

The Hardy Road “*Rat Run*”

Ashfield residents continue to be concerned about cars and trucks being driven recklessly and at high speed within the precinct.

AshfieldCAN, at a recent meeting again resolved to engage with our local Police and the Town to help reduce this problem and make us all safer. Whilst we appreciate their help, obviously this is not a permanent fix.

Engineers and planners need to be part of the long term solution.

Take Hardy Road for example. Currently it is a broad road, linking Bayswater to Bassendean via an underpass on Tonkin Highway. Locals know it is often used as

a ‘Rat Run’ for those seeking to avoid the police, for whatever reason, or avoid peak hour congestion. Speeding and reckless drivers and young unlicensed motorcycle riders plague this part of Ashfield and the adjoining streets.

The current chicanes on Hardy road barely slow traffic, with many reckless and speeding drivers seeing them as a challenge to their driving skills.

The solution is not to install trendy synthetic traffic ‘cushions’ as they simply don’t work, failing to slow the majority of medium to large vehicles.

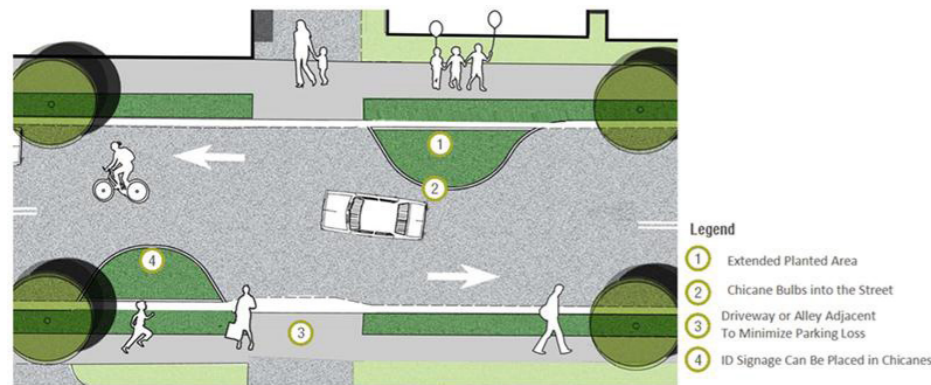
Speed humps are a nightmare for people living close by as cars and trucks rattle

and clang over them. These traffic calming solutions are clumsy, and lack innovation.

Using the example of Hardy Road once again, if trees and other native vegetation were to be incorporated in better chicane designs, residents would benefit from improved safety, pleasing streetscape and increased cooling tree canopy. Property values would increase and the road would become a thing of community pride. Other streets such as Pearson Street and Moojebing Road could also be considered. AshfieldCAN welcomes your input into this matter and any other concerns you may have. Become involved!

Bob Brown

Vice President AshfieldCAN



Verna, our Neighbourhood Watch Suburb Manager for the last few years is unwell and unable to submit her usual report. We hope she recovers very soon and thank her for previous contributions.



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Helping to build a better community

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Ashfield ^{CAN!}

www.ashfieldcan.info

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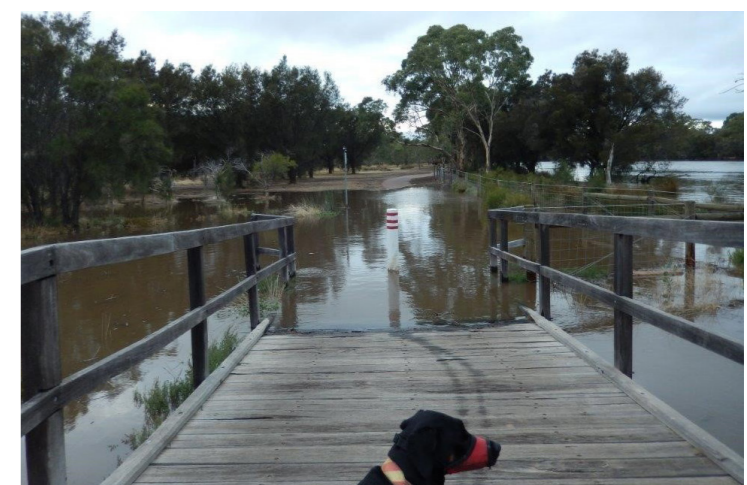




COMING SOON



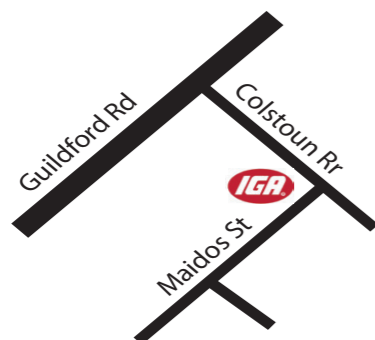
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Ashfield Park Central



Paul Caporn & Lenny McLeod working on The Cube

New and Clean

The Town has been cleaning up the foreshore after the recent flooding event. You would have noted the litter across the path from Roy's Rest to the boardwalk. Thanks to everyone for your assistance.

In Ashfield, the Town has also had the recycling bins that once stood alongside the IGA in Colstoun Road removed. Recycling bins are a worthy cause and the bins in Colstoun Road were well patronised with donations. However, as you would know, the bins were also abused: Clothing donations and non-collectable items such as mattresses and household goods were regularly littered around the bins. Town Rangers received many complaints at their unsightly appearance and after unresponsive prompting, in February, the Town took the decision to require their removal. Not all is lost though as donations can still be made to the St Vinnies and Good Sammies in Old Perth Road.

But new things are exciting me also.

In particular, I note with keenness that building the Nature-based Regional Playground at Sandy Beach Reserve is getting nearer. The design process is in full swing after the Consultants completed a wide ranging community engagement late last year. Council has now resolved the site for the facility and the Town has acquired two properties from the State Government at a fraction their value in order to sell them to reinvest the funds into constructing the playground.

Cr. John Gangell, Mayor, Town of Bassendean

ArtHouse Community Garden Inc.

Thanks to the support of the Waste Authority, the ArtsHouse Community Garden is set to offer the Bassendean community a wide variety of fun, informative and FREE workshops throughout 2017.



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Ashfield is part of the State Electorate of Bassendean



Letter to the Editor

I wear a couple of hats, that of local Councillor and Vice President of AshfieldCAN. I'm not up for re-election therefore this article is purely personal.

My involvement with AshfieldCAN predates my local government role by several years. As you may know our monthly community meetings are hosted by the local Sporting Club at the Ashfield Reserve. At this dynamic time, when community consultation and involvement has never been more important, I would encourage you to become involved with AshfieldCAN.

Most topical of course is the proposal by the State Government and Football West to establish the Ashfield Reserve as the 'Home of Soccer', not to replace or replicate NIB Stadium, but as an administrative centre and playing area that would essentially be an upgrade or improvement of that which currently exists. It is inarguable that the current reserve and venue is substandard, at times unsafe, and poorly designed. These inadequacies are very apparent when the club hosts sporting events which cater for the growing popularity of soccer, particularly with the young. These events can be shambolic and a cause for community concern.

Under the proposal the existing club and associated infrastructure, which has little aesthetic or heritage value, would be demolished, clearing a large open space and buffer to Colstoun Road residents.

The club would move to a new two storey facility to be constructed in a more central location on the reserve. If this were to happen it is important the existing club remains viable and open for even greater use as a vibrant community centre and meeting place.

Our community are concerned about a number of aspects of this proposal, including:

- The lack of or inadequate community consultation
- The lack of detail in concept plans
- Disruption and chaos as a consequence of inadequate parking
- Disruptive anti-social behaviour
- Effects of noise and floodlighting
- Deterioration of amenity and property values

Some community concern has been focussed on the role of the Town of Bassendean. Yes there have been times when Council could have done a better job of engaging the community. As a consequence of recognising this, improving community engagement is a priority for the coming year. However, with this issue, particularly the State Government announcement in an election year, it was largely unheralded. Political parties can behave this way during campaigns and sensible people recognise this. We await a counter response from those aspiring to Govern.

It is recognised by the Town that there must now be a concerted effort to engage with Football West and Government, which will enable community input into what may be the most significant development undertaken within the Town of Bassendean and certainly in the history of Ashfield.

This would be particularly so if this project was undertaken coexistent to a complete revision of the Ashfield Precinct Plan, the upgrading of the Ashfield Train Station and improved traffic management at the intersection of Colstoun and Guildford Roads.

One thing is certain. Development will overtake and change the precinct of Ashfield. We need to be vigilant, making sure any development does not destroy our sense of community, impinge on our safety and reduce our amenity. I for one look forward with anticipation to the excitement and prosperity, and the promise to our young, offered by this project and future modern, sustainable development.

Bob Brown

What a Busy Summer in Gary Blanch Reserve



AshfieldCAN Christmas Party

The latest new addition to our park took shape over summer. Our fabulous Cube has been transformed by artist Paul Caporn into a real highlight and is also busy providing us with storage, extra seating and will soon be home to creeping plants and in the future an outdoor movie screen!

The park also welcomed yoga this summer. Rachel from Go with the Flow has been holding regular Saturday morning classes in the park at 7.30, for all yoga details check her facebook page.

There was a terrific turnout for our Annual AshfieldCAN Christmas Party held last year. It was a wonderful opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet new neighbours. We look forward to seeing you again at events throughout the year.



Yoga in the Park with Rachel

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Dawn over the flooded Ashfield Flats. We are hoping for a New Dawn for the Flats in 2017 and will be continuing to work with the Bassendean River Parks Committee on an improved and restored conservation and wetland area.

Flooded Flats February 2017



Exciting News

The WA Government Department of Planning have agreed, in principal, to cede the small piece of parkland overlooking the Ashfield Flats to the Town of Bassendean and are also contemplating providing some funding Area Assistance Grants Scheme. Well done them!

As you may be aware this little hidden gem of public open space is the proposed site of the Contemplative Park and Wildlife Observatory overlooking the Flats. There is much to be done, including public consultation but with decisions like this, the support of the Town and community enthusiasm, this is now a viable project, undertaken with the support of the Town of Bassendean and AshfieldCAN. The Bassendean Preservation Group who have a long association with Ashfield Flats are also keen to become involved.

We will keep you posted. For those interested next month's AshfieldCAN meeting will commence at this parkland location at the earlier time of 6.30 where we can walk and talk about the proposal. The meeting proper will then start at 7pm at the Soccer Club.

Bob Brown

Presiding Member River Parks Committee

Vice President AshfieldCAN

Councillor Town of Bassendean

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A Letter from the Ashfield Primary School P&C

The 2017 school year has started well at Ashfield Primary School. The school has introduced 4 new school rules, which as a parent I think the children have been following well. I think they apply to everyone in our community and I would like to share them with you:

Show **RESPECT** and **CARE** for **SELF**, **OTHERS** and the **ENVIRONMENT**

FOLLOW INSTRUCTION the **FIRST** time

ACT SAFELY at all times

WORK TOGETHER as a **COMMUNITY**

This year the school has introduced Primary Music Institute Piano and Guitar lessons. These classes provide affordable small-group and private lessons in Piano and guitar at a fraction of the cost of traditional private lessons. The students have been loving their Wednesday classes and we are looking forward to concert performances throughout the year which is part of their curriculum! More details can be found at <http://www.primarymusicinstitute.com.au/>

Mr Matt Snell our Principal is currently seconded for 6 months at a different Primary School as Principal, gaining valuable experience, so for our first two terms Mr Christiaan Moir has been promoted as acting Principal with Mr Darius Schwarz continues as Acting Deputy.

This term Mr Schwarz has been running before school Tennis Lessons in Partnership with Sporting School Australia, Tennis Australia and the Bassendean Tennis Club! Perhaps there is a budding Tennis star in our Midst!

There will also be Football clinics held at school by the WA football commission. We had great success in the inter school sport carnivals lets hope we can do this again this year! As we know team and individual sports are a fantastic way of keeping our kids fit and inspiring them to have pride in themselves and their teams.

The School P&C has started the year by subsidising a school trip to the Wind Mill in South Perth and a History Incursion, we are hoping to help subsidise more of these activities through out the year. We also had a great "sundowner" at the end of February so that Parents and children could get together and socialise. We are always looking for new members to join our P&C, and as each year comes and goes new members are needed. You do not need to be a parent to join our P&C as it is for the Parents and Community members of the area.

We are looking for volunteers to help us fundraise for projects as well as give time to help with literacy projects run in each class room. If you would like to spend some time listening to children read on a weekly basis, or think you can help turn a sausage or flip an egg at our fundraising sausage sizzle, or show off your baking skills at our cake stalls, or even donate to a raffle, please pop into the school and speak to Jan Lepere at the front desk or one of the members of the P&C.

Chantelle Colquhoun

Honorary Secretary and Treasurer Ashfield Primary School P&C
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