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CRESTWOOD NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE CRESTWOOD HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION

ISSUE NO. 55

JULY - AUGUST 2011

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Crestwood Homeowners Fees

Option B Payment due

30 September 2011 (See p. 6)

NEXT ISSUE

Deadline for the next **Crestwood News** is **7 October 2011**. 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

Sunday Reticulation Tests Reduced Compromise Being Sought

With winter well and truly here, along with plenty of rain compared to the past few years, I trust that most of you have avoided catching a cold or the flu.

Speaking about "catching", several of our residents in Grenadier Drive were caught with their reticulation on one Sunday morning recently by a Water Corporation inspector. Fortunately they were only issued with cautions. I was contacted about it and have since been in touch with the Department of Water.

I wrote to them briefly explaining about the Crestwood Estate, advising that we had a ground water licence for the provision of water to all 295 homes and parks on the estate. I explained that in accord with the approved government policy we run the reticulation system during winter to maintain the system and in doing so had experienced far less mainline and valve breakdowns during the reticulation season.

The Department of Water has since written back indicating that they consider that a two minute time frame each week is adequate to maintain a reticulation system. So in their opinion our present seven minute fortnightly watering is excessive, unless we obtained a written report from a reticulation specialist that supported our present seven minute watering.

Grant contacted Total Eden, who do the major reticulation work for us, and inquired whether they could provide a report justifying our present seven minute watering maintenance program. Total Eden advised that it was not possible and that we should just comply with the Water Corporation/Department of Water advice of two minutes.

I will be writing to the Department of Water in the next day or so seeking a compromise on the basis of water only being delivered once a fortnight to each house with half of the estate watered one Sunday and the other half the following Sunday. However, you will almost certainly notice a reduction in time the water is on for your Sunday tests. Importantly, if you check the sprinklers on your property you are likely to only have five minutes to do so in the future, if they accept my compromise.

To conclude, I would like to thank Darren Colley for taking on the pool committee position. He has been working closely with Belgravia Leisure to have maintenance work done at the pool before it opens. In addition, as you will see in this newsletter, he is organising the entry passes to the pool. I am not certain I would have been as well organised as he is about the pool had I still been doing the job..

Keep well. Warmer days should be with us in a few weeks.

Trevor Davis, President, Crestwood Home Owners 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/F: 9452 2857
Treasurer	Roy Malone	116 Regency Dr/ r.ma.malone@internode.on.net	T: 9459 4364/F: 9459 4364
Aquatic Centre	Darren Colley	11 Regency Dr darrencolley@iprimus.com.au	T: 0448 940 985
Parks & Reticulation [also the contact person for tree removal]	Mike Bernoulli	26 Hume Rd / mike@bernoulli.fi	0402 423 172
Aesthetics [also the contact person for building approvals and fencing]	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	Margaret Davies	19 Regency Dr	T: 9459 4115
Playgroup	Ros Norman		T: 9493 2597
Webmaster	Rod Campbell	webmaster@crestwood.org.au	
Wildlife Carers	Evelyn or Louise	9459 1627 (Louise)	T: 9459 0612 (Evelyn)
Groundsperson	Grant Douglas	Hours: 9am - 3pm / Mobile: 0417 713 213 Email contact: crestwoodpark@bigpond.com	T: 9459 5782/F: 9452 3224
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			T: 1800 442 255
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

Committee meetings of the Crestwood Homeowners Association for 2011 have been set on the following dates. Check the contents page of the latest issue of the *Crestwood News* for any changes. 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.

24 January 2011
28 February
28 March
18 April
23 May
27 June

25 July
29 August
26 September
24 October
28 November
19 December

FAREWELL AND BEST WISHES

Mrs. Gerke, 24 Hume Road

Aesthetics

1. [A residence on Regency Drive] Thank you for your telephone inquiry to prune and remove trees from your garden. At the Committee meeting of 24 May we discussed your request. As I am sure you know we are reluctant to lose mature trees from the estate, but if they are a threat to safety or causing structural damage we will agree to their removal.

It was recommended at the meeting that you contact Ashley from T & A Tree Service. They do all the tree lopping and pruning for the estate and they are a professional, competent company who are familiar with all the Crestwood requirements. If you prefer to use an alternative company, the Committee will require a detailed description of the work proposed for approval before commencement.

As I suggested on the telephone, if you contact Grant Douglas, the Crestwood gardener, he will be able to advise you and give you the contact details of T & A Tree Service. If I can be of any further assistance you can contact me on 9493 6096 or 0419 961 713

2. [A residence on Regency Drive] Thank you for your application to erect a fence on your rear boundary with Park 12. I agree that it is safe to assume that the rear fences of your two neighbours would be on the boundary line, and if you position your fence on the same line parallel to the concrete path, it should also be on the property boundary.

The 1.2m high, powder coated, tubular, pool type fence specified complies with the Crestwood Fencing Policy, maintaining an open view into the garden. The Committee thanks you for your compliance and confirms approval of your application .

3. [A residence on Hume Road] Thank you for your letter requesting the Crestwood committee's approval to remove a large gum tree from your front garden. I have scanned and emailed your letter to all the committee members and received no negative responses. Your request, therefore, is approved.

It is Crestwood policy for the parks that whenever a tree is removed one or two replacement trees are planted. Because the tree you are removing is the only tree in your front garden the committee requests that you plant one or two trees as a replacement, preferably native and garden friendly.

John Rushton, Committee Member for Aesthetics

The position of committee person for the pool has been vacant for sometime now. In light of that, I have stepped into the breach, although if you were at the AGM it was more like "tossed into it" by my dear wife. Having absolutely no previous experience in this sort of thing I am currently learning a great deal about swimming pools and the issues involved in their management. Fortunately, Winter is generally a quiet time.

Pool

This year, together with Belgravia, we are looking at some repair and maintenance issues that have come to the fore. In particular, the tiles and bull nosing (lip of the pool wall) will need to be repaired. The committee is currently considering quotes for this work. We are also looking at getting the heater for the toddlers pool replaced. It's been on its last legs for sometime.

This year's season opening date is planned for October 22. A busy bee will be held on Sunday, October 16 at 2:00 pm to get the pool sorted. If you can attend it will be greatly appreciated.

Included with the newsletter you will find this year's pool pass application forms. Please read it carefully and complete it as directed. The schedule for the season with opening times is also included.

Vacswim will be held as usual. At the time of writing the Department of Education was still formulating the enrolment procedure. Enrolment booklets, however, are generally made available through the schools and online enrolment is possible after August 1 at the following website. www.det.wa.edu.au/curriculumsupport/swimming.

Please note: it is not possible to enrol at the pool on the first day of lessons. Enrolments close Wednesday, November 9.

If there are any questions or problems please call me on 0448940985.

Darren Colley, Committee Member for the Aquatic Centre.

With the reticulation program coming to an end, there has been time to concentrate on the parks and gardens. Several trees and dozens of native shrubs have been planted. The parks were sprayed for winter weeds in June. They have also been sprayed for bindii and clover and this will take up to six weeks to take full effect.

Parks & Reticulation

The gates at Parks 14 and 20 have been rehung on new posts as the old posts were rusted and collapsing. A plate has been placed at the headworks of Bore 3 to replace the temporary measure which was taken over the Summer to keep the bore from tripping out due to a lowered water table. This year at Crestwood we have recorded over 300 ml of rain in the gauge with hopefully more to come.

We have also had the company of a work experience student from Murdoch TAFE who is studying horticulture.

Grant Douglas, Crestwood Estate Gardener

INCIDENT REPORT

Incidents reported on the Crestwood Estate

No incidents were reported to the Crestwood News.



Gleenbrook Rd, Kellar Way, Spring Rd (6 July)

Break-ins Northwood Loop, Explorer Dr, Regal Dr, Brunswick Rd; motor vehicle theft Explorer Dr, Forest Lakes Dr (19 July)

POLICE WATCH - Thornlie

from the *Comment News*

Break-ins Forest Lakes Dr, Murdoch Rd, Hargrave Dr, Kidman Ct, Yale Rd (2), Warton Rd; motor vehicle theft Hargrave Dr, Kidman Ct, Warton Rd (14 June)

Break-ins Southdown Pl (21 June)

Break-ins Glenbrook Rd (2), Ilford Pl, Kellar Way, Knightsbridge Way, Nyandi Ct, Rosea Ct, Spring Rd, Kellar Way; vehicle theft

Safety Tips for Seniors

Crime will always be with us. Fortunately, however, seniors still represent only a very small percentage of crime victims. You, your neighbours, the community and the police together can help to prevent and reduce crime. It takes only a little effort to make a criminal's life more difficult.

At Home

Know your neighbours

Good neighbours can help to create happier, healthier and safer communities, so ask yourself:

- Would I go to my neighbour for help?
- Would they come to me if they needed help?
- Would they be happier knowing they had a friend living close by to talk to, or even to enjoy social activities with?

Knowing your neighbours is not only about doing a good deed for someone else. Good neighbours support each other, look out for each other and even socialise with each other.

Remember, building a better neighbourhood takes more than just one day

- If you're not in the habit of talking to a relative, friend or neighbour each day, you could arrange to give them a daily signal so they are assured of your wellbeing, particularly if you are concerned about your health or safety. For example, you could open a certain blind or curtain each morning when you get up.
- You could also use the telephone as a way of signalling. One idea is to call a neighbour at the same time each day, let the telephone ring three times and then hang up.
- Take the time to knock on a neighbour's door and say 'hello'.
- Be welcoming — if someone new moves into the neighbourhood, make that first move to welcome them and make them feel included.
- Organise a get-together. Inviting your neighbours to your house for an afternoon tea or BBQ could be the start of a regular social network. Find out your neighbour's favourite activities and hobbies.
- Offer your services — would your neighbour like a little assistance in the garden, some help with the weekly shopping, or even someone to keep an eye on the house while they are away?
- Organise a Neighbourhood Watch scheme or join an existing one. This helps to foster unity and a sense of safety.
- Exchange phone numbers with your neighbours and record them on the list you keep of important contact numbers.
- A simple 'hello' or occasional cup of tea could make a huge difference to a neighbour's life — and yours.

How to deal safely with visitors

Don't open the door to anyone you don't know and trust, no matter what story they tell. It's your home and it's your right to decide who you let in.

- If someone wants to use your phone for an emergency call, get them to write the number down and pass it under the closed door and call the number yourself.
- Always ask to see identification. Western Power, the Water Authority and other companies all carry identity cards. Ask to see the card and take time to look at it carefully before letting them in. If you are still unsure, don't let them in. Telephone their company to confirm their identity and purpose.

Regular visitors

If you have regular visitors from organisations such as Silver Chain, Meals on Wheels, etc:

- Store the contact numbers of organisations that regularly visit you with your important contact numbers so that when someone new visits, you can check whether the visitor is genuine.
- Don't leave your door unlocked if you are expecting a visitor. Anyone could walk in.

Unexpected visitors

Sometimes you will have unexpected visitors. Some of these are genuine, but others may wish to take advantage of you. Always remember:

- Don't be talked into anything you're uncertain about. Remember, it's a lot easier to say, 'No', than to call for help.
- Be bold. Question their identity. If they are not genuine, they will most likely run away. If they are genuine, they will respect your caution.
- Be careful when giving money to door-to-door charity collectors. Ask to see their official identification and take the time to assure yourself it is genuine.
- While you can normally trust your usual delivery people such as the postie, don't buy from door-to-door salespeople you don't know.
- The Department of Consumer and Employment Protection advises there is a ten day cooling-off period for contracts entered into with door-to-door salespeople.
- Beware of cheap home improvement offers, miracle cures and work at home schemes that require you to buy equipment or outlay money.
- Remember con artists can be males or females of any age. They may work on their own or in pairs.

*Taken from the pamphlet **Safety Advice for Seniors**, Office of Crime Prevention, Department for Communities and the WA Police Department*

May 2011

FROM THE MINUTES

REPORTS

Committee Business:

Parks and Reticulation: All reticulation controller boxes which were vandalised at the end of the summer have now been repaired. A total sprinkler ban will be in place from 1 June and this will be complied with. Permission has been given for our fortnightly Sunday morning tests.

A turf corer will be used in the park areas where required, along with the application of fertiliser and wetting agent.

Repairs to the footpaths have now begun and quotes are being sought for the painting of the entry and exit points to the underpasses. Park lights now come on at 6:00pm and the question of street signs on Hume Rd is ongoing.

Our part-time gardener, Delvin, is being encouraged to obtain a WA drivers licence.

Pool: The end of season busy-bee went well. A thank you to all who helped. Looking forward to next season, VacSwim has requested permission to conduct swimming classes during January 2012.

Work on tiling of the areas around the pool needing attention is yet to be started. Leaks have also been noticed in the heating system for the toddler pool and this problem will have to be investigated and corrected. Belgravia has also been asked to assess the pool filter. Current opinion is that a new filter may not be required, but the source of air leaks will have to be found and sealed.

No nomination has yet been received for the vacant position of Pool Committee member.

Aesthetics: The issue of the leaning wall at the back of Cavalier Court is still being pursued with the City of Gosnells. John is to approach the Council to find out what further action they anticipate taking regarding repair or replacement.

Requests to remove native trees will be granted only with the written appraisal regarding their inherent danger or potential for damage to building structures, and this will have to be carried by a suitably qualified person.

The patio being constructed on Regency Drive does not appear to be conform to the original plans submitted to the Committee. John is to visit the homeowner.

Social: The Crestwood 20s Club lunch went off successfully on the same day as the swimming pool busy bee.

General Business: The list of resident trades and services at the back of the Crestwood News should only contain the names of current homeowners. Malcolm is to be notified of those that should be removed.

June 2011

Committee Business:

Parks and Reticulation: Problems with Bore 3 have now been solved. Mowing of the park lawns will now be done every three weeks and spraying will commence shortly.

The property audit has been undertaken and a list of problem areas noted. Mike and John will determine which property owners will receive letters requesting repair or maintenance work to be carried out. Trevor is to follow up on issues relating to the old public access way at Cavalier Court and the road access to Coronet Court.

Quotes are still being sought for painting the ends of the underpasses and the question of street signs on Hume Road is ongoing.

The anniversary of Grant's employment comes up in August. Delvin's probationary period is also up and the estate is happy with his work. He needs to have a WA drivers licence for him to become a permanent part-time employee. We have received a request for a TAFE student to do placement work with the Crestwood gardener. We need to check with Grant that he is happy to supervise and do the attendant paperwork.

Pool: Thanks to Darren Colley for agreeing to take on the position of Pool Committee member. He is to be given full contact information for Belgravia Leisure. Pool pass information is to be prepared for distribution with the next newsletter.

Dan Barber needs to be contacted regarding organisation of the tiling work and repair or replacement of the toddler pool heating system. The old vacuum seems to be the source of the gurgling issue in the filter. A hook is also missing from the toddler pool net.

Aesthetics: The patio on Regency Drive has been approved by the City Council. The City of Gosnells has advised that it may take some time before any action is taken regarding the leaning wall at the back of Cavalier Court.

Cars parked on the road verge for long periods of time can be unsightly. A check will be made to see what the Council policy is.

Social: The REmida workshop was a success although most participants were people who Marjan had personally invited to attend. An approach will be made to George about organising the traditional Carols in the Park.

Visitors Business: There were three visitors to the meeting. The main concern of one of them was the pool area, particularly the ducks which were making a mess around the pool. He suggested Scat to deter the ducks from this area. Another suggestion was using shade cloth placed over the gutters to keep them clear. He was willing to carry this task out himself with the purchase of the necessary materials.

A second visitor focused on the parks area of the estate, making a number of suggestions, and the third on the difficulty of getting younger families to organise and participate in Crestwood events.



Court and Tribunal Services Need a JP?

If you need to find a Justice of the Peace in Thornlie or in any other area, or you would like to find the location of a document witnessing centre, you will find the following website useful:

http://www.courts.dotag.wa.gov.au/_apps/jps/default.aspx

If you do not have access to the internet, you can ring an automated answering service on 1300 657 788 which can provide you with relevant information.

Crestwood Needs Your Help Opportunities for Involvement

The Crestwood Management Committee would like to give homeowners the opportunity to become involved in a couple of projects that we believe will enhance our surroundings and make life for our gardeners and visiting contractors a little easier.

We would like to have the grey concrete ends of each underpass painted and lot numbers placed on paths at the rear of each residence. The specific tasks we have in mind are:

- Obtain four quotes for the painting, in either grey or green, of the underpass ends (5 x 2) from licensed painting contractors and forward these quotes to the Committee
- Spray paint lot numbers, using stencils, on paths at the rear of each property. This task could be undertaken over a period of time.

If you would like to be involved by volunteering for one of these tasks, please contact one of the current committee members.

Eco Walks and Talks 2011

Experience nature at its best with our guided walks:

Sunday, 14 August:

- ... Nature Ramble at Ellis Brook Valley, 9:00 am - 11:30 am
- ... Cockatoo Chat at Mary Carroll Park, 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Saturday, 17 September:

- ... Flora Walk at Brixton Street Wetlands, 9:00 am - 11:00 am

Sunday, 18 September:

- ... Nature Ramble at Ellis Brook Valley, 9:00 am - 11:30 am

2011 – 2012 Crestwood Homeowners fees

Under **Option B**, the **2nd instalment** of \$407.00 is payable by **30th September 2011**. The final payment of \$406.00 is due on 31st December.

You can pay your fees to our Treasurer, Roy Malone, 116 Regency Dr. If you have any queries, contact Roy at his home on 9459 4364 after 7pm.

Love in a Shoebox

It's time again to start thinking about what you might like to place in your Christmas shoebox.

There is still time to pick up bargains that make the small items you might wish to donate even cheaper. Contact Chris Wynen, 9459 8381, for more information.

NOTICES

PERSONAL



The Crestwood community extends its sincerest condolences to Sandra Morton and family of Regency Drive on the passing of Sandra's mother.



CITY OF GOSNELLS

Ghost Walks

Do you believe in ghosts? The Ghost Walks are back. Meet friendly ghosts on a 5.5 km moonlit walk from Victoria Dam to Bickley Reservoir and explore the history of the Mason and Bird Timber Mill Company.

Walks on:

- ... 14 October 2011, starting at 7:00 pm
- ... 18 November 2011, starting at 7:15 pm
- ... 10 February 2012, starting at 7:30 pm
- ... 9 March 2012, starting at 7:45 pm

Meet in the Hardinge Park picnic area, Hardinge Road, Orange Grove. Suitable for moderately fit participants and families.

Please bring water, a torch, sturdy shoes, warm jacket and rain gear if necessary. No alcohol is permitted.

Adults: \$16.00 / Children \$10.00 / Family (2 adults & 2 kids) \$42.00 — Souvenir and supper included.

Bookings essential: Call Leisure Services on 9397 3111.

Crestwood Hall Hire

NOTICES

SOCIAL

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



ZUMBA®
FITNESS

PARTY YOURSELF INTO SHAPE

The Latin-inspired, easy to follow, calorie burning dance-fitness party is now at Crestwood.

CRESTWOOD HALL
Wednesdays 6:30 pm

For more information
phone Lisa 0450 957 025

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.**



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 Ros on 9493 2597

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: Friday mornings, 10:00 - 11:30
am during school terms

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@iprimus.com.au



Belly Dance

Ladies, come and try something different. Have fun and learn how to belly dance. Our friendly group welcomes beginners or experienced dancers.

Come join us. Non-Crestwood residents welcome.
Cost \$10.00 per class — includes drumming class.

Phone Gillian 9459 9904 or Heather 9452 2427
for time and location of the class.

On Sunday, July 3, the Crestwood Hall was the venue for some serious junk work. Some 30 people in all ventured out to discover what works of art could be created from clean waste and off-cuts of industry. REmida is a creative reuse centre where these items are being collected and given a second lease of life. Through membership, people can access these treasures we otherwise assign no value to, and would normally throw away.

A variety of activities was spread across 5 tables. These included sewing with plastic, "junk bug" making and a collaborative artwork. The only rule of the afternoon was that no one was allowed to leave the hall without adding a piece to our collaborative artwork! The result is still up on display in the hall.

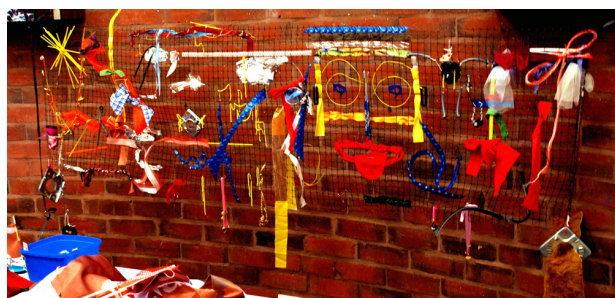
Other activities of the afternoon included pictures made out of coloured plastic off cuts in a picture frame and some extra large pieces of rubber and tubes for building and construction outside. Fortunately the weather was kind.

Some people were a bit put off at first by the "no sticky tape and no glue" policy, but soon found out that there were far more effective ways of joining two items. Top marks for best creation must go to the aeroplane Jess made for his son. On the sewing table, an artistic floral picture was sewn out of colourful plastic and some gruesome creatures evolved at the junk bug table.

Thanks to Isabel in the kitchen everyone was well looked after for the necessary cups of coffee and tea. Whether they came for just a cup of tea, a chat, or to get stuck into some serious craft, everyone seems to have enjoyed themselves. Even those who claimed not to be very creative managed to come up with a contribution towards the collaborative art piece. Here are a few photos to prove it.

If you are interested in getting to know more about REmida and the use of industrial waste for education, art and craft, please contact Marjan van Dijk on 9459 8776, or visit the REmida website: www.remidawa.com.

Submitted by Marjan van Dijk



Crestwood Playgroup

PLAYGROUP

EVENTS

Recently I have heard much about the need for children to spend less time indoors and get moving and playing outside. Amongst the many possibilities for children to be active is a new play area being set up in Kings Park called Rio Tinto Naturescape which will allow children to experience and play amongst natural materials (<http://www.bgpa.wa.gov.au/education/naturescape>). There is also an organisation called Nature Play WA (www.natureplaywa.org.au) that aims to encourage families with children to get outside and make the most of outdoor activities. What a blessing our children have at Crestwood to live in a place where they can access safe park areas to play by walking through their back gates!

During the recent school holidays I was able to enjoy watching groups of children climbing trees, riding bikes and scooters, playing chasing games, ball games, and meeting new friends at the play equipment area. Others played wonderful make-believe games around dead trees and fallen logs. Potions were created using grass, weeds, sticks, bark, flowers and dirt. Friendly dogs were warmly greeted when passing by.

Some of the families involved in the Friday play group took their children out for park and bushwalking experiences in different places. The natural curiosity of these youngsters led them to learn new things as they enjoyed being together in different environments. They also tested their physical skills as they explored and moved around these areas.

Please join me in encouraging our families with young children to make the most of the open spaces we have for our youngsters to play and explore. The Play Group, held at the Crestwood Hall on Fridays, gladly welcomes new members and visitors (see page 7).

Submitted by Sandra Wilson



More Photos from REmida



This is How Children See It

1. I was driving with my three young children one warm summer evening when a woman in the convertible ahead of us stood up and waved. She was stark naked!. As I was reeling from the shock, I heard my five year old shout from the back seat, "Mum, that lady isn't wearing a seat belt!"
2. On the first day of school, a first grader handed the teacher a note from his mother. It read, "The opinions expressed by this child are not necessarily those of his parents".
3. A woman was trying hard to get the tomato sauce out of the bottle. During her struggle the phone rang and she asked her four year old daughter to answer. "Mummy can't come to the phone to talk to you right now. She's hitting the bottle."
4. A little boy got lost at the YMCA and found himself in the women's locker room. When he was spotted, the room burst into shrieks with ladies grabbing towels and running for cover. The little boy watched in amazement and then asked, "What's the matter, haven't you ever seen a little boy before?"
5. While working for an organisation that delivers lunches to the elderly, I used to take my four year old daughter on my afternoon rounds. She was unfailingly intrigued by the various appliances of old age, particularly the canes, walkers and wheelchairs. One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely turned and whispered, "The tooth fairy will never believe this!"
6. A little girl was watching her parents dress for a party. When she saw her father donning his tuxedo, she warned, "Dad, you shouldn't wear that suit." "And why not, darling," the father asked. "You know that it always gives you a headache the next morning."
7. A little girl had just finished her first week of school. "I'm just wasting my time," she said to her mother. "I can't read, I can't write and they won't let me talk!"
8. A little boy opened the big family bible. He was fascinated as he fingered the old pages. Suddenly, something fell out. He picked up the object and looked at it. What he saw was an old leaf that had been pressed between the pages. "Mum, look what I found," the boy called out. "What have you got there, dear?" the mother asked. The boy answered, "I think it's Adam's underwear."

The German Shepherd and the Panther

An old German shepherd starts chasing rabbits and before long discovers that he is lost. Wandering about, he sees a panther heading in his direction, looking very fierce and hungry.

Noticing some bones on the ground, the German shepherd thinks quickly and settles down to chew on the bones with his back to the approaching panther. Just as the panther is about to leap, the German shepherd exclaims loudly, "That was a delicious panther! I wonder if there are any more around here?" Hearing this, the young panther halts his attack in mid strike. A look of terror comes over him and he slinks off into the trees. "Whew," says the panther. "That was close. That German shepherd nearly had me."

Meanwhile, a squirrel who had been watching the whole scene from a nearby tree figures he can put his knowledge to good use and trade it for protection from the panther. He heads off, finds the panther, and strikes a deal for his help in the future.

The young panther is furious at being made a fool of and says to the squirrel, "Hop on my back and I'll show you what is going to happen to that conniving canine."

The old German shepherd sees that panther coming with the squirrel on his back and says to himself, "Now what am I going to do?" Instead of running, he sits down with his back to his attackers pretending he hasn't seen them yet. Just when they get close enough to hear, the old German shepherd says, "Where's that squirrel? I sent him off an hour ago to bring me another panther."

Humour

Not the Answer We were Expecting

1. Q. Briefly explain what hard water is?
A. Ice.
2. Q. What did Mahatma Gandhi and Genghis Khan have in common?
A. Unusual names.
3. Q. Name one of the early Romans' greatest achievements.
A. Learning to speak Latin.
4. Q. Name six animals which live in the Arctic?
A. Two polar bears and four seals.
5. Q. Name the wife of Orpheus who he attempted to save from the underworld?
A. Mrs. Orpheus.
6. Where was the American Declaration of Independence signed?
A. At the bottom.
7. Q. What happens to a boy during puberty?
A. He says goodbye to childhood and hello to adultery.
8. Q. What is the meaning of the word 'varicose'?
A. Close by.
9. Q. What is a fibula?
A. A little lie.
10. Q. Explain the term 'free press'?
A. When your mum irons your trousers for you.
11. Q. Joanna works in an office. Her computer is a stand-alone system. What does that mean?
A. It doesn't come with a chair.
12. Q. Where was Hadrian's wall built?
A. Around Hadrian's garden.
13. Q. The race of people known as Malays come from which country?
A. Malaria.

A Few Short Jokes

1. Two men were discussing popular trends on sex, marriage and family values. One of them said, "I didn't sleep with my wife before we were married. Did you?" "I don't know," the other man said. "What was her maiden name?"
2. A little boy went up to his father and asked, "Dad, where did my intelligence come from?" The father replied, "Well, son, it must be from your mother since I still have mine."
3. "Mr Clark, I have reviewed this case very carefully," the judge in the divorce court said, "and I have decided to give your wife \$775 a week". That's very fair, your honour," the husband said, "and every now and then I'll try to send a few dollars myself".
4. A doctor who had just finished examining a woman who had been rushed to emergency took the husband aside and said, "I don't like the looks of your wife at all." "Me neither," the husband replied, "but she's a wonderful cook and is great with the kids."
5. An old man goes to a wizard and asks him if he can remove a curse he has been living with for the past 40 years. "Maybe," says the wizard, "but you must tell me the exact words that were used when the curse was put on you." The old man says without hesitation, "I now pronounce you man and wife."
6. A woman calls Tiger Airways and asks, "Can you tell me how long it takes to fly from Sydney to Melbourne. The agent replies, "Just a minute." "Thank you," the woman says and hangs up.
7. A man is recovering from surgery when the nurse appears and asks how he is feeling. "I'm ok, but I didn't like the four-letter word the doctor used in surgery." "What did he say?" the nurse asked. "Oops!"

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Homestead Beef and Vegetable Stew

Ingredients

750 g lean stewing steak
 plain flour seasoned with salt and pepper
 60 g butter
 1 tbs oil
 2 cloves garlic, crushed
 4 medium onions, cut in quarters
 8 small carrots
 4 sticks celery, cut in finger-lengths
 1 large turnip, thickly sliced
 1 bay leaf
 2 tps chopped fresh thyme or ½ tps dried thyme



3 cups beef stock or water
 salt and freshly ground black pepper
 4 small potatoes (optional)

Method

1. Trim excess fat from steak and cut meat into bite-size cubes. Toss in seasoned flour and shake off excess.
2. Heat butter and oil in a heavy saucepan or Dutch oven and brown meat on all sides. Remove with a slotted spoon.
3. Add garlic and vegetables to pan and toss for a few minutes. Return meat and add bay leaf, thyme and stock. Bring to the boil, taste for seasoning, and simmer covered for 2 hours or until beef is tender.
4. During the last half hour add potatoes if desired. Sprinkle stew generously with parsley to serve. Serves 4.

Australia the Beautiful Cookbook

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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.

As part of the Morning Melodies program the Centre will present *The I's Have it - Agelink Theatre*, A cabaret style show celebrating the music of the 1920s to the 1950s, Wednesday, 24 August and *Strike a Chord*, this group of 15 ladies singing classic hits from jazz greats to Broadway shows, Wednesday, 21 September. Morning tea is served at 10:15 am and performances start at 11:00 am.

The Centre will also host *The Merger* on Friday, 19 August at 8:00 pm and *Get Back – The Lennon and McCartney Songbook*, a cabaret show, Saturday, 3 September at 8:00 pm. *Menopause The Musical* will be performed on Saturday, 5 November at 8:00 pm.

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.