

INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUE NO. 11/2015

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Information Bulletin

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ALGA NEWS

5 JUNE 2015

Vale Mayor Barry Jarvis

ALGA is sorry to advise that Mayor Barry Jarvis, President Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) and ALGA Board member, died this week.

Mayor Jarvis was elected to Dorset Council in 2007 and became Mayor in 2009. He had been a representative of the Association's General Management Committee since 2011 and commenced his Presidency in October 2014.

Having been involved in a small rural council that represents an area which has taken many economic hits over the past decade, Mayor Jarvis had become increasingly aware of the importance of councils in advocating and representing community. He was enjoying the challenges of working with Association members, the State Government and other stakeholders to further progress Local Government in Tasmania.

As President, he worked collaboratively, engaging positively with the many varied stakeholders and advocating strongly for the best outcomes for the Local Government sector and local communities. He was a well-liked and highly respected leader.

We extend our condolences to his family, friends and colleagues at this sad time.

ALGA submission to Taxation Issues Paper highlights importance of tax revenue in Local Government

ALGA has raised the importance of taxation revenue at the local and regional level for the provision of essential Local Government services and infrastructure in its submission this week to the Taxation Issues Paper.

The submission asserted the view that an analysis of revenue, including taxation and Local Government's taxation revenue power, cannot be undertaken in isolation from the role of, and allocation of public functions to, Local Government.

ALGA flagged further critical issues including:

- the constraints and restrictions that impinge upon local government's ability to fully exploit its taxation base (ability to pay, capping, concessions, exemptions and the potential for state crowding out)
- the critical role of intergovernmental grants from the Commonwealth and the states to the sector (both in the form of general purpose funding and specific purpose payments) in order to promote horizontal fiscal equity for all Australians
- the role local government plays in raising some of the taxation revenue within a federalised taxation system.

Submissions received in response to the Treasury Issues Paper are intended to assist the Treasury in the development of a Green Paper as part of the White Paper process, with that Green Paper expected to be released for formal consultation with the community later

in 2015.

[Read ALGA's submission to the Tax Issues Paper here.](#)

Bill Shorten confirmed to speak at the 2015 National General Assembly

ALGA is pleased to confirm that the Leader of the Opposition, the Hon Bill Shorten MP will deliver an address to the National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA) when it convenes in Canberra in just over a week's time. This will be the first time that Mr Shorten has addressed the NGA since assuming the leadership of the Labor Party in October 2013. It will be an excellent opportunity to hear directly from the Opposition about what its priorities are when it comes to the issues that Local Government cares about as well as his views on the debates on Federation and taxation.

The final speakers for the NGA have been locked in, promising three days of interesting discussion focused on the role of local government in our communities and its broader role on governance in this country. It will be your opportunity to represent the goals and views of your council in debates on issues of national importance, to present your own experiences in panel and concurrent sessions and a chance to strengthen ties or even create new ones.

It is not too late to have your council's voice heard at the NGA. [Get more information on registration, the program and speakers here.](#)

President's column

This week, I have focused on ALGA's Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) campaign to restore the indexation of the grants as soon as possible, improve indexation in the longer term and ultimately increase the quantum of the grants. This is a key issue for ALGA and I am glad to say that the campaign has gathered momentum in recent weeks with a rapid growth in the number of councils passing resolutions to acknowledge the grants as important and valued Commonwealth funding and engaging their local Federal MPs about the indexation freeze. A total of 85 councils have now passed resolutions, however I want to reiterate the importance of having resolutions from as many councils as possible - in my view we need at least 500 of the 560 councils around Australia.

ALGA's FAGs Campaign Steering Committee, comprised of the Presidents of ALGA and the state and territory associations, convened at the beginning of the week to assess the campaign and decide on further actions to advance the campaign, including additional support for smaller regional councils. Every state and territory has been active in engaging councils in the campaign and I was able to highlight the positive response I had to my presentation to Victorian councils at MAV's Summit on the Future of Local Government last week in which I addressed the campaign and urged councils to get behind it.

An important part of the campaign is also gathering examples of the direct impact the indexation freeze has on councils. On-the-ground case studies are extremely powerful in helping our advocacy with the Federal Government. One council reported that the value

of lost grants equates to the cost of resealing 23 kilometers of road. Another council noted that the loss in grants was equal to a cut in rate revenue of 8.8%. I encourage all councils to share their own examples of the impact of the freeze on FAGs indexation with their state and territory association and ALGA to assist our advocacy efforts.

I continue to meet with federal politicians, both backbenchers and Ministers, to highlight our campaign and reiterate the significant long-term impacts on councils and communities. Interestingly, I'm also finding sympathetic allies outside of our sector, effectively third party advocates, who value the role of Local Government and understand the need for enhanced funding. We need to identify these individuals and organisations and encourage their active participation in the conversation.

Through the FAGs campaign, we hope to broaden our support base and not only maintain, but strengthen this important direct funding relationship between the Federal and Local Government and encourage all councils to play their part.

On a final note, I was shocked and saddened to hear of the passing of my colleague Mayor Barry Jarvis, President of the Local Government Association of Tasmania, Mayor of Dorset Council and Board member of ALGA. We have lost a strong leader in the Local Government sector. My thoughts and prayers are with Barry's family, the Association and the sector during this difficult period.

Mayor Troy Pickard

President

State of the Regions report to be launched at Regional Cooperation and Development Forum

The Regional Cooperation and Development Forum, which will be held in just over a week on Sunday 14 June, will see the launch of the 2015 State of the Regions report. The theme for this year's report is *Inequality within and between regions* addressing the question as to whether equality in the distribution of income is associated with higher economic growth at the regional level across Australia.

Dr Peter Brain and Ian Manning will explore this year's State of the Regions report in a technical workshop in the afternoon. The workshop will be sure to add further dimension to discussions around inequality of income distribution within and between regions as an obstacle to economic growth.

The workshop will provide an opportunity for mayors, councillors, Regional Development Australia committee members and other key decision and policy makers to gather together to share contemporary knowledge and experience to strengthen the ability of Australia's diverse regions to compete in the global economy

[Find more information on how to register to attend the Regional Forum at this link.](#)

Tenders invited for design work on M1 Pacific Motorway

upgrade

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development Warren Truss has invited tenders for detailed design work on the M1 Pacific Motorway upgrade between the Kariong and Somersby interchanges following the finalisation of the review of environmental factors (REF).

The Minister said the release of the REF submissions report was another step in delivering this major upgrade, which would reduce travel times, improve road freight efficiency and provide for the expected growth of tourism, commuter and freight traffic between Sydney and Newcastle.

Community feedback is being sought on the REF and the submissions received with a focus on noise mitigation, design, construction staging and air quality.

To view the REF submissions report online visit www.rms.nsw.gov.au

Road reform needed to improve truck productivity

The Australian Trucking Association has, in its submission to the Government's Competition Policy Review, called for more to be done to implement road reforms and ensure the trucking industry is able to continue increasing its productivity.

The CEO of the Australian Trucking Association Christopher Melham said the industry's productivity has plateaued due to government regulation and policy decisions. He projected that national freight task is set to grow by 80 per cent between 2011 and 2031, urging governments to take action on policy reforms to implement road planning and funding reforms to optimise road infrastructure funding efficiency.

The Australian Trucking Association's submission is [available at this link](#).

Telecommunications pathways and spaces in buildings

The Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) and Department of Communications have been looking into the issue of telecommunications pathways and spaces in buildings over the past 12 months.

The ABCB has just released a proposal to require the inclusion of in-building telecommunications pathways and spaces in buildings via the National Construction Code (NCC).

The purpose of establishing the NCC was to incorporate all on-site construction requirements into a single code and there is currently no regulatory requirement to install telecommunications in buildings. The proposal seeks to address delays in the provision of fixed-line services, increased costs and impacts on occupant amenity that occur where there is a failure to install appropriate telecommunications spaces and pathways in new buildings.

The ABCB is seeking feedback on the technical merits of the proposals included in the 2016 public comment draft of NCC Volume One and Two. Feedback can be provided via the ABCB [website](#) by 3 August 2015 using the response sheet template.

A Consultation Regulation Impact Statement will be released in late July.

Announcement of more than \$100,000 in National Landcare Programme regional funding

Minister for Environment the Hon Greg Hunt and Minister for Agriculture the Hon Barnaby Joyce this week jointly announced more than \$100,000 in National Landcare Programme regional funding.

The funding will be delivered by the Wimmera Catchment Management Authority through its community grants programme and has been awarded to 13 successful local community groups to help support a range of on-ground environmental and agricultural projects.

The funding aims to protect the Wimmera's natural environment through a range of innovative local projects including community planting, installing nesting boxes and "Critter Cams" to support wildlife surveys, addressing damage caused by rabbits as well as supporting a range of other important, locally-based projects.

For more information about the National Landcare Programme and the 13 local projects supported by the funding, go to www.nrm.gov.au

Autumn storms cause \$1.551 billion losses

The Insurance Council of Australia has reported that autumn storms has caused \$1.551 billion in losses across NSW and QLD.

Insurance companies have received more than 160,000 claims for the three declared catastrophes including from the SE QLD/Northern NSW storm in May, the Sydney Anzac Day hailstorm in April and the NSW storms also in April.

The council warns that if unprepared, the devastation and financial loss caused by natural disasters can be magnified and has provided disaster recovery tips at <http://understandinsurance.com.au/preparing-for-disasters>

Board to help develop Food and Agribusiness Growth Centre

A Food and Agribusiness Growth Centre is being established by Food Innovation Australia Limited (FIAL) under the Australian Government's \$188.5 million Industry Growth Centres initiative to boost Australian industry's competitiveness and productivity

in five key growth sectors.

Four leading food and agribusiness sector experts will join the board of FIAL to develop the new Food and Agribusiness Growth Centre. They include Simplot Managing Director Terry O'Brien, dairy industry expert Jane Bennett, food science research and commercialisation expert Michele Allan and Geoff Starr, Director of both food relief charity Foodbank Australia and Australian Pork Ltd.

Industry and Science Minister Ian Macfarlane said the Growth Centres initiative was the centrepiece of the Australian Government's strategy to guide industry into a new era of growth, investment and jobs by encouraging greater collaboration between businesses in those sectors where Australia already got a strong foothold, and the best prospects of future excellence.

[Find out more about the Industry Growth Centres here.](#)

Remote employment programme to improve communities

Minister for Indigenous Affairs Nigel Scullion this week announced a change in remote employment services from 1 July this year.

The Minister said that the Community Development Programme, formerly the Remote Jobs and Communities Programme, would see unemployed people engaged in meaningful activities and on a pathway to real jobs, ensuring job seekers were active in contributing to making their communities better places to live

The minister announced that over the next 12 months, almost 30,000 job seekers aged between 18 and 49 in remote communities will be required to make a meaningful contribution for their welfare payments for up to 25 hours a week. Activities will be identified within existing institutions, such as local councils, aged care facilities, child care facilities, ranger programmes and schools.

He added that training would be available through employment services providers for skills that are needed to fill real jobs in communities in areas such as education, health and trades.

Find out more about these changes on the Minister's [website](#).

Call out to Local Government to host screenings as part of Access All Areas Film Festival

Access All Areas Film Festival (AAAFF) is an annual film festival celebrating accessible and inclusive film experience of people with and without disability. The festival, now in its 8th year, is a flagship event of the NSW Government's [Don't DIS my ABILITY campaign](#) in the lead up to International Day of People With a Disability on 3 December.

Last year, 93 screenings were hosted in venues across regional Australia as part of the tour. AAAF is again inviting all Local Governments and community organisations to

take part in the festival's tour this year by hosting a screening of Australian-made short films with open captions and audio description, during November and December 2015. Participation in the festival is free and all content and media is included free of charge.

To register your interest in hosting a screening, contact jules@thefestivalists.com. More information about the festival is available on its [website](#).

National Construction Code available in hard copy

The National Construction Code (NCC) provides the minimum necessary requirements for safety, health, amenity and sustainability in the design and construction of new buildings (and new building work in existing buildings) throughout Australia.

The NCC is available for free download on the [NCC website](#). However, if you prefer a printed and bound version, the Housing Industry Association has reproduced the Building Code of Australia (Volumes 1 and 2 of the NCC) under licence from the Australian Building Codes Board. This is available for purchase on the [HIA website](#).

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2015 Queen's Birthday Honours List

The 2015 Queen's Birthday Honours List has once again recognised the time and effort that many exceptional community members have dedicated to their local community through service to local government. We are proud of the honours presented to:

Member (AM) in the General Division

- Mr Stephen Anthony (Tony) Foster OAM, Pontville TAS. For significant service to local government through leadership roles, to professional governance associations, and to the community of Brighton.
- Mr John Elliott Kilpatrick OAM, Speers Point NSW. For significant service to the Greater Newcastle community, through leadership of social welfare organisations, and to local government.

Medal (OAM) in the General Division

- Mr Noel William Bennet, Tottenham NSW. For service to local government, and to the community of the Lachlan shire.
- Mrs Marion Helena Blair, Madora Bay WA. For service to local government, to the community of Perth, and to women.
- Mr Henry James (Ted) Books, South Windsor NSW. For service to local government, and to the community of the Hawkesbury.
- Mr John Henry Bowell, Kempsey South NSW. For service to local government, and to the community of Kempsey.
- Mr John Charles Brent, Boonah QLD. For service to local government, and to the agriculture industry.
- Mr Kevin John Burdett, Karoonda SA. For service to local government, and to the community of Karoonda.
- Mr Bernard Curtin, Berrigan NSW. For service to local government, to aged care, and to the community of Berrigan.
- Mr Graeme Harold Denholm, Modbury SA. For service to local government, and to the community of the City of Tea Tree Gully.
- Mr Raymond Lindsay Donald, Nyngan NSW. For service to local government, and to the community of Nyngan.
- Mr Rick Bruce Firman, Temora NSW. For service to local government, and to the community of the Riverina.
- Mr Peter Harry Green, Cooloongup WA. For service to conservation and the environment, and to local government.
- Mr John Edward Hardwick, Como WA. For service to the community of South Perth, and to local government.
- Mrs Barbara Joan Hovard, Maryborough QLD. For service to local government, and to the community of Maryborough.
- Mr Michael James Lange, Williamstown SA. For service to local government through roles with the Barossa Council.
- Mrs Julie Dawn Lyford, Gloucester NSW. For service to local government, and to the community of the Upper Hunter Valley.

- Mr James Walter Maitland, Tanunda SA. For service to local government, and to the community of Wakefield.
- Mr Anthony David Nicholson, Lachlan TAS. For service to local government, and to the community of the Derwent Valley.
- Mr Haydyn Dudley Nielsen, West Moonah TAS. For service to local government, the community of Glenorchy, and to sport.
- Mr Noel Leslie Strohfeld, Ravensbourne QLD. For service to local government, and to the community of Toowoomba.
- Mr John Sullivan, Narrandera NSW. For service to local government, and to the community of Narrandera.
- The Honourable John Patrick Trainer, Unley SA. For service to state and local government in South Australia.
- Mrs Jeannette Dorothy York, Drummoyne NSW. For service to the community of Drummoyne, and to local government.

The full Queen's Birthday Honours List is available [here](#).

Australian Government responds to FIFO report

The Australian Government has this week released its response to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Regional Australia report *Cancer of the bush or salvation for our cities? Fly-in, flyout and drive-in, drive-out workforce practices in Regional Australia*.

The committee first tabled its report in February 2013, which included 21 recommendations for the Australian Government, following a request in August 2011 to inquire into and report on the use of 'fly-in, fly-out' (FIFO) and associated work practices in regional Australia.

Two state local government associations (LGAQ and WALGA) and more than 35 councils made submissions to the inquiry.

The Government did not agree to 5 of the 21 recommendations, while agreeing with 4 (including in part and in principle) and noting the remaining 12.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development Warren Truss noted that many of the recommendations more directly related to areas of state government responsibility while others had a broad range of regional implications and action across all tiers of government.

Minister Truss acknowledged that FIFO comes with an impact on local communities and said that the Government took this into consideration in its response.

[Read the Government's response to the report at this link.](#)

Registrations for 2015 National Local Roads and Transport Congress opening next week

Registrations will open next week for the 2015 Local Roads and Transport Congress, with a special discounted rate available to those who register this month.

This year, the Congress will be held in Ballarat Victoria, a city promising key attractions, amazing food and wine, and fun for all.

As always, the Congress will aim to influence the Federal Government and Opposition on road and infrastructure policies, as well as focus on broader policy issues such as regional funding challenges and regional collaboration.

Please check the [ALGA website](#) for more information once registrations open.

President's column

With next week fast approaching, I'm looking forward to opening ALGA's notable annual events, the Regional Cooperation and Development Forum this Sunday and the National General Assembly of Local Government the following day.

The theme for the Regional Forum this year is *Addressing Regional Inequality*, a vitally important topic for many of the delegates attending from across Australia. Focus on this critical policy area should be a priority not only for Local Government but also State and Federal governments given the implications of regional inequality for regional, state and national productivity. Academics and practitioners from across the nation will provide delegates with their insights into regional development and a potential way forward. The event will also see the launch of the 2015 *State of the Regions* report which, in keeping with the theme of the forum, presents statistics revealing the depth of inequality within and between Australian regions.

The Regional Forum is a prelude to ALGA's premier event: the National General Assembly of Local Government. I am pleased that the Assembly has this year attracted a strong political presence with representation from Liberal, Labor and the Greens. I look forward to hearing from Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development the Hon Warren Truss, Leader of the Opposition the Hon Bill Shorten, and Leader of the Australian Greens Senator Richard Di Natale on their views on the important role and contribution of Local Government in Australia.

The Assembly provides the opportunity for council leaders, government representatives and stakeholder organisations to consider the major national issues facing Local Government today and to share their ideas and experiences. We face a period of great challenges and opportunities with major national reviews of how the different levels of government work together and how our tax system supports the delivery of services. The level of expected attendance at the Assembly (more than 830 delegate registrations so far) makes this one of the biggest Assemblies ever and illustrates just how seriously Local Government takes this challenge. Although timelines are now very tight, you can still register for both events at this link: <http://www.conferenceco.com.au/nga/>.

This past week also saw the announcement of the Queen's Birthday Honours List and I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge and thank those who have been recognised for their service to Local Government. I was thrilled to see so many Local Government

champions from around the nation receive accolades for their achievements and contributions and I extend my personal congratulations to all of them.

I note particularly that two former members or alternate members of the ALGA Board, John Trainer and James Maitland, both from South Australia, received honours.

Mayor Troy Pickard

ALGA President

Government call for a 'national conversation' on Australian citizenship

The Government this week called for a national conversation on Australian citizenship and is seeking contributions to a discussion paper on the issue.

The discussion paper asks questions such as: are the responsibilities of Australian citizenship well enough known and understood? Do we do enough to promote the value of citizenship, particularly among our young people? Have we got the balance right between the safety of our community and the rights of the individual? How should we deal with citizens who act against the best interests of our country?

Your views on these and other thoughts you have on the value of citizenship are welcomed [here](#).

Regional Telecommunications Review 2015 - Issues Paper and call for submissions

The Government recently commenced the 2015 Regional Telecommunications Review - conducted every 3 years into the adequacy of telecommunications services in regional, rural and remote parts of Australia - with a Review Committee appointed in early May this year.

The Committee has now released an Issues Paper inviting submissions on key issues.

The Terms of Reference for the Committee include:

- consideration of the adequacy of telecommunications services in regional, rural and remote parts of Australia
- whether people in these areas have equitable access to telecommunications services that are significant to them, and are currently available in one or more parts of urban Australia.

Submissions will be accepted until Wednesday 15 July 2015 and are not limited to the questions raised in the Issues Paper - any other areas of comment are also welcome. Instructions on making a submission are available [here](#).

The Committee has also indicated that it would welcome the opportunity to discuss the

Issues Paper and the Review with ALGA or the state/territory associations. ALGA has undertaken to consult with state and territory associations to assist in identifying areas of concern for local government.

Aged Care Approval Round 2015 to open in August

The Government recently announced that applications for the 2015 Aged Care Approvals Round (ACAR) for both home care and residential aged care places will open in August. This round continues to expand the Home Care Packages Programme, which provides home care services on a Consumer Directed Care basis to help older Australians remain independent.

Changes were announced in the 2015-16 Budget to ensure that the aged care system in Australia continues to meet the needs of an ageing population, with the Government progressively moving aged care to a market-based system.

The invitation to apply for places and capital funding will be announced in newspapers and on the Department of Social Services [website](#) in August.

Latest NDIS report shows continued growth

The continued growth of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is reflected in the latest figures in a report released by the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA).

Key findings of the report included:

- 13,610 people with disabilities had an approved plan, at a total cost of \$754 million
- the cost of the average package (excluding residents of large institutions) is \$34,900. This remains below the expected full scheme average of \$36,750
- participant satisfaction levels remain very high. On a scale of very poor (- 2) to very good (+2), with neutral being 0, participant satisfaction is at 1.64.

When fully rolled out, it is estimated that around 460,000 people with disability will benefit from the NDIS.

Detailed schedules outlining how and when each state and territory will continue the transition to the NDIS will be released in August this year.

[Access the quarterly reports from the NDIA at this link.](#)

Key findings of the Clean Energy Australia Report 2014 released by Clean Energy Council

The Clean Energy Council anticipates big opportunities ahead for renewable energy

following the release of the key findings of the Clean Energy Australia Report.

Chief Executive of the council, Kane Thornton, said 2014 was one of the toughest years for the renewable energy sector. But with a bipartisan deal on the Renewable Energy Target now agreed between the major parties and legislation being debated in Parliament, the future for the sector was looking much brighter.

Some of the key findings coming out of the report include:

- 13.47 per cent of Australia's electricity came from renewable sources in 2014, enough to power 4.5 million average homes for a year.
- Hydro (6.2 per cent of Australia's total power generation) still produced the most clean energy of any source, while wind power (4.2 per cent) and solar power (2.1 per cent) continued to grow.
- Bundaberg in Queensland was Australia's solar capital in 2014, followed by Mandurah in Western Australia and Hervey Bay, which is just over 100 km from Bundaberg.
- Approximately 40 per cent of South Australia's power came from renewable energy during 2014, while about 95 per cent of the electricity used by Tasmanians came from renewables. The next best was Western Australia (13 per cent).

The Clean Energy Australia Report 2014 is available on [the Clean Energy Council website](#).

AIHW report: gap widening in many areas of Aboriginal health

A new report from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare has presented a widening gap in cancer rates and mental health issues in Aboriginal people compared to other Australians.

The National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation said that while there are areas such as infant mortality where the gap is slowly closing, there are other areas that need to be urgently addressed like mental health and incarceration rates.

Some statistics from the report included that Aboriginal teenagers aged 15-18 were five times more likely to take their own lives than other Australians of the same age, and that 31 percent of the health gap is due to socioeconomic factors.

The report is the eighth in a series of reports that provide a comprehensive statistical picture of a range of topics considered important for improving the health and wellbeing of Indigenous people.

[You can access the full AIHW report at this link.](#)

Release of Board of Taxation reports

The Government recently released a number of Board of Taxation reports as part of the

national conversation on the future of the tax system. These reports, an important input into the tax reform process, will be considered alongside the submissions received in response to the tax discussion paper *Re:Think*.

The Board of Taxation is a non-statutory advisory body charged with contributing a business and broader community perspective to improving the design of taxation laws and their operation. It is tasked with advising the Treasurer on improving the general integrity and functioning of the taxation system and commissioning research and other studies on tax matters approved or referred to it by the Treasurer.

If you'd like to find out more about the recommendations made by the Board of Taxation to Government, [you can access their reports here](#).

You're also welcome to read the media release issued by the Assistant Treasurer, the Hon Josh Frydenburg, [here](#).

Framework for learning in local areas

The Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government (ACELG) based at the University of Technology Sydney has released a new resource to help Local Government create, adopt, and evaluate a community learning plan for Local Government areas.

The resource *Learning Community Framework and Measuring Impact Toolkit (Vols 1 and 2)* links the idea of learning partnerships between councils, their communities and learning organisations, and is closely aligned to the UNESCO 'Key Features of Learning Cities' framework.

ACELG Director, Associate Professor Roberta Ryan, said that the report will help develop innovative strategies for citizens to learn new skills and to shift local cities and centres into 'learning cities' and that this could only have positive social and economic results within local areas.

The *Learning Community Framework and Measuring Impact Toolkit* can be downloaded [here](#).

Working with Local Government to protect Australia's underground infrastructure

Protecting Australia's underground infrastructure is vital in keeping essential services used daily such as gas, electricity, water and telecommunications. Dial Before You Dig, a free national referral service for information on underground infrastructure, works closely with asset-owning member organisations including Local Government to promote safe excavation practices and ensure Australia's underground pipes and cables are protected.

The service proves especially useful for many of the councils around Australia that are members to monitor excavator behaviour around council property. Excavating safely around these assets is vital as any interference or damage to these underground pipes and cables can trigger major setbacks to both businesses and the community.

That is why councils intending to excavate should first lodge an enquiry with Dial Before You Dig to locate underground assets. Enquiries can be lodged online anytime at www.1100.com.au, using a mobile device or by downloading the Dial Before You Dig iPhone app. A national call centre operating during business hours is also available and can be contacted by calling 1100.

Australian Clean Beaches finalists announced

The Clean Beaches program celebrates and awards communities that actively work for a cleaner, more sustainable coastal environment.

Awards are presented to local councils, volunteers, surf lifesaving clubs and other community groups implementing initiatives that care for dunes, waterways, protect habitats, educate the community, reduce litter and support tourism.

This year's state and territory winners, and finalists for the iconic Australian Clean Beaches Award 2015, have been announced:

- Bondi Beach, New South Wales
- Richardsons Beach, Tasmania
- Port Julia, Yorke Peninsula, South Australia
- Guilderton, Western Australia
- Burleigh Heads - Queensland
- Garig Gunak Barlu - Northern Territory

Nhulunbuy in the Northern Territory was the 2014 Australian Clean Beaches winner.

[Stay tuned for the announcement of the 2015 winner via this link.](#)

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1.1 EMPLOYEE MOVEMENTS

New Staff:

- ❑ Museum Curator (Part-Time) – Effective 29/07/2015
- ❑ Rates Officer – Effective 24/6/2015

Staff Leaving:

- ❑ Communications Officer – Local Government Reform – Resignation Effective 11/06/2015
- ❑ Community Emergency Services Coordinator – Resignation Effective 19/06/2015
- ❑ Planning Services Information Officer – Resignation Effective 26/06/2015
- ❑ Administration Stores Officer – Retirement Effective 20/08/2015
- ❑ Workplace Health & Safety Officer/Admin. Officer Depot – Termination Effective 30/06/2015

Other Staff Movements (Internal):

- ❑ Asset Accountant – Contract to Permanent effective 1/7/2015
- ❑ ICT Support Engineer – Contract Extension effective 1/7/2015

Current Recruitment Activity:

- ❑ Construction Engineer – recruitment progressing.
- ❑ Parks Supervisor Streetscapes – recruitment progressing.
- ❑ Major Events & Arts Coordinator – recruitment progressing.
- ❑ Senior Administration Officer - recruitment progressing.
- ❑ Special Projects Officer POS – recruitment progressing.
- ❑ Technical Officer – recruitment progressing.
- ❑ Coordinator Waste Services – recruitment progressing.
- ❑ Environmental Health Officer – applications close 11/06/2015.
- ❑ Fire Prevention Officer – applications close 11/06/2015.
- ❑ Landscape Architect – applications close 11/06/2015.
- ❑ Parks Maintenance Operator – applications close 18/06/2015.
- ❑ Manager Works – applications close 18/06/2015.
- ❑ Community Facilities Planning Coordinator – applications close 19/06/2015.

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TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT ON OUTSTANDING MATTERS

ITEM	REFERRING COMMITTEE	COMMENTS
<p>Ordinary Council Meeting 13 April 2015. Matter for Referral – Cr Shaw. <i>“That the matter of designated public litter collection point be referred to the Technical Services Committee.”</i></p>	<p>Technical Services</p>	<p>Investigation under way with report to be presented to July Technical Services Committee Meeting.</p>
<p>Ordinary Council Meeting 13 April 2015. Matter for Referral – Cr Wielinga. <i>“That Council refers the Councillor’s item in regard to the Playground Strategy to the relevant Directorate for action and/or report to the appropriate Committee”.</i></p>	<p>Technical Services</p>	<p>Investigation under way with report to be presented to July Technical Services Committee Meeting.</p>

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<p>Development Services Yellow Divider</p>	<p>Nil</p>

COMMUNITY FACILITIES PLANNING:

Wungong Regional Recreation Reserve Concept planning

City officers are working closely with the MRA in developing a concept plan for the Regional Recreation Reserve. This will involve consultation with state based sports associations and recreational planners to determine what facilities and grounds should be located at the Reserve which will cover an area equivalent to 13 senior sized playing fields.

Armadale District Hall upgrade

Following previous reports and workshops on the District Hall, officers have been working with the Heritage architect and theatre consultant in refining the design options already identified. These will be presented at a Council workshop in mid-July prior to a report to Council in August.

Armadale Golf Course

Council decided in May to keep the course open until January and to explore further options for the site as a golf course, for alternative recreational activities or to transfer responsibility for the site to the State. Arrangements are currently being finalized for arrangements until January with those further options being explored. It is anticipated that those options will be presented at a workshop in August or September.

Masterplanning of Bob Blackburn Reserve and Gwynne Park.

The first round of consultation with stakeholders, community and user groups is has been completed. The next phase will involve the development of concept plans that will then be reviewed with the stakeholders and councillors. This project is due for completion in October 2015.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

ACCESS AND INCLUSION

Disability Advisory Team

The City's Disability Advisory Team (DAT) meets on the first Tuesday of every second month. The team comprises community members, local service providers, a City Councillor and officers.

A DAT meeting was held on the 2 June. Lauren McDonnell, the A/At Risk Communities Management Program Coordinator from Department of Fire and Emergency Services presented there 'At-Risk Communities Program', Assisting Clients to be Brushfire Ready. For further details of the meeting refer to the notes of the meeting.

Disability Access and Inclusion Plan Progress Report

Under the Disability Services Act 1993 (amended 2004), the Minister for Disability Services is required to table a report in Parliament each year on the process of Disability Access and Inclusion Plans (DAIP's) in Western Australia. Due to this the City is required to submit to Disability Services Commission a Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) Progress Report on the City's DAIP by the 3 July.

Dance For People with Disabilities

Upcoming program

The City has partnered with a local dance and theatre company to offer a dance program for people with disabilities over the age of 18 years. The sessions will start Friday 17 July between 6.30pm to 7.30pm. People who attend will have the opportunity to learn a variety of dance including musical theatre, funky jazz and contemporary. At the conclusion of these sessions the participants will have the opportunity to be integrated into regular dance classes or continue with the specialised class.

ARTS AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Harrisdale Piara Waters Community Arts Junction

The City is facilitating an emerging community arts group in Harrisdale that have recently started a new project called 'Arts Junction'. The group meets every Saturday morning at Baker's House to work together in a communal arts studio space. They are currently developing a website and planning a joint 'Community Canvas' project, where they will enlist local community groups and residents to help create a large banner depicting the Harrisdale Piara Waters community. The banner will be unveiled at a community concert event at Bakers House later in the year.

Classic Sounds Orchestra Concert Series

The City is partnering the Classic Sounds Orchestra 'Bringing Back the Magic' concert series to be presented in the Armadale District Hall on 10 & 11 July 2015. The three concerts will feature a range of popular classical and musical theatre pieces performed by Armadale's 40-piece classical music community ensemble. The City will purchase 100 concert tickets to be distributed to appropriate local community clients.

Armadale Open Studio Arts Trail

As part of the upcoming 'Spring in to Armadale' tourism campaign, the City is working with a group of high quality local artists to develop an inaugural Armadale Open Studio Arts Trail in late September. The aim of the project is to showcase Armadale as a vibrant artistic hub and create greater profile and investment in the local arts community.

'So Unexpected' Local Artist Exhibition

Running in tandem with the Open Studio project will be a major invitation-only exhibition of approximately 20 high quality local artists from the Armadale and hills regions. The exhibition titled 'So Unexpected' will be presented in the Avocados Function Centre in Kelmscott in early September. This project is being coordinated by Jalmer Galleries working with local artists in partnership with the City.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Explosive Dance

The City has partnered with a local dance and theatre organisation to offer a dance program for children aged 9-12 years of age. The program has been running since 13 April and has had a consistent group of 10 students participating from six high needs primary schools in Armadale. The program is due to finish in early July with a performance of the students for their parents.

Highschool Headstart

Upcoming program

The City will be piloting a new project Highschool Headstart commencing during the July school holiday. The project will be targeting Year 6 students from the six high needs primary schools in Armadale who have been identified by school staff as having some anxiety issues around transitioning to high school. The students will attend a one day program with a parent or mentor, both of whom will be part of separate sessions with psych trained staff from Communicare Inc. Students and adults will come together for a skill building session then everyone involved will have a shared lunch. There will be separate sessions for boys and girls.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The City has been working closely with Neighbourhood Watch and WA Police to hold the Street, Meet and Greet program in Piara Waters and Harrisdale for the purpose of connecting neighbours and providing the Police an avenue to gain information pertaining to recent burglaries in the area. During the month of May, four Street Meet and Greet sessions have been held and have been very well attended by community members.

DRUG AWARE IGNITE BASKETBALL

Ignite Warriors U17's

The City's Drug Aware Ignite Basketball league team continues its success through June having won four games with only one loss this season. Training takes place on Thursdays and Saturdays, with games on Friday evenings. The program has linked up with South East Storm Basketball club to ensure the young people have a pathway to a high level structure of play as well as opportunities to referee and coach younger participants.

Bindi Bindi Dreaming Aboriginal Workshops

Once per month, Bindi Bindi Dreaming is held at Drug Aware Ignite Basketball sessions for participants. Bindi Bindi Dreaming aims to showcase unique Aboriginal culture of Perth, Western Australia. Bindi Bindi Dreaming will allow participants to gain a better understanding about its traditional people whom are local to the Perth/Metropolitan area and share their continuation of cultural traditions.

Subiaco Lions Link In with Ignite

Throughout May and early June, the 2014 Premiers Subiaco Lions players have joined the Ignite sessions to provide fitness, inspirational talks, coaching and role modelling. The WA Football League (WAFL) outfit provided several young players each session to teach youngsters about the importance of working hard, striving for goals and what it takes to be successful. In addition, they gave young people a taste of the fitness requirements to be ready for a typical WAFL contest.

INDIGENOUS DEVELOPMENT

NAIDOC 2015

The National NAIDOC theme for 2015 is: We all Stand on Sacred Ground: Learn Respect and Celebrate. This year the theme highlights Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' strong spiritual and cultural connection to land and sea. The theme is an opportunity to pay respects to country; honour those who work tirelessly on preserving land, sea and culture and to share the stories of many sites of significance or sacred places with the nation.

As the oldest continuing culture on the planet, the living culture of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is intrinsically linked with these sacred places. Sacred places can be geographic feature like a river or lake, a beach, bays, inlets, hills or a mountain ranges or ceremonial grounds, galleries of rock art or engravings or places used for gathering for cultural practices.

All performers for the Main Stage have been locked in The Merrindas, The Struggling Kings, Jonathon Ford & the Baldja Boys and Mungart Yongah Aboriginal Dancers local indigenous artists. As with every year we will have a jam packed day of exhibition stalls, good food and the Elders, Children's & Youth Hubs.

Champions Kitchen Garden Project (CKGP)

We have completed two internal City of Armadale meetings to ascertain key actions and moving forward:

1. Development of plan/road map for growing the garden
2. Activation plan to identify the programs that support the garden – development and implementation
3. Sponsorship and partners – who will provide people and resources?

Aboriginal Network Forum

The City of Armadale hosts regular bi-monthly meetings of its Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Group (ATSIAG) to provide advice and information about our local community to the City. At a recent meeting it was decided to invite a wider group of community and industry representatives to share news and issues that impact on Armadale residents so that we can better advocate for services. This event will take place on Tuesday 23 June 2015 at the Champion Centre, Champion Drive, Seville Grove.

The agenda will include:

10am Smoking Ceremony

11am Robert shares his story – ‘Yarning it Up – Don’t Smoke it Up’ Quitting Tobacco journey Model

11.30am Facilitated workshop about the future of ATSIAG

12.30pm Champion Centre Kitchen Garden project

1.00pm Lunch provided by local Aboriginal students

2.00pm Closure

POSITIVE AGEING

The City’s Positive Ageing Sessions are held on the first Wednesday of every month (excluding January) at the Armadale Library. Occasionally evening sessions are held.

A Positive Ageing Session was held 3 June 2015 at the Armadale Library. The Topic discussed was ‘Elder Abuse’. Ten people attended with all attendees interested in the subject due to their personal situation and experience. Presenters were happy with the attendance due to the nature of the subject. They expressed that at many of these presentation there are only less than five people in attendance.

Upcoming sessions

The next Positive Ageing Session will be held on the 1 July at the Armadale Library at 1.30pm. The topics to be discussed are ‘Avoiding Scams’ by Consumer Protection –Department of Commerce and ‘Memories with Alan Mannings’ a local Radio Presenter.

An evening Positive Ageing Session will be held on the 25 June at the Armadale Library at 5.30pm. The topic to be discussed is ‘Tuning intoTeens’.

Positive Ageing Come and Try- Let’s Get Crafty Sessions

Positive Ageing Come and Try – Let’s Get Crafty Sessions are held every second month in 2015 at 10.00am at the Armadale Library.

YOUTH

Youth Partnership Project (YPP)

The City is a key partner of the south-east corridor focused YPP which over a two-year project aims to:

- Improve efficiency and effectiveness of existing services – *working smarter not harder*
- Improve our collective understanding of what works – *through both hearing from young people and from robust evaluation*
- Improve the sustainability of the impact we aim to make – *creating an established and replicable model*

The City continues to work with Save the Children to develop a strategic Youth Action Plan. The Youth Action Plan will be heavily informed by results from the recent Youth Summit, Armadale Youth Collaborative Action Network (CAN), and YPP's Youth Leadership Roundtable. Once finalised, the action plan will form the strategic direction of the Armadale Youth Collaborative Action Network (CAN), and presented to the Exec Committee with the aim for this document to inform future policy direction.

Networking

The new Community Development Officer – Youth commenced in the role in May 2015 and has been proactively networking with the key stakeholders in Armadale. The Youth Officer has been able to get a feel for the youth services that are available in Armadale, and start to look at how the City may be able to partner with these agencies to better address the needs of local young people. As a part of the Youth officer role, bi-monthly Armadale Youth Network (AYN) meetings are chaired by the Officer. An agenda for the AYN has been developed, and the next AYN meeting will be held in the coming weeks.

Skate, Scooter and BMX Workshops

The City continues to provide free Skate, Scooter and BMX workshops on a weekly basis. These are facilitated by Skateboarding Australia and Freestyle Now. The workshops are well attended and focus on skills development of local young people. The format of the workshops is now being reviewed to ensure that we are providing maximum opportunity for engagement and encouraging young people to build skills which will enable them assist with planning and facilitating skate related events and competitions.

ARMADALE VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Step into Volunteering

A "Step into Volunteering" session aimed at potential volunteers in the community who are thinking about volunteering but not sure how to get started was held on Thursday 4 June at the Armadale library. This session was extremely popular and 14 people enjoyed presentations from the Armadale Gosnells Landcare Group and also School Volunteer Program.

Promoting good culture in your organisation and developing anti-bullying policies

Armadale Volunteer Services in partnership with the City of Gosnells e-Volunteer Hub hosted a promoting good culture in your organisation and developing anti-bullying policies workshop. Facilitated by Megan Paull from Murdoch University, this workshop explored the issues surrounding bullying, creating a culture of dignity and respect for all, and developing an anti-bullying policies. This workshop was held on Wednesday 3 June at the Maddington Community Centre. This workshop attracted 16 people from 11 different organisations.

Planning is now underway for training for the second half of 2015 for both volunteer managers and volunteers.

RECREATION SERVICES

Department Snapshot

In May 2015 the Recreation Services Department;

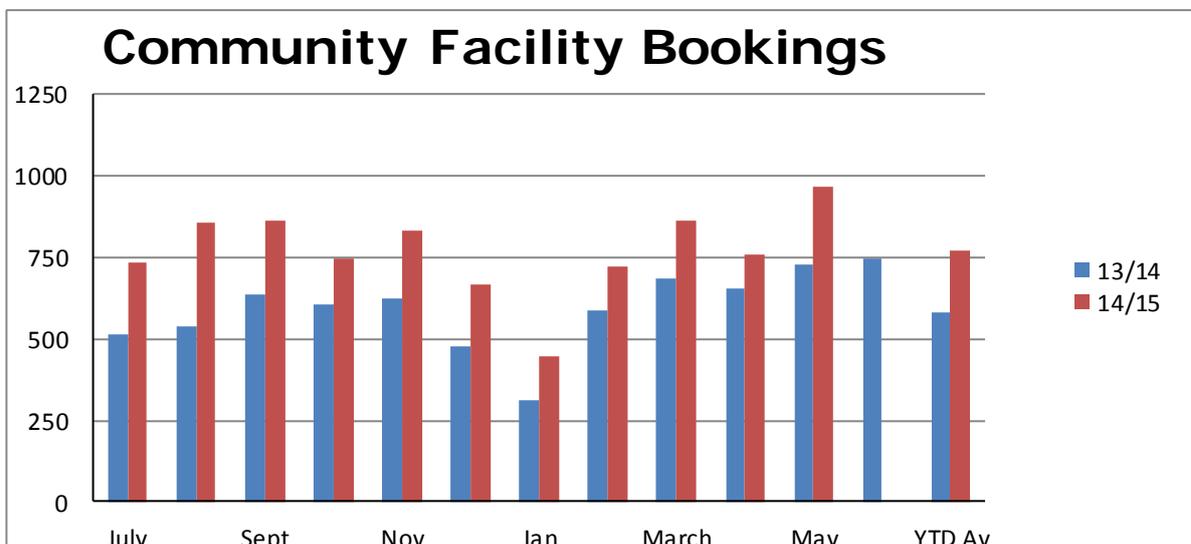
- Provided 117 programs or activities to community programs
- Had 50,518 attendances to our facilities
- Had 1778 bookings at our facilities and reserves

Community Facilities and Reserves

Bookings

Bookings significantly increased this month with a total of 1707 for facilities and reserves. With 967 facility bookings we have seen an increase of 30% since May 2014 and we are extremely close to reaching 1000 bookings for the first time, this would be a huge achievement and a great end to the financial year.

An exciting new event is coming to Armadale the Kids Big Carnival Perth, this should attract 2000 visitors to the region and has the potential to become a key attractor in the future.



Club Development

John Dunn upgrades were complete and the new training grounds presented and well received by the clubs. This project should have positive impact on these clubs. The City has applied for a further \$160,000 KidSport funding in 2015/16. KidSport continues to be successful and this is evident through approximately \$160,000 funded to City of Armadale children in 2014/15 financial year.

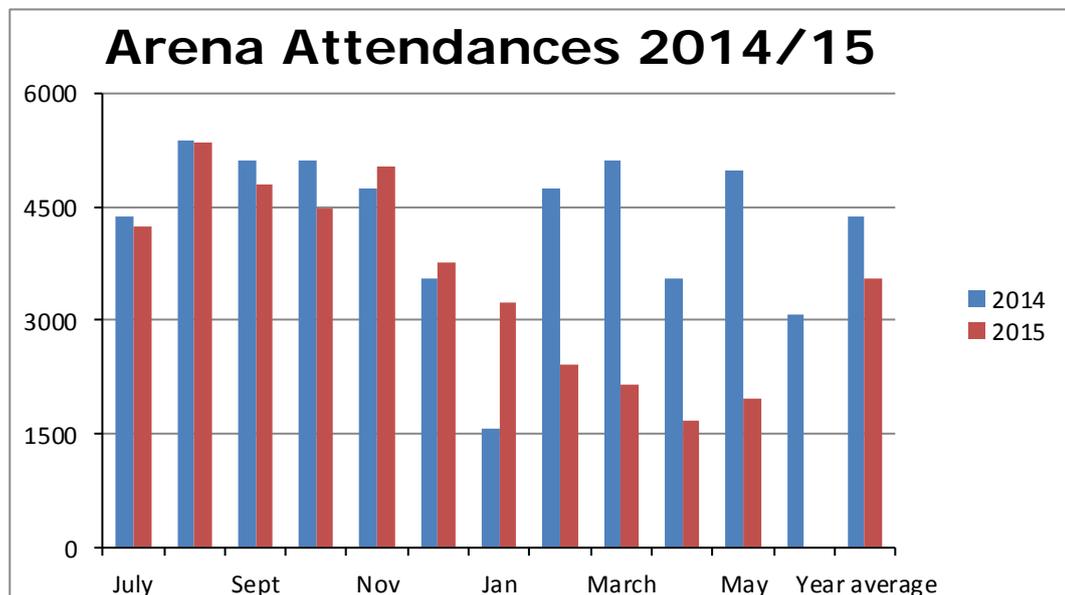
ARKS Rugby club are meeting with officers to discuss future temporary and permanent solutions, which will give the club the ability to further grow and meet community needs. We are currently pursuing short term options at Rushton Park and also provided the club with information on future growth and Community Infrastructure Plan for the region.

Major Events

Despite a rainy, stormy day the 3rd City of Armadale Grand Fondo was a huge success. This year the event was relocated to the Jull Street Mall, creating a better village style start and finish to the event. Although every effort was made prior with street sweeping due to the rain and subsequent debris on the road, some riders got 2 or 3 punctures along the way and still managed to have a great day. The event presentations were relocated to Dome and it's great to see that even faced with the weather we experienced this event was still successful. 2015 planning has commenced with the goal to introduce a 10km community ride.

Armadale Arena

The launch of the U-Fit program, DIY fitness programs, has been a resounding success with positive feedback from a range of members, STAR participants and casual centre users. While most hirers are still waiting for the floor replacement the centre has welcomed back Redbacks Rollerskating club, roller hockey and recommenced soccer. While every effort has been made to communicate that we're still open during construction many members and casuals have assumed that the whole centre is closed, this is certainly reflective of the visit rates. Once the facility is once again at full capacity it will be a significant rebuild phase.



Reception work is almost complete and the centre is undergoing some exciting transformations. While still sometime away staff are focusing on programming efforts for summer, once the courts are available again.

MAY 2015

LIBRARY SERVICES

STATISTICAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

The Library Department's statistical performance indicators report for the month of May 2015.

Providing libraries for leisure, pleasure and inspiration and life-long learning

Reports on activities and community information sessions held during the month.

32 regular sessions were held. In any month these could include: story time, Baby Rhyme Time, school holiday programs, English conversation classes, reading & writing groups, computer training sessions, 3D printing workshops, games mornings and the Men's Social Group. A total of 623 people participated in these various activities.

637 children, teachers and parents were reached with 10 external visits to schools and other community childcare facilities.

6 special sessions were held with a total of 228 attending.

Reports on sessions of interest:

Topic: Book cubby and bookmaking at Minnowarra Festival

Date: 3/5/2015

Venue: Minnowarra Park

No. Attending: 70 children; 70 adults

The Armadale Book Cubby was in residence at the Minnowarra Festival as part of the children's activities offered in the Kid Zone, with children provided the opportunity to make hotdog books. Copies were made to take away as well as leaving one on display in the book cubby. Making books is a great literacy activity that promotes reading, creativity and self-esteem in children. Seventy books were made. The book cubby displays books made by children along with other community books such as 'We Are Champion Children' our locally produced community book. Library programs and services were promoted.



Topic: National Simultaneous Storytime

Date: Wednesday 27th May 2015

Venue: Kelmscott Library

Performers: Rita Lennon & Jenny Ramshaw

No. Attending: 16 children and 9 adults

National Simultaneous Storytime is an annual campaign that aims to encourage more young Australians to read and enjoy books. Now in its 15th successful year it is a colorful, vibrant, fun event that aims to promote the value of reading and literacy.

The 2015 book featured was *The Brothers Quibble* by Blue Mountains resident, Aaron Blabey. It's an amusing, rhyming picture book about how an older brother reacts to the arrival of a new sibling.

Topic: Armadale Young Writers' Awards – Writers Workshops

Presenters: Authors Jen Banyard and Meg Caddy – Creative Writing

Teacher Rosinda Seara – Living in Armadale

Dates: Saturday 9 May, Saturday 16 May, Saturday 23rd May 2015

Venue: Armadale Library

Total No. of Students Attending: 76

The Armadale Young Writers' Awards will be launched on June 1st 2015 to encourage local students in Years 3-10 that reside or attend school in the City of Armadale to enter a writing competition. This is the fifth year of the competition. This year the 'Living in Armadale' category has been revamped to encourage students to write about the local history of the Armadale area with a non-fiction submission such as an essay, transcript of an oral history, a profile or description of some aspect of history e.g. an old building, historic event, biography or personal memoir. This category is open to students in Years 7-10.

Local authors Jen Banyard and Young Adult author Meg Caddy conducted writing workshops at Armadale Library. Jen ran the workshops for the Year 3/4 and 5/6 year groups and Meg conducted the workshops for Year 7/8 and 9/10.

History Teacher Rosinda Seara presented the 'Living in Armadale' workshop for the years 7 to 10. To stimulate ideas for the competition, topics were discussed throughout the workshop with an emphasis that the students would be recording the history to be looked at in years to come. The session concluded with a demonstration of the resources available from the Birtwistle Local Studies Library.

The workshops were very well attended with students from a wide range of local schools. Entry forms for the competition and flyers advertising the workshops were mailed to eligible library members as well as being promoted in the libraries. Schools have also received promotional materials for the competition and workshops.

Five workshops were held and the Year groups were divided into five sessions. Attendances were: 23 years 3-4; 23 years 5-6; 5 years 7-8; 10 years 9-10; and 15 in the Living in Armadale years 7-10 group, a total of 76 in all.

Feedback from the students was positive and they found the workshops helpful with their writing experience.

Topic: Coeliac WA

Presenter: Nikki Watson

Date: 29 May 2015

Time: 10.30-11.30am

Venue: Armadale Library Meeting Room

No. Attending: 17

Nikki Watson, Member Services Officer of Coeliac WA, delivered a health talk on coeliac disease and gluten intolerance. The talk explored the symptoms, diagnosis, and treatment of the disease.

The talk concluded with information on Coeliac WA and a lengthy Q & A session. A selection of gluten-free biscuits and snacks, and tea and coffee were available as refreshments. A small selection of gluten-free diet and cook books were also on display.

Topic: Food Additives

Presenter: Julie Eady

Date: 22 May 2015

Time: 10.30-11.30pm

Venue: Armadale Library Reading Lounge

No. Attending: 28

Julie Eady, author of the book Additive Alert: Your Guide To Safer Shopping, explored the world of food additives in an informative talk. The session aimed to educate and highlight problem issues.

The talk explored added preservatives, colours, flavour enhancers, artificial sweeteners and nitrates and prompted many questions. The audience was advised to contact manufacturers of food products if they are concerned or need clarification about any ingredients. Free bookmarks/wallet cards were available and copies of Julie's book were also available for purchase.

Topic: Bush Tucker

Presenter: Dale Tillman (Maalinup Aboriginal Gallery)

Date: 9 May 2015

Time: 2.30-3.30pm

Venue: Armadale Library Reading Lounge

No. Attending: 65

Dale Tillman, co-owner and operator of Maalinup Aboriginal Gallery, provided a bush tucker talk and tasting experience. A brief talk on Aboriginal customs Dale's ancestry opened the session. The importance of consuming natural food was raised, as was the negative effect Western food and diet have had on the indigenous population.

The session concluded with 45 minutes of bush tucker tasting. Foods ranging from kangaroo and emu chorizo; wattle seed, and lemon myrtle cake; chili pastes; infused macadamia and olive oils; relishes; jams; and chutneys, were all laid out for the crowd of 65 to taste. A range of these bush tucker products were also available for purchase.

The session was a great success with positive feedback from all those attending. A return appearance from Dale, focusing more on local Aboriginal history and practices, is being explored.

HERITAGE SERVICES

Statistical Performance Indicators

The Heritage Department's statistical performance indicators report for the month of May 2015

Birtwistle Local Studies Library

The following projects and activities have involved the Birtwistle Local Studies Library staff, volunteers or visitors:

Publishing the WW1 Claude Marsh book

Linton Reynolds has completed his research and compilation of information into the history of WW1 prisoners of war using local identity Claude Marsh as the focal point, titled A guest of the Kaiser. This is the first book, to be followed at a later date by one that lists the personal details and service records of approximately 450 soldiers from the district of Armadale during World War 1.

Faye Clay's farewell

A farewell was held on Thursday 14 May in the Armadale Library for long-time volunteer at the Local Studies Library, Faye Clay. Members of the Wildflower Society, Araluen Botanic Park, the Armadale-Gosnells Landcare Group and SERCUL were among the forty people came to show their appreciation for the support that Faye and her late husband Cam, had given to each of the organisations over many years.

Conflict & Compassion: An Anzac Tribute: 250 Sunsets; Roleystone Theatre

The WA Heritage Festival performance at the Roleystone Theatre was held on Friday 15 May in line with the 2015 theme of Conflict and Compassion and with a focus on World War 1. The performance was taken from local author Linda Bettenay's two books that were loosely based on personalities from the City of Armadale and who were involved in World War 1.

Heritage Open Day: Looking Back and Moving Forward

Sunday 17 May was a trial event for promoting the heritage precinct to the public. This was advertised as part of the WA National Trusts Heritage Festival for 2015 with social media promotion and printed flyers circulated to the City of Armadale community.

The Birtwistle Local Studies Library contribution to the day, held in the Church building, was hosting guest speakers who were encouraged to share their knowledge of the district's history. Members of the Armadale Penguin Club, the Kelmscott History Group and the Armadale District History group were represented. The afternoon guest speaker was former mayor, Linton Reynolds AM

Although the weather was unfavourable for attracting the interest of people passing by the heritage precinct the day was a success for the BLSL as a first time event, with lessons to be taken into account if a heritage open day is to be held in the future.

Family Tree Group meeting

The May meeting, attended by 12 people, was divided into two sessions. Ernie Fowler led a discussion about the information to be found in the subscription databases and TROVE digitised newspapers.

Kerry Westlake facilitated the fourth in a series of writing workshops that inspired confidence and easily achieved goals when writing family stories.

Foyer display

Temporary displays have been installed in the BLSL foyer:

- A collection of ANZAC books available for reading in the BLSL
- A display of historic photographs supporting a theme for WA Day “Building communities”

Research queries

The following queries were presented to the BLSL staff during May:

- Bevan Carter seeking an image of Nurse Bellas
- The Kelmscott History Group seeking a biography for Neil Fretwell
- Mundijong Library regarding the purchase of a handheld scanner
- Mr & Mrs Hancock sought information about 33 Stone St
- Mr K. Dandie wanted information on the 36-mile police station
- Roleystone School site history.
- Mr D. Darrah sought information on the Armadale Bowling Club.

Council website history pages

Updating and expanding the timeline page(s) for the council website is almost complete. Many more historical points have been added; for example the period 1950 to 2000 previously had only 29 entries; there are now 83 (with more being added). Web links have also been added to certain timeline entries, taking customers to a Picture Armadale image for that event / person / place.

Oral histories

Volunteer, Lesley Choules has recently interviewed

- Steven Aldersea about the team who remove graffiti from fences and walls in the district (Civic Pride Action Group)
- John Colwill regarding his memories of the Araluen Botanic Park history

History House Museum

Museum Exhibitions

Bert Tyler Vintage Machinery Museum

A meeting was held with Creative Spaces and work on constructing the new display furniture and exhibition panels has begun this month. Installation is planned for June and the Museum will re-open early July. This has been jointly funded by Council and a Lotterywest Grant.

Museum Programs:

Minnawarra Historic Precinct Open Day

The open day occurred on Sunday May 17 and involved a series of events from speakers organised by Birtwistle Local Studies Library in the Congregational Church through to conservation demonstrations, back room tours and live music in the museum. Inclement weather affected visitor numbers.

Comedian in Residence Program

History House Museum was successful in gaining a Connect Communities Collections grant for \$20,440 from Department of Culture and the Arts. This grant will be used to engage the community and local comedian Peter Rowsthorn. Peter will conduct four Museum tours and a workshop between August and November 2015.

Museum Collection:

Donations

Local Celtic band, The Ferrymen, donated their CD Fir Bolg to the Museum. The band played at the Museum's recent open day.

A speaker from the Old Armadale School Room was donated to the Museum by Jeff Green.

Museum Education Report: School Visits

Kelmscott John Calvin Primary School Year 5 class and Year 9s from Roleystone Community College visited the Museum to participate in the program for our new exhibition On the Home Front: Life in the City of Armadale during World War One. Feedback from both schools was very positive.

School Incursion Program

The Education Officer has visited two schools this month. Piara Waters Years 1 and 2 participated in a Pioneers program to learn more about early settlers of the District and Forrestdale Primary School learned what it was like in school over 100 years ago.

MiaB

The (Museum in a Box) MiaB program is a great success with all the boxes going out over the month. It is fast becoming our most popular program. Planning has begun for the creation of new boxes on the more popular themes to cope with the demand.

Museum Management:

Volunteers

Helen Brash has joined History House Museum to conduct research into the Ben Strange cartoons.

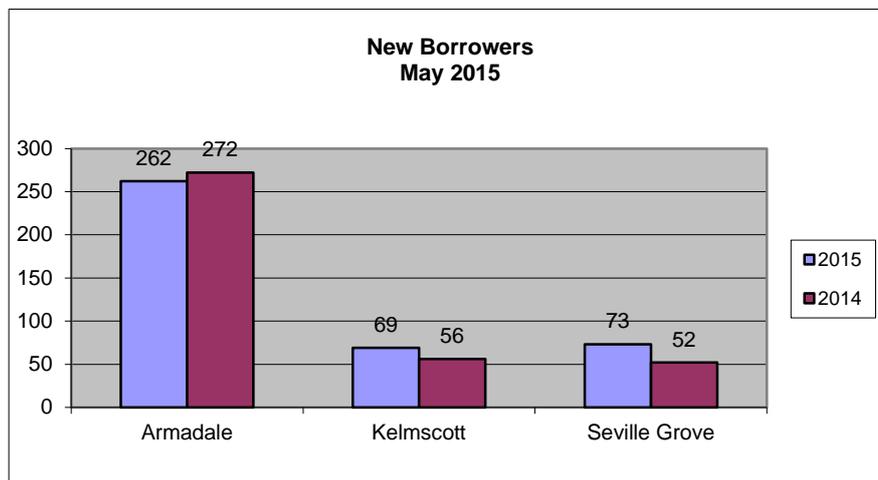
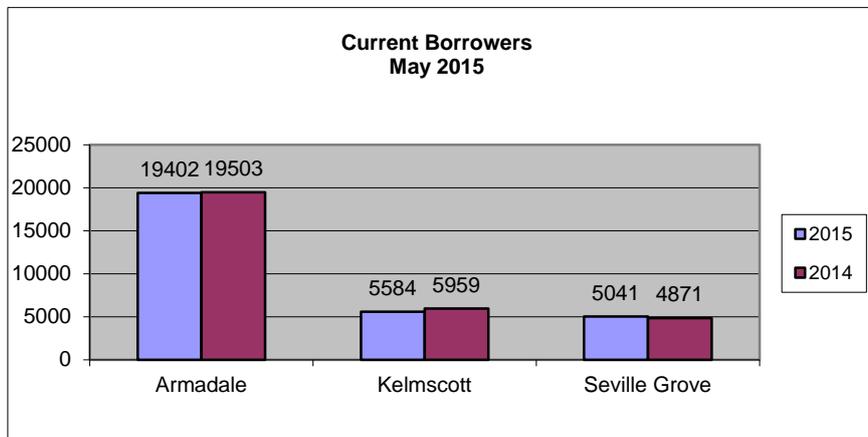
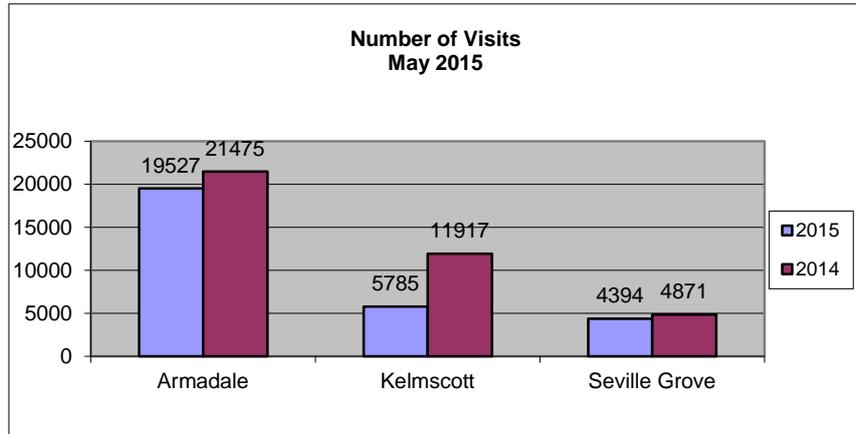
Bullsbrook Residents and Ratepayers Association

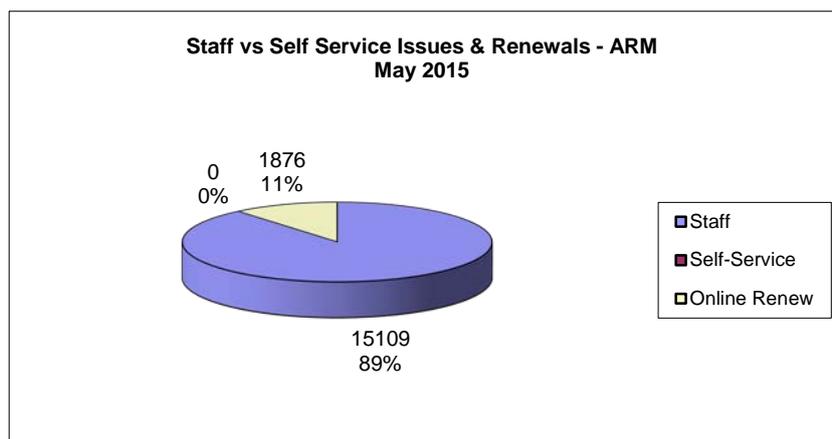
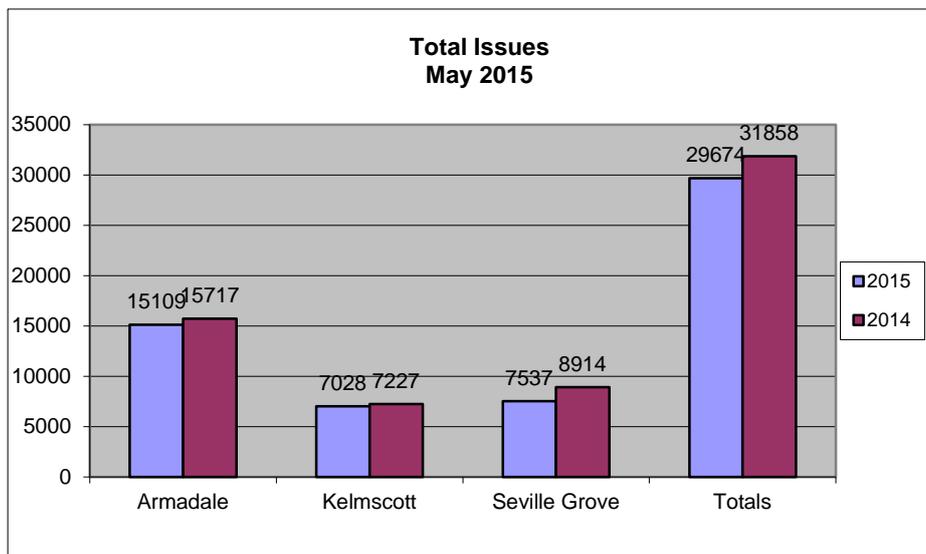
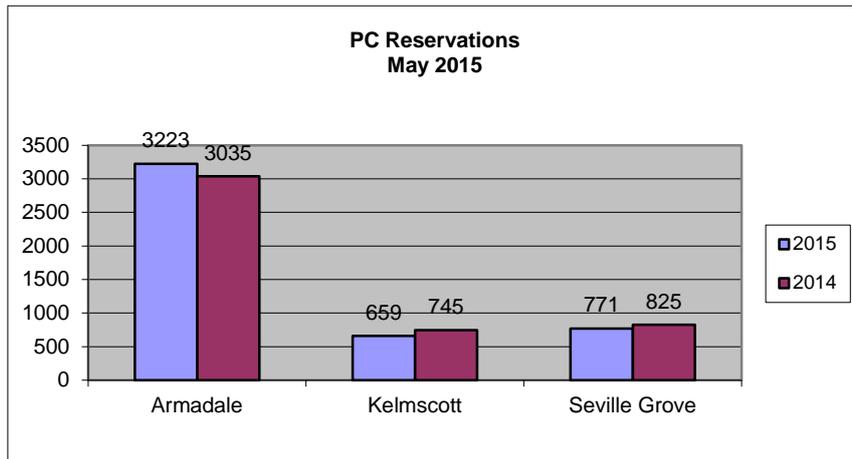
The Bullsbrook Residents and Ratepayers Association visited the Museum to learn what was entailed in setting up and running a Local History Museum.

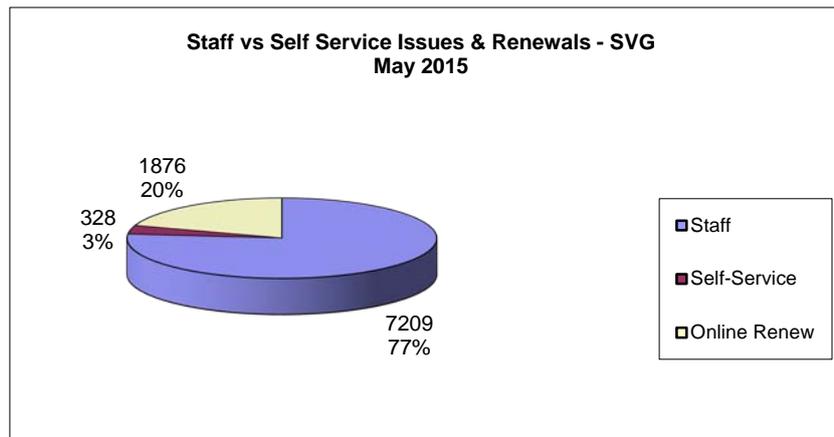
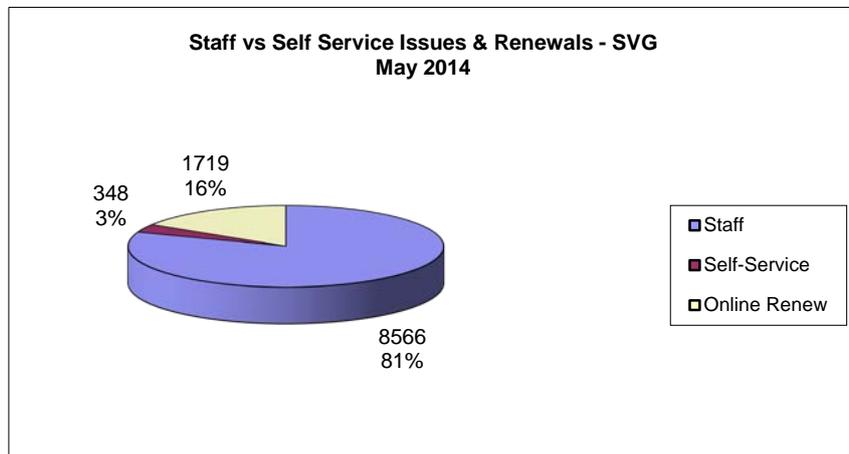
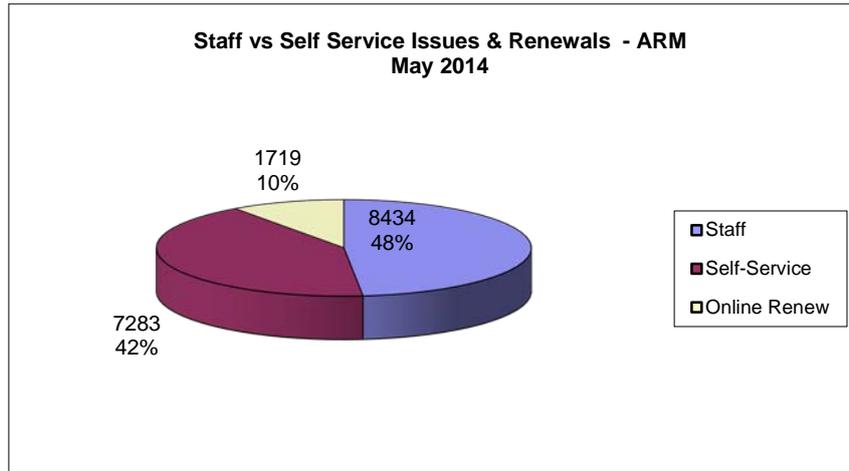
City of Perth Staff Visit

The Museum was visited by the City of Perth staff to view the new exhibition On the Home Front: Life in the City of Armadale during World War One and to see how the Museum operates.

STATISTICS







STATISTICS

BIRTWISTLE – STATISTICS – MAY 2015

Birtwistle Local Studies Library				
	Current Month	Year to date		
	MAY 15	MAY 14	July 14 - May 15	July 13 - May 14
Reference Enquiries	2	6	66	46
Research Enquiries	5	41	99	142
Visitor Attendance total	129	158	1021	1254
Volunteer Hours total	131	139	1424	960
Digitising Records	39	12	370	142
Oral History				
Letters Sent	2	3	25	36
Interviews Completed	2	2	17	21
Transcripts Completed/ reviewed	1	3	19	28
Volunteer Hours – Transcribing	13	44	235	224
Volunteer Hours - Interviewing	4	6	44	76
Family History Research				
Reference	2	1	98	43
Research	31	42	346	324
Volunteer Hours	36	45	440	493

HISTORY HOUSE MUSEUM – MARCH 2015

History House Museum	Current Month	Year to date		
		May 15	May 14	July 14- June 15
General Visitors	228	207	1757	1857
School Visits	70	0	447	465
School Incursions	162	117	908	118
Holiday Programs	0	0	164	69
Community Programs	0	29	172	107
Seniors Programs	0	0	54	142
Total Visitors	460	353	3502	2758
Volunteer Hours	157	222	1435	1778
Bert Tyler Vintage Machinery Museum	May 15	May 14	July 14 – June 15	Jul 13 – June 14
Visitors	117	149	1822	1654

MAY YEAR: 2015

RANGER AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

ANIMAL CONTROL

Dogs

Ranger Services received five hundred and eighty seven (587) requests for assistance during the report period. Whilst the number of requests for assistance is only slightly higher than the comparable period of 2014, it is worthy to note a 17% increase in the overall request for service from the corresponding period of 2013/2014.

CATS

Ranger Services received fifty three (53) requests for assistance during this report period. There has been a slight decrease in the number of requests for assistance during this report period. Notwithstanding the overall progressive total from the corresponding period of 2013/2014 identifies a 107% escalation in activity for this area of Ranger Services operations

LIVESTOCK

During this report period Ranger Services attended to twenty four (24) requests for assistance in dealing with stock wandering, this figure indicates a similar number of reported incidents of stock wandering from the corresponding period 2014.

COURT ACTION

The following information relates to legal action taken by Ranger Services pursuant to the provisions of the Dog Act 1976, these matters were heard and determined in the Armadale Magistrates Court during this report period.

OFFENCE	FINDING OF COURT	PENALTY \$	COSTS \$	TOTAL \$
Dog Attack on Animal	Guilty	1,200	150.80	1,350.80
Dog Attack on Animal	Guilty	1,200	150.80	1,350.80
Dog Attack on Animal	Guilty	1,400	150.80	1,550.80
Dog Attack on Person	Guilty	800	150.80	950.80
Dog Attack on Animal	Guilty	1,000	150.80	1,150.80
Dog Attack on Person	Guilty	3,000	150.80	3,150.80

Vehicles

PARKING

Ranger Service attended to three hundred and five (305) general enquires relating to the unlawful parking of vehicles during this report period.

Unlawful and indiscriminate parking around schools account for a majority of infringements issued.

Whilst the dilemma faced by parents dropping children off at schools, and the apparent limited available parking places is acknowledged, it is the responsibility of every driver to ensure that they are aware of, and comply with parking and other traffic requirements in a particular area.

Rangers will continue to attend at local schools throughout the district, on a regular basis, to ensure the safety of children is maintained. One of the ways of achieving this is by a strict application of the Local Law Relating to Parking; thereby reducing the risk of injury caused by the indiscriminate parking of vehicles, to ensure a safer environment for children on their way to and from school and to decrease traffic congestion surrounding schools during drop off and pick up times

CONTROL OF VEHICLES (OFF ROAD AREAS)

Ranger Service attended to ten (10) reports of vehicles (motor cycles) being driven in a prohibited area, during the report period.

Ranger Services currently provide a service to the community in respect to reports of off-road vehicles being driven or used in certain areas, particularly where it is identified that life and or property are at risk.

LITTER

Keeping roadsides, reserves and other areas litter free is a major focus of Ranger who are ever vigilant in identifying and apprehending litter offenders. In an effort to improve our roadside environment, every year staff and volunteers collect litter from hundreds of kilometers of roads throughout the district of the City of Armadale.

Unfortunately Rangers are not always able to ascertain details of persons dumping rubbish, so it is appreciated when residents are able to report details of persons observed to be depositing rubbish in bushland, or other areas.

During this report period Ranger Services attended to forty eight (48) requests for assistance regarding the illegal dumping or rubbish.

Fire and Emergency Services

Ranger Services received three hundred and twenty six (326) requests for assistance during the report period.

There has been a slight decrease in the overall number of requests for assistance, in this area of operations, from the corresponding period of 2014. Ranger Services continue a high profile in relation to hazardous blocks and offer advice to land owners with regard to fuel reduction and ongoing maintenance of firebreaks.

PREVENTION

During the month of May one Bush Fire Hazard Assessment was reviewed at;
Cell F – Wungong Urban Master Plan

A total of Three hundred and thirty two (332) Bush Fire Permits were issued by Ranger Services during the months of April and May 2015.

PREPAREDNESS

The City of Armadale Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) held an evacuation and welfare exercise on the 21 May at the Piara Waters pavilion where 35 participants from 8 agencies worked through a series of real life scenarios that could occur should an area of the City be evacuated due to a large scale bushfire.

From this exercise 13 key findings were identified that will be reviewed by LEMC at its June meeting which aim to improve the City's and local agencies ability to support the local community during an evacuation.

The City of Armadale draft State Preparedness report has been completed and will be tabled at the June LEMC meeting. The document will provide the State Emergency Management Committee an understanding of how the City undertakes its responsibilities contained within the Emergency Management Act 2005 and activities undertaken over the last financial year.

Public notices were distributed in regards to storm awareness week 13-17 May advising the public to take preventative actions to mitigate storm damage and the SES contact number to be utilised to obtain assistance.

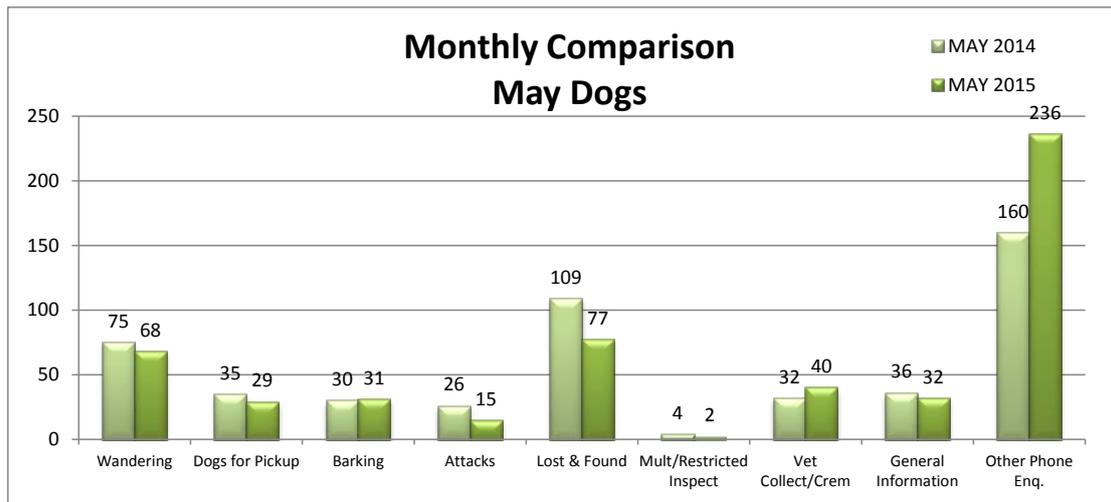
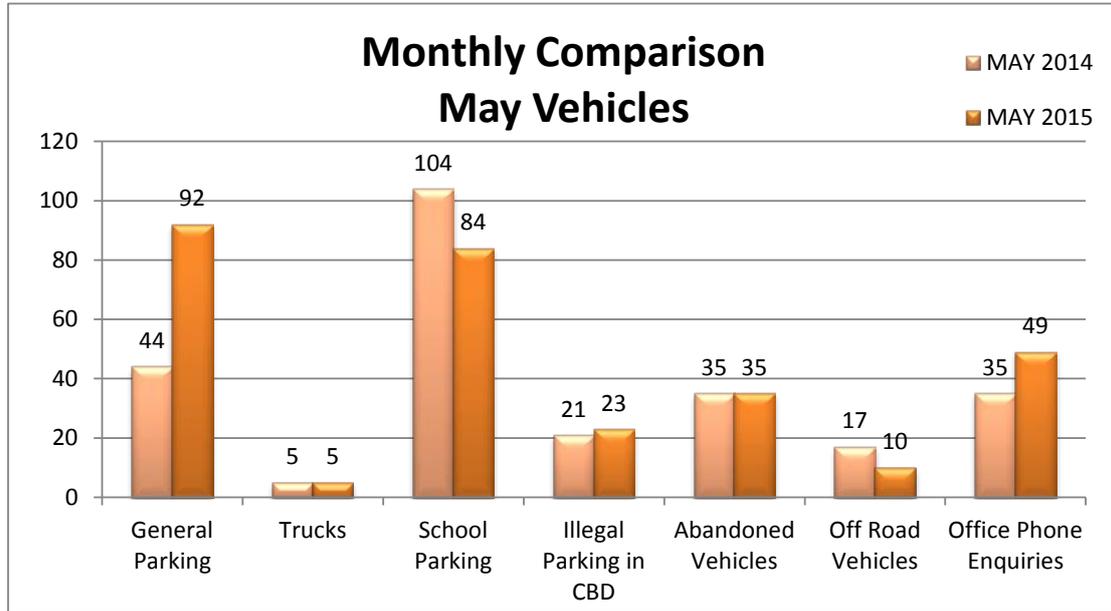
RESPONSE

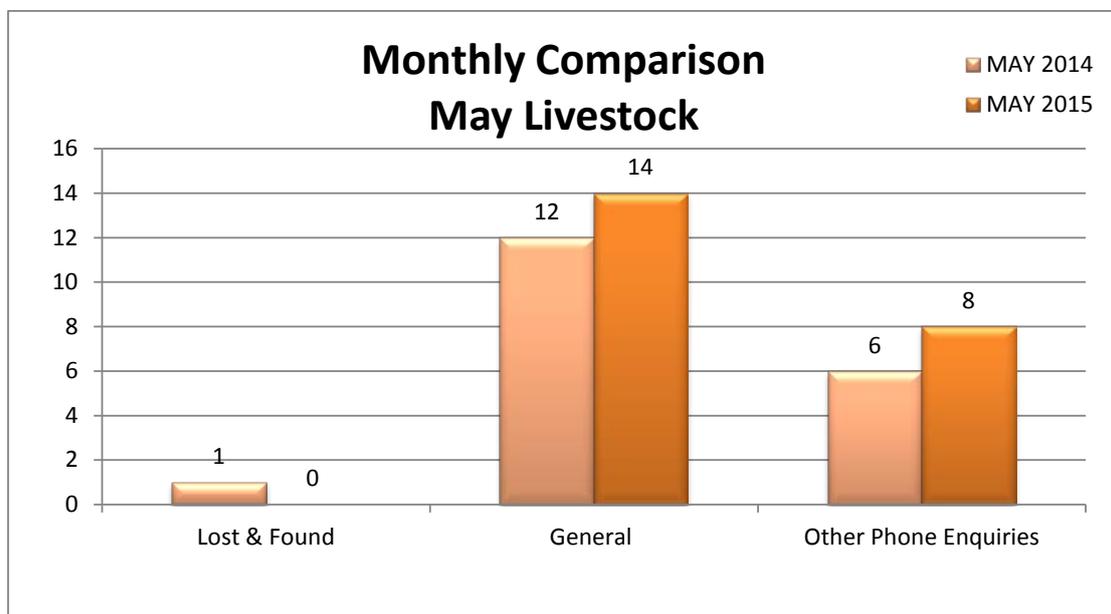
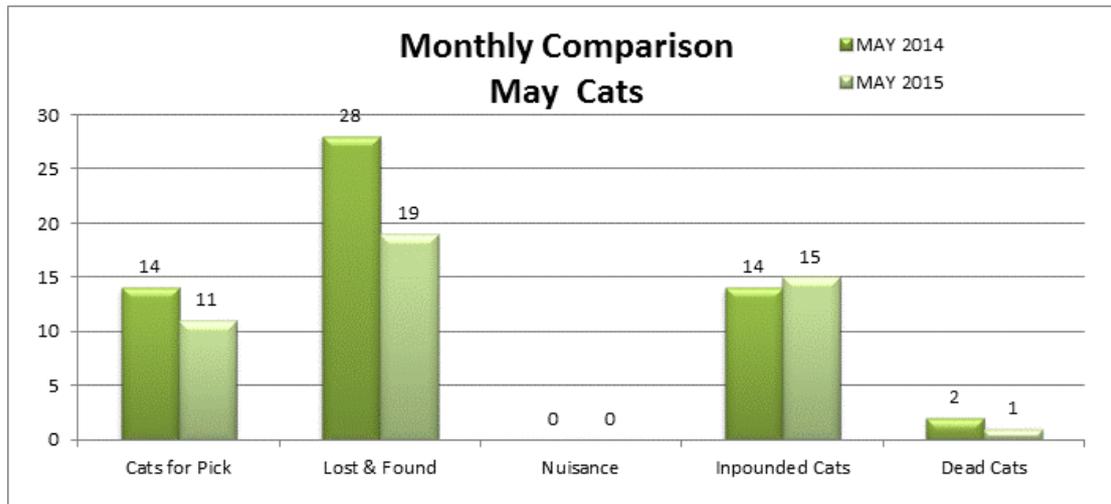
In the month of May the City of Armadale Bush Fire Brigades attended to 5 incidents within the City and other local government area

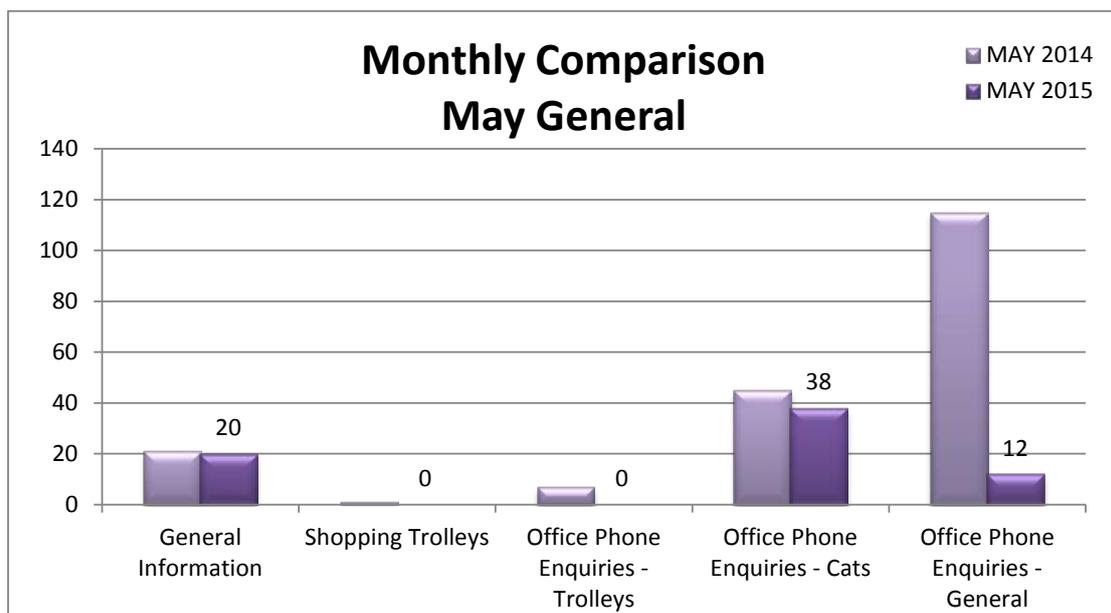
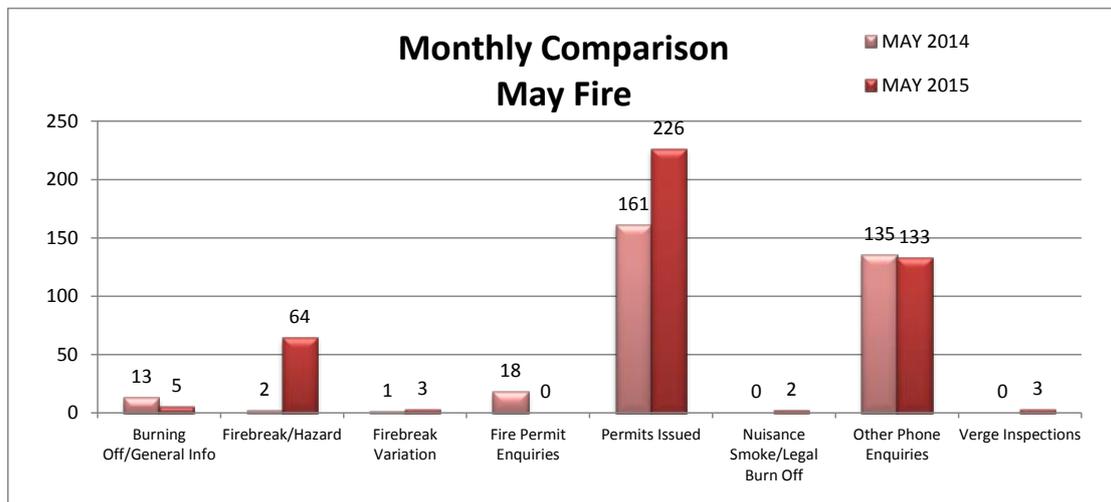
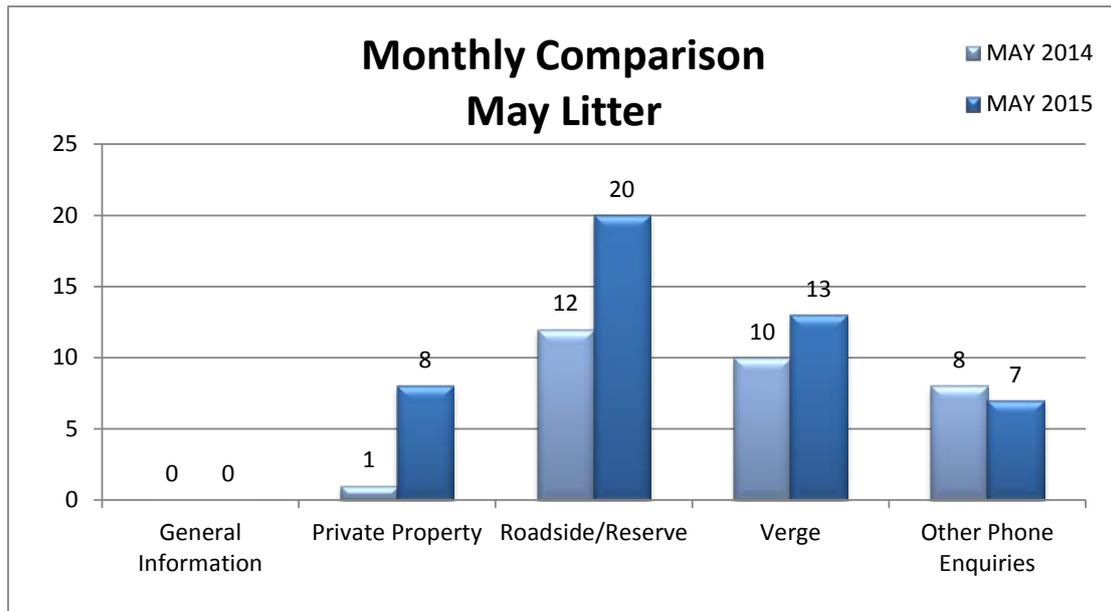
RANGER SERVICES OPERATIONS

The primary focus of Ranger Services is managing the response to the community for requests for service. This has increased over the past five (5) years, partially due to population growth, partially due community expectations and Councils internal efforts to deliver a more comprehensive service.

STATISTICS







TOURISM AND EVENTS

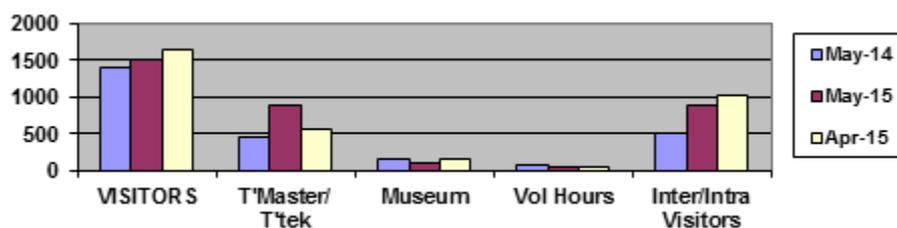
VISITOR CENTRE

The Visitor Centre can now offer free Wi-Fi to our patrons as the City of Armadale has installed Wi-Fi in the centre.

Top three international visitors this month were from New Zealand, United Kingdom and Malaysia. The staff attended a couple of training workshops with Tourism Council and attended Tourism Western Australia’s Industry briefing.

The Bert Tyler museum will be closed for renovation from June 22 until July 7, 2015
 The Armadale Outpost Telegraph centre will be open as usual.

STATISTICS



MAY 2015

INTRA-STATE VISITORS	INTER-STATE VISITORS	OVERSEAS VISITORS	TICKETMASTER/TICKETEK	MUSEUM VISITORS	TOTAL VISITORS	VOLUNTEER HOURS
816	63	46	892	117	1504	61

APRIL 2015

INTRA-STATE VISITORS	INTER-STATE VISITORS	OVERSEAS VISITORS	TICKETMASTER/TICKETEK	MUSEUM VISITORS	TOTAL VISITORS	VOLUNTEER HOURS
931	82	69	567	170	1649	58

Destination Marketing

The City has continued an ongoing destination marketing program of the Armadale region including:

- Scoop Publishing
- Your guide to Perth and Fremantle (airport distribution);
- Jetstar Asia magazine;
- Experience Perth travel shows;
- Scoot magazine;
- Curtin FM radio;
- Examiner Newspapers;
- Inspire Magazine;
- 2015 Chinese Planner; and
- Experience Perth 2015 planner

MAJOR ARTS AND EVENTS

The major events team have been actively reviewing the past event program and planning the event season in 2015/16. The current event planning includes:

Teddy Bears Picnic

The Teddy bears Picnic is a free family event in the Jull Street Mall on Friday 17 July. This event will be held as part of the Jull Street Activation project and will include a variety of children's activities in a large marquee and a healthy lunch for all participants.

We intend to attract over 50 families to the Jull Street Mall during this time, which will add benefits to local traders and activate the mall.

Outside the Frame

The event team have commenced planning for outside the frame art awards to be held from Saturday 15 August – Sunday 23 August. The City has extended the exhibition by one week to increase the opportunity for increased school visits and professional development opportunities.

Due to the engagement of local school during the Minnowarra Art Awards there has been considerable interest for entry packs.

Highland Gathering

The first Highland Gathering Committee meeting was held on the 4 June 2015. The first meeting re-confirmed the committee purpose, reviewed the 2014 Highland Gathering, discussed goals and outcomes and confirmed the groups commitment for the 2015 event.

The committee outlined that they were really happy with the format of the 2014 event, due to the date change to September and the layout of the event. They would like to keep the way the layout similar with some minor modification.

The next committee meeting will be held on Thursday 25 June at which the committee will confirm the event layout, marketing concepts and event program.

Perth Kilt Run

The Perth Kilt Run will be held prior to the Highland Gathering on Sunday 13 September and planning is well underway. The event team are endeavouring to increase participation by engaging with local schools, gymnasiums and local running clubs.

Minutes/Notes of Occasional/Advisory Committee.

Committee: Highland Gathering Committee
Location: Committee Room, City of Armadale Administration Building
Date: Thursday 4 June 2015
Time: 6pm – 7.30pm

Meeting Outcomes

- Introduce members of the committee
- Review and reflect on 2014 Highland Gathering
- Discuss the vision, goals and outcomes for the 2015 Highland Gathering
- Discuss and establish timelines for

Agenda details:

1. Welcome and review agenda
 - a. 6.10pm start
 - b. chaired by Cr Colin Campbell in Cr Jim Stewarts absence
2. Attendance and apologies
 - a. Apologies: Don Munro (Clan Munro and representing combined clans) and Alan Miller (SMCFWA representative)
 - b. In Attendance – Cr Colin Campbell JP, Stephen and Bev Sullivan, James Cowie, Julia Christiansen, Sam Bowden, Garry Fisher, Lauren Carr, Kelly Jennings
3. Introduction of all members and their organization
 - a. Each member introduced themselves and the group or organization they are representing
4. Purpose of the Highland Gathering Committee
Garry Fisher addressed the committee and put forward the following Terms of Reference from previous years. All were accepted by the committee.
 - a. Terms of Reference (1995): To assist Council in the management and coordination of the annual Armadale Highland Gathering.
 - b. To consult with relevant stakeholders and interested parties, and consider any new ideas for possible inclusion in the annual Armadale Highland Gathering event.
 - c. To advise and assist Council officers with the development of the program and format for the annual Armadale Highland Gathering event.
 - d. To advise Council on any matter relating to the annual Armadale Highland Gathering event that the committee believes Council should be aware of.
5. Review members outcomes at the 2014 Highland Gathering (each member to state)
 - a. Positive Outcomes
 - Cr Colin Campbell JP stated that all of the feedback received at Councilor level was positive particularly with the date change due to the weather. Everything worked well compared to previous years and the change for the Kilt Run course worked really well and should be kept the same.

- Bev and Stephen Sullivan remarked that it was the best Highland Gathering so far and they really like the MC for this event. Set up the day before was good to drop off equipment and ensure the dance floor was even.
- Julia Christensen said the weather was fantastic so the date change worked; the extra marquees from the registration were great for shade and equipment storage for the band. Dropping off equipment the day before worked well for them and the location was better with the Orchard Avenue road closure as it wasn't quite so disconnected by the road and also received foot traffic from the Abbey Road car park.
- b. Negative Outcomes
 - Bev and Stephen Sullivan felt that the band was still too disconnected from the event and would be better located on Minnowarra Park with the rest of the event.
 - Julia Christensen mentioned that sun in the afternoon was an issue for the judges.
 - Sam preferred the previous location for the Medieval Fair for atmosphere, shade and easier with equipment and weapon displays. He said that keeping tents near the arena is important for security and safety given that his displays include weapons etc

6. Discuss the vision, goals and outcomes for the 2015 Highland Gathering
Lauren Carr confirmed the event date and times and invited members to share what they would like to see happen with this event.

- a. Sunday 13 September 11am – 4pm
- b. Perth Kilt Run 7am (reg) – 10.30am
- c. Goal/Outcome to achieve for 2015 (each member to state)
 - Bev and Stephen Sullivan said that they would prefer be located in the childrens area as they will be running workshops this year and it will be easier to engage them. Workshops will require additional matting to conduct highland dancing tutorials. They also commented later when looking at the site map that being positioned in the Clan Village was advantageous for the clans, as parents could wonder while children were engaged, but recommend moving closer to the highland dancing stage in sites one and two to conserve resources.
 - Garry Fisher asked what happened in the dance stage over the lunch break and it was discussed that this should be programmed with a 'filler' to ensure the stage is being run all day, rather than having a break at this time.
 - Cr Colin Campbell JP asked if it would be possible to have an award for the Medieval Fair so that it is inclusive and in line with the rest of the programing.
 - Sam Bowden suggested changing their space around to be tighter and closer to the craft stalls, splitting up the craft stalls and using the rotunda for something. He also commented that the addition of a Poetry Slam or similar eg 'Salute to the Haggis' would be in keeping with festivals and the culture of the time. He had two additional ideas for the Medieval Fair program which included a boffer bashes operator who would run mock fighting competitions for the kids. After being asked about an award for his area, to contribute to the overall style of the Highland Gathering, he put forward Heema running martial arts styled competition that would be appropriately themed. Sam will investigate these options.
 - Julia Christensen wanted to rethink the Pipe Band awards as these were delayed until late afternoon due to having to schedule with the

main stage and other awards. She suggested this could be run from their area as an earlier presentation is preferred.

- Cr Colin Campbell JP recommended the Events team to liaise with running groups now to encourage them to participate. The marketing also needs to be done a lot earlier if we are going to get the numbers required to be competitive in the Perth Kilt Run record.
 - A discussion was also had with an update on the kilts and it was noted that Lauren Carr will be working with Bev and Stephen Sullivan to order these the following day. Bev mentioned that last year the postage cost quadrupled which increased the overall cost of the Kilts.
 - The main KPI set and agreed by everyone was to see increased attendance as this benefits everybody.
 - James Cowie was also asked how many bands attended and if the schools are being engaged. He responded approximately five bands from a potential 18 and that schools including Scotch College have been approached and are a work in progress.
 - It was also suggested that the local schools be approached to submit teams for the Perth Kilt Run. Some incentives for their involvement could be as a fundraiser for the school with a 'sponsor me' page set up and also a Local School competition prize.
7. Discuss and establish timelines for each organisation's role in the Highland Gathering, such as programs and infrastructure/equipment list due dates
- a. Establish commitment
 - b. Establish an agreement that programs and equipment lists is required at next month's meeting – all committee members agreed to provide as much information as is possible on their program and requirements by the next meeting. It was noted that if this is available prior to this it can be emailed through to Lauren Carr at info@armadale.wa.gov.au
8. General business
- Mention of the Fremantle Fun Run being on the same day again this year. This should be checked and taken into consideration for future scheduling of this event.
9. Next Meeting: Thursday 9 July 2015, 6.00pm
NB. This has since had to be rescheduled to Thursday 25 June 2015, 6.00pm
10. Closure – 7.30pm

CITY OF ARMADALE
DISABILITY ADVISORY TEAM MEETING NOTES

Tuesday 2 June 2015

Bi-monthly meeting held at the City of Armadale Committee Room, 7 Orchard Avenue Armadale

Chair: Cr Melissa Northcott

Meeting commences at 9.38am

1.0 Attendance & Apologies

Attendance

Name	Title	Organisation
Cr Melissa Northcott	City of Armadale Councillor and DAT Chairperson	City of Armadale
Wendy Hill	Community Development Officer - Seniors, Access and Inclusion	City of Armadale
Sue Hillel	Building Services Manager	City of Armadale
Gail Nesci	Principle Occupational Therapist	Armadale Health Services
Sheila-Anne Macleod	Area Manager Kelmscott	Disability Services Commission
Ron Fisher	Community Representative	
Sheila Parker	Community Representative	
John Glassford	Community Representative	
Guests:		
Lauren McDonnell	At Risk Program Officer	Department of Fire and Emergency Services
Mathew Tapscott	Subdivision Engineer	City of Armadale

Apologies

Name	Title	Organisation
Philip Crabbe	Property Manager	City of Armadale
Pat Hart	Community Representative	
Mark Dadd	Community Representative	

2.0 Notes

3.0 Actions from February Minutes

- Confirmed by Cr Melissa Northcott.
 - Ms Hill provided an update regarding point 3.0 from February minutes (request for toilets at the Settlers Common Accessible Trail). It was recommended by Community Development to add the following to the report to Council:

“the recommendation is amended to include the words ‘at this point in time’ so as to allow investigation on the inclusion of a public toilet to occur at a later date i.e. when evidence or support from other sources provide sufficient justification for it to occur”.
- The following was presented to council:
- “That Council:*
- Note the report on the request for new facilities in the Armadale Settlers Common East reserve that:*
- 1. No further investigation will be undertaken for the provision of a public toilet, drinking fountain or bin facilities in Armadale Settlers Common East; and*
 - 2. The provision of additional picnic facilities, seating, signage and an extended trail are being progressed through existing programs.*
- Moved By Council.”*
- Ms Hill advised Ms Kirwan did send email regarding lack of adult change facilities in the change rooms at the Armadale Aquatic Centre and Ms Hill forwarded to Recreation Services.

4.0 Guest Speakers

4.1 Ms Lauren McDonnell - (DFES) ‘At-Risk Communities Program – Assisting Clients to be Bushfire Ready’.

- Ms McDonnell provided:
 - A background to the ‘At-Risk Communities Program – Assisting Clients to be Bushfire Ready’ initiative which came about from the Victorian Bushfire Royal Commission and Keelty Report.
 - Research presented in an article from ‘WA Today’ post 2011 Kelmscott/Roleystone fires showed – 72 homes destroyed; 32 homes damaged; 50% of residents admitted to having no fire plan or waited to see how bad the situation was; less than 10% reported they were willing to stay; 30% planned for the whole family to leave with 28% admitting they left just in time.
 - Advised as a result, an ‘At-Risk Communities Working Group’ was formed providing consultation from over 37 agencies and providers to develop a training package.
 - Advised this training package is currently available to organisations to coach staff and to educate individuals online; however has not been officially launched.
- Queries from the group to Ms McDonnell were:
 - Concerns with the challenges service providers face in relaying information to clients.
 - Who has a list of ‘At-Risk’ people in each district and who is responsible.

- Initiative of a 'Bush Ready Coordinator' who is knowledgeable of people in street.
- Concerns of how to relate the sense of urgency to people.
- Whether resources were available as audio CD's and Braille.
- Delays in new legislation that should be in place for construction of new houses and housing developments to bush fire code.

4.2 Guest Speaker – Mr Mathew Tapscott – City of Armadale Subdivision Engineer

- Mr Tapscott discussed:
 - A problematic footpath in a new housing development in Bedforddale. The footpath is unable to meet access requirements due to incline and the Technical Department were after group discussion to determine whether the footpath should proceed.
 - The group advised they would rather a footpath than none at all; however there were concerns that regulations and legislations need to be addressed; and who is liable if the footpath is not to code. The footpath should still comply with building/road regulations.
- Further discussions from the group to Mr Tapscott included:
 - Concerns over lack of access in new land developments with the reduced block sizes, roads and footpaths. Creates safety issues for people exiting and emergency services entering estate.
 - Suggestions Mr Tapscott and Mr Done refer to accessibility standards.
 - Queries whether there are exceptions to accessibility standards when the lay of the land does not allow for accessibility.
 - Queries who Technical Services reports to. Mr Tapscott advised it depends who owns the asset. Possibly Main Roads but if CoA, no State body regulating infrastructure.
 - Suggestions to refer to State Administrative Tribunal if suitable footpath requirements cannot be reached.
 - Suggestions to query issue through the Builders Registration website and seek information on Commonwealth regulations/legislation for roads and footpaths.
- Mr Tapscott explained that new subdivisions are first approved by WA Planning Commission (WAPC) with lot and road layouts already determined. CoA then needs to provide drainage, sewerage etc. within those determined layouts.

5.0 Updates from Community Development Officer (Seniors Access and Inclusion)

- Ms Hill provided an update on current projects and information:
 - Currently working on the progress report on the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan for the Disability Services Commission to be lodged by 3rd July.
 - A hand out was given to the group on Local Government Managers Australia announcing launch of the Lighthouse Project in partnership with the DSC – which aims to increase

- employment in WA local government for people with a disability.
- Information provided on the DSC grant funding on offer – Community Infrastructure Grants and Community Inclusion and Participation Grants.
- The Accessible Business Brochure is with the graphic designers to include more photos, new style guide and update contact details.
- Disability awareness training for CoA staff members is occurring twice a year. Ms Hill hopes it will become part of the induction for new members of staff.
- CoA was successful in receiving \$10,000 grant from Onelife and will coordinate a five day day camp for youth aged 10-18 to help those at risk of self-harm.
- Accessible adult change facilities in Bakers House – handed over to recreation services.

6.0 Other agenda items

- Discussed previously.

7.0 Other business

- Ms. Hillel advised:
The 'Bushfire Ready Act' legislation should have been implemented 1st May 2015; however now delayed to 1st September 2015. It related to new domestic/residential construction of an investigation report into the Docklands fire in Melbourne where an apartment building burnt down due to a resident smoking on their balcony. The report found substandard external cladding did not meet building code requirements. This is the danger in people not thinking on how their decisions impact others.
- Ms. McDonnell noted building construction legislation and regulations are not able to keep up with the pace of development and industry changes.
- Ms. Macleod advised there is ongoing confusion with the NDIS as currently three versions running. New trial to be launched in Kwinana and Cockburn soon.
- Ms. Hill reminded members of lunch to be hosted in Council rooms on Friday. RSVP to Cr Northcott.

Meeting closed at 11:20am

Next Meeting – 4 August 2015.