

City Views

CITY OF  Armadale

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Outside the Frame



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www.armadale.wa.gov.au

Armadale leads national Fund the Gap campaign

City of Armadale Mayor Linton Reynolds is the national spokesperson for the National Growth Areas Alliance (NGAA) – of which Armadale is a member – that met for a national summit in Melbourne on Friday 31 August.

The NGAA is a coalition of 30 of Australia’s fastest growing Councils which is lobbying both sides of politics to put growth issues firmly on the national agenda.

Cr Reynolds was invited by the group to act as spokesperson, recognising his many years’ experience as a Grants Commissioner and funding campaigner. He said the NGAA believes there is a looming crisis on social and physical infrastructure and the Federal Government must help Councils provide for their community’s future.



City of Armadale Mayor Linton Reynolds, national spokesperson for the Fund The Gap campaign, with delegates at the summit in Melbourne.

“Using our best rating efforts we can provide about 75% of what’s required, but there is still a \$3.6 billion gap.”

“The National Growth Areas Alliance has been created to raise awareness that Councils face a \$3.6 billion shortfall in funding over the next 15 years,” he said.

Speakers representing the Federal Government and Opposition attended the summit, together with academics, housing industry and welfare groups and NGAA members.

Representatives from each State gave examples of roads, libraries, sports and community centres that will simply not be built without assistance.

Federal politicians were challenged to return some of the rapidly expanding tax cake back to local communities.

“Over the past 7 years, Federal tax per person has increased by 7% while local governments’ share of the tax cake has flat-lined”, Cr Reynolds said.

Send a postcard

Concerned residents can sign on to help the Fund the Gap campaign – literally.

You can send a postcard to lobby Federal Government and Opposition politicians urging them to fund the gap.

Special postcards addressed to Federal Local Government Minister Jim Lloyd, and shadow minister, Senator Kate Lundy, are available from the City of Armadale’s Administration Centre and three libraries at Westfield, Armadale and Kelmscott.

The postcards demand better services for growth areas, including our City, said Mayor Linton Reynolds.

“We are putting our demands to both Government and Opposition. Fund the Gap is a totally bipartisan campaign, our sole aim is to secure better services

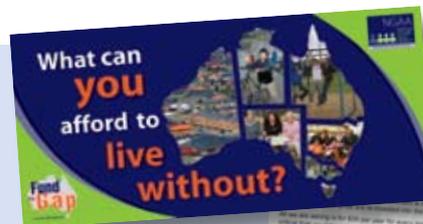
for our communities,” Cr Reynolds said.

“Both sides of politics must recognise that if the current funding gap continues there is a strong chance that one in four Australians will miss out on the most basic recreation and community facilities.

“Growth councils simply can’t afford to pay for the forecast infrastructure needs themselves – and increasing rates is not the answer – so we are calling on the Federal Government to fund the gap.”

Without urgent and substantial funding, communities and more importantly, future generations will suffer.”

“\$11.7 billion needs to be spent in the next 15 years. NGAA is seeking \$3.1 billion from the Federal Government. That’s \$240 million a year or \$39 per NGAA resident per year.”



“The NGAA councils plan to show both sides of politics that it is time we got our fair share of federal government funding.”

“Whichever party is in power needs to acknowledge the looming crisis and put in place a process – that includes the NGAA – to deal with this issue that impacts on one in four Australians.”

Join the campaign, fill in your postcards to help ensure the demands of Australia’s fastest growing councils are heard loud and clear in Canberra.

For more information visit www.fundthegap.org

Property values in Armadale continue to rise

Property values of established houses in the City of Armadale have continued to rise substantially over the past 12 months, according to recently released data from the Real Estate Institute of WA (REIWA).

The REIWA reports for the last 12 months to 30 June 2007, show that the largest increases occurred in Forrestdale (22.1%) and Westfield (21.1%) followed by Brookdale (20.2%) and Kelmscott (18.1%).

Over the past five years, the annual growth for these local suburbs has also been above the metropolitan average increase, the REIWA data shows.

While the metro average was 19.8% per annum over that time, local results were: Westfield (27.5%), Brookdale (27.3%), Armadale (26.7%), Forrestdale (25.4%), Kelmscott (24.5%), Mt Nasura (23.4%), Roleystone (23.2%) and Bedforddale (20.0%).

Armadale Mayor Linton Reynolds said that he was pleased to see that all of the hard work undertaken by the Council in partnership with the Armadale Redevelopment Authority was beginning to change the market's perception of our area.

"The real on-the-ground changes are only just beginning to become evident", Cr Reynolds said. "The greatest impact of the Champion Lakes, Forrestdale Business Park, and town centre developments will be realised over the next two to five years."

"In the meantime, the rapidly expanding new suburbs of Piara Waters and Harrisdale are providing an early insight into the future standard of the huge Wungong Urban Water project which is being overseen by the ARA."

Mayor's Message



Fund the Gap

So, why did Armadale decide to join the National Growth Area's Alliance (NGAA)?

Having refined our 15 Year Financial Plan over the last three to four years to a high degree of certainty, we now know that we can not provide the level of services and facilities our current and new residents require from existing grants and rates.

Therefore, we have joined with other like Councils to lobby all sides of politics for a fairer share of your tax dollars.

The Councils we have joined with represent a quarter of the nation's population and are the 30 large, fast-growing Councils on the fringes of our Capital cities.

My appointment as the National Spokesperson for the NGAA is a reflection of the esteem in which our staff are held by their peers around Australia.

Cr Linton Reynolds, AM JP
City of Armadale Mayor

City wins prestigious finance award

A prestigious Finance Management Award was presented to the City of Armadale last month by Local Government Minister Ljiljana Ravlich.

The Minister's awards recognise Councils that have displayed the highest level of financial reporting and decision-making over the 2005 - 2006 financial year.

Twenty six local governments throughout WA competed in three categories with the highest ranking local government in each category receiving the coveted Certificate of Excellence.

The City of Armadale won the Certificate of Excellence in the Metropolitan local government category, ahead of Merit Certificate winners City of Bunbury and the City of Stirling.

The awards, which recognise excellence in financial management in local government, independently assess the Annual Budget, Annual Report, a Monthly Financial Report, the Budget Review Report and the Independent Audit Report.



Judges Dan Mazzotti and Felicia Lowe with the winning entry in the Painting category.



Deputy Mayor Jeff Munn on opening night with Pornchanok Aikwanich from St Brigids College, who won 3rd prize in the Print category.

Young artists think *Outside the Frame*

The most popular Outside the Frame exhibition ever – with a record number of 242 entries – saw Penrhos College sweep the pool by taking out the \$1000 McDonalds School Prize for the school with the most prize winning entries.

City of Armadale Mayor Linton Reynolds said it was pleasing to see the popularity of the event has continued to grow amongst schools from the across the region.

“Collectively the exhibition is an exciting display of the artistic talents of our young people in the south east region of Perth,” Cr Reynolds said.

“I am pleased to note that five of our local high schools have joined 11 others from the rest of the corridor to display their best art.”

“This year we have seen a significant increase in the number of prints entered.”

Outside the Frame is a prestigious art award for Year 11 and 12 students in the South East Metro Region, now in its eighth year.

Amongst the winners announced at the opening night on Wednesday 22 August – attended by about 250 people – were outstanding young artists Lana Stockton, from Penrhos College who won 1st Prize in the Painting category and 2nd Prize in the Drawing category; and Kendal Gear from Kalamunda SHS who won 2nd Prize for Sculpture and 3rd Prize for Drawing.

“I congratulate the outstanding efforts of all the students, teachers and schools involved, and the City’s staff who have worked hard to put the exhibition together,” Cr Reynolds said.

The three-day Outside the Frame exhibition was hosted by the City of Armadale.

Ben Strange exhibition

Ben Strange was WA’s premier cartoonist for thirty years at the start of the 1900’s – the Paul Rigby or Dean Alston of his day, combining cutting political insight with highly developed drawing skills.

The City is fortunate to have one of Australia’s largest collections of original Ben Strange cartoons, thanks to a bequest from the Birtwistle family.

A selection of 35 of these cartoons was on display at the Minnowarra Chapel in August in an exhibition called *Crimes, Follies, Misfortunes and a Good Laugh: The Political Cartoons of Ben Strange*.

Ben Strange was the cartoonist for the weekly newspaper the Western Mail from early 1900, until his death in 1930.

The cartoons explore many issues relevant to Western Australia then and today. Ben

Strange commented on war and its impact on society, unions and their effect on the economy and politics, the actions of our politicians, rent, baby bonuses and even the condition of the road to Armadale.

The City of Armadale was able to bring the exhibition to the public thanks to the generosity of the Birtwistle family, who donated the cartoons to History House Museum as part of the Birtwistle bequest.

Ivor T Birtwistle was the editor of the Western Mail and during this time, became friends with Ben Strange who gave him many of his original drawings.





Spring Family **Bushwalks**

The late winter rains have come just in time to the Darling Scarp to ensure a magnificent wildflower display for the City of Armadale's Spring Family Bushwalks which commenced on September 9 with a walk through the spectacular Wungong Gorge.

This annual series of walks gains in popularity each year as locals and visitors alike discover all the natural wonders and scenic beauty on the Perth metropolitan doorstep.

Armadale Mayor Linton Reynolds participates in the walks every year with his family.

"Every year I hear a visitor, and often a local, make the comment that they are amazed that such beautiful countryside and views exist so close to the Perth CBD," he said.

"Why would you want to travel interstate or even down south to enjoy the bushland when you have it right here in the City of Armadale? It is such an asset to the area."

Due to safety and wildlife concerned no dogs are permitted on walks. For more information of the walks call 9399 0187 or visit www.armadale.wa.gov.au

Time	Date	Venue
8.30am-11am	Sunday 23 September 2007	Bugendore Park, Bedfordale
8.30am-11am	Sunday 21 October 2007	Churchman Bushland Walk, Churchmans Brook

The Big Draw on Jull Street

10 am - 5pm, Friday 28 September 2007

Are you a Pollack, Picasso or pedestrian? If the answer is yes, you're invited to be an artist in The Big Draw on Jull Street. This artistic and cultural event coincides with the national and international celebration of Artopia. On Friday 28 September, from 10 am to 5pm in the Jull Street Mall, volunteer artists including the City's Arts and Culture Officer armed with paper and pencils, will be helping to draw the life of Armadale. Everyone is invited to come along and be an artist, even if for just a moment, and draw what they see is the life of Armadale.

A long paper scroll will be set up in the Mall where you can draw or write down your vision of the City. No previous artistic experience is required as you will be provided with all that is necessary to record your thoughts and impressions.

During the day, different artists will be positioned throughout the length of Jull Street and will be drawing all manner of life, so come along and join in.

The Big Draw on Jull Street is proudly supported by Rainier Gallery Café and the City of Armadale.

For further information contact Art and Culture Officer 9399 0603, or Rainier Gallery Café 9399 9004.

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.

Romans!

3.45pm-4.45pm

Monday 24 September

Kelmscott Library

Bookstars members will enjoy making paper mosaics of scenes from the Roman Empire to hang in the library.

Wacky Headgear!

10.30am-11.30am

Friday 4 October

Kelmscott Library

Primary school age children will enjoy making hats, crowns or headbands using a wide range of materials during the school holidays.

Babies and Music

10am-11.30am

Friday 5 October

Westfield Library

Lisa Ruecroft from Playgroup WA will lead a fun interactive session with music.

Kids Diet

Westfield Library

10am-11.30am

Friday 2 November

A dietician will talk about nutrition, introducing solids, information about additives, allergies and food intolerances in children.

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

Snapshot of 2007/08 projects

The City adopted its 2007/08 Annual Budget last month.

Mayor Linton Reynolds said that the \$53.2 million budget provides for the district's future while looking after today's residents.

The largest amount of expenditure in the budget is in the Technical Services area which covers areas such as roads, drainage, pathways, parks and reserves, street lighting, waste services and community facilities.

Budget highlights include:

- The 50m and 25m pools at the Aquatic Centre will be retiled, at \$500,000, which is effectively the start of the \$9 million Indoor Aquatic Centre project over the next four years.
- Almost \$1.9M will be spent on library services, the museum and visitors' centre.
- The Resource Centre on Champion Drive will be refurbished to house the

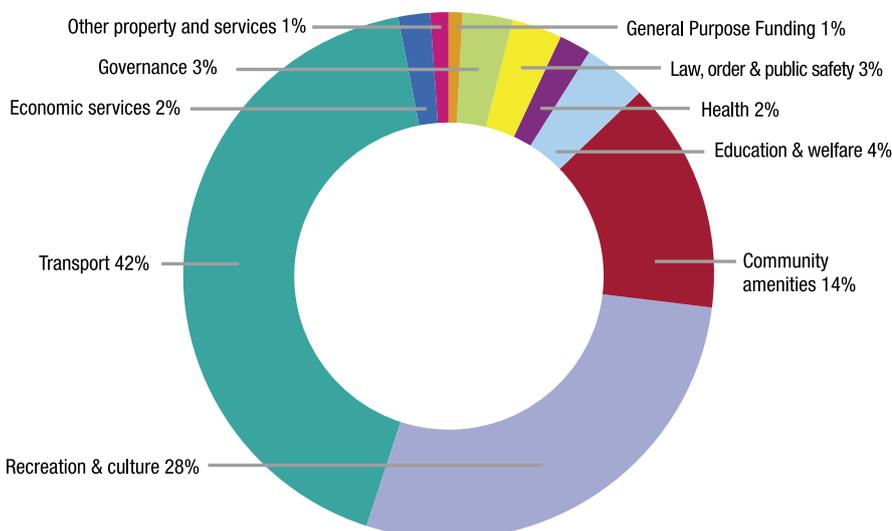
relocated Indigenous services at a cost of \$100,000.

- A \$60,000 increase in funding for graffiti removal (in addition to an existing \$40,000) to help fight this growing community issue.
- \$33,000 has been budgeted for new youth scholarships for students at the Australian Technical College and local Curtin University campus.
- \$323,000 will be spent on the City's popular events such as the Minnowarra Festival, Minnowarra Art Exhibition and Highland Gathering.
- There is a \$70,000 allocation towards Closed Circuit TV as part of the City's safety and security program.
- The capital works budget of \$17.4 sees a \$5.1M increase on last year, with most of this increase going towards roadworks (\$4M) and parks (\$800,000).

- Major roadworks (to a total of \$11.3M) will be done in Ranford Rd, Wright Rd, Harrison Rd and new roads in North Forrestdale.
- The parks capital works budget totals \$1.3M, with some of the parks to have improvements including Creyk Park, Damerham Reserve, Galliers Reserve, Foster Reserve, Sanctuary Lake, Valentine Reserve, William Turner Reserve, and Apex Park. Upgrades to and replacement of reserve lighting totalling \$163,000 will be spent in Alfred Skeet Reserve, Bob Blackburn Reserve, Cross Park, and Gwynne Park.
- New pathways and cycleways and upgrade works to existing ones will be done with a \$511,000 budget allocation. New pathways will be built in sections of Bromfield Dr, Brookton Hwy, Eighth Rd, Henrietta Ave, Martin St, Soldiers Rd and Tyers Rd.

The \$53.2 million budget will be spent on:

- Transport (roads, drains and footpaths)
- Recreation and culture (aquatic centres, parks, events and libraries)
- Community amenity (town planning, rubbish collection and public toilets)
- Education and welfare (community development activities for seniors, youth and indigenous people)
- Law, order and public safety (fire and emergency services, animal control and community safety)
- Governance (Policy development, finance, administration, citizenship and Councillor services)
- Economic services (building control, tourism and economic development)
- Health (immunisation, health inspections and noise control)
- General purpose funding (rates, grants and interest on investments)
- Other property services (engineering plant and equipment)



New suburbs in Forrestdale

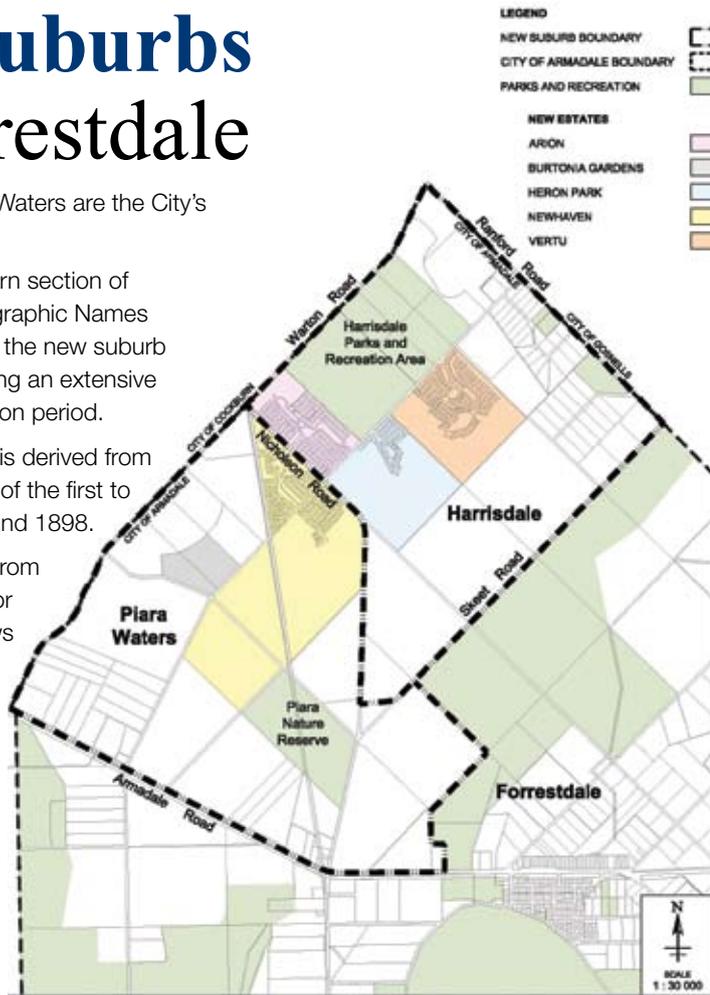
Harrisdale and Piara Waters are the City's newest suburbs.

Located in the northern section of Forrestdale, the Geographic Names Committee approved the new suburb names in July, following an extensive community consultation period.

The name Harrisdale is derived from the Harris family, one of the first to settle in the area around 1898.

Piara Waters comes from the Aboriginal word for the banksia that grows at the nature reserve along Nicholson Road.

When fully developed, Harrisdale and Piara Waters are expected to house an estimated 25,000 people.



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: 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: 9390 6018

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: 5 October 2007

Email: Kylie.Richardson@armadale.wa.gov.au
Tel: 9399 0634 Fax: 9399 0184

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This newsletter is printed on environmentally friendly paper

Young writers excel

Local students excelled in the recent 2007 Mary Durack Award for Young Writers, winning eight out of the 15 awards.

The annual writers award, now in its 29th year, attracted 484 entries.

Students' names have been added to the shields for the categories won by City of Armadale students, which will now hang in Armadale Library for the next 12 months.

The Mary Durack Awards are an excellent way for budding young writers to indulge their passion for writing.



Vote in the local elections

Are you passionate about your community? Then make sure you have your say by voting in the City's upcoming elections in October 2007.

Although not compulsory – unlike State and Federal elections – local government is the tier of government closest to the people and affects almost all areas of everyday life.

The City conducts its elections by postal voting so keep an eye out on your letter box from Monday 24 September when the Western Australian Electoral Commission will send all eligible electors an election package containing profiles about each candidate, ballot paper, a reply paid envelope and an information brochure on how to vote.

Voting closes at 6pm on Saturday 20 October.

Wondering who to vote for in your ward? All of the candidates' profiles will be available on the City's website www.armadale.wa.gov.au and up in the foyer of the City's Administration Centre, once nominations close at 4pm on Thursday 13 September.

There are seven 4-year term vacancies – one vacancy in each of the City's following wards – up for election:

- Heron Ward
- Jarrah Ward
- Lake Ward
- Minnowarra Ward
- Neerigen Ward
- Palomino Ward
- River Ward

Once voting closes at 6pm sharp on Saturday 20 October, the counting of votes will commence at around 6.30pm. This will take place at the City of Armadale's Administration Centre function room located on the second floor at 7 Orchard Avenue Armadale. Members of the community are welcome to attend the count as the results of the election should be known by later that evening.

The successful candidates will then be sworn in at the Council meeting on Monday 22 October at 7pm where the newly elected Council will elect the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the next two years.

For further Information about the City of Armadale 2007 Election, please contact, the City's Returning Officer, Vanessa Beckingham, on 9214 0414 or 0434 327 012, or Mark Dawson at the City of Armadale on 9399 0111.

A Smarter Way to Pay

More and more Armadale ratepayers are taking up the smart option of paying their rates in weekly, fortnightly or monthly payments.

People are choosing their own convenient payments, spreading the payment over the year.

"Modern payment methods make it a simple transfer, and people can choose a convenient method of payment," CEO Ray Tame said.

Launched by the City of Armadale three years ago, this popular initiative allows payment of rates over a 12 month period between April and March each year via direct debit on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis.

No administration fees or penalty interest applies, with the rates payment reviewed annually.

To register for 'A Smarter Way to Pay', please contact the City's Rates Department on 9399 0164 for an application form, or visit the City of Armadale's Administration Centre at 7 Orchard Avenue, Armadale.

City of Armadale Council and Committee Meetings

September and October 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.

September 2007

Mon 17 Sept	7pm	Council Meeting
Mon 24 Sept	7pm	Technical Services Committee
Tues 25 Sept	7pm	Community Services Committee

October 2007

Tues 2 Oct	7pm	Council Meeting
Mon 8 Oct	7pm	City Strategy & Technical Committee
Tues 9 Oct	7pm	Development Services & Community Committee
Mon 15 Oct	7pm	Council Meeting
Sat 20 Oct		Local Elections
Mon 22 Oct	7pm	Council Meeting

The next South East Metropolitan Regional Council (SEMRC) Meeting will be held at the City of Gosnells Administration Centre, 2120 Albany Highway, Gosnells at 6pm on Thursday 18 October 2007.