



INCORPORATED IN 1970

CRESTWOOD NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE CRESTWOOD HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION

ISSUE NO. 47

MARCH - APRIL 2010

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DATES TO REMEMBER

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

19 April 2010

31 May 2010

CRESTWOOD HOMEOWNERS FEES

30 April 2010 (see page 7)

CRESTWOOD 20s CLUB LUNCH

2 May 2010 (see page 7)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

26 May 2010 (see page 7)

NEXT ISSUE

Deadline for the next **Crestwood News** is **4 June 2010**. 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

Special General Meeting

Budget Approved Unanimously

General Discussion Touches on Topics of Interest

The Special General Meeting got underway at 7:40, the later than scheduled start attributed to a final check to make sure that a quorum had been reached. The final count of 39 households present and 61 proxies put us 11 over the constitutional requirement and the meeting began.

This was not a contentious budget proposal, and with a motion that the current fees show an increase of only \$11.00 over last year's budget, it was not surprising that approval was fast and unanimous. The only question from the floor was in relation to the cost of electricity which was scheduled to rise substantially over the coming year. To cover the expected increase, the Treasurer indicated that he had budgeted for a 23% rise which he believed would cover any contingency. The formal part of the meeting was then closed at 7:48 setting what is perhaps a historical record.

As in the past, the President then asked if there were any topics that might be raised in a general discussion. The status of Crestwood's parks was brought up and this was clarified by the President. The parks are classified as public open space over which Crestwood holds a 99 year lease. The lease was renewed once when Cavalier Court was added to the estate to acknowledge the incorporation of additional land. The overall term of the lease remained the same. The City of Gosnells contributes to the parks' upkeep by giving Crestwood the equivalent of a Gosnells employee's salary, currently \$59,000 a year. The City also has been maintaining the concrete paths through the parks, although, officially, this was Crestwood's responsibility under the terms of the lease. This additional contribution on the part of the City Council was successfully negotiated several years ago by the Crestwood committee serving at the time.

Regarding water, our licence has been renewed for a further 10 years at the same level as in the past, that is 120,000 kilolitres a year, a level which, on best estimates, Crestwood has never reached. The question of having our bores metered is still on the agenda and metering will probably be required at some time in the future. The expense for doing this will be Crestwood's.

The discussion then turned to safety and security. As mentioned in the President's report in the previous edition of the *Crestwood News*, there is a 21 year-old who has been loitering on the Estate.

The President spoke to this person when he was seen loitering in the vicinity of the Crestwood Hall. He has been identified and is someone who is known to the police. Prior to the General Meeting he was seen camping in the Crestwood bushland. Crestwood residents who are walking

Continued on page 2

A Unique Way of Life

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

(T = Telephone - F = Fax)

President	Trevor Davis	21 Princeton Ct/ trevor.davis@bigpond.com.au	T: 9459 3961/0448 860 748
Vice President	Trevor Veen	110 Regency Dr/ trevor.veen@mapsurvey.com.au	T: 9493 3021
Secretary	Sandra Wilson	105 Regency Dr/crestwood@safe-mail.net	T: 9493 6622/F: 9452 1830
Treasurer	Roy Malone	116 Regency Dr / rmalone@mford.com.au	T: 9459 4364/F: 9459 4364
Aquatic Centre	Trevor Veen	110 Regency Dr/ trevor.veen@mapsurvey.com.au	T: 9493 3021
Parks & Reticulation [also the contact person for tree removal]	Rob Wilson	14 Hume Rd / rwi55790@bigpond.net.au	T: 9493 5567
Aesthetics [also the contact person for building approvals and fencing]	John Rushton	20 Coronet Ct / jonjanr@iinet.net.au	T: 9493 6096/F: 9493 6596

CRESTWOOD CONTACTS

Community Centre Hire	Marjan van Dijk	darrencolley@iprimus.com.au	T: 9459 8776
Social Club Coordinator	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	srcampbell4@bigpond.com	
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	T: 9357 0754
Graffiti Removal		All Hours	T: 9391 3222
Goodbye Graffiti Hotline			T: 1800 442 255
Thornlie High School			T: 9459 2544
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		

We had a \$1080 direct deposit of this year's homeowner's fees into one of the Crestwood bank accounts during March. We are, however, **unable to identify the depositor**. This particular homeowner probably banks with the Commonwealth Bank.

Finance

If you are the one who paid your 2010-2011 homeowner's fees in this way, you will need to identify yourself so that the payment can be credited to your account. Please **contact Roy Malone** at his home after 7pm or by email. You will have to identify yourself as the depositor by knowing the specifics of the deposit.

Roy Malone, Honorary Treasurer; 9459 4364; email rmalone@mford.com.au

Continued from page 1

in the area are being asked to pass through the bushland, and if they see someone camping, to report this to the ranger or the police. Being in public open space such as the Crestwood parks, is not an offence, but camping in this area is.

Canning Vale police advised the President there had been four burglaries reported recently, two on Grenadier Drive and two on Regency. Entry was made at one via a security screen door that was only snib-latch locked. If these doors are not key locked, but secured only by the snib latch, it is possible to snip the flyscreen and insert something through the security mesh to move the latch and open the door. If you have a security screen door, this should always be locked with a key.

This last point led to one final question and that was whether security doors should be locked with a key when the family is home. A concern was raised that in case of a fire, the family could be trapped inside. The President responded that these types of doors should be locked, but he emphasised that each family member must know where the key is kept. He suggested that each family work out a fire escape plan.

Text by the Editor

This will be my last bi-monthly newsletter report. Hopefully in two months time a member of the estate will have stepped up and taken on this role and not left it for the other representatives on your committee. If you are interested please see me. I am willing to help you through the transition period of gaining the knowledge you'll need to understand what's involved with the task. Over the last few years I have been working toward having most of the legwork done by the pool managers, leaving the committee position in more of an overseer role.

Pool

Less than a month to go and the pool will close for another year. The last day will be Monday the 26/4/2010. As usual I will be holding a busy bee to remove the shade sails and lock up the deck chairs. This will be done on Sunday, the 2nd of May, starting at 2:00pm. Your assistance on this day would be very welcome.

Some of you may have seen that we have advertised tenders for running the pool for the next two years. This has been undertaken for two primary reasons.

1. We, the committee, have not been entirely happy with how the pool has been maintained over the past two years. Although the staff in most instances have been affable, they have not shown the care and attention to detail that is required to run the pool efficiently and effectively.
2. As a committee it is our obligation to the community to ensure we use the available funds wisely, therefore it is good business to test the waters (excuse the pun) every few years to see if we are getting value for money. We are pleased to announce that we have received a number of responses but, as the decision date is still some time off, I am unable to advise who the successful tenderer will likely be.

Kind Regards, Trevor Veen, Committee Member for the Aquatic Centre

I am pleased to advise that the Estate parklands and buildings did not suffer too much damage from the storm. Two trees had to be removed, one having been uprooted near the playground equipment and one apparently struck by lightning near the bushland.

From the President

Our gardeners, Grant and Damian, had to work some extra hours to get all the debris cleared from the parks with the normal mowing due on Monday 29th. I thank them for their efforts. T&A Tree Services assistance was sought to help clear the trees and larger branches. To all those homeowners that had storm-caused damage to their homes, I trust that you are able to get the necessary repairs done in a reasonable time, as Betty and I hope happens with our own.

As you will all realise the Annual General Meeting is approaching and three positions on the committee will become vacant, Treasurer, Aquatic Centre and Parks & Reticulation. Those elected hold these positions for a two year period. The retiring committee members have indicated they are prepared to assist the new members with advice and guidance to facilitate a smooth transition based on their knowledge and experiences. Please give consideration to your availability to stand for any of the positions identified as becoming vacant. The retiring committee members can be contacted prior to the AGM to discuss the duties and responsibilities of the position.

It is very important that the committee positions be filled to ensure the Crestwood Homeowners Association is run smoothly and is able to efficiently manage the affairs of the estate for the benefit of us all. Finally, I would like to express my appreciation to all the members of the Committee for a very successful 2009/2010 year.

Trevor Davis, President of the Crestwood Homeowners Association

Recent correspondence from the Committee of the Crestwood Homeowners Association.

Aesthetics

1. [A residence on Grenadier Drive] You have submitted an application to erect a Colorbond fence on the boundary between your front garden and underpass D. Since the fence borders on an underpass and extends to the road, the Committee requires an open, see-through fence to comply with the fencing policy and to minimise graffiti.

2. [A residence on Grenadier Drive] Thank you for your letter regarding the lemon scented gum tree in the park behind your property. The Committee has inspected the tree and finds it to be a young healthy specimen and can see no reason to remove it at this time. The tree also weathered the recent storm without problem. We will monitor the tree as it grows and will remove it if it is deemed to be dangerous.

The Committee also considered your application for building a retaining wall in brick with a tubular steel balustrade. The Committee approves in principal your application, but will require copies of your building licence from The City of Gosnells and engineer's drawings and details for the retaining wall. A significant structure of this type will have to be positioned on the boundary line and a survey will be required to confirm the boundary .

3. [A residence on Princeton Court] Thank you for your application for building approval for the construction of your new patio I confirm that your application has been approved by the Committee. We hope all goes well with your construction.

John Rushton, Committee Member for Aesthetics

INCIDENT REPORT

Incidents reported on the Crestwood Estate

The Comment News reported burglaries on Grenadier Dr and Princeton Ct in the 16 February issue.

Canning Vale police advised the President of four burglaries in late February, two on Grenadier Dr and two on Regency Dr.

A car was broken into at 8:30 Saturday morning while parked in the driveway of a Coronet Ct home. This occurred in mid March.



POLICE WATCH - Thornlie

from the *Comment News*

Break-ins Martindale Ave, Dorsett Pl, Grete Pl, Huggins Rd, Kidman Ct (2), Shelburn Rd; motor vehicle theft Burslem Dr, Forest Cres (9 February)

Break-ins Burgandy Ct (2), Explorer Ct, Spellhurst Tce, Tarradee Ct, Towncentre Dr, Yale Rd, Dara Cnr, Grenadier Dr, Merino Ct, Princeton Ct, Shaffers Pl (16 February)

Break-ins O' Dell St, Berehaven Ave, Juniper Ct, (23 February)

Break-ins Thornlie Ave(2), Discovery Dr, Ilford Pl, McNamara Dr, Ovens Rd, Tritonia Rise, Expedition Dr, Hume Rd (3) (2 March)

Break-ins Tonbridge Way, Berehaven Ave, Forest Cres, Spencer Rd, Explorer Dr, Wilfred Rd (2) (16 March)

Break-ins Malone Ct, Ripplewood Ave, Tullamore Ave, Churchdown St, Connemara Dr, Lester Dr, Pembury Rd, Sanderling Dr, Storey Rd; motor vehicle theft Crest St, Lance St, Tullamore Ave.; graffiti damage Burslem Dr (23 March)

Break-ins Spencer Rd (3), Aster Ct (2), Dryandra Way (2), Elvington Way, Southdown Pl (3), Victoria Ct, Yale Rd, Blackboy Ct; motor vehicle theft Blackboy Ct, Victoria Ct; graffiti damage Burslem Dr (30 March)

Escape Plans Surviving a house fire

Do you know what to do if fire breaks out in your home? Many families owe their lives to working smoke alarms.

A home fire can expose you to temperatures in excess of 600 degrees C, however, most people die from inhaling smoke and toxic gasses long before the flames reach them. Families who are well-prepared are more likely to escape their homes safely and without panic. You can't smell smoke when asleep, so smoke alarms are an essential early-warning system to alert you and your family to the dangers of fire and smoke.

Making a home fire escape plan

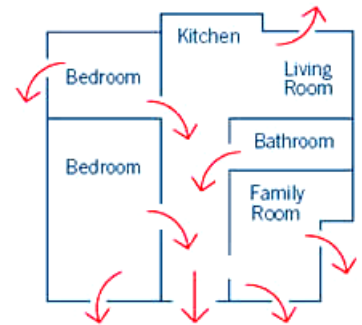
Gather the family and draw your home floor plan on a grid, marking all the exits. Get the children involved. Ask them to help you identify the two quickest and safest ways to get out of the house from every room, including upper floors. Agree on a place to meet outside and stick to it. The letterbox may be a suitable location.

Once you've prepared your plan, hold regular fire drills and see how quickly family members can get out of the house. It's a good idea to practise at least twice a year - more often if you have young children.

... If you have window locks fitted, make sure keys are accessible should they be required

... If children's bedrooms are located at the other end of the house, consider how you will be able to reach them if access is blocked by fire. Remember, children may not wake up to the sound of a smoke alarm operating. If your home has a second storey consider how you will exit from upstairs windows. Many hardware stores sell chain ladders for this purpose

... If your household includes members who are elderly or disabled or have limited mobility, you will need to make special arrangements in your plan.



Fire survival rules

If your clothes catch fire, stop, drop and roll to smother the flames. To help someone else, throw a woollen blanket over them. If there's smoke in your house, get down low and go, go, go!

... In a fire, the safest area for breathing is near the floor where the air is cooler and cleaner, so remember to crawl low in smoke. Check doors for heat before opening.

... Use the back of your hand to check for heat, then get down low and crawl to safety. Close doors behind you if possible. If the door is hot, use another exit.

... Get everyone out of the house as quickly as possible. Call the fire brigade from a neighbour's house, public or mobile phone and wait for them to arrive. Tell them where the fire is and if anyone is still inside.

... Don't go back inside for any reason.

Don't let deadlocks block your escape

Your life could depend on how quickly you are able to get out of your home in the event of a fire. Smoke spreads quickly, cutting visibility and causing disorientation. If you use deadlocks while inside the house, leave the key in it or install a key holder next to the door.

Learn basic first aid

If someone has a burn, stop the burning process. Remove clothing, unless it has stuck to the skin. Cool the burn. Immerse or flood the burnt area in cool running water for 15 to 20 minutes. Never use oil, butter or ointment.

Cover the burn with a clean cloth or cling wrap and keep the patient warm. See a doctor if the burn is blistered, larger than a twenty cent coin or on the face, hands, feet or genitals. Telephone 000 for an ambulance.

From the Victorian Government CFA website: <http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/index.htm>

January 2010

Committee Business:

Parks and Reticulation: A quote has been requested for a survey of the area around Underpass D. The water problem at the same underpass has now been sorted, as has the condition of Bore 4 which is now up and running.

The parks are not in optimum condition and Taffy has been asked to come in to fix problems associated with the reticulation system.

A footpath damaged during removal of a tree has been repaired with the cost being borne by the contractor.

Pool: Incorrect chemical levels have been found in the pool. Neil Gannon from the YMCA has visited and advised that changes are to be made to the pool attendants' work schedule to prevent a repeat of the problem. Additionally, a chemical check sheet will now be faxed daily to Neil and Trevor.

The YMCA has quoted for their services for next year's season. A tender notice will be placed in the West Australian with the YMCA invited to officially submit a tender.

Two new gas bottles and 10 new lounges have been purchased for the pool.

Finances: Budget information has been prepared and will be circulated to homeowners before the Special General meeting.

Sandra will approach the City of Gosnells about the repainting of our underpass murals and the possibility of obtaining a grant to help pay for such work.

Social: The inflatable scheduled for the pool on 30 January before the start of the new school term had to be cancelled. It was unavailable for that date.

General Business: Four committee positions are to fall vacant at the next AGM, those of president, aesthetics, pool and treasurer. Residents will be encouraged to apply for these.

February 2010

Committee Business:

Parks and Reticulation: Taffy is currently helping to sort out the reticulation problems. Bore 4 is now fixed and working well. More sprinklers will be required for watering the parks.

Pool: Trevor will meet at the end of the month with the YMCA and officially notify them of the advertisement opening tenders for the next season of the pool. It is felt that the current staff at the pool still require close supervision.

Aesthetics: A prospective buyer has inquired about Crestwood's fencing policy. The water heater has now been removed from the front of a house on Princeton Court. John will also have a word with the owner of the property on Regency Drive where the lawn has been removed from the garden in front of the house but no replacement plants have been put in its place.

Finance: No grants have been found to date for refurbishment of the underpass murals.

Four homeowners still have outstanding fees to be paid on their Crestwood rates.

Social: No social activities have been planned

General Business: Sandra is to have a chat with Rod regarding timing of the Crestwood website.

A general discussion touched on young offenders getting into the back yards of properties on the estate and trying to break into houses. Homeowners are asked to be vigilant about this. If you have security screen doors, the recommendation is that these always be keyed and not just latched.



Bathtime

Every morning at

number ninety eight

We call in for a bath, we are never late
 Nothing flash but it's for free
 Such a treat for my friends and me
 For a fancy spa we do not wish
 Just an upturned pot on which sits a dish
 The water looks cool and clean
 Sometimes we think we're having a dream
 Reception is a close by tree
 We wait our turn patiently
 My turn now, I dive and dip
 Also managing to have a sip
 I flap my wings and my feathers rustle
 Have to be quick amid the bustle
 There are lots of us to have a turn
 To be quick we have to learn
 Back to the tree to shake and dry
 Nice and clean and ready to fly
 When each has had their bath and swim



We all take off, full of vim
 Thanks for the drink and bath today
 We'll all be back come what may
 For a fancy spa we do not wish
 Just an upturned pot on which sits a dish

Chris Wynen, 2009



This is the last report from me as a committee member so it will be short and sweet.

Parks & Reticulation

After our storm mid-March, Grant and Damien did a great job in cleaning up within a few days, mainly twigs and branches. To my knowledge we only lost two trees. The smaller branches were spread far and wide. It was quite a task to pick all of it up. Grant saved a lot of time by stockpiling this up near the bushland to be mulched when the tree loppers arrived. This in turn saved several trips to the tip. Great job Grant. Thanks.

Our reticulation has now been reduced to 15 minutes for houses and 45 minutes for the parks. This will be monitored and if we get rain it could be turned off to save both power and water. This year we have had a pretty good season.

Our AGM is coming up soon and the Committee will need several new members so could all Crestwood residents please consider doing their bit. Crestwood can't be run well without a full committee. It is not that hard, and you will be with a great lot of people.

Finally thanks to all who have helped while I have been a committee member. So from me that's all, but I will be around if help is needed.

Rob Wilson, Committee member for Parks and Reticulation

2010 – 2011 Crestwood Homeowners fees

Payment of Crestwood homeowners fees for the 2010-2011 financial year are due on **30 April 2010**. If you are paying by Option A, then a total amount of \$1080.00 is due at this time. If you are paying by Option B, then the first instalment of \$400.00 is due by this date.

If you miss the payment deadline for either of these two options, then your total fees of \$1199.00 become payable under Option C, due on 31 May 2009.

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 4359 after 7pm.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Crestwood Homeowners Association will be held on Wednesday evening, 26 May 2010, at 7:30 in the Crestwood Hall.

You are encouraged to come along and have your say in the running of the estate. There will also be a number of Committee positions which will fall vacant and need to be filled. The Committee is always looking for volunteers to take up these positions.

The next **Crestwood 20's Club Lunch** will be held in the Crestwood Hall on **Sunday, 2 May, at 12-30pm**. All members are invited to attend. If there are any residents who have recently completed 20 years ownership of their home in Crestwood and would like to join us please let me know your details so that I can send you the information.

Crestwood 20s Club

Although we have over 200 members, the average attendance at our functions is only 35. For each event I have printed, duplicated and delivered fliers to everyone who has been eligible to attend. For future functions, however, fliers will only be delivered to those who indicate that they are interested in receiving them. I'm thinking not only of not wasting trees but of saving my aging legs as well!

This time, along with the fliers, you will receive a slip asking you to let me know if you would like to continue receiving individual notification of our activities. This can be done by mail, phone or e-mail. I will make sure the details of all future activities are advertised in the appropriate issue of the *Crestwood News* prior to the event. Watch for the flier which will appear in your letterbox in the next couple of weeks. I hope you can join us.

Margaret Davies, Coordinator, Crestwood 20's Club, 19 Regency Drive, 9459 4115; email 2mardav@globaldial.com

Swimming Pool Busy Bee

ALL HAND'S ON DECK That is the pool deck!

I need your help to take down the shade sails, put away the deck chairs and do a general tidy to close down the pool for this season. **Sunday, 2nd May, 2009 - 2:00pm start**

I'd greatly appreciate your help. See you then – Trevor Veen, 9493 3021

Vale Rod Hodgkinson of Grenadier Drive - Our sympathies to his wife, Debbie, and their children Sean and Alicia.

Rick Pinnock of Coronet Court- Our - deepest condolences to his wife Nanette.

Our sympathies to David and Trish **Lewis** of Regency Drive and their family on the passing of David's mum.

Laurie Morris - Our condolences to his wife, Pat Morris, former mayor of Gosnells, who supported Crestwood on many significant issues.

PERSONAL

NOTICES

Get Well

The Crestwood community wishes **Sally Webster** of Regency Drive, **Barbara Blake** of Regency Drive and **Bill Walter** of Grenadier Drive a full recovery from their recent illnesses.

Congratulations

to Rowena de Gruchy and Paul Fanali on their recent marriage.

Found

A small makeup case. Ring 9459 8381 if this is yours.

Crestwood Hall Hire

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

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

Up to 50 people 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

Committee meetings of the Crestwood Homeowners Association for 2010 have been set on the following dates. Also included are dates for the Special General and Annual General meetings. 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.

21 December 2009

18 January 2010

17 February (Special General Meeting)

22 February

29 March

19 April

26 May (AGM)

31 May

28 June

26 July

30 August

20 September

25 October

29 November

20 December

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.

The Wrong Email

A couple from Melbourne decided to vacation in Queensland during the winter. They planned to stay at the very same hotel where they spent their honeymoon 20 years earlier. Because of their hectic schedules, it was difficult to coordinate their travel, so the husband flew to Queensland on Thursday. His wife would follow the next day.

The husband checked in and discovered there was a computer in his room. He decided to send an email to his wife. In a rush to send the message, he accidentally left out one of the letters in her email address.

Meanwhile, somewhere in Sydney, a widow had just returned home from her husband's funeral. He was a minister for many years who was called home to glory following a severe heart attack. The widow decided to check her email expecting to find messages from friends and relatives. After reading the first message, she fainted.

The son rushed into to room and found his mother on the floor. He turned and saw the message on the computer screen which read:

To: *My Loving Wife*

Subject: *I've Arrived*

I know you're surprised to hear from me. They have computers here now and you are allowed to send emails. I've just arrived and have been checked in. I see that everything has been prepared for your arrival tomorrow. Looking forward to seeing you then.

PS: *Sure is hot here!*

The Plus Sign

A 10 year old Jewish boy was failing maths. His parents tried everything, from tutors to hypnosis but to no avail. Finally, at the insistence of a friend, they decided to enrol their son at a private Catholic school.

After the first day, the parents were surprised when he walked in after school with a stern, focused and very determined look on his face. He walked straight past them, entered his room and quietly closed the door.

For nearly two hours he toiled away in his room, with maths books strewn around his desk and the surrounding floor. He emerged long enough to eat, and after cleaning his plate, went straight back to his room, closed the door and worked feverishly at his studies until bedtime.

This pattern of behaviour continued until it was time for the first term's report card. The boy walked in with it unopened, laid it on the dinner table and went straight to his room. Cautiously, his mother opened it and to her amazement saw a red *A* under the subject *maths*.

Overjoyed, she and her husband rushed to their son's room, thrilled at his remarkable progress. "Was it the nuns who did it?" his father asked. The son answered, "No".

"Was it the one-to-one tutoring, the peer mentoring?" "No," said the boy. "The teachers, the textbooks, the curriculum?" "No," said the son. "On that first day when I walked in the front door and saw that guy nailed to the plus sign, I knew they meant business!"

Quotes

1. If your parents never had children, chances are you won't either; *Dick Cavett*
2. The trouble with being punctual is that nobody's there to appreciate it; *Franklin P Jones*
3. When I was born I was so surprised I didn't talk for a year and half; *Gracie Allen*

More Bloopers from Church Bulletins

1. Next weekend's Fasting and Prayer Conference includes all meals.
2. Remember in prayer the many who are sick in our community. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say 'hell' to someone who doesn't much care about you.
3. Don't let worry kill you off. Let the church help.
4. Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.
5. At the evening service tonight the sermon topic will be 'What is hell?'. Come early and listen to our choir practice.
6. Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and the deterioration of some older ones.
7. Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on 24 October in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.
8. Scouts are saving aluminium cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.
9. Potluck supper Sunday at 5pm. Prayer and medication to follow.
10. The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.
11. The school drama group will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the church hall on Friday at 7pm. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.
12. Weight Watchers will meet this Friday at 7pm in the church hall. Please use the large double doors at the side entrance.

The Bulwer-Lytton Fiction Contest

A whimsical literary competition that challenges entrants to compose the opening sentence to the worst of all possible novels.

1. **Winner 1990:** Dolores breezed along the surface of her life like a flat stone skipping across smooth water, oblivious to everyday reality, until one day she lost momentum and sank, falling to the bottom where she remained while life passed her by, useless as an appendix and lonely as a 250 kilo barbell in a steroid-free fitness centre (Linda Vernon, CA).
2. **Winner 1999:** Through the gathering gloom of a late-October afternoon, along the greasy, cracked paving stones slick from the sputum of the sky, Stanley Ruddlethorp wearily trudged up the hill from the cemetery where his wife, sister, brother and three children were all buried and forced open the door of his decaying house, blissfully unaware of the catastrophe that was soon to devastate his life (Dr. David Chuter, Kingston, Surrey, England).
3. **Winner 2002:** On reflection, Angela perceived that her relationship with Tom had always been rocky, not quite a roller-coaster ride, but more like when the toilet paper roll gets a little squashed so it hangs crooked and every time you pull some off you can hear the rest going bumpity-bumpity in its holder until you push it back into shape, and this was now the feeling of annoyance that Angela had almost attained in her relationship (Rephah Berg, Oakland CA).
4. **Winner 2005:** As he stared at her ample bosom, he daydreamed of the dual Stromberg carburetors in his vintage Triumph Spitfire, highly functional yet pleasingly formed, perched prominently on top of the intake manifold, aching for experienced hands, the small knurled caps of the oil dampeners begging to be inspected and adjusted as described in Chapter 7 of the shop manual (Dan McKay, Fargo ND).
5. **Winner 2006:** Detective Bart Lasiter was in his office studying the light from his one small window falling on his super burrito when the door swung open to reveal a woman whose body said you've had your last burrito for a while, whose face said angels did exist, and whose eyes said she could make you dig your own grave and lick the shovel clean (Jim Buifli, Carmichael CA).

Hobbies are the things we do for fun and relaxation. These should lack the stress and pressures of work, but do they? While hobbies place demands on our time and require some learning to give us satisfaction, some people take their hobbies too seriously.

The boundary between obsession and fun can be a fine line. Take a look at those engaged in amateur football or tennis, or a card game. Look at the passion of collectors, the commitment of bush walkers or the intensity of gamers! Reminding ourselves that this is all for relaxation can easily be forgotten, and the stress of hobbies can soon be added to the stress of traffic, work, home and family demands.

Ideally, if we could work at something we love as a hobby, we should expect more satisfaction than working at something we cannot bring ourselves to love. My wife, Rowena, and I are lucky as we both work at what we love doing; photography and art. In the process of translating our hobbies into productive work we have perfected our crafts through many late-night hours of study and experimentation.

I believe that within each of us there is at least one area of natural genius waiting to be developed. Discovering that bit of genius in us can take time, and exploring different hobbies can be part of this process. A relative, friend or teacher may spot that bit of genius in us and suggest we try this or that activity. It is up to us, however, to work at developing that potential, otherwise it will be lost. I would encourage everyone to find a hobby as it is a great source of vitality and satisfaction.

Photo Tips

I want to finish off with a useful photo tip for the photography hobbyists here in Crestwood which is related to what I have written above. The secret of a good composition is within you, the individual photographer. Everyone photographs what they see in their mind's eye. The images may be captured by the eyes, but these are processed by the mind and their interpretation is overlaid by other images from our personal experiences.

With photography, as with art, we want to communicate our own view of the world. Images are everywhere, but what we want to communicate, and the way we do so, are unique. The way we compose an image in the viewfinder, the objects we choose for inclusion in our photograph and those we consciously or subconsciously ignore, this is what makes the photograph we take distinctive and different.



Paul Fanali

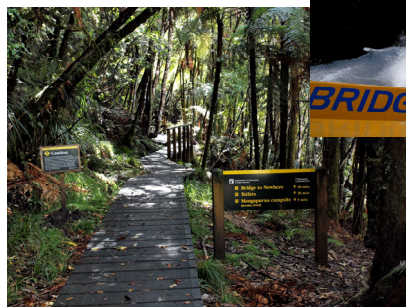
In 1917, the Maungapurua Valley, located in the middle of what is now the Whanganui National Park, was opened to settlement by servicemen returning from the first world war. They were given heavily forested, mountainous land rising steeply up from the Maungapurua River. It was a remote and difficult-to-access area serviced only by steamships operating on the Whanganui River. By the 1920s many of the servicemen had given up and vacated their farms.

New Zealand Bridge to Nowhere

As riverboat traffic gradually declined, replaced by road and rail, a bridge over the Maungapurua River was opened in 1936 to allow road access into the area. After a large flood in 1942, funds to maintain the road into the valley were no longer made available. The area was then closed to settlement and the three families remaining in the area at the time were ordered out. This was possible as the land remained in government hands and was only leased by the settlers.

Over the decades, all trace of the access road has disappeared, along with the homes and cultivated lands, but the solid, concrete bridge remains as the "Bridge to Nowhere".

Text by the Editor



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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
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Peter Wynen	9459 7788 / 0419 939 067
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Robyn Annen	9493 7434 / 041 797 2661
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Call or email the editor to add or remove details: 9459 2902 / crestwoodnews@inet.net.au

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TREASURES FROM TREES

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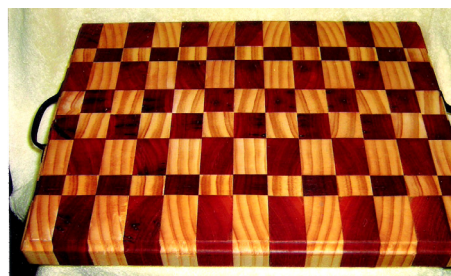
We offer a selection of attractive, interesting and practical HOME MADE wooden products that are hard to find in the usual run-of-the-mill shops. We're close at hand because we're Crestwood residents. The images below show you a few of our ideas ...



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