



Ashfield Community Action Network  
Presidents Report  
September 2024

As a group dedicated to our living environment, there is no better time of year than Spring. Each year we are reminded of this as our Everlasting plantings burst into colourful bloom. This said, Spring is the harbinger of what will typically be a hot dry summer, requiring special attention to our parks and gardens. In this the Town of Bassendean do an outstanding job, supporting AshfieldCAN.

This is also a good time of year to remind ourselves of the special needs of our neighbours, particularly the elderly. A kind word by way of a welfare check is a simple method of ensuring they're not struggling during this hot summer and providing some comfort or help if they are.

AshfieldCAN marked the month with some slow but significant achievements, following on from August. In the background we continue to build a case for alternatives to fencing off the shoreline along the Ashfield Flats parkland and retain the proximity of the pathway enjoyed by the Community, a thoroughfare dating from the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

Other municipalities, facing almost identical river erosion and foreshore vegetation issues, lead the way in innovative, sustainable and workable solutions, understanding the need for intimate connection to our river.

What is incongruous, is the City of Belmont continues to allow ski boat displays on the river adjacent to Garvey Park. The question will be asked, once again, does the Swan River Authority and DBCA, as the State's guardians of our river environments, approval of this event, and if so, what is their rationale for doing so? Even to the casual observer, the erosive destruction to our side of the riverbank via extreme and continuous boat wash is obvious.

Our most valued partner remains the Town of Bassendean. We know the Town values our efforts on behalf of the community, as the CEO instigated quarterly meetings with the President and Vice President of AshfieldCAN to hear our concerns and assist where possible. The forthcoming meeting will include discussions about dangerous driver behaviour on Hardy Road, increasing anti-social issues adjacent to the Shopping centre, as reported by residents and shopkeepers, the Town's riverbank restoration plans, and the Ashfield Flats Master Plan.

Forthcoming events this month include Friday Flannos By The Firepit, commencing 5pm 18<sup>th</sup> October at the Lookout, and the biggie, our annual Dog's Breakfast, Sunday morning the 27<sup>th</sup> October at Sandy Beach Reserve, 9 to 11am. All hands on deck for this one to help out.



At our next meeting, Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> November we will hold our Annual General Meeting, where all positions will be declared vacant and new office bearers will be elected. Our Secretary Lennie has indicated she will not seek re-election, after doing a sterling job for the past several years. Therefore, anyone with an interest in the position, which is not too onerous and has plenty of support, should consider volunteering.

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