

City Views

City of Armadale Administration Centre

7 Orchard Avenue Armadale WA 6112 ■ Telephone 9399 0111 ■ Facsimile 9399 0184

Issue 8 February 2005

City's new cinema complex is 'nothing short of outstanding!'

Grand Cinemas opened the doors to its multi-screen Armadale Cinema complex for the first time on Thursday, 20 January 2005 and Manager Jason Ponosh has expressed his satisfaction with the number of people through the door in the first two weeks.

"We had a little over 7,000 people during the first couple of weeks and the feedback we've received from them has been very, very positive," Mr Ponosh said.

"That's not bad when you consider that the rest of the Westzone Plaza retail centre is still being redeveloped, won't be completed for a few weeks yet and still looks like a building site."

Mr Ponosh said that the comments he'd received from cinema-goers had been nothing short of fantastic.

"We've managed to create something exceptional here at Armadale and people have been blown away by the sound system, the superb 20-metre screens and the comfort of the raked seating," he commented.

"Word is spreading that the Armadale complex is a better cinema going experience than

Carousel or any other cinema south of the river and it's my belief that Armadale is the best you'll find anywhere in Perth.

"Our customers have been using words like awesome and mind-blowing to describe the movie magic created in our two Megastadiums.

"But they've also acclaimed their experience in the two boutique theatres that have the smaller 13-metre screens and that confirms we've got the mix just about right."

At the opening of the cinema complex, Westzone Chairman Gerard O'Brien paid tribute to the role of the City of Armadale in helping bring the development about.

"A lot of credit has to go to the City for its vision and commitment in making the development happen on behalf of the community," he said.

"The Mayor Cr Linton Reynolds, CEO Ray Tame and their teams have worked hard to make this come about.

"The result is a really superb cinema complex that will attract many people into the heart of Armadale."

Grand Cinemas Chairman Colin Stiles also praised the partnership that has developed between Grand Cinemas, Westzone and the City.

"We've been delighted at how the development has gone," Mr Stiles said.

"The partnership between Council, Westzone and ourselves has worked really well and the result has been outstanding.

"We've also been thrilled by the support for the cinema complex shown by the local community," he added.

City Mayor Cr Linton Reynolds said that Council had put considerable effort into attracting the development to Armadale and it was gratifying to see the doors opening at last.

"Survey after survey showed that top of the list for entertainment and recreational facilities, our community wanted a modern cin-



Cinema Manager Jason Ponosh said that the comments he'd received from cinema-goers since the opening had been terrific.

ema complex here in Armadale," Cr Reynolds said.

"The result has been the creation of an exceptional multi-screen complex by Grand

Cinemas and I'm looking forward to seeing residents turning out and really supporting this incredible facility that's nothing short of outstanding!"

City planning expertise helps Tsunami victims



City Senior Planning Officer Erin Perera talking to villagers in Galle on Sri Lanka's southern coast.

Armadale Council is providing technical assistance and expertise to Sri Lanka's Tsunami devastated communities.

The City of Armadale has paid for one of its senior planning staff - Erin Perera - to provide advice to Sri Lanka's Urban Development Authority.

Sri Lankan born Ms Perera is a Senior Planning Officer with the City and has been at work with Sri Lanka's Urban Development Authority for the last month helping with the reconstruction effort.

Ms Perera, a qualified town planner who is fluent in all three of the locally spoken languages, was in Colombo when the Tsunami struck. She was given permission to offer her assistance to the Sri Lankan authorities and the City has agreed to fund her stay for six months.

The State Government, through local Armadale Member Alannah MacTiernan, also pledged up to \$20,000 in matching funding to help support the City's initiative.

Ms Perera has toured the

stricken southern coast to see for herself the extent of the enormous task ahead to re-establish communities ravaged by the Boxing Day tidal wave.

"One of the most unforgettable sights was the wreck of the ill-fated Queen of the Seas passenger train that was swept off the tracks by the tsunami," Ms Perera said

"Over 800 of the passengers were killed by a wall of water that tossed the 80 tonne locomotive aside as though a matchstick.

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USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

Administration Office
(Opening hours: Monday to Friday 8.15am to 4.45pm)
7 Orchard Avenue, Armadale
Tel: (08) 9399 0111
Fax: (08) 9399 0184
Email:
info@armadale.wa.gov.au

Armadale Library
7 Orchard Avenue, Armadale
Tel: (08) 9399 0125

Kelmscott Library
2817 Albany Highway,
Kelmscott
Tel: (08) 9390 5506

Westfield Library
76, Champion Drive, Armadale
Tel: (08) 9497 2622

Armadale Arena
Townley Street, Armadale
Tel: (08) 9399 5065

Armadale Aquatic Centre
Champion Drive, Armadale
Tel: (08) 9399 6966

Web Site:
www.armadale.wa.gov.au

Community involvement wanted for City's Seniors Plan

Representatives from community groups and people with an interest in service provision for the over-55s are being sought to take part in a Seniors Planning Day to be held on Friday 18th February.

The Planning Day, which will be held in the City of Armadale's Administration Centre on Orchard Avenue in Armadale, will help the City to update its Seniors Plan.

Participants in the event will be involved in reviewing the City's current position and looking ahead to help predict future need.

Armadale Mayor Cr Linton Reynolds said:

"The Seniors Plan provides the framework for developing policies and allocating resources for a number of services to the over-55s for the next five years, so it is a very important document."

"The first Seniors Plan resulted in the delivery of a number of successful programmes and projects such as the Ready for Life initiative and \$420,000 redevelopment of the Armadale Kelmscott Seniors Centre.

"We need to make certain that we build on that success by ensuring the plan reflects the needs and aspirations of the community.

"The Seniors Planning Day will have an important role to play in helping us to get the

plan right and ensure that it is effective."

The City's Seniors Plan looks at a range of important areas including housing, accommodation and support, as well as employment, health, transport, community safety and recreation.

"By getting involved and participating in the Seniors Planning Day you will be playing a part in ensuring the City's Seniors Plan remains an effective and relevant working document," Cr Reynolds noted.

Anyone who would like to take part can express an interest by contacting City Seniors Officer Justin Ifould on 9399 0652.

City celebrates Australia Day



The City's traditional Australia Day fireworks celebrations in Minnowarra Park went down well with the 40,000 strong crowd.

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

Aboriginal Elder and Kelmscott resident Vivienne Hansen had reason to celebrate this Australia Day after receiving the City of Armadale Premier's Active Citizenship Award from Mayor Cr Linton Reynolds.

The award was presented at a special Australia Day ceremony held in the City's Administration Centre.

Councillor Reynolds said that Mrs Hansen was a very deserving recipient of the award.

"Vivienne is a very active member of the community and has provided strong leadership within the Aboriginal community," Cr Reynolds noted.

"As a role model for the wider community she has been inspirational and I cannot think of a more worthy winner of this award.

"She is known for her fairness and her strong desire to help, so it is not surprising that her advice and wisdom is sought by both State and local organisations on a wide range of issues relating to Aboriginal culture.

"When you list her achievements they make impressive reading," he added.

Mrs Hansen played a critical role in the development of the City's Indigenous Advisory Committee and has served as Chair of the Aboriginal Advancement Council.

Locally she has also been involved with the Armadale Redevelopment Authority Community Reference Group, Armadale Youth Accommodation Committee, Starrick House Services Board, Minnowarra Festival Organising Committee and the Champion Lakes Aboriginal Interpretive and Enterprise Centre Working Party.

Mayor Reynolds presented three other citizenship awards on Australia Day:

■ The Under-25 Citizenship Award was presented to Miss Samantha McCormack of Seville Grove for her services to the community and involvement with the

Bedfordale Bush Fire Brigade, Armadale Gosnells Landcare Group and Youth Group at Francis Xavier School.

■ The Community Group/Event Citizenship Award was presented to the Kelmscott Agricultural Society for the Kelmscott Agricultural Show, which was first staged in 1897 and is the second largest show of its kind held in the metropolitan area.

■ The City of Armadale Environmental Contribution of the Year Award was presented to Mr David James of Forrestdale for his work over 20 years in advancing environmental awareness in the Forrestdale area.

Fireworks

A great night out! That was the verdict from those who attended the City of Armadale's Australia Day celebrations and fireworks display held in Minnowarra Park.

A crowd estimated at over 40,000 was treated to a dazzling pyrotechnic display - all synchronised to a broadcast by Heritage 107.3 FM.

City Mayor Cr Linton Reynolds said the event was a tremendous success and praised the good behaviour of those who attended the day.

"There was a real family atmosphere and people were obviously enjoying the occasion," he said.



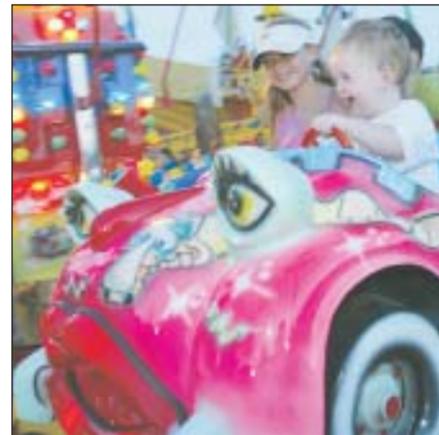
Kelmscott resident Vivienne Hansen was presented with the Premier's Active Citizenship Award on Australia Day.

"The setting was amazing and the number of people who turned up early in the afternoon was testament to the event's popularity."

City of Armadale Chief Executive Officer Mr Ray Tame congratulated the team involved in the organisation of the Australia Day celebrations and singled out City Events Co-ordinator Melanie Green for particular praise.

"Anyone who has been involved in organising a large event will know all about the hard work and attention to detail that is required to ensure that an event like this one is a success," he said.

"We've had some terrific feedback from members of the public who attended the fireworks show and that says a lot about how well it was organised," Mr Tame added.



The City's Australia Day celebrations had something for everyone - including the little ones!

Events diary

For details of summer events at the City of Armadale's three libraries, give your local library a call - there's always something going on!

Armadale Library (Ph 9399 0125)
Kelmscott Library (Ph 9390 5506)
Westfield Library (Ph 9497 2622)

FREE Concerts in the Park Summer Series held in Minnowarra Park on the corner of Orchard and Armadale Roads

Sunday 20th February from 5.00pm to 7.30pm. The big band - 19 piece - sound of the Oz Big Band.

Sunday 6th March from 5.00pm to 8.45pm. The Minnowarra Blues Festival featuring Acoustic Highway (5.00pm to 6.45pm) and The Investors (7.00pm to 8.45pm).

Sunday 20th March from 5.00pm to 7.30pm. The great swing sound of Jus' Jump.

Saturday 2nd April from 4.00pm to 7.00pm. The superb dance music of Accent.

For more information contact City Events Co-ordinator Melanie Green on telephone 9399 0148.

Minnowarra Festival - Saturday 2nd April (11.00am to 7.00pm) and Sunday 3rd April (11.00am to 5.00pm).

The State's premier Arts and Crafts festival with something for the whole family. Main stage entertainment, animal displays, car displays, Aboriginal interactive zone, community group displays and much more.

For more information contact City Events Co-ordinator Melanie Green on telephone 9399 0148.

Minnowarra Art Award Tuesday 29th March to Sunday 3rd April from 11.00am to 4.00pm daily.

A prestigious Art Exhibition that professionally showcases Western Australia's leading artists.

For more information contact City Events Co-ordinator Melanie Green on telephone 9399 0148.

For the latest information on the City's events programme visit the City's web site at www.armadale.wa.gov.au

Free Concerts in the Park!

The first in a series of free Concerts in the Park was held last Sunday and featured the singing / songwriting talent of Connie Kis Anderson and Band, acknowledged by many as one of WA's finest country music talents.

The open-air concerts are held in Armadale's popular Minnowarra Park and have proved to be enormously popular in recent years.

A seasoned performer Connie Kis supported Don McLean during his 2004 tour and she has recently recorded her debut album *Keeping it Simple*, a transatlantic blend of country and blues music recorded in Nashville and here in WA.

City Event Coordinator, Melanie Green, said she had been delighted to have



The City's popular Concerts in the Park will feature the big band sound of the Oz Big Band.

Connie Kis and her band kick off the free Concert in the Park season.

"With a top country act like Connie Kis you know that you're going to be enter-

tained and the atmosphere on the night was really fantastic, so the crowd really enjoyed themselves," she said.

"The Concerts in the Park are family events where you can listen to the music, dance a little if you want to or just enjoy a picnic in the great setting of Minnowarra Park."

Over the next three months the Concert in the Park programme includes such favourites as the Oz Big Band on Sunday 20 February, Minnowarra Blues Festival on Sunday 6 March, the acrobatic antics of Jus' Jump on Sunday 20 March and the eclectic repertoire - funk, Latin, blues, rock and pop - of Accent on Sunday 2 April.

For full details of these and other City events, visit the City of Armadale web site at www.armadale.wa.gov.au

City planning expertise helps Tsunami victims

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"Seeing the debris strewn everywhere was a gruesome reminder of the human toll of this awful disaster.

"Thousands of homes, as well as schools, wells, crops and entire fishing villages were all destroyed, so the rebuilding job ahead is mind-boggling.

"Before reconstruction gets underway in Sri Lanka the planning work has to be done

to ensure that the re-building efforts meets the needs of local communities and provides a solid base for long term recovery."

City Mayor Cr Linton Reynolds said that Council saw the initiative as a way of providing practical support for an area that had been hit very hard by the Tsunami.

"This was a means for us to provide help in a very hands-on way to those affected by

this terrible tragedy," he said.

"Erin will be able to make a significant contribution to replanning the devastated areas and helping communities in their efforts to recover.

"She is currently working on developing a neighbourhood and resettlement plan to move communities away from high risk areas," he added.

Ms Perera qualified as a town planner with a Master of Science degree in Town and

Country Planning and a Post Graduate Diploma in Urban Development from the University of Maratuwa in Sri Lanka. She had previously worked as a planning officer for the Urban Development Authority in Sri Lanka between 1982 and 1987.

Over 40,000 Sri Lankan's lost their lives and millions more were displaced by the Tsunami. More than 6,000 Sri Lankans are still missing

Cinema complex a 'major catalyst' for rejuvenation of area

It has been a long time coming, at least 15 years according to Grand Cinemas' Chairman Colin Stiles, but Armadale finally has a state-of-the-art multi-screen cinema.

The opening of Grand Cinemas' new four-screen cinema complex, as part of the redevelopment by Westzone Enterprises of its shopping precinct on the corner of Jull Street and Third Road in Armadale, is regarded as a major milestone in the bid to rejuvenate the area and one of the factors behind ING's recent announcement of a \$70 million expansion for Armadale Shopping City.

Although the doors to the new cinema have only just opened, Grand Cinemas has already expressed an interest in doubling the number of screens to eight if Westzone Enterprises gets the green light to further expand its retail space.

Armadale Council, which played a key role in helping secure Grand Cinemas investment in the area, has been delighted by the reaction of the local community to the development.

"It has boosted business confidence, provided much needed local employment for young people and generated massive interest from residents delighted that a major entertainment facility has been opened on their doorstep," said City Mayor Cr Linton Reynolds.

"The development has acted as a catalyst to attract new business to the area and encourage existing businesses to invest for the future.

"The economic benefits for the region have already been significant," he added.

In equipping the new Armadale complex, Grand Cinemas has remained faithful to its commitment to audience comfort and enhancing the movie-going experience - a

cornerstone of its effort to retain a competitive edge over bigger national operators.

"We're a small, locally owned business, which means we have to go the extra mile to compete with larger operators," Grand Cinemas Chairman Colin Stiles noted.

"Our success has been built on providing our customers with a first-class cinema-going experience and in fitting out the Armadale complex we haven't forgotten that fact," he added.

The 1,012-seat cinema complex includes two Megastadiums featuring massive 20-metre screens, which, with the exception of IMAX, are the largest to be found in Perth. There are also two boutique-style theatres with more modest, but still impressive 13-metre screens. All four of the cinema stadiums feature ergonomically designed seating with extra width and legroom.

The four projectors

have been imported from Germany at a cost of over \$500,000. Two of them generate so much heat from their 7,000-watt bulbs that refrigerated water has to be pumped through them to keep them cool.

The digital sound systems, imported from the USA, are Dolby 5.1 compliant and the entire fit-out was undertaken to fully meet with standards set by the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers.

The new Armadale cinema complex opened its doors for the first time on Thursday, 20 January 2005.



Sonia and Ruby Murray with Mum Karen enjoy storytime at the new look Kelmscott Library.

Colourful library opens its doors!

The old Kelmscott Library closed its doors at 8.00pm on Thursday, 6 January 2005 and re-opened a few days later in better and brighter premises on the opposite side of the Albany Highway.

The colourful new look premises has enough space for the Library to properly display its 30,000 plus books and provides an enhanced service to users.

The City set aside \$160,000 to fund the move to the new location and equip the library with shelving, security systems and IT equipment.

"The new look Kelmscott Library provides more facilities for users including community and reading rooms, as well as a far more pleas-

ant environment for customers and library staff," said City Library and Heritage Services Manager Patricia Walker.

"We've been delighted by the feedback we've had from users and the children in particular seem to have taken to the bright, new colour scheme.

"There have been some teething issues that need to be resolved, such as customer parking, but we're confident these will be sorted out.

"What has been created is a huge improvement on the old facility," she added.

For more information about activities and opening hours at Kelmscott Library, telephone the Library direct on 9390 5506.

Seniors' vaccinations clinics

During March 2005 the City of Armadale, in partnership with Armadale Health Services, is running a series of vaccination clinics for seniors.

With winter just around the corner, the clinics will be offering a range of jabs to protect against influenza, tetanus and invasive pneumococcal disease.

City Health Officer Jane Quan said that all three diseases were potentially life threatening and posed a particular risk for seniors over 65 years of age.

"Flu can be very serious indeed and may even require hospitalisation, so getting a free shot to protect yourself really makes sense," she said.

"Tetanus is an acute illness



Getting a free shot to protect yourself really makes sense.

and once contracted can often result in death, so you should make sure your vaccination is right up-to-date."

Invasive pneumococcal dis-

ease can cause meningitis, pneumonia and bacteraemia and is found most commonly in children under two and in people over the age of 65.

"Funding has been made available to offer free vaccinations to those 65 and over and to indigenous people over the age of 50," Ms Quan said.

The Seniors Clinics will be held between 10.30 am and 11.30 am on the following dates: Wednesday 2nd March 2005 at the Harold King Community Centre; Wednesday 9th March 2005 at Armadale Hall; Wednesday 16th March 2005 at the Eve Gribble Community Centre and Wednesday 23rd March 2005 in Kelmscott Hall.

For more information, please contact Jane Quan at the City of Armadale on 9399 0152.

Market is 'under new management'

Armadale's "Market in the Mall" on Jull Street is under new management and operator Lilith Furlonger says she wants to see the market grow to reach its full potential as a great attraction for the City.

Roleystone resident Ms Furlonger has already made a mark by bringing in new stallholders and increasing trading days from two to three.

"The market now operates from 9am to 4pm on Wednesday to Friday, but I want to see that extended to Saturday as well," Ms Furlonger confirmed.

As part of her vision for the market, Ms Furlonger

intends to promote it as a performance site for street-theatre - with storytellers, musicians, dancers, singers and children's entertainers - as well as a trading place offering a wide range of goods at great prices.

"The market needs to be exciting and vibrant to attract more people to it and make the market an enjoyable place in which to browse and shop," she said.

"Introducing some great street-theatre helps to achieve this by making Jull Street Markets more appealing to stallholders and shoppers alike."

As part of her drive to attract more arts and craft stalls to the market, Ms Furlonger is offering incentives for local arts and craft people to participate.

The need to promote the market, as well as improve the aesthetics and overall attractiveness of the "Market in the Mall" hasn't been forgotten either by Ms Furlonger.

"I'm a firm believer that a high standard market attracts high standard stall holders and quality products," she noted.

For more information, anyone interested in taking a stall at the Jull Street Market should contact Ms Furlonger on 0422 585 884.

Free workshops to help you save money

As part of the 'Switch Your Thinking' campaign to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to global warming, the City of Armadale will be hosting a series of monthly free 'Switched on Living' workshops for householders wanting to save money on their energy and water bills.

The workshops provide residents with an opportunity to find out how to save up to \$700 a year on their annual

electricity, gas and water bills.

The workshops cover a range of topics including:

- Switched on Transport
- Switched on Water Heating, Refrigeration and Laundry
- Switched on Home Heating and Cooling, Lighting, Cooking and Appliances, plus
- Switched on Waste, Gardening, Building and Buying

Jason Menzies, Regional Greenhouse

Co-ordinator with the South East Regional Energy Group, said the workshops focus on providing practical tips for saving money and helping the environment.

"Small changes in the way we live can make a big difference to the amount of greenhouse gases we use, energy consumed and the resources we use," Mr Menzies said.

To register your interest in attending one of the free workshops you can register on line at www.switchyourthinking.com or by telephoning 9391 6032.

A guide to your Ward Councillors

Armadale Ward

Cr F R Green

Ph: 9397 5491

Fax: 9496 0107

Cr R J Tizard

Ph/Fax: 9497 3469

Forrest Ward

Cr A L Cominelli JP

Ph: 9397 0241

Fax: 9397 0073

Cr G M Hodges

Ph: 9399 7718

Fax: 9497 8251

Kelmscott Ward

Cr V L Clowes-Hollins

Ph: 9495 2201

Fax: 9495 1753

Cr H A Zelones JP

Ph: 9495 4073

Fax: 9495 4838

Roleystone Ward

Cr D L Hopper JP

Ph: 9380 4106

Fax: 9380 4079

Cr P J Hart

Ph/Fax: 9496 1633

Seville Ward

Cr J Everts

Ph: 9399 6327

Fax: 9399 6833

Cr G T Wallace

Ph: 9390 9909

Fax: 9399 0664

West Armadale Ward

Cr J Knezevich

Ph/Fax: 9497 1638

Cr J H Munn CMC JP

- Deputy Mayor

Ph: 9497 3996

Email: jeff@celebrantwedding.com

Westfield Ward

Cr L Reynolds JP - Mayor

Ph: 9390 7433

Fax: 9495 1927

Cr J A Stewart

Ph: 9497 9524

City seeks assurances in run up to State Election

The City of Armadale is seeking assurances from political parties on priorities for the region after the State elections are held on February 26.

City Mayor Cr Linton Reynolds said the City was particularly keen to ensure that a future State Government would continue funding for the Armadale Redevelopment Authority.

"We're concerned that the

Liberal Party favours the creation of a centralised redevelopment authority," Cr Reynolds said.

"It's a one size fits all solution and we have concerns that a lack of commitment to an area could result in less focus on meeting local needs.

"It also means that resources could be diverted to other areas to meet political expediencies," he added.

The City believes that the pro-

posal could lead to the creation of a de facto centralised planning authority, which would undermine local decision-making and the role of local authorities.

Private health provision within Armadale is also high on the City's agenda for discussion.

The City of Armadale has expressed concern that the recent acquisition by the State Government of the Armadale Kelmscott Memorial Hospital's private wing may reduce the num-

ber of medical specialists and surgeons attracted to the area.

"We're seeking the views of both parties on this issue and asking them how they intend to ensure a full range of specialist and surgical services will be located on the Armadale Health Campus," Cr Reynolds noted.

Armadale Council will also be seeking the support of political parties for a range of infrastructure and capital programmes including funding for roads, the Champion

Lakes Rowing Course and proposed White Water facility, improvement and redevelopment of the Kelmscott Station precinct, Aerial Bundled Cabling for high fire risk areas and the future heated indoor Aquatic Centre.

"These are all areas regarded as high priorities for our City and it is important that we do everything we can to secure the commitment of both the State Government and the Opposition to these programmes," Cr Reynolds said.

Mayor praises firefighters

Armadale Mayor Cr Linton Reynolds paid tribute to the courage and determination of the City's firefighters at a Civic reception held last weekend.

Around 130 volunteer and career firefighters attended the event, which was held as a special thank you in the wake of the massive Karragullen Pickering Brook Wildfire that raged for more than a week in January, destroyed around 28,000 hectares of bushland and threatened local communities.

"The men and women who tackled this blaze put their lives at risk to protect homes around the Karragullen town site," Cr Reynolds said.

"It was only thanks to the personal grit and determination of the firefighters in standing

their ground that not a single life or home was lost.

"The reception was a way of saying thank you on behalf of the community to the those involved in tackling the blaze," he added.

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer and City Manager of Ranger/Emergency Services Brian Watkins described the fire as the worst he'd seen in over 20 years.

"At one point we were fighting the blaze on a 50 kilometre front and its ferocity was frightening," he said.

Mr Watkins had a close shave of his own during the fire when on a recon with Roleystone Volunteer Fire Brigade Captain Noel Plowman.

"We were trying to ascertain the exact location of the fire front and the rate at which it was moving through the bush," Mr Watkins said.

"The sky went black and we got out of our vehicle to take a closer look when suddenly the fire burst out of the bush in front of us.

"Flames were licking 80 metres or more into the air and the ash was spotting new fires up to a 100 metres ahead.

"It was as though the blaze was hurling Molotov cocktails at us and the noise was like an express train coming towards you," he said.

Mr Watkins said they both knew at that point it was time to get out of the area.



"It's a sobering thought to ponder on what might have happened if our vehicle hadn't started," he noted.

Cr Reynolds presented all the firefighters attending the civic reception with certificates of appreciation on behalf of the community for their outstanding and dedicated service.



Chief Bush Fire Control Officer and City Manager of Ranger/Emergency Services Brian Watkins described the fire as the worst he'd seen in over 20 years. Inset: A dramatic night shot of the wildfire.

Bulk verge collection underway...

A citywide bulk verge collection of general junk is underway and the City of Armadale estimates that over 1,000 tonnes of rubbish will be picked-up in the three months that it will take to complete.

City Councillor Deb Hopper, who is also Chair of the State Municipal Waste Advisory Council, said it was important that junk should not be placed on the verge until residents had received a leaflet from the City advising them of the collection date.

"What we want to avoid is the situation where junk piles up along our City's streets for longer than is necessary," Cr Hopper said.

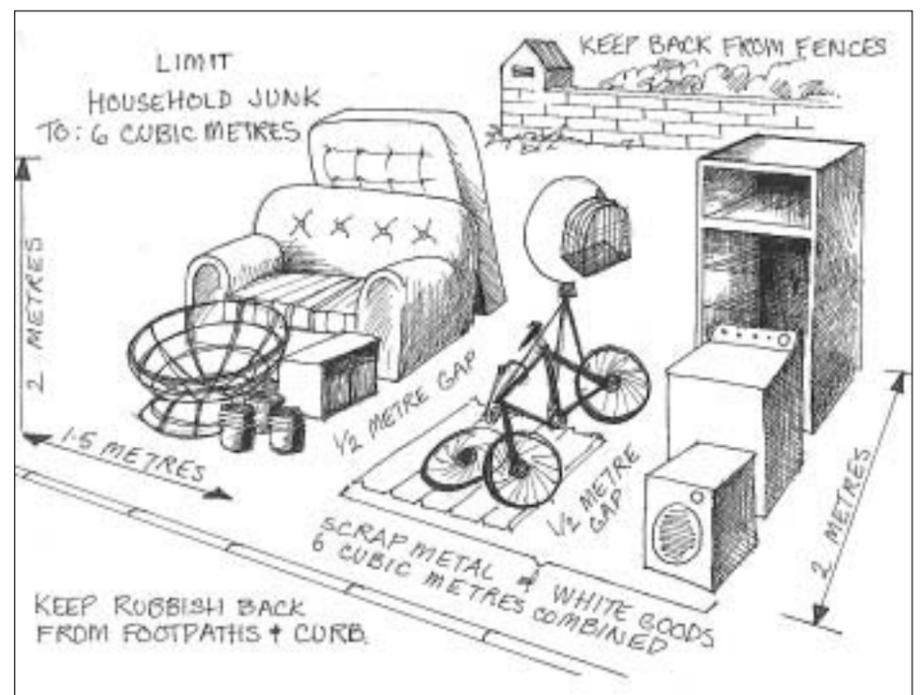
"So we're asking residents to be patient and wait until they receive the leaflet confirming the dates.

"Not only is the rubbish an eyesore, but it can be a potential hazard to pedestrians and other road users.

"The longer it is out on the street, the greater is the potential for it to be scattered," she added.

The City's contractor will have three teams picking up a maximum of 12 cubic metres of household junk from each property and to help speed the collection, residents are being asked to sort their junk into three neat piles comprising household junk, scrap metal and white goods.

City Waste Services Coordinator Bob Sutton said that by separating and stacking the junk neatly, residents would also be helping to ensure that as much of the material collected as possible could go to be recycled.



Residents are being asked to sort their junk into three neat piles comprising household junk, scrap metal and white goods.

"We really want to maximise the amount being recycled and minimise the amount of junk going to landfill," Mr Sutton said.

The bulk verge collection is designed to pick-up general household junk, scrap metal and discarded white goods such as washing machines and fridges. However, the City's contractors will not pick up hazardous materials such as asbestos products, oil, chemicals, car batteries, gas bottles or paint.

"We also won't pick up green waste, building rubble, tyres or household waste that would normally go into the rubbish bin," Mr Sutton noted.

The City is also asking residents to refrain from putting out mirrors and glass products that might shatter while out on the verge and pose a hazard to pedestrians and children.

For more information about the bulk verge collection, please telephone Waste Services on 9399 0111.

City of Armadale Council and Committee Meetings

February 2005 Meetings

- Ordinary Council - Monday 21st February at 7.00pm
- Development Services Committee - Monday 15th February at 7.00pm
- Technical Services Committee - Monday 28th February at 7.00pm
- City Strategy Committee - Monday 14th February at 7.00pm

March 2005 Meetings

- Ordinary Council - Monday 8th and 21st March at 7.00pm
- Development Services Committee - Monday 15th March at 7.00pm
- Technical Services Committee - Monday 30th March at 7.00pm
- City Strategy Committee - Monday 14th March at 7.00pm
- Community Services Committee - Monday 1st and 29th March at 7.00pm

April 2005 Meetings

- Ordinary Council - Monday 4th and 26th April at 7.00pm
- Development Services Committee - Monday 12th April at 7.00pm
- Technical Services Committee - Monday 18th April at 7.00pm
- City Strategy Committee - Monday 11th April at 7.00pm
- Community Services Committee - Monday 19th April at 7.00pm

All meetings are held at the Council Administration Office on Orchard Avenue in Armadale and residents are welcome to attend.