

Cockburn Soundings

AUGUST 2011

SUSTAINABLE COCKBURN EDITION

Cockburn's sustainable future



Cockburn has been recognised in the 2011 National Awards for Local Government for its climate change and sustainability program.

Mayor Logan Howlett said the City invests more than \$650,000 in renewable energy systems, research, new technology, policy and community engagement each year.

"Waste management initiatives include partnering to capture gas from landfill, a recycle shop and the introduction of weekly recycling," Mayor Howlett said.

"Other innovations include installation of 380 solar photovoltaic panels over six community buildings with live energy data available online via our virtual power station."

"Community engagement is also a key focus with grants supporting sustainable living choices, free advice and courses on water and energy consumption, eco-fashion workshops and more."

Overwhelming community response indicated local commitment to sustainable living.

"This award demonstrates the important leadership role local government can play in community climate change action," Mayor Howlett said.

Cockburn also recently launched a sustainable online home, where you can take a virtual tour of a real home and get tips to save water and energy at your place <http://ecockburn.com.au/>.

To learn more, visit www.cockburn.wa.gov.au/sustainability.

**1300 COSAFE**

24/7 COCKBURN SAFETY AND SECURITY SERVICE

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9 Coleville Crescent
Spearwood WA
P 9411 3444
www.cockburn.wa.gov.au



This document is available in alternative formats on request.

CITY OF COCKBURN
Supporting the environment



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RECYCLED PAPER



Cockburn takes home Friendly Beach Award



The City of Cockburn’s Coogee Beach has been awarded Western Australia’s Friendly Beach Award for visitor facilities and forging links with its indigenous history.

Cockburn Mayor Logan Howlett said this award displayed the City’s commitment to providing first-class facilities and access for people of all ages and abilities to enjoy this beautiful beach.

“These include easy access to the jetty and beach for people with disabilities and the elderly through the provision of asphalt paths and a concrete ramp. The City recently installed beach access matting for people in wheelchairs or prams, and provides access to beach wheelchairs to allow safe access,” he said.

“The City has recently employed a full-time caretaker to assist with maintaining the amenity of Coogee Beach reserve. The caretaker is also able to assist visitors with information on facilities, promote safety of visitors and provide assistance to visitors should they require it.”

The City also received a commendation in the Environmental Protection Awards.

Mayor Howlett said the City had established an excellent rapport with local community groups and other stakeholders, working together to enhance and protect the environment.

“The City works closely with the Friends of Coogee Beach, Coastcare, Coogee Beach Surf Life Saving Club (SLSC), Coogee Beach Progress Association and organisations such as Conservation Volunteers Australia on a range of projects, including planting, clean-ups and environmental education tours,” he said.

The Clean Beaches Awards are run by Keep Australia Beautiful WA with support from the Department of Environment and Conservation.



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www.cockburn.wa.gov.au and click on the link.

Also see our weekly update in the Cockburn Gazette.

Message from the Mayor



During the recent Assembly of Local Government in Canberra the City received a Building Australian Communities national award in the category of 'Leading Community Climate Change'. The award recognises local governments that have taken action to promote energy efficiency and greenhouse gas reductions within their communities.

Details of all the award category winners can be found at www.regional.gov.au/local/awards. The winners showcase the diverse range of innovative thinking that occurs across all communities in Australia and how these dreams and aspirations are turned into 'real' opportunities for the local community. In many cases, they demonstrate the portability of the projects to other communities.

Further details of the City's award can be found in this publication.

Congratulations are extended to all members of staff for their continued engagement of the community in the field of climate change and sustainability and for the professionalism and passion they bring to their work.

On another note, I commend the schools across our community for the excellent contribution they are making to the growth and sustainability of our City and, of course, to the education of our children. From singing and poetry festivals, the operation of the school assemblies through to the development of community gardens, community planting days, participation in the student 'Dive into Volunteering' competition and the 'adopt a park' program, our students are in good hands. The many other activities the school communities engage in throughout the year create opportunities for our children to learn and develop a sense of community pride. Congratulations to our school communities for a job well done.

In closing, volunteering continues to be a growth area in our community and, on behalf the elected members and staff, I take this opportunity to thank all of you who have contributed in a volunteer capacity in whatever field of endeavour – your efforts are sincerely appreciated.

Logan K Howlett, JP

Mayor

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Community Perceptions Survey 2011 outcomes

This annual survey provides an insight into how the City of Cockburn’s services are perceived. The City uses these results to evaluate and adjust its programs. The survey is conducted by an independent consultant using a random sample of residents across all suburbs.

What you say we do well

Overall resident satisfaction has increased to 83% this year and you told us you were very satisfied with the following services:

- Introduction of weekly recycling collections
- Library and Information Services
- City’s website
- Rubbish collection including verge-side pick up
- Cockburn Soundings – Council’s newsletter to residents
- Customer service
- Parks and gardens
- Bushfire prevention and control
- Seniors services and facilities
- Festivals and events, ie Summer of Fun
- Street lighting



What residents rate as most important

- Safety and security
- Parks and gardens
- Roads: traffic and maintenance
- The general appearance of the local area
- Noise, dust, odour and emissions
- Youth services
- Environment
- Access to public transport



What major infrastructure is planned and underway?

Some examples:

- GP Super Clinic, Allied Health, Library and offices – \$44 million
- Coogee Surf Lifesaving Club Stage 2 – \$6.5M (total cost \$9M)
- Emergency Services Headquarters, Cockburn Central, commence construction \$2.5M (total cost \$4M)
- Bibra Lake Management Plan – \$13.1M over nine years
- Spearwood Avenue (Sudlow/Barrington) – construction of a four-lane road \$867,000 (total cost \$11.6M)
- Beeliar Drive – construction of a second carriageway including streetlighting and landscaping \$350,000 (total cost \$2.2M)
- Hammond Road – construction of a second carriageway including streetlighting and landscaping \$2M (total cost \$3.6M)

To view a copy of the Community Perception Survey 2011, visit www.cockburn.wa.gov.au



What we can do better

The community has clearly identified three areas for improvement.

1. General appearance of the local area
2. Management and control of traffic
3. Safety and security





Wind-Mapping

Cockburn residents and businesses can now access local wind data online.

The City of Cockburn has mapped local wind data at 204 sites in partnership with Murdoch University.

Mayor Logan Howlett said the mapping shows average wind speeds across Cockburn, ranging from 4 to 5 metres per second, and offers detailed wind data per site, working from a 1km x 1km grid.

“The City’s Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Strategy will see the City increase its investment in renewable energy on community buildings, making Cockburn the leading local government in WA for renewable energy,” he said.

To access the interactive wind mapping system, wind data and the virtual power station visit www.cockburn.wa.gov.au/renewableenergy

Cockburn’s green award-winning team

The City of Cockburn has an award-winning team behind its successful environmental initiatives.

Environmental Manager Chris Beaton heads the team, which looks after sustainability and climate change, environmental education and natural areas programs, along with the City’s external bush maintenance crew.

Natural Areas Officer Linda Metz was the driving force behind Coogee Beach winning the Keep Australia Beautiful Council’s Friendly Beach Award.

Environment and Education Officer Vicky Hartill played

an integral role in the City winning the 2010 Local Government Biodiversity Award for its Landowner Biodiversity Conservation Program while Climate Change Environmental Officer Jenni Harrison was responsible for the City winning a National Local Government Award for leading community climate change action.

Rounding out the team is Sustainability Officer Vincent Cusack, who has a wealth of expertise and knowledge in his field, and several on-the-ground environmental crew members.

Below: The award-winning Cockburn Environmental Team





Bibra Lake Fun Run – Sunday 18 September



Now's the time to start thinking about taking part in this year's Bibra Lake Fun Run. The 6km run around the lake attracts more participants each year with over 1000 taking part in 2010.

Registration is FREE and you can get a registration form from www.cockburn.wa.gov.au or collect one from the City's libraries and community facilities from 1 August.

For an official electronic time you must register before Monday 12 September, however if you wish to come along just for a casual walk or run, we welcome you to take part. (No registration needed.)

There are different categories available and some awesome prizes to be won.



Introducing CALICO

At this year's Fun Run event, the City will be introducing CALICO. CALICO stands for '**Calories In, Calories Out**' and is a project aimed at encouraging residents to take part in physical activity and keep track of how they are progressing.

To find out more, log onto calico.com.au and put in your information including height, weight and measurements and CALICO will tell you how many steps a day you need to do to lose weight maintain your weight or keep fit.



New playgrounds in Cockburn

Looking for a nice new park to take the kids? The City is currently undergoing a replacement program to some of its playgrounds. Below are two new playgrounds in the City for you to enjoy!



Enright Reserve
Healy Road, Hamilton Hill
Replacement playground



And...
Beiliar Oval (next to Community centre)
The Grange, Beiliar.





Join the YAC!

If you...

- have great ideas
- energy and spare time
- want to make things happen for young people
- want to have a say and
- are aged between 12 and 19

Then you should join the YAC!

What does the YAC do:

The Cockburn Youth Advisory Council (YAC) provides advice on youth issues to the Cockburn City Council. The YAC aims to represent the aspirations, views and needs of young people and to participate in issues and projects for the benefit of young people living in Cockburn.

The Youth Advisory Council is made up of 15 young people aged 12 to 20 years who live, work or study in Cockburn.

For more information and to find out how to register please contact Steve Atherton on 9411 3884. Email youth@cockburn.wa.gov.au or visit our website www.cockburn.wa.gov.au/youthcentre



NAIDOC Celebrations

The City of Cockburn held its annual Flag Raising Ceremony on Monday 4 July to celebrate and launch the events for NAIDOC week from 3 July - 10 July.

Events included the NAIDOC Youth Ball, NAIDOC Seniors Ball, Bush Tucker Time at Spearwood Library and special guest Sean Gorman, author of 'Brotherboys', visited the Coolbellup library and presented a talk for the community.



HALO dancers accompanied by expert didgeridoo player

Be Surprised

See Cliff Richard, John Lennon and Paul McCartney LIVE in concert!

Well, not the real ones - but a tribute to the greats!
When: Wednesday 17 August \$5* 1pm - 3pm

Following the success of our Bollywood day, we are having a Mexican theme day. Buffet main course and plated dessert included.
When: Friday 9 September \$10*

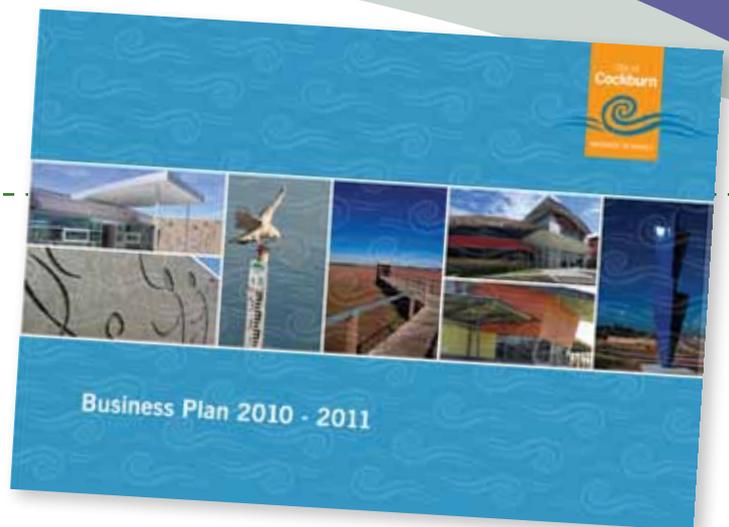
Annual Membership only \$35 to 30 June 2012 *Add \$3 per day for non-members
T: 08 9411 3877 A: 9 Coleville Crescent Spearwood W: www.cockburn.wa.gov.au

Council decisions

The Council recently adopted the Municipal Budget 2011-2012 and the City's Annual Business Plan 2010-2011.

The Budget outlines the schedules covering the capital works and operating initiatives and the schedule of fees and charges for the new financial year.

The City's Council chose to absorb costs wherever possible to keep rate increases low even though the City has incurred enormous increases in electricity costs passed on by the State Government of up to 28 per cent.



The Annual Business Plan details the business activities and projects to be undertaken by the City's various departments over the next 12 months.

Both copies of these documents are available to view on the City's website www.cockburn.wa.gov.au or at the City's Administration or your local library.

South Lake Leisure Centre

Dollar Dazzler Deal and Junior Sports!



DOLLAR DAZZLERS!

To celebrate the arrival of 33 new cardio machines in the gym, we are offering you a great deal.

Pay only \$1 up front to take advantage of any 12-month direct debit membership. \$1 covers both the joining fee AND the first month!

(Offer expires 30 August 2011. Valid for new members only)

JUNIOR INDOOR SPORTS - SUMMER LEAGUE

NETBALL @ SLLC

Divisions: School Year 4/5, 6/7 & 8/9

SOCCER @ SLLC

Divisions: School Year 4/5 & 6/7

Nominations Open Monday, 19 September
Every Friday of School Term

Competition Commences Friday, 21 October
Games commence from 4.15pm

E-mail: sports@cockburn.wa.gov.au

Call Now! T: (08) 9411 3355



www.cockburn.wa.gov.au/sllc

TRAIN ■ PLAY ■ LEARN ■ ENJOY

Landowner biodiversity



The City of Cockburn is unique in that it has several rural zones within the metropolitan area – and grants of up to \$3000 are available to help preserve them.

Landowners with significant remnant bushland or wetland areas on their properties are encouraged to apply for Landowner Biodiversity Conservation Grants.

The program has previously helped to identify rare species of plants and conserve numerous hectares of natural bush and wetlands.

Funds will be granted to landowners to assist with weed control, revegetation, dieback management and various conservation projects.

The program also offers conservation training and skill development workshops to participants.

For more information, go to www.cockburn.wa.gov.au or contact Environmental Services on 9411 3444. The closing date for applications is 30 October.

CoSafe turns one

The City of Cockburn's CoSafe service has celebrated its first birthday.

CoSafe Coordinator Bruce Mentz said the service has attended over 9,000 calls for assistance.

"CoSafe has forged a strong relationship with the local police stations and other services," he said.

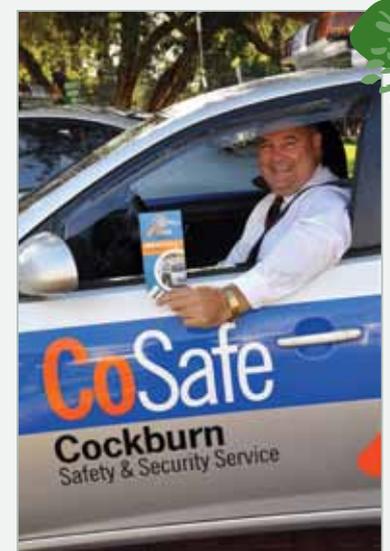
"The cross-sharing of crime intelligence has been very successful."

"CoSafe would like to thank residents and business owners for their use of the service.

"We would also like to remind rate-payers that the CoSafe service is available to them 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

"CoSafe also provides a Holiday Watch service to safeguard your premises while you are away and extra patrols when areas of concern are identified within your area."

To contact CoSafe call 1300 267 233.





Your Cockburn library

<http://library.cockburn.wa.gov.au>

Connected Seniors

Have you been given a mobile phone as a present, yet have no idea how to use it? Maybe you'd like to take photos and movies with it or send an SMS message. How is that done? Would you like to communicate with your grandchildren in Melbourne but don't know anything about emails? Taken some holiday snaps and don't know how to store them on your computer? Would you like to write some stories and share them online in a blog?

If you have answered yes to some or all of those questions you'll be pleased to know that the City of Cockburn Public Library & Information Service has received a Telstra Connected Seniors Grant to help seniors learn how to make the best use of technology. Twelve FREE training sessions will start in August 2011 and run until April 2012.

These sessions will help you connect with your family and your community.

Call into your local Cockburn library for a program listing all the sessions.



What's On @ your library – Online Calendar

The best way to find out what's happening at the Cockburn Libraries is to checkout our online event calendar. It shows all our special author talks, cooking demonstrations and information sessions, as well as regular groups and clubs. Special events that require booking can be booked directly on the calendar.

The calendar lists the times and dates of all our kids' activities including story times, Pram Jams and Book Stars, and all our adult groups, including our 5 book clubs, our movie club, the Knitting Circles and our Mah Jong Club.

You can also set up email alerts so you can be notified of upcoming events or get reminders about regular activities.



Use the QR code app on your smartphone to go straight to the Library Online Event Calendar

WiFi @ Cockburn Libraries

Cockburn Libraries are now providing a free high-speed wifi internet service accessible from Spearwood Library. There is no need to book – just come into Spearwood Library or relax in the surrounding courtyard with your own wireless laptop or internet-enabled device and connect to the internet.

At times, the current internet workstations at all three libraries are in heavy demand so, if you have your own laptop, you can now enjoy the convenience of instant access.



Need funding?

Grants, donations and sponsorship funding opportunities

Applications now open

Applications are now open for the following funding opportunities to support local groups, organisations and individuals for a wide variety of activities and services:

Community Grants assist local community groups and organisations to provide projects or activities that benefit residents of Cockburn. Applications are to a maximum of \$15,000, with smaller amounts encouraged.

Sustainable Events Grants assist local community groups and organisations in the provision of ongoing programs and activities for the benefit of the residents of Cockburn. The maximum grant provided to any one group is \$7,000, over a four-year period.

Donations are available to provide financial assistance towards the day-to-day running costs of not-for-profit groups, not for a specific project or activity. Donations are limited and highly competitive.

Sponsorship is a mutually beneficial partnership arrangement where the City of Cockburn makes a

financial contribution to a group, organisation or individual for a specific purpose, project, activity or event and, in return, the City receives public recognition for its contribution. The maximum is \$20,000 for organisations and \$2,000 for individuals.

Cultural Grants support local arts and cultural activities. Applications can be to a maximum of \$4,000, with smaller amounts encouraged.

Youth Art Scholarships (under 18) are available for those who live in Cockburn and are either doing further study or travelling in relation to their art. These scholarships are to a maximum of \$500 to assist with fees, materials or travel costs.

For further information, contact Wilmarie or Melissa on 9411 3583 or email communitygrants@cockburn.wa.gov.au

Please visit the website www.cockburn.wa.gov.au for more information and a copy of the relevant guidelines and application forms.

Application close 4pm, Friday 30 September 2011.

Below: Sustainability mural created by students from Newton Primary School with the support of the City of Cockburn community grants





Green jobs

Through the National Green Jobs program, the City of Cockburn is opening up new employment opportunities for local youth. The program will also help conserve our environment.

Participants will plant native vegetation to restore habitats and protect the dunes, install erosion-control measures, monitor flora and fauna and work on weed control.

The National Green Job Corps is a free Federal work experience and training program for 17 to 24 year olds receiving income support, with an environmental focus. As part of the program, trainees also undertake Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management.

The six-month program helps young job seekers develop skills in the green and climate change-related industries, fields that are becoming more and more important.



Participants will develop teamwork and leadership skills and their training will open doors to future employment.

To join or enquire, call Nicola Squires from Bridging The Gap on 9550 1111.



Show off 7

The City celebrated its 7th Show Off Art Exhibition in April/May 2011, demonstrating to guests the talented works of many Cockburn artists.

Each year, the event presents many different pieces of collective art ranging from paintings to oil canvasses, structural art, wood and much more.



(L-R): Caitlin Evans 6, Cockburn Mayor Logan Howlett, Pat Howlett, Croatian Consul Hrvoje Petrusic and wife; Krystal Mickman and Steve Grewen; Sharna James and Sandy Gaskett; Donna Hamilton and Matthew Dwyer; Sandy Robertson and Pam Ager.

Cockburn Central Station – who are they?

Anyone who's travelled the southern end of the Kwinana Freeway lately will have seen the two giant faces on the tower at Cockburn Central Station. Mounted like billboards, they're individual portraits of a senior woman and a teenage boy, both with vivid facial features that blur out towards the edges.

The images are a public artwork by Marco Marcon and Rodney Glick, developed through a process of digital synthesis using photos of local residents. Titled 'The Face of the Community', the project represents the most frequent users of public transport, while juxtaposing elements of realism with the otherworldly and unknown.

The work now stands as one of Western Australia's most successful examples of public art. It has captured our attention, got us questioning its significance, and, most importantly, encouraged us to form an opinion.



Working from home can be so rewarding

Ever thought about working from home? Cockburn Family Day Care (FDC) and In Home Child Care Services (IHC) can offer you just that.

What's the difference?

With IHC, the care is provided in the child's family home while FDC is based on mainstream child care and takes place in the educator's (formally referred to as a carer) home which has been licensed.

Co-ordination Unit staff collegially support educators in 'getting started' in their own business, providing ongoing support, advice and training.

Expressions of interest are being sought from people with child care qualifications or with experience in caring for their own or other people's children. Cockburn Child Care Services includes the Cities of Cockburn, Melville and Fremantle and Town of East Fremantle and all surrounding suburbs.

Call our friendly staff on 9411 3300 for further information on operating a Family Day Care or In-Home Child Care Service or to place your child in care.





Councillors Corner – Tony Romano

One of the biggest initiatives undertaken by the City so far this year is the introduction of weekly recycling of your yellow-top bins, which has proven to be a great success.

As a Councillor and chairman of the South Metropolitan Regional Council (SMRC), which is responsible for processing waste for the City and a number of other councils, I strongly advocated the need for a weekly recycling service to increase the amount of recyclables. The City's latest Community Perceptions Survey 2011 results show just how well it has been received with 97 per cent of residents satisfied with the service.

Through the introduction of the weekly recycling service far more residents are filling up their yellow-top bins with recyclables, which means less is going to landfill, making it better for the environment.

The City trialled a weekly yellow-top bin collection in Bibra Lake in 2007, which showed recyclables increased by 40 per cent during the trial period. Due to the overwhelming support, the City introduced weekly recycling in January 2011.

Recyclables are very valuable commodities which are turned into products we often consume daily.



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