



INCORPORATED IN 1970

CRESTWOOD NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE CRESTWOOD HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION

ISSUE NO. 61

JULY - AUGUST 2012

IN THIS ISSUE

FRONT PAGE

President's Report 1

CRESTWOOD CONTACTS 2

REPORTS

Aesthetics 3

Parks and Reticulation 3

Pool 3

From the Minutes 5

Crestwood Bushland 11

WELCOMES & FAREWELLS 2

FEATURES

Eco Walks and Talks 8

Fertilising Your Garden 9

Humour 10

NEWS

Updates & Announcements 6

NOTICES

Personal 6

Social 7

TRADES & SERVICES

Crestwood Residents 11

Community 12

DATES TO REMEMBER

**Crestwood Homeowners Fees
Option B Payment due**
30 September 2012 (See p. 6)

NEXT ISSUE

Deadline for the next **Crestwood News** is **5 October 2012**. 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

New Security System

First Intruders Captured on CCTV

Hi everyone. Betty and I are back from our travels and we enjoyed looking at parts of Australia we had never seen before. The weather could not have been better to us; fine everywhere except the last night and day, Geraldton to Perth, with the windscreen wipers going continuously for the drive home.

Since being home we have been braced by unusually cold weather and the driest July on record. We can only hope August is the wettest for a good number of years to ensure that we have adequate replenishment of our ground water supplies.

Richard (Rich) Sangwin, our new gardener, is very keen to make improvements to the estate and reduce our water use in the parks, so the parks will be receiving some additional attention just prior to the reticulation season starting.

Security

Our new security system captured vision of these two intruders a few weeks ago. They started running away when Rich pulled up at the shed. If anyone recognises either of them, please let me know.

Motorcycle and moped riders are becoming a problem again, riding through the parks at dangerous speeds. If you are able to get registration numbers, please do so and ring them through to the City of Gosnells' Rangers. Our secretary, Sandra, was able to do that last week and received a call from the Ranger afterwards to report the young rider's mother had been spoken to. So the Rangers will follow up if we can identify the rider.



Bushland

We are interested in knowing whether there are any volunteers who would be willing to participate in improving the bushland area. We are considering engaging some outside experts to identify weeds and vegetation that should be removed from the area to return it to a more natural state. If you are interested in being involved please email Malcolm, editor of the *Crestwood News*, with your details, or drop a note in his letter box: 24 Coronet Court. If there is sufficient interest, he will call the first meeting of volunteers who will then choose a leader for the group.

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/F: 9452 2857
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 0417 989 326/ 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 2012 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.

30 January 2012
27 February
26 March
30 April
28 May
25 June

30 July
27 August
24 September
29 October
26 November
17 December

WELCOME TO CRESTWOOD

Ron and Yvette Fleming 15 Cavalier Court
 Jason Newbury 37 Grenadier Drive
 Marc Callister and Daeng Spencer 47 Grenadier Drive

FAREWELL AND BEST WISHES

Ross and Carol Goldsmith 15 Cavalier Court
 Karen Harrison 37 Grenadier Drive
 Paul and Jaeelyn Bainbridge 47 Grenadier Drive

Recent correspondence from the Committee of the Crestwood Homeowners Association.

Aesthetics

1. [A residence on Princeton Court] Thank you for your building application to erect a shed at the back of your garden.

I have received all the required documents for your application. The new shed will be screened from the park and footpath, for the most part, by the existing 2.1m high red brick wall and timber picket fence. It will, however, be 2.4m tall which is a little higher than the wall. You have confirmed in our telephone conversation that the shed is to be clad, roof and walls, in Colorbond sheeting. I would recommend pale eucalyptus or smooth cream as these are light, cool colours and will blend with the surroundings.

I can confirm that your application has been approved by Crestwood Homeowners Committee and we hope all goes well with your project.

John Rushton, Committee Member for Aesthetics

Compared with the major upgrade to the pool tiling that was carried out last year, this winter has been a relatively quiet time. Apart from a few small repairs and scheduled maintenance, no major works are on-going or planned.

Pool

This year the committee has decided on some changes to the pool opening schedule. Due to very low patronage at the end of last season, it has been decided to close the pool two weeks earlier than previously. Most of these hours will be made up by opening longer during the warmer period of the season. In particular, the pool will be open longer in December and February. This was a difficult decision to make, and I am sure some people will regret the shortened season. However, the committee is responsible for balancing costs and usage, and it was felt that it is better to open the pool longer when demand is higher, than opening when it is not. It cost Crestwood \$168 a day to keep the pool open for 6 hours a day in the last two weeks of April. This year, during that period, we only averaged four swimmers a day at an implied cost of \$42 a head (not counting the ducks who swim for free). Pool usage is monitored and reviewed on a yearly basis, and I am happy to receive input and suggestions from residents regarding future opening schedules.

Included with this newsletter you will find a pool pass application form for the coming season. Please read it carefully and complete the form as directed. Included is also the schedule for the season with opening times. Passes will be available to collect from the pool from October 20 onwards. There will also be the usual busy bee to get the pool ready. This will be on Sunday, October 14, at 2pm. Please come along and help if you can as many hands do make light work.

Finally the education department will once again be holding Vacswim at the pool in January. Enrolments can be made online at the Vacswim website: <http://det.wa.edu.au/curriculumsupport/swimming/detcms/navigation/vacswim/>. Alternatively, enrolment brochures and forms are usually distributed by schools. Online enrolment closes Sunday, November 25. Please note that it may not be possible to enrol on the day the classes commence.

Darren Colley, Committee Member for the Aquatic Centre

During the last three months Crestwood's grounds' staff have been making considerable changes to the appearance of Crestwood. These include revamping some of the garden beds, concentrating on those at the entrances to Parks 29a and 29b, 28 and 23, the garden beds in Park 16, the pool area and the underpasses. Shrubbery at the entrances to Parks 20, 14 and 23 have also been trimmed. These areas have received most attention by the gardeners as they are some of the main focal points of the estate.

Parks & Reticulation

In addition to the garden beds, the grounds' staff have also improved the overall appearance of the park trees. Enhancements include the creation of a circle around the base of the trees and lifting of the canopy. In the months to come, mulch will be placed around the base of the trees to aid in the suppression of weeds and the retention of water.

With the drying of the climate and an increasingly falling water table, the Committee will be looking at ways to conserve water. At some point this may include reducing the frequency of running the bores with the aim of both using less water and extending their life. As a start in a program of water conservation, the parks will undergo a process of deep coring. Following this, the grounds staff will apply a liquid wetting agent to reduce the surface tension and eliminate hydrophobic soils.

Homeowners are also encouraged to examine their own gardens to make sure water is used carefully and wisely. In the coming months, take a close look at the operation of your reticulation system. Take the time to fix any broken components and replace those that are not functioning efficiently. Apply a good wetting agent to your own lawn and gardens. These small changes will play an important part in overall water conservation and improve the growth and appearance of your gardens.

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

INCIDENT REPORT

Incidents reported on the Crestwood Estate

eWatch has reported two burglaries in Princeton Court (see July 20 - July 26 below).



POLICE WATCH - Thornlie from eWatch

June 8 - June 14: Thornlie is a priority at the moment with a core group of offenders doing a lot of burglaries and stealing of cars. We have some information as to who is responsible and they are prolific offenders who live in Thornlie. Most people in a street know who their local trouble makers are, so if you see some expensive cars turn up to an address not normally associated with expensive cars, we need all suspicious activity phoned through to police, Thornlie had burglaries in Partridge Way, Tuart Crt, Nutbush Crt, Wilfred Rd, Lowan Street, Oriole Way, Greenway Ave, Forest Cres, Lee Way, Storey Rd and Lakesend Rd. The people we are looking at may or may not be responsible for all of them, but we are confident once we grab them, crime in Thornlie will slow dramatically.

June 15 - June 21: A much better week in Thornlie, I have no doubt due to the pressure police have been placing on some recidivist offenders.

During the day on Sunday, June 17, thieves entered a house in Spencer Rd through an open back window. The same day owners of a house in Partridge Way left their front door unlocked allowing thieves to walk in, steal car keys and drive off with a car. Leaving windows and doors open or unlocked not only makes life easy for crooks, it makes it hard for police as we are unlikely to get any forensic evidence if someone walks in and out.

During the day on Tuesday, June 19, offenders forced a rear door on a house in Sandon Rd, and a house in Exmouth Way was broken into in a similar way the same day.

June 22 - June 28: Another big week in Thornlie and we continue to get the upper hand on the crooks. A local resident flagged down a police car to advise them he saw the offenders who broke into his shed and stole his bike, which led us to search a house in Fagence Way, Thornlie. Canning Vale police seized a large amount of cannabis from the house and arrested an 18 year old man.

Last week a house in Sandon Rd was broken into by forcing a glass door. This was investigated by Canning Vale Police and as a result of forensic evidence, a 14 year old youth from Thornlie was subsequently arrested and charged for this offence. He is also being investigated for several other offences in Thornlie and has been remanded in custody.

On Tuesday, June 26, a resident in Wiltshire Ave disturbed an adult male offender who had broken into her house and was stealing her car. The resident tried to hang onto the car and was dragged down the street. The car was later used in several robbery offences in other suburbs and across the metropolitan area. Detectives investigated these offences and subsequently arrested a 36 year old man from Maddington and charged him with a string of serious offences that will see him in jail for quite some time. Other burglaries in Thornlie that are still being investigated were in Greta Place, Leone Street, and Hume Rd.

June 29 - July 5: Three burglaries in Thornlie this week. On Friday night, June 29, a resident in Greenway Ave left their front door unlocked allowing thieves to walk in and steal a wallet.

During the early hours on Saturday, June 30, thieves broke into the Thornlie Sports Club in Berehaven Ave. One offender is described as wearing a black hooded jacket with a yellow motif, wearing a cap and jeans. A quantity of alcohol was stolen.

During the day on Monday, July 2, a house in Argyle Crt had the front door damaged when burglars tried to break the front door in. The house had quality locks fitted, so while the door was damaged this prevented the thieves getting in.

July: 6 - July 12 During the day on Monday, July 9, a house in Partridge Way was broken into by forcing open a window at the rear of the house. Some computer equipment was stolen, but unfortunately no one has reported seeing anything suspicious. Later that same night a motor bike was stolen from the front of a house in Berehaven Ave.

We are continuing with our tactics of targeting known offenders and this week Cannington Police have been assisting us by executing a search warrant on a house in Kellar Way. Once inside police located a secret room within which was a sophisticated hydroponic setup being used to grow cannabis. The 44 year old male resident was charged with growing and possessing cannabis.

July 13 - July 19: Thornlie is starting to become busy again so we need information from Thornlie residents. A house under construction in Viscount Crt had the shed broken into and 25 bags of cement stolen during the day on Friday, July 13. That is something that should stand out, people loading cement OUT of a shed and INTO a car/ute/trailer/truck.

During the morning on Sunday July 15, a vacant house in Yale Rd had thieves steal a fridge. Again, this is something that should prompt calls from the public. Property being removed from a house that the neighbours know is vacant. Later that day a second house in Yale Rd had a rear window smashed in an attempt to break in. This may be a case of a previous tenant trying to break back in, as the watchful neighbours have informed police of seeing the previous tenant returning after he was kicked out. Another example of looking after your neighbours and helping to keep the community safe.

July 20 - July 26: Five burglaries in Thornlie this week. During the morning on Saturday, July 21, the front door to a house in Jana Road was forced to gain entry, however, nothing was stolen.

During the early morning on Sunday, July 23, there were several burglaries, two of which were in Princeton Crt. The first house may have left the doors unlocked, allowing thieves to walk in and take the keys to the car parked out the front which was stolen and later found in Gosnells. The second house had a back window smashed with a brick whilst the occupants were in bed. They heard the noise, but didn't think to call the police until the next day. Our forensic officers have recovered some evidence from the house and this will be investigated by our detectives.

The same night a liquor store at the Forest Lakes Shopping Centre had the roller door forced open. Later that night an attempt was made to break into the Lakers Tavern, however, the alarm was set off. CCTV is being reviewed for those incidents. Finally in Thornlie, someone jumped the fence to a house in Tea Tree Way and stole a brand new pizza oven that was still in the box.

Be Aware of Your Surroundings

On Thursday, June 28, a woman who was out running in Langford was indecently assaulted by a male person when he grabbed her from behind and tackled her to the ground.

This is obviously a concerning incident and it raises the issue of personal safety. Please do not in any way take this as apportioning any blame on the victim. This is about being aware of your own surroundings to reduce the chances of becoming a victim.

If you are out and about using a personal electronic device with headphones, have them at a level that you can still hear ambient noise. That is, you should be able to hear footsteps, cars, bikes or

someone talking to you. If you have to turn your device off or take your headphones out to listen to someone, the volume is up too loud and you are placing yourself at risk.

Similarly if you are wearing sunglasses, a hat or hood that restricts your peripheral vision, you become a more attractive target. If you walk looking down at the ground or with a fixed gaze, you are less aware of what is around you.

To reduce the chances of becoming a victim, look about you as you travel, preferably with another person. Look at people so they know you have seen them and be aware of where you are.

On this occasion the lady was alone on an isolated footpath in Langford near the rail bridge just south of the Roe Hwy. *eWatch*

Committee Business:

Parks and Reticulation: Lots of improvements have been made to the parks with many new plants added.

One of the residents attended the meeting as a visitor to complain about the planting of a tree in the narrow section of a park behind his home. He raised concerns about the overall decision making process for planting and reminded the committee of the need to retain some open space. The gardeners are to be reminded to refer all plans for approval to Mike, the Parks and Reticulation committee member, before implementation. Gardeners are also reminded to keep speed down when moving through the parks.

Some concern has been expressed by homeowners about the general letter received about the rear of properties in Crestwood. A survey is to be undertaken after 30 June.

A quote from Gorey Electrical regarding the installation of photo cells to automate the park lights has been received and accepted.

The gardener has presented his yearly program to the Committee. Additionally he has raised concerns about the smoke billowing from the ute, foreshadowing a future replacement for the vehicle. He also mentioned the amount of spam received on his computer and has taken action to restrict the occurrence.

Pool: Darren is to go ahead with renewal of an agreement with Belgravia Leisure for a further two years' management of the pool. Roy is to check how the costing provided fits within the current budget.

An application for VacSwim has been made for 2013.

Aesthetics: Application for building work at a Spencer Road property is still to be provided. A second driveway has been added to a property in Regency Drive.

Finance: Roy is to contact HFM Legal regarding particular properties of concern where fees are overdue.

Replacement of the gardener's ute, reported as emitting smoke, is to be looked at.

General Business: Most of the general business focussed on issues raised at the AGM:

- A commercial dishwasher is too costly to warrant installation.
- Quotes are to be obtained regarding the cleaning and maintenance of the hall, shed and pool pump roofs.
- Alternative groups are to be sourced for repainting of the underpasses. Information is to be forwarded to Ken Williamson who expressed an interest in looking after this aspect of the estate.
- Barbecue use is to be assessed over the summer to determine the efficacy of having them fixed to gas outlets.
- Air conditioning of the hall is to be reassessed closer to summer.
- Pool staff employed for the coming season are to be asked to park where Grant parked when he worked at Crestwood, with the question of parking needs to be reassessed next year.

June 2012

Committee Business:

Parks and Reticulation: The timer for the pool light has now been installed so there is adequate illumination to operate the security system each night. Flood lights in front of the shed are not currently working and need to be checked. Building quotes for the maintenance and repair of the pool buildings are still to be provided.

Spraying, mulching and garden improvements have been ongoing. Rich and Mike attended meetings with the City of Gosnells and the Gosnells Golf Club staff to gain ideas for improvements. Branches gathered from the parks after the storm have been put aside for mulching to be used on the estate gardens. Multi Turf is to be asked to provide a quote for the coring of the parks.

The gardener has noted 42 properties where work is required at the rear. Reminder notices about the coming City of Gosnells green waste collection are to be provided to these residences.

The leaning wall has finally been removed causing damage to the reticulation pipes in the process. These have now been repaired.

The City of Gosnells is to be approached about providing a path in the park near the Ovens Road entrance where a path has been worn into the grassed area.

Delvin has been calling in unable to work at short notice too often. A written warning is to be provided.

Pool: Only two people indicated their interest in early morning swimming for the coming season, so it is unlikely that setting up such an activity will be viable. Closing dates for this coming pool season have been discussed. There were few visitors to the pool during the final weeks of the season last year.

The pool has been looking green. The Belgravia staff have been asked to ensure that the water remains clear and clean all winter. Costings for a new contract with Belgravia Leisure have been received.

The pool vacuum has to be checked to determine if a replacement is necessary.

Aesthetics: A request made for removal of palms has been approved. The request made for the pruning of a gum tree is still to be received in writing.

Building work on Spencer Road has been halted.

Finance: The gardener is to be requested to consult more fully with Mike, the committee member in charge of Parks and Reticulation, before making final decisions.

The cost of the gardener's extraordinary driver's licence application is to be paid by Crestwood with the proviso that this will be deducted from any severance pay entitlement if he fails to complete 12 months service with Crestwood.

General Business: Welcome to the new homeowners is now being done by Dave and Trish Lewis.



2012 – 2013 Crestwood Homeowners fees

Under **Option B**, the **2nd instalment** of \$415.00 is payable by **30th September 2012**. The final payment of \$415.00 is due by 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.

eMail Notification

From time to time there is information that your Committee would like to get out to homeowners very swiftly. The ideal way of doing this is via email. If you would like to provide your email address to the secretary, Sandra Wilson, for such purposes, please email your name and preferred email contact to: sandrawilson@iinet.net.au.

All emails will be sent 'blind' from the association's office for control and confidentiality, and will not be provided to advertisers or any third party.

Neighbourhood Watch

Neighbourhood Watch is about you, your local neighbourhood, the wider community and the WA Police working together to establish and maintain a safer community by:

- ... reducing violence, crime and fear;
- ... building a safer community;
- ... preventing crime that affects you;
- ... enhancing effective communication; and
- ... developing community spirit.

If you would like further information about Neighbourhood Watch you can contact Bill Walter, 23 Grenadier Drive, 9459 3994 or corpcredit@bigpond.com, or you can visit the nearest resource centre: Shop 79A, Maddington Shopping Centre, Attfield Street, Maddington, WA 6109. The phone contact is 9493 3311 and the email contact is: gossnells_nhw@optusnet.com.au.



The Crestwood community was saddened to hear of the death of Janice McCutcheon, wife of Rex McCutcheon of Grenadier Drive, and would like to convey its deepest condolences to Rex and his family.

Vale

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.

**FOCUS
CAMBODIA
CRESTWOOD HALL
Saturday 20th October
10am - 4pm**



We will have available for sale our beautiful silk handbags, scarves, runners, jewellery and more at very reasonable prices. Ideal for Christmas gifts!

All profits go towards our projects in Cambodia: building schools, houses and huts, providing education, medical clinics for villages and feeding the elderly in this poor country.

EFTPOS available — FREE afternoon tea

Watch for our flyer in your letterbox in October

Contact Adele on 9452 7385 or 0432 098 685
www.focuscambodia.org

Bushland Carers

In the past, Crestwood had a group of volunteers who would care for the bushland. The Committee is interested in again starting up such a group to maintain the area which will be receiving some needed attention in the coming months.

If volunteering for such a task is something you would like to do, please convey your interest to Malcolm, editor of the *Crestwood News* (see *Contacts*, page 2). If there is sufficient interest, he will call the first meeting to choose a leader for the group and to discuss the types of maintenance duties involved.

The guidelines for maintaining the bushland are reproduced from an earlier issue of the *Crestwood News* on page 11.

Trades and Services Updating Information

The Trades and Services listings for Crestwood Residents (see page 11) needs to be updated from time to time. This can only be done if those listed in the directory inform the editor when they leave the estate or if they are no longer trading. It can also be done when others on the estate become aware that some of the listings are now outdated and need to be removed.

If you are aware of any listings that need to be removed, please contact the editor (see *Contacts*, page 2). All information will be checked before anyone is removed from this list.

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 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 Saskia on 0409 649 358

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.



ELLIS BROOK VALLEY

Nature Rambles

Enjoy a guided walk through Ellis Brook Valley in Martin with naturalist Marc Lane and experience a spectacular bush reserve.

Each walk allows you to discover new wild-flowers and local birds, insects and animals.

Sunday 09 September	9am - 11:30am
Sunday 14 October	9am - 11:30am
Sunday 18 November	9am - 11:30am

Meet at Hillside Farm (east end of Hayward Road).



MARY CARROLL PARK

Frogs and Turtles

Learn about our local frog and turtle species. Find out if your garden is frog friendly. Chat to an expert and join in on a turtle watch. Find out how you can help our native wildlife and enjoy a hot cuppa soup.

Sunday 26 August	9am - 11am
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Discovery Walk

Discover the wonders of a wetland at work. See who can jump, fly, hop, chew and chirp with Eric McCrum, naturalist extraordinaire, and discuss your findings over a light lunch.

Saturday 22 September	10am - 12 noon
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Breakfast with Birds

Enjoy a healthy breakfast while listening to birds chorus, then take a stroll to watch birds feeding at their nests and find out how important plants are to the health of the wetland.



Sunday 28 October	7:30am - 10:30am
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NIGHT STALKS

Ellis Brook Valley

Bring your torch and spotlights for a guided night ramble to discover the local nocturnal animals. Contribute to a national fauna survey. Information gathered will be recorded on a national register by Perth Zoo.



Friday 5 October	6:45pm - 9:30pm
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Eco Walks and Talks 2012

The Friends of Ellis Brook Valley, Friends of Mary Carroll Park and Friends of Brixton Street Wetlands, in association with the City of Gosnells, are again presenting a series of walks. Entry is by gold coin donation which goes to support the work of the Friends groups.



A few things to keep in mind:

- ... Bring wet weather gear
- ... Wear comfortable, sturdy footwear
- ... Bring a hat and sunscreen for day walks
- ... Bring a torch and insect repellent for night walks
- ... Binoculars supplied

Bookings Essential – 9397 3111

BRIXTON STREET WETLANDS



Flora Walk

Enjoy a guided walk through the wetlands with experienced botanists and discover the amazing and unique plant life on offer in this landscape. After the walk join the group for morning tea and displays.

Saturday 15 September	9am - 11am
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Restoration of Clay Based Wetlands

Join Kate Brown from the Department of Environment and Conservation for an interesting and informative evening about restoration of clay based wetlands. Light supper provided.



Wednesday 5 September 6:30pm - 8:30pm
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Venue: Mud Hut Community Hall, corner Kenwick Road and Brixton Street

Parking at Honeyeater Hollow, Rushton Rd, Ellis Brook Valley. Entrance gate closes at 6:45pm

Mary Carroll Park

Join local naturalist Marc Lane for the sights and sounds of a wetland at night. Watch birds go to bed; catch a glimpse of a black cockatoo then look out for the diamond eyes of spiders; listen for a frog chorus and bats on high.

Friday 23 November	7pm - 9:30pm
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Fertilising Your Lawn and Garden

Why fertilise?

Plants need a range of nutrients for food, health and growth. All plants need relatively large amounts of nutrients like nitrogen and potassium. Other nutrients, such as phosphorus and magnesium, are needed in smaller quantities and trace elements like iron and copper, while essential, are only needed in tiny amounts.

Most plants have similar nutrient needs and all nutrients, whatever their source, must be dissolved in water before they can be absorbed by plants. So watering and fertilising are closely linked. Any nutrients not taken up by plants may enter the stormwater and groundwater systems and eventually find their way into our waterways.

Homes and gardens are a major source of nutrients entering waterways and contributing to algal blooms which can be toxic.

What is fertiliser?

Fertiliser is a collective name for a product that releases nutrients necessary for plant growth. They can be organic or inorganic (sometimes called mineral or chemical) in origin. Fertilisers may contain nutrients in differing quantities and rates of release can vary from instant to slow release over many months. They can be applied as liquids or solids.

Organic fertilisers are made from the remains of plants and animals; for example, seaweed, blood and bone, and manures. Many of these can also be used as soil improvers. Inorganic fertilisers are formulated for specific purposes and can be applied as a:

- liquid – purchased as a concentrated solution or powder to be diluted and watered in; or
- granular (many lawn fertilisers) spread directly over plant roots.

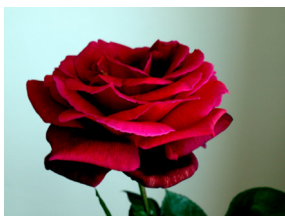
Slow or controlled release fertilisers are rated to last a certain length of time. Once applied, the release rate can be influenced by high temperatures and over-watering.

Before you fertilise —

Good soil is the foundation of a good garden. The soil holds the key to healthy plant growth and efficient use of precious resources such as nutrients and water.

Sandy soils do not hold nutrients, so when fertiliser is applied, most is lost. Proper soil amendments are essential to increase nutrient and water holding capacity. Common soil amendments include:

- organic matter (compost, soil conditioners);
- minerals (clay, gypsum, spongolite, zeolite; and
- soil-wetting agents



When to fertilise?

It is important to understand your plant's fertiliser needs and growth cycle to establish an effective fertiliser plan. For example, vegetables and annuals need fertiliser more frequently during periods of growth. However, small plants only need small amounts applied to the root zone. Most native plants need less fertiliser than exotics. A low-phosphorus fertiliser applied in spring will be sufficient.

Generally, it is better to apply a little fertiliser often during warmer months. Feeding plants in winter or when rain is expected is wasteful. Rain and over-watering washes nutrients past the roots.

How much to fertilise?

Different plants need different amounts of nutrients at different stages of their growth cycle. For example, fruit trees, vegetables and plants that are pruned hard each year need more fertiliser.

Fertiliser needs to be applied near the plant roots or it will be wasted. Often the canopy areas can be used as a guide. Lawns are commonly over-fertilised. If the soil has been amended, only small amounts of fertiliser are required.

Most fertilisers have a recommended application rate on the packet. It is important to note that this is the maximum amount that should be applied. Filling an everyday container with your fertiliser and weighing it can be a useful guide:

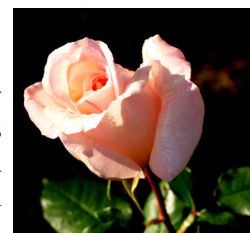
- A teaspoon holds about 4g of fertiliser
- A tablespoon holds about 16g;
- A match box holds about 25g; and
- A cup holds about 250g.

Fertilise reasonably

We all need to fertilise responsibly to protect the health of waterways so they can be enjoyed today and for generations to come. You can help by:

- preventing fertiliser spreading onto paths, driveways and roads from where it can be washed down the drains and into waterways;
 - not applying fertiliser prior to heavy rain to avoid nutrient runoff or leaching into groundwater;
 - not over-watering to avoid washing nutrients away; and
 - seeking further information or professional advice.
- You can visit: <http://www.fertilisewise.org.au>

Brochure available from SERCUL - South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare.



MIXED BAG

1. My neighbour knocked on my door at 2:30 am this morning. Can you believe it? Two-thirty in the morning! Luckily I was still up playing my bagpipes.
2. The Grim Reaper came for me last night but I fought him off with a vacuum cleaner. Talk about Dyson with Death.
3. My friend told me he was thinking of getting a Labrador as a pet dog. I warned him off it. I said, "Haven't you seen how many of their owners go blind?"
4. My girlfriend thinks I'm a stalker. Well, she's not exactly my girlfriend yet.
5. I was at the ATM yesterday when a little, old lady asked if I could check her balance, so I pushed her over.
6. I was out driving when I saw a parked RAC van. The driver was sobbing uncontrollably and looked miserable. I thought to myself, "That guy's heading for a breakdown".

Grading Religious Papers

Children in a religious school were asked questions about the Old and New Testaments. These are some of the answers which appeared on their papers.

1. Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree. Noah's wife was Joan of Ark. Noah built the arc and the animals came on in pears.
2. The first commandment was when Eve told Adam to eat the apple.
3. The seventh commandment is: 'Thou shalt not admit adultery'.
4. Lot's wife was a pillar of salt during the day, but a ball of fire at night.
5. Jews were a proud people and throughout their history they had trouble with unsympathetic genitals.
6. Samson slayed the Philistines with the Axe of the Apostles.
7. The epistles were the wives of the apostles.
8. The Egyptians were all drowned in the desert. Afterwards Moses went to Mt. Cyanide to get the Ten Commandments.
9. The greatest miracle in the Bible is when Joshua told his son to stand still and he obeyed him.
10. Solomon, one of David's sons, had 300 wives and 700 porcupines.
11. David was a Hebrew king who was skilled at playing the liar. He fought the Finklestines, a race of people who lived during biblical times.
12. The people who followed Jesus were called the 12 decibels.
13. St. Paul cavorted to Christianity. He preached Holy Acrimony which is another name for marriage.
14. St. John, the blacksmith, dumped water on his head.
15. Christians have only one spouse. This is called monotony.

AT THE GYM

I am one of the more mature guys working out at the gym, a bit past my prime. Today there was this sweet young thing who had just finished her training session. I asked a trainer who was nearby, "What machine should I try to impress that young lady over there?" He looked at me closely and answered, "You could try the ATM in the lobby".

Late for a Lecture

An elderly man driving just over the speed limit is stopped by police at about 2:00 am in the morning and is asked where he is going in such a rush at that time of night. "I'm on my way to a lecture about alcohol abuse and the effects it has on the human body," the old man replied. "There is also always a part on smoking and staying out late."

The officer, disbelieving, says, "Really? And who is giving a lecture at this time of night?"

"That would be my wife," the old man replies.

Humour

Make me Feel Like a Woman

On a flight across the continent, the plane passes through a violent storm. The turbulence is terrible and things get even more turbulent as the flight continues. Then the wing of the plane is struck by lightning.

One of the women passengers loses her self control. She stands up in the aisle and shouts, "I'm too young to die." Then she adds, "If I'm going to die, I want my last moments of life to be memorable, Is there anyone on this this plane who can make me feel like a woman?"

For a moment there is silence. Everyone seems to have forgotten about the movement of the plane. They all stare at the desperate woman in the aisle. Then a jackaroo from WA stands up at the back of the plane. He is handsome and well-built with dark brown hair and blue eyes. He starts to walk up the aisle, unbuttoning his shirt one button at a time. No one moves. He takes off his shirt. Muscles ripple across his chest.

She gasps. He whispers, "Iron this, then get me a beer."

IRISH OYSTERS

Patrick was a youthful and hardworking Irishman at a small village in Ireland. Daily he would pole an old punt out to sea, then work a heavy, iron grapple to bring up the sand oysters which he sold to the local ice works. He was a man of regular habits and always arrived at home at the same time every day. Sadly, Patrick did not realise that the daily grind of pulling up the grapple heavy with oysters was taking a toll on his weak heart.

One day Patrick failed to come home. His wife contacted the police to report him missing. They rowed out and found Patrick dead in the punt and beside him was a huge grapple filled with oysters that he had tried to hoist aboard.

The headline in the Irish Times the next day read: OYSTERS KILL PATRICK.

The Other Commandment

Donnelly showed up at mass one Sunday and the priest almost fell over when he saw him. He hadn't been to church in years. After Mass, the priest caught up with him and said, "Donnelly, I'm so glad you decided to come to mass. What made you come?"

Donnelly said, "I've got to be honest with you Father. The other day I misplaced my hat, and I really love that hat. I knew that Gleason had a hat just like mine and he came to church every Sunday. I also knew he had to take off his hat during Mass and I figured he would leave it at the back of the church. So I was going to leave after communion and steal Gleason's hat. "

"Well, Donnelly," the priest said, "I noticed you didn't steal Gleason's hat. What made you change your mind?" "Well, after your sermon on the Ten Commandments I decided I didn't need to steal Gleason's hat after all."

The priest gave Donnelly a big smile and said, "After I talked about Thou Shalt Not Steal you decided you would rather do without the hat than burn in hell?"

Donnelly slowly shook his head. "No, Father. When you talked about Thou Shalt Not Commit Adultery I remember where I left my hat."

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CONTACT

Enita	9452 8967 / 0402 310 775
Kym Murray	9452 1120 / 0409 683 536
Kirsty	9459 8483 / 0424 349 388
Lisa	0439 097 584
Chris Wynen	9459 8381
Maureen (Rikki)	9493 7569
Sherilee	9452 1104
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Mike Jarvis	9459 0348
Carol	9459 4728
Enita	9452 8967 / 0402 310 775
Robyn or Don	0415 284 997/0417 940 736
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Andrew	9493 6191 / 0413 170 217
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Haydon Brand	9459 6114
Mike	0402 423 172
Mike Upson	9493 0005
Robyn Annen	9493 7434 / 041 797 2661
Lisa / Heather	9452 0907 / 9452 2427
Lisa	0439 097 584
Colin	0417 487 707
Peter Wynen	9459 7788 / 0419 939 067
Tony	9459 5356 / 9459 9447

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

MAINTAINING THE CRESTWOOD BUSHLAND — GUIDELINES

Guidelines for maintaining the Crestwood Bushland were set out at a special meeting held in January 2000. These guidelines, dealing with weed control, dead tree removal, aesthetic enhancement, walkway maintenance and rubbish removal, are summarised here. All of the guidelines have as their basis the retention of the integrity of the bushland in as natural a state as possible.

A number of dead and dying trees can be noticed in the bushland. Since these provide a habitat for the insects on which a number of birds and animals feed, the guideline stipulates that these should be removed only when presenting a particular danger. If removed, this should be done to cause as little disturbance as possible to the bush, with preference given to leaving the tree on the ground where it had been felled. When weed control is required this can be carried out through both manual and chemical means, with particular chemicals being suggested.

To address the concerns of those in the community who felt that the perimeter of the bush appeared unsightly, it was recommended that the aesthetic appearance of the perimeter be improved with the planting of up to six different types of plants up to a depth of two metres. The plants selected should be local to the bushland and should be chosen on their visual appeal and flowering characteristics. Fertilising of the plants is not recommended.

The walkway should be inspected at regular intervals and maintained to make sure that the woodchip surface is even and there is no interference by encroaching plants. As for rubbish removal, this should also occur on a regular basis.

Reprinted from the *Crestwood News*, July - August, 2007

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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 *Spirit of the Streets Choir*, Wednesday, 22 August, and the *Queen's Diamond Concert*, Wednesday, 19 September. Morning tea is served at 10:15 am and performances start at 11:00 am.

The Centre will also host *The Fabulous 60s* featuring popular music of that decade, Saturday, 18 August, at 8:00 pm and *Ladies Night*, the story of four unemployed men who create a male stripping act to make some quick money, Saturday, 22 September, 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.