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CRESTWOOD NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE CRESTWOOD HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION

ISSUE NO. 53

MARCH - APRIL 2011

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DATES TO REMEMBER

CRESTWOOD HOMEOWNERS FEES

30 April 2011 (see page 6)

CRESTWOOD 20S CLUB

1 May 2011 (see page 6)

SWIMMING POOL BUSY BEE

1 May 2011 3:00 pm (see page 6)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

25 May 2011 (see page 6)

NEXT ISSUE

Deadline for the next **Crestwood News** is **3 June 2011**. 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

A small annual increase in fees leads to easy passage of the budget

The start of the meeting scheduled for 7:30 was delayed by 15 minutes due to the lack of quorum. There was a brief scurry as those present called neighbours or knocked on the doors of those living nearby to find the two more households required to enable the meeting to begin. At 7:45 the president called the meeting to order with 33 present and 61 proxies submitted, just over the 89 households required for a quorum.

The small increase over last year's fees, being just 1.9%, brought a question from the floor after the Treasurer, Roy Malone, presented the budget. When asked why the increase was not in the order of the 3% needed to cover annual inflation, Roy mentioned that the budget surplus from the current financial year was enough to cover the difference between the requested increase and inflation.

Roy's answer, however, did not entirely satisfy the questioner, and the president allowed the discussion to continue before a final vote was taken. The argument for a greater increase in fees was centred on having additional funds for improvement to the estate. Areas for improvement were those such security and infrastructure, and even salaries with the argument being made that just a small increase in salary for those employed by Crestwood might help retain staff. This all led to one final question, and that was whether there was an overall plan for improvement to the estate.

The answer to this question was, 'yes', and given as examples were the ongoing renewal of limestone walls for the underpasses, and replacement of the lines and bores of the reticulation system. Where necessary, this has come out of the sinking fund without requiring any special levy or undue increases in annual fees.

Two other questions were taken before a vote on the budget was called. One was on the mechanism for paying and claiming back GST. It was explained that purchases made by the estate could not be called GST free since tax was paid at the time of purchase. What did happen, however, was that the GST which was paid was later claimed when a tax return was filed.

The final question was querying what 'Gardening Services' referred to. This was basically the contract services which Crestwood engages for mowing the lawn and related tasks. There being no further questions, the president called for a vote. There was one vote against and all the rest for. The formal part of the meeting was closed at 8:15 and those interested in continuing to raise and discuss matters relating to the estate were invited to stay behind.

Continued on page 12 ...

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	Vacant		
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. 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.

24 January 2011
28 February
28 March
18 April
23 May
25 May (AGM)

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

WELCOME TO CRESTWOOD

Steve and Kirsty Miles and daughter, 44 Hume Road
 Stuart Capewell and Andrea Robinson and children, 3 Regency Drive

The end of another financial year approaches and that means the end of the summer season as well.

From the President

This year has run relatively smoothly with the exception of the Boxing Day storm and damage to properties and trees on the Estate. It took a week or so for the parks to be cleaned up and Grant and Damyn did an excellent job doing that.

The reticulation problems we have experienced have for the most part been related to electrical issues with the bores rather than broken mainline pipes. Identifying why the problems have occurred is ongoing and will hopefully be resolved at the earliest possible time.

With the end of the year comes the Annual General Meeting. Several positions on the Committee will become vacant. I would recommend that as many members as possible attend the AGM and give consideration to nominating for these positions. In particular, we need someone to nominate for the Pool Committee person position. By default, the responsibilities have fallen to the President and, consequently, liaison with Belgravia has not been as frequent as it has with our previous committee person and pool manager. I look forward to seeing many of you at the AGM.

Trevor Davis, President, Crestwood Homeowners Association

As we are all aware, it has been an extremely long, dry summer. There have been issues with the bores and getting the expected water allocation to residents. Apart from a lowering water table, there have been some electrical problems. Most of these issues have been addressed. The critical area is water supply.

Parks & Reticulation

The margin of supply is at a stage where even a few problems with broken or blocked pipes or sprinklers will cause one or two bores to trip out, meaning an excessively high or low pressure being registered. The short term solution has been to spread the output of the bores, which has been successful so far. A more permanent solution will be explored once the summer weather has eased and any disruptions to the reticulation will not be as critical. The parks have had a drastic reduction in watering over summer to ensure an adequate supply for the season. This is a precaution that is necessary to preserve our water resources.

The position of part-time gardener became vacant in January and an advertisement was placed in the West Australian classifieds. There were several applicants who met the criteria. After holding interviews it was decided to offer Delvin Davis the position. Delvin is currently studying Horticulture at TAFE (see page 9). He is progressing well in his knowledge of the Estate and it's unique environment.

The mowing contractors, "MultiTurf", are now coming in on Tuesdays rather than Mondays. This allows more time to do a park tidy after the weekend and also helps to keep a more consistent schedule by missing many Monday public holidays. A quote was tendered by MultiTurf to mow the Hume Road verge. This was accepted and mowing of the verges commenced in February. There have been several positive comments since.

The park vehicles, the ute and quad bike, have both had a long overdue service and thankfully there were no major issues with either. A meeting with the City of Gosnells to discuss the footpaths on the Estate and to schedule work was conducted in early March. The footpaths have been marked in order of priority and hopefully these will be repaired in the coming months.

On other matters, there will be a class of art students from All Saints College coming to repaint Underpasses E in the week before Easter. It is hoped disruption to access will be minimal. Your cooperation and consideration would be much appreciated.

Grant Douglas, Groundsperson

Firstly, I would like to extend the apologies of myself and Belgravia for the failure of the pool to open on time Australia Day. Unfortunately, the staff member rostered to attend and open up did not turn up for work and there was a delay in someone else arriving.

Pool

With the end of the pool season fast approaching the Committee has received positive feedback on the new management company, Belgravia, and their staff. The committee has been very happy with the working relationship with the managers and staff.

Closing day for the pool this year will be Tuesday, April 26, because of the additional public holiday. Arrangements have been made with Belgravia for a suitable inflatable to be at the pool in the afternoon.

As usual there will be a "busy bee" the first Sunday after the pool closes to clean and pack everything away for next season, that is Sunday, May 1, at 3.00pm. I look forward to seeing many of you there to help again.

Trevor Davis, President, Crestwood Homeowners Association

INCIDENT REPORT

Incidents reported on the Crestwood Estate

The Comment News has reported a break in on Regency Drive.



POLICE WATCH - Thornlie

from the *Comment News*

Break-ins Malone Ct, Hume Rd; graffiti damage Spencer Rd (8 February)

Break-ins Debenham St, Hughenden Dr, Merino Ct, Ovens Rd, Ravenhill Rd, Spring Rd, Wilfred Rd, Lyrebird Way; motor vehicle theft Clancy Way, Liata Ct, Lyrebird Way, Spring Rd (15 February)

Break-ins Spencer Rd, Maitland Pl; vehicle theft Forest Cres, Ironwood Ct, Spring Rd (8 March)

Break-ins Clancy Way Colby Way, Debenham St, Hunt St, Southdown Pl; vehicle theft Murdoch Dr (15 March)

Break-ins Argyle Ct, Corriedale Pl, Koel Way, Lyrebird Way, Malone Ct, Northwood Loop, Regency Dr; graffiti damage Murdoch Rd (22 March)

Break-ins Grundy Way, Hampton Ct, Pender Ct; motor vehicle theft Spencer Rd, Tawny Way (29 March)

MORE ON SCAMS

Here are some recent scams:

■ **Medicare, Centrelink and Veteran's Affairs** - Scammers have pretended to be from these organisations to try to steal personal information which can then be used to steal money or commit other crimes.

In the case of the first two agencies, the scammers reportedly offered cash and holiday prizes as rewards for participating in a survey and then went on to ask for personal information. For veterans, the scammers reportedly offered free electricity or pension benefits in return for personal information such as banking details and Department of Veteran's Affairs client numbers.

■ **Green Schemes** - Scammers have offered fake government rebates on energy efficiency and environmental initiatives, such as solar panel or hot water and water tank installation, asking for bank account details so that payment can be made or, for a fee, to release the rebate. Scammers have also offered devices that plug into the wall that they say will save electricity but don't.

■ **The Do Not Call Register** - Australians can list their phone numbers for free on the Australian Government's Do Not Call Register to avoid receiving unsolicited telemarketing (www.donotcall.gov.au and 1300 792 958). Recently scammers have been calling people and offering to put their number on the Do Not Call Register - for a fee.

■ **Digital Television** - Australia switches from the old analogue television system to digital transmission in stages until 2013 when the switch will be completed. Door to door sales scammers are selling people equipment to pick up the new signals on the fake promise that the government will reimburse costs.

WHAT TO DO

- Be cautious if you are contacted out of the blue (particularly by phone, email, SMS or by a door-to-door salesman), by someone claiming to be from a government department or other institutions offering rebates, requesting personal information or asking for payment. Real government departments and many institutions usually send a letter.
- If you are unsure, you can, for example, say you will get back to the person who has contacted you. Get contact details and then check those with a trusted source, such as a letter you already have from the

real organisation, the phone book or through a family member.

- Think carefully about what personal information you put on online social networking sites such as Facebook, as scammers can steal or otherwise take advantage of this to defraud you and others.
- If you later think you have provided your account details to a scammer, contact your bank or other financial institution immediately.

SOME BACKGROUND

Sweeping technological and social changes are fuelling new and varied scams around the globe. Already representing the fastest growing complaint category to Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC), there is no sign scam activity is going to let up.

Last year the ACCC received more than 20,000 complaints about scams with reported losses of up to \$70 million.

The more socially and financially active people are, the more exposed they are to the deceits of the modern day market. It once was the case where paper-based lottery scams which came in the mail and face-to-face approaches that caught people out.

While these are still troublesome, many scams are now internet-based and as more people use the internet for things such as banking, paying bills, shopping and email, the more exposed they are. Even the most astute consumer can be fooled by fake emails or fake websites telling you to 'click here' or 'confirm your details' or 'reset your password'.

Scammers often abuse peoples' trust of authority by posing as representatives of government departments, banks and other reputable organisations, and they keep up with and tap into concerns about the latest issues, such as the environment.

Online or otherwise, the ACCC advises consumers to never send money or give credit card or bank account details for an unexpected offer of any kind without taking time to carefully check all the facts.

Seeking advice of taking it through with a friend or relative might help you avoid a scam.

The Senior News, February 2011

January 2011

FROM THE MINUTES

REPORTS

Committee Business:

Parks and Reticulation: The damage caused by the high winds early in the morning of Boxing Day took a long time to clean up.

Many reticulation problems were encountered during the period over Christmas. While electrical problems have been rectified, water levels appear to have dropped which is affecting the bores. Confirmation of this is still awaiting the results of testing.

The quote for mowing along Hume Road has been accepted and mowing will commence immediately. Fluro paint is to be placed on footpaths where a dangerous area has been noted.

Pool: The heater for the toddler pool is now working. Replacement of the lane rope in the main pool is to be organised. New flotation mats of two different widths and qualities are to be purchased.

The request to hold a party at the pool for 80 guests has been declined. All party requests are to go to Trevor Davis. The request for a Kids Club function is still under consideration.

The issue of lifeguards wearing orange T-shirts has been addressed by Belgravia.

Aesthetics: John has been contacted regarding rear and dividing fences on Princeton Court. Information and forms are to be sent to the homeowners.

Finance: The fees for 2012 as recommended during the budget meeting were accepted. Relevant documents are to go out to homeowners prior to the Special General Meeting.

Reminders have been sent out regarding overdue fees. Legal action is to be taken where these have not been paid.

Social: The fundraising event suggested by the Gibbon family is to go ahead on 29 January. Cans of soft drink left over from Christmas celebrations are to be donated.

Visitors' Business: Two visitors were present at the meeting and the information here is attributed to them. One raised concerns about the problems with the reticulation over the preceding month. Concern was also raised over the quality of the repairs to the broken tiles at the side of the pool and a request was made for a new lane rope for the pool.

The second visitor had concerns about motorised vehicles still gaining access to the parks via pedestrian access points and also asked that the city council take action regarding the leaning wall at the rear of a property on Cavalier Court. A deeper question was raised regarding messy properties and the use of the Crestwood constitution as a guide to the standards required. This was followed by a discussion of what would be necessary to change the current constitution. At the present time this sort of problem is dealt with by negotiation. The visitor also asked about the regulations regarding the keeping of chooks and added a criticism that little evidence of the gardeners' work can be seen in the parks.

February 2011

Committee Business:

Parks and Reticulation: The new part-time gardener is Delvin Davis and he is to be introduced to residents in the next newsletter.

The reticulation system is working fine after adjustments to manage low water levels. A request from a homeowner to have mowing done by gardeners was received. After extensive discussion, a unanimous decision was made to continue with contract mowing as this currently provides the most economically feasible option.

Pruning of trees in the parks is to be carried out by T & A Tree Services. The servicing of the ute and quad bike is to be carried out. Identification of work required on paths has begun.

Trail bike riders have again been noted in the parks. Information relating to clear identification of offenders is difficult to obtain. All Saints students are to undertake refurbishment of the Underpass E mural during the school week before the Easter break.

Pool: A report was provided by Belgravia Leisure indicating that the attendance at the pool was good, the water condition was fine and there were three minor bee stings. New flotation mats are still to come and a new battery is required for the vacuum.

A request is to be made to Belgravia to have the names of the attendants written on the board at the entry to the pool. A discussion was also held regarding the use of Belgravia T-shirts with the wording 'lifeguard' on the back when working at Crestwood. This could be seen as incorrectly publicising the role of pool attendants. A suggestion was made that a more appropriate wording would be 'duty pool manager'.

Belgravia is to be asked about their thoughts on using a raised seat for pool attendants to better observe what is happening at the pool. This suggestion came from the Special General Meeting. Belgravia is also to be asked to get a tiler to check and fix all necessary tiling at the pool.

Jason is no longer acting as the pool supervisor. This role is now being undertaken by Dan Barber.

Aesthetics: The only recent activity in this area is a fence on Regency Drive.

Trevor asked John if permission was sought regarding the severe pruning of trees to a property on Princeton Court. A letter of concern is to be drafted and sent to the owner.

Finance: Some fees are still owing. Settlement of all fees is expected by the end of March. Invoices for 2011-2012 fees are to be mailed to homeowners.

Valuation of our two park areas is to be sought. Discussion was also held regarding the possibility of conducting a property audit. Frank Keays, who has had experience with previous audits, is to be included in the discussions.

Visitors' Business: The lone visitor requested permission to trim or remove large trees on a property. Approval was given for pruning. Removal of trees will only be approved with appropriate written documentation from a tree expert proving that the tree poses a danger to buildings or pedestrians.

General Business: Crestwood phone numbers are to be added to the "Do Not Call Register".



2011 – 2012 Crestwood Homeowners fees

Payment of Crestwood homeowners fees for the 2011-2012 financial year are due on **30 April 2011**. If you are paying by Option A, then a total amount of \$1098.00 is due at this time. If you are paying by Option B, then the first instalment of \$407.00 is due by this date.

If you miss the payment deadline for either of these two options, then your total fees of \$1220.00 become payable under Option C, due on 31 May 2011.

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.

Crestwood 20s Club

A 3 course lunch will be held on **Sunday, 1 May, at 12:30pm** in the Crestwood Hall. This is your chance to catch up on news, renew old friendships and welcome new members who have owned homes here in Crestwood for at least 20 years. The cost is \$20.00 per head payable in cash on the day. BYO drinks.

To assist with catering, **please reply as soon as possible to Margaret by landline phone 9459 4115, mobile 0409 919 350, or email 2mardav@ globaldial.com**. Replies must be received by Thursday, 21 April, before Easter and all those chocolate eggs!. Please advise if you have special dietary requirements, such as vegetarian, etc.

Happy Anniversary

Happy Anniversary to Mike and Chris Jarvis of Regency Drive on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Liz and Jon Graham of Lachlan Road on the birth of their son Joshua, a brother to Ashleigh, Alyssa and Jonathon.

And to Dave and Lisa of Regency Drive on the birth of their son Micah, a brother to Anneliese, Josiah, James and Michaela.

For Sale

Microwave convection oven. Purchased June 2002, used until November 2010. Clean and well-cared for. \$75.00. Contact Malcolm 9459 2902.

Annual General Meeting

**25 May 2011 — 7:30 pm
at the Crestwood Hall**

The Annual General Meeting of the Crestwood Homeowners Association will be held on Wednesday evening, 25 May 2011, at 7:30 at 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.

Coronet Ct and Princeton Ct Mind How You Park

Residents at the ends of Coronet Court and Princeton Court near the pool and Crestwood Hall have numerous visitor's cars parked outside their homes due to their location. Residents would like to remind visitors to please be considerate when parking in this area and be careful to:

- ... Park on the road and not on the lawn or in verge gardens. One car parking in such an area may not be a problem, but multiple cars doing so on an ongoing basis is.
- ... Make sure you park far enough away from the driveways to enable residents to enter and exit their homes without undue problems. A number of residents have reported access to their driveways being difficult.
- ... Be mindful on rubbish collection days (Tuesdays) to not block rubbish bins. These cannot be emptied with cars parked in front.
- ... Leave the estate access driveway on Princeton Court clear as cars in this area will block access for staff and emergency vehicles.
- ... Never park along the median circle of the cul-de-sac as this not only narrows access for turning vehicles, it is also a parking offence.

Repainting Murals at Underpass E Limited Access During School Hours

Students from All Saints College will be repainting Underpass E during the week before Easter, Mon 18 to Thursday 21 April. This is the underpass under Regency Drive at Coronet Court leading to Lachlan Road. They will do this as a community service project. Access through the underpass will be limited during school hours (9am-3pm) on these days.

Swimming Pool Busy Bee

The season is over and it's time to close up the swimming pool. Your help is needed. The more people helping the easier and quicker the task will be. Come and stay as long as you can.

Sunday, 1 May, starting at 3:00 pm.

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.

Crestwood's Part-time Gardener Delvin Davis

Crestwood's new part-time gardener is Delvin Davis who is in Perth pursuing a course of study. He comes originally from the city of Thrissur in the Indian state of Kerala, the state stretching along the southwestern coast of the peninsula. In historical reference it forms part of the Malabar Coast, known as a centre of trade with Europe and Middle East. The state of Kerala has a population of 32 million and the city of Thrissur, the 5th largest in the state, a population of 320,000. The language spoken in the area is Malayalam.

Delvin, 28 years old, is from a family of five. He has one brother and one sister. His earlier education includes a Bachelor of Education and a post-graduate degree in mathematics.

Delvin has been in Perth for just under two years studying at Challenger TAFE at Murdoch, now known as Challenger Institute of Technology. He has completed a Certificate IV in Horticulture where he studied courses on plant propagation, garden design, irrigation, landscaping and plant nutrition.

His current course of study is the two year Diploma of Horticulture and Landscaping. Included at this level of study are courses in parks and gardens restoration, brick paving and the construction of wooden structures, the setting up of controlled growing experiments, the collection and classification of plants, identification and management of insect pests, and the more business related areas of preparing estimates, quotes and tenders and giving specialist advice to clients.

At Crestwood Delvin is involved with any number of tasks required in the care of the estate. This includes working on irrigation, general maintenance, pruning, mowing, fertilising and the spraying of herbicides. He is impressed by how Crestwood is laid out, with parks behind each of the houses, and the number and variety of native trees and plants which attract large numbers of birds.

The area in which Delvin would like to work in the future is landscaping and gardening. If possible, he would like to continue working in Australia. I'm sure the Crestwood community will join in welcoming Delvin to the estate.

Text by the Editor



Confused Cuckoo

I'm just an old cuckoo with my chains hanging down
Not very pretty 'cos I'm mostly brown
Much loved by Peter I know for sure
His Mum the proud owner once before.



The problem is, to you I must tell
One hand came loose and off it fell
How could this happen to a bird like me?
Now I don't know to sing one, two or three.

I have two wings and a voice that's sweet
Two brown eyes and two strong feet
Two wooden doors that open for me
Now I don't know to sing one, two or three.

Peter winds me up carefully each day
I'm worried that I can't find my way
Check your watch, don't rely on me
Now I don't know to sing one, two or three.

I try my best to get it right
Guessing if it's day or night
Can't cuckoo too early or too late by gee
Now I don't know to sing one, two or three.

If only someone would give me a hand
Proud and happy I would stand
Very confused and all at sea
Now I don't know to sing one, two or three.

Chris Wynen, 2011

Make a Difference to Your Life



Nursing homes are not something we think about much unless a loved one or friend has to go there. It may surprise many to discover that volunteers find it rewarding to spend time in a care facility, helping residents, carers and therapy staff. Here are some observations from some of the volunteers at the Amaroo Nursing Home.

Volunteer Observations

- Juti, from the Cocos Islands, who has been a volunteer for five years, says, "It gives me pleasure to visit and help residents, to make their lives comfortable." She prepares quizzes for the residents, assists with sing-a-longs, prepares footy-tipping during the footy season and often just visits residents for a chat.
- Osman, Juti's husband, is also a volunteer. "I like to help people," he said. "I feel happy when I work with nice people." He helps take residents on outings.
- Frankie, from Roleystone, who is 73 years old but feels like 21 because of her volunteering, has been coming to Amaroo for 6 years, ever since her granddaughter dropped her off to visit a resident. She recalls, "From the first time I put my foot in the door, I have never looked back. Despite some serious health problems, I will never give it up. I see some sad things but I will never stop coming. I talk to residents, give a cuddle when necessary, assist with Bingo or help fold the laundry."
- Robert came as a visitor to see his mother who is a resident. Now he also assists with activities and drives the bus when residents have an outing. There are not many male volunteers and Robert would love to have someone with an HR licence (a licence to drive heavy rigid class vehicles) to assist with the bus driving.
- Doreen has been a volunteer for 12 years. She says, "I have seen the difference volunteers make to the lives of the residents. It's nice to get to know them personally. I have become very fond of some of them. There is also a sense of community with the other volunteers." She assists with an assortment of activities and is currently busy tending the courtyard gardens.
- Jean says, "I enjoy being with the residents. I like to see a smile on their faces. They like company. It also gets me out of the house." She helps with Silver Screen (movies on a Monday) and other activities and also visits residents for a friendly chat.
- Bev assists with various activities. "It gives me satisfaction to do something to help old people whom I love. It is a pleasure to help those in the dementia wing in particular where residents have good days and bad days."

All the volunteers say they will keep coming as long as they are able to because the experience is rewarding for them.

Personal Experience

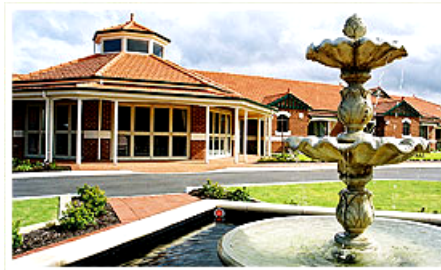
When I became a volunteer, I agreed to help in the dementia wing. It can make one sad to see people who had full and meaningful lives now incapacitated with dementia or Alzheimer's disease, but I know my being there can make a difference. It gives me a great sense of achievement to feed breakfast or morning tea to those who cannot feed themselves, or to try and comfort someone who is distressed.

When possible I have worked on puzzles and

VOLUNTEERS

FEATURES

other activities that residents can manage. I also take wheelchair-bound residents for a "walk" outside. In addition I visit residents in the non-dementia wings for a chat, interaction over a jigsaw puzzle or Sudoku, or I sometimes read a Bible text for a particular resident who requests this because she cannot hold a book due to multiple sclerosis. I have also befriended a resident who has great difficulty speaking following a stroke. For this reason she chooses to stay in her room alone, everyday. She understands everything and has a great



sense of humour. I look forward to seeing her every Monday because we have a wonderful time together.

It has been sad when residents pass away, because over

time they have become friends. I am inspired by the spirit and attitude of some residents who deal with the debilitating effects of some disease or the indignities of old age with grace and courage. I see the best of human behaviour, when some devoted husbands, wives and children visit their loved ones every single day. I am also impressed by the volunteers who give so much time to the Home. I have met some wonderful people, like Les, 82, who was a daily visitor to see his wife. After she passed away, he became a volunteer. I sometimes feel he himself needs looking after, but he does a whole lot of things for others: feeds dementia residents, organises activities for the Men's Shed, assists with bus outings for residents, fixes and makes things for residents and therapy assistants to use and provides friendship for those who need it. He has a heart of gold and is the gentlest, kindest person I have ever met. I have met young volunteers, too, and have been touched and impressed by their compassion and sensitivity when dealing with the aged.

Options for Volunteering

A volunteer at Amaroo has many options. If you have a special skill you would like to share there is a place for you. You could assist with activities like Scrabble, Bingo, poetry reading, computer mentoring, arts and crafts, or physical activities like skittles or carpet bowling. You can assist with making and serving morning and afternoon tea or be involved in one-to-one activities for social interaction. If you speak a foreign language you could provide friendship for a non-native speaker of English. You can choose what you would like to do. You could volunteer at the low care Buckley Centre or at the high care McMahon Caring Centre, both in Gosnells. You can volunteer for just two hours a week if that is all the time you can spare.

Contacts

If you want to make a positive difference in your life by making a difference in someone else's life, please contact Tina Foster, the Resident Services Coordinator. She can be reached on 9490 3899 or by email, tinaf@amaroovillage.com.au. Her office is at 2 Wreford Court, Gosnells. You can also get more information by visiting the Amaroo website: <http://www.amaroovillage.com.au/join-our-team/volunteers.aspx>. If you choose to volunteer, you will not regret your decision.

Submitted by Rosemary of Coronet Court

Grandparent's Answering Machine

Sorry we are unable to take your call. Please select from the following options and we will return your call as soon as possible.

If you are one of our children, press 1 followed a number from 1 to 5 in order of birth so we know who you are. Then make one of the following selections:

Press 2 if you need us to stay with the children.

Press 3 If you want to borrow the car.

Press 4 if you want us to wash your clothes and do the ironing.

Press 5 if you want the grandchildren to sleep here tonight.

Press 6 if you want us to pick up the kids at school.

Press 7 if you want us to prepare a meal for Sunday and have it delivered to your home.

Press 8 if you want to come and eat here.

Press 9 if you need money.

If you are going to invite us to dinner, or take us to the theatre, start talking. We are listening!

Roast Lines

1. What can you say about a man who is admired, revered and loved by everyone? I can start by saying he's not the man we're honouring tonight.
2. She doesn't put on airs. After all the holiday eating, she has enough trouble just putting on her slacks.
3. With most people the left side of the brain does some things and the right side does others. In his case, however, neither side seems to do a whole lot.
4. There's no middle ground with this guy. You either hate him or detest him.
5. I'd like to introduce a man who never says a bad word about anybody. He doesn't know anybody.
6. He's one of the most colourful personalities I know. He's either green with envy, red with anger or shows a yellow streak down his back.
7. She has the grace of a swan, the wisdom of an owl and the eye of an eagle. Ladies and gentlemen, this woman is for the birds.
8. We have received a number of congratulatory telegrams for this event – from people congratulating themselves for not being here.
9. He's afraid nobody will remember him when he's gone. I can think of several reasons he'll be remembered, but I wouldn't like to mention any of them in public.
10. I don't like him, and I always will.

Classified Ad Bloopers

1. Save regularly in our bank. You'll never regret it.
2. Mother's helper. Peasant working conditions.
3. Mixing bowl set designed to please a cook with round bottom for efficient beating.
4. To let: 4 bedroom apartment close to town. No poets.
5. Used cars. Why go elsewhere to be cheated. Come here first.
6. Auto repair service. Free pick-up and delivery. Try us once. You'll never go anywhere again.
7. Our bikinis are exciting. They are simply the tops.

Humour

The Zen of Sarcasm

1. If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is probably not for you.
2. Everyone seems normal until you get to know them.
3. Generally speaking, you aren't learning much when your lips are moving.
4. Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.
5. Never test the depth of the water with both feet.

Answers from British Quiz Shows to Make you Cringe

1. Where do you think Cambridge University is? Geography isn't my strong point. There's a clue in the title. Leicester.
2. Who had a worldwide hit with *What a Wonderful world?* I don't know. I'll give you some clues. What do you call the part between your hand and your elbow? Arm. And if you're not weak, you're ... ? Strong. Correct. And what was Lord Mountbatten's first name? Louis. Well, there we have it then. So who had a worldwide hit with *What a Wonderful World?* Frank Sinatra.
3. What is the nationality of the Pope? I think I know that. Is it Jewish?
4. What was Ghandi's first name? Goosey.
5. Which American was married to Nicole Kidman? Forrest Gump.
6. Which kind of whale can weigh up to 80 tonnes? Ummm. It begins with 's' and ends with 'perm'. Shark.
7. How many kings of England have been called Henry? Well, I know there was Henry the Eighth. Errr. Three?
8. How long did the Six Day War between Egypt and Israel last? (After a long pause) Fourteen days.
9. Johnny Weissmuller died on this day. Which jungle-swinging character clad only in a loinloth did he play? Jesus.
10. Who wrote *Lord of the Rings*? Enid Blyton.
11. Name the funny men who once entertained kings and queens at court. Lepers.
12. What is India's currency? Ramadan.

HEALTH & BEAUTY

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 Pergamano Parchment Craft
 Scrapbooking – *Creative Memories*
 Woodcraft – *Treasures from Trees*

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Indonesian & Malay Text books
 Photographers – Weddings, portraits, restorations
 Printing

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 Carpet Cleaning - *Chem-Dry Fresh*
 Pool Service & Repairs – *Pools Ain't Pools*
 All Garden Services
 Sheep Manure - Large bags, free delivery

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 'L' Driver Training
 PT 4 ME Personal Trainer
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 Organic Fruit & Vegetable Delivery – *Perth Organics*

OTHER PRODUCTS & SERVICES

Entertainment – DJ/Karaoke
 Real Estate
 Spray Painting
 Warehousing – Car & General Storage

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
Melissa	9459 5979 / 0417 978 687
Daphne	9459 6014
Mike Jarvis	9459 0348
Carol	9459 4728
Enita	9452 8967 / 0402 310 775
Robyn or Don	0415 284 997/0417 940 736
Malcolm	9459 2902
Rowena and Paul	6161 3976 / 0428 955 588
Malcolm MacLeod	9358 4944
Tony	9459 5356 / 9459 9447
Keith or Kim	1800 099 095/0409 292 047
Andrew	9493 6191 / 0413 170 217
George	94593448 / 040611721
John	9459 4318 / 0435 935 275
Haydon Brand	9459 6114
Mike Upson	9493 0005
Roger Knight	9452 7648
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
Matthew	0431 530 995
Tony	9459 5356 / 9459 9447

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

E-MAIL COMMUNICATION FOR IMPORTANT CRESTWOOD NOTICES

The idea of collecting residents' email addresses for important Crestwood notices has been raised before. There has, however, been a low take-up of supplying such addresses. As the majority of homeowners would have access to computers, the ability to send information quickly to a large number of houses is important for many reasons.

I see email communication being used for announcing special meetings and the AGM, the Crestwood monthly committee meetings, reticulation breakdowns, emergency pool closures, strangers in the parks, break-ins to alert neighbours, warning of fallen branches or broken footpaths, as well as electronic delivery of the Crestwood News and notification of other important events on the Estate that may affect residents.

The collected email addresses would not be used for commercial advertising or resident's private matters. The frequency of messages would be controlled with only those that are urgent or important being sent out. It is envisaged that all addresses would be blind so that they will not be available to anyone other than the operator and the individuals receiving them. Email use would be supervised by the committee with the possibility of an interested homeowner acting as an operator who would be reimbursed for his or her time.

I am liaising with the committee on this matter and if I receive sufficient positive feedback and suggestions, I will prepare a summary so it can be discussed at the next AGM in May with a decision made at that time. If you share my desire to improve our Estate communications at little cost, please respond to me before April 29.

Bill Walter, 23 Grenadier Drive/ corpcredit@bigpond.com / telephone 9459 3994

ljhooker.com

BUYING OR SELLING IN CRESTWOOD?

Living & Working in Crestwood

Free Appraisal – Advice
PETER WYNEN

a/h: 9459 8381

mob: 0419 939 067

e-mail: peter.for.homes@bigpond.com

L.J. HOOKER

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ADVERTISING RATES

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

The *Crestwood News* is a 12 or 16 page newsletter published bi-monthly. It is distributed free to the 295 households on the Crestwood Estate in Thornlie. An additional 30 copies go out to owners who let their properties and do not live on the estate.

If you would like to advertise in the *Crestwood News*, phone the editor, 9459 2902, or email crestwoodnews@inet.net.au to discuss submission of your ad. You will be invoiced for the full amount after your ad first appears in the newsletter.

... continued from page 1

Special General Meeting

Residents helped themselves to cans of soft drink, tea or coffee and sat back down for what was a short session touching on three main topics. The first was security, and it was agreed that this was a topic which should be taken up further at the AGM. The second was about the parks with a question about trees. For native trees, the preference is to trim them where branches were considered unsafe, but retain such trees unless they themselves are considered dangerous. It was pointed out that one of the attractions of Crestwood was its parks and trees.

The final topic dealt with the pool and there were a number of issues raised which for the most part came down to the lifeguards being young and somewhat inexperienced, and there being no one committee member with responsibility for this area of the estate as no volunteer has come forward.

Some of the problems observed were a family who continued to use glasses and bottles within the pool compound counter to the signs and after being told by the lifeguard this was not acceptable. Also mentioned was ball throwing in the pool when there were other people swimming, bommies done in such a way as to cause a maximum amount of water to splash out of the pool and onto others reading on the lounges, and entry to the pool without passes. A suggestion was also made to erect a lifeguard chair so the lifeguards had a place to sit while observing the swimmers and to give them a better view of what was happening.

The discussion over, the meeting ended at 8:30.