

Village Connect



AUGUST 2008

FEATURES

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RESIDENTS FORUM AT THE VILLAGE AT WELLARD

Creating community safety, the role of the local police and how to become involved in local events at The Village at Wellard, were just some of the issues discussed at the first residents forum on Wednesday, 25 June.

Over 80 residents attended the meeting to listen to keynote speakers Trevor Finlayson, from Peet Ltd, Senior Sergeant Trevor Troy from Kwinana Police and Susan Quay from Creating Communities.

Local safety was a major topic raised at the forum, with Senior Sergeant Trevor Troy providing advice to residents about the importance of being pro-active and reporting any incident or suspicious activity to the police, as well as the importance of engraving valuable items and becoming involved with Neighbourhood Watch.

Trevor Finlayson indicated that the local shopping centre planned for the Village could be operational in three to five years, however explained that the timing was dependent upon when the anchor tenant was prepared to commit to the supermarket site.

Susan Quay spoke about a number of initiatives people living in the Village could participate in such as art workshops, a Wetlands tree planting day, a proposed walking group and a Residents Community Group.

After the presentation, residents had the opportunity to discuss matters further on a one-to-one basis with the speakers and mingle with fellow residents.

If you are interested in registering for any of the community activities happening around The Village at Wellard, contact Saraj at Creating Communities on saraj@creatingcommunities.com.au or call the community infoline on 9285 8028.



ESTATE UPDATE

As the community continues to grow, so does the importance of working together to make The Village at Wellard a great place to live.

The first Residents Evening Forum recently held provided the perfect opportunity for residents to ask questions and talk to the developer. While the focus of the evening was safety and security, a number of other issues were raised. Here is an update of some of these:

- We have recently met with Telstra to discuss Broadband issues that have been affecting a number of residents in the early stages of development. Following numerous discussions, Telstra have advised they will be installing a new wire cable to the exchange in late August 2008. This will make ADSL2 available to all households in releases 1-6.
- Opening of the Village Centre shops is dependent on having an anchor tenant committing to the supermarket site. Usually, the anchor tenant is reluctant to commit until there is sufficient local catchment to ensure they are profitable in the first year of operation. Once a supermarket tenant commits, it will take around three years to finalise the remaining

tenancies, obtain planning approvals, design and document the building, issue the building licence and construct the shopping centre.

- In regards to the lighting on Chiswick Street adjacent to the Wellard Train Station, the Chiswick and Village Centre electrical works have now been handed over to Western Power, who will energise the street lights in September.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank residents who attended the Forum for their valuable input and for helping us gain a better understanding regarding what matters most to the community. As the well being and vitality of a community lies in the hands of its members, I encourage you to work with us not only to resolve local issues, but also to help us make The Village at Wellard a great place to live.

If you have any questions or issues you would like to discuss with us, please email villageatwellard@peet.com.au or contact the community infoline on 9285 8028.

Trevor Finlayson
Manager Joint Ventures
Peet Limited

WILDLIFE IN THE WETLANDS

Often mistaken for rodents given their pointed snouts and brown, furry appearance, the Southern Brown Bandicoot or Quenda, is a unique sub-species of bandicoot native to Western Australia and living in the wetlands at Wellard.

Following a recent round of monitoring in May this year, a total of 23 bandicoots were recorded in the wetlands, a large population given the relatively small area of the wetlands.

Graeme Finlayson, Zoologist from Coffey Environments, said one of the reasons for the healthy population of bandicoots in the area was due to the density of the understorey located in the wetlands.

"The dense understorey and suitable habitat associated with the wetlands provides the Quenda with protection from the main predators that threaten their existence the most in an urban environment," Mr Finlayson said.

Mr Finlayson emphasised the importance of keeping dogs on leads when wandering around the Village, in particular near the wetlands, as well as ensuring they are kept in a secure backyard during the evening.

Cats also pose a major threat to the survival of the Quenda population and cat owners need to attach at least two bells to



their cat's collar and keep them indoors, especially during the evening.

In addition, Mr Finlayson said it was important to avoid leaving food out for the Quenda as it only led to their dependence on unnatural food sources.

"Although it seems like a great educational and intriguing experience for your children, the effects of leaving out additional food are detrimental to the local Quenda population," he said.

Given the fact these furry critters are listed as a Priority Five, meaning that monitoring their numbers is crucial, it is essential that The Village at Wellard residents work together and practice responsible pet ownership to ensure their survival.

NEW TRAIL BIKE FACILITY

Many residents will be pleased to know that the Recreational Trailbike Riders' Association (RTRA) of Western Australia will be re-opening the Off Road Vehicle Area along Thomas Road in Medina in August 2008. The facility, a government funded initiative, will be located in a safe, fully fenced area and the RTRA have some great activities planned for the community.

Unfortunately off road vehicles have been given a bad name in the local area by some riders who have caused problems in The Village at Wellard. The Town of Kwinana Rangers and local Police are working closely together to combat this problem.

Residents are requested to note descriptions of offender's vehicles, dates and times of offences and homes where the vehicles are operating from, and then pass the information onto Rangers.

Rangers can be contacted on 9439 0200 during business hours or on 0411 078 264 between 7am and 6pm. Outside these hours, please contact Accord Security on 0417 925 621.

If you would like to find out more about the new RTRA facility, please visit www.rtra.asn.au

GET INVOLVED!

Volunteers Needed!

The Rotary Club of Kwinana is looking for volunteers for their The Village at Wellard Christmas lolly delivery. To find out more about this fantastic community service, please call Harry Tebbutt on 9419 4199.

The Village at Wellard Residents Community Group

We are looking for residents interested in being involved in a Residents Community Group. The aim of the group will be to contribute to enhancing community life in the Village and work with the developer to come up with joint solutions to community issues. Please register your interest with Saraj at saraj@creatingcommunities.com.au or call the community infoline on 9285 8028.

SAFETY MATTERS

Recent statistics reveal that a physical security presence in an area will decrease the rate of damage and theft, which is why the team from Accord Security work hard to ensure the safety and security of residents at The Village at Wellard.

Managing Director of Accord Security, Suzanne Murray, said that given the vigilant security presence and the precautions taken by the majority of the residents, crime rates within The Village at Wellard were substantially lower compared to surrounding areas.

"In general, the Village is unique in the fact that it has a significantly lower crime rate compared to neighbouring suburbs, not that this is an excuse for people to be less vigilant though," she said.

Ms Murray emphasised the importance of getting to know your neighbours and fellow residents, as well as familiarising yourself

The Village at Wellard Playgroup

Calling all mums/dads/carers with kids 0-5!

Local resident, Julie Cleverley, has started a playgroup at the new Wellard Community Pavilion. The group meets every Wednesday. For more information, please contact Julie at cle101@internode.on.net or on 9419 7959.

Local Walking Group

Do you like to keep fit? Need motivation? Looking for a walking buddy? Then why not join the local community walking group? Please register your interest with Saraj at saraj@creatingcommunities.com.au or call 9285 8028.



with the friendly Accord Security staff. She also urged residents to immediately call the Police to report any illegal activities they witness occurring in the Village.

"People need to be aware of the importance of reporting a crime to Police on 131 444 before they call us — this ensures the matter will be formally followed up," Ms Murray said.

To discuss or report any security matters with a team member from Accord Security working at The Village at Wellard, please call 0417 925 621.

SUPER SCOUTS!

First Kwinana Scout Group is an organisation that through activities and weekly meetings, aims to develop the leadership and social skills of youth in the community, teaching them about life experience and setting exciting challenges.

Andrew Willis, Group Leader, said the weekly meetings provided a great opportunity for youth to meet new friends, develop essential life skills and work towards achieving awards as they progressed through the Scout sections.

"Through a number of activities, we also offer a range of services to the community, teaching Scouts invaluable life and leadership responsibilities and skills," Mr Willis said.

Be sure to keep an eye out for the Scouts around The Village at Wellard, as they deliver 'Village Connect' to your letterbox.

If you would like more information in becoming a member of the 1st Kwinana Scout Group, visit www.scouts.com.au or contact Andrew Willis on 0418 957 448.

SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS

Paul Clark — The Village at Wellard's Professional Painter and Decorator

Paul brings his extensive painting and decorating experience to The Village at Wellard, providing quality services at a competitive price. Specialising in decorative finishes, interior and exterior work, sealing, colours and wall-papering, Paul takes pride in all aspects of his work, providing a fast and efficient service to clients across all walks of life.

Paul provides a free quote and follow-up service and his experience and attention to detail results in work that is only of the highest quality. If you want to speak to Paul about a painting job or a quote, contact 0415 478 768.

Would you like to have this newsletter delivered straight to your inbox? Simply email saraj@creatingcommunities.com.au to be added to the mailing database.