

City Views

CITY OF  Armadale

VOLUME 6
OCTOBER 2006



Rushton Park revival

FEATURES IN THIS ISSUE:

Innovation in planning
Children's Week
Sporting needs
Highland Gathering
City shines at Sustainability Awards

www.armadale.wa.gov.au

Innovation in planning

The City of Armadale has nominated an innovative planning scheme developed by the North Forrestdale Planning Steering Group in the Planning Institute of Australia Awards.

The Awards recognise outstanding achievements in planning and encourage public appreciation of good planning practice.

The nominated scheme is aimed at ensuring the development of quality infrastructure in new subdivisions in North Forrestdale by requiring developers to pay into a special fund.

The fund will support projects like the relocation of powerlines, widening of roads, provision of a community centre and setting aside of wetland areas for conservation.

It will provide a legal mechanism for major infrastructure projects to be funded, without adding a burden to ratepayers living in other areas.

Armadale's Technical College

The Australian Technical College (ATC) in the Armadale City centre is fast becoming a reality with site works now underway.

The building and construction workshop on the southern portion of the site will be constructed first, along with interim facilities housing classrooms and administration areas during 2007.

Stage two, which will commence early in the new year, will see the construction of an administration building, teaching facilities, as well as an additional workshop for 'electro-technology'. These structures will be ready for occupation for the 2008 academic year.

The ATC will provide alternative education for students who might otherwise fail to complete Year 11 and 12.

It has come about thanks to a joint bid by the Cities of Armadale and Gosnells for one of 25 federally funded Technical Colleges across the country. The bid was submitted in a move to overcome the skills shortage while at the same time increasing high school retention rates.

The college will have two campuses, one in Armadale and another in Maddington.

A bright future

Increased investments resulting from Armadale's ongoing revitalisation are boosting employment opportunities and causing property prices to soar.

Prices of Armadale properties have risen 45.2 per cent in the last 12 months alone. Kelmscott has enjoyed a real estate price rise of 43.4 per cent over 12 months while Westfield prices have gone up 38.4 per cent.

Increased investment levels are not only pushing up property prices, but the standard of developments as well. Stylish new estates in North Forrestdale are raising the benchmark for housing, landscaping and community infrastructure.

Such subdivisions are also adding to the vitality of the City through initiatives like the City's Developer Contribution Fund. This fund ensures developers pay for new infrastructure and facilities.

In addition, the expansion of Armadale Shopping City and the Armadale Plaza will increase employment opportunities and retain retail dollars in the City.

City of Armadale Mayor Linton Reynolds said the increases were proof of what we've always known – that Armadale is an excellent place to live, work and visit.

"Never in my many years of living here can I remember community optimism being so high," Cr Reynolds said.

The Armadale campus will provide hands on learning and practical skills in the building and construction trades, while the Maddington campus will concentrate on the automotive trades in the first year.

By learning such skills while also completing Year 11 and 12, students at the college can look forward to a rewarding career.

For more information about the ATC call 1300 303 677 or 9209 4300 or email info@atcperth.edu.au



*A 3D view of the ATC
in Armadale*

Children's Week

The City of Armadale has been engaging in 'child's play' with organisations such as the Department for Community Development, Armadale Family Community Centre and the Gowrie.

Together these groups are conducting Children's Week activities from 22 to 28 October under the theme 'It's Child's Play'. Children's Week is designed to encourage families to spend more quality time together. The City of Armadale will launch the Week with a pre-primary Children's Art Exhibition that will be on display between 17 October and 28 October at the Westfield Library.

Next on the Children's Week agenda is a two-hour St John's Child Resuscitation Awareness Course at the Armadale Arena Recreation Centre on Wednesday 25 October.

Children's Week celebrations will peak between 9am and 12 noon on Thursday 26 October with activities at Gwynne Park Oval on Townley Street.

Activities will include face-painting, story-time sessions, farm animals, balloon and toy making, and a mobile play trailer.

A Roadwise representative will also be nearby, in the Armadale Arena car park to check the safety of child restraints from 9am to 11am.

Anyone seeking further information on the events should contact Rebekah Milnes at the City of Armadale on 9399 0638.

Mayor's Message



In September I was given the great pleasure of officially opening the redeveloped section of Rushton Park. The occasion not only proved a wonderful day of celebration, but also gave us the opportunity to look back at the important role the site has played throughout Kelmescott's history.

The site was originally an important area for local Aboriginal people and later became home to the first Olympic style public swimming pool in the Perth metropolitan area.

People like myself who grew up in the area have fond memories of learning to swim there and enjoying fun filled afternoons by the pool side. However, the ageing facility eventually deteriorated to the point where we had to make the difficult decision to close it down. In doing so we were determined to ensure the area remained an important community facility.

Passionate debate and community consultation followed, which resulted in the fantastic new facility we can see today. Already families are making use of the new picnic, barbecue and playground equipment. We've got events planned for the new paved performance area, and the grandstands, toilets and kiosk have all been upgraded.

We've also ensured the site's important history will remain in our memories by unveiling a stylish new story wall which documents the site's past through pictures and words.

The result is a facility of which the whole community can be extremely proud. I urge you to make use of it and to revel in the strong community atmosphere that prevails at Rushton Park.

Cr Linton Reynolds, AM JP
City of Armadale Mayor

Volunteering

School students will be well primed to lend a helping hand in their community, thanks to a recent meeting hosted by the City of Armadale's Volunteer Resource Service.

The Service conducted its bi-monthly Armadale Volunteer Management Network Meeting on a proposed Community Service Program, due to begin in the 2007 school year.

The Program is an initiative of the State Government, which would require Year 10 and 11 students to complete a minimum of 20 hours voluntary community service over two years in order to graduate high school.

The Armadale Volunteer Resource Service Meeting attracted around 20 volunteer co-ordinators who brainstormed ways to offer students an interesting and worthwhile volunteering experience.



Armadale Volunteer Resource Service staff Pauline Franklin and Wendy Stanley

RECREATION

Sporting needs

The City of Armadale plans to assess the need for a regional sporting reserve to ensure the City's recreational facilities keep pace with forecasted increases in population.

The City's population is predicted to leap by at least 65,000 over the next 20 years, placing pressure on areas of public open space.

As such, Councillors have voted to provide partial funding for a needs assessment and feasibility study into the provision of a regional active sporting reserve.

The reserve would cater to the long term sporting needs of the City's rapidly growing population.

The study is forecast to cost \$30,000, of which the City has pledged \$10,000 and the Armadale Redevelopment Authority (ARA) has pledged \$10,000.

The City will also submit a grant application to the Department of Sport and Recreation for the final \$10,000 required to fund the study.

Rushton Park redeveloped

The new look Rushton Park was officially opened on 29 September amid a kaleidoscope of activity.

The City of Armadale opening celebrated the redevelopment of the former Kelmscott Pool site and the establishment of stylish new recreational facilities.

Improvements included an upgrade of the change rooms, kiosk and toilet facilities, a new gazebo and paved area, new barbecues and picnic facilities, a story wall and new playground equipment.

Hundreds of school children and adults turned out for the official opening to partake in a riot of activity.

Highlights included stilt walking, juggling, choir singing, face painting, a Patch Theatre Company performance, jazz music and a didgeridoo performance.

Kelmscott Primary School students also held their assembly on site, kicking off celebrations with a colourful performance by Year 1 students.

Both the Federal and State Governments added to City of Armadale funds to help in upgrading the park.



Cr Henry Zelones presents a plaque to Clive Daw



Peter Stocker (left) and Clive Daw admire the Rushton Park Story Wall

Giant Walk

City of Armadale staff helped break a world record in August when employees, Councillors and friends took to the streets of Armadale.

The staff members walked 1.8km around the central business district as part of the Premier's Physical Activity Taskforce's Giant Walk.

In excess of 150 official groups throughout the State took part in the Walk, which was aimed at exceeding Canada's record of having the most people walking a kilometre simultaneously. Together they walked a whopping 79,815km.



Staff, Councillors and friends took part in the Giant Walk

Highland Gathering

**12pm – 7pm, Saturday
18 November 2006**

Although there are sure to be Scots as far as the eye can see, Celtic ancestry is not a pre-requisite to join in the fun at the much loved Highland Gathering.

Visitors will be invited to witness some Scottish highland and country dancing, marvel at the pipe band competition, feast on scrumptious Scottish foods and indulge in a celebratory ale – after all no Scottish gathering would be complete without a toast to the haggis.

Animal displays, crafts, a cycle race and free children's activities top off an action packed family fun day.



Carols in Minnawarra

6pm to 8pm, Sunday 10 December 2006

Soak up the spirit of Christmas at the City of Armadale's annual Christmas Carols celebration in Minnawarra Park. This treasured community event involves school students singing along with other members of the community in a warming celebration of Christmas.

A live nativity scene, games and a visit from the grand old man himself, Father Christmas, promises to excite children of all ages. Be sure to bring your own picnic, rug and your best singing voice. For more information contact the City's Recreation Department on 9399 0187 or visit www.armadale.wa.gov.au



Your Local Libraries

Did you know that over 20,000 people visit one of the City's three libraries every month? In addition to the thousands of books, CDs, DVDs and magazines on offer the libraries also boast a jam-packed Calendar of Events. Check out these exciting activities for starters.

Bub Hubs: Books for your Baby

10am-11.30am, Friday 3 November, Westfield Library

State Library of WA consultant Margaret Kett presents how to choose books for your baby and beyond.

Christmas Crafts

**3.45pm-4.45pm, Monday
13 November, Kelmscott Library**

Bookstars members will enjoy getting crafty and creative in time for Christmas.

Bub Hubs: First Aid for Young Children

10am-11.45am, Friday 1 December, Westfield Library

Learn first aid skills to help young children.

Christmas Party

**3.45pm- 4.45pm, Monday
4 December, Kelmscott Library**

Bookstars members will enjoy the festive season with a party to mark the end of an incredible year.

Armadale Library

7 Orchard Avenue, Armadale
Tel: 9399 0125

Kelmscott Library

2800 Albany Highway, Kelmscott
Tel: 9390 5506

Westfield Library

76 Champion Drive, Seville Grove
Tel: 9497 2622

City shines at Sustainability Awards



Serpentine Jarrahdale Shire President Denyse Needham, Armadale Mayor Linton Reynolds, Regional Greenhouse Coordinator Jason Menzies and Gosnells Mayor Pat Morris show off the awards

The South East Regional Energy Group's (SEREG) Switch Your Thinking Program received national recognition in September when it claimed top honours at the inaugural Environs Australia Local Leadership in Sustainability Awards in Sydney.

A joint project of the Cities of Armadale and Gosnells and Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale, Switch Your Thinking helps SEREG Councils educate their communities and deliver sustainability initiatives under a recognisable and consistent brand.

The Environs Australia Local Leadership in Sustainability Awards reward outstanding examples of sustainability achievement in local government.

SEREG was one of six local governments from around Australia to win a silver award at a gala dinner held at Sydney's Darling Harbour. Silver award winners were recognised for significant achievement in advancing sustainability in their communities.

SEREG's Switch Your Thinking Program then received the ultimate compliment when it was awarded the prestigious Golden Environs Award, as judged by the six silver category winners.

The Golden Environs Award cements the Switch Your Thinking Program as the most outstanding local government sustainability initiative in Australia.

To find out more about the Switch Your Thinking Program or becoming more sustainable at home or work visit www.switchyourthinking.com

Flora and fauna protected

Endangered plants and animals in Fletcher Park are set to receive further protection, thanks to a successful grant application of \$4,500 submitted by the City of Armadale and the Armadale Gosnells Landcare Group.

The World Wide Fund for Nature Grant will fund works to preserve habitats for endangered species like the red tailed and white tailed black cockatoos and rare orchids.

Protection works will include weed control, tree planting and seed collection.

A team of people will work on the project, including the Armadale Gosnells Landcare Group, of which the City is a member, the Wallangarra Riding and Pony Club, Armadale Senior High School, the Armadale Wildflower Society and the City of Armadale's Environmental Officer, Corinne Gaskin.

Planting blitz

City of Armadale staff swapped their office attire for gardening gear before planting 1500 sedges and rushes in a two-hour planting blitz.

Around 25 staff members took part in the corporate planting day in Rushton Park in September.

They joined several volunteers who are among a team of passionate people committed to improving the area's natural environment. Together they planted vegetation to help stabilise the Canning River banks and provide more habitat for native animals.

Anyone interested in volunteering to help preserve areas of bushland in the Armadale region should contact the City of Armadale's Environmental Officer, Corinne Gaskin on 9399 0194.



Armadale staff took part in the planting blitz

Revamped web site

Armadale residents can now access information about the City in a far easier and more stylish fashion, thanks to the launch of the new City of Armadale web site.

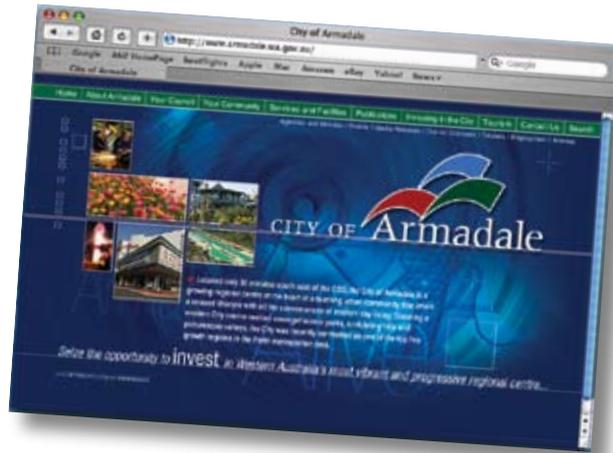
The new look site is designed to make navigating the City's myriad of services and facilities much easier.

The site is divided into pages covering everything from events and community services to publications, investment and tourism.

Latest news is outlined under the media release section and everyday services like waste disposal, recycling, libraries, rangers and recreation are also included.

The site also outlines general information about Armadale as well providing the contact details of your local Councillors.

Access the site at www.armadale.wa.gov.au



Councillor Contact List

Heron Ward



Cr Linton Reynolds AM JP, Mayor
Tel: 9390 7433



Cr Jim Stewart
Tel: 9497 9524

Jarrah Ward



Cr Pat Hart
Tel/Fax: 9496 1634



Cr Laurie Scidone
Tel: 9496 0445 Fax: 9496 3445

Lake Ward



Cr Alison Cominelli JP
Tel: 9397 0241 Fax: 9397 0073



Cr June MacDonald
Tel/Fax: 9399 1738

Minnawarra Ward



Cr John Knezevich
Tel/Fax: 9497 1638



Cr Jeff Munn JP CMC, Deputy Mayor Tel: 9497 3996

Neerigen Ward



Cr Guenter Best
Tel: 9399 4371 Fax: 9497 3985



Cr Bob Tizard
Tel/Fax: 9497 3469

Palomino Ward



Cr Jim Everts
Tel: 9399 6327 Fax: 9399 6833



Cr Graham Wallace
Tel: 9390 9909 Fax: 9399 0664

River Ward



Cr Ruth Butterfield
Tel/Fax: 9390 1459



Cr Henry Zelones JP
Tel: 9495 4073 Fax: 9495 4838

City of Armadale
7 Orchard Ave, Armadale
Tel: 9399 0111 Fax: 9399 0184
www.armadale.wa.gov.au

Useful Council Numbers

City of Armadale Administration Centre
Tel: 9399 0111
Fax: 9399 0184

Email: info@armadale.wa.gov.au
Address: 7 Orchard Avenue,
Armadale WA 6112
Opening hours: Monday to Friday
8.15am to 4.45pm

City of Armadale newsletter

The *City Views* provides residents with information about Council policies, services, activities and community events. We welcome your articles and suggestions.

Next deadline: 8 November 2006
Email: Catherine Halsall at
chalsall@armadale.wa.gov.au
Tel: 9399 0634 Fax: 9399 0184

Published by the Armadale City Council,
Locked Bag 2, Armadale WA 6992

This newsletter is printed on environmentally friendly paper

Community Safety Month

October is Community Safety Month and safety in our City is in the spotlight.

Community safety initiatives undertaken so far this month have included a safety display, child restraint check and road safety workshop.

Community Safety Month will culminate in a Seniors' Safety Seminar to be held upstairs at the City of Armadale Administration Centre between 9am and 11am on Friday 27 October. Armadale Community Health and the Injury Control Council WA (ICWA) will deliver the Seminar with a focus on ways seniors can stay healthy, active and prevent injury.

For more information contact Rebekah Milnes on 9399 0638.

YOUR COUNCIL

Kelmscott Library

The City of Armadale has agreed to a land swap in the Kelmscott town centre to provide for a future library.

The Armadale Redevelopment Authority (ARA) sought Council's confirmation for plans to exchange the old library and child health centre site for a 2000 square metre site north of the proposed plaza at Kelmscott Railway Station.

The library will line one side of the plaza which will connect the station to Albany Highway, while privately owned offices will line the other, creating a new vibrant town centre.

However, the current Kelmscott Library premises will remain until the new building is ready in 2009.



Caring for the community

Armadale seniors gained an interesting insight into mental health at a seminar opened by Councillor June MacDonald.

Cr MacDonald and Armadale Police Constable Brianna Kubank opened the seminar on behalf of the Armadale Police Community Care Program.

Around 38 seniors participated in the seminar to discuss 'What is Mental Health?' and 'How to Stay Mentally Healthy'.

City of Armadale Council and Committee Meetings

October, November and December meeting cycles are displayed below. All meetings are held in the City of Armadale's Administration Centre, 7 Orchard Avenue, Armadale and are open to the public.

October 2006

Mon 23 Oct	7pm	Technical Services Committee
Tues 24 Oct	7pm	Community Services Committee

November 2006

Mon 6 Nov	7pm	Council
Mon 13 Nov	7pm	City Strategy Committee
Tues 14 Nov	7pm	Development Services Committee
Mon 20 Nov	7pm	Council
Mon 27 Nov	7pm	Technical Services Committee
Tues 28 Nov	7pm	Community Services Committee

December 2006

Mon 4 Dec	7pm	Council
Mon 11 Dec	Tbc	Technical Services Committee
Mon 11 Dec	Tbc	City Strategy Committee
Tues 12 Dec	Tbc	Community Services Committee
Tues 12 Dec	Tbc	Development Services Committee
Mon 18 Dec	7pm	Council

Calling for nominations

The City of Armadale is seeking nominations from indigenous people interested in helping bolster the quality of life for Aboriginal, Torres Straight Islanders and seniors in the City.

It is seeking two representatives to join its Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islander Advisory Committee (ATSIAC), including a youth representative, as well as an indigenous representative on its Seniors Interests Advisory Committee (SIAC).

The advisory committees play an important role in helping guide Council in making informed decisions.

Anyone interested in being involved in the committees should contact the City of Armadale on 9399 0111.

Palomino Ward Meeting

Ward Councillors Graham Wallace and Jim Everts would like to invite Palomino Ward residents to join them at 10am on Saturday 4 November in the Committee Room, upstairs at the City of Armadale's Administration Centre for a ward meeting. This is your opportunity to have your say about what is happening in your neighbourhood.

Palomino Ward covers the rapidly growing suburb of Seville Grove and the southern portion of Champion Lakes and is bordered by the Tonkin Highway, Armadale Road and Champion Drive.

For more information contact Cr Wallace on 9390 9909 or Cr Everts on 9399 6327.