



Notes from Verna
Suburb Manager
Ashfield
Ph: 0432 563 800

Neighbourhood Watch

The Festive Season, that wondrous time of year is now in full swing, bringing with it a surge of excitement, goodwill, and anticipation. Unfortunately it also brings with it a surge in crime.

A current scam snaring unwary victims at this time of year, operates in the following manner. A delivery van with two people inside pulls up outside your home. The driver remains in the vehicle, whilst the other person, bearing a parcel addressed to the home occupant, rings the front doorbell. The occupant, on answering the door, is told he / she is from the postal service, and has a delivery for this address. However, the sender had forgotten to pay the delivery fee of \$3. The delivery man/woman is not permitted to take cash, but has a hand held facility for the recipient to make an electronic transfer for the small amount. Once the recipient punches his/her details into the machine, the driver has complete access to the recipient's bank accounts.

Extra vigilance is needed when answering doors to strangers. Keep the security door locked until you are sure the person outside is a genuine representative / employee of the organisation they claim to be from.

The ACCC has a SCAMwatch website at www.scamwatch.gov.au where you can sign up for free e-mail alerts on new scams targeting consumers and small businesses. If you don't have a computer, you can always ask a friend or family member to look up information for you. Keep safe. Keep alert and enjoy the festive season.

AshfieldCAN Christmas BBQ

will follow the Roy's Rest Official Opening

Thursday 13th December

Ashfield Parade from 6pm

Food and soft drinks provided.

RSVP essential for catering purposes.

info@ashfieldcan.info or call Lucy 0402257965

*Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year
from AshfieldCAN*

Dog's Breakfast

The fourth 'Dog's Breakfast' was held on Ashfield Flats adjacent to Sandy Beach reserve in Bassendean on Sunday 14th October. The weather was overcast and threatening rain but luckily held off during the event.

There was a walk trail that owners could take their dogs on that took them as far as the French Street steps. This was a longer walk than in previous years but people seemed to enjoy it.

Again, the competition for the 'dog that looked most like its owner' was held. This was sponsored by a range of sponsors and Judged by Deputy mayor, Gerry Pule.

Dog treats for all the dogs were kindly provided by Bassendean Pet food supply.

The Bassendean SES did a sensational job again by cooking breakfast for all the people who attended. It was great to see the number of volunteers the SES had.

Personalised pets, owned by Louise Sale came and offered the service of providing personalised dog collars and leads for sale. Louise also provided the first prize for the collar for the dog that looked most like its owner.

There were plenty of prizes to be won in the raffle and other competitions including a signed Perth Glory football.

The AshfieldCAN and Neighbourhood Watch promoted their activities at the event on the day.



DECEMBER 2012

Helping to build a better community - **Ashfield**

ISSN 1839-3071

Vol 2 No 3

www.ashfieldcan.info

Our Park Project!

**Gary
Blanch
Reserve**

"Imagine a new medicine that could keep you more active and healthy with reduced risk of cancer, heart disease and diabetes, that improves learning, captivates young people and delivers clean water and fresh air. It would win a Nobel prize! It's not a medicine it's a park. Any visit to a quality well maintained park can deliver these health benefits"

*International Healthy Parks Healthy People Congress 2010;
Melbourne Communique.*

Earlier this year Ashfield CAN decided to focus some attention on Gary Blanch Reserve. A little faded these days, we believe it has great potential to be a wonderful park, a real asset to our community. We believe parks and green spaces play a vital role in our suburb and hope to continue improving the amenity of the local area for all Ashfield residents and visitors.

We got the ball rolling with a couple of meetings with some Town of Bassendean representatives and got their support to develop a plan for the improvement of the park. We decided to plant the seed of our idea quite literally with a small patch of Everlastings at one end of the park. This was designed to draw some attention to the park and tied in with our "Ribbons of Colour" project. We ended up with a lovely display of Everlastings and had many good conversations with people about the park whenever we were watering them!

In conjunction with the Everlastings we also created a series of changing signs which you may have seen next to the Everlasting garden and dotted around the park throughout August and September. We hope these signs have helped plant a few ideas in everyone's heads about the importance of parks and the possibilities for ours.

On September the 23rd we held a very successful community BBQ in the park attended by over 65 people. There were lots of discussions about the park and lots of people interested in being part of Our Park Project. Following the BBQ we held a Community Engagement Workshop which generated many terrific ideas on ways to improve and invigorate the park. These ideas have been documented and are now forming the basis of our plan to improve Gary Blanch Reserve.



We are approaching the development of the park in two ways; the short term and the long term and have recently formed a working group to oversee this project.

In the short term we are developing a program of fun events and activities to attract people to the park. So far we have a couple of events in the pipeline including a: Sunflower Planting and Morning Tea and "Have a Seat" a fun opportunity to decorate some temporary seating for the park and highlight the need for more permanent seating. We are also working on a number of short-term physical improvements to the park including a makeover of our basketball 1/2 court. Long-term we are looking to develop an overall plan for the redevelopment of Gary Blanch Reserve and are working with the Town of Bassendean. We are examining funding opportunities and seeking partnerships to make our hopes for our park a reality!

We would love to hear from people who would like to be part of Our Park Project; there are lots of different ways you can be involved.

Contact AshfieldCAN at info@ashfieldcan.info or telephone Emma on 0438 561 483



Stone Bench. . .

The AshfieldCAN stone bench public art project adjacent to the Roy Hookway platform has been completed and named 'Roy's Rest'.

The bench not only provides seating but also works as a retaining wall for the embankment behind. The bench also incorporates a drinking fountain and a dog drinking bowl. In the paving in front of the bench is an 'x'. For some fun, next time you are down there, stand on that spot and ask the bench what it means.

This beautiful public artwork was designed and built by Lucy Bromell and Rod Hodgkin.

The site proved to be a lot more difficult than first anticipated. It was thought that vehicle access would be achievable from the Hardy Road car park to transport the heavy limestone blocks to site but due to the softness of the land on the hill at Hardy Road it was apparent that access to site using that route was going to be difficult. The French Street steps were a better option.

This meant the manually handling of every single block to site, the heaviest of which were close to 125kg. Rod Hodgkin made a sled to slide each block down the French Street cycle ramp which worked well but gave the whole project a feel of 'building the pyramids'.

Each block in the bench and in the paving had to be cut to the correct size. Most of this was done off site to ensure that there was minimum impact to the environment on site.

Thanks to The Water Authority and the Honourable Bill Marmion, Minister for Water, a water connection meter has been provided free of charge to get water to site making the drinking fountain and dog drinking bowl possible.



Pride Plumbing and Gas have generously provided the 30 metres of pipe work to the site.

This wonderful work will now provide the amenity of seating and a cooling drink for everyone enjoying the banks of the Swan River in Ashfield.



**You are invited to attend the opening of
'Roy's Rest'
at 5:30pm
on Thursday 13th December at the
Roy Hookway Platform.**

Playground Re-opened

The Colstoun Road playground has been repaired and is back in action which is fantastic for local residents and visitors alike. It is wonderful to see it being used and enjoyed by so many of our young families in the area.



'Visitor, Fleur Anderson enjoying the Coulston Road playground.'
Photo Lucy Bromell

Living in Ashfield

A short story on a lifetime living in Ashfield by Leo Travers

We married in 1962. Joan was a local Bassendean girl and I was from Vic Park.

Prior to getting married I went to Derby to work for 6 months to earn good money as I had nothing except my trade as a carpenter. Lots of hard work and sweat made good money to enable me to buy our block of land in Hardy Road, where we have lived ever since. We raised three daughters, Leonie, Andrea and Robyn. All were educated at Ashfield primary School and Cyril Jackson High School. All are successful in life and have given us the joy of 8 beautiful grandchildren.

When we bought our block in Hardy Road the bitumen only went as far as French Street from Bassendean, from there on it was gravel.

The block cost us £400 back then which is laughable these days, but that was 50 years ago! We had a builder build the house but as a 'tradie', I did the timber floor joists, stood the door frames up for the brickies, laid the timber floors and did the rest of the carpentry including doors, windows and wooden fences.

While we were building our home, the State Housing commission started building houses in the area. There were lots of families in the area and all the children went to the local Ashfield Primary School. In those days the Primary School had over 500 children at its peak and Cyril Jackson had over 1400 students. Every day 4 MTT buses would pass along Hardy Road full of kids from the high school, so we can see how times have changed in Ashfield. Ashfield used to have three netball teams and a junior football team but sadly all have long been disbanded.

At home it was natural to have fresh milk delivered by the milkman in 1 pint bottles, the trick was to rescue it before the sun got to it. The daily bread was delivered by the baker and occasionally the kids would score a free bread roll if the baker had excess supplies. It was always good fun to get the bread. There were no supermarkets in those days.

As time went by Hardy Road was upgraded with kerbs and in more recent times, footpaths which are much appreciated.



Our Ashfield Neighbourhood Watch Area Organiser Verna is the teacher on the left of the 1974 Ashfield Primary Class 1

In the early 70's the Ashfield Tavern was built. For some years they put on meals and local families had many good times listening to bands or maybe dancing on a Friday evening. The skimpys were an extra attraction for those that had worked hard all week. Years later the tavern degenerated, became an eyesore and was eventually closed. It has now been developed into a housing site.

The river walks then were great, now we have walking paths, it is even better!

In the early years the only decent fish and chip shop was in Bassendean opposite the car yard. This was run by the Quaglia family who now run the Ashfield IGA. Their success was a great credit to the family.

The government public housing density for all suburbs is 11% why is Ashfield kept at 22%. We deserve better!

Joan and Leo have just celebrated 50 years of marriage and were congratulated by the Governor General, Ms Quentin Bryce for this wonderful achievement.



Leo and Joan admire the foundations of their new home in Hardy Rd

Underground Power Update

The underground power project in Ashfield is nearly complete.

All the major installation works in the streets such as main cables, transformers and switchgear units and pillars - is complete.

Over 80% of properties have been changed over to the underground system and all properties will be switched over by the middle of December.

Demolition of the overhead system is proceeding and will take until February 2013 to be completed.

Most of the street lights have been installed and as the demolition proceeds they will be activated. Any new lights that conflicted with the overhead system will be installed and activated as soon as possible after demolition. Some areas may be dark for a week or two while the new lighting system is completed so please be patient.

The project remains on budget and on schedule, and is expected to be fully completed by the end of February 2013.

Any queries please contact Tony Moore, Public Liaison Officer, State Underground Power Program, Ph- 9219 2012, Fax- 9219 2060, Mob- 0419 918 294