

Council punishes tree destroyer

From this...



...to this



Council has penalised a developer who removed these mature trees from his property before applying for a planning permit.

A property developer has been fined and banned from applying for a planning permit after illegally removing trees from a Bentleigh East development site.

The developer was punished for removing two mature trees from the property before applying for a planning permit for a two-unit development in Marquis Road.

Council has slapped the developer with a \$500 fine under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* for providing misleading information with a planning application by failing to disclose the trees' existence.

Council has refused the development proposal and the property owner has been suspended from applying for another permit until a year has passed since the trees' removal.

The property was bought by a developer last year who removed at least two large trees from the front of the site before lodging a planning permit application with Council. Because the trees had already been removed they no longer formed part of the neighbourhood character which must be protected. This practice is more commonly known as moonscaping.

Glen Eira Mayor Cr Bob Bury said Council would not tolerate the illegal practice of moonscaping where developers, either deliberately or unknowingly, disregarded the law and removed trees.

"Moonscaping is a practice we want to stamp out as it removes the rights of neighbours to have their say about what is valuable about the character of their neighbourhood," Cr Bury said.

"How can Council assess the importance of the trees to the neighbourhood's character if the developer has sneaked in and flattened the site before even coming to Council for a permit?"

Council was alerted to the illegal tree removal by a concerned neighbour.

In this case the trees were removed before Council could take any action.

Cr Bury said under *ResCode*, the State Government's residential development code for building, planning and subdivision, the developer is required to acknowledge everything that existed on the site for 12 months prior to submitting an application — this did not occur.

"When the State Government was in the process of drafting *ResCode*, Council highlighted the need for some type of deterrent to stop the practice of developers bulldozing everything on site before they applied for planning permission," he said.

"Council was instrumental in having the government bring in tighter controls to regulate this practice and will not put up with developers who try to get away with removing trees."

Cr Bury said the tree removal had changed the whole character of the street.

"The sad thing is that the trees didn't have to be removed. A careful design could have resulted in the developer achieving a second dwelling at the site and still retaining the trees," he said.

"The Marquis Road decision won't bring the trees back, but it will hopefully deter this developer and other developers from carrying out the practice of removing trees prior to their development applications being considered."

At this stage it is not known whether the applicant will appeal against Council's decision.

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Mayor's column



Keeping to the law is a mark of respect for your community, fellow residents and yourself. Council respects the rights and needs of individuals in the community and the community as a whole, and creates guidelines and local laws which reflect these. We also often contribute to State and Federal Government legislation by lobbying for changes on behalf of our community.

Recently, Council fined a developer for illegally removing trees from his property as part of plans for a two-unit dwelling on the site. He failed to disclose his actions as required when applying for a planning permit.

While the developer's actions are very disappointing, it is heartening that local residents alerted Council to the trees' removal and that we were successfully able to set a punitive fine. Determining and keeping neighbourhood character, while at the same time considering the needs of our increasing population, is a delicate balance as Council is asked to determine what outcomes will best benefit the community.

By setting a fine, we are asking the developer to take responsibility for his actions — just as we ask all members of the community to take responsibility for their actions. Council guidelines are in place to protect what we hold dearest in our community, such as public amenity and safety. Even little things such as registering your pet, keeping them secured when in public and collecting after your dog are all part of accepting responsibility for contributing to the overall enjoyment of our City.

As part of our own housekeeping, Councillors are working on developing a more extensive code of conduct to ensure we can all work together more efficiently and effectively. This code will be adopted as per the *Local Government Act*, and we look forward to the positive changes that they will bring about. Council has also appointed the Victorian Electoral Commission to conduct an independent review of the City's electoral structure and ward boundaries. The review will look at whether the number of councillors provides an equitable representation for voters and the findings will be reported to the Minister for Local Government early next year.

Council tries hard to listen to the community and reflect its wishes through policy and practice. We ask also that the community members act responsibly and respect that we must all work together to maintain our City's position as a great place to live and work.

— Cr Bob Bury
Mayor

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A tropical winter escape

Glen Eira's aged care residents, their families and community members recently warmed up a typical cold wintry afternoon with tropical themes and music.

About 80 people including residents and volunteers from Council's Rosstown, Spurway and Warrawee aged care facilities gathered for a Hawaiian-themed afternoon of singing and dancing.

Residents enjoyed the sounds of yesteryear from the local Dennis Farrington band surrounded by colourful and bright traditional Hawaiian adornments and costumes such as grassed skirts and leis.

Council's Manager Residential Aged Care and Social Services Monica Elston said the event was held as part of Council's community and recreation program for aged care residents.

"It is important for the residents of the aged care facilities to get out into the community and enjoy events and programs such as the Hawaiian afternoon," Ms Elston said.

"The aim of this event is to bring the community and our aged care residents together in a social environment."

Spurway resident, 96-year-old Aileen Middleton, said she enjoyed the dancing and singing at the Hawaiian afternoon.



Rosstown resident Olive King enjoys the Hawaiian music.

"I like seeing the people I have met from the other aged care facilities dancing together and enjoying each others company," Mrs Middleton said.
"I enjoy going out and try to go on as many outings as I can. I especially enjoy outings to the ballet."



Spurway volunteers Lyla Don and her daughter Anne dance to the tunes of yesteryear.
Photo: Jim Hooper.

Deadlines

The deadline for the next issue of the *Glen Eira News* is: **Wednesday 8 September** for delivery 1–3 October.

Coming deadlines:

Wednesday 13 October for delivery 5–7 November.

Wednesday 10 November for delivery 3–5 December.

For advertising and *Community diary* enquiries contact 9524 3431.

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Glen Eira parks rated number one

Glen Eira parks have been rated the best in Melbourne according to a recent independent survey of park users.

Glen Eira came first out of 21 metropolitan Councils in the annual *Park User Satisfaction Benchmark Survey*, conducted earlier this year.

Council's Chief Executive Officer Andrew Newton said Glen Eira rated best in the areas of play equipment, play equipment under-surfacing, tree health, length and quality of grass, tables and seats, shelters, removal of ground litter and removal of graffiti.

"The aim of the survey was to measure park users' satisfaction with the level of park maintenance and to provide a means of comparing results with other park managers," Mr Newton said.

"More than 100 participants were surveyed in 13 Glen Eira parks during February and March this year. This survey provides valuable information as the

people surveyed were actually using the park at the time of survey was carried out."

Mr Newton said Council's experience was that upgrading parks had a dramatic effect on the willingness of residents to exercise and socialise and this benefitted people of all ages.

"The survey has also provided Council with invaluable feedback on residents' priorities for improvements in parks," he said.

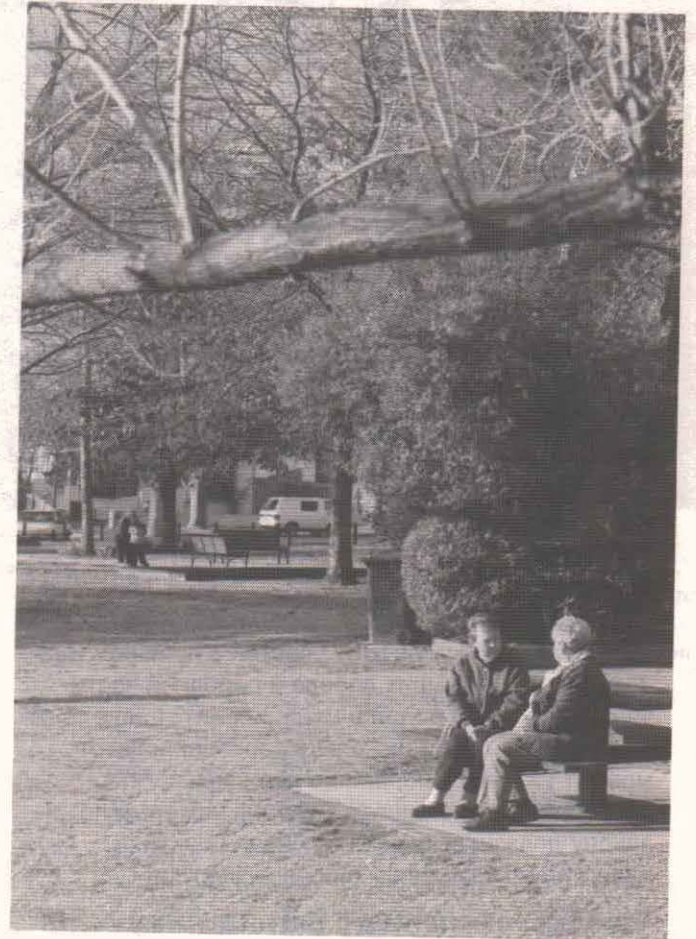
"The survey confirms that the main area of improvement needed in parks is public toilets. This supports Council's budget decision to upgrade three public toilets in 2004-05.

"The results of this survey are also supported by the results of Council's annual independent community satisfaction survey which shows consistently high levels of community satisfaction with Glen Eira's parks."

Council has already upgraded six parks including Packer Park in Carnegie, Mallanbool Reserve in Murrumbeena, Allnutt Park in Bentleigh, Harleston Park in Elsternwick and Hopetoun Gardens in Elsternwick and is currently redeveloping Princes Park in Caulfield South.

Mr Newton said that Council aims to maintain and further develop the standard of parks in Glen Eira.

"This is documented in Council's 2004-10 *Community Plan* which proposes that all residents have parklands and sporting facilities, up to the quality of Packer Park,



Council's parks were rated the best in Melbourne in a recent independent survey of park users. Photo: Bernie Bickerton.

which have disability access and are located within two kilometres of their homes," he said.

Dog rehoused after attacking child

A Bentleigh East dog owner whose German Shepherd attacked an 11-year-old child has been convicted and fined in the Melbourne Magistrates' court.

The woman was placed on a two-year good behaviour undertaking and ordered to pay \$57 in costs after pleading guilty to owning a dog that attacked and failing to maintain effective control of her dog.

Council's prosecutor Alan Katz told the court that the attack occurred in February this year as the child was riding his scooter past the dog owner's property. At the time, the woman had her dog on a leash outside her property but lost control of it as the child went past. As a result, the child sustained two puncture wounds to the upper left thigh. Mr Katz told the court of a prior incident involving the same dog in January 2002 where another child was attacked.

Magistrate Colin Macleod told the defendant that he would not allow her to keep the dog because she was frail and could not control the big dog. Nearby neighbours and friends offered to take the dog and the magistrate ordered it be housed at their address.

Council's Manager Civic Compliance John Bordignon said dog owners must ensure they keep their dogs either properly restrained or confined to prevent injury to the public, other animals and property.

"Council recognises the pleasure and enjoyment pet ownership can give but the pet owners need to be responsible and ensure their pets are not causing concern or harm to the wider community," Mr Bordignon said.

"Council's animal management officers regularly patrol the City to ensure that pet owners understand their rights and responsibilities in training, caring for and restraining their dogs to ensure dog attacks are avoided.

"Council sees dog attacks as a serious issue and will prosecute any dog owners who fail in their responsibilities in this regard."

For more information about how to be a good pet owner in Glen Eira, turn to pages 8 and 9.

Pirates, mermaids and superheroes

Council's Murrumbeena Children's Centre was transformed into a make-believe world of superheroes, animals and mythical characters at a morning dress-up session held last month.

Colourful versions of Spiderman, Batman, mermaids, pirates, tigers, fairies, Teletubbies and ballerinas could be found in the centre as the children came dressed as their favourite characters.



Fairy princess Lauren Kavanagh casts a spell on pirate Thomas Little. Photos: Bernie Bickerton

To start off the morning the children were treated to a puppet show about a runaway Gingerbread man which was followed by a parade where they showed off their costumes to childcare workers and parents.

Council's Murrumbeena Children's Centre Co-ordinator Sandra Bouchard said the event was held to enhance the children's imagination skills and to teach them the value of reading books.

"The aim of the dress-up morning was to give children a chance to make a real connection between the characters they admire and the books they love," Ms Bouchard said.

"The children were also asked to bring along their favourite books to share stories with other children."

The event was part of Council's ongoing child development program that incorporates all four of Council's children centres and includes events such as animal farm days, nutritional talks, footy days and parent and grandparent days.

Surviving a new baby

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Council invites new parents to attend an information session on *Surviving and enjoying the first months with a new baby* at the Glen Huntly Maternal and Child Health Centre, corner Royal and Rosedale Avenues, Glen Huntly

The session is designed for parents of babies aged 4-8 weeks old and will address the issues of understanding normal baby behaviour, reducing family stress and encouraging a settled baby. Partners and grandparents are welcome.

First and third Tuesday of each month from 1pm to 3pm. Cost: \$2.

Language line

Муниципалитет налагает штраф за уничтожение деревьев

Муниципалитет оштрафовал домовладельца за уничтожение двух старых деревьев на его участке в районе Bentleigh East перед подачей заявления на строительство нового жилья на две семьи на этом участке.

Штраф \$500 был наложен в соответствии с Законом 1987г. о строительном планировании и окружающей среде за скрывание факта существования деревьев и, таким образом, сообщение ложной информации в заявлении на строительство.

Само заявление на строительство было отклонено и домовладельцу было запрещено подавать в муниципалитет новое заявление в течение года после незаконного удаления деревьев.

Домовладелец купил этот участок в прошлом году и удалил два больших дерева в передней части участка, а затем подал в муниципалитет заявление на строительство. Поскольку деревьев на этот момент уже не было, они не являлись частью своеобразного ландшафта района, который по закону должен сохраняться. Такая практика известна по названию moonscaping.

Мэр муниципалитета Glen Eira г-н Bob Bury отметил, что подобные действия лишают соседей законного права на учет их мнения о ценностях и своеобразии ландшафта своего района.

"В соответствии с Правилами жилищной застройки и зонирования (ResCode) в штате Виктория, в заявлении на строительство должно быть указано все, что существовало на участке за 12 месяцев до подачи заявления. В данном случае этого не произошло," сказал г-н Bury.

Sanzione comunale per abbattimento di alberi

L'autorità comunale ha emesso una sanzione nei confronti del titolare di un terreno ad East Bentleigh per aver abbattuto due alberi maturi, senza prima aver ottenuto il relativo permesso per la costruzione di due villette.

Il comune ha emesso una multa pari a \$500 sotto la legge Planning and Environment Act 1987 per aver fornito informazioni ingannevoli assieme ad una richiesta di pianificazione, cioè per non aver fatto riferimento alla presenza degli alberi.

Il comune ha respinto la richiesta per il permesso di pianificazione e ha inoltre vietato al proprietario di presentare altre domande di pianificazione per un anno a partire dal giorno in cui sono state abbattute le due piante.

Dopo aver comprato l'immobile l'anno scorso, il responsabile, prima di presentare la richiesta di pianificazione in comune, ha tagliato due grandi alberi che si trovavano sul davanti della proprietà. Poiché gli alberi erano già stati abbattuti essi non facevano più parte del patrimonio naturale del vicinato che si sta cercando di proteggere. È una pratica che in inglese viene chiamata "moonscaping".

Secondo il sindaco di Glen Eira, il consigliere Bob Bury, il "moonscaping" impedisce ai vicini di esercitare i propri diritti circa l'ambiente in cui vivono.

"Sotto il ResCode, il codice che regola la pianificazione urbana, l'edilizia e le suddivisioni di terreno a livello statale, un imprenditore edile deve segnalare nella domanda tutti gli elementi presenti sul terreno per 12 mesi prima della presentazione della domanda stessa - e questo non è stato fatto." ha dichiarato il sindaco.

Το Δημαρχείο τιμωρεί καταστροφή δέντρου

Το Δημαρχείο τιμώρησε ιδιοκτήτη ακινήτου για την αφαίρεση δύο ώριμων δέντρων από το ακίνητό του στο Bentleigh East πριν κάνει αίτηση για χωροταξική άδεια ανοικοδόμησης δύο γιούνιτς.

Το Δημαρχείο επέβαλε πρόστιμο \$500 στον κατασκευαστή της οικοδομής βάσει της Νομοθεσίας Χωροταξίας και Περιβάλλοντος 1987 για παροχή παραπλανητικών πληροφοριών στην χωροταξική αίτηση χωρίς να αναφέρει την ύπαρξη των δέντρων.

Το Δημαρχείο απέρριψε την αίτηση ανοικοδόμησης και απαγόρευσε προσωρινά στον ιδιοκτήτη του ακινήτου να υποβάλει αίτηση για νέα άδεια μέχρι να περάσει ένας χρόνος από την αφαίρεση των δέντρων.

Ο κατασκευαστής της οικοδομής αγόρασε το ακίνητο πέρυσι και αφαίρεσε δύο μεγάλα δέντρα μπροστά από το οικόπεδο πριν να υποβάλει αίτηση χωροταξικής άδειας στο Δημαρχείο. Επειδή τα δέντρα είχαν ήδη αφαιρεθεί δεν αποτελούσαν πλέον μέρος του γειτονικού χαρακτήρα που πρέπει να προστατεύεται. Η πρακτική αυτή είναι κοινώς γνωστή ως σεληνιοποίηση.

Ο Δήμαρχος της Glen Eira Cr Bob Bury δήλωσε ότι η σεληνιοποίηση αφαιρεί τα δικαιώματα των γειτόνων να εκφράσουν τη γνώμη τους για το τι είναι πολύτιμο σε ό,τι αφορά τον χαρακτήρα της γειτονιάς τους.

"Βάσει του ResCode, του στεγαστικού κώδικα ανοικοδόμησης κατοικιών για ανέγερση, σχεδιασμό και διαχωρισμό της γης, ο κατασκευαστής μιας οικοδομής πρέπει να αναφέρει όλα όσα υπήρχαν στο οικόπεδο 12 μήνες πριν από την υποβολή αιτήσεως - αυτό δεν συνέβει," δήλωσε ο δήμαρχος.

市政府懲罰毀樹者

一位地產業主在提出其在 Bentleigh East 地產上建造兩個單元房的規劃申請之前砍掉了兩棵大樹，市政府因此對他進行了懲處。

就這位發展商在規劃申請中掩蓋樹木存在提供誤導資料一事，市政府根據《1987年規劃及環境法令》(Planning and Environment Act 1987)對他作出罰款 \$500 的處置。

市政府拒絕了他的發展申請，並取消其申請許可權一年，時間從他毀樹那天算起。

這位發展商去年買下了這塊地產，在向市政府提出規劃許可申請之前毀掉了地塊前部的兩棵大樹。由於樹木不存在了，這裡必須加以保護的街坊特點也隨之失去了一部分。這通常稱為“造成荒景”。

Glen Eira 市長 Bob Bury 說，造成荒景的做法剝奪了鄰居對構成街坊特點的價值所在的發言權。

他說道：“根據州政府的民居建造、規劃和分割地產的發展準則 ResCode，發展商必須申報提交申請前 12 個月中該地塊上存在的一切東西，而這位發展商沒有做到這一點。”

Venues for hire

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Council has a range of facilities located throughout Glen Eira available for family reunions, birthday parties, wedding, conference, exhibition, anniversary or special event. The facilities range in size and are clean and comfortable.

Council also has rotundas in parks available for hire for a wedding or special event. For more information contact Council's Service centre on 9524 3333 or visit Council's web site at www.gleneira.vic.gov.au

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Mayors unite *for litter fight*

Glen Eira, Bayside and Port Phillip City Councils have joined forces to save Elster Creek from litter and sediment pollution.

Glen Eira Councillor Dorothy Marwick, Bayside Mayor Cr Alex del Porto and Port Phillip Mayor Cr Dick Gross were joined by local community and environmental leaders on the banks of Elster Creek last month to launch the joint councils' Elster Creek Catchment Education and Awareness Project.

The project, which is being funded jointly by the three councils and an Environment Protection Authority grant, will involve environmental initiatives designed to increase awareness of the creek and its plight.

The project aims to reduce stormwater and bay pollution within the catchment, increase understanding of how ecosystems like the catchment area work and highlight the importance of a multi-organisational approach to catchment management.

The Elster Creek Catchment drains an area of about 40 square kilometres, extending from St Kilda in the north, to Highett in the South and from Port Phillip Bay to Caulfield East and Bentleigh East.

About 75 per cent of the Elster Creek catchment is in Glen Eira, however only a fraction of the creek is visible in the City. Four main stormwater drain networks carry litter and runoff from streets and parks in Glen Eira to the creek.



Cr Marwick said the project had four main components — an education campaign, a public space campaign, a construction sites campaign and a communications campaign.

"The education campaign will target one primary school from each municipality, Elsternwick, Elwood and Bentleigh West primary schools, who will be involved in waterway monitoring, in-school theatre performances and educational tours of the catchment," Cr Marwick said.

The public space campaign will focus on raising community awareness of litter and stormwater issues throughout the catchment area.

Key activities include an education and awareness program at Caulfield, Balacava and Gardenvale train stations, selected shopping centres, parks and foreshore areas, a primary school artwork competition to be displayed in major shopping centres, a green gardening community evening and an educational tour of Elster Creek incorporating both environmental and historical aspects. The public space campaign will culminate with a clean up Elster Creek Catchment Day in late October.

The construction sites campaign will address issues



Sasha Malignaggi from Elsternwick Primary School, Will Gluyas from Elwood Primary School and Morgan Smithe from Bentleigh West Primary School show Port Phillip Mayor Cr Dick Gross, Bayside Mayor Cr Alex del Porto and Glen Eira Councillor Dorothy Marwick how to use a water testing kit at Elster Creek.
Photo: Bernie Bickerton.

raised from the impact of stormwater runoff from building sites and involve voluntary site audits, information kits and follow-up visits.

The Elster Creek Education and Awareness Project will carry the slogan *Don't trash Elster Creek* with accompanying posters on the theme *We're sick of your garbage* featuring a family of penguins which lives in Port Phillip Bay.

For more details about the GreenGardeners community evening to be held in Glen Eira, turn to page 13.

Olympic fever hits Glen Eira

The spirit of the Olympic Games was celebrated by residents throughout Glen Eira last month.

Local primary school students celebrated with opening ceremonies and tabloid sports, local childcare centres held mini Olympics while Council's Spurway aged care facility celebrated with improvised games and events.

Glen Eira Mayor Cr Bob Bury was on hand to help students at Ripponlea Primary School in St Kilda East who began their celebration with a mock Olympic games opening ceremony.

To mark the ceremony, the students dressed in the national colours of the country they were representing and sung the national anthem.

It was followed by a range of tabloid sports including netball, soccer, athletics, handballing and basketball.

Cr Bury said the spirit of the Olympics had been upheld and celebrated by local residents all over Glen Eira.



Ripponlea Primary School students celebrate the Olympics with Greek dancing.
Photos: Bernie Bickerton.

"The Olympic Games are a celebration of people coming together, whether it be on an international or local level," Cr Bury said.

Residents from Council's Spurway aged care facility improvised various Olympics sports at their version of the Olympic Games.

The residents played tennis using balloons as tennis balls and racquets made of coat hangers covered with stockings, played volley ball using a net and balloons and used a frisbee in place of a javelin to see how far they could throw it.

On the other side of the age scale, children from Council's Carnegie Children's Centre took part in, what they called, mini Olympics.

The children participated in soccer, long jump, running races, walking and running marathons, equestrian riding with pretend horses, bike races and gymnastics events including the balance beam and moving with ribbons.



Residents at Council's Spurway aged care facility prepare for their improvised Olympic events.

Electoral review

Glen Eira will undergo a public review of its electoral structure and ward boundaries later this year.

The review, directed by the Minister for Local Government Candy Broad, will look at whether the number of councillors and the electoral structure provides a fair and equitable representation for voters at Council elections.

Council's Chief Executive Officer Andrew Newton said the review would also look at the existing Council ward boundaries and whether they are a fair and equitable division of the municipality.

"The review will look at whether the number of voters represented by each councillor per ward is within 10 per cent of the average number voters per councillor for the whole municipality," he said.

"Council has appointed the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) to conduct the review as recent changes to legislation mean reviews must be run independently by an electoral commission. Previously, councils ran their own reviews."

The last review in Glen Eira was conducted in 1999 and at that time, it was decided that the three current wards of Orrong, Jasper and Mackie, be retained, but that the number of councillors be increased from six to nine.

More information on the review, including how residents can make submissions, will be published in the October issue of the *Glen Eira News*.

The VEC is required to make its final recommendation to the Minister by 31 March 2005. Any changes to Council's current electoral structure as a result of the review will come into effect for the next Glen Eira general election, to be held in November 2005.

Further electoral reviews must be conducted at least once after every second election held.



Safety lesson for principals

More than 30 local principals learnt about important safety initiatives at a recent community safety forum co-ordinated by Council's Glen Eira Community Safety Committee.

The inaugural forum held at the Glen Eira Town Hall gave primary and secondary school leaders the chance to meet with emergency services professionals to discuss safety issues affecting Glen Eira's school communities.

Glen Eira Councillor and committee Chairperson Cr Veronika Martens opened the forum and said Council recognised community safety as a major factor that contributed to community wellbeing.

"Council is committed to providing leadership to co-ordinate community safety initiatives in Glen Eira and working in partnership with emergency service providers, the community and

Metropolitan Fire Brigade Commander Colin Bibby, Glen Eira Community Safety Committee Chairperson Cr Veronika Martens, Victoria Police Inspector Greg Parr and Ripponlea Primary School Principal Christine Bishop were among the representatives who gathered for Council's recent school safety forum.

Photo: Bernie Bickerton.

government to improve the level of safety in Glen Eira," Cr Martens said.

"The forum was another committee initiative which recognises that community participation is an important tool in improving local safety."

At the forum presentations were made by representatives from Victoria Police, Metropolitan Fire Brigade, VicRoads, the Department of Education and Council.

The presentations addressed important safety initiatives for schools such as fire education, arson, evacuation plans, road safety, a weapons amnesty, security audits and the need for additional school crossing supervisors.

Metropolitan Fire Brigade Commander Colin Bibby discussed the importance of scheduling regular mock evacuations into school calendars.

"Evacuations do not always need to be a surprise as they can be a beneficial exercise to experience mistakes without threat of fire or other dangers," Commander Bibby said.

Victoria Police Inspector Greg Parr discussed safety issues relating to parking and traffic around schools while Council's Manager Traffic and Parking Carl Russo discussed the importance of school crossing supervisors to children travelling to and from school.

Cr Martens said the forum was an opportunity to increase the provision of community safety information and present schools with an opportunity to provide feedback and make recommendations about safety in Glen Eira.

"The forum was another example of Council being responsive to the community's needs and the improvement of safety in local primary and secondary schools," she said.

The forum will now be held on an annual basis to ensure schools keep up to date with important safety information and initiatives.

Council to adopt conduct code

Council is now required to adopt a code of conduct covering Councillors' behaviour when performing public duties.

After recent changes to the *Local Government Act*, every Victorian Council is required to develop and adopt a code of conduct within the next six months and review their code after each council election.

Council's Chief Executive Officer Andrew Newton said under the new legislation, codes of conduct are to include the rules of conduct that oblige councillors to act honestly and exercise reasonable care and diligence.

Under the Act, the code must also include processes to resolve disputes between councillors and procedures to be followed for conflicts of interest.

Mr Newton said the rules of conduct have now been explicitly included in the Act, specifying that Councillors must act honestly, exercise reasonable care and diligence, not make improper use of their position, and not make improper use of information acquired because of their position.

"Rules concerning conflicts of interest arising at Council and special committee meetings have been broadened and councillors must declare any interests they have in matters being considered at these meetings," he said.

"If such interests are financial, or where the person considers that their interests may conflict with their public duties, they must declare a conflict of interest and refrain from voting."

Community consultation

Council sees community consultation as a vital part of its decision-making process. Consultation involves the community in Council's planning and activities and helps Council to understand the community's priorities and issues.

Upcoming consultation opportunities

Subject	Type	Date	Where
Glen Eira Activity Centre draft strategy	Written submissions	October	Glen Eira Activity Centre Strategy Glen Eira City Council, PO Box 42 Caulfield South 3162

Recent consultation opportunities

Meeting	Type	Date
Carnegie Urban Village design vision	Workshop	Tuesday 10 August
Bentleigh Urban Village design vision	Workshop	Thursday 5 August
Urban village design framework	Public exhibition	Monday 2 August to Friday 20 August
Elsternwick Urban Village design vision	Workshop	Tuesday 3 August
Glen Eira Activity Centre Strategy workshop	Workshop	Wednesday 21 July
Amendment C38 — Caulfield Racecourse signage proposal	Written submissions	Thursday 10 June to Monday 12 July

For further information about any of these consultation opportunities contact Council's Service Centre on 9524 3333 or visit Council's website at www.gleneira.vic.gov.au

Under New Management programs

Council, in partnership with the Victorian Government, is working together to help people make more informed decisions, through the **Under New Management** Program.

Signing a retail lease

The workshop will include:

- a 3½ hour workshop with an experienced facilitator;
- a workbook of information and useful contacts;
- a one-on-one business counselling session; and
- access to online information and publications.

Thursday 23 September from 6pm to 9.30pm
Caulfield Cup Room, Glen Eira Town Hall,
corner Glen Eira and Hawthorn Roads, Caulfield
Supper on arrival. Cost: \$30

RSVP: Monday 20 September

Buying a franchise

The workshop will include:

- a three and a half hour workshop with an experienced facilitator;
- a workbook of information and useful contacts;
- a one-on-one business counselling session; and
- access to online information and publications.

Tuesday 5 October from 6pm to 9.30pm
Caulfield Cup Room, Glen Eira Town Hall,
corner Glen Eira and Hawthorn Roads, Caulfield
Supper on arrival. Cost: \$30

RSVP: Thursday 30 September

Bookings essential.

Contact Council's Service on 9524 3333.



Good things, *small packages*

By Vida Ivan

"The best part of the job is seeing children achieve something they never thought, or their parents never thought, they could. Like the quiet child whose self-esteem and confidence grows because you've been their special friend, someone they could count on to introduce them to others. Or a child who doesn't have much English starting to learn and speak English words. Or the special needs child who we all thought would require nappies for the rest of their life start developing control and become toilet trained. There are too many best things!" **Belinda Redman**

on the job with
Belinda Redman



Ben Milton, aged five years, tells childcare worker Belinda Redman what activities he would like to do.

Child care is Belinda Redman's passion. She has worked in the industry for nearly 11 years — five of those at Council's Carnegie Children's Centre. It all began after her older sister started working in child care, and Belinda tried it out for herself during a work experience stint in high school.

"Parents leave their most precious possession with us and they need to feel comfortable that we're providing the right level of care for their child," Belinda said.



Organising activities involving lots of interaction between the children is an important part of Belinda's day.

"I loved it and volunteered at a centre until they offered me casual and then full-time work. I also studied two year's full-time for my Diploma of Community Services (Child Care) at Box Hill TAFE," Belinda said.

"I enjoy working with children and watching them learn. They get so excited about achieving things and I love seeing that energy. It's inspiring."

The Carnegie Children's Centre cares for up to 35 children, aged between 0 and five years, every day. Many children attend for one or two days, others for five. All have different developmental, physical and emotional needs — and every one is treated as a unique individual.

"We always touch base with parents morning and night, just have a chat to see how everything is going. It's important to keep in touch."

Belinda works in the toddler room (2–3 years) with 10 children and one other staff member. But for anyone who thought child care just meant playing games, think again. As part of her duties she prepares fortnightly activity plans for the children, taking their current interests, level of development and needs into account.

"The activity plans are tailored for the children's level and interests. We plan out several experiences (activities) to fit in the room and give them options, but the children will let you know if there's something they're really keen on — like painting a picture for their dad's birthday."

"In the kinder room the children are really into role playing. Older children are generally more inquisitive so we provide more elaborate information. Toddlers like to role play and explore on their own, to find things out for themselves and then tell you about it — that's where we can ask questions to extend their knowledge and thinking."

Themed role playing or home corners are a common sight in the centre, with August playing host to a mini Olympic Games where the children could participate in sports, learn some history, extend their interaction and take turns to share.

"I think children benefit a lot socially from being in child care — it offers different experiences, gives single children time to work out their ways in a group, and gives others access to children their own age," Belinda said.

"Parents benefit a lot too. They can learn from other parents and staff and ask questions, and it gives them a chance to catch up with others on their own — even if that's at work."



Belinda touches base with Faye Amanatidis as she drops off her two children Alexandra and Gregory.

Photos: Bernie Bickerton.

Child care vacancies

Council currently has vacancies for children aged from three to five years at its four child care centres in Caulfield, Elsternwick, Carnegie and Murrumbeena.

Each centre has carefully planned educational programs based on the development and interests of each child, and the culture and values of their families.

Children are cared for in a safe and secure environment and provided with fun and interesting activities. Council is committed to including children with disabilities or additional needs.

Council's children's centres have all attained a high quality status through the National Child Care Accreditation Council.

Enrolment forms are available at the centres, from Council's Service Centre or by calling 9524 3333.

City of
GLEN EIRA

A family affair — Faye, Alexandra and Gregory Amanatidis

Three-year-old Alexandra and Gregory, nearly two, both attend Carnegie Children's Centre four days a week — and have been attending since just before their first birthdays.

Mum Faye is pleased that they love it so much, and that the transition from being at home to being in care has run so smoothly.

"They get excited even driving up to the centre. It's always been a positive experience for them," Faye said. "They particularly love the reading, which I might not have enough time for, and the home corner themes for role playing."

"It's been great for Gregory, who can sometimes lose his identity a bit at home. Alexandra can scream louder and speak clearer, but at the centre Gregory has his own friends and comes into his own."

Extra support — Rosa and Ben Milton

Ben, aged five years, has been attending Carnegie Children's Centre for three years. His brother Jack was there before him, and mum Rosa was on the fundraising committee.

"My boys have really grown up with the centre and have a really good relationship with the staff," Rosa said. "It's a well-run centre and it really caters for the children's physical as well as emotional needs — the activities are wonderful, the staff innovative and we always get lots of feedback."

"Ben is disabled and needs help to walk. He'll need help on his physical development for the rest of his life, but the staff have always been supportive. He comes for the social interaction, and the time spent here has really increased his confidence. They know Ben's personality and his needs — he's grown up with the centre staff."



Responsible pet ownership — *don't let pets down*

An animal lover named Kate

Council Animal Management Officer Kate Bell has had a colourful career so far, with numerous dog and cat rescues and the occasional bite from an unhappy dog all part of her work history.

The compassionate and approachable Kate has worked as an animal management officer with Council for 2½ years.

But why would a qualified veterinary nurse decide to become an animal management officer? Kate said it is because she wanted to do something to prevent the animal injuries she had grown tired of seeing.

"I was growing weary of seeing animals that were hurt and having to treat them so I decided to take up a career in animal management that allowed me to help work towards preventing injuries rather than treating them after they had already happened," Kate said.



Educating pet owners about Council's pet regulations is one of the most rewarding aspects of Kate's job. Here she discusses on-leash laws with local resident Deidre Doull and her dog Hamish.

**Stories: Sophie Massis.
Photos: Bernie Bickerton.**

"As a vet nurse I was seeing a lot of dogs and cats that had been hit by cars, dogs being attacked by other dogs and cats which had been in fights. All of these situations could have been avoided if their owners were educated about pet regulations and laws."

As an animal management officer, Kate is involved in the investigation of complaints about barking dogs, dog attacks, dog rushing or aggression, cat trespassing, on-leash area patrols, complaints about dog faeces, poultry and dangerous dogs.

Although Kate is responsible for the enforcement and management of Council's local laws, she has an approachable manner when dealing with pet owners who have not done the right thing.

"The most satisfying part of my job is educating residents about complaints against their animals, such as dogs barking, and providing tips to resolve the problem or suggesting animal behavioural training," she said.

Kate says educating residents so that they can continue to use Glen Eira parks to exercise their pets responsibly and alerting them about why certain laws and regulations are in place are elements of her job she takes pride in.

"This type of education for pet owners is an effective method to prevent injuries to resident animals and their pets," she said.

"If pet owners are responsible, we as a community should be able to minimise the number of animals experiencing injuries."



Council's Animal Management Officer Kate Bell checks a wandering dog for a microchip.

Kate has been instrumental in implementing initiatives to encourage local pet owners to do the right thing such as offering pooch pouches to dog owners to remind them to carry bags to clean up after their dogs and offering on-the-spot leads to dog owners so that they immediately comply with the on-leash laws.

Kate said that although in some circumstances, warnings do not apply and fines are necessary, it is important to offer education to pet owners.

"It is important that Glen Eira pet owners respect other people, their pets, property and their right to use public spaces," she said.

Registration reunites Fluffy

Bentleigh East resident Sofia Rumanovsky and her family were delighted when Council reunited them with their missing cat.

Fluffy, a 3½-year-old tabby cat, had been missing for more than six weeks before he was picked up by Council officers.

Sofia said the people who initially found Fluffy didn't think he was lost, they just thought he belonged to a nearby neighbour.

"After a few weeks they realised that he was lost and contacted Council," Sofia said.

Fluffy is registered with Council, microchipped and was wearing his tag when he went missing. If it wasn't for this, Sofia and her family believe that they have would have never seen him again.

"I was so emotional when Council returned him to us and was very grateful to have him back — the whole family was so pleased," she said.

"I think Council provides a fantastic service. They do a great job and if it wasn't for them we would have never seen Fluffy again."

Sofia, her husband Boris and children James, Katie and Daniel, recently moved house. Although they only moved a few blocks away and took every precaution to familiarise Fluffy with his new surroundings, like taking him for short walks, he still wandered.

Sofia said the house felt so empty without Fluffy and it seemed like a member of the family was missing.

"We did our best to try to find him, we drove around looking for him, went door-knocking and did this continually for four weeks," she said.



Katie Rumanovsky is delighted to have her furry friend Fluffy back, after his registration tag helped reunite him with his worried owners.

"After that time we gave up and thought we would never see him again".

Sofia's advice to Glen Eira residents is to make sure they register their pets with Council.

"You never know what could happen. We took all the necessary precautions and our pet still wandered away from home," she said.

Not a happy reunion for all

Not all pets are as lucky as Fluffy. Of the 906 cats and dogs Council impounded in 2003–04, only 337 were reunited with their owners — the bulk of these being dogs.

"Unfortunately the bulk of the dogs and cats that Council officers pick up don't get returned to their owners because Council has no means of identifying them," Council's Manager Civic Compliance John Bordignon said.

"Pets that can't be identified are taken to Council's pound. If they are not claimed after the mandatory eight-day holding period, they are then assessed for rehoming and either sold or euthanased."

Mr Bordignon said animals that are registered with Council and are wearing their registration tags, or are microchipped, can be identified if they become lost.

"Not only is it a legal requirement for pet owners to register dogs or cats aged over six months with Council, but it can also save pet owners a lot of heartache if their pets go missing," he said.

"If all pets were registered, the reunion rate could be 100 per cent."



Almost 600 Glen Eira pets could not be returned to their owners last year as they were not wearing registration tags.

Stop pets poo-lluting Glen Eira

Council is planning to get tough on irresponsible owners who fail to clean up after their dogs in public.

Council's Manager Civic Compliance John Bordignon said dog litter was not only an eyesore, but could also create environmental and public health concerns.

"The problem of dog litter in public spaces is getting worse, despite owners being legally required under Council's local law, to collect and dispose of their dog's droppings out in public," Mr Bordignon said.

"There are really no excuses for it. It is not difficult for dog owners to plan ahead to help ensure Glen Eira's parks, gardens, playgrounds, footpaths and other public spaces are free from dog waste and more enjoyable for everyone."

Mr Bordignon said Council had tried to make it easy for local pet owners to do the right thing.

"Council provides plastic bag dispensers in many Council parks and reserves and officers also carry and distribute plastic bags and pooch pouches to dog owners when patrolling parks to educate them about cleaning up after their pets," he said.

"Ultimately, it is up to pet owners to do the right thing and dispose of dog waste. Owners should carry a plastic bag or pooper scooper with them at all times to ensure they are always appropriately armed to clean up after their dog."



Local resident Jason Close always takes a plastic bag and a pooch pouch with him, whenever he walks his Golden Retriever Hamish.

"Collecting dog litter and disposing of it responsibly helps to make the environment cleaner and contributes to a healthier water supply for the community."

Owners who fail to clean up after their dogs face a \$125 on-the-spot fine.

Discounted desexing and microchipping

Council and the RSPCA will jointly offer discounted desexing and microchipping to Glen Eira pet owners during September.

Council's Manager Civic Compliance John Bordignon said although all cats and dogs aged over six months must be registered with Council and wear their tags at all times, microchipping offered an additional means of permanent identification.

"Microchipping is not a replacement for registration but can certainly save pet owners a lot of heartache if their pets are lost and are not wearing their registration tags," Mr Bordignon said.

"It is easy for collars and registration tags to fall off or become lost, and microchipping is yet another safeguard that pet owners can take to ensure their pet does not go missing."

To receive the discounted rates, pet owners need to make a booking with the RSPCA on 9224 2232. The discount will then be offered on presentation of a current registration notice or letter from Council.

Mr Bordignon said during September, pet owners can get their pets microchipped for just \$30, a saving of \$20, but it must be done at the time of desexing.

"Discounts on the desexing of both dogs and cats will also be available in September and prices are dependent on the animals' age, weight and sex," he said.

"With the spring-summer breeding season just around the corner, Council recommends that all cats and dogs be desexed to prevent unwanted litters. Desexed animals are also less prone to fighting."



Glen Eira pet owners can get their dogs and cats desexed and microchipped at reduced rates during September.

Finding solutions to barking problems

Sometimes there can be nothing more annoying than a dog which constantly barks.

Last year Council received 294 barking dog complaints from local residents, a majority of which could have been avoided by pet owners taking a few simple actions.

Council's Manager Civic Compliance John Bordignon said while barking is natural behaviour for dogs, they usually don't bark without a reason and excessive barking is often a sign that something is wrong.

"Barking can occur when a dog is excited, stressed, bored, lonely, provoked, hungry, sick or in discomfort," Mr Bordignon said.

"A dog may also bark to give a warning, seek its owner's attention, protect its territory, announce the arrival of visitors or respond to a distant sound or signal."

"Excessive barking may also be a result of lack of exercise, inadequate shelter or yard space, moving house or a change to the family's structure."

Mr Bordignon said it was the owners' responsibility to ensure their dogs did not annoy neighbours by barking excessively.

"There are a number of ways pet owners can stop their dogs from barking. Firstly pet owners must find out when and why the dog is barking and try to address the problem," he said.

"It may be as simple as ensuring their dog receives enough exercise, stimulation and company to prevent boredom or loneliness or correcting it with a firm reprimand as soon as it barks at distractions or when visitors arrive."

"Pet owners can also contact professionals such as vets or animal behaviourists to help address barking problems."

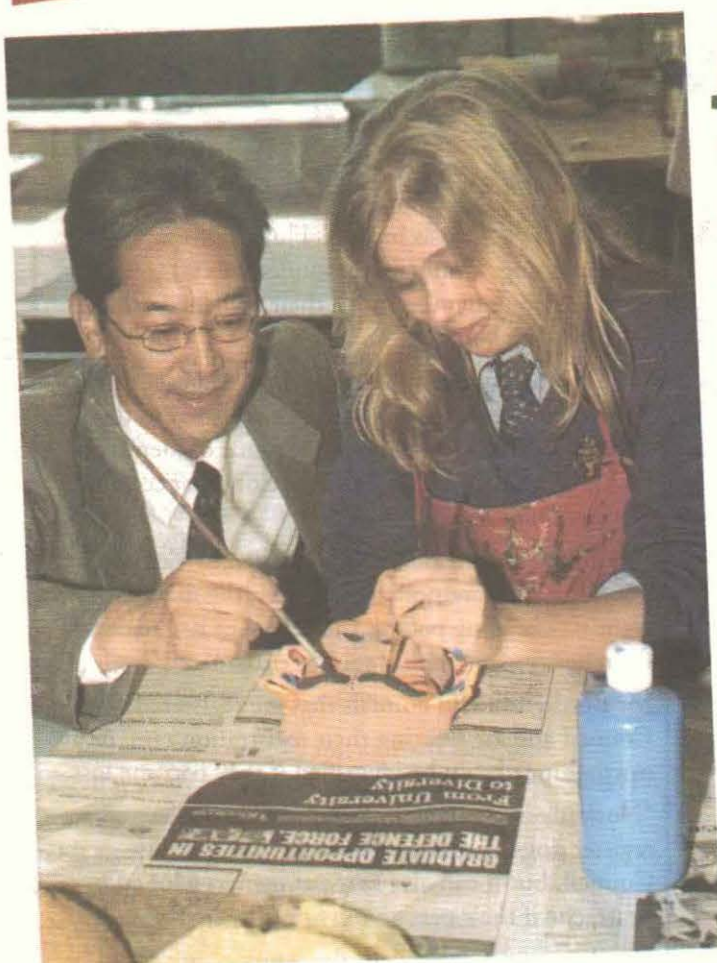
Mr Bordignon said residents who feel that a neighbour's dog is causing a nuisance should attempt to resolve the matter first by speaking to their neighbour before contacting Council.

"In most cases, the owner is not at home when the dog is barking, so may not be aware of the problem," he said.

Pet information available

Council has a range of information available for local cat and dog lovers on how to be a good pet owner. Booklets are available on responsible pet ownership, dog litter and barking dogs. Animal registration application forms are also available. For a copy of any of these items contact Council's Service Centre on 9524 3333.





Ogaki City Board of Education representative Shuji Okuda helps Wesley College student Rosemary Nudge paint an African face mask.
Photos: Bernie Bickerton.

Japanese friends *visit Glen Eira*

By Sophie Massis

Council played host to two delegations of students and teachers from its sister city Ogaki in Japan last month.

A group of 18 teachers spent a day in Glen Eira meeting with Councillors and visiting local primary, secondary and tertiary schools.

The teachers started their whirlwind day-long visit with a tour of Wesley College in Elsternwick where they observed students in a Year 8 science class and took part in a music class studying the famous Japanese violin teacher Dr Shinichi Suzuki.

The teachers also had an opportunity to assist students who were making ceramic masks with Asian and African themes in an art class and received a lesson in screen-printing.

The visit, part of the Glen Eira-Ogaki Friendly Cities program, included a visit to the Japanese School of Melbourne in Caulfield South and Monash University's Caulfield Campus before the group attended a luncheon at the Glen Eira Town Hall.

Addressing the luncheon, Glen Eira Mayor Cr Bob Bury said the Friendly Cities relationship between Glen

Eira and Ogaki was important and one that Council valued highly.

"The links Glen Eira has with Ogaki create opportunities for local residents to learn more about Japan, its history and culture," Cr Bury said



Wesley College student Ben Horewood plays music via the computer for Ogaki teacher Tomoko Yamakawa.

"Schools are very much involved in the Friendly Cities program and it is certainly an opportunity for young people to learn and understand more about Japan."

"The strength and commitment of Glen Eira to the relationship between our two Cities can be seen around Council's town hall, in the Japanese Garden and throughout the various rooms dedicated to the relationship such as the Ogaki room."

A separate delegation of students also visited Glen Eira as part of a six-day tour which included a visit to Council and a stay with a Glen Eira host family.

At an afternoon tea held at the town hall, Glen Eira-Ogaki Friendly Cities Advisory Committee Chairperson Cr Veronika Martens welcomed the students to Glen Eira.

"You are here to learn about the Australian culture and way of life, that is the idea of the exchange program," Cr Martens said.

"I do hope your experience in Glen Eira is a pleasant one and that you take good memories back to Ogaki."

Local students to experience life in Japan

Eight local secondary students will spend their September school holidays in a unique way with a trip to Glen Eira's sister city Ogaki in Japan.

The delegation of Year 9 and 10 students from Shelford Girls' Grammar School, Loreto College, Mt Scopus College, Brighton Secondary College and Kilvington Girls' Grammar and two delegation leaders will depart for Ogaki for the 10-day trip later this month.

Chairperson of Council's Glen-Eira Ogaki Friendly Cities Advisory Committee Cr Veronika Martens said the trip would be a great opportunity for the students

to experience the customs and culture of Japan.

"The students will have a first-hand experience of how residents of Ogaki live as they will each be staying with a host family," Cr Martens said.

The trip, part of the Glen Eira-Ogaki Friendly Cities program, will include visits to local Ogaki schools and museums, Japanese culture workshops and a visit to the Golden Temple in Kyoto, before a short stay for sightseeing in Tokyo.

The selection process for the trip included an interview with Councillors and committee members. The trip is partially funded by a Council grant.

Mayoral dinner honours local community leaders



A meeting of the Mayors. Current Glen Eira Councillor and former Mayor Cr Noel Erlich catches up former Glen Mayor Barry Neve and former Caulfield Mayor Geoff Patience.
Photos: Bernie Bickerton.

Glen Eira Mayor Cr Bob Bury honoured the timeless efforts of local community leaders at a Mayoral Civic Dinner at the Glen Eira Town Hall last month.

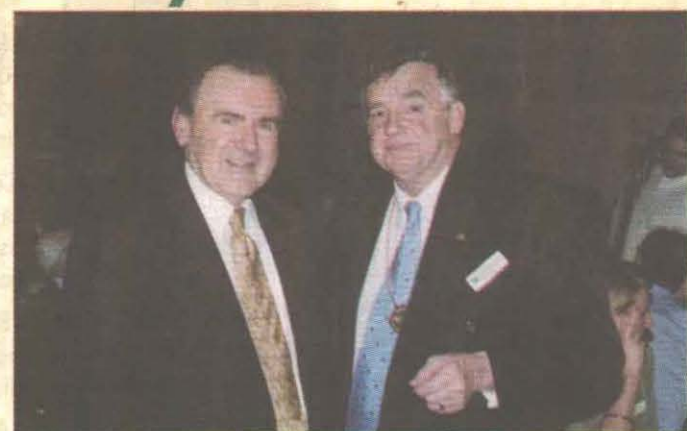
Sporting, cultural, religious, business and service organisation leaders from across Glen Eira were acknowledged for their contribution to the community at the dinner.

In his address, Cr Bury said the community leaders represented groups that are vital to life in Glen Eira.

"The thousands of hours contributed by these volunteers brings Glen Eira's community to life and creates opportunities for so many local citizens, both young and not so young," Cr Bury said.

"Council recognises the local services and the local facilities, determined and paid for by local people, on which the life of the community depends. We recognise also the numerous partnerships which exist between Council and local organisations.

"Council, as the local government, recognises the contribution made by these organisations and by their leaders, the innovation that we see around Glen Eira is a tribute to their leadership."



Federal Member for Goldstein Dr David Kemp swaps stories with Glen Eira Mayor Cr Bob Bury.

The event featured entertainment by Boheme Smart Music and was attended by more than 140 people including the Mayor's wife Marney Bury, Cr Noel Erlich and his wife Helen, Cr Margaret Esakoff and her husband Jack, Cr Peter Goudge, Cr Alan Grossbard and his wife Judi, Cr Jamie Hyams, Cr Veronika Martens, Cr Dorothy Marwick and her husband Geoff, Cr Rachelle Sapir, Federal Member for Goldstein Dr David Kemp, Member for Monash Province Johan Scheffer, Member for Higinbotham Province Chris Strong and Member for Bentleigh Rob Hudson.

City's emergency plan *put to the test*

Glen Eira's emergency management plan was put to the test during a mock disaster exercise held recently.

Centred around a collision between a gas tanker and a train at the Murrumbena Road railway crossing in Murrumbena, the exercise was aimed at testing the plan's operations and procedures.

Council's Municipal Emergency Response Officer Doug Griffiths said the mock emergency involved a simulated evacuation of a large area around the accident.

"As part of the exercise we had to find temporary accommodation for the evacuees, transport and immediate care for elderly and frail evacuees. We had to conduct road closures and traffic management around the accident as well as resourcing heavy cranes for use by the fire brigade, Mr Griffiths said.

"The exercise allowed the committee to put the emergency management plan into action and analyse any parts of the operations and procedures to measure their effectiveness.

"We were able to test the accuracy of the information in the emergency management plan."

Taking part in the exercise were members of Council's Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee which includes representatives from Council, Victoria Police, the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, State Emergency Service, Metropolitan Ambulance, Red Cross, Salvation Army and the community.

Council is required to maintain an emergency management plan which includes a list of Council

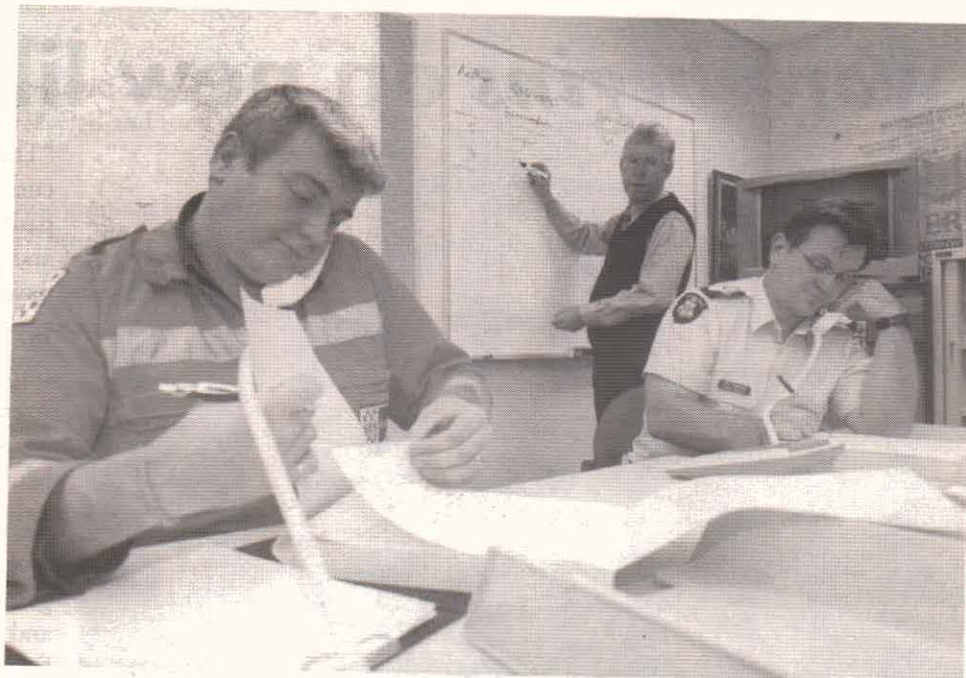
resources including contact details for private equipment suppliers, maps of vulnerable establishments such as hospitals, churches and aged care facilities and locations of possible relief centres. The plan is required under the *Local Government Act*.

Mr Griffiths said being able to resource information and extra equipment quickly could be critical to providing a successful response to an emergency.

"Council's primary role in an emergency is to offer support and resources to the major emergency combat agencies such as the police, fire brigade, SES, ambulance and Department of Human Services," he said.

"This exercise has been extremely useful for us to establish links with these agencies and provide an opportunity to work through operations and procedures with the most effective outcome.

"The exercise was a success and enabled us to identify some minor weaknesses in our operations and procedures and resolve them."



Oakleigh SES Unit Controller Jim Koutsoubos, Council's Municipal Emergency Response Officer Doug Griffiths and Victoria Police Senior Sergeant Vic Kostjuk at work during the recent mock disaster exercise.
Photo: Bernie Bickerton.

Glen Eira parks set to boom

Glen Eira parks will now look and feel healthier thanks to a new 1,000-litre boom spray unit Council recently purchased.

The boom spray unit is designed to apply a range of fertilisers, herbicides, insecticides and wetting agents to sportsgrounds and small parks.

Council's Manager Parks Services Laurie Unwin said the unit would allow Council to alleviate problems associated with disease, insects and weeds in Glen Eira's parks, using the safest possible processes, and ultimately cut costs associated with removing them.

"Previously Council only used a small amount of liquid fertiliser on sportsgrounds and parks which could be used with products designed to minimise disease outbreaks in turf. This work was done by a sub-contractor," Mr Unwin said.

"Disease can infect turf areas in parks and reserves very quickly and requires prompt action to avoid it spreading. Our new spray unit will provide a rapid response to treat disease outbreaks."



Council ground maintenance team member Hans Desaram puts Council's new boom spray unit to work.
Photo: Bernie Bickerton.

Mr Unwin said the new spray unit provided a better way of carrying out this process because of its timely applications and no need to wait for contractors.

"The unit will allow significant time and cost savings for Council through more timely applications with works being undertaken internally and not by sub-contractors," he said.

The boom spray works by mixing chemicals or fertilisers with water in the unit's tank. These are then applied through the boom which has three sections, each of these can be controlled separately and range from two metres to six metres in width.

The unit also has a hose reel with a hand gun that can be used in smaller areas or for spraying around obstacles such as trees, poles or fences.

Zero tolerance for unsafe drivers

Glen Eira City Council has joined forces with Victoria Police to crack down on unsafe motoring in and around school areas.

Glen Eira motorists are being reminded to obey road rules and take note of parking restrictions or risk being fined.

Council's Manager Traffic and Parking Carl Russo said Council and local police had received complaints from schools, parents and school crossing supervisors about motorists breaking road rules around schools.

"Council and local police have received complaints about motorists stopping too close to or on school crossings to drop off their children, ignoring school crossing supervisors, driving through crossings and parking in time-limited bays for longer than the set period," Mr Russo said.

"These motorists are not only breaking the law, but putting the lives of the 15,000 children who use crossings in Glen Eira each day at risk.

"Council officers and local police will team up to ensure motorists are obeying road rules so that road safety in and around schools is upheld."

Mr Russo said Council and police officers would continue to patrol the areas around schools especially during times when parents drop off and pick up their children and zero tolerance would be shown to motorists who broke the law.

"Officers will issue parking infringement notices to vehicles that stop too close to the crossings or in areas where they shouldn't," he said.

"Drivers observed offending will be handed the penalty infringement notices on the spot or notices will be sent via mail.

"It is anticipated that officers' high visible presence will act as a deterrent for offending motorists and ensure that roads around schools are safe."

Victoria Police Sergeant Dean Cooper of the Glen Eira Traffic Management Unit said police would further enforce the 40km/h speed limit and drivers that did not stop at the crossings when required would receive penalty notices.

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Work begins on new library



Council contractors level the site of the new Carnegie Library and Community Centre in readiness for building works to begin. Photo: Anne Stafford.

Council's new Carnegie Library and Community Centre will soon start to take shape with works now well underway.

Council contractors have demolished all buildings that were previously on the site and levelled the area in preparation for building.

Council's Director Assets and Facilities Geoff Barrow said Council was pleased with the overall progress of the multi-purpose facility which will include a state-of-the-art library, playgroup building, playground area, extended car parking and community centre.

"Council is now concentrating on filling the site to make sure the ground is firm in preparation to lay the buildings foundations," Mr Barrow said.

"The building contractors are currently creating the main car park in the North end of the site and are pouring concrete for the lower part of the library."

Mr Barrow said the three surrounding streets — Shepparson Avenue, Jersey Parade and Koornang Road — were also being prepared.

"Jersey Parade has been closed to divert numerous services such as gas, sewerage, water, telephone and electrical services to make way for building works," he said.

Mr Barrow said in order to combat the closure of Jersey parade, Council had prepared a traffic management plan for the other two streets to ensure that residents still have access to Koornang Road.

"This plan will also ensure that vehicular access is maintained to rear of commercial properties that back on to the site," he said.

"Council will also be finalising safety improvements to the Shepparson Avenue and Jersey Parade intersection. We will be extending a section of the road in Shepparson Avenue to increase visibility for motorists who turn left or right out of Jersey Parade into Shepparson Avenue."

The next stage in the development will be a combination of structural steel work and curtain walling of the new building. Construction is expected to be completed by September 2005.

What's on at Council's libraries?

Life is learning month

September is *Life is Learning @ your library* month and as part of this State Library of Victoria promotion Council is inviting residents to learn something new at the following classes:

Computer basics

A class designed for beginners to computers. Monday 6 September from 10.30am to 12.30pm. Cost: \$33

Introduction to the Internet

The perfect beginners guide to browsing. Friday 17 September from 10.30am to 12pm. Cost: \$22.

One-on-one Internet

Personalised Internet training, suitable for all levels of computer experience and tailored to meet individual needs or interests. Sessions run for one hour. Cost: \$44.

All Internet classes are held in the multi-stationed training facility at Caulfield Library, Glen Eira Town Hall, corner Glen Eira and Hawthorn Roads, Caulfield. Bookings can be made at any of Council's libraries.

For further information or to book call 9524 3623.

September Holiday Mania

Holiday Mania is back at Council's libraries for the September school holiday break. All activities

are designed for children aged 5 to 12 years unless stipulated. Tickets are available from all branches from Tuesday 7 September.

Preschool-aged children can attend free *Storytime* sessions at Council's libraries. Details are available on Council's website at www.gleneira.vic.gov.au

Water Sense — the show

A sparkling new show about water with catchy songs and magic tricks about water safety and caring for the environment.

Monday 20 September 11am–12pm
Caulfield Library. Tickets: \$5

Let me tell you a story...

Listen to stories old and new told by a guest storyteller. Wednesday 22 September 11am–11.45am
Bentleigh Library. Tickets: \$5

Sleeping Beauty

This classic fairytale is retold featuring 14 handcrafted puppets. After the performance, learn the secrets of how puppets are made and work.

Friday 24 September 11am–12.30pm
Elsternwick Library. Tickets: \$5

Project Internet

A specially developed class that teaches valuable Internet skills for school projects and homework. Thursday 30 September 10.30am–11.30am
Caulfield Library. Ages 9 to 12 years. Tickets: \$16.50

Writing workshops

Budding young Glen Eira writers had the chance to work with well-known children's author Paul Collins as part of a series of writing workshops hosted by Council last month.

Council's Manager Library and Information Services Sue Webster said the workshops were held as part of the *Nestle Write Around Australia* competition hosted by Council's libraries this year.

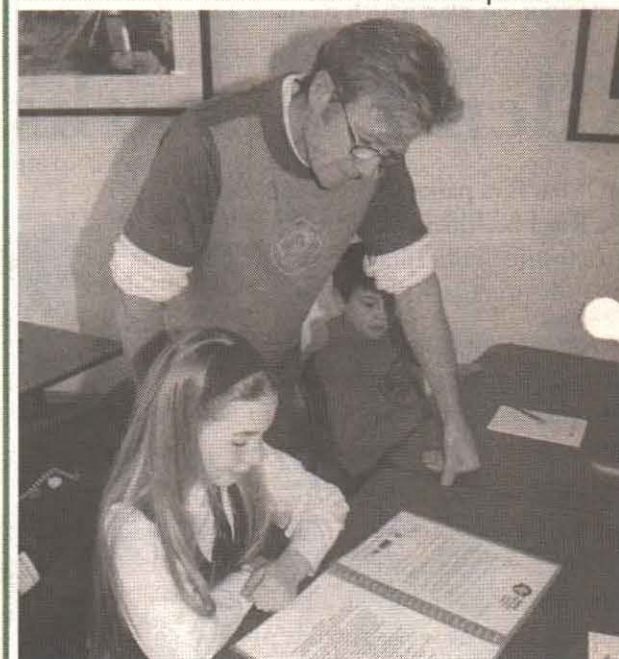
"We had 2,000 entries for the competition which involved students submitting a 500-word story that was judged by a special panel," Ms Webster said.

"The workshops gave students the opportunity to learn new writing skills with advice from a successful Australian author who has written more than 70 books."

Twenty students from Years 5 and 6 who are the competition zone finalists were treated to a special three-hour session with the author during which they were able to rework their stories for the second round of judging.

Glen Eira school groups were also invited to be part of an hour-long workshop with the author to learn about some of the techniques authors use to develop a story and how books are published.

The Years 5 and 6 zone winners will be announced at a function to be held at the Glen Eira Town Hall on Tuesday 12 October. The two winners will then move into the State section of the competition.



Successful children's author Paul Collins helps Emily Harbard fine tune her short-listed story. Photo: Anne Stafford.

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Council trials *new green recycling*



Council is taking part in a trial that will potentially offer a more environmentally friendly and cost-effective method of recycling Glen Eira's green waste.

Council's Waste Management Engineer Doug Griffiths said Council would trial the new green cell process for the next 12 to 18 months.

"The green cell process works by breaking down fruit and vegetable scraps and garden clippings and converting them into an organic rich soil enhancer which will be blended with sand to create topsoil," Mr Griffiths said.

"This method provides a viable alternative to green waste merely being used for compost. Through this new process, green waste can be also be used to extract greenhouse gasses like methane which can be collected and reused.

"Green waste that is recycled into compost material can also be used to cover landfill sites when they are full and

can no longer be used. The sites can then be revegetated and used for open space parkland."

Mr Griffiths said vegetation produced a lot of methane gas which could be recycled and used to generate electricity.

"Methane is a potent greenhouse gas, said to contribute to the depletion of the Earth's ozone layer," he said.

"This new green waste recycling method we are trialling will save significant amounts of greenhouse gases from reaching the atmosphere, which is great news for the environment."

Mr Griffiths said the previous method used by a different contractor involved the mixing of the green waste materials that could only be used as composting products such as potting mix.

"The new method means that the green waste materials can be used for multiple purposes," he said.

"There are also cost benefits that outweigh the previous method used. The disposal rates at the new landfill site Council is using are lower and as it is closer than the previous site, transportation costs will also decrease."

Amy Hillyer, aged three years, is helping out her Mum and the environment by putting hedge prunings into one of Council's green waste collection bins. Photo: Bernie Bickerton.



Thumbs up for green gardening

Glen Eira gardeners will have the opportunity to go green — at a free community evening Council is organising to promote environmentally friendly gardening.

Council, in partnership with Melbourne Water and Sustainable Gardening Australia, has organised the GreenGardeners information evening, as part of the Elster Creek Catchment Education and Awareness Project.

The project is a joint initiative of Glen Eira, Port Phillip and Bayside Councils which aims to reduce litter and sediment solutions which are polluting Elster Creek and, ultimately, Port Phillip Bay.

The GreenGardeners evening will provide residents with information on how to reduce the amount of chemicals used in the garden, how to naturally improve soil, how to choose non-invasive plants that will benefit the natural environment and how to prevent runoff that can harm waterways.

Qualified horticulturalist and accredited Melbourne Water GreenGardener Diana Cotter will be on hand to answer any questions residents have about their garden and how to adopt more sustainable gardening practices.

Glen Eira Mayor Cr Bob Bury said sustainable gardening was about adopting a way of gardening that would not impact negatively on the environment.

"Products like garden fertilisers and chemicals can be washed into our waterways, potentially causing algal blooms and killing native flora and fauna. This information evening will introduce local gardeners to more environmentally friendly techniques," Cr Bury said.

"Anyone who has an interest in gardening, whether professionally or as a hobby, will benefit from attending this free event."

The GreenGardeners information evening will be held in the Theatrette, Glen Eira Town Hall on Wednesday 6 October from 7pm to 9pm. Refreshments will be provided. Spaces are limited, so to register contact Council's Service Centre on 9524 3333.

It's easy being green

Council's fortnightly green waste collection service celebrates a successful four years of operation this month.

Council's Waste Management Engineer Doug Griffiths said the program was initially introduced in September 2000 as a requirement of the South Eastern Regional



Kim and Amy Hillyer wheel their green waste bin onto the naturestrip in readiness for Council's fortnightly collection. Photo: Bernie Bickerton.

Waste Management Group's Regional Waste Management Plan.

"The green waste service is voluntary and undertaken on a user-pay basis making it a fair and equitable service whereby only the users pay for disposing green waste, not the general ratepayers," Mr Griffiths said.

"As of the start of August, 7,983 Glen Eira residents have subscribed to the service, with Council collecting 2,326 tonnes of green waste in the last financial year."

Bentleigh East resident Kim Hillyer and her family have used the green waste service since it first started.

Kim said she subscribed to the service because she and her family wanted to recycle the grass and other garden waste such as prunings and weeds.

"We believe that it is important to separate green waste from other waste and it is equally important to realise why we separate the two and don't allow it to all go into landfill," she said.

"For me, subscribing to the green waste service also sets a good example for my daughter as she can see what she and her family can do to help the environment."

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Community diary

Meetings and clubs

Carnegie and Murrumbena Senior Citizens' Club holds community singing and entertainment at 314 Neerim Road, Carnegie, every Tuesday from 1.30pm. Gold coin entry. Contact: Betty 9569 7778.

Royal Children's Hospital Auxiliaries (Caulfield Branch) meets at the Alma Club, 1 Wilks Street, Caulfield North, on the third Wednesday of every month (February to November) at 1pm. New members welcome. Contact: Olive 9578 2395 or Pat 9571 2666.

Club 66 holds old-time, modern and new vogue dances at the Benteigh Uniting Church hall, 495 Centre Road, Benteigh, on the first and third Saturday of each month at 8pm. Cost: \$6. Contact: 9587 1092.

St Peter's East Benteigh Cancer Support Group meets at St Peter's Parish Centre, in 844 Centre Road, Benteigh East, on the first Thursday of each month at 10.30am. Contact: 9579 4255.

Murrumbena Bowls Club invites interested players to try out for the new season at 10 Blackwood Street, Carnegie. New bowlers welcome. Contact: 9568 5144

Little Steps Playgroup meets on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in the lower hall at St Catherine's Anglican Church, 406 Kooyong Road, Caulfield South, from 9.30am to 11.30am. Contact: Gillian 0402 857 263 or Stephen 0412 267 437.

Life Activities Club Caulfield will meet at the Gladys Machin Hall, Cedar Street, Caulfield, on Wednesday 15 September at 7.30pm. There will be a guest speaker and supper. Contact: 9568 5849 or 9523 9669.

Fibromyalgia Self-Help Group will meet on Tuesday 14 September at the Arthritis Foundation, 263 Kooyong Road, Caulfield South, from 6pm to 8pm. Contact: 9532 8796.

Lupus-Sjogrens Support Group Caulfield will meet on Sunday 26 September at 2pm. Contact: 9509 2735.

KG Putt Benteigh Senior Citizens' Club at 2 Arthur Street, Benteigh offers cards, carpet bowls, table tennis, square dancing and bingo on Saturdays at 1.30pm. Contact: 9557 6010 on Monday, Wednesday or Friday.

Over 40s Club holds old-time, modern and new vogue dancing at Ormond Uniting Church, corner of North and Booran Roads, Ormond, on the second and fourth Saturday of each month at 7.45pm. Cost: \$7.

Anglican Parish of Ormond Christ Church holds a Katalyst youth service at 436 North Road, Ormond on the fourth Sunday of each month from 7pm to 9pm.

Glen Eira Tennis Club hosts social tennis for over 55s at Princes Park, Caulfield South, each Thursday from 9am. Ladies' group meets each Tuesday from 9.30am. New players welcome. Contact: Dominic 9523 6966.

Benteigh Life Activities Club offers activities for the over 50s. Table tennis, scrabble, cards, music, craft, golf and theatre outings. Contact: 9557 2562.

Community

The Moorabbin Historical Society opens Box Cottage in Joyce Park, Jasper Road, Ormond, on the last Sunday of each month from 2pm to 4.30pm. Admission by donation. Contact: 9578 7060.

University of the Third Age U3A Glen Eira seeks a volunteer tutor to teach clay sculpting to retired citizens. Contact: 9572 0571, Monday to Friday between 10am and 3pm.

Brahma Kumaris Raja Yoga offers beginners meditation at 275 McKinnon Road, McKinnon, on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm, and positive thinking courses on the first Wednesday of the month. Bookings essential. Contact: 9578 9955.

Riding for the Disabled Association Caulfield seeks volunteers of all ages to assist with handling horses and assisting riders at the Caulfield Racecourse every Monday from 9.30am to 2.30pm. Contact: Marion 9752 9044 or 0412 129 166.

Ormond-McKinnon Lions Club presents the McKinnon Village Fair 2004 on Sunday 7 November in McKinnon Road, McKinnon, from 10am to 3pm. For enquiries Simon Matthews on 9578 9571.

Benteigh Traders Association will hold the Benteigh Festival on Sunday 14 November in Centre Road, Benteigh, between 10am and 4pm. Contact Richard Atkinson on 9557 9822.

Carnegie Traders Association will stage the Carnegie Festival on Saturday 27 November in Koornang Road, Carnegie, between 10.30am and 4.30pm. For stall and event interest contact Patti Perkins 0407 095 856.

Events

St John's Anglican Church corner Centre and Tucker Roads, Benteigh, will hold open days to celebrate its 150th anniversary on 11-12 and 18-19 September. Contact: 9557 2226.

Cancer Council Victoria will hold the *Murrumbena Relay for Life* at Duncan Mackinnon Reserve, Murrumbena, on 23-24 October. People of all ages and fitness levels are encouraged to take part. Contact: Lisa 0417 402 167 or 1300 656 585.

Glen Eira City Choir presents *From Brahms to Broadway* conducted by Jane Elton Brown at Glen Eira Town Hall, corner Glen Eira and Hawthorn Roads, Caulfield, on Sunday 12 September at 2.30pm. Cost: \$18 adults and \$15 concession. Contact: 9502 7707.

St Christopher's Anglican Church will hold its *Spring Fair* at 6 Mackie Road, Benteigh East, on Saturday 2 October from 9am to 1pm.

Our Lady of Sacred Heart College presents *Charades* featuring songs that capture the feel of the 1960s, at the college theatre on the 15-17 September, at 8pm. Cost: \$8-\$40. Contact: 9563 9522.

St Catherine's Anglican Church, 406 Kooyong Road, Caulfield South, will celebrate St Francis Day with the blessing of pets as part of the family service on Sunday 3 October at 10am. All are welcome.

K G Putt Benteigh Senior Citizens' Club will hold a supper dance with the Glenn Miller Big Band at 2 Arthur Street, Benteigh on Saturday 25 September at 7.30pm. Cost: \$10.

East Benteigh Primary School Bignell Road, Benteigh East, will hold its monthly on Saturday 28 August from 9am to 2pm. Stall holder enquiries contact: Janet 9558 0793 or 0418 500 679

Caulfield Little Athletics Club will hold a registration day at Duncan Mackinnon Reserve, Murrumbena on Saturday 11 September from 10am to 11am. Contact: Helen 9578 2083.

McKinnon Secondary College, McKinnon Road, McKinnon presents *The Australian Saxophone* at the music auditorium on Saturday 4 September at 3pm. Cost: \$15 adults, \$10 concession.

Caulfield Community Health Service will present a talk on *Nutrition for your baby* at Glen Huntly Maternal and Child Health Centre, corner Royal and Rosedale Avenues, Glen Huntly on Tuesday 14 September at 2pm. Cost: \$3. Contact: 9524 3403.

Immunisation sessions

September

Benteigh Baptist Church
10 Vickery Street, Benteigh
Monday 6 September 1.30pm-2.30pm

Glen Eira Town Hall
(entry via Glen Eira Road)
Corner Glen Eira and Hawthorn Roads, Caulfield
Tuesday 7 September 6pm-7pm
Tuesday 14 September 9.30am-10.15am

Murrumbena Baptist Church
44 Murrumbena Road, Murrumbena
Monday 13 September 10am-11am

Benteigh-Bayside Community Health Service
Gardeners Road, Benteigh East
Wednesday 22 September 6pm-7pm
Saturday 25 September 9.30am-10.30am

Glen Huntly Maternal and Child Health Centre
Corner Royal and Rosedale Avenues, Glen Huntly
Wednesday 29 September 9.30am-11am

GLEN EIRA U3A BUS TRIPS 2004

Take advantage of low budget bus trips organised by volunteers for you. Travel with an accredited bus company.

Tuesday 28 September

Tesselaar Tulip Farm at Silvan 50th Anniversary.

A celebration of massed flowers at the famous Tesselaar Farm. It is a must for all lovers of beautiful blooms, Tulips, Daffodils, Hyacinths and Proteus. Bulbs and souvenirs for sale. Bring your own lunch or you can buy delicious Danish pastries and real coffee.

Bus departs from Glen Eira Town Hall at 9am and 10 minutes later from Glen Huntly Railway Station (tram stop 60).

Bookings: 9572 0571 or at the offices of U3A Glen Eira, 1151 Glen Huntly Road, Glen Huntly from 10am to 3pm from Monday to Friday.

Cost: \$40 includes bus and entry, 9am to 4.30pm approx.

Wednesday 20 October

Round the Bay. We are going over the Westgate Bridge via Geelong Road to Point Lonsdale for a short walk on the shore. Then by bus to Queenscliff to look around and visit the shops. Bring your lunch or buy.

We return by car ferry over the bay to Sorrento, maybe spot the dolphins. A day to remember. Bookings: 9572 0571 or at offices of U3A Glen Eira, 1151 Glen Huntly Road, Glen Huntly from 10am to 3pm, Monday to Friday.

Cost: \$45 includes bus and ferry, 9am to 5pm.

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Glen Huntly Friendship Group

99 Grange Road, Glen Huntly

Activities for September

Thursday 16 September

The Melbourne Zoo has been credited as one of the finest zoos in the world. Time and money has been spent to improve conditions for the animals. Emphasis on natural habits for the animals has allowed them to roam freely in leafy pleasant surroundings. The butterfly house is filled with exotic beautifully coloured butterflies. We will enjoy a guided tour and a small golf buggy can take 2 or 3 people. BYO lunch or buy at the zoo.

Depart 9.15am from 185 Poath Road, Hughesdale and have morning tea at 99 Grange Road, Glen Huntly before leaving at 9.50am. Cost: \$32

Enquiries and bookings Margaret 9596 6124

Arts

Victor Majzner — a work in progress

By Vida Ivan

McKinnon artist Victor Majzner has always used his art to explore his relationship with his social and political environment — his immigration from Russia, the politics of Aboriginal culture, and his responsibilities as an Australian.

Born in Russia in 1945 to Polish-Jewish parents, Victor always wanted to paint, even attending art school in Paris for a year before emigrating to Australia with his family in 1958.

"When I was five or six I wanted to be an artist, but I didn't know what that was — just that painting was fun. It was the only thing I knew and I never wanted to do anything else," Victor said.

A parental ultimatum to get a real profession forced Victor to study graphic design and, in turn, led to a career in teaching spanning more than 30 years, but the long-time Glen Eira resident's own art was never far from sight.

He regularly exhibited his work, often using the Glen Eira landscape and the personal symbol of a coat to explore his own journey as a migrant, later juxtaposing his experiences and those of his ancestors to the treatment of Aboriginals in the harsh political and physical Australian environment.

Today, Victor is considered one of Australia's most prominent painters, with 13 art prizes, 50 solo exhibitions and more than 60 major group exhibitions to his credit. His work features in countless public art collections across Australia and New Zealand and in private collections in Australia, England, the United

States, New Zealand, Israel and France.

His life's work will be the focus of a major retrospective exhibition Council is presenting at the Glen Eira City Council Gallery next month.

"I've always been interested in a sense of identity — who am I, what makes me tick, how do I relate to my spiritual, political and social environment," Victor said.

"In the 1980s I took my first group of students into the desert to paint and learn about the Aboriginal communities there. For years I travelled almost annually to the Kimberley region and it affected me."

Victor's current body of work focuses on this aspect of his personal journey — reconciliation and the nation's historical response to protecting those in need. The project started with the idea of circumnavigating the area in the Kimberleys once proposed as a settlement site for Jewish immigrants before the onset of World War II.

"I discovered that in that area in 1939 there had been a massacre of Aboriginals. It was spooky and it was a culmination of everything I was exploring — my



McKinnon resident Victor Majzner has always his art to explore the nature of identity. Photo: Bernie Bickerton.

identity as a spiritual human being and as a political Australian dovetailed."

For the next 10 years Victor used his travels to the region to explore his thoughts and meet with the local Aboriginal communities. He painted the boab tree under which the massacre took place, and used his work to investigate the relationship between white and black communities, government policy and his own migrant experiences.

"Exhibitions are often endings of a body of thought," Victor said. "I haven't been back to the Kimberleys since 2002 but I know that saying sorry doesn't resolve problems, it just opens up the question of what happens next."

"That's my journey now — the idea of where do we go from here?"

Glen Eira City Council presents the work of Victor Majzner in *Wounded — land, memory, destiny* at the Glen Eira City Council Gallery, corner Glen Eira and Hawthorn Roads, Caulfield, from Thursday 14 October to Sunday 7 November 2004.

Exhibitions

Glen Eira City Council Gallery, Glen Eira Town Hall, corner Glen Eira and Hawthorn Roads, Caulfield
Opening Hours: Monday–Friday 10am–5pm, Saturday, Sunday and public holidays 1pm–5pm

Silk Cut Awards for Linocut Printmaking 2004

Opening and announcement of award winners at 6.30 pm on Wednesday 15 September.
The exhibition continues until Sunday 2 October.



Willys with solar panel by Jackie Goring.

This exhibition showcases the best in contemporary Australian printmaking. It is the only national award specific to linocut printmakers and includes an open category and a category for primary and secondary students.

The quality reflects the dedication of visual arts teachers in Australian schools and indicates a strong future for Australian printmaking.

In conjunction with the exhibition, Council's Manager Arts and Culture David O'Halloran, one of the judges from the *Silk Cut Award* panel, will present *The judge's perspective: a discussion about the myths and realities behind the art award selection* in the gallery on Wednesday 22 September at 6.30pm. This free talk covers the selection process and observations from his experience as a curator, exhibition judge and art critic.

Robyn Fuerst-Stockton — Rollercoaster

Opens 6pm on Tuesday 14 September and continues until Sunday 2 October.

This exhibition features local artist and designer Robyn Fuerst-Stockton's recent works in paint, print and ceramics, alongside a retrospective of her design business YFP Design.

In 1997, YFP Design designed and produced a range of Sushi platters and rice bowls in partnership with Country Road. Dubbed as an unusual and interesting Asian style, YFP introduced the idea of eating off square plates, which is now an accepted part of Australian culture. Following this initial success, YFP went on to design and manufacture ceramic tableware for homeware stores around Australia.



Love is a mirror by Robyn Fuerst-Stockton.

Party in the Park 2005

CITY OF GLEN EIRA

Expressions of interest

Council is calling for expressions of interest from community groups who may wish to participate in three *Party in the Park* celebrations scheduled for February and March 2005.

Council seeks local performers, sporting clubs, service clubs or anyone who is interested in holding an activity or information display at the *Party in the Park* celebrations. This is an opportunity to join in the celebrations and share interests and talents with the community.

Expressions of interest should be submitted to Council no later than Monday 27 September 2004. For details on how to make a submission contact Council's Service Centre on 9524 3333.

Recreation

Princes Park makeover on track



The transformation of Princes Park is well underway.

The first stage of Council's major redevelopment of Princes Park in Caulfield South should be completed in time for summer.

Council's Manager Recreation and Youth Services Linda Smith said while unforeseen incidents such as industrial action by electrical contractors and vandalism had delayed some works, Council was pleased with the redevelopment's progress.

"Despite these setbacks, the park is starting to take shape with new fencing being installed on the main oval and soccer ovals and a third oval being reshaped and reseeded with drought-resistant grass," Ms Smith said.

"New entrances to the park have been created on the Eastern end near Bambra Road and 2.5 kilometres of pathways laid. The old perimeter fence has been removed and replaced by an unobtrusive raised kerb which will stop cars accessing the parkland."

Other stage one works completed so far include relocation of the soccer ground, construction of a retaining wall to separate the park from the tennis courts and installation of new coloured concrete pathways, entrance ways, raised kerbing and park

furniture. Works to transform the Western end of the park, near Hawthorn Road have also begun with new paths and entrance points currently being constructed. As well, new automated toilets are currently being installed with new signage due to follow shortly.

By the time the park redevelopment is finished, more than 15,500 plants will have been added to the park, including 277 mature trees.

Ms Smith said tree planting was well underway at

the park and several palm trees had been moved to the rear of the bowls club.

"Council will be planting Birch and Maple trees alongside the two streets that border the park at the Western end to reflect the names of the streets — Birch and Maple," she said.

"Unfortunately due to vandalism, Council has been forced to install temporary fencing around the newly-planted trees. This fencing will remain for about three months while the plants are becoming established.

"Council apologises for any inconvenience caused to nearby residents while the temporary fences are in place, but it is important to protect the trees from damage."

Construction work of the park's new sensory garden has also started. The garden will be the first of its kind in Glen Eira and will feature a fountain, scented foliage, brightly-coloured flowers, textured plants and have access for people of all abilities.

Ms Smith said the design of the park's new adventure playground had been finalised with works to begin within a couple of months.

"The aim of the redevelopment is to upgrade the park so that it takes the needs of the community, whether it be upgraded sporting facilities and open spaces or better access in and around the park, into consideration."

"When completed, Princes Park will be one of Glen Eira's signature parks like Packer Park in Carnegie."

Community consultation on stage two buildings works of the Princes Park master plan is expected to take place before the end of this year.

Photos: Bernie Bickerton.



Members of the Glen Eira Tennis Club test out the new retaining wall which separates the courts from the park.

Let there be light

Local sports clubs will be able to conduct more training sessions in the evenings after the installation of lights at Glen Eira sportgrounds.

Council's Manager Recreation and Youth Services Linda Smith said sportground lighting had been installed at five locations around Glen Eira with plans for more to be installed later this year.

Lighting has been either installed or upgraded at Bailey Reserve, Bentleigh East, Caulfield Park, Caulfield, King George VI Memorial Reserve, Bentleigh East, Murrumbeena Park, Murrumbeena and Victory Park, Bentleigh.

"The lights are being installed so local sports clubs can train in the evenings," Ms Smith said.

"The installation has allowed Council to provide a safer training environment for sports clubs and spread the load on sportgrounds so that the same grounds are not being used all the time.

"By having more sportgrounds with training lights, Council will be able to utilise more grounds, thereby reducing the wear and tear of surfaces."

The installation of lights on oval five at Caulfield Park was completed with the assistance of North Caulfield Maccabi Soccer Club which contributed funds towards the project.

More lights are due to be installed at Lord Reserve in Carnegie and Caulfield Park later this year.

Hurdles overcome

Glen Eira could be home to the next Jana Pittman thanks to a recent purchase of athletic track hurdles by Council.

Council purchased 80 senior and 80 junior hurdles which will be available for hire by groups who use the Duncan Mackinnon Reserve athletics facility in Murrumbeena.

Council's Manager Recreation and Youth Services Linda Smith said Council purchased the hurdles to allow local sports clubs and schools who hire the athletics track to also have access to hurdles.

"Previously hirers would have to go out and source the hurdles to use on the track. We are now able to offer a more inclusive package to hirers," Ms Smith said.

"The lightweight hurdles are safe, easily moved on and off the track and comply with international standards."

A hire fee is charged for the use of the hurdles. Contact Council's facilities booking officer on 9524 3333 or email recservices@gleneira.vic.gov.au for further information.

Women's Business Network

CITY OF
GLEN
EIRA

Council's next Glen Eira Women's Business Network meeting will be an interactive workshop designed to examine how success and failure is defined and develop strategies for positive self-esteem and preservation.

The information session, presented by Sue Barrett and Dr Penny Brabin, will address the relationship between success and failure as it relates to personal and professional development.

When: Thursday 16 September at 7pm

Where: Caulfield Cup Room, Glen Eira Town Hall
Corner Glen Eira and Hawthorn Roads,
Caulfield

Cost: \$10 includes light supper on arrival
Booking are essential.

For more information or to make a booking contact Council's Service Centre on 9524 3333.