

NEWS & NOTES

JUNE 1992

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Chairman: Philip Glenister 722 1539
Secretary: Barry Box 722 1423
Treasurer: Glenda Ballinger 722 1624

Next Meeting: 8.00 p.m. Friday 12th June 1992 at the Community Cottage

DEADLINE FOR NEWS & NOTES is the last Friday of the month and the July deadline will be the 26th June 1992

Contributions for News & Notes are always welcome and may be left at Goodfellows Store in Lauanders Avenue and any individual or company may sponsor an edition of News and Notes for only \$20.00.

DAMS ON UPTON RESERVE

Two of the three dams on the reserve on the Upton subdivision (between Lauanders Avenue and Jumping Creek Road) have been breached to the great concern of residents living in Lauanders Avenue and backing on to the reserve containing the dams and to other residents in Wonga Park concerned about the diverse water bird life living on and around the dams. Apparently the Council required the landowner to breach and fill the dams as part of the conditions it imposed when granting the permit for the subdivision but due to the protracted stage development of the subdivision the existing Councillors (and it appears Council staff) were not aware of this and were taken by surprise when the dams were breached recently. After extensive, but satisfactory, negotiations between the Council and the landowner it has been agreed to take no further action in the demolition and filling of the dams until the Council has had an opportunity to investigate in full the possibility of retaining the dams for both their scenic attraction and as a haven for water birds. The Council has agreed to form a committee with delegates from its Landscaping staff, its Engineering staff and concerned residents to investigate the possibilities of dealing with the dams. The West Riding Committee at its meeting on the 25th May 1992 also recommended to Council the funding of a geotechnical survey for the dams and report to Council with great urgency.

S.E.C. TREE PRUNING

At the last meeting of the Residents Association John Ward and Richard Jensen from the S.E.C.'s Ringwood branch confirmed the new policy of the S.E.C. to prune trees on road reserves more severely than previously as if they do not comply with their more stringent regulations the S.E.C. would be automatically liable for any losses caused by a fire started by its wires. However the S.E.C. is aware of resident concern about the pruning and is implementing a plan to relocate some wires and to replace some with "bundled" (and insulated) wires to reduce the amount of pruning in some streets and has already decided to spend \$200,000 doing this over short stretches in Edgar Avenue, St. Johns Road, Kenilworth

Avenue, St. Denys Crescent, Pinewood Crescent, Old Yarra Road, Yarra Road and Homestead Road. The preference for side streets over main roads is due to the lower cost of bundling low voltage wires compared with high voltage wires. The S.E.C. is also setting up a consultative committee in Warrandyte to advise on tree pruning there. The Association has written to the S.E.C. requesting it set up a consultative committee for Wonga Park with representatives from the Council's Parks and Gardens Department, local residents and the S.E.C.

COUNCIL NOTES

At the West Riding Committee meeting held on the 27th April 1992 the Committee recommended to Council as follows:-

Car Park adjacent to School

That Council commit \$16,000.00 in its 1992/93 budget as its half cost contribution to a proposed 18 car car park on the Council Reserve adjacent to the Wonga Park Primary School and that Council's engineering staff prepare a detailed design of the proposed car park layout detailing the various stages. This car park will be funded equally by the Ministry of Education and the Council and will result in a net increase of 14 car parking spaces in Dudley Road (4 existing car parking spaces will be lost at the exit and entrance to the new car park. It will also reduce congestion in Dudley Road as it will reduce the number of cars making U-turns in Dudley Road before and after school.

Drop Off/Pick up Point at Cnr. Yarra and Jumping Creek Roads

That the existing arrangement on the road reserve at the intersection of Yarra and Jumping Creek Roads be modified by replacing the existing signs along the east side of the service road there with signs stating "No Standing Anytime 8-9 a.m. 3-4 p.m. Schooldays Excepted". This is as a result of a long standing dispute between one of the abutting landowners and parents of primary school students as to the use of this road reserve. A report to the Councillors of a series of traffic surveys carried out by Council staff found that several parents regularly use the existing parking area at the intersection but that, on each occasion, these vehicles were there only for a short time and the area appeared to be effectively operating as a drop-off/pick-up area as intended and in general parents waiting to pick up their children parked along the service road and did not impede or affect driveway access to abutting properties.

Bryson's Road

Council staff reported to the West Riding Committee on safety issues along Bryson's Road and advised that the standard of construction was quite acceptable at the time it was constructed in the late 1970's as it was a rural road with a relatively low traffic volume. However increased residential development in the area has resulted in a significant increase in the traffic volume using the road and the frequency of traffic accidents there with a total of 8 accidents being recorded between 1987 and 1990. The ultimate solution to the safety problems is to widen and realign the road at an estimated cost of over \$1 million. However such funds are unlikely to be available in the

foreseeable future, particularly as the existing pavement is in a reasonable condition and is expected to last for a number of years. The report considered low cost options of installing "awareness bars" (raised yellow lines) on the pavement at approaches to three dangerous curves and the installation of two single chevron signs on the north side of Brysons Road facing west bound traffic west of Freyne Street, at an estimated cost of \$5,000.00 and the committee referred the consideration of these low cost works for the 1992/93 capital works programme.

Tennis Club Rental

In a Staff report to The Corporate Planning Advisory Committee meeting held on the 24th February 1992 it was recommended that all tennis clubs in the Shire of Lillydale be charged an annual rental of 1% of the value of the buildings and courts (excluding the value of the land) which on the Council's figures would result in the Wonga Park Tennis Club being charged an annual rental of \$3,160 for the use of the courts and clubhouse. The committee resolved "That this committee recommends to Council: 1. that the report be received and noted. 2. That council staff prepare and present to council a review document on the responsibilities of sporting clubs in terms of facility maintenance."

CHERNOBYL VICTIMS AND WONGA PARK SCOUTS

The 1st Wonga Park Scout Group has been privileged to be selected as one of the nine groups in Victoria to take part in the Home Hospitality Programme for the Youth of Chernobyl, organised by the Scout Association of Australia.

The Scout Group will need assistance as it will be hosting six children aged between 10 and 14 years and one adult leader aged 21-30 years from Saturday 20th June to Saturday 18th July 1992.

These people will arrive in Australia with only the clothing they wear, and therefore we will need to kit each one out with underclothes, outer garments, coats, shoes, toiletries, a suitcase and appropriate toys.

Local service clubs and councils have been approached and any assistance from the local community with second hand clothes or donations would be greatly appreciated.

For further information please contact:

Group Leader - Michael Green Phone: 726 6395
Scout Leader - Ian McDonald Phone: 722 1386

For your convenience donations of clothing and money can be left at Goodfellows Store in Launderers Avenue.

CHERNOBYL KIDS CAR RALLY

To be held on Sunday 28th June 1992 leaving Wonga Park Hall 10.00 - 11.30 a.m.. A notice containing further details to be posted on the notice board outside Goodfellows store.

VALE

Long term residents of Wonga Park, Greg and Kathy Harrison and Kathy's mother Joan Knee will be leaving Wonga Park shortly for greener pastures in Western Australia. We are sorry to see them go and wish them the best for their new life out west. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank them for their contributions to Wonga Park community life over the years.

FIRE BRIGADE

It is disappointing that a few residents use brigade prepaid appeal envelopes to air their uneducated comments or views.

First - The siren is not sounded on Sunday mornings for noise pollution purposes, but to test the brigade's fire reporting service and auxiliary equipment. This is to ensure that it is fully operational in the case of an emergency, and not to remind members when to attend the station.

Secondly - The siren is activated in less than 20% of calls the brigade responds to. consideration is given to type of call, time, etc.

Thirdly - The Wonga Park Brigade has been judged as one of the most efficient and skilled brigades in the region, obtaining 90% plus ratings over the past years from the Country Fire Authority.

All residents should be thankful for those who are willing to give so much for a community essential service, to protect the life and property of over 2,790 premises in the brigade area.

J.A. McKee
Captain

MONTHLY RAINFALL

In May (to the 26th) there were 87.50mm (3.50 inches) of rain, bringing the total for the first five months of the year to 281.00mm (11.24 inches)

WONGA PARK COMMUNITY COTTAGE Old Yarra Road, 3115



- * Popular tutors Dianne and Judy have been busy again this term and as usual some beautiful items have been made in their classes. It's lovely to see the smile of satisfaction on participants faces as they walk off with their achievements.
- * For those interested in gardening of all kinds, whether in orchids, roses, natives or even creating ponds etc. the **GARDEN CLUB** could be for you - next meeting is scheduled at the Cottage on Wednesday 17th June at 10am - 12noon. Everyone will be made welcome. \$1 to cover costs. Visits to other gardens, guest speakers, sharing ideas and cuttings and bulk buying are some of the many activities and interests.
- * Lisa Rickard is back again this term with Pre School Music classes, creating lots of fun with musical games, songs and instruments.
- * Jack Cockrofts Oil Painting classes are always happy as well as productive, as are Shirleys Tole Painting classes.
- * There will be a few teenagers in the district who will have gained and developed skills in a variety of Drawing & Painting mediums thanks to Jasons expetise. Whist our Writers Workshops with Judy Nichol may produce budding authors.....

Cost of classes and childcare were increased slightly this term, as we are finding the responsibility for maintenance of the Cottage more of a financial burden. Feedback received by us is that some people in the community are now precluded from using the Cottage. Please let us know if this is your problem and we will try to help. Perhaps you can tutor a class for a fee, or lead a group and share your skills in return for points, which can be used towards you attending a class you would like to do. Some of our tutors have left work to have children and find a new sense of worth and confidence passing their skills onto others in the community. Unfortunately, all the way down through Government Departments the catchword is now "USER PAY". Perhaps this is a good time to explain what money from enrolments is needed for:-

TUTORS FEES, PRINTING AND POSTAL DROP OF PROGRAM, HEATING, LIGHTING, TELEPHONES, PHOTOCOPIER - services, repairs, toner and paper, LAWN MOWING AND UPKEEP OF GROUNDS, CLEANERS SALARY, CHILDCARE WORKERS SALARIES, STATIONERY, TEA & COFFEE ETC., CONTINUOUS REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE AND LOTS OF LITTLE ESSENTIAL THINGS SUCH AS TOILET PAPER!

The Cottage is run by you the community - we are always asking for volunteers for the Committee and office. Our aims include:-

- To be a non profit non-discriminatory based Centre.
- To develop a sense of community belonging.
- To provide a range of services for the diverse needs of the individual and family, including mutual support and advocacy issues.
- To be a referral and information centre.
- Encourage social and community development.
- To be a reflection of the communities needs and directions.

Please call in and see Linda the Co-ordinator Monday to Thursday 9.30am - 3pm. (Linda is paid by the Shire of Lillydale for 15 hours per week.)