

# City Views

CITY OF  Armadale

VOLUME 42  
OCTOBER 2012



*Get your kilts ready...*

**The Highland Gathering  
is back!**

**FEATURES IN THIS ISSUE:**

Your Rates At Work  
Summer Events Calendar  
Dog and Cat Registration  
Champion Lakes Regatta Centre

[www.armadale.wa.gov.au](http://www.armadale.wa.gov.au)



## Lloyd Hughes Park — Beauty from the ashes

The February 2011 blaze covered the entire 17.7 hectare area of Lloyd Hughes Park, Kelmscott. This area became one of most severely damaged pieces of bushland in the City, its lush foliage blackened by the fire and vegetation charred by the heat.

The park has significant conservation value arising from its diverse vegetation and geology. Its three main vegetation types including the Flooded Gum Woodlands, Marri Woodlands and Wandoo Woodlands were severely damaged by the fire.

The City secured funding from the State Natural Resource Management Program for post-rehabilitation works at the park. The funding has gone towards revegetation programs, the planting of more than 5,000 seedlings and winter weed control programs through both community and corporate volunteer events.

Now, nearly 21 months after the fire which devastated this renowned bushland, the park has made a prolific recovery with an abundance of wildflowers and over 70 species of birds calling Lloyd Hughes Park home.



As the natural bushland revegetates and local people continue to rebuild their homes and lives, our community moves forward, stronger and more resilient after the devastating February 2011 bushfires.

On the afternoon of Sunday 6 February 2011 a bushfire spread through the Roleystone-Kelmscott community, starting the biggest fire the City has seen in 50 years.

In total 66 homes were destroyed and 35 were damaged, leaving in their wake a repair bill totalling nearly \$40 million.

The City of Armadale has worked tirelessly to support and assist residents who were affected in rebuilding their homes and restoring their lives to normalcy.

Our Building and Planning departments have been working with residents over the past 21 months, offering expert advice, assistance and guidance for those rebuilding homes which were destroyed by the fires.

To date 125 building licences and permits have been issued with more being assessed every day.

Licences have been issued for demolition, residences, earthworks, retaining walls and for minor structures. Statistics show that half of those who were affected by the bushfires have begun the process of rebuilding.

### The current status of those properties is as follows:

Finished and occupied:	6
Finished and not occupied (internal finishes remaining):	8
Under construction:	7
Site works commenced:	7
Not commenced:	2

*\*Status as of September 2012*

There is a very strong sense of community that has arisen from the shared experiences of the residents in the affected areas. This bond has helped the community get through the worst bushfire the City has ever seen, allowing the victims to move forward, rebuild and become a stronger and more resilient community.

The City will continue to support and assist residents as they work towards getting back into their homes.

### Bushfire Research

Researchers at UWA are conducting a study into people's feelings towards their home and suburb and their fire plan and preparation.

If you would like to participate in the study you can visit <http://tinyurl.com/surveyuwa> or contact Charis Anton, PhD Candidate on 6488 1453 or [antonc01@student.uwa.edu.au](mailto:antonc01@student.uwa.edu.au).

## Young writers impress judges

Young writers from years 5 to 10 from schools across the City of Armadale received wonderful accolades for their entries into this year's Armadale Young Writers' Award.

This year's award received an impressive 108 entries which displayed literary skills of a high standard.

Rotary Mill Point and Belmont kindly funded free writing workshops for prospective entrants at local schools which were presented by Doris Stutley.

This year's winners are:

### Category Years 5 & 6

- 1st Finn Swenson  
*Potato Wars*
- 2nd Sarah Tuffin  
*A rainforest adventure*
- 3rd Chloe Vann  
*It is a storm to end all storms*

### Category Years 7 & 8

- 1st Tea-Lee Clamp  
*Does royalty really rule*
- 2nd Ethan Tang-Tran  
*Towering above*
- 3rd Ethan Tang-Tran  
*Turning words into reality*

### Category Years 9 & 10

- 1st Anson Dykstra  
*The Shadows*
- 2nd Deena Coulthard  
*Burning Smoke*
- 3rd Rhiannon Jackson  
*Moonlight Dancers*

### Category Living in Armadale

- 1st Nicole Geurts  
*My Memories*

### Overall Winner

- 1st Finn Swenson  
*Potato Wars*

Prizes included cash and book vouchers of up to \$200 and winners also received a trophy and certificate. The winning stories have been compiled in an anthology which will be on display and available for loan in City of Armadale libraries.

## Mayor's Message



Well we're finally through the cold winter months and are now enjoying the full display of spring beauty the City of Armadale has to offer.

The arrival of the fine weather has ushered in the start of the City's events season. We've already enjoyed the incredible creative talents of our students in written, painted, drawn and sculpted form as seen on this page.

Coming up soon there's a range of events that encourage residents to get out and enjoy our fair City with their friends, neighbours and family. The Highland Gathering always brings a huge crowd of tartan clad residents and visitors into Minnowarra Park and I look forward to it again with anticipation. Make sure you check out page 5 to see details of some of the great events on in coming weeks.

With the warmer weather we must also remember that we have a responsibility to ensure the safety of our home, family and neighbours by being fire prepared. On page 8 you'll see details on extending measures to reduce bushfire risk.

I look forward to seeing you at some of the upcoming City events.

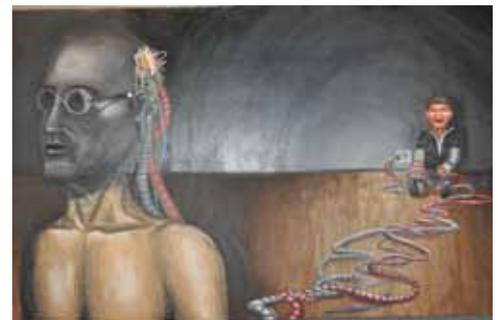
**Cr Henry Zelones JP**  
City of Armadale Mayor

## Students steal the show

Students from high schools in the South-East metro region have impressed judges and visitors at the Outside the Frame art awards.

Nearly 200 budding artists from over 12 schools exhibited their works.

Penrhos College took out the top accolade, winning the \$1,000 prize for best school entrant with the highest quality of art across the six categories.



Nadia Budihanjo  
– *Apple's Steve Jobs*



Clare Ross – *Old Man*

Ruby Rose Simms-Cumbers  
– *My Grandfather*

# COUNCIL

## Your rates at work

Your local government rates allow the City to continue to deliver the services, facilities and growth the community needs and deserves as a Strategic Metropolitan Regional Centre.

The 2012 - 2013 rates include an increase of 5% (which is below the average increase for metropolitan councils) based on:

- An average increase in the cost of goods and services that the City provides of 4%, and
- A 1% factor to fund the City's growth initiatives and asset renewal.



### Major projects

This year we will be refurbishing Baker's House in Harrisdale (\$1 million) for community use and building a brand new sporting and community facility in the ever-growing Piara Waters area (\$5.8 million).

In response to community feedback we have also put increased efforts into rejuvenating and maintaining the picturesque parks and providing community hubs such as Cross Park in Roleystone, Bob Blackburn in Seville Grove and Gwynne Park in Armadale.

Council will continue to build and maintain accessible road networks throughout the City. The upgrade of Rowley Road between Nicholson and Wolfe Roads will commence this financial year (\$1 million), and the new Ranford Road extension between Armadale and Lake Roads will be completed.



### Annual Budget Overview

#### Revenue

The City works hard to leverage as much income as possible from other sources. These include the State and Federal governments (through grants), interest on investments and the sale of assets. Alternative funding reduces the amount to be found from rates and ensures the best value for money for ratepayers.

The Revenue pie graph to the right indicates that rates make up less than 50% of the City's income.

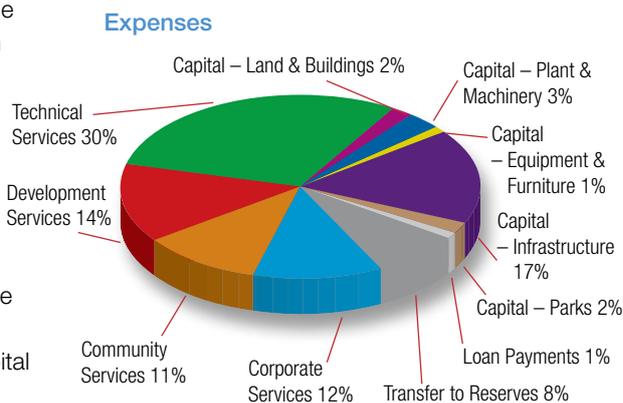
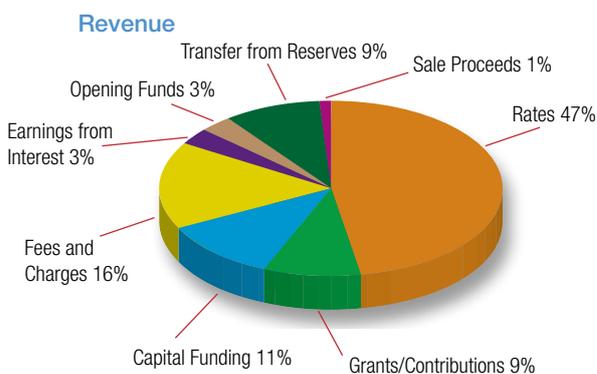
#### Expenses

In preparing its Annual Budget the City has to juggle competing demands for services and facilities both in the coming financial year and into the future.

A large portion of the Budget is allocated to recurrent maintenance of facilities and assets, as well as daily and regular services to the community. Increased expenditure in these areas will impact on both the current and future budgets.

The City must also invest in capital works to provide new infrastructure for the future. Appropriate use of loans and reserve funds spreads the cost of capital projects over future years.

The 2012 - 2013 Annual Budget is available on the City of Armadale website.



### Rate payments made easy

For the average improved residential property the total rate increase will equate to about \$56.60 per year or \$1.09 a week.

The City is committed to providing flexible payment options for our residents through the Smarter Way to Pay initiative.

Breaking rates down into smaller weekly, fortnightly or monthly direct debit payments reduces the stress of finding a lump sump payment at rates time each year.

Call the Rates team on 9399 0164 for more information.

# There is plenty on in the City this summer

## Freestyle on Fridays

Freestyle on Fridays will run throughout the year and will provide young people the opportunity to learn new skills, tricks and techniques from some of the best BMX and scooter riders in WA. The team will also be teaching MC training for those interested in BMX and scooter competition commentating.



Every Friday, 7 - 10pm  
Youth Activity Area (YAA) Orchard Ave, Armadale

## Dogs Day Breakfast

Sunday 28 October, 9am – 1pm  
Rushton Park, Kelmscott



A fantastic day out for dog owners and dog lovers. This event will have fun activities for all members of the family including stall holders, agility courses, dog wash services, bouncy castles and face painting.

Call Ranger Services on 9399 0111 for more information.

## Highland Gathering

Sunday 18 November,  
11am – 5pm  
Minnawarra Park, Armadale

WA's largest Scots-themed event is on again at Minnawarra Park. Come and enjoy a huge range of fun activities for all the family including pipe band competitions, mass pipe band procession, traditional country and highland dancing, medieval fair, acclaimed Celtic rock band Highlander and the strong men competitions. Don't forget to wear your kilt!

Call 9399 0642 for information.



## Armadale Cycling Classic

Sunday 18 November  
Minnawarra Park, Armadale

The Armadale Cycling Classic around the challenging City Centre will be contested by a field of elite athletes.

Racing begins at noon, with a mass pipe band procession starting off the Classic at 3pm.

Call 9399 0642 for information.



## Kelmscott Show is now smoke free

The City will once again be represented at the popular and newly Smoke Free WA Kelmscott Annual Show at Rushton Park on 19 and 20 October.

The Smoke Free WA Kelmscott Annual Show will be the first major event in the City of Armadale to be completely smoke free.

Residents can visit the Council tent and find out more about community events and programs and speak with their local Councillors.

For more information visit [www.kelmscottshow.com.au](http://www.kelmscottshow.com.au).

Gates open on Friday 19 October at 4pm and Saturday 20 October at 9am. Adult tickets \$13, Seniors and Children aged (5-14) \$7, Family (2 adults, 2 children) \$35 and children under 5 are free.



# DOG REGISTRATIONS

## Make sure your best mate is **registered**

The City of Armadale has a population of 67,725, with 12,829 registered dogs. Every year Ranger Services will care for more than 750 lost or impounded dogs, many of which are unregistered. To ensure your lost or impounded pet is returned to you as soon as possible, please register your dog with the City.



You can register your dog at the following locations:

- **City of Armadale Administration Centre**, 7 Orchard Avenue, Armadale
- **Champion Lakes Veterinary Clinic**, 121 Westfield Road, Camillo
- **Railway Veterinary Hospital**, 247 Railway Avenue, Kelmescott (Open 1 - 3pm, Mon – Fri)
- **Ark Veterinary Hospital**, 2970 Albany Highway, Kelmescott
- **Armadale/Byford Veterinary Hospital**, South West Highway, Armadale

### Costs:

**Unsterilised dogs** – \$30 per year or \$75 for three years

**Sterilised dogs** – \$10 per year or \$18 for three years (proof of sterilisation is required)

Residents on pensions are eligible for discounts.

**All dogs above the age of 12 weeks must be registered. The penalty for failing to register your dog is \$500.**

## Gardening Gold

Composting is an easy and cost-effective way to turn everyday organic household waste into nutrient-rich dark soil, which fertilises your garden and helps retain moisture.

Compost can be made from organic materials which are placed together and left to break down over time. Popular composting ingredients include grass clippings, food scraps, leaves, shredded paper, woodchips and sawdust.

The City of Armadale has 220 and 400 litre conical compost bins available for residents to purchase. Delivery of the bins to your home is complimentary.

To purchase a compost bin speak to the Waste Services team on 9399 0111.

## The Cat Act – New cat laws

In 2011 the State Government introduced the Cat Act, requiring identification, sterilisation and registration of domestic cats in Western Australia. These new cat laws will come into effect in November 2012 and will apply to all domestic cats in the State; however cat owners will have a one year grace period to undertake the provisions of The Cat Act.

*What does this mean for you as a cat owner?*

- Cats over the age of six (6) months must be sterilised and microchipped.
- Cats over the age of six (6) months must be registered with their local government.
- Cats must wear a collar with identification and registration tags.

Local governments will have the authority to enforce these laws, and may administer fines and create local laws for cat control within their district.

*When and how can you register your Cat?*

The City of Armadale will be taking registrations for cats from 1 November 2012.

Applications for registrations will be available online from the City's website or for collection in person from the Administration Building located on 7 Orchard Avenue, Armadale.

### The facts on cats

- There are currently more than 15,000 cats in Armadale.
- The City is currently drafting new local laws that will be used in conjunction with the cat laws to ensure all regulations are met.
- Subsidies will be available for pensioners and health care card holders to assist with the cost of sterilisation.
- Sterilisation/microchipping clinics will be organised for the convenience of cat owners.
- Only approved breeders will be exempt from sterilisation laws.





## Champion Lakes Regatta Centre – find out what’s on

Champion Lakes Regatta Centre is the only purpose-built rowing venue in WA, and hosts hundreds of elite athletes every year.

This world-class facility features a variety of amenities for the community to enjoy. Visit Champion Lakes and utilise the cycle and walk paths around the lake or enjoy a picnic or barbeque in the fantastic landscaped areas this spring.

The centre also has an exquisite Aboriginal Interpretive Centre, which celebrates the strong traditional presence of the Noongar people in the region.

Upcoming developments will provide a high-quality residential

area, a business and commercial area, conference facilities and a white-water park.

Major events at Champion Lakes this spring include:

**Radio Sailing International Championships,**  
Sunday 4 November, 10am – 5pm

**Dragon Boat WA Regatta,**  
Sunday 11 November, 9am – 4pm

**Open Water State Championships,**  
Saturday 8 December, 7am – 3pm

For more information visit [www.championlakesrc.com.au](http://www.championlakesrc.com.au).



## The Armadale Film Festival is back!

We’ve got a great lineup of award winning Australian features and Western Australian short films ready to hit the open air cinema screen in Memorial Park to kick off summer in style.

Last year we had Koko from *Red Dog* as our very special guest...who will we have this year? Find us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter or head to our website to be the first to know what’s happening.

**Calling all local film makers** – Have you made a short-film and want to see it on the big screen? Enter our competition for your chance to screen your film at Armadale Film Fest 2012. Entries close 4 November.\*

**Local Businesses** – have you submitted an entry for our Local Heros category? Win the title of Best Organisation in Armadale, plus an amazing cash prize, sponsored by the City of Armadale. Entries close 4 November.\*

\*For more details on the AFF 2012 Film Competitions including submission guidelines and T&Cs, visit – [www.armadalefilmfest.com.au](http://www.armadalefilmfest.com.au)

[@armfilmfest](http://www.facebook.com/armadale-film-fest)

**SAVE  
THE DATE  
29 November  
to  
1 December**

# BUSHFIRE INFORMATION

## Building Protection Zones

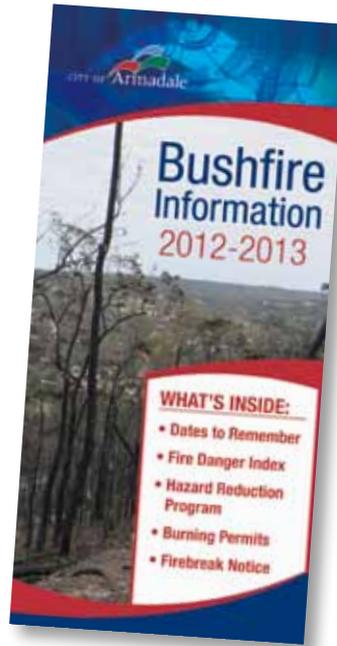
The City of Armdale is encouraging residents to extend Building Protection Zones (BPZs) as an important measure to assist in reducing bushfire risk.

BPZs are areas around buildings and other assets in which fuel loads can be reduced or removed. Evidence shows that BPZs reduce the potential for properties to burn in a bushfire and assist in fire fighting efforts.

Residents are encouraged to assess their bushfire risk in an effort to improve preparedness for the upcoming bushfire season.

Residents are asked to consider establishing or improving existing protection zones around their properties.

This should complement current requirements to reduce bushfire risk, including the installation of firebreaks, hazard reduction programs and ensuring long term precautions are taken to keep yourself, your family, your home and our community safe.



For more information on fire preparedness see your **Bushfire Information 2012 - 2013** booklet delivered with Rates Notice each year, or grab a copy of the booklet from the City's Administration Centre, 7 Orchard Avenue, Armdale.

### 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, Armdale and are open to the public.

October 2012		
Mon 22 Oct	7pm	Council
November 2012		
Mon 5 Nov	7pm	Technical Services
Tues 6 Nov	7pm	Community Services
Mon 12 Nov	7pm	Council
Mon 19 Nov	7pm	Development Services
Tues 20 Nov	7pm	City Strategy
Mon 26 Nov	7pm	Council
December 2012		
Mon 3 Dec	7pm	Technical Services
Tues 4 Dec	7pm	Community Services
Mon 10 Dec	7pm	Development Services
Tues 11 Dec	7pm	City Strategy
Mon 17 Dec	7pm	Council

### Useful Council Numbers

**City of Armadale Administration Centre**  
**Tel: 9399 0111**  
**Fax: 9399 0184**  
 Email: [info@armadale.wa.gov.au](mailto:info@armadale.wa.gov.au)  
 Address: 7 Orchard Avenue, Armdale WA 6112  
 Opening hours: Monday to Friday 8.15am to 4.45pm

### City of Armadale newsletter

*City Views* provides residents with information about Council policies, services, activities and community events.  
 Published by the Armadale City Council, Locked Bag 2, Armdale WA 6992  
*This newsletter is printed on environmentally friendly paper*

## Councillor Contact List

### Heron Ward

 **Cr Jim Stewart**  
0402 769 658

 **Cr Donna Shaw**  
0430 529 723

### Jarrah Ward

 **Cr Grant Nixon**  
0418 449 611

 **Cr Caroline Wielinga**  
0488 900 307

### Lake Ward

 **Cr Jeff Munn JP CMC**  
9397 1247

 **Cr June MacDonald**  
9399 1738

### Minnawarra Ward

 **Cr Kerry Busby**  
0419 948 866

 **Cr Matthew Norman**  
0403 130 264

### Neerigen Ward

 **Cr Guenter Best**  
9399 4371

 **Cr Mark Geary**  
9498 3416

### Palomino Ward

 **Cr Laurie Sargeson**  
9399 4002

 **Cr Melissa Northcott**  
9399 6938

### River Ward

 **Cr Ruth Butterfield, Deputy Mayor**  
9390 1459

 **Cr Henry Zelones JP, Mayor**  
9495 4838

**City of Armadale**  
 7 Orchard Ave, Armdale  
 Tel: 9399 0111 Fax: 9399 0184  
[www.armadale.wa.gov.au](http://www.armadale.wa.gov.au)