



INCORPORATED IN 1970

CRESTWOOD NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE CRESTWOOD HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION

ISSUE NO. 64

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2013

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Special General Meeting
20 February 2013, 7:30pm
(see p. 7)

NEXT ISSUE

Deadline for the next **Crestwood News** is **5 April 2013**. Please send reports, announcements, notices, ads, articles and photos to Malcolm as early as possible before this date: 24 Coronet Court
crestwoodnews@iinet.net.au

Significant Meetings Coming Up

Your Attendance is Important

Another festive season has been successfully survived. School holidays are also over with children returning to school and pressure now relieved from parents busy getting books, uniforms and kids used to the idea of school again.

There are a couple of significant events for Crestwood homeowners coming up. Later this month the Special General Meeting will be held to discuss and determine the fees for the coming fiscal year, 2013/2014. Importantly, we require, under our constitution, that 30 percent of our members (89 households) either be present at the meeting or submit a proxy form. If this number is not met, then the meeting cannot proceed.

In a couple of months the Annual General Meeting will be held and I would ask that members consider their availability to fill any vacancies that may occur. Advance notice of the positions subject to elections will be provided in due course.

Crestwood Parks and Public Reserves Bylaws

Under the bylaws nobody is to play games or practice in the estate parks using *hard balls* such as golf balls, baseballs, tee-balls or cricket balls. If children are practicing hitting balls then they should use softer balls such as tennis balls. The use of tennis balls will reduce the likelihood of damage or injury to anyone else using the park or footpaths.

Noise Issues

If anyone is experiencing noise problems with a neighbouring property there is nothing in our constitution or bylaws that allows the Committee to take any action. Your options are:

- if the noise is very loud ring the Police Assistance Centre, 13 14 44. Police will attend, but only when there are no complaints of a more serious nature waiting to be attended to.
- if the noise is consistently loud on a regular basis, ring the City of Gosnells. Local governments have sound level recording equipment they can install to determine the sound levels, frequency of sound, and whether the Noise Abatement Act has been breached.

Finally, keep well and keep cool in this current period of hot weather.

Trevor Davis, President, Crestwood Homeowners Association

A Unique Way of Life

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

(T = Telephone - F = Fax)

President	Trevor Davis	21 Princeton Ct/ trevor.davis@bigpond.com.au	T: 9459 3961/0458 707228.
Vice President	John Rushton	20 Coronet Ct / jonjanr@optusnet.com.au	T: 9493 6096/F: 9493 6596
Secretary	Sandra Wilson	105 Regency Dr/sandrawilson@inet.net.au	T: 9493 6622
Treasurer	Roy Malone	116 Regency Dr/ r.ma.malone@internode.on.net	T: 9459 4364/F: 9459 4364 Mobile: 0477 293 633
Aquatic Centre	Darren Colley	11 Regency Dr darrencolley@iprimus.com.au	Mobile: 0448 940 985
Parks & Reticulation	Mike Bernoulli	24 Hume Rd / mike@bernoulli.fi	Mobile: 0402 423 172
Aesthetics [the contact person for building approvals, fencing and tree removal]	John Rushton	20 Coronet Ct / jonjanr@optusnet.com.au	T: 9493 6096/F: 9493 6596

CRESTWOOD CONTACTS

Crestwood Web Page		crestwood.org.au	
Crestwood Email		crestwood@safe-mail.net	
Community Centre Hire	Marjan van Dijk	darrencolley@iprimus.com.au	T: 9459 8776
Social Club Coordinator	Vacant		
Crestwood News	Malcolm Mintz	24 Coronet Ct/crestwoodnews@iinet.net.au	T: 9459 2902/F: 9459 0119
Twenties Club	Vacant		
Playgroup	Saskia		Mobile: 0409 649 358
Webmaster	Rod Campbell	webmaster@crestwood.org.au	
Wildlife Carers	Evelyn or Louise	9459 1627 (Louise)	T: 9459 0612 (Evelyn)
Groundsperson	Richard Sangwin	Hours: 9am - 3pm	T: 9459 5782/F: 9452 3224
		Email contact: crestwoodpark@bigpond.com	Mobile: 0417 713 213
Pool	Office		T: 9459 5782/F: 9452 3224

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

City of Gosnells	www.gosnells.wa.gov.au	Office Hours	T: 9397 3000
Ranger	(After hours calls will be diverted to a pager service)	All Hours	T: 9397 3000
Graffiti Removal		All Hours	T: 9391 3222
Goodbye Graffiti Hotline		Contact Crimestoppers	T: 1800 333 000
Thornlie High School			T: 9376 2100
Canning Vale Police Station			T: 9456 9555
Life Threatening Emergencies			T: 000
Police Non-emergency			T: 131 444
Neighbourhood Watch			T: 9493 3311
Crimestoppers			T: 1800 333 000
Join e-WATCH	ewatch@gosnells.wa.gov.au		

Crestwood Committee Meetings

The committee meetings of the Crestwood Homeowners Association for 2013 have been set on the following dates. Crestwood residents are welcome to attend all or part of these meetings held at the Crestwood Hall. Visitors' business is always attended to first, so residents may leave whenever they wish. Meetings generally begin at 7:30pm. The **Special General Meeting** is **20 February** and the **Annual General Meeting** is **22 May**.

30 January 2013
25 February
25 March
29 April
27 May
24 June

29 July
26 August
23 September
28 October
25 November
16 December

WELCOME TO CRESTWOOD

Tyron & Penelope Hardy 8 Hume Road
 Tyson & Jamie Linthorne 5 Grenadier Drive
 Kevin & Erica Leahy 15 Grenadier Drive
 Ahmed Naqqash 25 Grenadier Drive
 Steven Ciesielski 85 Regency Drive

FAREWELL AND BEST WISHES

Jennifer Purdie 8 Hume Road
 Johan Boegheim 5 Grenadier Drive
 Debra Hodgkinson 15 Grenadier Drive
 Karl & Natalie Krivda-Jones 25 Grenadier Drive
 Andrew & Jacqueline Fox 85 Regency Drive

Recent correspondence from the Committee of the Crestwood Homeowners Association.

1. [A residence on Hume Road] Thank you for your application to build an extension to your patio and carport. You have included all the required documentation and the Committee is pleased to approve your application. We all hope your project goes well.

2. [A residence on Regency Drive] Thank you for the letter in which you request permission to remove and trim the trees in your garden. I have discussed your plans with Richard, the Crestwood Gardener, and we both agree that the work you propose to do is good garden maintenance.

The marri in the front garden has, in the past, been cut back very badly. It is also too close to the corner of your house and we agree that it should be removed. We also agree that you should remove the mostly dead, white flowering gum on the boundary, and also the one leaning at an angle across the garden.

Also, in the back garden, the bottlebrush and the white flowering gum that is hanging over into the park both require reshaping and should be pruned. The red flowering gum at the side of your courtyard should have the ivy removed and some branches overhanging your house also need removing. Richard also suggests that you remove the fig tree on the fence because these trees have a big wandering root system that will cause problems with drains.

3. [A residence on Coronet Court] Thank you for your application to erect a fence at the rear of your property on the boundary with Park 10.

The open tubular fencing and gate you propose is preferred by Crestwood. I confirm that you may erect your fence and gate as described in the specifications and plans, and we hope all goes well with the installation. If your contractor needs to enter the park with his vehicles, please make arrangements with Richard, the estate gardener, for access and payment of the bond.

John Rushton, Committee Member for Aesthetics

Aesthetics

As I type this, it seems ages since we've had a cloud in the sky, and rain is a phenomenon that is talked about in the past tense. You could say that this is the result of global warming or just a typical Perth summer. I don't really know. All I can say is that we have a wonderful oasis in our community pool, and it's great to see so many people using it.

This summer the pool has operated with very few incidents or problems. I am in regular contact with our attendants, and have only had to deal with minor technical issues. We have a new set of mats for those who like to drift about. Mind you, more often than not the kids seem to turn them into makeshift battle rafts! So much for an oasis.

VacSwim went well this year. The only disappointment was that we had one instructor less than is usual. That was because there were fewer enrolments during the period set for enrolments. Late enrolments had to be accommodated with the instructors that had already been assigned. If you want your children to do VacSwim next year please enrol them on time. Mind you, it's not just kids who take part in our swimming lessons. A great number of "mature Crestwoodians" take the opportunity each year to gain their Bronze Medallion. This year was no exception.

I encourage everybody to enjoy the pool for the remainder of the summer season.

Darren Colley, Committee Member for the Aquatic Centre

Pool

Over the past few months we have experienced some rather hot weather, nevertheless, it seems that the parks have held up reasonably well. In viewing aerial photographs, courtesy of Google Maps, it is evident that the parks are in better condition than in previous years.

With the very hot spells we have been having, quite a number of the gear drive sprinklers which water the parks have proven to be inadequate. Some are old and worn, and others have stopped working completely. Again, regular checks and the continuation of the upkeep of the irrigation system are proving to have pleasing results. We have experienced only a few main line ruptures, some electrical breaks and in the case of one bore, a drop in pressure.

While every effort is being made to keep the parks in optimal condition, there are some areas which can not be fixed by just replacing gear drive sprinklers. As reported previously by the current and previous gardeners, the original layout of the reticulation system has left much to be desired, in particular regarding the placement of sprinklers. This has led to the occurrence of dry areas beyond the reach of sprinklers placed too far apart, while others have been placed too close to trees causing dry areas to form in the rain shadow. However, some very simple, inexpensive and effective remedies have been recommended, and which the committee has approved. These measures will be implemented in the cooler months.

Recently cobwebs have been removed from the underpasses and around the hall. In addition to this, an insecticide barrier has been applied in the hope of combating spider infestations in the future.

You will have noticed that the two park benches which Crestwood had ordered have been installed in Parks 26 and 3. All the park and street signs have been re-laminated and installed, with an additional sign placed at the entrance to Princeton Court outlining where the Crestwood office is. Together with this, we have ordered four signs, two of them to announce to the residents and the public that weed spraying is being applied and two to let people know that there is reticulation testing underway. These signs are also being used for safety and to bring Crestwood into compliance with OHS (Occupational Health and Safety) rules and regulations.

Richard Sangwin, Crestwood Estate Gardener and Mike Bernoulli, Committee Member for Parks and Reticulation

Parks & Reticulation

INCIDENT REPORT

Incidents reported on the Crestwood Estate



where they are.

During the evening on Saturday 15 December a house in Thornlie Ave had the front door forced open allowing thieves to steal jewellery. The following night houses in Grenadier Drive and Southdown Place had two males try and break in. Fortunately they were scared off both times. They were only described as two males, both wearing

gloves.

During the day on Monday December 17 a house in Rushbrook Way was left unlocked, allowing thieves to walk in and steal electronic goods. The same day two males were disturbed breaking into a shed in Glyndebourne Way. Two people have been identified from forensic evidence and detectives are investigating the two, who are probably responsible for several burglaries in the area. Both males are described as being of Aboriginal descent, aged 16 to 20 years, 160 to 170 cm tall and wearing dark clothing.

During the early morning on Wednesday December 19 a house in Discovery Drive had the front door forced open by two youths who reached in and stole a handbag. Very shortly after a house in Explorer Drive had a flyscreen removed in an attempt to break in.

January 4 - January 17: Summary of criminal activity over a two-week period.

- ... 5 home burglaries by forcing the front or side doors.
- ... 2 homes burgled by forcing windows and vehicles stolen using keys found.
- ... Home burgled via open window and vehicle stolen using keys found.
- ... Home burgled via an unlocked window with burglars leaving via an unlocked door with property.
- ... Home burgled via an unlocked rear door.
- ... Attempted home burglary, fly wires torn but no access gained due to locks (who would have thought of it).
- ... Commercial burglary by forcing front door.
- ... 2 attempted commercial burglaries by forcing rear door.
- ... Home burgled via unlocked front door; the occupants of the home asleep inside. Offenders found a key for a vehicle and went to steal it but were disturbed by the rudely awoken residents. The youths fled on push bikes.

POLICE WATCH - Thornlie from eWatch

November 30- December 6: This week police charged a 14 year old and a 15 year old youth from Thornlie for a burglary offence at a house on Parkside Drive. This was due to the quick thinking of the owner of the premises who returned home to find her house burgled and noticed a push bike (not belonging to her) on the property. The youths returned to collect the bike by which time she had contacted the police. A number of police vehicles were deployed and the youths were found walking down the road with the stolen property in their hands. A great result.

There were also burglaries in Camelot Court, Peppermint Drive, Spencer Road., Jacqueline Drive and Clancy Way. In two of these burglaries the houses were unlocked. Please remember to lock your houses.

There were also two stealing offences which highlight the need to be aware of your surroundings. One occurred in the car park of the Forest Lakes Shopping Centre. A lady was putting her shopping into her car and left her hand bag on the child seat of the trolley. Whilst her back was turned the bag was stolen. The other occurred at a premise on O'Dell Street. The victim was bringing the shopping from her vehicle inside her house and left her bag on the front seat of her car. She was delayed inside momentarily and on her return, her bag had been stolen. Please ladies look after you handbags. Keep them on your person or make them the first thing that you take inside when you are unloading your shopping.

December 21 - December 27: Some of our prolific juvenile offenders are back out on the street. These particular people regularly use stolen motor bikes and scooters, and coincidentally enough (or not) we are recently getting more reports of off road motor cycle activity along the river from Huntingdale through to Cannington. If you are walking along the footpath, please take care and if these idiots go past you, please call police on 131 444 and let us know

E-Waste Recycling

What is e-waste?

E-waste is any broken, obsolete or unused electronic equipment, including personal computers, peripherals such as printers and keyboards, televisions and associated cabling.

These items contain significant amounts of valuable materials that can be recovered and recycled for reuse. They also contain several hazardous substances, such as arsenic in cathode ray tubes and cadmium in semiconductors, that can impact on human health and the environment.

Some 75% of toxic chemicals found in landfills can be attributed to electronic waste. When disposed of correctly, the majority of materials and toxic substances can be recovered and reprocessed for reuse and the remaining small portion, about 1% or 200 grams for every tonne, can be disposed of responsibly.

To prevent e-waste going to landfill, some local councils collect

it separately with the verge bulk waste collections. There are also an number of designated drop-off facilities where these items can be taken to be recycled.

What happens to the e-waste which is collected?

When e-waste is recovered for recycling, that materials are forwarded to markets both locally and overseas and used as raw materials in further recycling and manufacturing processes.

Where can I take e-waste?

Check with your local council to find out if e-waste is collected with your verge waste collection service. Alternatively, items may be taken to:

Armadale Landfill and Recycling Facility, Hopkins Road,
Brookdale, 8:00am to 4:45 pm seven days a week
Phone: 9399 0111 [Fees may apply]

For more information visit the Rivers Regional Council website: www.rrc.gov.au or the ZeroWaste WA website: www.zerowaste.com.au.

Committee Business:

Parks and Reticulation: Directional signs for Crestwood are being redone.

The bushland signs are also to be repainted.

Gardeners will clean up where necessary up to one metre from the path at the back of properties bordering the parks. Homeowners may be billed as this is their responsibility.

The bond required for vehicle access to the parks is to be increased to \$500 for homeowners and \$700 for contractors. This is to cover the cost of any damage to the parks. The bond will be returned after the relevant work has been completed.

Pool: The paperwork and key has been organised for the early morning swimming group. Daren is to follow up on the security camera installation.

The new flotation mats have arrived and new signs prepared for the toilets.

The pool was closed on Saturday evening due to the storm at the request of the President, Trevor Davis. The staff at the pool are to be informed of the need to close the pool when a storm is imminent.

The large inflatables which have in the past been supplied by the YMCA are not available through Belgravia Leisure, and the smaller ones to which they do have access are not suitable for Crestwood. There will therefore be no "inflatable" days at the pool.

Aesthetics: Two seats are to be purchased from Landmark, one to go near the bushland (Park 24), facing towards Oven's Road, and the other in Park 3, under the large flame tree. Both are to be placed in a mulched area and anchored directly into concrete under the ground. Sandra will place the order and ask Rich to liaise with the supplier regarding installation.

Finance: Letters from HFM Legal have gone out to homeowners still owing fees. Further follow-up (the issuing of a summons) is possible if no relevant action is taken.

Regarding the insurance claim for damaged trees, a copy of the police report is not available. Photos will be required.

Roy is to find out the pay rates for City of Gosnells gardening staff in preparation for a salary review for the Crestwood gardener, Rich, which is due in December.

Social: Christmas Carols at Crestwood is to be organised by George Putland and his group from the Thornlie Church of Christ.

Sausage sizzles organised by Shannon Harbron for fundraising will be allowed at the pool. Only one barbecue is to be used each time.

General Business: A request to hire the Crestwood Hall for New Years Eve has been declined. The numbers involved were too great for the venue.

Keith is to do some maintenance at the Hall, particularly to the toilets.

Problems with noisy neighbours have to be dealt with directly. This is not an issue for the Committee.

December 2012 [No Meeting]**January 2013****Committee Business:**

Parks and Reticulation: A line break in the reticulation system has yet to be completely fixed. Many of the geared sprinklers have been replaced with others to be replaced only as necessary.

The mowing schedule is to remain as it is with shorter cuts during the hottest months and over the Christmas/New Year period as required. Vertidrilling is not to be done this year as it is too expensive. The contract for mowing is to continue with the current contractor.

Rich has suggested the planting of trees in the dry areas of the lawn. These dry patches are formed when the water from sprinklers is blocked by existing trees. Some of the park lights are deteriorating and need replacement glass and fittings.

Michael Mabey is to be offered permanent part-time employment.

Pool: The issue with the toddler pool has been sorted with the City of Gosnells informed of the action taken. VacSwim went well.

Temporary maintenance has been done on the internal pool gates. A complete fix or replacement is to be made at the end of the season.

People have been coming into the pool with glass. A visitor to the meeting suggested signage is required at the entry gate. Also mentioned was the issue of smoking at the pool. This may need to be addressed at some time in the future.

Finance: Budget estimations have been made to the end of the year with a loss predicted. Information is ready to go out to homeowners regarding fees for the next financial year. HFM Legal will be asked to send out summons to non fee paying homeowners.

Rich is to seek quotes for new bins. No allowance has been made in the budget for this.

A visitor to the meeting suggested opening a trade account with Bunnings. Such an account will provide Crestwood with a discount on purchases.

Social: A letter of thanks and a donation to cover costs is to be sent to the Thornlie Church of Christ music group in appreciation of their performance at Crestwood's Carols in the Park.





VacSwim is a swimming program run by the WA Department of Education. Beginning in 1919 when just 248 children were taught at three venues, it has since grown to 55,000 children who now participate yearly at over 200 venues. The Crestwood pool had been one of the venues where VacSwim has been taught for over 20 years.



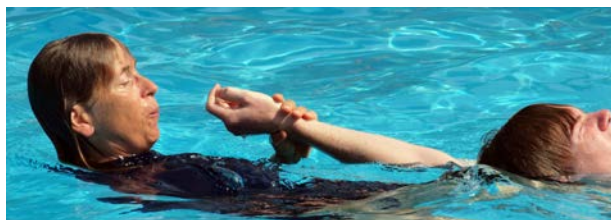
At Crestwood, VacSwim sessions run over two weeks in January. There are five sessions a week. For the regular swimming stages, 1-14, each session lasts for 35 minutes and for the Bronze Star (Stage 15) and Bronze Medallion (Stage 16) a session is 1.5 hours long. The first session begins at 8:00 am and the last session ends at 11:45 am. The cost per participant is \$10.00 for the regular swimming stages and an additional \$17.50 for the Bronze Star and Bronze Medallion.



Completion of the Bronze Medallion confers on the participant the minimum standard for a qualified lifesaver recognised by the Royal Life Saving Society of WA. Parents who take their children swimming will find this course useful. If you have even wondered what you would do if your child got into trouble in the water, this course equips you with the knowledge and practical skills to rescue someone who is drowning and apply first aid and CPR. At Crestwood, the Bronze Medallion has been popular with teenagers as well as adults. This year there were seven adults and six teenagers who had lots of fun, particularly when acting out rescue scenarios. The Bronze Medallion certificate is valid for one year.

In past years three VacSwim instructors were assigned to the Crestwood pool. This year there were only two, leading to more crowded classes. The reason for this is the larger than usual number of late enrolments. Crestwood residents are encouraged to enrol themselves or their children as early as possible so there is enough time for the Department of Education to allot sufficient numbers of teachers.

Text by the Editor



Crestwood Hall Hire

SOCIAL

NOTICES

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 are 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 made by homeowners and **\$500** to those bookings made by tenants. A minimum cleaning charge of **\$150** will be taken from the bond if the hall is not cleaned to a satisfactory standard.

Hall hire does not include access to the pool area. For children's parties there is a minimum adult supervision requirement.
To book or obtain further information call Marjan: 9459 8776

CRESTWOOD MOTHER'S GROUP / PLAYGROUP

New members and their friends are always welcome. — 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 Saskia on 0409 649 358

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.

UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEWS

Park Lighting

Residents who notice a problem with any of our park lights should contact our gardener, Rich (0417 713 213), and let him know. Each light can be identified by the number which is painted on the pole. This is the only way the gardener will know there is a problem as he is not here when it is dark.

Even on Private Property Native Trees Are Protected

Residents should seek permission from the Committee before arranging to have native trees on their property pruned or removed. Homeowners agreed to this when purchasing their properties at Crestwood. Native trees include the gums (Eucalyptus, Corymbia), paperbarks (Melaleuca), the WA Christmas tree (Nuytsia Floribunda) and the WA peppermint (Agonis flexuosa).

One of the striking things about the Crestwood Estate is its mature trees and residents should do their best to preserve this natural heritage.

Please contact the committee member for aesthetics, John Rushton, before proceeding with any planned work.

Special General Meeting

**Wednesday, 20 February 2013,
7:30 at the Crestwood Hall**

This is the annual meeting where the budget for the coming financial year is set. A quorum of 30% of households is required (89 member households either present or by proxy). Try your best to be there as your attendance is important.

Playing Hardball Crestwood Parks and Public Reserves

Using hard balls such as golf balls, baseballs, teeballs or cricket balls when playing games or practising in Crestwood parks is not allowed. If children are practicing hitting balls, they should use softer balls such tennis balls. (see president's report p. 1).

Vale

Crestwood residents were saddened to hear of the death of Ken Williamson of Regency Drive who passed away unexpectedly in January. The community would like to convey its deepest sympathy to his wife Jill, his children Peter, Mandy and Scott, his grandchildren and great grandchild.



It was just after 5:00 when the ringing of the bell signalled the start of Santa's journey through the Crestwood parks. Crowded into the dicky-seat of the 1930s Chevrolet were the four elves for 2012, Isabel and Kate Colley, Rachel Sullivan and Louisa Morris. Driving was Graeme Bell and beside him was Trevor Davis, Crestwood's president, appearing that afternoon as Santa Claus.



At 5:30 Santa's modern sleigh pulled up next to the tree that stood surrounded by decorated bags overflowing with gifts for the children. One by one Santa chose gifts at random from the bags, read out the name written on the side and then had it delivered by one of the elves. There were many young recipients this year, some carried in their mother's arms, to receive what was certainly their very first Christmas gift.

While the excitement of Santa, the gifts and the children was taking place in one area of the park, in another section the marquee, tables and barbecue for the sausage sizzle were being set up. As was the case last year, the \$3.00 sausages and \$1.00 drinks were being sold to raise money for the Spring Buds Orphanage in India, one of the charity projects of the Thornlie Church of



Christ. By the end of the evening, the group had managed to raise \$ 1183 which will go toward building new classrooms for the orphanage.





Thank you to George Putland who was Crestwood's main contact person in organising the carols this year and in the past. Also to Baden Pitts who was in charge of the technical side of evening, setting up and packing away the lighting and sound system, and Simone Stuart for organising and leading the carollers.

The area of the park behind the swimming pool began to fill early with people. Those with young children expecting a gift from Santa Claus came first, followed by those who brought their picnic dinner and those intending to partake of what was on offer at the sausage sizzle. Lastly came those to hear the Christmas carols and by 7:00 there was a crowd estimated at 350 people, well up on the surprisingly small number who attended last year.

As in past years, the Thornlie Church of Christ came to sing for us. There were seven carollers led by Simone Stuart and nine in the band: one acoustic and two electric guitars, two percussion sets and one keyboard. The carols were presented with traditional rhythms and tempos beginning with *Angels We have Heard on High*, *Oh Came All Ye Faithful* and *Hark the Herald Angles Sing*. After two more carols, *The First Noel* and *Jingle Bells*, Holy the Bear made an appearance and all of the children in the audience were invited to come up and sing with him. After a few hints of shyness were quickly put aside, the children joined the choirmaster in singing *Away in the Manger* to the delight of their parents. Even Holy the Bear appeared quite impressed, although this was a little hard to determine through his somewhat stoic expression.



Following *We Three Kings* and an upbeat version of *Silent Night*, Crestwood residents were again invited to present their version of the *Twelve Days of Christmas* renamed, the *Twelve Days of Crestwood*. This is a traditional Crestwood presentation, but with no more than 5 minutes preparation time, and singers volunteering, often under mild duress, just before going on stage, quality has often been unpredictable. Marjan van Dijk, as she did last year, was able to produce a jolly and entertaining version of the song for the residents who are never quite sure what the result will be.



After a heartfelt version of *Oh Holy Night*, Senior Pastor Rob Furlong, gave a short sermon on the relevance of belief in what are admittedly troubled times for the world. The carol, *Joy to the World*, ended the evening and when it finished residents gradually closed up their chairs, folded their blankets or rolled up their mats, gathered up children, the younger ones already changed into their pyjamas, and headed off for home.

Chicken Surprise

A couple go to a Chinese restaurant and order "Chicken Surprise". The waiter brings the dish served in a lidded, cast-iron pot. Just as the wife is about to serve herself, the lid of the pot rises slightly and she briefly sees two beady eyes looking around before the lid slams back down.

"Good grief. Did you see that?" she asks her husband. He hasn't. So she asks him to look in the pot. He reaches for it and again the lid rises and two beady eyes look around before the lid slams back down.

Rather perturbed, he calls the waiter over, tells him what is happening and demands an explanation. "Please, sir," asks the waiter, "What did you order?"

The husband replies, "Chicken Surprise." "So sorry," says the waiter. "I bring you Peking Duck."

I'm Fine

A farmer named Paddy had a car accident. He was hit by a truck owned by the Eversweet Company. In court, the Eversweet Company's hot-shot solicitor was questioning Paddy.

"Didn't you say to the police at the scene of the accident, 'I'm fine?'" asked the solicitor. Paddy responded, "Well, I'll tell you what happened. I'd just loaded my favourite cow, Bessie, into the ..."

"I didn't ask for any details," the solicitor interrupted. "Just answer the question. Did you not say, at the scene of the accident, 'I'm fine?'"

Paddy continued, "well, I'd just got Bessie into that trailer and I was driving down the road ..." The solicitor interrupted again and said, "Your honour, I am trying to establish the fact that, at the scene of the accident, this man told the police that he was fine. Now several weeks after the accident, he is trying to sue my client. I believe he is a fraud. Please tell him to simply answer the question."

By this time, the judge was fairly interested in Paddy's answer and said to the solicitor, "I'd like to hear what he has to say about his favourite cow, Bessie."

Paddy thanked the judge and proceeded. "Well, as I was saying, I had just loaded Bessie, my favourite cow, into the trailer and was driving her down the road when this huge Eversweet truck and trailer came thundering through a stop sign and hit my trailer right on the side. I was thrown into one ditch and Bessie was thrown into the other. I was hurt very bad and didn't want to move. However, I could hear old Bessie moaning and groaning. I knew she was in terrible pain just by her groans."

"Shortly after the accident, a policeman turns up on a motorbike. He could hear Bessie moaning and groaning, too, so he went over to her. After he looked at her and saw her condition, He took out his gun and shot her between the eyes. "

"Then the policeman came across the road, gun still in hand, looked at me and said, "And how are you feeling?"

"Now I ask you, your honour, what would you say?"

The Mechanic and the Cardiologist

A mechanic was refitting a cylinder head on the motor of a BMW M3 when he spotted a regular customer, who was a successful cardiologist, in service reception area. The cardiologist was waiting to see the service manager when the mechanic shouted to him, "Hey doc, come and have a look at this."

Intrigued the cardiologist walked over to where the mechanic was working. The mechanic straightened up, wiped his hands on a rag and said, "So doc, look at this engine. I opened its heart, took out the valves, repaired or replaced anything damaged and then put everything back in. When I finished, it worked like new. So how is it that I earn \$45,000 a year and you make \$400,000 when we are basically doing the same work?"

The cardiologist paused, leaned over, and the whispered to the mechanic, "Try doing it with the engine running."

Wisdom of the Pawnbroker

King Ozymandius was running low on cash after years of battle with the Hittites. His last great possession was the Star of the Euphrates, the most valuable diamond in the ancient world. Desperate he went to Croesus, the pawnbroker, to ask for a loan.

"I'll give you 100,000 dinars for it," Croesus said. "But I paid a million dinars for it," the king protested. "Don't you know who I am? I am the king."

Croesus replied, "When you wish to pawn a star, makes no difference who you are."

The Last Rites

Father O'Malley rose from his bed one morning. It was a fine Spring morning in his new, west Texas mission parish. He walked to his bedroom window to get a deep breath of the beautiful fresh air outside. He then noticed that there was a jackass lying dead in the middle of his front lawn. He promptly called the local police station. The conversation went something like this:

"Good morning. This is Sergeant Jones. How may I help you?"

"And the best of the day to yerself. This is Father O'Malley at St. Ann's Catholic church. There's a jackass lying dead in me front lawn and would you be so kind as to send a couple of yer lads to take care of the matter?"

Sergeant Jones, considering himself a bit of a wit and recognising the foreign accent, thought it would be good to have a bit of fun with the good father. He said, "Well now, father, it was always my impression that you people took care of the last rites."

There was dead silence on the line for a moment. Father O'Malley then replied, "Aye, tis certainly true, but we are also obliged to notify the next of kin first, which is the reason for my call."

Bureaucracy

Tribal wisdom has it that "When you discover you are riding a dead horse, the best strategy is to dismount". In government, however, more advanced strategies are often employed, such as:

1. Buying a stronger whip.
2. Changing riders.
3. Appointing a committee to study the horse.
4. Arranging to visit foreign countries to see how other cultures ride dead horses.
5. Lowering the standards so that dead horses can be included.
6. Reclassifying the horse as living impaired.
7. Hiring outside contractors to ride the dead horse.
8. Harnessing dead horses together to increase speed.
9. Providing additional funding or training to increase the dead horse's performance.
10. Doing a productivity study to determine if lighter riders would improve the dead horse's performance.
11. Declaring that since the dead horse does not have to be fed, it is therefore less costly, carries lower overheads, and contributes substantially more to the bottom line of the economy than do some other horses.
12. Rewriting expected performance requirements for all horses.
13. Promoting the dead horse to a supervisory position.

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Call or email the editor to add or remove details: 9459 2902 / crestwoodnews@iinet.net.au

Don Russell Performing Arts Centre

The Don Russell Performing Arts Centre is a professional theatre located next to the Forest Lakes Shopping Centre on Murdoch Road in Thornlie. A number of professional shows are presented throughout their season.

The centre is currently undergoing renovation and will reopen at the end of March. An Open Day will be held from 11:00 am until 1:00 pm on 24 March 2013.

The Morning Melodies program will recommence on 27 March. Morning tea is served at 10:15 am and performances start at 11:00 am.

For more information and booking you can go to the Gosnells website, www.gosnells.wa.gov.au, you can call 9493 4577 between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, or you can visit the box office between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday to Friday.

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AGE BY CHOCOLATE

Don't tell me your age. We can work it out by seeing how much you like chocolate!

1. First of all, pick the number of times a week you would like to have chocolate (more than once, but less than 10).
2. Multiply this number by 2.
3. Add 5.
4. Multiply it by 50.
5. If you have already had your birthday this year, add 1762. If you haven't, add 1761.
6. Now subtract the four digit year you were born.
7. You now have a three digit number.
8. Add 1.

The first digit is your original number, that is, the number of times a week you would like to have chocolate.



The next two numbers are **your age!**

ADVERTISING RATES

½ page: 1 issue \$ 40; 3 issues \$ 100
¼ page: 1 issue \$ 20; 3 issues \$ 50
⅛ page: 3 issues \$ 25

The *Crestwood News* is a 12 page newsletter published bi-monthly. It is distributed free to the 295 households on the Crestwood Estate in Thornlie. An additional 30 copies go out to owners who let their properties and do not live on the estate.

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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