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CRESTWOOD NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE CRESTWOOD HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION

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DATES TO REMEMBER

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

23 June 2008

28 July 2008

CHRISTMAS IN JULY

End of July

A notice will be distributed closer to the date.

NEXT ISSUE

Deadline for the next **Crestwood News** is **1 August 2008**. Please send reports, announcements, notices, ads, articles and photos to Malcolm as early as possible before this date: 24 Coronet Court
crestwoodnews@inet.net.au

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This was a well attended meeting with chairs wedged into all available spaces, leaving standing room only along the walls. A total of 55 households were represented, but many more individuals were present. Twenty-two proxies were received.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report raised a few questions. One of these concerned the budgeted money for new plants and trees, asking where this money had been spent. Another concerned the gardener's position, but discussion of this was deferred until later in the meeting.

Committee Positions

There were also a number of committee positions up for renewal. There was one nomination for President, that of Trevor Davis, who has filled this position for the past 6 months, and he was duly elected. Of the two committee positions available, John Rushton, who currently holds the position for Aesthetics, was the only nomination and he was, as expected, elected. The committee position with responsibility for the pool had fallen vacant with Trevor Veen completing a two year term. While Trevor was renominated, he refused to accept the nomination indicating he did not have sufficient time to devote to the position. He generously offered his help to whoever became the new committee member in this position, but no one had volunteered to take this up by the end of the meeting. The position remains vacant. Michael Lee was re-elected as auditor.

General Business

The meeting, for the most part, was taken up by a discussion of topics listed or saved for general business. These were discussions of a pensioners' discount on the Crestwood rates, road works relating to the entry and exit to Crestwood, and reticulation.

Pensioners' Discount

The question of offering a discount to pensioners was raised at the Special General Meeting in February, and as promised then, it was listed for discussion at the AGM. It was clear from the start of the discussion that this was not a well-supported motion. Among the concerns raised were the number of people of pensionable age living on the estate and the effect a discount for this group would have on the other residents. The estate now had a number of younger families who might be even less able to afford the

Continued on page 3 ...

"A Unique Way of Life"

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

(T = Telephone - F = Fax)

President	Trevor Davis	21 Princeton Ct/trevor.davis@bigpond.com.au	T: 9459 3961/0448 860 748
Vice President	Vacant		
Secretary	Sandra Wilson	105 Regency Dr/crestwood@safe-mail.net	T: 9493 6622/F: 9493 6622
Treasurer	Roy Malone	116 Regency Dr / rmalone@mford.com.au	T: 9459 4364/F: 9459 4364
Aquatic Centre	Vacant		
Parks & Reticulation	Rob Wilson	14 Hume Rd	T: 9493 5567
Aesthetics	John Rushton	20 Coronet Ct / jonjanr@iinet.net.au	T: 9493 6096/F: 9493 6596

CRESTWOOD CONTACTS

Community Centre Hire	Marjan van Dijk	darrencolley@iprimus.com.au	T: 9459 8776
Social Club Coordinator	Sue Galpin	galpin00@hotmail.com	T: 9459 6859
Crestwood News	Malcolm Mintz	24 Coronet Ct/crestwoodnews@iinet.net.au	T: 9459 2902/F: 9459 0119
Webmaster	Rod Campbell	srcampbell4@bigpond.com	
Twenties Club	Margaret Davies	19 Regency Dr	T: 9459 4115
Playgroup	Marjan van Dijk	darrencolley@iprimus.com.au	T: 9459 8776
Children's' Library	Tracy McCann	devotts@iinet.net.au	T: 9459 6046
Groundsperson	Taffy Ray	Hours: 7am - 3pm / Mobile: 0417 989 326	T: 9459 5782
Pool	Office		T: 9459 5782

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

City of Gosnells	Office Hours	T: 9391 3222
Ranger	After Hours	T: 9357 0754
Graffiti Removal	All Hours	T: 9391 3222
Thornlie High School		T: 9459 2544
Gosnells Police Station		T: 9398 0000
Police Emergency		T: 000
Police Non-emergency		T: 131 444
Home Security Audit		T: 9493 3311
Crimestoppers		T: 1800 333 000

Anyone interested in writing a column?

If anyone in the Crestwood community is interested in writing a column for one or more issues of the *Crestwood News* please contact the editor. The topic should be something of interest to you, as well as the wider community. There are many possibilities. Some of these are shown in the panel below, but you are welcome to come up with others. This is a community newsletter, and the more people who contribute to it, the more representative it will be.

Contact the editor if you have something you would like to contribute to the Crestwood News.

This can be notification of births, deaths, special birthdays and graduations; tips on garden design and general gardening, including composting, plant selection and watering ; favourite recipes; hobbies or crafts you would like to share; safety and security issues; information about individuals or groups of interest to others on the estate; financial matters such as news of house and land values, and other items of mutual interest.

Extra copies of the *Crestwood News* are available if you would like to show a copy to a potential advertiser.

... continued from page 1

inevitable rate increase that the discount would entail.

The definition of pensioner was also raised. Would this include only those who were in receipt of a government pension, or those who were self-funded retirees? While the President indicated that the discount would probably be applied to both groups, the discussion was ostensibly ended by the taking of a vote. The motion was overwhelmingly defeated.

Road Works

The question of changing the entry and exit points to Crestwood, in particular the one near the southern end of Grenadier Drive, had been raised at a number of committee meetings. The ideas presented by Mike Upton had progressed now to a point where they were ready to be presented to the AGM for discussion. The documents available to homeowners included sketches of the proposed changes.

Underlying the discussion, and initially unspoken, was the question of where responsibility for the changes actually lay: were they with the Gosnells City Council or with Main Roads? Trevor Veen indicated the responsible entity was the Gosnells City Council. Also mentioned by one of the residents was a remembered scheme whereby Spencer Road would be widened to include a median strip, a process which would eliminate the slip roads on either side. Trevor, who had attended meetings with the City Council, indicated that while that was still the preferred option, it did not appear to be high on Council's list of priorities.

There were other questions raised by residents at the meeting. Did residents see egress from Grenadier Drive as a problem? Was the placement of a roundabout at the southern end of Grenadier Drive the best place for it, or would a more central location closer to the southern end of Regency Drive be better? Was the current system dangerous and did accidents occur? As the discussion progressed it became clear that the meeting was not in favour of changes to the current system. When a vote was taken, the clear majority favoured no change.

As a coda to the discussion, the question was asked if there was any merit in looking further into the traffic patterns outside Crestwood. Trevor Veen indicated that it was unlikely that the Gosnells City Council would consider a roundabout on Spencer Road at any of the locations mentioned by the meeting. Roundabouts were usually placed at intersections where crossing traffic was more or less equal in both directions, and this was not the case at the intersection of Spencer Road and Grenadier or Regency Drives. A roundabout would only serve to slow traffic on Spencer Road.

Reticulation

The issue of reticulation for the Crestwood estate was primarily a concern regarding water-

ing times. Residents had time to think about this question as it had been put to them in a referendum, had been raised at the Special General Meeting and notes had been distributed prior to the AGM. The options are summarised in the current issue of the *Crestwood News* (see page 6).

It was unclear at the start of the discussion where sentiments of the residents lay. The argument for change had been presented in the papers which residents had read. Those against change now spoke out, presenting a number of arguments. How much water was actually needed by garden plants? Was 10 ml per reticulation cycle really enough for plants to thrive, or was this simply enough to keep them alive? It was argued that 30 ml was the transpiration rate and was needed to keep plants healthy. Did feeder roots only go down to 30 mm? It was argued that the depth was more like 60 mm.

Also related to how much water gardens actually received was the question of pressure. A 15 minute watering was not at full pressure for the whole cycle. Full pressure took about 2-3 minutes to achieve, and therefore less water was distributed during this initial period. Pressure to all houses was also not always the same.

At the end of the discussion, residents were not convinced that change was in their interests and the motion to introduce a new watering schedule was overwhelmingly defeated.

At the conclusion of the vote, the future of our reticulation system was briefly considered. Replacement of the existing system, subject to frequent breakdowns and expensive repairs, would cost approximately \$130,000 plus \$45,000 for the computer system to run it. This would provide Crestwood with a state-of-the-art, two-wire system. Included in this system is the possibility of having rain and wind sensors, as well as moisture sensors which would convey to the computer when the system should or should not run. The committee intends to gather all the relevant information, ask for quotes and, when this is completed, approach the homeowners with a set of proposals.

Other Business

Included in Other Business was the future of our gardener. In the coming weeks Taffy will be undergoing two assessments which will determine her fitness to continue working. Once these assessments were completed Crestwood would be better able to determine her and our prospects for the future.

Other matters raised included the times our park lights were turned off. One resident felt they were left on too long in the morning. Electronic communications enabling faster communication by email was also raised (something the committee had already acted on), as well as seeing that our webpage would soon be up and running.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm with some residents staying for coffee and others heading home.



INCIDENT REPORT

Incidents reported on the Crestwood Estate

24 May - There was an attempted break-in at night at a residence on Regency Dr. The house alarm was triggered when the intruder tried to jimmy open a window. The person then fled.

POLICE WATCH - Thornlie

from the *Comment News*

Break-ins in Banksia Circle, Glenbrook Rd, Oriole Way, Shillington Way, Barrul Pl, Berehaven Ave; motor vehicle theft Garden St; graffiti damage Lupin Close (1 April)

Break-ins in Brunswick Rd, Parkside Dr, Regency Dr, Shillington Way, Jacobsen Way, Wateredge Rd; motor vehicle theft Camborne Way, McNamara Dr, Yale Rd (8 April)

Break-ins in Spencer Rd (commercial - 2), Discovery Dr, Dove St, Forrest Cres, McNamara Dr, Wilfred Rd, Juniper Crt (2); motor vehicle theft Bluegum Rd, Juniper Crt, Spring Rd (15 April)

Break-ins in Spencer Rd (commercial), Wilfred Rd; motor vehicle theft Cypress Crt, Forrest Lakes Dr, Spencer Rd (22 April)

Break-ins in Spencer Rd (commercial), Banksia Circle, Lennox Rd, Leone St, Levine Crt; graffiti damage Warton Rd (29 April)

Break-ins in Camberly St, Fagence Way, Kellar Way, Shillington Way; motor vehicle theft Sugarwood Dr (6 May)

Break-ins in Spencer Rd (commercial), Berehaven Ave (2), Corriedale Pl, Argyle Crt, Hume Rd, Ironwood Crt, Towncentre Dr (2); motor vehicle theft Hume Rd, McNamara Dr, Sandon Rd (13 May)

Break ins in Forrest Lakes Dr, Greenway Ave (2), Hargrave Dr, Lester Dr, Spruce Pl, Grenadier Dr; graffiti damage Berehaven Ave, Cameron St (27 May)

Handbag Safety Tips

- Tuck your handbag under your arm, close and slightly in front of your body.
- Be aware of your surroundings and other people, including motorbikes and cars.
- Do not display money when you put it into your handbag, especially at an ATM.
- Carry only necessary items in your handbag and remember what's in there.
- Avoid putting your bag down or leaving it unattended.
- When placing shopping into your vehicle, lock your bag inside your vehicle or hold it close to your body.
- Place your handbag on your lap in theatres and nightclubs. Keep it close.
- Your wellbeing is more important than the contents of your handbag. If someone tries to take your bag, give it to them. You may be seriously injured if you attempt to prevent the theft.
- Cancel all credit cards if they are stolen and change your door locks if your keys are stolen. Do not put your name and address on the keys.
- Report the incident to Police on 13 14 44. Try to get a description of the offender.

eWATCH

As part of the City of Gosnell's **Safe City** initiative, eWATCH was introduced as a simple means of providing instant information.

If police want help from the community, they email a message to Safe City and the information is passed on to everyone who is registered on the eWATCH system. Replies from the community which are sent by email to Safe City are then passed back to police.

eWATCH enables police to let the community know when help is needed to:

- ▶ target suspicious or criminal activities in an area,
- ▶ help find a missing person, or
- ▶ keep people up to date with the latest tips to stay safe and secure.

All information is treated with the strictest confidence and anyone providing information remains anonymous.

If you are a local business or resident with email, register your email address and help make a difference.

Become part of eWATCH by sending an email with your details to: ewatch@gosnells.wa.gov.au. Alternatively, you can call Safe City on 9391 6022.

Walking Safely on Shared Paths

Shared paths are those which are signed with both pedestrian and bicycle symbols. When walking on shared paths be aware of cyclists, people with disabilities, joggers, skaters and other users. All of these users have rights and responsibilities on paths.

Walking with care

Here are some tips that will make walking on shared paths more enjoyable for yourself and other users:

- Keep to the left of the path.
- Only change direction or overtake when it is safe to do so.
- Acknowledge others — use eye contact and body language to acknowledge the presence of other path users. Remember, some path users may have disabilities that mean they cannot always see or hear you.
- If you stop for any reason, such as for a chat while on the path, move to the side so others can pass safely.
- When an approaching cyclist rings their bell, remain on the left side of the path.
- When walking with headphones, keep the volume low so that you can still hear other users.

Walking with children or pets

- Walk with a child or dog on your left-hand side.
- Children need to be aware of other path users.
- Keep dogs on a short leash.

Walking at night

Lighting along shared paths can vary at night. It is important for walkers to make themselves as visible as possible by:

- Wearing light-coloured clothing.
- Wearing something reflective.
- Carrying a torch, or flashing light available from most sports stores.

Department for Planning and Infrastructure

Committee Business:

Parks and Reticulation: A mainline blowout occurred at the end of the month, something which Rob was to promptly attend to.

Multiturf was too expensive to use for extra contract work. Eddie, a landscape contractor, will cover any extra jobs he is able to handle at a cost of \$40.00 per hour. Taffy has recovered and is feeling much better.

Trevor Davis is to work on a draft proposal regarding watering times for the committee in preparation for presenting the issue to the Annual General Meeting.

Aesthetics: A number of letters were sent out acknowledging approval of a variety of projects, including the building of new patios and erecting a new garden shed. Approval was also given to removing trees on one property, with professional advice recommended for some of the work.

Pool: The audit report has classified the Crestwood pool as a Level 2 (probably due to the holding of VacSwim class), and not as a Level 3 or 4. This has financial implications. Trevor Veen has contacted the Health Department to see if an exception could be made considering that residents arrive at the pool ready to swim and then leave, thereby requiring fewer showering facilities. He will continue to see if there is any possibility of compromise on the requirements that have been set. There is a need to get the water flow measured before October 1, and have a lighting check. The sail poles may need to be earthed, something which will require the hiring of an electrician. Some of the issues arising from the audit report may have to be taken to the forthcoming AGM.

A high pressure water cleaner to the value of \$500.00 is to be purchased. Rob is to look into this.

Finances: Honoraria and reimbursements have been made. Audited figures are expected to be available in May, after notice of the AGM has been sent out to residents.

Instructions have been given to renew the current insurance with the intention of re-evaluating values assigned to some items in about three months time.

Visitor's Business:

A new road plan enabling easier access to Spencer Road was tabled by Mike Upson. He was asked to put his ideas in writing to accompany the plan so that his ideas could be put to residents at a future date.

In answer to a question put by Gordon Blake, it was mentioned that the footpaths in the park requiring attention had been identified and work on repairing or replacing them was currently in progress. A concern was raised about the slabs in Park 14. Rob Wilson indicated he would ask if these paths had been identified as those needing attention.

Marjan van Dijk indicated that roman blinds had been tested on the doors in the Crestwood Hall for the purposes of privacy. More blinds were now to be purchased.

General Business: Arrangements for the AGM were discussed with particular reference to replacement of the main reticulation line and the committee positions which are due to fall vacant. Sandra and Trevor Davis will work out an agenda for the meeting.

Discussions were also held regarding improving communication between the committee and residents. Ideas suggested included an email list to begin from the time of the AGM, use of the website and better use of bulletin boards.

APRIL 2008

Committee Business:

Parks and Reticulation: Crestwood has hired a part time gardener who will work on Mondays and Tuesdays for a total of 15 hours a week. His name is Frederic and he is a French national currently studying at Murdoch TAFE and working for Crestwood as part of his practical training.

Bore testing and servicing, and water quality testing is to be carried out on the reticulation system. Mainline replacement areas are to be identified and three quotes then sought for work to be carried out this winter.

Progress, though slow, is being made regarding repair of the fire-damaged fences of the bush area. The City of Gosnells claims the trees in Princeton Court are Crestwood's responsibility. Trevor Veen will search through previous documentation outlining who is responsible for what.

The City of Gosnells is currently undertaking replacement of damaged sections of our park pathways. Trevor Davis is to prepare a draft for the watering referendum for the coming AGM. In the future, all subcontractors used by Crestwood are to carry their own appropriate insurance.

Discussions were held regarding the long-term work prospects for Taffy. She will be encouraged to work for a longer time as her healing progresses.

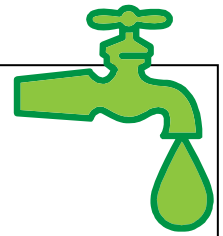
Aesthetics: All current applications are being attended to and things are running smoothly. A future application for fencing may raise some concerns.

Pool: Work is being planned or carried out to conform to the changes required by the recent pool audit. Compliance with the new classification may require us to continue using the YMCA. Lighting changes will unlikely to be made within the required period of time, although problems arising could be overcome in the short term.

Trevor Veen acknowledged the work being carried out by Keith Edwards and wanted his appreciation of Keith's contribution be noted.

General Business: Discussions were held regarding a resident seeking feedback on the possibility of running a bed and breakfast from his home on the estate.





What is Crestwood's water allocation? What type of licence do we hold and how much water are we allowed to draw from our bores over one year? How much do we pay for this right and what changes are we likely to see in the near future? Also: what are the options for the way the Crestwood estate is watered? These are some of the questions that were answered during an interview I had with our president, Trevor Davis, in preparation for this article.

The licence

The licence that Crestwood holds is from the Water and Rivers Commission and is for the running of five bores from which we can draw non-artesian water, that is, water which is replenishable from annual rainfall. The licence is based on the irrigation of nine hectares of lawns and gardens and seven hectares of public open space — our parks. We are licensed to draw 120,000 kilolitres per annum and for this right we pay an annual fee of \$700.00.

How much water do we use?

An estimate was made of our water usage using flow rates at each bore at the time of servicing, and the pressure at each station which also relates to the flow rate. Our current water usage is approximately 80 percent of our allocation, or 95,000 kilolitres of water, not counting wastage from breakages. Flow rates will be done on all our bores, not just those requiring servicing, during the months of June and July, at the end of our watering season, and a more accurate update on our water usage will be available then.

Is our water usage metered?

Presently, our bores do not have metres, although this may change. The City of Gosnells will fit metres to their bores during the coming 2008-09 financial year, and it seems inevitable that Crestwood will have to do the same in the not too distant future. How much we will eventually pay for bore water calculated in this way is not known at the present time.

The current situation

The Crestwood estate currently receives seven waterings per fortnight with one fortnightly Sunday test. The Sunday test runs for eight minutes, and the evening reticulation for 15 minutes with the option of an increase to 20 minutes during the hottest part of the summer. This past year the increase to 20 minutes did not happen.

At the 2007 AGM, one of the residents suggested that we move to six waterings per fortnight and the Committee decided to look into the possibility. This was also prompted by a concern that one of the bores was producing salty water at the end of the 2007 season, leading to the belief that it had exceeded its drawing capacity.

A proposed change

The proposed change, initially put forward in a referendum that produced a disappointing response, is to move to six 15 minute waterings a fortnight (three a week), with a weekly eight minute daytime test. The extension of the summer watering to 20 minutes will still be an option if residents feel this is necessary. This new system will mean a total reduction of just eight minutes of watering over a fortnight compared to the original system of seven waterings a fortnight with one fortnightly test.

Under the proposed system, each house would be watered on the same night each week and have a specific day of the week for the daytime test. One night will be free from watering. This is proposed to be Saturday when householders would most probably not want their property watered.

Households would be divided into Groups A and B, as at present. Group A would have their properties watered on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday with the daytime test on Saturday. Group B would have their properties watered on Monday, Wednesday and Friday with a daytime test on Sunday.*

For maintenance reasons, the weekend tests will continue throughout the winter. This will happen whether or not the new proposal is adopted. Running the reticulation system through the winter will give some indication if the system is working properly. We will no longer have to wait for the start of the season to see if there is a problem.

How much water is enough?

The Water Corporation recommends that lawns and gardens be watered twice a week for households using only mains water and three times a week for those households with access to a bore. The amount of water supplied during each watering, 10 mm, is sufficient to saturate the top 15-20 cm of soil where the feeder roots of plants grow. Water in excess of 10 mm drains past the root systems and is wasted.

Do we all get 10 mm of water during a 15 minute watering? Possibly not, but this has more to do with the type of sprinklers we might be using than the length of the watering cycle. The Committee is considering recommending the types of sprinklers that are most suitable to achieving this outcome. In general, pop-ups which spread water lower to the ground are more suitable than sprinklers that, fountain-like, direct the water upward.

Text by the Editor; information from Trevor Davis

* Crestwood homeowners voted at the AGM to keep the present system. See a summary of this meeting on pages 1&3.

AESTHETICS REPORT: 2007-2008

This has been my first year as a member of the Crestwood Home Owners Committee and it has been an interesting and busy one. Since July 2007, 18 building approvals have been sent to residents for various improvement projects to their homes, the most numerous being patios and outdoor areas. I am pleased to see so many of our neighbours investing and improving their homes as this will improve property values for us all.

As members of the Crestwood Home Owners Association, we all have a responsibility to each other, to keep our homes and gardens tidy and in good repair. In our unique environment this includes both the front and back of our homes. The parks and walkways behind are public open space and are regularly walked by residents as well as the public. We, as an association, employ contractors to mow the parks and gardeners to maintain them. We ask each home owner to maintain their own rear fence and verge, removing weeds and making sure no plants are overhanging and obstructing the paths. Crestwood is a beautiful place to live. Let's all help to keep it that way. It's the little things that make the difference.

John Rushton, Committee Member for Aesthetics

(The annual **president's**, **parks and reticulation** and **pool reports** were distributed to homeowners prior to the AGM and are not included in this newsletter.)

UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEWS

Welcome

Our New Assistant Gardener



Frederic comes to Australia from France. He is studying horticulture at Murdoch TAFE and will be working at Crestwood on Mondays and Tuesdays for a total of 15 hours a week. His work for us forms part of his practical training. The editor hopes to interview Frederic and publish that interview in a coming issue of the *Crestwood News*.

Summary Committee Meetings

A summary of the monthly CHOA committee meetings is posted on the bulletin boards outside the Crestwood Hall and Pool.

This is posted shortly after the committee meetings which take place on the last Monday of the month.

Consulting these summaries will give you the most immediate information of what happened at recent committee meetings.

e-Mail Contact

In an attempt to communicate more efficiently with home owners, the CHOA Management Committee is inviting home owners to supply us with an email address for contacting you at short notice. All emails will be sent 'blind' so that your email address will not be available to all other home owners.

It is anticipated that email contact may be used to notify home owners of such things as changes in watering rosters or spraying that is to be happening in parks.

The email contact system will take a little time to set up and will always be optional. Send your emails to:

crestwood@safe-mail.net or sandrawilson@inet.net.au

Planning Ahead Christmas Eve / Carols in the Park

We will need someone to coordinate the Christmas Eve and Carols in the Park festivities for the coming season. Sue Galpin will be unable to do this as she has other commitments during this time. If anyone is interested in overseeing these arrangements, please contact Sue on 9459 6859. She will be available to help you in setting up these events.

YOGA

YOGA GROOVE

Yoga Groove is a unique blend of dance and yoga integrated into a one hour class. The dance combines various styles such as belly dance, African, Latin and hip-hop. The yoga includes traditional yoga postures for strength, flexibility and postural corrections, and exercises for core stability, breathing and relaxation. It is a fun-filled, dynamic class that will leave you feeling energised and balanced.



Classes meet at the Crestwood Hall on Wednesday during school terms, beginning at 7:30 pm and lasting for one hour. Cost will depend upon the numbers. Contact Di Morris on 94528353 or 0410668264.

Get Well

Les Johns, Grenadier Drive. The Crestwood community wishes you a quick return to health.
Audrey Dalton, Regency Drive. We wish you all the best for a full and speedy recovery.

FAREWELL AND BEST WISHES

Roy & Mary Overall, 14 Lachlan Road
 Paul & Trudy Bates, 24 Lachlan Road

WELCOME TO CRESTWOOD

Hayley Bodmer, 14 Lachlan Road
 Stephen & Eshana Zaleski, 24 Lachlan Road

EVENTS

CRESTWOOD 20S CLUB

The lack of interest in the planned 20's lunch was very disappointing. Instead of holding it in the Crestwood Hall, 16 of the faithful regulars went for an enjoyable lunch at the Old Narrogin Inn, Armadale (also see page 11). We enjoyed a roast beef dinner followed by apple pie and cream for less than \$20. With almost 200 eligible members of the club a better response was expected. In future we will probably hold just one function a year. If you want the club to continue we need your support.

Crestwood 20s Club

Submitted by Margaret Davies

FEATURES

PHOTO TIPS

Photo Tips

- When taking "people" photos in bright sunlight use the flash to reduce harsh shadows. This is particularly useful when shooting against the light. Using this method will improve lighting as well as colour in digital cameras as well as film cameras.
- Try a polarising filter on your digital SLR for pictures at the beach or landscapes in good sunlight. Using a polarising filter will increase colour saturation of the sky, the sea and forest.

This is best used at a right angle from the sun. A polariser is almost useless with the light in front or behind the camera, and shooting sunsets. It is not recommended in shade or under cloudy skies. Remember that the polariser will reduce light reaching the lens. It can lead to camera shake and blurred pictures in poor light.

I advise you to experiment with new techniques only after you have taken an important photograph using methods you already know. This is for two reasons: 1, to ensure the photograph comes out (you may lose it using a new technique), and 2, experimenting initially takes longer and, therefore, you may lose the exact picture that you wanted to capture.

Once you become proficient you will feel more confident and more satisfied with your photography.

Submitted by Paul Fanali



Crestwood Hall Hire

The Crestwood Hall is available for use by residents. It is ideal for large or small functions: birthday parties, morning teas, playgroups, meetings. It can be hired on a one-off or regular basis. Charges are as follows.

Daytime (to 5pm) — \$11.00/hour to a maximum of \$55.00
Night-time (to midnight) — \$22.00/hour to a maximum of \$110.00.

Up to 50 people allowed in the Hall. Full use of the kitchen is included for both day and night functions.

Commercial (for-profit events or those charging an entry fee) — \$25.00 per hour to a maximum of \$100.00 – 8am - 5pm

A \$300 bond applies to all bookings. To book or obtain further information call Marjan: 9459 8776

CRESTWOOD LADIES' COFFEE MORNINGS



At the Crestwood Hall 10am—midday
Every *second* Tuesday of the month

ALL WELCOME

Bring a friend and make some new friends too

Schedule for 2008

8 January	8 July
19 February*	12 August
11 March	9 September
8 April	14 October
13 May	11 November
10 June	9 December

For more info call Miranda
9452 1490

* February only - 3rd Tuesday

CRESTWOOD MOTHER'S GROUP / PLAYGROUP

New members are always welcome. You can also bring a friend — We would love to hear from you.

We meet on Friday mornings at the Crestwood Hall

10.00 am—12.00 noon

0 years to 6 years old

\$10.00 per term

Runs during School terms

Call Marjan on 9459 8776

CRESTWOOD PATCHWORK & QUILTING GROUP

Meeting on a Tuesday night in the Crestwood Hall
 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

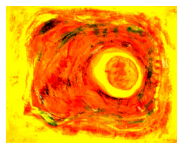
New members welcome.

Come and meet us or ring Jan on 9493 0045.



Social Card Mornings

Join me for a creative morning of card making, a great way to meet people and develop friendships.



Where: 24 Princeton Court

When: Thursday and Friday mornings, 9:30 - 11:30 am

Cost: \$6.00 to cover materials for 2 pre-prepared projects, morning coffee or tea and biscuits.

Contact: Joanne Brand for further information –
 Phone 9459 6114 / 0403 474 075 or email –
 brand_family@primus.com.au

Belly Dance

Ladies, come and try something different. Have fun and learn how to bellydance. Friendly group welcomes beginners or experienced dancers.

Come join us.

Monday evenings 7:30 pm in the Crestwood Hall
 (except for the fourth Monday in the month)

Cost \$10.00 per class — includes drumming class.

Non-Crestwood residents welcome.

Phone Gillian 9459 9904 or Heather 9452 2427

CRESTWOOD PATCHWORK & QUILTING GROUP

We are a small group of women with a common interest of sewing. The group meets on a Tuesday night every week at 6.30 pm at the Crestwood Hall. A lot of talking, laughing and "interesting" discussions go on during the evening with celebrations of individual birthdays whilst sharing ideas and skills. Anyone who is interested in joining us will get a warm welcome.

This is a brief history of our hobby extracted from the Bantam *Step-by-Step Book of Needlecraft*.

Patchwork, appliqué and quilting were developed centuries ago in North Africa, Turkestan, Persia, Syria, India and China but were not used until the 11th Century for decorative purposes in Europe. It came to Europe from Palestine with the Crusaders. Both crafts were then taken up in Europe to make all types of flags, banners, wall hangings, tablecloths, bed furnishings and church vestments.

Practical uses of quilting had been used in Europe from a far earlier date. The Romans used it to make cushions, mattresses and primitive bed coverings. It was also used as a protective covering by soldiers. Crusaders had certainly encountered it on quilted shirts worn by Saracens. Also, from the 11th Century onwards, quilted coats were worn by soldiers, and were used right up to the 19th century when they were worn by the early American soldiers in their battles with the Indians. They were still considered sufficient protection against arrows.

A decorative form of quilting was developed in Italy in the 13th century. This was known as "padded quilting" or "trapunto". Although these techniques had been used in Persia, India and Turkestan they were given prominence by the fine designs worked in Italy. This form of quilting is made with only two layers of fabric stitched together and the design outlined in running stitches. Areas of the design are emphasized by stuffing them from the back to raise them. Trapunto quilting was also taken up and used in England for white bed coverings, known as counterpanes, a derivation of quilt point or counter point.

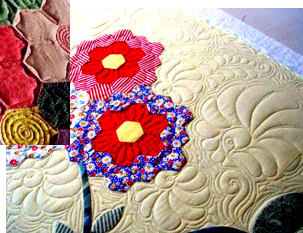
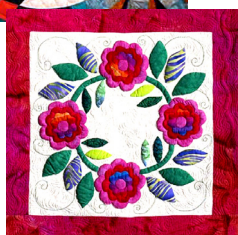
In the 15th and 16th centuries, appliqué was greatly used for all types of household furnishings, being a quick and easy way to achieve effective and colourful embroidery. It was often used on velvet grounds with rich satin or gold leather patches cut into shapes and often couched with gold cords. Coats of arms, emblems, lettering, birds, animals and flowers were stitched onto the design with the designs becoming more and more complex by adding combinations of quilting and embroidery techniques to them. Chintz motifs, too, were cut out and applied with buttonhole stitches and this style became known as *broderie perse*.

In the 17th century quilting was taken up and used on clothes of all types: suits, doublets, breeches and later petticoats. This popularity for quilted fashion continued to the 18th century when it gradually declined. On bedspreads, quilting was greatly used both on plain cream silk and in conjunction with embroidery and appliqué. Its popularity continued until the middle of the 18th century when the textile industry developed new woven and printed fabric techniques. The novelty of these new fabrics became the fashion and patches and scraps of them were taken and pieced or applied together to make coverlets and wall hangings to echo the design of the brightly painted fabrics.

Quilting, patchwork and appliqué were taken to America by the early Dutch and English settlers and there they flourished into the most famous of all American Folk Art. It is easy to understand why this should have happened: times were extremely hard for the early pioneers, supplies were limited and these homely crafts thrived out of sheer necessity. They were also a means of entertainment with social gatherings being arranged around quilting parties. These patched, appliquéd and quilted masterpieces were worked at first without designs, with the minimum of fancy fabrics and, more often than not, in the wilds of unexplored territory, an arrow's flight away from the native Indians. Later different types of patchwork and appliquéd designs were developed and given such names as Barn Raising, Star of Bethlehem, Rose of Sharon, Log Cabin and many more.

By the 20th century the hardships of the past were over, supplies were readily available, machines were capable of making blankets and eiderdowns and the handmade goods were laid aside in favour of machine-made goods. This state of affairs carried on up to the middle of the century when the need to create something of one's own was once more felt. Today, quilting, appliqué and patchwork are once again in demand and enjoyed by many women as a hobby.

Submitted by Jan Broomfield



Moses and President Bush

Recently, while going through an airport during one of his many trips, President Bush encountered a man with long gray hair and beard, wearing a white robe and sandals, holding a staff. President Bush went up to the man and said, "Has anyone told you that you look like Moses?" The man didn't answer. He just kept staring straight ahead. The president said, "Moses!" in a loud voice. The man just stared ahead, never acknowledging the president.

The president pulled a Secret Service agent aside and, pointing to the robed man, asked him, "Am I crazy or does that man not look like Moses to you?" The Secret Service agent looked at the man and agreed. "Well," said the president, "Every time I say his name, he ignores me and stares straight ahead, refusing to speak. Watch!" Again the president yelled, "Moses!" and again the man ignored him.

The Secret Service agent went up to the man in the white robe and whispered, "You look just like Moses. Are you Moses?" The man leaned over and whispered back, "Shhhh! Yes, I am Moses. The last time I talked to a bush, I spent 40 years wandering in the desert and ended up leading my people to the only spot in the entire Middle East with no oil!"

Exercise is all in the Mind

Begin by **standing** on your dignity. **Breathe** a sigh of relief and **kick-start** the day by **pointing** out problems, **balancing** your assets, **pressing** a point, **bending** the rules, **hanging** in there and **pushing** your luck. Keep a **running** commentary going by **hopping** up and down, **jumping** to conclusions, **stretching** a position, **dodging** the issue and **posing** a few difficult questions.

Then, when thoroughly warmed up, continue by **wrestling** with the problems, **pulling** no punches, **bending** over backwards, **tackling** all arguments, **evading** the issue, **flying** off the handle, **beating** about the bush, **kicking** up a fuss, **pulling** a fast one, and **skipping** the occasional meal.

Then end by **flexing** your authority, **slapping** on an ultimatum and **working out** a solution. After a hard day's effort you can then **pull up** your socks and **jog** home for a well-earned rest.

Thanks for your help

A new intern at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade was working late at the office in Canberra one evening. As he was clocking out of the office, he saw a visiting consular official standing by the document shredder in the hallway, a piece of paper in his hand.

"Do you know how to work this thing?" the consular official asked. "The secretary has gone home and I don't know how to run it."

"Yes," the intern replied. He then turned on the machine, took the paper from the official and fed it in.

"Thanks," said the consular official, "I only needed one copy."

Belated Seasons Greetings

I wanted to send some sort of holiday greeting to my friends, but it is so difficult in today's world to know exactly what to say without offending someone. So I met with my lawyer, and on his advice, and after months of drafts and amendments, I wish to offer the following, somewhat belated, greetings to you, my dear friends:

Please accept with no obligation, implied or implicit, my best wishes for an environmentally conscious, socially responsible, low stress, non-addictive, gender neutral celebration of the winter solstice holiday, practiced with the most enjoyable traditions of religious persuasion or secular practices of your choice with respect for the religious/secular persuasions and/or traditions of others, or their choice not to practise religious or secular traditions at all.

I also wish you a fiscally successful, personally fulfilling and medically uncomplicated recognition of the onset of the generally accepted calendar year 2008, but not without due respect for the calendars of choice of other cultures whose contributions to society have helped make our country great (not to imply that our country is necessarily greater than any other country) and without regard to the race, creed, colour, age, physical ability, religious faith or sexual preference of the wishes.

By accepting this greeting, you are accepting these terms:

This greeting is subject to clarification or withdrawal. It is freely transferable with no alteration to the original greeting. It implies no promise by the wisher to actually implement any of the wishes for him or herself or others and is void where prohibited by law, and is revocable at the sole discretion of the wisher. This wish is warranted to perform as expected within the usual application of good tidings for a period of one year or until the issuance of a subsequent holiday greeting, whichever comes first, and warranty is limited to replacement of this wish or issuance of a new wish at the sole discretion of the wisher.

Disclaimer: No trees were harmed in the sending of this message; however, a significant number of electrons were slightly inconvenienced.

Quotable Quotes

1. The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending, and to have to two as close together as possible (*George Burns*)
2. I was married by a judge. I should have asked for a jury (*Groucho Marx*)
3. My wife has a slight impediment in her speech. Every now and then she stops to breathe (*Jimmy Durante*)
4. Sometimes, when I look at my children, I say to myself, "Lillian, you should have remained a virgin" (*Lillian Carter, mother of ex US President Jimmy Carter*)
5. Be careful about reading health books. You may die of a misprint (*Mark Twain*)
6. Maybe it's true that life begins at fifty, but everything else starts to wear out, fall out, or spread out (*Phyllis Diller*)
7. Santa Claus has the right idea. Visit people only once a year (*Victor Borge*)
8. By the time a man is wise enough to watch his step, he's too old to go anywhere (*Billy Crystal*)
9. I don't feel old. I don't feel anything until noon. Then it's time for my nap (*Bob Hope*)
10. Until I was 13, I thought my name was **shut up** (*Joe Namath*)



For something different to watch and enjoy, check out the following on YOUTUBE:



Rowan Atkinson's invisible drum kit

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Sf_pogZ8jE

Monty Python's parrot skit

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hTSAFcLXqYY>

Pink Panther Strikes again scene

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PXZGQqzkOTw>

School Holiday Happenings

Snowfields in the City July 7-19

Forrest Place 10am–4pm daily

30 minute sessions for ages 5-13

Check out more at www.perth.wa.gov.au



Perth Winter Arts Festival

June 1 to August 31

Various events and costs

Check out more at

www.perthwinterfestival.com.au



There are usually things happening locally at shopping centres and public libraries that could provide interesting and fun. Be bold and brave – try something different!

Try out these 'time wasters'. They are simple and easy games on the internet that can get very addictive! Here's a list of some different games:

Eight letters in search of a word

www.eastoftheweb.com/games/Eight1.html A word game: unjumble the letters to get words, which score you points.

Chat Noir - www.gamedesign.jp/flash/chatnoir/chatnoir.html This game is simple; just stop the cat from escaping

Symmetry lab - www.symmetrylab.co.uk/machine/ Make your own machine!

The curve ball - www.break.com/index/thecurveball.html hit the ball back and forth; it gets harder and harder!



Try something NEW

Ever found yourself bored with nothing to do over a weekend? Well why not plan an expedition! Have you ever heard of the Bibbulmun Track? How about the Kep Track? Last holidays I went hiking on the Kep track, which goes from Mundaring Weir to Northam. I went for two days and one night twice (separately), and over that time managed to cover most of the track. You might not want to do something quite as challenging as that (I had to carry a heavy pack, camp overnight with no toilet, etc.) but it still would be fun! You can ride, walk or go by horse along this gravel track. It's pretty flat and wide, so a lot of the time you could walk 3 people astride, which makes it easy to talk and have fun as you go along. So try something different and new and go on an expedition with some friends (and one or two adults) on an otherwise boring weekend. It will take some planning and organization but it is worth it! Maps of the Kep Track can be found amongst the pamphlets held at Gosnells Public Library or check out: www.keptrack.com.au/.

Reported by Rebekah Wilson

As a regular walker, I am constantly amazed and delighted at the beauty of the parks here in Crestwood. We as residents can enjoy all these fabulous parks literally at our doorstep. And it's not only the parkland and the beautiful swimming pool that make Crestwood a haven tucked away in the "burbs"; most of the gardens here are a real treat to admire as well.

Whether it's a few hanging baskets cascading with a profusion of colour, or a native or well clipped, manicured garden, there is always so much of interest to an avid gardener like myself.

While on one of my recent walks I stopped to admire one such garden. Owners, Bruce and Pamela, kindly allowed me to take some photos and have a chat with them about their garden. Bruce and Pamela built their home in Crestwood about 23 years ago. Initially, they hired the services of a landscaper to plant their garden. Conifers were all the rage at that time. The good old, hard wearing, easy-care conifer.

Last year, however, Bruce and Pamela decided enough was enough and opted for a radical change. With a lot of determination and dexterity Bruce removed the conifers single-handedly. The roots had become invasive and problematic so they were pleased to be free of them.



Pamela and Bruce chose roses to take their place, which now give the garden colour and interest, lets in more light and opens up the view of the beautiful trees in the park. Bruce used good soil and cow manure to replenish the soil and planting began last November, just before the onslaught of one of the hottest summers on record. Mulch was thrown around generously and the roses survived well, with only one casualty, which says a lot for the hardiness of roses!



Hanging baskets also feature well in this very pretty garden. Zygo cacti are blooming in profusion at this time of year and Pamela says the honeyeaters love them. Zygos are easy to propagate too. After flowering, just break off at least two sections, let them dry out a bit then plant them in a pot with good potting soil. Don't over water as they may rot.

Pamela also enjoys her collection of Bromeliads and Begonias, which grow happily in pots under the trees in partial shade. Begonia leaves give a wonderful display of rich colour and shape. The flowers hang down in a cascade of pink or orange. Begonias are also very easy to grow from cuttings. You can put them in water first and allow the roots to grow before planting or just put the cuttings straight into potting mix. Honey is good for coating the tip of the cutting before planting.



A bird bath is found tucked away beside the begonias and Pamela and Bruce enjoy watching a variety of birds splashing about from their patio.

When asked what they liked about living in Crestwood, Bruce says it's the serenity. He says he's not a gardener, as such, but likes sitting on his patio taking in the lovely views and enjoying his garden. Pamela says when they first arrived she enjoyed having the pool for their daughter and the fact that their children could safely play in the park at the back. Now, she loves the outlook and the birds. Their type of fence allows them to fully take in the gorgeous view. Pamela says it would be hard to live in a place surrounded by fences. I couldn't agree more.



Crestwood is a rare place in this world of suburbs and houses all squashed up against each other. Where else can you walk around and enjoy parks, trees, and gardens right at your back door? There is so much to enjoy here. Thanks Bruce and Pamela for sharing your lovely garden with the Crestwood News.

If anyone has an interest in gardening and would like to share their garden with us, please contact Rowena de Gruchy on 9459 7736.



Submitted by Rowena de Gruchy

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Andrew	9493 6191 / 0413 170
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Mike Upson	9493 0005
Roger Knight	9452 7648
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If you would like to advertise in the *Crestwood News*, phone the editor, 9459 2902, or email crestwoodnews@inet.net.au to discuss submission of your ad. You will be invoiced for the full amount after your ad first appears in the newsletter.

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