



**Notes from Verna  
Suburb Manager  
Ashfield  
Ph: 0432 563 800**

Today I spoke with Sergeant Patrick Lynch at Kiara Police Station. He reported that the

main crime issue in Ashfield at present relates to stealing from cars, both those parked in driveways and those parked at shopping centres. Valuables are frequently being left in unlocked, unattended cars, at both shopping centres and home driveways. Sergeant Lynch's message is to remove valuables from cars, lock your cars and when home, use your garage, if you have one. Treat your car as you would your home. You would not go away and leave your home unlocked. Don't do the same with your car.

Our police perform a magnificent job, often in very difficult circumstances combatting crime. We can assist them in some

small way by taking care and reducing the prevalence of this type of opportunistic crime.

**You can support the efforts of Neighbourhood Watch in your suburb by:**

- \* Getting to know your neighbours
- \* Communicating regularly with them
- \* Improving your home security
- \* Marking items of value for police identification
- \* Joining Neighbourhood Watch

## Ashfield Forest Plant Giveaway

We had a great day down at IGA on the 5<sup>th</sup> of July talking to people about the Ashfield Forest project. We gave away over 250 local native plants and trees for people to plant in their gardens, so we hope everyone has been busy planting them out, If not it's not too late! Watch out for some beautiful natives coming soon to a garden near you! We had a fantastic response to the giveaway and to the project in general, thank you to everyone who registered their support for the project on the day. Our next focus for Ashfield Forest will be preparing a submission to the Town of Bassendean as part of their review of their Street Tree Master Plan. This Master Plan is available online at the Town of Bassendean website, or to view the documents in person visit the Library or the Customer Service Centre on Old Perth Road. If you have any comments that you would like us to consider as part of our submission or are just keen to be part of Ashfield Forest please contact us at [info@ashfieldcan.info.au](mailto:info@ashfieldcan.info.au)



# ASHFIELD



**ASHFIELD IGA**

## FAIR GO DEAL

**Pura milk 2L**

**gold max bread 650g**

**sunrise eggs 600g**

**1 of each for**

# \$6.00



Colstoun Road

The Ashfield Supermarket (IGA) has been locally owned and operated by Quaglia family since 1977

## AUGUST 2014

# Helping to build a better community - Ashfield

ISSN 1839-3071

Vol 4 No 2

[www.ashfieldcan.info](http://www.ashfieldcan.info)

# River Special Edition

See features inside highlighting our many concerns about the state of our river foreshore.

## Community Planting Day and BBQ



**GARY BLANCH RESERVE  
Sunday August 31st  
10am**

Come and join us as we begin to plant out the gardens in our beautiful park!

Come for the planting, come for the BBQ, come for a chat.

All welcome

Please RSVP to Emma - [emmaslavin@bigpond.com.au](mailto:emmaslavin@bigpond.com.au)

## An Invitation AshfieldCAN Riverbank Meeting

With Spring approaching Ashfield Community Action Network (AshfieldCAN) will hold an evening meeting at

**4.30pm**

**on Monday, 15th  
September 2014**

**at**

**Sandy Beach Reserve,  
Bassendean.**

## Garage Sale Trail

**Saturday  
25  
October**



Ashfield Primary School  
10am-2pm  
see P3 for details

## Emma's Gary Blanch Reserve Update

Well things have certainly changed a lot in the park recently! For those of you who haven't seen the progress yet this is where we have got to:

### Stage 1

- Upgrade of reticulation system
- Earthworks to create mounds
- Compacted limestone pathway
- Pram crossovers and footpath connections to limestone pathway from surrounding streets
- New grass
- Mulch throughout
- New bins

**Completed!**

### Stage 2

- Construction of nature play zones
- Planting of gardens
- New Seating
- New Signage

**In Progress!**

### Stage 3

- Community Art Project
- Bush Tucker Garden

It is so exciting to see the number of people now using and enjoying our beautiful park. We did it everyone!

Our first community planting day is coming soon on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> of August, more details in the promo in this newsletter, so we look forward to seeing you all there.

There are always plenty of opportunities available for people to be involved in the park project, so if you're keen to be part of this exciting project we would love to hear from you.

Contact Emma Slavin, Gary Blanch  
Project Co-ordinator by email:  
[emmaslavin@bigpond.com](mailto:emmaslavin@bigpond.com)

**In the Pipeline!**



## MORE ACTION NEEDED

*Continued from previous page*

The Ashfield Flats and the foreshore in general is a very important asset to this community and a critically important part of the Swan River system.

Some have likened it to being like a 'main street' of the Ashfield 'village'. It is a place where people meet and catch up within the course of their daily routine. This sense of community is massively important and so is this natural resource that we have.

We cannot let this resource continue to degrade or go without a management plan any longer.

In an attempt to galvanise action from the authorities we would like to hear your thoughts on the Ashfield Flats and the riverbank along this stretch of river and what it means to you. What would you like to see happen along the river foreshore?

Join us on the Monday, 15th September at 4.30pm starting at Sandy Beach Reserve (see invite) for a riverbank walk and to air your views. We will be collecting feedback at this time.

You also have the option to email us your opinion to [info@ashfieldcan.info](mailto:info@ashfieldcan.info). To see the photo essay of this issue go to [www.ashfieldcan.info](http://www.ashfieldcan.info)

We intend to collect the comments and formalise them into a draft plan of recommendations for Government.

We are hoping that all levels of government will choose to respond proactively and see this as an opportunity for a positive demonstration of how we can all work together to fix such a problem.

**Lucy Bromell**

**Dave Kelly**

### Supporting AshfieldCAN

The Ashfield Flats is so important to local residents and I continue to be concerned at the lack of action by the State Government to address the serious erosion problems.

In June I raised the matter in the Parliament with both the Minister for the Environment and the Minister for Planning.

Then following an article in the Eastern Reporter starring AshfieldCAN's very own Lucy Bromell, the Minister for Environment said "The Government was committed to stabilising the erosion near the boardwalk and planning work was underway with environmental consultants reviewing designs for stabilisation work." Despite that promise, another round of funding has recently come and gone with no action and no formal management plan.

In July, I wrote (for the second time) to the Minister of Planning urging him as the land owner to act now to stop the erosion before it's too late.

I encourage AshfieldCAN to continue its campaign to prevent further erosion along the foreshore and I will continue to raise it in Parliament. Keep up the good work!

**Dave Kelly – Bassendean State MP**

(the electorate of Bassendean includes the suburb of Ashfield)

*PS - the Gary Blanch Reserve is looking great. It's such a wonderful example of the great work that AshfieldCAN are doing.*

## New Facilities at Ashfield Reserve

I am pleased to advise that the Council has included in the 2014/15 Budget the demolition of the current ablution block and construction of a new facility at the current site on the Ashfield Reserve.

The new facility will include four unisex toilets and a disabled toilet with baby change facilities.

The new ablution block will also include storage space for local community groups and a multi-purpose covered area to one side of the facility.

Throughout the construction period temporary toilet facilities will be provided at the site.

Construction of the new facility is expected to be completed in the early part of 2015.

Kind regards  
Cr John Gangell, Mayor



**We're on Facebook!**

AshfieldCAN is now on facebook. Like our page for all the latest Ashfield news, info and events.



**ASHFIELD  
COMMUNITY  
CHEMIST**

**New chemist in Ashfield  
(next to Ashfield IGA)**

**Open: Mon - Sat 8am - 7pm**

**1B Colstoun Rd, Ashfield  
Western Australia 6054**

**(08) 6161 9958**

**[ashfieldchemist@optusnet.com.au](mailto:ashfieldchemist@optusnet.com.au)**

**FOR ALL YOUR  
PROPERTY NEEDS,  
CONTACT YOUR  
LOCAL AGENT!**

**David Wellstead**

**0407 778 946**

**Specialist in Sales and  
Property Management**



Suite 3, 89 Old Perth Road, Bassendean, WA 6054.  
[www.professionalswellsteadteam.com.au](http://www.professionalswellsteadteam.com.au)



## Illegal Wash Causes Erosion

It has been reported that a water ski adventure in the Rod Courtney Island area on the river at Ashfield attracted a substantial fine earlier this year.

Also in the month of April there was a water ski demonstration conducted in the vicinity of the island to mark an event on the Ascot side of the river.

Surely these events must be better policed to prevent the further erosion on the nearby sensitive river banks.

Perhaps, a large sign on the western end of the island explaining the frailty of the upstream area and the wash caused bank erosion, together with a large and more frequently displayed speed signs, would bring about more public awareness and responsibility.

... May even have the effect of saving many trees from falling into the river and drowning!



## MORE ACTION NEEDED

*Continued from previous page*

formal management plan at this time and there seems to be little interest at government level to address the issues of erosion or have any strategy to deal with it in the near future.

We cannot continue like this while the banks are eroding and mature trees are falling into the river. The shared path is falling into a state of disrepair and the seating along the river is being removed because of the issues with erosion.

In recent correspondence from the Minister for Planning, Mr John Day, his only suggestion is to fence along the length of this stretch of river until a solution can be found. I would be opposed to this action. Fences do not necessarily fix problems. Without a well considered management plan in place my fear is that it would be an excuse to put the problem off and not deal with it. By fencing the area of the Ashfield Flats riverfront it would mean that we would have unsightly fencing the whole way along this stretch of the river from Ashfield Parade, Bayswater all the way to Sandy Beach Reserve, Bassendean. That means an entire suburb is fenced off from the river! To date the fencing between the French Street Steps and the Chapman Street Drain has seen no improvement in the natural vegetation in that area. While I am not opposed to small sections of river being fenced off for intensive rehabilitation as is demonstrated in other areas along the banks of the Swan River I would be opposed to such a large area of the river being fenced off simply because there is no plan to deal with the situation.

*Continued next page*



## The National Garage Sale Trail is coming back to Ashfield!



Following on from the success of our inaugural community garage sale in 2013, AshfieldCAN will again be hosting a garage sale on Saturday 25 October as part of the National Garage Sale Trail 2014.

This year, the AshfieldCAN will be hosting an event at the Ashfield Primary School, Mons Street end,



Last year's successful event

## AshfieldCAN President's Notes.

It has been really exciting to see Gary Blanch Reserve taking shape over the last couple of months. With the new contouring, new grass and reticulation, the nature play areas starting to take shape and the planting just beginning it is really looking fantastic. This is now a great community asset which can be enjoyed by all. A huge round of thanks has to go to Emma Slavin for leading this project and to all the people who have been involved.

Another massive thanks has to go to the Town of Bassendean, in particular the engineer, Ben Moore who has been working hard to make sure everything can happen. The working partnership between the Town and the community has been great and it just goes to show what can be achieved when we all work together.

Whether it has been community members, town of Bassendean staff or outside contractors that have been called into complete parts of the park, the atmosphere has been really positive and everyone seems to have been committed to ensuring a good outcome.

Our Ashfield Forest concept took another step forward with the AshfieldCAN giving away free plants to Ashfield residents and talking about the importance of trees and plants in our suburb. We had a great response to this.

Our next big event will be the Garage Sale Trail. This will be held at the Ashfield Primary School oval on Saturday 25th October. Come and book a bay for the day and sell all those unwanted things you have around the house.

We are now looking at stepping up to encourage some action to deal with the foreshore erosion along the Ashfield River bank. This is such an important natural asset and it deserves to be looked after.

As always we are happy at the AshfieldCAN to find out what you think is important to the community of Ashfield and what you would like to see happen in and around this suburb. If you want to contact us please contact us [info@ashfieldcan.info](mailto:info@ashfieldcan.info).

Ashfield, from 10am – 2pm.

**Why participate in the National Garage Sale Trail?** The National Garage Sale Trail is a community-led initiative to hold garage sales on the same day across the Australia. The Trail provides you with an opportunity to make some cash from your unwanted goods, as well as supporting our local AshfieldCAN community. All funds raised from the sellers registrations will go towards community-led activities in Ashfield.

**How can you get involved?** You can participate as a seller by registering your sale at [www.ashfieldcan.info](http://www.ashfieldcan.info). Cost to the sellers for a carboot sale is \$15, payable on the day.

Buyers participate for nothing – just enjoy the opportunity to pick up some fantastic bargains on the day! Buyers are encouraged from 10am.

**AshfieldCAN National Garage Sale Trail: Ashfield Primary School, Saturday 25 October** - Come along on the day to meet your neighbours, browse the wares, enjoy a coffee from the coffee van, buy a homemade cake, and feed your hunger pains with a sausage sizzle!

For more information about National Garage Sale Trail, visit <http://www.garagesaletrail.com.au>.

**To register as a seller, or to find out more about the Ashfield event, visit AshfieldCAN on [www.ashfieldcan.info](http://www.ashfieldcan.info)**

## PhotoBooksWA

**Birthdays, Holidays, Weddings, Christenings, Family Gatherings, and Precious Childhood Moments**

**Photo books are the best way to display your Special Memories**

Visit us online and download our

**FREE**  
photobook  
software



**WWW.PHOTOBOOKSWA.COM.AU**



## "Award Winning Plumbers"

Master Plumbers and Gas Fitters  
Association of WA  
2008 Plumbers Licensing Board  
Plumbing Business of the Year

289 Guildford Rd, Maylands WA 6051  
Ph: (08) 9271 4021 Fax (08) 9370 4750  
[water@prideplumbing.com.au](mailto:water@prideplumbing.com.au)  
[www.prideplumbing.com.au](http://www.prideplumbing.com.au)

# Ashfield Riverbank Erosion

## Ashfield Parade Riverbank Out of Sight, Out of Mind – A Kayaker's View

The degradation of the riverbank and hinterland associated with the Ashfield Flats is there for all to see and AshfieldCAN, as a priority and in partnership with others who care deeply about the health of our river, aims to stop and indeed reverse the damage caused largely by human activity. It is our hope that our small section of Ashfield riverbank can be recovered and serves as an example to other river and estuary guardians of what can be accomplished with community determination and Government support.



Image showing accelerated erosion, a small dead Project tree at cliff base and larger Project trees on edge of the precipice, and associated clay fracturing

What is not apparent is the catastrophic damage caused by riverbank erosion along the length of Ashfield Parade, hidden from the view of casual observers by an unsightly fence and messy vegetation. Vegetation, when viewed in the context of the attached photographs, serves little purpose.

Whilst the attached photographs speak for themselves, if commentary is needed it can be said, without fear of contradiction, if an aim of the Ashfield Parade Foreshore Restoration Project (Project), now completed but commenced in 2006, was to reduce erosion, it has not been a success.

Project trees hang precariously over the precipice of eroding clay cliff faces or lay dead at their base. Indeed, it seems that their expanding root systems have accelerated erosion by fracturing the ancient hard-packed soils, causing trees and clay to slew off into the river. The skeletons of structures placed to prevent erosion litter the river's edge. The surviving barriers and their small patches of struggling reeds give the illusion of achievement however their failure is there to see, clearly demonstrated by the deep erosion in contiguous cliff faces they were designed to protect.

This is a catastrophe that needs to be acknowledged and addressed before more old growth trees are lost.



Image showing undercutting and failed superficial erosion mitigation matting



Image depicting collapsed Project tree and others nearing collapse, and associated clay cracking

# Dave KELLY



Representing  
Ashfield in  
State Parliament

e dave.kelly@mp.wa.gov.au  
p 9279 9871  
w www.davekellymp.com

Ashfield is part of the State Electorate of Bassendean



An Invitation

**AshfieldCAN Riverbank Meeting**

With Spring approaching Ashfield Community Action Network (AshfieldCAN) will hold an evening meeting at

**4.30pm**

**on Monday, 15th September 2014**

**at**

**Sandy Beach Reserve, Bassendean.**

The topic will centre on conservation of the riverbank and the future restoration of the Ashfield Flats. The meeting will seek suggestions from the community and in principal support to take the issue of foreshore degradation to those that represent us at State and Local Government level.

Bring your walking shoes as the meeting, following a short address, will extend from the Reserve to the southern extent of Ashfield Flats, a return walking distance of about 1.5 kilometres.

The event will finish by 6pm with a very short presentation and affirmation that this meeting will represent a starting point from which we will commit to improving our river's health. Apart from gaining some exercise, this is a great opportunity to gather, meet in a friendly environment and discuss an issue of concern to us all.

President, Committee and Members  
Ashfield Community Action Network  
all enquiries: Bob, 0448160000

## "Lock up your Girls"

Whilst most of our concerns are on erosion this issue. Natural wild life must be getting scare along the Ashfield Flats. Over the last couple of months several locals have lost their chooks to the Ashfield foxes.

Residents of Ashfield Pd, Hardy Rd and further into Ashfield have been disappointed and distressed to lose several chooks each to the hungry resident foxes.

One resident of Hardy Rd has supplied unflattering backside photos of the foxes, which have been see regularly on the Ashfield Flats.

***We would like to see the back of the foxes***

## MORE ACTION NEEDED

It is with some trepidation that we take up the issue of the river bank and in particular Ashfield Flats with the ongoing problems of erosion and the management of the area.

I know there is a long history of people who have lobbied hard to find solutions to manage the erosion of this stretch of the river bank but with little positive result.

It concerns me that the Ashfield Flats, which is owned by the West Australian Planning Commission stands without any

***Continued next page***

