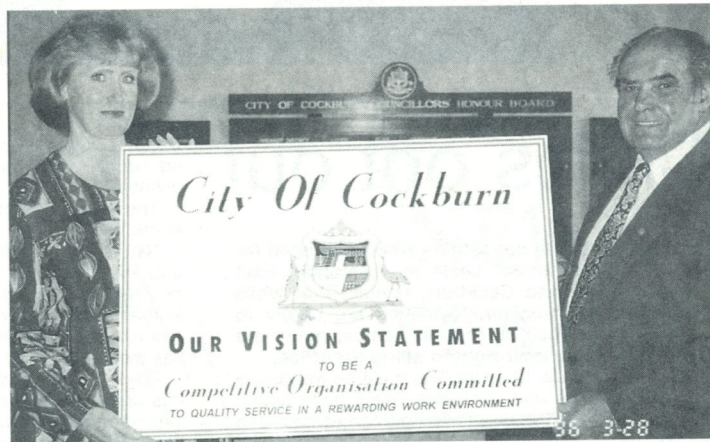
The City's vision to be a competitive organisation committed to quality service in a rewarding work environment, is a reflection of the modern

business approach being adopted by government instrumentalities around Australia.

For staff it will mean a better workplace that will reward and encourage best practices and endeavour to provide a sound base from which to cope with a changing world.

Of equal importance, the commitments made by the Council will mean the Cockburn community can expect a high standard of service and a progressive outlook from its local authority.

Mayor Ray Lees and staff representative Fayhe Hide shared the honour of unveiling the future direction of the City of Cockburn at a special function recently.



Staff representative Fayhe Hide and Mayor Ray Lees, proudly display the City of Cockburn's Vision Statement



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Administration Centre
Coleville Crescent
(corner of
Rockingham Road)
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Monday-Friday
Telephone: 411 3444

INSIDE THIS BUMPER ISSUE...

- ◆ RESULTS OF THE RED CROSS DOORKNOCK
- ◆ SUCCESSFUL TRIALING OF DOGGY TOILETS
- ◆ NEWS ABOUT RECYCLING . . . AND LOTS MORE

LOTTO NUMBERS COME UP FOR COMMUNITY CENTRE

South Lake newsagent William Tan has been awarded the Lottery Commission's Outstanding Achievement Award and the Ottey Family Neighbourhood Centre in South Lake could not be happier.

William and his wife Nancy came to the attention of the Lotteries Commission selection panel for their outstanding customer service, friendliness, knowledge of lottery products and premises presentation.

The Award included a \$500 cheque which the couple kindly donated to the Ottey Centre.

"It is important for locals to look after other locals," said Mr Tan.

"The Ottey Centre does a wonderful

job and they deserve every bit of help they can get."

Chairman of Ottey's Board and former Councillor John Duggan, gratefully received the cheque from the Tans and assured William that the funds would go towards important family support services in the area.

"There is nothing else like Ottey in the area and the togetherness / support that people get is very heartening," Mr Duggan said.

William, Nancy and their shop assistant Veronica Caudwell are hard at work in their next quest - to win a sales award which they intend to donate to a local senior citizens group.



William and Nancy Tan (right) hand-over the cheque to Ottey Chairperson John Duggan while their assistant Veronica Caudwell looks on

Critics opt out

THE number of candidates who nominated for local government seats in Fremantle, East Fremantle and Cockburn reveals that while ratepayers in some municipalities are happy to exercise their vocal chords as critics, many are loath to exercise their right to stand for office.

East Fremantle's 12 councillors must be wondering if their numerous and unstinting critics have upped stumps and moved as only three new candidates have nominated for office.

At last count, there were close to 7000 ratepayers living in the town.

Councillors Robyn Travers and Liz Lovell have been returned unopposed, while the only opposition to former mayor and long-serving councillor Ian Handcock in Woodside ward comes from Kim Cauchi, who has already spent considerable time opposing state government plans to widen Canning Highway.

Only two candidates will contest Preston Point ward, left vacant following the retirement of John

Donovan. Of the two, Alf Turner has previously served on council while his opponent Ben England is an unknown.

The same apathetic attitude cannot be said to exist in Fremantle.

Nineteen candidates will contest five seats, with only Beaconsfield councillor Morris Caputi being returned unopposed. Fremantle ratepayers are equal to their East Fremantle neighbours when it comes to rubbishing council decisions and it seems that rubbish has motivated many to stand for election.

The city's controversial waste minimisation scheme has drawn unprecedented numbers to council meetings, provoked rowdy responses at a public meeting in March and forced a referendum on the issue this month.

Further afield in Cockburn, the only ward to attract a new candidate is West ward, while councillors Logan Howlett, Dino Elpitelli and deputy mayor John Grljusich have been returned unopposed.

Ratepayers who continue to bemoan the decisions made by their elected members after the May 4 polling date will do well to remember their complicity in these actions.

Reprinted from the Fremantle Gazette, 12/4/96

SPECIAL OLYMPIANS FIND A NEW HOME

CONGRATULATIONS

The City of Cockburn extends congratulations to the editor of the Fremantle/Cockburn Gazette Jim Kelly on his appointment to the parliamentary round at Community Newspaper's head office. We also take this opportunity to congratulate local journalist Mick Paskos on accepting Jim's previous role. Councillors and staff wish both Jim and Mick all the best for the future.

ANOTHER WELCOME...

The City also extends a warm welcome to Kerry Fawkner who has now joined the Gazette.

When the Western Australian Special Olympics people found themselves displaced from one of their usual training venues, the South Lake Leisure Centre stepped in and filled the breach.

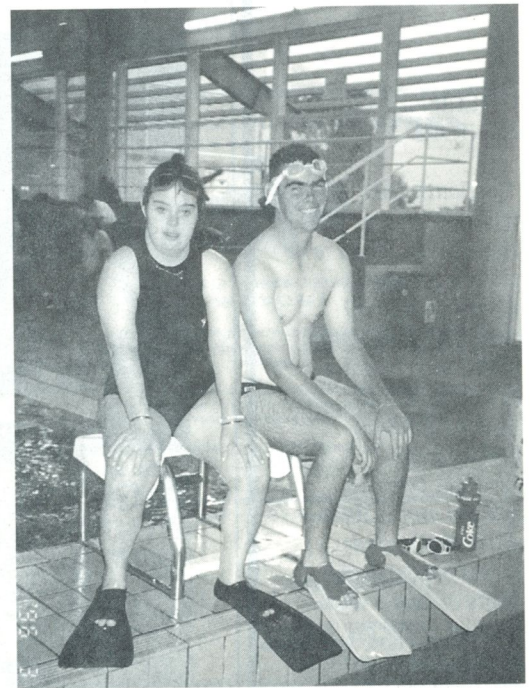
The Centre kindly offered the use of the pool for the group's swimming programs and the main stadium for basketball.

Special Olympic programs started life in the United States during 1968 and provide year round sports and training competitions for athletes with intellectual disabilities. Their inspiring oath is "let me win, but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."

Spokesperson Sherryl McDonald says that the program has gone from strength to strength since its inception, due mainly to the strong support of athletes, parents and a loyal band of volunteers who act as officials, coaches and other support roles.

The philosophy of the organisation is founded on the belief that people with such disabilities can, with proper instruction and encouragement, learn, enjoy and benefit from participation in individual and team sports that have been adapted to meet the special needs of those with physical and mental limitations.

Volunteer coach Sheree Sneddon holds a training meet at the Leisure Centre each Wednesday between 6pm and 7.30pm. Budding Olympians or volunteers can register their interest by calling Lari at the Centre on 417 3003.



Two of the Special Olympians, Davina Weeks and Andrew McDonald enjoying their new training ground.

NEWS FLASH

The election results in the West Ward are as follows:

Councillor Marinko Pecotic and Councillor Joe Gianoli have both retained their seats.

All other positions remain unchanged.

LIFE TURNS SWEET FOR LUCKY LORRAINE

When Lorraine Downer of South Lake decided to buy an ice-cream after a quick swim at the South Lake Leisure Centre, little did she realise the effect that purchase would have.

Ms Downer was recently announced the lucky winner of the Centre's Summer Promotion and was presented with a huge hamper of confectionary products donated by local manufacturers.

Almost a thousand entries were received from people who purchased products made by Peters and Brownes over the summer months and Lorraine's name was drawn

"I was staggered when Centre staff telephoned and ask me to call in to pick up my giant basket of goodies," she said

"I arrived down there to find Mike Winchester from the City of Cockburn and Centre's Claire Tempelman, sorting through a huge pile of ice-creams and chocolates."

As the mother of two hungry children, Lorraine should have no trouble disposing of her prize and mentioned the possibility of arranging an Ice-Cream Video Night at her house soon.

Lucky Lorraine Downer of South Lake discovers the extent of her prize.



CALLING ALL SENIORS

The South Lake Senior Citizens Association (Inc.) is looking for more members aged 50 plus. The Association meets each Monday at Jandakot Hall, Anning Park on Forrest Road, Jandakot between 1.00pm and 3.30pm. Activities include carpet bowls, darts, crafts or just a chat. Tea and coffee are provided and outings are arranged. Enquiries can be made to 417 3139 or 417 3301.

DOG 'LOO' PROVES TO BE A SUCCESS

The perennial problem of dog excreta being left in local parks and reserves may become a thing of the past if recent trials of a doggy loo are any indication.

The City of Cockburn has been conducting extensive trialing of an initiative involving plastic bags

Members of the public have been quick to assist the scheme by reminding offenders to pick up after their pets and drawing the attention of dog owners to the bright yellow bags that have been sign posted in prominent places throughout the area.

City rangers look forward to continued support from the general public and are pleased to receive any com-

ments or complaints regarding this issue on telephone 411 3444.



"Pongo" owned by the South West Group's Charlotte Stockwell, carrying her loo on a recent walk.

LOCAL POLICE RECEIVE RECOGNITION

Cockburn and Hilton Police officers were recently presented with Community Awards by Mayor Ray Lees, in recognition of their high standard of service provided to citizens.

Sgt. Roland (Roley) Dickens of Cockburn and Sgt. Geoff Little of Hilton stations, were instrumental in establishing the new Police Services now in place throughout the City of Cockburn.

These include a regular presence of the Mounted Police and the Mobile Policing facility which uses a caravan-type police station in trouble spots.

The traditional bobbies on bicycles are back too, thanks to the support of both Sgt Dickens and Sgt Little, who promoted the use officers on push bikes to patrol suburban streets, pathways, beach fronts and shops.

The Community Awards were presented at the conclusion of the March Cockburn District Neighbourhood Watch meeting which was attended by the Mayor, Cockburn Deputy City Manager Don Green, newly appointed district Chief of Police Bill Maston

and local suburban managers.

A short reception was also held following the presentation to thank the officers for their support where Mayor Lees commended their efforts and made special mention of the new initiatives that have contributed to Coolbellup being crime free for a number of months.

**COCKBURN CRIME BUSTERS
NEEDS YOU**



**IN NEIGHBOURHOOD
WATCH !**

The Cockburn District Neighbourhood Watch Committee needs the services of a Volunteer Minutes Secretary to assist at their monthly meetings.

If you have two hours per month to spare, neat hand writing and the desire to help your community stamp out crime, then your Neighbourhood Watch Committee wants to hear from you!

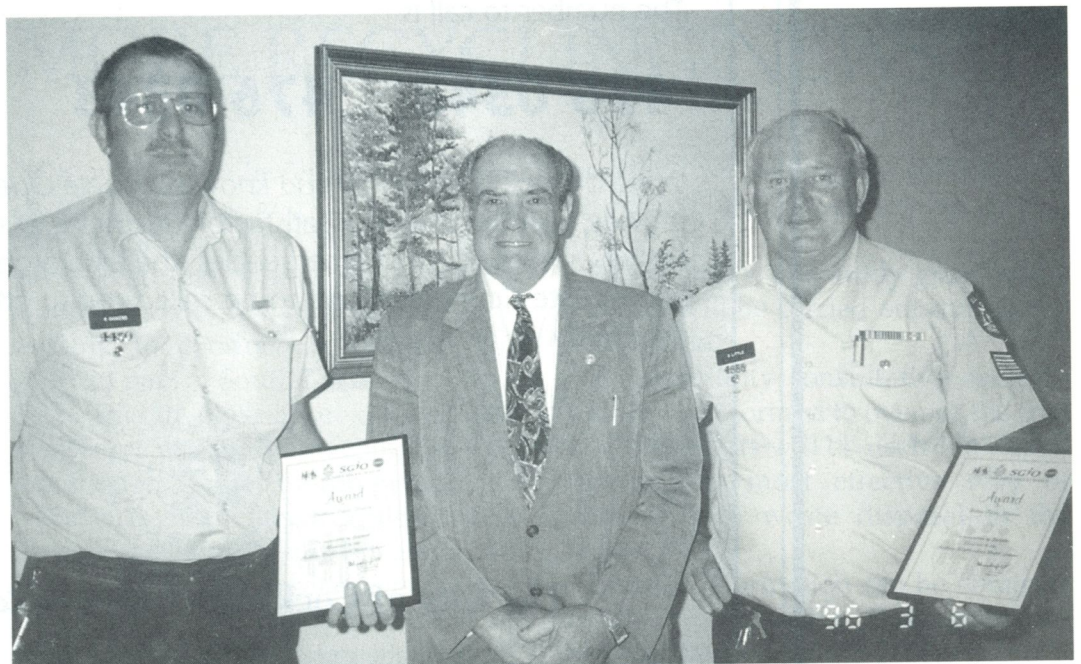
Please Contact Laurie Humphreys on
337 4850

Training and support will be provided and previous secretarial skills are not essential.



City of Cockburn
Striving for the Best
proud sponsor of
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Mayor Ray Lees presents Sgt. Dickens (left) and Sgt. Little with their awards.



AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS ANNOUNCED

A large group of people were on hand to see the presentation of the annual Australia Day Awards for WA at a special function held earlier this year.

The then federal Health Minister Carmen Lawrence was on hand to present nominees from various regions around the State.

The Cockburn area recipients were a worthy group indeed. Citizen of the Year Karen Pryce-Howells of Coolbellup, received her award in recognition of the enormous amount of voluntary work she does for injured domestic animals and wildlife.

Karen has never refused to give assistance to anyone with a sick crea-

ture and was this popular choice for this prestigious accolade.

The Young Citizen of the Year award went to Ean Grieve of Hamilton Hill for his outstanding dedication to the performing arts.

Ean is no newcomer to success, having choreographed an original dance production called "The Obsolete Monster" which won the 1995 Education Department Quest for Excellence Award

A Community Group award went to Granary House for a fine service provided in the area of food provision for needy people throughout the community.

NEW

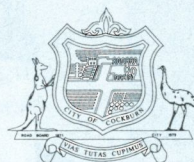
AFTER HOURS INFORMATION & SUPPORT SERVICE

Council is pleased to announce a new Customer Service which will provide information and answer Customer questions outside of normal working hours. The "old" after hours answering machine has made way for technology, with callers now being connected to a "real" person who will either handle the inquiry on the spot, or suggest an appropriate action. Customers can use this service between 5pm and 8.15am weekdays, and 24 hours on weekends and public holidays.

The number to call is

476 0343 476 0343 476 0343

In most cases, the friendly and knowledgeable Operators will be able to provide Customers with a satisfactory response at the time of their call. However in the case of emergencies, the Operators will arrange for the appropriate Council Officers to be called out to attend to the situation personally.



The City of Cockburn – Striving for the Best

RECYCLING PARTICIPATION CONTINUES TO GROW

The overall recycling participation rate in the City of Cockburn continues to climb with figures showing an increase of 4.87 per cent during 1995/96. Currently, some 32 per cent of residents joining in the recycle rush.

Senior Environmental Health Officer John Hardy has the daunting job of coordinating all that recycling. John admits he is pleased that so many suburbs showed an upturn in putting out material for the fortnightly collections.

"Part of the upturn has resulted from residents having the option of using either free issued bags or reusable plastic crates on sale at the Council for \$9," John said.

Banjup, Bibra Lake, Coogee, Munster and Yangebup recorded the highest participation rates in the region. A massive total of 1,215 tonnes of material was collected from households involved in the recycling initiatives.

Residents can also rejuvenate their gardens with the help of the City of Cockburn's worm farms and compost cones.

These items are available from the Council offices, with the worm farms costing \$50 and the cones \$40.



Senior Environmental Health Officer John Hardy, feeling overwhelmed by the local recycling response.

MORE RECYCLING NEWS . . .

In an effort to better address waste minimisation and recycling, the City of Cockburn and the South West Regional Waste Management Council have entered into a joint partnership to conduct a "divided bin trial" in part of South Lake.

The trial involves approximately 300 residences and is due to commence in late June for a three month period.

The current 240 litre wheelie bin will be replaced by a 140 litre bin and a 240 litre split bin. The smaller version will be used for the weekly collection of food waste and the larger bin will be

provided for fortnightly collection of recyclable and non-recyclable materials.

Additionally, a monthly green waste pick-up will be carried out during the trial period.

A community consultative committee has been formed to oversee the trial and the results will be useful in deciding on the most effective way of dealing with waste disposal in the region.

Further information can be obtained from the Council's Environmental Services Section on 411 3444.

COCKBURN SHOWS THE WAY IN RED CROSS KNOCK

COCKBURN PENSIONER'S NEWS

The Cockburn Branch of the Australian Pensioners' League of Western Australia (Inc.) meet in the old council chambers at the corner of Rockingham and Forrest Roads, Hamilton Hill every second Tuesday at 1.30pm. Following the meeting, an afternoon tea is served and a round of Bingo commences. Outings and social gatherings are arranged from time to time. Any person interested is welcome to enquire on 331 1175

In the last issue of Cockburn Soundings, we asked the readers to assist with the 1996 Red Cross Doorknock Appeal and once again the community came through.

The State Fund Raising Co-ordinator of the Australian Red Cross Retired Colonel Wal Riley, has praised the people of Cockburn for their generosity in raising a total of \$11,220.53 for the Appeal. This represents a 50 per cent increase on last year and is an especially worthy effort in these tight economic times.

The City of Cockburn started the ball rolling by making a \$5,000 donation at the start of the project in mid-March. Local resident and former Councillor Wally Hagan, again volunteered his services as co-ordinator of collectors, recruiting ten groups of over 60 people.

Among the faithful were members of Cockburn Sea Search and Rescue, the Royal Australian Army, Scouts, Guides in addition to a host of other residents including North Ward Councillor Logan Howlett and his wife.

City Manager Rod Brown, praised the efforts of Mr Hagan and thanked all the volunteers who participated in the event.

Colonel Riley reports that by mid-April, a grand total of \$341,000 had been raised throughout the State. These funds will be used to aid bush-fire victims, for first-aid training, soup patrols, blood transfusion services, nursing home services and assisting tracing agency efforts.

If you intended to give an amount to the Appeal but did not receive a call from a collector during March, donations can still be sent to:

Red Cross Appeal
c/- City of Cockburn
P.O. Box 1215
BIBRA LAKE WA 6163

A postage stamp is not required.

Wally Hagan (left), Mayor Ray Lees and Retired Col. Wal Riley with some of the Red Cross donations.



ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS BEGUN FOR TWO RESERVES

Environmental Management Plans (EMP's) for the Denis De Young Reserve in Banjup and the Freshwater Parade Public Open Space in Atwell have recently been commenced.

Both of these reserves contain significant wetland and bushland areas that have substantial conservation values. The former being recently made part of the Jandakot Botanic Park in recognition of those values.

The Management Plans for each area aim to conserve and protect these natural assets whilst allowing for appropriate recreational usage by the local community.

The EMP for Denis De Young

Reserve is being prepared by Bowman Bishaw Gorham Environmental Consultants in conjunction with Commarc Community Architects and Planners. The Freshwater Parade EMP is being prepared by another consultant, Ecologia Environmental Consultants.

The development of EMP's will involve considerable community consultation in order to gain community views and inputs in relation to the management of the reserves. Interested residents are invited to contact either Carolyn Ozturk at Commarc on 271 2828 or Teresa Gepp at Ecologia on 328 7873 for the comments on the respective Reserve.

LOCAL VENUE BEING USED FOR FEATURE FILM

The South Lake Leisure Centre was a hive of activity recently when staff and students from Murdoch University's Media Department used the venue as the setting for their latest film production.

The group were working on part of a trilogy titled "Critical Thinking .. In Context", due to be released later in the year as a teaching aid production.

Producer/director of Murdoch's Academic Services Unit Linda Butcher, said that by filming at locations throughout the surrounding community, students have the opportunity of being in real life situations with all the associated distractions, challenges, rewards and experiences.

"Learning comes in many forms, not just the traditional classroom style," Ms Butcher said.

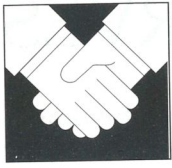
"It is important that students learn through life experiences, social interactions and recreation."

"Critical Thinking..In Context" is a Gripping Film production funded by the Committee for the Advancement

of University Teaching. Further information can be obtained from either Linda Butcher or the Audio-visual Unit at Murdoch University on telephone 360 2350.



Linda Butcher (operating light) and her student film crew on location at the South Lake Leisure Centre.



**COCKBURN CWA
CAN PROVIDE
MANY OPPORTU-
NITIES**

The Cockburn Country Women's Association can offer local ladies a host of interesting opportunities and a good deal of friendship along the way. The following calendar gives details:

On the first Thursday of each month, a social morning is held commencing at 9.30 am

On the second Thursday of each month, a business meeting is held. This also commences at 9.30 am.

The fourth Thursday of each month is set aside for handcraft meetings and lessons. An afternoon session is devoted to a segment called Home, Farm and Garden.

If you would like further details, please contact Valda Ellement on 418 1725

CITY'S DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORKING FOR YOU

As the Council and its staff move into a new era of customer commitment, services and facilities in Cockburn have come under review in the Disability Service Plan.

Councillors, consumers with disabilities, as well as family and friends of people with disabilities have formed an advisory committee and are working closely with Council staff to improve access to services and activities within the City.

Various aspects of improving services for people with disabilities have been identified with the help of this committee. Some of these issues are:

- * Priority rubbish service for those unable to bring their bin to the kerb.
- * Identification of areas with poor street lighting for the visually impaired.
- * Improved signage at Council premises.

* Giving priority to kerb ramps over normal footpath maintenance.

* Consideration to providing Council information in braille, on audio tape

A very important role of the Advisory Committee is to find out what people with disabilities in Cockburn need in the way of services and facilities. They will then work with Councillors and staff to address those issues.

Your Committee members are Pamela Barras, Gary and Bev Ross, Fred Mooibroek, Cr Nola Waters, Cr Ev Wegner, Fran Glynn, Don Green, Gill Palmer, Michelle Hodgson, Mayla Marolini and Ian Keating.

If you believe you have some suggestions, please contact the Community Development Officer at City of Cockburn, Free Post No. 2 PO Box 1215 Bibra Lake WA 6163. A postage stamp is not required.

NO EGGS ON THIS LIBRARIAN

The usual peace and quiet of the Coolbellup library was shattered recently when the Branch's librarian Vicki Tkacz, hit the magical 40.

Vicki arrived at work on her birthday only to find the premises festooned with life-size photographs of her from the age of three to the present.

Library staff and patrons had conspired to celebrate the big occasion with the birthday-girl and even turned the courtyard into a henhouse for a lunchtime treat.

A giant chicken was the guest of honour, assisting Vicki to perform the birdie dance, perfect her cackle and to lay an egg at the end of the performance.

Rumour has it that the Gilbert and Sullivan Society are now very keen to audition Vicki for an upcoming season of Animal Farm.



Local librarian Vicki Tkacz showing that she is still a spring chicken.

MIDGE TRIALS CARRIED OUT ON NORTH LAKE

Cockburn Council in conjunction with several other local authorities, recently commissioned Murdoch University to carry out trials on an alternative midge larvicide on North Lake.

The trials were conducted in enclosures on the eastern side of North Lake during February and March.

A new larvicide called Methoprene, was tried as an alternative to the current midge control chemical Abate. These trials followed extensive testing by the university which produced promising results.

Methoprene is an insect growth regulator which prevents midge larvae from developing into adults. These products have potentially less harmful impacts on the wetland environment.

Unfortunately the trial results have also shown that the alternative larvicide is not effective against midge larvae when applied at the rate recommended by the manufacturer. Although disappointing, the City is keen to trial a different formulation of Methoprene next summer.

OUR INTEGRATED MIDGE CONTROL STRATEGY

In February of this year, Cockburn Council adopted an integrated midge control strategy as its preferred approach to midge control over the next four to five years.

The aim of the strategy is to reduce the impact of nuisance midge on residents within the City, to acceptable levels via the development of long-term environmentally sensitive control strategies.

The present midge problem is a major symptom of the continued eutrophication and degradation of urban wetlands. Bibra, North and Yangebup Lakes are all highly eutrophic and provide ideal conditions for midge to proliferate over the other insects present within the wetland environment.

When such a situation arises, the natural predation of midge by other insects is limited and they take over the area with their growth being boosted by regular algal blooms upon which they feed.

Any chemical control must therefore be viewed as a short-term measure

only. The answer in the longer term is to restore eutrophic and degraded wetlands to a condition whereby natural ecosystem balance recurs and midge numbers are controlled as part of the overall natural balance.

The key to providing effective control of midge within the City's wetlands is considered to lie in the development of a range of integrated control measures which essentially aim to restore water quality and natural ecosystem balance to the problem areas.

A range of specific strategies have been developed to deal with the issue in an integrated manner. The Strategy sets out individual strategies relating to water quality, water levels, chemical treatment, buffers, revegetation, light traps, community education, research and monitoring.

The Strategy can be perused at the City of Cockburn libraries and a copy can be obtained by calling in at the Council offices or by telephone on 411 3444.

SCHOOL BREAK A REAL ADVENTURE

During the April school holidays, City of Cockburn Youth Services made a huge range of activities available to local children between the ages of 12 and 17.

Participants enjoyed the usual fun and games, with additional special events such as camel riding, canoeing,

waterslides and a chance to talk to the animals at Perth Zoo followed by a river cruise.

Youth Services Co-ordinator Paul Royce and Youth Worker Nadine Keefe, made sure their young chargers obtained the maximum amount of enjoyment from the activities on offer.

*Correspondence to
Cockburn Soundings
should be addressed to:
City of Cockburn,
PO Box 1215,
Bibra Lake,
WA 6163*



Youth Services Co-ordinator Paul Royce, taking time to talk with the animals.

**Cockburn
Soundings
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(AIMM)

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Rhonda Benjamin

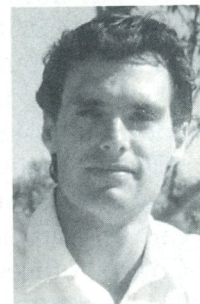
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SOME NEW FACES WELCOMED

The City of Cockburn recently welcomed a couple of new young staff members to its ranks.

Roger Longhurst (25), has joined the City as a trainee Environmental Health Officer and will become involved with a variety of tasks including infectious disease notifications, midge monitoring and testing swimming pool water samples.



Roger

Roger believes the traineeship will give him an insight into the profession and provide the opportu-

nity to gain valuable experience in tandem with university studies. His outside activities include cycling, surfing and the martial arts.

Vance Thompson (22), also joined the City recently as a trainee draftsman. Vance is a qualified architectural draftsman and is working towards an Associate Diploma in Building Surveying.

He says the good points of his new position are helping to work through the problems of builders and architects.



Vance