



“A fantastic festival!”

This month the City of Glen Eira will join hands with its sister city Ogaki in an exciting array of activities, demonstrations and exhibitions for the first Glen Eira-Ogaki Japanese Festival.

The festival, from 19 to 28 March, will bring together the traditional and contemporary elements of Japanese culture and provide a first class opportunity to experience the diversity of Japan's art, literature, and lifestyle.

Cr Veronika Martens, who has been chairperson of the Sister City Committee since it was established, said the festival was a fantastic way to celebrate 10 years of strong links between the cities.

“This is a very active community committee, that has been involved in organising youth exchange visits, and hosting delegations of Council officials and citizens of Ogaki. The committee is delighted Glen Eira is holding the Japanese Festival, and provided a \$10,000 seeding grant to the festival, to help further forge our strong links.

“We are delighted that our sister city will be involved in the festival, including a visit by the mayor of Ogaki and an artists' delegation. I invite the Glen Eira community to participate in a wonderful range of events,” Cr Martens said.

Festival co-ordinator Susan Pilbeam described the event as a 10-day celebration of the 10-year relationship between the two cities. She said the wide range of events would offer those unfamiliar with Japan easy access to the culture. She hoped the festival would open up the connection between the cities to the whole community.

The events range from art exhibitions to film and animation screenings, from Ikebana, the beautiful art of flower arranging, to interior garden displays, from Tea Ceremony demonstrations to calligraphy and shakuhachi (bamboo flute) demonstrations. The festival will also include education programs and activities geared to the younger members of our city, including Internet and multi-media activities.

Glen Eira will host three delegations from Ogaki—the largest and most prestigious group of delegates yet to visit Glen Eira; including a civic delegation of Ogaki's Mayor Mr Mitsuru Ogura and his wife and several Ogaki dignitaries.

The artists delegation comprises two instructors in Ikebana and Tea Ceremony who will demonstrate these traditional Japanese arts. Four Ogaki women will also be participating in Festival events and will be in home stay accommodation. The delegations will be accompanied by translator Junko Kawai, originally from Ogaki, now resident in Australia.

The logo for the event (top left) was designed by Ogaki-born artist Mami Yamanaka. She said she was proud to contribute to the event in this way.

Her design incorporates the symbol of a water droplet (as testament to Ogaki's historic name of “City of Water”) and the graphic element of a “talking bubble” from Manga comic books; to highlight the notion of communication between the sister cities.



(Left to right) Japanese Festival co-ordinator Susan Pilbeam, artist Mami Yamanaka, Visual Arts Co-ordinator David O'Halloran, and artist Masato Takasaka.
Photo: Les O'Rourke.

**For details of Festival Program
see back page.**

Special Feature

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Glen Eira News Special Edition

Inside you will find our first Glen Eira City Council—the heart of your city supplement; covering the achievements of Council during this last mayoral year—find out how your council has been working for the benefit of residents and ratepayers.

MAYOR'S column



Japanese festival

During March Glen Eira is conducting a Japanese festival, which will feature a wide selection of Japanese art and cultural effects and will reflect the close ties we have with our Sister city, Ogaki.

We are proud of our relationship with the people of Ogaki and of Japan. Through the Sister City Program and

through the festival, we hope that closer cultural and economic ties may be developed.

To honour us, the Mayor of Ogaki, Mr Mitsura Ogura and his wife will be visiting Glen Eira on 24 March. This will be Mr Ogura's second visit to Melbourne and will be a highlight of the festival. We are most honoured by this visit and special receptions and civic events are planned. They will be accompanied by Director of the Secretarial and PR Division Mr Yoshida Makino, and Section Chief of the Ogaki International Exchange Association Mr Hideo Inoue. Also, Mr Tetsushi Ogawa of the Secretarial and PR division will be assisting Glen Eira staff with Festival events and displays.

Also to assist in the festival, Ogaki has kindly offered to send a considerable number of exhibits, such as paintings, crafts, photographs and ceramics for exhibition as well as instructors in the art of Flower Arrangement and the Traditional Tea Ceremony. In addition a delegation of four women will be visiting.

Ogaki has also given a Japanese stone ceremonial lantern to celebrate the relationship between the two cities. This lantern will be dedicated as part of the formal reception for Mayor Ogura and will then form the centre piece of a Japanese garden that is proposed for development in 1999. We thank Ogaki for their extremely generous gift.

Gift giving and exchange is a significant part of Japanese culture and symbolises the friendship and trust between the two cities. Other gifts from our sister city have included a Japanese tea set, extensive photographic and video displays about Ogaki, and a range of souvenirs of the city.

I urge all of Glen Eira to partake in the festivities, visit the displays and cultural events.

Mayoral farewell

March 22nd marks the end of my Mayoral term. My term as Mayor of Glen Eira has been a challenging but most enjoyable opportunity for myself and my wife, Jane. It is fair to say there have been considerable troubles over the year but the good times have prevailed. I am honoured to have been able to serve the City of Glen Eira as its second Mayor, and look forward to supporting my successor.

Thank you to all of the community who have welcomed me during my term. We have a wonderful community, a very diverse community, but as with anything we can make it even better still. I encourage everybody to work towards making Glen Eira an even better place to live, work and play.

Barry Neve

— Cr Barry Neve
Mayor

From the Chamber... Recent Council decisions

Replacement of bus shelters

Expressions of interest will be invited for the replacement of existing bus shelters throughout the city with new fully maintained shelters, in return for the right to sell advertising space on the shelters. Proposals would be subject to planning approval and aim to optimise financial return to Council.

Emergency plan endorsed

Council has considered a new Municipal Emergency Management Plan which takes effect immediately. The Plan outlines Council's role in responding to and providing resources to emergencies and assisting the community to recover following an emergency.

Glen Eira is one of the first municipalities in Victoria to have produced a plan under new guidelines developed by the State Emergency Service. The SES, local police, Red Cross, Ambulance and Fire Brigade services assisted in compiling the Plan.

Unpaid rates— two more properties targeted

Council has approved a "last resort" option to commence the statutory process of selling two properties that have combined rate debts of nearly \$20,000 between them. The properties— one in Carnegie, the other in Caulfield North— have not had rates paid for at least the last three years.

This action follows on from a similar decision made by Council in 1998 over another property in Glen Eira with a rate debt of more than \$30,000.

Agreement has since been reached with the owner of this property to fully discharge the debt by February this year.

Next Ordinary Council meeting

The next Ordinary Council meeting will be held on Monday, 15 March commencing at 7.30pm in the Council Chamber, corner Hawthorn Road and Glen Eira Road. The meeting is open to the public.

We were wrong!

In last month's From the Chamber column on this page we ran an article outlining a new policy adopted by Council to advise residents and businesses on the correct placement of mobile garbage bins and recycling containers.

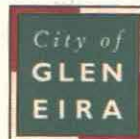
This article included a statement that all containers 'must be returned to properties by 12 noon on the day of the collection'. This was wrong. The 12 noon deadline applies to commercial properties only.

Residents have until midnight on collection day to return bins and recycling containers to their homes.

We apologise for any inconvenience or misunderstanding caused.

If you have any queries about Council's waste collection service, contact us on 9524 3333.

Anzac Day Service



The people of Glen Eira are invited to attend an Anzac Day Service at the War Memorial (north-west side) in Caulfield Park on Sunday 18 April, commencing 2.30pm.

Following the service light refreshments will be served in the marquee located in Caulfield Park. Contact: 9524 3225.

'Go Casual for a Cause' Day 5 March 1999

Glen Eira City Council will again support 'Go Casual for a Cause' Day to raise money for the Spastic Society. Any staff member dressed casually on Friday 5 March will be participating in this charity event. Badges will be on sale at the Service Centre for \$2 or \$5 for anyone wishing to make a contribution to this worthy cause.

DISCLAIMER

The information in this publication is of a general nature. The articles contained herein are not intended to provide a complete discussion on each subject and/or issues canvassed. Glen Eira City Council does not accept any liability for any statements or any opinion, or for any errors or omissions contained herein.

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GLEN EIRA CITY COUNCIL

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Citizens' contribution honoured

— Citizen and Young Citizen of the year

by Robyn Szechtman

The City of Glen Eira recently celebrated Australia Day with a delicious breakfast, attended by 230 guests, in Council's Auditorium. The event has been described as a "wonderful success", and was attended by Mayor Cr Barry Neve and Mayoress Jane Neve, along with Councillors and representatives from State and Federal governments and the community.

Nehama Patkin and the Young Musicians of Excellence entertained the breakfasters and guest speaker Di Fleming, principal of Kilvington Girls Grammar School and Telstra Business woman of the Year 1998, spoke about the qualities of leadership.

During the breakfast Glen Eira's Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year were announced: Emil Braun for 30 years community service, and Skye Holcombe for her contribution to community and school life.

In accepting his award, Mr Braun said he was very happy and proud. He arrived in Australia 49 years ago, an orphan from war-torn Europe. Born in Eastern Czechoslovakia, Mr Braun was 12 when taken to various concentration camps including Buchenwald and Aushwitz.

After the war he returned home to serve a three-year apprenticeship as a jeweller before escaping after the communist takeover. He said his biggest success in life was choosing Australia as the place to settle where he has established a family and built many friendships.

Mr Braun has a long list of achievements including involvement in several charities; he was one of the founders of the Theodor Herzl Social Club and became president of the Jewish Welfare Society's appeal that raised more than \$1 million.

In 1984, Mr Braun was elected to Caulfield Council and served as its Mayor during 1988-89. As Mayor, he initiated the relationship with the City of Ogaki and 10 years later is still on Glen Eira's Friendly Cities Advisory Committee. He is proud of helping to establish Spurway Nursing home and a neighbour park in Gardenvale, and preventing the Elsternwick Station being redeveloped as a department store.

Skye Holcombe described her reaction to being presented with the Glen Eira Young Citizen of the Year as "completely astounded".

"I was so happy to be nominated, I never expected that I would win. There were some very talented people up there and I was waiting for some one else's name to be called. I have always been involved in a lot of things but I did not expect any reward," Skye said.

She has been the Vice President and President of the Student Representative Council at McKinnon Secondary School and was presented with the Marie Young Memorial Award that recognises school service. She has participated in numerous youth programs and initiatives with Glen Eira City Council,

including working as a journalist and sub-editor on The Why? Generation Youth Magazine for a year. Skye also received a Certificate of Appreciation from the city for her efforts and another for being a volunteer in the Youth Services Department.

Skye has already made a strong foray into her plan of becoming a journalist and is a regular contributor to the Glen Eira News Youth Page.



Citizens' of the year



Two of the young Musicians of Excellence concentrate on their performance.

Superannuation — inquiry widened

Glen Eira City Council has successfully lobbied for improvements to the terms of reference for the Board of Inquiry into the superannuation dispute between Glen Eira and Kingston. The terms of reference will now include redundancy issues, instead of covering only 15 per cent of Kingston's claim.

Glen Eira City Council requested a process which could resolve all aspects of this matter as soon as possible. Council has also sought involvement of legal expertise in the process, as the issues are mainly legal ones.

This dispute could have huge financial implications for rate payers in Glen Eira. The amount of the claim against Glen Eira by Kingston is equivalent to 25 per cent of the money contributed by ratepayers in one year.

Glen Eira has already paid Kingston approximately \$3.5 million for the retrenchment costs of implementing amalgamations, shortly after the new cities were formed. Kingston agreed to conduct an audit of actual costs up to 30 June 1995 so that the amount could be adjusted up or down. Kingston has not yet supplied that audit.

Kingston is claiming a further \$5.86 million, including \$4.99 million for Moorabbin employees' "redundancy costs" — even if employees have not been made redundant and there is no cost.

Our lawyers believe Kingston is mistaken. Glen Eira Councillors have decided unanimously to defend Glen Eira residents and ratepayers against this claim.

Immunisation dates for March and April

Tuesday 9 March 6pm-7.30pm
Elsternwick Uniting Church,
567 Glen Huntly Road, Elsternwick

Saturday 13 March 9.30am-10.30am
East Bentleigh Community Health Centre,
Gardners Road, East Bentleigh

Tuesday 16 March 9.30am-10.30am
East Bentleigh Community Health Centre

Monday 22 March 9.30am-10.30am
Murrumbeena Baptist Church,
44 Murrumbeena Road, Murrumbeena

Wednesday 24 March 9.30am-10.30am
Glen Huntly M&CH, Corner Royal and Rosedale
Avenues, Glen Huntly

Wednesday 7 April 9.30am-10.30am
Glen Eira Town Hall, corner Hawthorn and Glen
Eira Roads, Caulfield South, 1st Floor Auditorium

Monday 12 April 1.30pm-2.30pm*
Bentleigh Baptist Church,
9 Vickery Street Bentleigh

NB Please note no sessions will be held at the Town Hall during March due to renovations

* this session has moved due to Easter break.

LIBRARY News

Bag a book in March!

Each time you borrow 10 or more books during March, you can enter the draw for a \$50 book voucher donated by Jeffrey's Book Shop, of 142-144 Glenferrie Road, Malvern.

A low-calorie Easter gift for you or a friend!

"Brenn Barcon: Kooris in Caulfield" Caulfield Library, Tuesday 9 March at 7.30pm

Brenn Barcon, local Aboriginal Affairs writer and speaker, introduces you to some of the local Koori history.

Tickets: \$3 members, \$5 non-members.

Just two "Pyjama pranks" left

Join us for the last of our summer series of Bedtime storytimes at Caulfield Library on Monday 15 March and at Bentleigh Library on Wednesday 17 March.

Sessions are free and begin at 7pm. A great family event.

Speaking of libraries...

Need a speaker? The Glen Eira Library and Information Service can provide speakers for your community group or meeting. Ask at any branch or call Margaret Grabau, Programs and Marketing Librarian on 9532 9833.

Free Internet at the libraries

Did you know that as a library member you can access the 14 personal computers located at Bentleigh, Carnegie, Caulfield and Elsternwick libraries?

Don't delay! Take the plunge and surf the Internet today! It's free, but bookings are usually required (phone bookings are accepted).

Happy Easter from Glen Eira Library and Information Service

All branches will be closed on Friday 2 April and Monday 5 April. Hours as normal on Saturday 3 April and Sunday 4 April.

Don't miss our great Senior's Week activities listed in this edition.

"The Business of Success" Business Seminar

Dale Murdoch of Train Your Brain, in association with Glen Eira City Council, and Purple Harmony Plates P/L, will present a unique 'whole-istic' approach to Business.

The content of this seminar is based on the most up-to-date research in psychology, customer service, and successful business practices.

Date: Tuesday 16 March

Venue: Councillors Dining Room, 1st floor, Town Hall complex, corner Glen Eira and Hawthorn Roads, Caulfield. Entry from Glen Eira Road, under the clock tower.

Time: 7.30-9.30 pm, entry at 7pm

Cost: \$75

For bookings and information, please contact
Train Your Brain by Friday 12 March
Phone 9557 9734



Doing Business



Business Victoria Group Programs

Glen Eira City Council, in association with approved consultants, will be delivering a number of Business Growth Programs subsidised by Business Victoria throughout the first half of 1999.

The Business Growth Programs aim to assist Victorian companies/businesses with growth potential to become internationally competitive, internet aware and export ready through a process of continual improvement.

The Group Programs will consist of 5 to 10 companies who are manufacturing and/or trade-exposed service industries. Programs on business planning and marketing are also being developed for interested and progressive retail businesses.

Some of the programs likely to be delivered are:

- Strategic Business Planning,
- Export Planning,
- Marketing,
- Human Resource Planning and Development, and
- Internet Marketing and Awareness.

Council is calling for expressions of interest from companies who would like more information on these programs or who would like to participate. For further information or to register your expression of interest, please contact Business Development Planner Andrew Millen on 9524 3384.

Last chance!

— for directory entry!

The Glen Eira Business Directory and Community Resource Guide will be published and distributed free to all residential and commercial premises next month.

Don't miss the deadline if you want to be correctly represented in this publication.

For business name and listing validation, internet listing and advertising in the Business Directory, details must be supplied to adNet Australia no later than 5pm on Friday 19 March. Contact: adNet Australia on 1800 066 042.

Deadline for Glen Eira News

Editorial contributions and advertisement bookings are welcome for the Glen Eira News.

The next issue will be released on 6-8 April, 1999. The deadline is **Tuesday 9 March, 1999.**

Advertising rates are available by contacting Margaret on 9524 3224.

To submit editorial material for consideration, fax 9524 3358, email on mail@gleneira.vic.gov.au or write to:

Glen Eira News

PO Box 42, Caulfield South 3162.

P&S CAULFIELD BUSINESS CENTRES

CAULFIELD'S NEW SERVICED OFFICES

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Neerim Home Business Community

Trade and Info Fair 12noon to 4pm

Tuesday 9 March 1999 at The Bentleigh Club
Yawla Street, Bentleigh

12noon to 2pm Network and Information Exchange

12.30: Talks Subject "Money Matters"

- *Where does or should money go?
- *Keeping track of money flows
- *What's new in records technology?

1.30 pm: Home Business Network and Trading

Entrance: \$16 with good lunch Members \$10

2pm to 4pm Trade Fair FREE

Buyers & browsers welcome
For info on Stands/Tressels Phone/Fax Betty 9557 7822

Next Info Fair Tuesday 11 May 1999

For info on NHBC ring Orek 9578 3531
or Marlene 9527 1205

Phoenix Precinct

– Urban Design Framework on display

The draft Phoenix Precinct Urban Design Framework is on public exhibition from 9 March.

The Phoenix Precinct encompasses the area around the grandstand side of Caulfield Racecourse, Monash University Caulfield Campus, Derby Road shopping centre and Caulfield Plaza, and residential areas in the vicinity.

Prepared by the Gerner Consulting Group, the Urban Design Framework aims to guide future development within this key precinct of the city.

The Framework examines a number of issues around the precinct including traffic and parking, pedestrian access, Derby Road and the development of buildings and housing.

Key elements of the draft report include:

Urban Design Guidelines

A series of Urban Design Guidelines have been formulated to assist key stakeholders in the Precinct to develop their land in a manner that contributes positively to the public realm and existing residents and landowners.

Traffic Management and Pedestrian Action Plan

A series of traffic management measures is recommended so that intrusive through traffic is removed, improving accessibility to all parts of the Precinct for residents and shoppers.

Precinct Parking Plan

Implementation of a Car Parking Strategy that increases the number of spaces available and is self financing.

Caulfield Station Transport Modal Interchange

The Caulfield Station area could be developed as a transport modal interchange, incorporating rationalised bus, tram and taxi stops; pedestrian shelter and seating; improved pedestrian crossings; a

café and pedestrian shelter on the former goods ramp; bicycle lockers; and street tree and amenity improvements.

Derby Road Action Plan

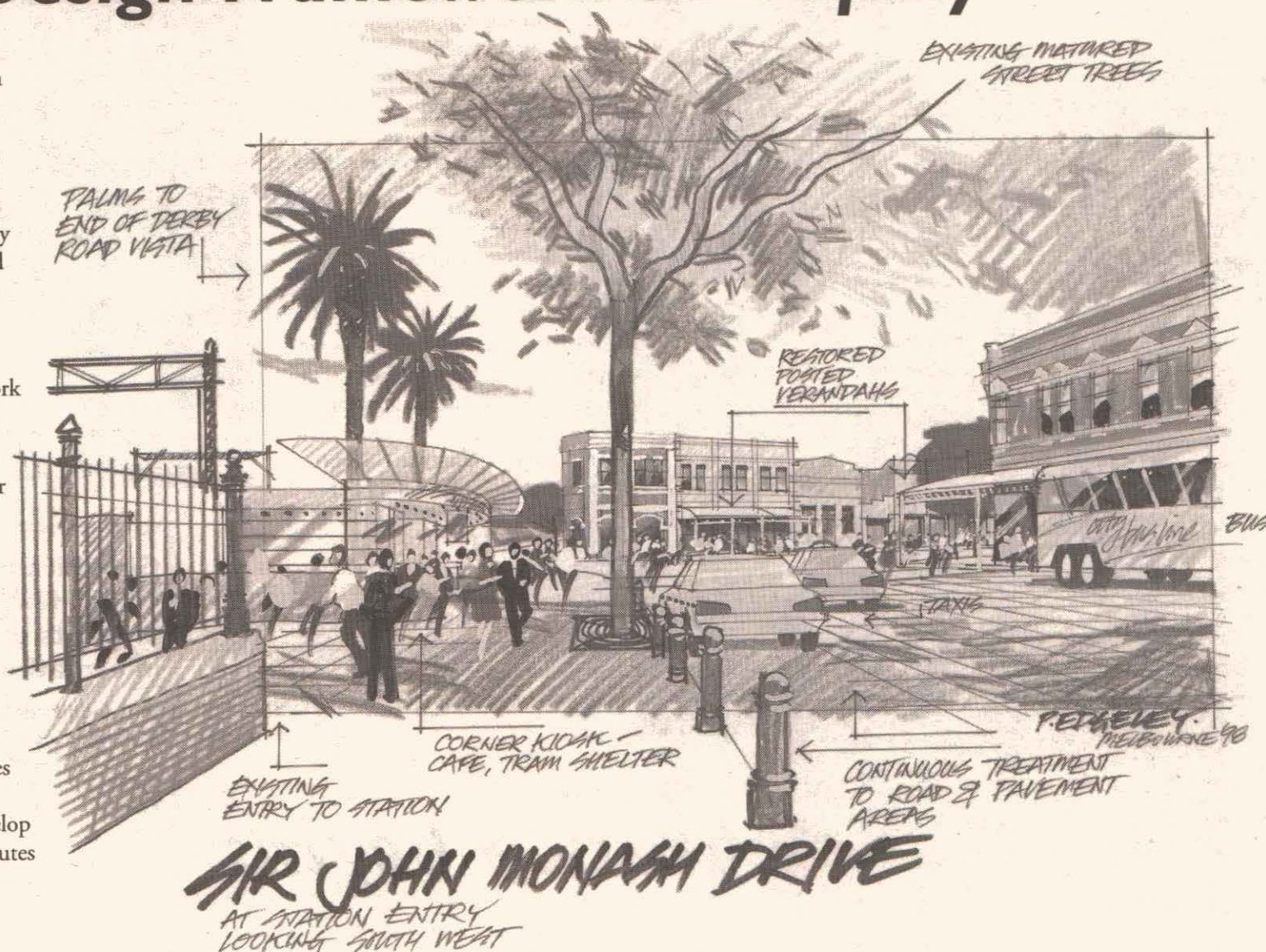
Private and Council initiatives are recommended to continue the revitalisation of Derby Road.

Public Realm Action Plan

Civic improvements to the public realm are essential in providing an overall framework for development. There are many opportunities that may be undertaken by Council or as joint initiatives.

The draft report and maps can be viewed at the Planning Department, Glen Eira Town Hall. Copies of the Executive Summary can be obtained by contacting Kelvin Walsh, Strategic Planner, on 9524 3441.

Written submissions should be made by Monday 19 April and addressed to: Phoenix Precinct Urban Design Framework, Strategic Planning, City of Glen Eira, PO Box 42, Caulfield South, 3162 or facsimile 9524 3432.

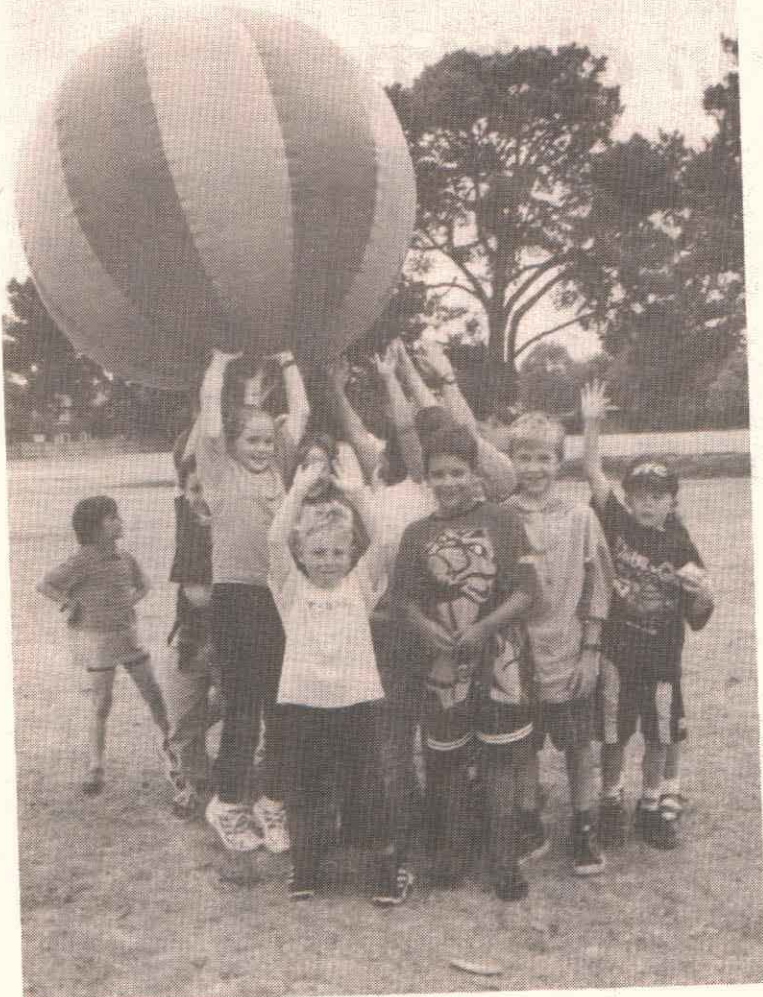


Illustrator Peter Edgeley's concept drawing of the proposed Phoenix Precinct plan for Derby Road shopping centre.



The existing view of the corner of Derby Road and the Sir John Monash Drive, East Caulfield.

School Holiday *fun!*



The January school holiday programs entertained a large number of children throughout the city. Children enjoyed a wide range of activities including day excursions for swimming and roller skating, craft and cooking activities, carnival days and teddy bear picnics, sporting activities and dress up days.

The newly funded programs at Valkstone, Bentleigh West and Carnegie primary schools have proved very successful—as the children pictured show. These programs will run again at the end of Term 1. This holiday saw the last program at Maple Street. It is anticipated that two more programs will commence next holidays, at Wesley College Elsternwick and at Caulfield North Primary School.

Parents are invited to contact the schools closer to the end of term for program details. All programs are eligible for child care assistance.



Overhead clearance *begins*

Glen Eira City Council recently started clearing overhead powerlines throughout the municipality, as part of an annual program required by the Office of the Chief Electrical Inspector.

Over the next few months, Council will move from Dandenong Road through to South Road, clearing tree branches identified by Council's Glen Eira Trees unit.

Council is committed to minimising the potential danger and damage that could occur as a result of contact with powerlines, while at the same time maximising the amenity value of the vegetation including the health, form and vigour of the trees.

Council inspects and arranges clearance of tree branches that grow near or touch overhead powerlines throughout the municipality. This work is carried out annually by qualified staff who generally clear branches while the powerlines are still live, avoiding disruptions to normal power supplies.

Branches that are cleared from overhead powerlines will generally be collected the same or following day. The contractor will not clear service wires to residents' houses.

The work complies with the Office of the Chief Electrical Inspector's Code of Practice for Powerline Clearance, by which power distribution companies and Councils must abide. The main objectives of the Code are to ensure public safety, establish a standard of care which must be observed when powerlines operate near vegetation (trees), and reduce vegetation-related interruptions to electricity supply.

Other news: VicRoads has requested that Council's Park Services no longer maintain the outer median strips along Nepean Highway between Hotham and North Roads and Thomas Street to South Road, and also Dandenong Road between Murrumbeena and Grange roads. Park Services still maintains North Road between Jasper and Crosbie for VicRoads.

Glen Eira Maternal & Child Health Services presents the following information sessions:

City of
**GLEN
EIRA**

Your toddler and the new baby

Speaker: Susan Friedman, Social Worker
Caulfield Community Health Service
Date: Monday 15 March
Time: 1.30-3pm
Cost: \$3
Venue: Murrumbeena Maternal and Child Health Centre
105 Murrumbeena Road, MURRUMBEENA

Toddler parenting tips

Date: Tuesday 16 March
Time: 1.30-3pm
Cost: \$3
Venue: Town Hall Maternal and Child Health Centre
corner Hawthorn and Glen Eira roads, CAULFIELD

Food for toddlers

Speaker: Dietitian from Community Care
Date: Tuesday 23 March
Time: 1.30-3pm
Cost: \$3
Venue: Glen Huntly Maternal and Child Health Centre
Corner Royal and Rosedale Avenues
GLEN HUNTLY

Toilet Training

Date: Tuesday 6 April
Time: 10.30-12noon
Cost: \$3
Venue: Bentleigh Maternal and Child Health Centre
542 Centre Road, BENTLEIGH

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GLEN EIRA COMMUNITY FORUM

A non political, independent community organisation

Public Meeting

"What does Heritage mean for the City of Glen Eira"

Speakers to include representatives from the National Trust, a Planning Expert and Sherry Hopkins from the City of Glen Eira

Thursday 18 March, 7.30 pm
McKinnon Public Hall
118 McKinnon Road, McKinnon

For further details please contact
Marlene Campbell on 9527 1205.

Alpha

Investigate the answers to life

10 week course, including dinner,
Wednesday evenings starting April. (FREE)

Contact: Glen on 9570 3148 or
Richard on 9579 0323 at
Eastleigh Community Church,
to register.

Glen Eira

Youth Page



Reflecting from the **HIGH** wire

by Jodie Belyea
Youth Services Co-ordinator

There is always a risk involved in starting something new; fear and apprehension, questions about fitting in and whether you can achieve your goals. But there can also be a sense of excitement and anticipation—be it a new school, new job, or trying a new sport. All of these feelings were certainly apparent, among both the Youth Services Team and the young people, when HIGH wire Circus started.

HIGH wire Circus began 18 months ago after receiving a grant of \$5,000 from START, a Division of the Department of Justice. The team comprises three trainers, performers in their own right, who have met every Friday night at the Bentleigh McKinnon Youth Centre to deliver the HIGH wire Circus program.

Each week 25 enthusiastic young people, ranging in age from 10 to 18, have been trained in a number of circus activities; juggling, acrobatics, trapeze and performance skills.

Together, the HIGH wire crew has learnt the art of risky business and clowning around, culminating in a performance for their families and friends last December. This performance was a testament to the creativity and talent of these young people.

Watching the HIGH wire crew working together, having fun and performing feats they would never have thought possible, was a highlight in my year. The HIGH wire Circus performance affirmed for me yet again that we can never underestimate the ability of young people to rise to a challenge and create.

Participation in activities where new skills are learnt, 'controlled' risks are taken and friends are met, is crucial to developing a young person's self esteem, confidence and sense of belonging— necessary skills for juggling what is thrown at us in the 'circus of life'.

Circus might not be everyone's cup of tea but there are many other activities; tennis, ballet, football, scouts, cricket, swimming and soccer that can offer similar outcomes. If you would like to find out more

about HIGH wire Circus, give us a call on 9524 3283 or take a look at the Glen Eira Resource Guide.

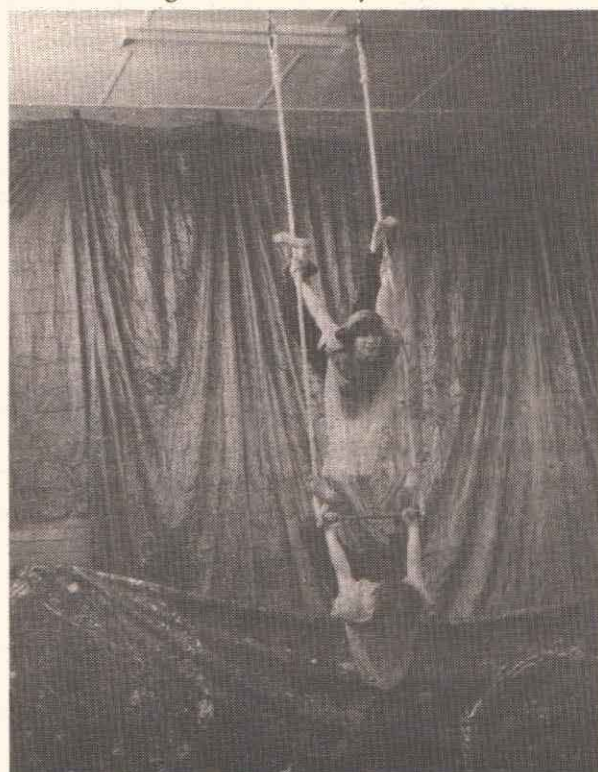
HIGH wire Circus— end of year show

by Caitriona Chadwick and Ceda Verbakel
(Year 7)

Participating in the HIGH wire Circus was one of the best things that happened to us in 1998. We met new friends and developed new skills, and most importantly our own self-esteem.

Our first major show was on 6 December, and all the performers were very excited. All went well; the audience thoroughly enjoyed it and so did we. The end was joyful as the performers found the sacred socks that had been searched for during the show.

At the end we were presented with certificates by the Mayor of Glen Eira Cr Barry Neve. Special thanks to our instructors, especially Shannon, Judith and David. And we highly recommend circus to anyone between the ages of 10 and 21 years.



ID— is it worth faking?

by Skye Holcombe

When it's summer in Melbourne and nearly every gig is for people over 18, life seems pretty hard for a teen' who is 17 and three quarters.

Although it may seem ridiculous, even absurd that in less than three months, one month or even two days' time, you'll be able to do what you want, you have to remember that anything you do up until that time is illegal. This includes dancing the night away at some of the hottest clubs in Melbourne, ordering drinks at a bar and even being there in the first place to illegally dance and drink!!

Under the Victorian Licensing Act, it is illegal for persons under the age of 18 to enter the premises of any establishment where alcohol is sold or permitted. It is also illegal to be on the premises of legalised activity; venues such as pubs, bars, Tabarets and social clubs where gambling is permitted. Although it sounds like a mouthful, it is definitely a mouthful that should not be discarded.

Over the years, the underage have found various ways around these restrictions, ways that in 1999, I strongly advise should not be practised. Some say it's all a big game. The thrill of getting away with your older brother's Identity Card; the success of passing for Helen Ryder when you're really Sally Jones. It may seem like a game, but the authorities think otherwise. They report that using fake IDs and entering the premises of licensed venues is illegal and a punishable criminal activity. Sounds pretty serious hey? That's because it is.

The consequences of getting caught with a fake ID in licensed premises are not as lax as they used to be. Authorities are cracking down and will not hesitate to inflict harsh punishments. In an establishment where patrons must be of legal age, authorities have the right to ask for proof of age at any time. In most cases, refusal of proof of age can result in hefty fines. However, fines are not the only punishment. If an adolescent is in the possession of an identity card that has been "home made" by someone else, using the personal details of another; all three persons can be charged and the matter is heard at the Magistrates or County Court (depending on the age of the offenders).

Youth frequently underestimate the seriousness of such a crime, ignorant of the fact that they are obtaining a criminal record at the tender age of 16 or 17— a record which may affect future prospects.

So, if you're considering faking it... don't. It's not worth the trouble. Eighteen will come soon enough.

On behalf of Glen Eira Youth Services, we would like to wish **Skye Holcombe** congratulations on receiving the **Glen Eira Young Citizen of the Year Award**. We consider ourselves very lucky to have such a valuable and community-oriented young person on the Why? Gen Youth Page team.

Contact us!

Daniel Piekarski —

email: pike@eisa.net.au

Judith Bruce — Glen Eira Youth Services

Phone: 9524 3283 Fax: 9523 0339

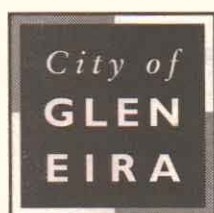
Post: Glen Eira Youth Services

PO Box 42, Caulfield South 3162

email: jbruce@gleneira.vic.gov.au

Website:

<http://www.gleneira.vic.gov.au/youth/index.html>



Glen Eira City Council

Senior Citizens' Week

9 March to 31 March



Towards a society for all ages
International Year of Older Persons 1999

The City of Glen Eira's Senior Citizens' Week 1999 spans three weeks of diverse and stimulating activities, offering something for everyone. The celebrations will be officially opened by the Mayor Cr Barry Neve at a Social Afternoon and Spit Roast Luncheon hosted by the East Bentleigh Senior Citizens Club of Glen Eira on 13 March.

Tuesday 9 March

Traditional Greek luncheon

Host: Greek Senior Citizens Club of Glen Eira.
Traditional Greek luncheon with music and dancing.
11am Cost: \$10 at Moorleigh Community Village.
Bookings Req'd: Vicki Pappas 9576 4058.

Saturday 13 March

Social afternoon and spit roast

Host: East Bentleigh Senior Citizens Club. A wonderful afternoon which includes official opening of Senior Citizens Week, a Spit roast luncheon, dancing, games and afternoon tea. 11.30am Official Opening 12noon Cost: \$7.

Bookings Req'd: Gwen Brown 9579 4573.

Picnic/BBQ at Wattle Grove

Host: Polish Senior Citizens Club of Moorabbin.
New members welcome 12.30pm FREE to members; \$5 non members

Bookings Req'd: Peter 9578 6024 by 9 March.

Sunday 14 March

Lawn bowls open day

Host: Caulfield Park Bowls Club. 10.30am FREE
Bookings Req'd: Gerald Isaacs 9509 7282.

Monday 15–Friday 26 March

Discovering your libraries

at the Glen Eira Library and Information Service.
Explore the Internet and the Online Public Access Catalogue. Free reservation of library materials. Staff-assisted use (limited to Seniors cardholders). For times and locations contact libraries.

Introduction to the Internet

Classes with seniors in mind (half price to Seniors Cardholders) Monday 15 at 11am and Monday 22 at 2pm \$15 for 1.5hrs with accredited Internet trainer.

For information/bookings contact:

Belinda 9532 9466.

Going green and snake free

Celebrate St Patrick's Day at a musical morning tea full of bush melodies. FREE to seniors card holders. Limited transport assistance available. Wednesday 17 March at 10.30am Bentleigh Library.

Contact: 9557 8278.

The importance of being fragrant

Paula Stoler explains what aromatherapy is all about. FREE to seniors cardholders. Wednesday 17 March at 2.30pm Carnegie Library. **Contact:** 9563 0971.

Good health—good living

Advice on healthy living over a healthy morning tea. FREE to seniors cardholders. Thursday 18 March at 10.30am Elsternwick Library.

Contact: 9532 9321.

Coffee, tea and new releases

An informal chat on new releases over morning tea. FREE. Limited transport assistance available. Wednesday 24 March at 10.30am Caulfield Library.

Contact: 9532 9466.

For transport: contact Fiona or Trish 9524 3228.

Monday 15 March

Greek Senior Citizens celebration day

Host: Carnegie/Murrumbeena Greek Senior Citizens Club. Fun day of food music and activities. 9am-2.30pm Cost: \$2.50 members, \$5 non-members.

Bookings Req'd: John 9572 1009.

Tuesday 16 March

U3A Glen Eira open day

Host: U3A Glen Eira (Glen Huntly). Come and sit in on a variety of classes 10am-3.30pm FREE.

Bookings not req'd: Josie Coyle 9572 0571.

Dance the day away

Host: The Murrumbeena Older Persons Group. A day of dancing Old Time and New Vogue. 12.30pm and 7.30pm FREE. St Giles Church Hall.

Contact: 9725 2831.

Senior citizens' concert

Host: Carnegie/Murrumbeena Senior Citizens Club. Afternoon of music and song by Adrian and Renee. 2pm FREE

Bookings req'd: Merle Grace 9571 4235 or 9569 7778.

Afternoon tea dance

Host: East Bentleigh Community Health Centre. Dance the afternoon away in the old-fashioned way 2-4pm FREE.

Bookings Req'd: 9579 2333.

An afternoon tea

With prominent speakers of the Jewish Community. Host: The Jewish Senior Citizens Study Group. 2pm FREE. Councillors' Dining Room Town Hall

Bookings not req'd: Rabbi S Cowen 9522 8222.

Thursday 18 March

Italian open day

Host: Glen Eira Italian Pensioners and Senior Citizens Club. Traditional games, music, dancing and singing. 10am-5.30pm FREE.

Bookings not req'd: Angelo 9523 5172 or Bianca 9571 8512.

Elsternwick Croquet Club open day

Host: Elsternwick Croquet Club. 1pm FREE.

Bookings not req'd: Frank Baker 9571 3511 or Frank Cunningham 9528 5847.

Friday 19 March

Picnic in the park

Host: Council. BBQ lunch and entertainment 11.30am-2.30pm FREE. Harleston Park, Elsternwick.

Bookings req'd: Fiona/Trish 9524 3228.

Saturday 20/Sunday 21 March

Victorian Championship Veterans Meet

Host: Victorian Veterans Athletic Association Come along and cheer on the veterans 10am-5pm FREE to spectators. Duncan McKinnon Park

Contact: 9874 2501.

Monday 22 March

A walk in the park

Host: Council. Morning walk, exercises and refreshments. 9.30am-11.30am FREE Meet: Caulfield Park at bowls club car park, near corner Balaclava and Hawthorn Roads Caulfield

Bookings req'd: Fiona/Trish 9524 3228.

Come'n try game of cards (half price)

Host: Council.

Solo or Canasta, 12noon-4pm Cost: \$1.25. McKinnon Hall.

Solo/Crazy Whist, 1-3.30pm Cost: .75 cents. St David's Church Hall, Glen Huntly.

Contact: Cheryl Kennedy 9524 3356.

Tuesday 23 March

Picnic with the Greek Cyprian Senior Citizens

Host: Greek Cyprian Senior Citizens Community of Glen Eira. Traditional music, food and fun. 9am-3pm Cost: \$2. Bentleigh.

Bookings req'd: Harry Skandalis 9598 8525.

Come'n try fitness at half price

Host: Council

East Bentleigh Walkers

9am \$1 Centenary Park, East Bentleigh.

Table tennis (beginner to experienced)

(No instruction) 10am-12noon Cost: \$1.50.

Bentleigh/McKinnon Youth Centre

Bentleigh Ladies Over 50s

1.30pm Cost: \$1 Bentleigh/McKinnon Youth Centre

Bookings not req'd: Cheryl Kennedy 9524 3356.

Wednesday 24 March

Come 'n try fitness classes (half price)

Host: Council

Bentleigh Walkers 9am \$1 Hodgson Reserve, Bentleigh.

Chairbased exercises 10am Cost: \$1.25.

Fit-active exercises 11am Cost: \$1.50.

Carnegie/Murrumbeena Senior Citizens Club

Bookings not req'd: Cheryl Kennedy 9524 3356.

Thursday 25 March

U3A Moorleigh open day

Host: U3A Moorleigh. Sit in on a variety of classes including arts and crafts. 10.00am-3pm FREE. Moorleigh Community Village.

Bookings not req'd: Neile McLaren 9570 3929.

Come'n try fitness classes (half price) - fit-active exercises

Host: Rans Management 9.30am Cost: \$1.75.

Caulfield Recreation Centre.

Bookings not req'd: Cheryl Kennedy 9524 3356.

Monday 29 March

Dancing is Fun! With The Caulfield Over 50's Dance Group

Host: Caulfield Over 50's Dance Group. Great afternoon of dancing (old time and new vogue) to The Swing Masters 12.30-4pm Cost: \$2. Ormond Uniting Church Hall

Bookings not req'd: Tony Bell 9578 5143.

Wednesday 31 March

New old faces

Host: Polish Senior Citizens Club of Glen Eira. Entertaining concert provided by the many talented members of the club. 2-4pm FREE. Councillors' Dining Room Glen Eira Town Hall.

Bookings req'd: Barbara Schenkel 9523 9619.

Every Sunday

McKinnon Over 50s Dance

Host: McKinnon Over 50's Dance Club. Join in the fun of dancing old time and new vogue 12.30pm-4pm Cost: \$2. McKinnon Hall.

Contact: Val Curtis 9583 5561.

*For further information or brochures contact:
Cheryl Kennedy on 9524 3356.*

Recreation News

Down at the track...

Relay for Life

Glen Eira is proud to host the inaugural Relay for Life event to raise money for cancer research at the Duncan MacKinnon Athletics Track, beginning Friday 26 March and finishing at 6pm on Saturday 27 March.

The event was launched last month by Glen Eira Mayor Cr Barry Neve, Cr Veronika Martens and Cr Norman Kennedy, alongside Sir Laurence Muir (a 1956 Olympic Games torch bearer) and Sam Murray (a cancer survivor).

Cr Martens, who heads Council's recreation committee, said Glen Eira was proud to host Australia's first Relay for Life event.

"I am very happy to support the Anti-Cancer Council, because of the value it gives back to us, and the silent sufferers who need support. It is close to my heart—I have personal experiences of family and friends who have suffered from cancer," she said.

"I invite the community to get behind this important event, and become involved in a relay team or support the fundraising efforts," Cr Martens said.

Relay for Life began in America in 1985 and is now held in over 800 locations; raising more than \$20 million for cancer research in America.

The event is open to everyone, and the Anti-Cancer Council hopes that about 25–40 teams will take part. People are sponsored to walk, stroll or jog for 30

minute intervals throughout the 24 hour period. (Cr Kennedy has agreed to be one of the relay team leaders.) To be involved, contact Relay for Life State Co-ordinator Catherine Macmillan on 9592 5984. Team entries close 15 March.

Victorian Championships Veterans Meet

Another exciting event is set for March—the Victorian Championship Veterans Meet will be held over two days; March 20 and 21. Competitors' ages will range from 30 to 90 years and will include the full range of athletics events. The competition is vigorous with a number of world and Australian standard competitors. It's an event that will bring people from all over Victoria and even interstate.

Spectators are more than welcome to this great event beginning at 10am and concluding at 5pm each day.



(From left) Cr Veronika Martens, Sam Murray, Event Co-ordinator Catherine Macmillan, Sir Laurence Muir, Cr Norman Kennedy and Cr Barry Neve gear up for Relay for Life.

The Duncan MacKinnon Athletics Facility, located on the corner of Murrumbena and North Roads, is one of Glen Eira's premier sporting facilities. In fact it is one of the best in the state and an important regional facility.

It is home to the Glen Huntly Athletics Club, Caulfield Little Athletics Centre, Caulfield Veterans Athletics Club and the Ajax Maccabi Athletics Club.

This facility is also regularly used by many schools and recently members of the Hawthorn Football Club ran with the Glen Huntly Athletics Club.

In brief...

Let's get fit

The Caulfield Veterans Athletics Club welcomes people over 30 years to come and compete on Tuesday nights, from 7pm and finishing by 8.30pm. The night offers sprints, middle distance races and walks. Everyone competes on a handicap system so there's plenty of fun for everyone. What a good way to get fit! Enquiries Leo Charles on 9579 1830.

Croquet anyone?

The Caulfield Park Croquet Club has just celebrated its 75th Birthday. Attended by players of all ages, this club offers both social and competitive games. Novices are welcome, as tuition is available from the club, with equipment being provided for beginners. For further information on this unique game please contact Audrey Jenkins on 9500 9775.

Join judo and throw yourself into shape

Judo is an Olympic sport that builds confidence, co-ordination and determination. Bentleigh McKinnon Southern KDK Judo Inc. runs classes for littlies, teenagers and adults on Tuesdays and Thursdays. For more information contact Lynnette Slade on 9576 4066 or Helen Dronryp on 9547 6446.

Feasibility studies underway

Glen Eira City Council has engaged consultants to complete a feasibility study into a multi-purpose sports complex at Princes Park. This independent study involving community consultation will look at the needs of the local community and will conclude with recommendations to Council. The community meeting will be advertised in the local press.

Also, Glen Eira, Kingston, and Bayside Councils have received joint funding from Sport and Recreation

Victoria to complete a feasibility study into an indoor netball facility in this region. The major stakeholders and the community will be involved in this consultation. It is anticipated that a short list of proposed sites will be identified.

For more information please contact Recreation Services on 9524 3470.

Swimming pool season

The Caulfield and East Bentleigh Swim Centres will close for the Summer Season on 31 March. A review of pool opening and closing times will be conducted during March. Feedback from residents is welcome and comment sheets will be available at each swim centre and Council's Service Centre. Alternatively comments can be mailed direct to Council marked to the attention of the "Pools Contract Manager".

Venues for hire

Are you holding a family reunion, 60th birthday, wedding, conference, exhibition, anniversary or special event? Then why not consider hiring one of the council facilities as your venue? They range in size, are located throughout the city and are clean and comfortable. Did you know that the rotundas in our parks could be hired for a special event? Weddings are often held in these picturesque settings.

For further information contact the Facilities Booking Officer on 9524 3333. www.gleneira.vic.gov.au

City of
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Email: merilyn@careerportfolio.com.au

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BROKEN CORDS

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- ◆ Both sashes (4 cords) \$50

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Reduction for 2 or more windows

TUBULAR (spiral) balances replaced

John Moline AH: 9817 2424

Cut out this ad and keep for future reference

COMMUNITY *Diary*

Meetings and Clubs

Caulfield Photographic Society meets every two weeks at St Peter's Church Hall, corner Neerim Road and Ames Avenue, Murrumbena. Next meeting 15 February 7.30pm. Contact: 9570 4617.

Caulfield Park Croquet Club welcomes new players to learn this challenging game. Tuition and equipment provided to beginners. Social and competition matches are catered for. Contact: 9500 9775 or 9885 1573.

Bentleigh Organ Club cordially invites all listeners to attend monthly get-togethers at the East Bentleigh Hall, 675 Centre Road, East Bentleigh. First Monday of each month.

Centre Bentleigh Garden Club meets on the first Tuesday of each month at St John's Church Hall, corner Centre and Tucker Roads, East Bentleigh at 1.30pm. Displays, Op' table, and a cuppa. Contact: Beulah 95786081.

St Agnes' Friendship Group offers companionship, entertainment and afternoon tea. Fourth Wednesday in the month at St Agnes' Church, 116 Booran Road, Glen Huntly. All welcome. Contact: 9571 3932.

Caulfield Group of Nursing Mothers meets for social afternoon teas, counselling, coffee mornings, and social outings to support mothers and families in the Glen Eira area. Pregnant women and new mums welcome. Contact: Lyle 9578 0628.

Caulfield Day View Club. Make new friends and enjoy monthly outings, lunches with interesting guest speakers and coffee mornings with ladies of the Caulfield Day View Club. Small group warmly welcomes new members. Activities aid the work of the Smith Family. Contact: Val 95781302.

Emmanuel Calisthenics welcomes new members to its highly competitive club. Classes from three years to masters and introducing recreational classes. Contact: Sonia 9547 6245.

5th Central Moorabbin Scout Group, Jasper Road Moorabbin has vacancies for Cubs (aged 8-11) and Scouts (aged 11-15). Contact: Steve 9557 3285 or Marlene 9557 8652.

Bentleigh Life Activities Club offers opportunities to meet new friends and enjoy social activities such as Carpet Bowls, Table Tennis, Scrabble, Solo, Canasta, Music, Craft, Golf, Armchair Travel, etc. Details: 9563 2554.

Copelen Child and Family Services' New Beginnings Group for women who have been put down, abused or not respected in their adult or childhood relationships. Meets Thursdays, 18 and 25 March and 1 April from 1pm-3pm. Cost: \$20 for 6 sessions. Contact Marianne Tome or Irene Gerrard 9521 5666.

Coatesville Uniting Tennis Club—TENNIS PLAYERS WANTED!! Saturday competition (all standards). Tel: Trish (AH: 9592 6397).

Caulfield Combined Probus Club meets first Wednesday each month at 10 am in the Gladys Machin Senior Citizens Club Hall, Cedar Street, South Caulfield. There are currently a number of vacancies so new members are most welcome. Contact Tel Hills, Secretary, Tel: 9563 6595.

Services

Hall for hire— carpeted and spacious 200 sqm at competitive rates for morning, afternoon and evening sessions, 112 Booran Road, Glen Huntly. Includes heating, ceiling fans, good natural light and fluorescent, kitchen access for refreshments. Contact: 9571 3932 or fax: 9572 0132.

Events and performances

Adelphi Players will stage Ira Levin's comedy Critic's Choice at Labassa National Trust Property, Manor Grove, North Caulfield on Friday, 12 March at 8.15 pm and Saturday 13 March at 2 pm and 8.15 pm. All proceeds to the further restoration of Labassa. Admission including refreshments \$12/\$10. Bookings: 9690 1593 or 9578 0952.

Carnegie Primary School will hold a Car Boot Sale on Saturday 27 March in the school grounds (Truganini Road, Carnegie) 9.30-3pm. 100 sites available. Stalls including cakes, preserves, devonshire teas, white elephant, rides and a huge spinning wheel. Enquiries/Site Bookings: 9572 1403.

A Car Boot Sale will be held on the vacant land near the corner of Mackie and Centre Roads, East Bentleigh, on behalf of Coatesville Uniting Church Saturday 20 March, from 9am. \$10 per car. Bookings: 9579 1669.

Autumn Larder Fete, St Agnes' Church, 116 Booran Road, Glen Huntly Saturday 20 March, 9am-2pm. Quality home made food, books, plants, fairy court, morning tea and lunch, corner lolly shop, sew and sew, recyclable not rubbish. Contact: 9571 3932.

Alpha seeks to discover answers to spiritual questions. This world-renowned 10-week course, including dinner, starts Term 2 on Wednesday evenings, 6.30-9.30pm. Contact: Eastleigh Community Church office 9570 3148 or email rtk@ozemail.com.au

Masada Hospital will hold Maternity Open Days and Pre Pregnancy Evenings at 26 Balaclava Road. Open Days: Sundays 21 March, 25 April, 27 June and 29 August. Pre-Pregnancy Evenings: Wednesdays 31 March, 12 May, 14 July and 8 September. Contact: Pauline Walker 9526 5500.

Glen Eira U3A extended bus trip 22-25 March. We spend three nights in Myrtleford and four days touring this spectacular part of Victoria. Includes cruises on Murray River and Eildon Weir. A few seats available. Contact: 9572 0571 or 9523 7862 (A/H).

Glen Eira Community Forum Public Meeting: What does Heritage mean for the City of Glen Eira? Thursday 18 March, 7.30pm at McKinnon Public Hall, 118 McKinnon Road, McKinnon. Contact: Marlene Campbell on 9527 1205.

International Women Writers and Artists will hold a poetry and short story reading at St Kilda Library, 150 Carlisle Street, St Kilda, on Saturday 13 March from 2-5pm. Contact: Tova Grossman 9578 9700.

Deadline for next Community Diary is Tuesday 9 March.

We'd like to hear from you!

Glen Eira News is entering it's third year and we're looking for feedback from our readers about the publication. Please fill in the details below and cut out this box to send to:

Glen Eira News Feedback
PO Box 42
CAULFIELD SOUTH 3162

Please include a contact name and phone number (not for publication).

Name:

Contact number:

General thoughts on the GE News content:

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Issues I would like to see addressed:

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Glen Huntly Friendship Group ACTIVITIES FOR MARCH

11 MARCH

Bus trip to Marysville. Morning tea at Fernshaw picnic spot. Lunch at the bakery, Bruno's art and sculpture Steavensen's Falls. All incl. \$30
Depart 9am from 99 Grange Road, Glen Huntly, and 9.15am from 185 Poath Road, Hughesdale

WEDNESDAY, 24 MARCH

A mystery trip by private cars. BYO lunch or buy to have at our destination.
Cost \$5. Bookings required so cars can be organised.
Depart 9.30am from 99 Grange Road, Glen Huntly.
(Note: Wednesday.)

Bookings: Margaret 9596 6124

U3A BUS TOURS

14 April, 9am-5pm

WINCHELSEA COUNTRY DAHLIAS.
A day with a difference!

After enjoying lunch at the picturesque ANGLESEA GOLF CLUB, we travel to WINCHELSEA COUNTRY DAHLIAS for afternoon tea and view the 20,000 dahlias in bloom. (You can order bulbs for next year).
All incl. bus, lunch, entry, afternoon tea.

19 May, 9am-5pm

THE SPHINX ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE, GEELONG. Join us on this fun day! Morning tea in the Gaming Room, enjoy the Pokies. 3-course lunch, afternoon tea and non-stop entertainment.

ENQUIRIES: 9572 0571 OR 9523 7862 (AH)

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ARTS

Exhibitions

Gallery hours: 10am to 5pm Monday to Friday, 1 to 5pm Sat/Sun/Public Holidays

Robert Fisher

Closes 5pm, Sunday 14 March

Last opportunity to purchase wonderful landscape paintings depicting the romantic rolling hills and desert soil of Australia—as well as city life through paintings of bitumen roadways, pavements and back alleys of urban Melbourne.



Shadows of Reality

— an exhibition of recent works by Ian Banks-Smith

Closes 5pm, Sunday 14 March

The paintings of Ian Banks-Smith bring together his interest in nature, particularly plants, and his interest in art with a transcendental edge through bright and energetic movement and colours.

Gendai

17 to 28 March

Opens Tuesday, 16 March at 6pm



Gendai looks at contemporary Japan with paintings, architectural images, as well as computer and video art works from the International Academy of Media Arts and Sciences in Ogaki. Artists include: Kazuyo Sejima and Ryue Nishizawa, Atsuhito Sekiguchi, Noriko Umano, Tadasu Takamine, Masashi Iwasaki, Louise Forthun, Masato Takasaka.

Philip Brophy lecturer in Media Studies at RMIT will launch the exhibition on Tuesday, 16 March at 6pm. Philip will also take part in a lecture program focussing on the relationship between traditional and contemporary Japanese art at the Glen Eira Theatre on Saturday, 20 March at 2pm.

Southwind

— An exhibition by John Lendis

24 March to 4 April

Opens Tuesday, 23 March at 6pm



John Lendis, one of Tasmania's most highly regarded artists, paints lyrical

meditations on the landscape of Tasmania, mythologised and sketched out in the artist's own alphabet of marks and ciphers. The work to be included in this exhibition derives from two principal sources: a residency at Cradle Mountain Lake St Clair National Park, and memories of travels through Afghanistan.

The large paintings of John Lendis are the setting down of stories, the shadows and traces of things seen and experienced and pondered upon along the way. Meaning is not insisted upon in his work, the images, some merely marks, others detailed recognisable objects are ambiguous, leaving room for an

audience to build a story for themselves.

Australian Craft and Design Showcase

8 to 25

April

The Showcase will present some of the latest and very best of



Australian craft and design. This year, one of Melbourne's most talented furniture designers, Paul Morris from Join will present his restrained and beautifully fabricated office and domestic furniture, while Vixen Australia will show their textiles for which they have achieved international recognition. Offsetting the highly decorative baroque ceramics of David Ray who returns to the Showcase, is the white Japanese inspired domestic ceramics of Phil Elson. Plates, platters, tea sets dominate his display.

Zlatka Sirakov produces beautiful open knitted dresses, tops, hats and bags. Clever, flexible and diverse, many of her garments can be worn in a variety of ways. Textiles are a feature this year with international prize winning Tasmanian Sara Lindsay exhibiting her elegant contemporary tapestries and Tim Gresham returns with his formal geometric designs.

The Australian Craft and Design Showcase is a beautiful exhibition where you will be able to purchase that unique and special something.

Comfort

12 to 14 March Friday and Saturday at 8pm, Sunday matinee at 2.30pm

Theatrette

Comfort by Javant Biarujia, winner of the inaugural Irene Mitchell Short Play Award in 1996, is a monologue in which Nora de Vries relives her internment on Java during World War II. Performed by Marian Heathfield. Directed by Ariette Taylor. Music by Koto musician Satsuki Odamura.

Tickets: \$18 adults, \$15 concession. Bookings contact Susan Pilbeam on 9524 3402.

Roger Woodward

Gala piano recital

Saturday, 27 March 8pm, Glen Eira Auditorium

Roger Woodward opens the first of the Classic Virtuosi Series II with a spellbinding program of Beethoven and Schumann, including:

Beethoven— Sonata Apassionata;

Sonata 'quasi una fantasia'; No. 14 in C sharp minor; Schumann— Five Fantasiestuck; Arabeske in C major; March in G minor



Roger Woodward has earned an international reputation as a truly outstanding musician. He was described as a "genius" by the London Guardian and in 1994, he was chosen as Musician of the Year by Roger Covell of the Sydney Morning Herald.

Woodward's mastery of twentieth century music has kept him at the cutting edge of the international avant-garde. He has recorded BBC television documentaries with Boulez, Cage, Stockhausen and Xenakis.

Ticket prices: \$38 adults \$29 concession

The Classic Virtuosi Series II also features the Australian Classical Players in May, and Rita Reichman on piano, in August. Subscribe to all three recitals and save! Tickets may be purchased direct from Ticketmaster on 136 166, over the counter at the Glen Eira Service Centre. For a brochure call 9524 3287.

Glen Eira Youth Orchestra

Recently appointed conductor Kynan Johns, is seeking enthusiastic young players to audition to the newly formed Youth Orchestra.

Members will need to be under 26 years of age and have attained at least

Grade 4 AMEB standard. The orchestra will rehearse weekly during school terms and perform in two major concerts a year.

Contact the orchestra co-ordinator Pam Davies on 9569 9248 or obtain an application form from your local library.



Glen Eira Writers Competition

The response to this year's competition has been overwhelming with over 600 entries received in the four Award categories. Arnold Zable, Stephanie Holt, Jennefer Dabbs and Hazel Edwards will judge the entries.

Actors Alan Hopgood and Rachel Forgasz will read the winning entries at the awards presentation on Tuesday, 30 March at 6pm.

A nominal entry fee will be charged. Further information contact Susan Pilbeam on 9524 3402.



Glen Eira — Ogaki

Japanese Festival Program

19–28 March



Performing Arts

Shashaten

Friday 19 March at 8pm Theatrette

Butoh Dancer, Yumi Umiumare and Koto Master Satsuki Odamura.

Tickets: \$18 adults, \$15 concession

Mukashi

Friday 26 March at 8pm Theatrette

Noh dancer, Masumi Jackson, Shakuhachi master, Andrew McGregor and singer, Yoriko Wantanabe.

Tickets: \$18 adults, \$15 concession

Visual Arts

Gendai

17–28 March Gallery

An exhibition examining the construction of contemporary Japan.

Ogaki City Collection

17–28 March Gallery

A rare opportunity to see a selection of traditional and modern works from Japan.

ZEN Gardens

19–28 March Oak Tree House and Town Hall

Interior garden displays by ZEN Landscape Design and Construction.

Ikebana

20 and 21 March 10am–5pm Oak Tree House

The Japanese art of flower arranging by the Ichiyo School of Ikebana.

Ogaki Children's Exhibition

22–28 March Oak Tree House

Children's views of life in Japan by Ogaki elementary and junior high school students.

Free entry to all exhibitions

Film and animation

Films curated and introduced by Freda Freiberg.

Film

Saturday 20 March

8pm Tokyo Drifter Directed by Seijun Suzuki, 1966. A way-out gangster thriller, starring Tetsuya Watari.

Sunday 28 March

A homage to Akira Kurosawa (1910–1998), and his star Toshiro Mifune (1920–1997)

5.30pm Rashomon Directed by Akira Kurosawa, 1950. An exotic and erotic period film, involving an unsolved case of death in mysterious circumstances.

7.30pm Yojimbo Directed by Akira Kurosawa, 1961. Black comedy with Kurosawa—the most malicious social critic and the most merciless parodist of action cinema.

Animation

Sunday 21 March

5.30pm Nausicaa of the Valley of the Winds Directed by Hayao Miyagawa, 1983. Story of a crusading heroine doing her utmost to avert ecological disaster.

Sunday 21 March

7.30pm Tombstone for Fireflies Directed by Isao Takahata, 1987. Set during WWII, it tells the sad story of two war orphans struggling to survive.

Cost: Full Festival (6 films) \$20/\$10 Half Festival (3 films) \$10/\$5 Single tickets \$4/\$2

Saturday 27 March

8pm Ghost in the Shell Directed by Mamoru Ishii, 1995. Sci-fi animated feature set in an ultra-high-tech futuristic city.

All films will be screened at the Glen Eira Theatrette.

Public Programs

March 19–28 Ogaki Culture Corner

Find out more about Ogaki at the Service Centre.

March 20–28

Ikebana and Tea Ceremony Demonstrations at Oak Tree House.

Sunday 21 March 2–5.30pm

Oak Tree House

Ikebana Exhibition, Tea Ceremony, Calligraphy demonstrations, origami.

Caulfield Library

Displays, Readings and Internet Sites

Sunday 28 March 2–5.30pm Auditorium

Displays and demonstrations Bonsai, Ikebana, Martial Arts, Food and Books. Information on cultural associations, and study exchanges.

Theatrette Images of Ogaki Video and slide screenings.

Free entry to all public programs

Education Programs

Festival tours, demonstrations and displays, web-site project and roving cultural program.

Contact: Susan Pilbeam on 9524 3402.

Seminar

Saturday 20 March 2–5pm Theatrette

Japanese Art: The Traditional and the Contemporary.

Tickets: \$20, \$15 (TAASA members), \$5 Students (afternoon tea included)

Bookings: 9524 3402.

For bookings and Festival brochure contact Susan Pilbeam on 9524 3402.



Information Studio at the Multimedia Centre.



A Japanese garden.



View of the skyline Ogaki city.



Ogaki Castle.

A year of achievements

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Some facts at a glance...

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New heights

Council achieved some new heights during the year, including a response to the Government-introduced stringent new food legislation. The Environmental Health team was acknowledged as leading the field and Glen Eira was the location for the first shop in Victoria to meet the new standards.

Council also:

- won a Government Award for its Cultural Strategy, and produced a series of popular concerts and exhibitions for Glen Eira and a wider audience,
- introduced a Disability Policy and a detailed Action Plan to achieve a culture of inclusion in all that Council does,
- responded to the gas crisis with special meal deliveries, help and advice to businesses, assistance for the elderly and disabled, and
- formulated an Open Space Strategy for all reserves and parks, and negotiated a link between Duncan MacKinnon Park and Packer Park at no cost to the community.

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New home for day centre

Bill Bergin (pictured) is delighted to be helping out in the garden at the new Adult Day Activity Support Service centre in Elsternwick.

The new facilities at 681 Glen Huntly Road were officially opened on 28 January 1999. Mayor Cr Barry Neve cut the ribbon at the launch, and ADASS clients, their families, Council staff and representatives from the Department of Human Services toured the new facilities and enjoyed afternoon tea.

ADASS— a day care centre which offers services to older people and adults with disabilities, and provides support to carers— has been running for 10 years. With a clientele of 164 people, it outgrew its former home in Freeman Street, South Caulfield, prompting the move.

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From a speech presented by Chief Executive Margaret Douglas at the Civic Leaders' Dinner on 30 November 1998.

Reflections

— a personal view from the Mayor

Just before his term expires, Cr Barry Neve, Glen Eira's Mayor in 1998/99, talks to Robyn Szechtman about the highlights and challenges of the past year.

Barry Neve is a man known to be community-minded and community-involved; from participation in local sporting groups to charity organisations. He feels that, as a representative of the people, the best way of finding out about residents' concerns is to go out and talk to them. It's also one of the most enjoyable aspects of his job as Councillor and, for the past 12 months, Mayor of Glen Eira.

"Sometimes when you are sitting in the Town Hall, you only hear the negative messages to do with planning issues and parking tickets but when you get out amongst the community and sporting groups you also hear the positives," he said.

As Mayor, Cr Neve has been given the opportunity to meet some of Glen Eira's outstanding and interesting residents. One of his most enjoyable encounters of the year was with a feisty woman who had just turned 100.

"She lived by herself, had Council services to support her at home and that day she was going into the city by tram on her own to visit her 'younger friends' who were in their 80s!"

Cr Neve believes an important role of Council is to encourage people to feel part of the community and to support their participation in sporting groups and community activities. The Volunteer Recognition Award Ceremony and Citizenship Ceremonies are just two official ways Council does this.

"I think it is important for people to receive recognition for being a volunteer, as they

don't do it to be noticed or for money, they do it because they love it. I can still remember one woman at the award ceremony who had tears in her eyes because somebody else believed she was worthy of recognition and it made her feel proud."

Citizenship Ceremonies can also be extremely emotional and Cr Neve said being involved had greatly enhanced his understanding of the difficulties migrants face when they come to a new country.

"I love watching people making that new commitment. They feel passionate about the new city welcoming them. I don't know what it's like to go to a new country to live, and not be able to understand the language. I think this is true of many people (in Australia); we often take what we have for granted. I think we have a lot to learn from migrants."

Another highlight of the year was the opportunity to visit Japan. Cr Neve and Mayoress Jane Neve were invited to Ogaki City's 80th birthday celebrations, as guests of our Sister City. Cr Neve feels the benefits of a sister city relationship transcend concrete measurements and can only enhance our understanding of ourselves and encourage people to view Melbourne as a wonderful place to visit.

"I took away the understanding of an absolutely different culture. Totally different priorities and way of life, but also the recognition that people felt very strongly about their links with Glen Eira. The number of people who came up to me to tell me about their visit to Glen Eira or their experience of hosting our residents was overwhelming. The friendships and understanding that grew as a result of these contacts was wonderful," Cr Neve said.

Cr Neve feels an ongoing challenge for Council is to foster a new identity and sense of pride in Glen Eira.

"I think it will take time for people from suburbs like Bentleigh and Moorabbin to feel a part of Glen Eira, but it is heartening to see local sporting groups, clubs and schools taking on the name. People are no longer talking about the City of Caulfield or Moorabbin, instead a feeling of comfort is starting to emerge about using the name Glen Eira."

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"I think it is fair to say that occasionally there are communication difficulties within the elected Council and its officers. This is often due to learning how to deal with new areas of responsibilities plus a new local government culture. There is a conflict between this new culture and the old culture. I also think that the introduction of more Councillors (as proposed by the Walsh Report) will ensure the correct mix of debate and a lot of the old tensions will disappear."

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Mr Warburton is advising on governance and communication issues for Councillors and senior staff over the next few months.

His appointment is one of the recommendations contained in a report by independent inspector Dr Greg Walsh, which stated Council was a well managed organisation. It also recommended the development of a Code of Governance and an increase in the number of Councillors from six to nine to prevent voting deadlocks. If adopted, this would be in place for the Council elections in March 2001.

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Cr Barry Neve presents Caulfield couple Hilda and Joseph Hayat with a certificate of acknowledgement for their 68th wedding anniversary, at a recent celebration.

Action on disability

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The Action Plan acknowledges Council's responsibilities under the Disability Discrimination Act to ensure that Glen Eira is an accessible and inclusive place for everyone. Glen Eira is one of only a few councils to lodge their Action Plan with the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, which indicates a real commitment to change policies that embrace all members of the community.

The Service Centre staff have started disability awareness training, and the Service Centre is about to undergo refurbishment to provide easy access for people with disabilities.

In the past year, a full survey has been conducted on every council building in Glen Eira to identify where improvements to access can be made. It is estimated that the total cost of these improvements could be in the millions, so work is being done progressively each year.

The first stage is providing ramps to ensure access to the front door of every council building. Even a small gap can make the negotiation of a step difficult for a person with a physical disability. The next step is to widen every doorway to ensure a wheelchair can pass through. The buildings most frequently used are given priority and other locations will be implemented over the next few years.

A large ramp is nearing completion at the Glen Huntly Pavilion near Neerim Road. The \$100,000 project enables people in wheelchairs to access the first floor where many social and educational activities are regularly held.

The new ADASS centre received \$20,000 from the Department of Human Services to upgrade the facility to meet the requirements of people with a disability.

Council, in conjunction with Safeway, has also refurbished an old toilet block in the Carnegie Shopping Centre on Kookaribb St, and added a unisex disabled toilet.

Other initiatives have already included the Access for all Abilities recreation program (with three neighbouring councils) which aims to develop a co-ordinated approach to planning and provision of sport and recreation opportunities for people with disabilities.

Rate notice a hit

The State Cabinet was clearly impressed by Glen Eira City Council's rate notice, and the information provided to ratepayers. So much so, that Cabinet approved the rate notice as a model for all Councils, according to the Office of Local Government (November 1998).

The 1998/99 rate notice included a graph showing movements in rates over time—which shows Glen Eira's total rates and charges are 15 per cent lower than in 1993/94. Average rates are also 14 per cent lower than the average of our five neighbouring councils.

Glen Eira rate cuts since 1993-94 (after inflation) will exceed \$30 million this financial year—that's \$30 million for households and businesses to spend on what is important to them, much of it in the local economy.

Food? We're prepared

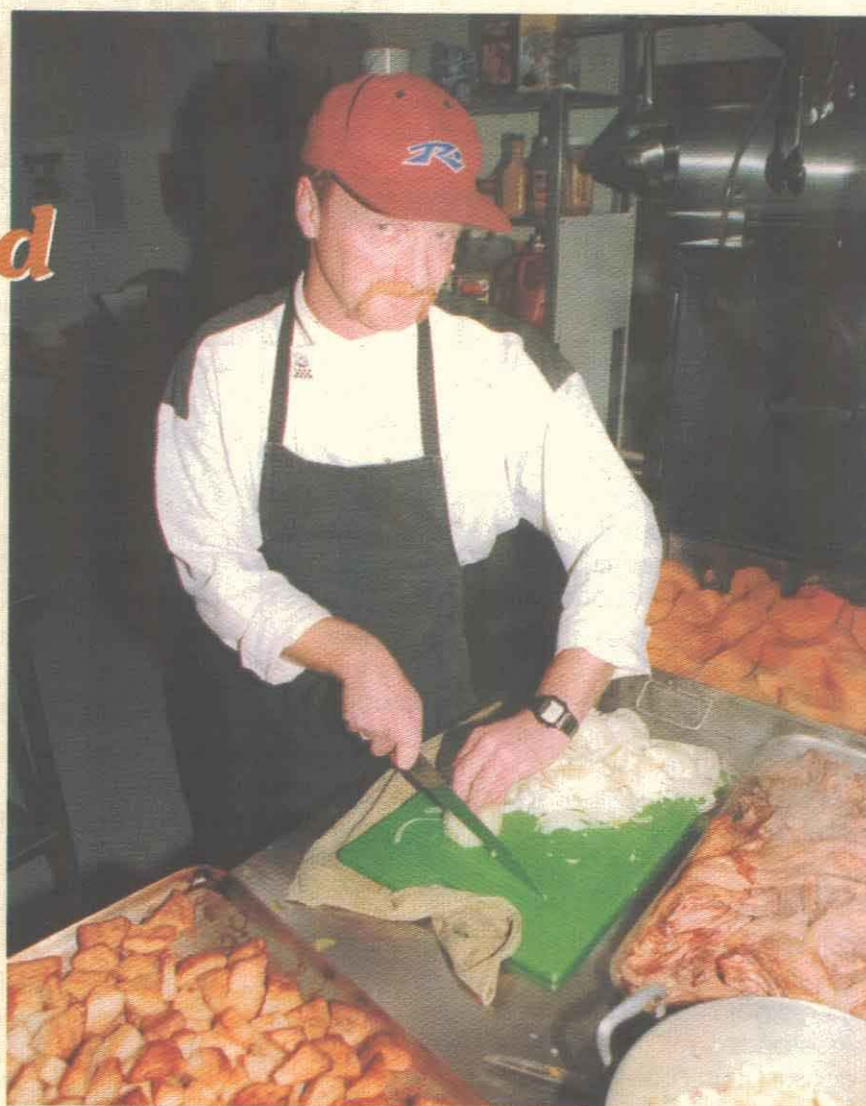
Glen Eira City Council's Environmental Health unit is at the forefront of preparations for stringent new food handling legislation, which will have a major impact on local food premises.

Glen Eira has led the way in developing policies and providing assistance to local businesses, including a public seminar on the new laws, information kits, and providing advice on what a food safety plan should contain. Council late last year also piloted a food safety plan course for Russian-speaking owners of food premises.

The State Government's far-reaching changes to the Food Safety Act requires all food premises to have in place a comprehensive food safety plan, identifying and recording hazards, plus staff food handling training, audits and annual reviews. Council is responsible for administering the new requirements, including approvals and reviews of food safety plans.

The first deadline for plans is 31 March, which affects category A premises, including Council's Spurway nursing home, Glen Eira Food Services and child care centres. The next round will cover restaurants and cafes.

Glen Eira is the first place in Victoria to have food shops meet the new standards. The City is well placed because of Council's ongoing promotion of food hygiene and safety, including its five star Food Hygiene Audit program, which is now used by many other Councils.



Ready for gas emergency

Having a Municipal Emergency Management Plan meant Glen Eira was ready to respond when the far-reaching gas crisis hit in September 1998. Gas supplies were cut across Victoria for two weeks, and while a full emergency was not invoked, Council immediately moved to assist the community, including special meal deliveries, help and advice to businesses, and assistance to the elderly and people with disabilities.

❖ Glen Eira Food Services meals on wheels production went into top gear, changing from its cook-chill system to instead send out 450 hot meals a day, for the benefit of clients who could not heat up their meals at home. The Carnegie kitchen also sent out 700 hot meals over one weekend, possible through the hardwork of staff and volunteers.

❖ Both Spurway Nursing Home and Glen Eira Food Services were exempted from the gas restrictions, and Council successfully lobbied for its three hostels to be added to the exemption list.

❖ Council's Residential and Community Care Services provided extra home help and personal care services to elderly people. Personal Care Staff rallied by sponge bathing people in their home when regular showers were not an option.

❖ Glen Eira Service Centre extended its hours to 9pm weekdays and all weekend, to handle extra calls.

❖ The Environmental Health team visited food outlets across the City, to provide advice to operators on managing without hot water, and to check on safety and hygiene standards.

Committees at work

Since April 1997, Council has operated a number of portfolio advisory committees:

- Strategic Town Planning
- Infrastructure and Waste
- Business Development
- Recreation
- Arts, and
- Human Services

A seventh committee, the Finance Advisory Committee, was established during 1998 and held its first meeting on 12 November.

Each committee is chaired by a Councillor who holds that portfolio, with membership comprising representatives from the community, business and other interest groups. Two other committees, the Glen Eira-Ogaki Friendly Cities Advisory Committee and the Foundation for Youth Excellence, also operate in an advisory capacity. Both were established by the former City of Caulfield. The Foundation for Youth Excellence is chaired by Dr Robin Gray. The Friendly Cities Advisory Committee has been chaired by Cr Veronika Martens since its inception.

Strategic Town Planning Advisory Committee

- Feedback provided on formulation of Municipal Strategic Statement;
- Assistance provided in development of pre-consultation process for the Heritage Management Plan; and
- Guidance given on preparation of a planning scheme amendment for the introduction of planning controls.

Arts Advisory Committee

- Assisted in the establishment of a Friends of Glen Eira group and Caulfield Cultural Forum (from the Cultural Strategy), and
- Oversaw refurbishment of Oak Tree House.

Human Services Advisory Committee

- Disability Access and Inclusion policy and action plan adopted by Council on 20 July 1998; and
- Community involvement and commitment in the process encouraged.

Recreation Advisory Committee

- The Draft Open Space Strategy was completed and placed on public exhibition in April 1998. A number of community consultative meetings were held and extensive questionnaires/surveys circulated. Approved by Council in December 1998.

Infrastructure and Waste Advisory Committee

- A trial was conducted in Oct/Nov 1998 to help determine the best method of implementing a green waste recycling program; following an analysis of data, a recommendation will be made to Council.
- Community use of composting and worm farms to further reduce organic waste encouraged.

Business Development Advisory Committee

- The Business Development Strategy was placed on public exhibition in the first half of 1998 and adopted by Council on 31 August 1998. It was launched at the Civic Leaders' Dinner on 30 November.

Other single-purpose advisory committees also operate from time to time to advise Council on specific issues. During 1998, for example, the Princes Park Maple Street Community Consultative Committee—chaired by Cr Veronika Martens—was established to advise on a range of issues relating to the proposed redevelopment of this reserve as a major recreation facility.

Your representatives at work

Councillors don't just attend Council meetings—they work hard behind the scenes as members or chairs of various important committees as well as representing Council on external organisations.

JASPER WARD



Mayor Cr Barry Neve

- Chair, Infrastructure and Waste Advisory Committee
- Chair, Community Grants Panel
- Police Community Consultative Committee
- Caulfield Racecourse Reserve Trust
- Princes Park Maple Street Community Consultative Committee
- Bentleigh Urban Village Community Committee
- Municipal Association of Victoria (substitute)

Cr Russell Longmuir

- Chair, Strategic Town Planning Advisory Committee
- Youth For Excellence Foundation
- VATC/Monash University Liaison Committee
- Elsternwick, Bentleigh and Carnegie Urban Village Community Committees



MACKIE WARD



Cr Veronika Martens

- Chair, Recreation Advisory Committee
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Cr Norman Kennedy

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ORRONG WARD



Cr Noel Erlich

- Chair, Human Services Advisory Committee
- Chair, Strategic Municipal Public Health Plan Steering Committee
- Audit Committee

Cr Alan Grossbard

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No bugs on us!

An important challenge for Council is to prepare for the impact of the "Millennium Bug". A Year 2000 Business Risk Minimisation Plan has been developed to safeguard all business systems that rely on computers and other date dependent devices.

A program called "Past 2000" is being used to check Council's hardware and software programs are Year 2000 compliant. All workstations have been successfully tested and the other stages of the project should be completed by the middle of the year. Council is very confident it won't experience any problems come 1 January 2000.

Virtually none of Council's software or hardware will be more than three years old at the turn of the century.

The Information Technology department has been supervising the replacement of Council's critical business systems and the final system is expected to be operational this month. This has included the Computron and Stowe Systems which service Finance, Asset Maintenance, Fleet Management, Records Management and Property.

The old WANG system is now outdated and is not Year 2000 compliant. The new systems allow for much greater flexibility and expansion.

Building boom

In the 1998 year, the planning office received 998 planning applications, compared to 994 in 1997. Both years represent record numbers. The first Development Approvals Co-ordinating Committee (DACC) meeting was on 21 January and the committee expects to be extremely busy with the large number of applications in the pipeline.

Planning applications have been at the highest rate ever recorded over the last two years—up 35 per cent on previous years. Council applied planning controls to \$122 million worth of developments.

Council's decision-making processes are open and fair. Every applicant or objector is given the opportunity to express their views directly, either to the Council or through the delegated decision-making body (DACC).

Planning highlights

- Exhibition of Glen Eira Planning Scheme and Ministerial appointed panel hearing
- Exhibition of Heritage Amendment
- Phoenix Urban Design Framework draft completed, with part State Government funding
- Subdivision Service at Glen Eira rates in top five in the state
- Open Space Strategy completed

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The Action Plan acknowledges Council's responsibilities under the Disability Discrimination Act to ensure that Glen Eira is an accessible and inclusive place for everyone. Glen Eira is one of only a few councils to lodge their Action Plan with the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, which indicates a real commitment to change policies that embrace all members of the community.

The Service Centre staff have started disability awareness training, and the Service Centre is about to undergo refurbishment to provide easy access for people with disabilities.

In the past year, a full survey has been conducted on every council building in Glen Eira to identify where improvements to access can be made. It is estimated that the total cost of these improvements could be in the millions, so work is being done progressively each year.

The first stage is providing ramps to ensure access to the front door of every council building. Even a small gap can make the negotiation of a step difficult for a person with a physical disability. The next step is to widen every doorway to ensure a wheelchair can pass through. The buildings most frequently used are given priority and other locations will be implemented over the next few years.

A large ramp is nearing completion at the Glen Huntly Pavilion near Neerim Road. The \$100,000 project enables people in wheelchairs to access the first floor where many social and educational activities are regularly held.

The new ADASS centre received \$20,000 from the Department of Human Services to upgrade the facility to meet the requirements of people with a disability.

Council, in conjunction with Safeway, has also refurbished an old toilet block in the Carnegie Shopping Centre on Kookarribb St, and added a unisex disabled toilet.

Other initiatives have already included the Access for all Abilities recreation program (with three neighbouring councils) which aims to develop a co-ordinated approach to planning and provision of sport and recreation opportunities for people with disabilities.

Rate notice a hit

The State Cabinet was clearly impressed by Glen Eira City Council's rate notice, and the information provided to ratepayers. So much so, that Cabinet approved the rate notice as a model for all Councils, according to the Office of Local Government (November 1998).

The 1998/99 rate notice included a graph showing movements in rates over time—which shows Glen Eira's total rates and charges are 15 per cent lower than in 1993/94. Average rates are also 14 per cent lower than the average of our five neighbouring councils.

Glen Eira rate cuts since 1993-94 (after inflation) will exceed \$30 million this financial year—that's \$30 million for households and businesses to spend on what is important to them, much of it in the local economy.

Food? We're prepared

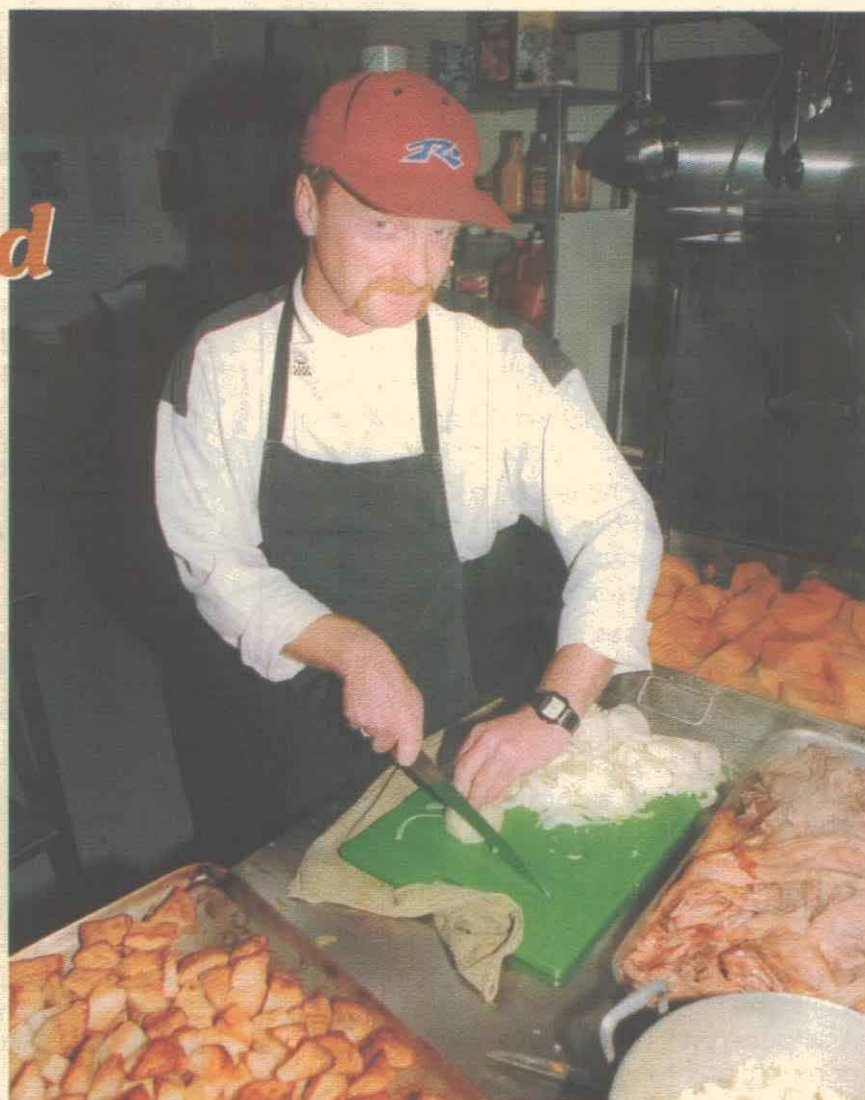
Glen Eira City Council's Environmental Health unit is at the forefront of preparations for stringent new food handling legislation, which will have a major impact on local food premises.

Glen Eira has led the way in developing policies and providing assistance to local businesses, including a public seminar on the new laws, information kits, and providing advice on what a food safety plan should contain. Council late last year also piloted a food safety plan course for Russian-speaking owners of food premises.

The State Government's far-reaching changes to the Food Safety Act requires all food premises to have in place a comprehensive food safety plan, identifying and recording hazards, plus staff food handling training, audits and annual reviews. Council is responsible for administering the new requirements, including approvals and reviews of food safety plans.

The first deadline for plans is 31 March, which affects category A premises, including Council's Spurway nursing home, Glen Eira Food Services and child care centres. The next round will cover restaurants and cafes.

Glen Eira is the first place in Victoria to have food shops meet the new standards. The City is well placed because of Council's ongoing promotion of food hygiene and safety, including its five star Food Hygiene Audit program, which is now used by many other Councils.



Ready for gas emergency

Having a Municipal Emergency Management Plan meant Glen Eira was ready to respond when the far-reaching gas crisis hit in September 1998. Gas supplies were cut across Victoria for two weeks, and while a full emergency was not invoked, Council immediately moved to assist the community, including special meal deliveries, help and advice to businesses, and assistance to the elderly and people with disabilities.

◆ Glen Eira Food Services meals on wheels production went into top gear, changing from its cook-chill system to instead send out 450 hot meals a day, for the benefit of clients who could not heat up their meals at home. The Carnegie kitchen also sent out 700 hot meals over one weekend, possible through the hardwork of staff and volunteers.

◆ Both Spurway Nursing Home and Glen Eira Food Services were exempted from the gas restrictions, and Council successfully lobbied for its three hostels to be added to the exemption list.

◆ Council's Residential and Community Care Services provided extra home help and personal care services to elderly people. Personal Care Staff rallied by sponge bathing people in their home when regular showers were not an option.

◆ Glen Eira Service Centre extended its hours to 9pm weekdays and all weekend, to handle extra calls.

◆ The Environmental Health team visited food outlets across the City, to provide advice to operators on managing without hot water, and to check on safety and hygiene standards.

Committees at work

Since April 1997, Council has operated a number of portfolio advisory committees:

- Strategic Town Planning
- Infrastructure and Waste
- Business Development
- Recreation
- Arts, and
- Human Services

A seventh committee, the Finance Advisory Committee, was established during 1998 and held its first meeting on 12 November.

Each committee is chaired by a Councillor who holds that portfolio, with membership comprising representatives from the community, business and other interest groups.

Two other committees, the Glen Eira-Ogaki Friendly Cities Advisory Committee and the Foundation for Youth Excellence, also operate in an advisory capacity. Both were established by the former City of Caulfield. The Foundation for Youth Excellence is chaired by Dr Robin Gray. The Friendly Cities Advisory Committee has been chaired by Cr Veronika Martens since its inception.

Strategic Town Planning Advisory Committee

- Feedback provided on formulation of Municipal Strategic Statement;
- Assistance provided in development of pre-consultation process for the Heritage Management Plan; and
- Guidance given on preparation of a planning scheme amendment for the introduction of planning controls.

Arts Advisory Committee

- Assisted in the establishment of a Friends of Glen Eira group and Caulfield Cultural Forum (from the Cultural Strategy), and
- Oversaw refurbishment of Oak Tree House.

Human Services Advisory Committee

- Disability Access and Inclusion policy and action plan adopted by Council on 20 July 1998; and
- Community involvement and commitment in the process encouraged.

Recreation Advisory Committee

- The Draft Open Space Strategy was completed and placed on public exhibition in April 1998. A number of community consultative meetings were held and extensive questionnaires/surveys circulated. Approved by Council in December 1998.

Infrastructure and Waste Advisory Committee

- A trial was conducted in Oct/Nov 1998 to help determine the best method of implementing a green waste recycling program; following an analysis of data, a recommendation will be made to Council.
- Community use of composting and worm farms to further reduce organic waste encouraged.

Business Development Advisory Committee

- The Business Development Strategy was placed on public exhibition in the first half of 1998 and adopted by Council on 31 August 1998. It was launched at the Civic Leaders' Dinner on 30 November.

Other single-purpose advisory committees also operate from time to time to advise Council on specific issues. During 1998, for example, the Princes Park Maple Street Community Consultative Committee—chaired by Cr Veronika Martens—was established to advise on a range of issues relating to the proposed redevelopment of this reserve as a major recreation facility.

Your representatives at work

Councillors don't just attend Council meetings—they work hard behind the scenes as members or chairs of various important committees as well as representing Council on external organisations.

JASPER WARD

Mayor Cr Barry Neve

- Chair, Infrastructure and Waste Advisory Committee
- Chair, Community Grants Panel
- Police Community Consultative Committee
- Caulfield Racecourse Reserve Trust
- Princes Park Maple Street Community Consultative Committee
- Bentleigh Urban Village Community Committee
- Municipal Association of Victoria (substitute)



Cr Russell Longmuir

- Chair, Strategic Town Planning Advisory Committee
- Youth For Excellence Foundation
- VATC/Monash University Liaison Committee
- Elsternwick, Bentleigh and Carnegie Urban Village Community Committees



MACKIE WARD

Cr Veronika Martens

- Chair, Recreation Advisory Committee
- Chair, Princes Park Maple Street Consultative Committee
- Chair, Finance Committee
- Chair, Friendly Cities Advisory Committee
- Caulfield Racecourse Reserve Trust
- Community Grants Panel
- Police Community Consultative Committee (substitute)
- Municipal Association of Victoria (substitute)



Cr Norman Kennedy

- Chair, Business Development Committee
- Municipal Association of Victoria
- Friendly Cities Advisory Committee
- Carnegie Urban Village Community Committee



ORRONG WARD

Cr Noel Erlich

- Chair, Human Services Advisory Committee
- Chair, Strategic Municipal Public Health Plan Steering Committee
- Audit Committee



Cr Alan Grossbard

- Chair, Arts and Culture Advisory Committee
- Audit Committee
- Caulfield Racecourse Reserve Trust
- Youth for Excellence Foundation
- Friendly Cities Advisory Committee
- VATC/Monash University Liaison Committee



No bugs on us!

An important challenge for Council is to prepare for the impact of the "Millennium Bug". A Year 2000 Business Risk Minimisation Plan has been developed to safeguard all business systems that rely on computers and other date dependent devices.

A program called "Past 2000" is being used to check Council's hardware and software programs are Year 2000 compliant. All workstations have been successfully tested and the other stages of the project should be completed by the middle of the year. Council is very confident it won't experience any problems come 1 January 2000.

Virtually none of Council's software or hardware will be more than three years old at the turn of the century.

The Information Technology department has been supervising the replacement of Council's critical business systems and the final system is expected to be operational this month. This has included the Computron and Stowe Systems which service Finance, Asset Maintenance, Fleet Management, Records Management and Property.

The old WANG system is now outdated and is not Year 2000 compliant. The new systems allow for much greater flexibility and expansion.

Building boom

In the 1998 year, the planning office received 998 planning applications, compared to 994 in 1997. Both years represent record numbers. The first Development Approvals Co-ordinating Committee (DACC) meeting was on 21 January and the committee expects to be extremely busy with the large number of applications in the pipeline.

Planning applications have been at the highest rate ever recorded over the last two years—up 35 per cent on previous years. Council applied planning controls to \$122 million worth of developments.

Council's decision-making processes are open and fair. Every applicant or objector is given the opportunity to express their views directly, either to the Council or through the delegated decision-making body (DACC).

Planning highlights

- Exhibition of Glen Eira Planning Scheme and Ministerial appointed panel hearing
- Exhibition of Heritage Amendment
- Phoenix Urban Design Framework draft completed, with part State Government funding
- Subdivision Service at Glen Eira rates in top five in the state
- Open Space Strategy completed