

# Colin Barnett's Residents' Newsletter

Member for Cottesloe

WINTER EDITION - 2000



## Underground Power

**The Underground Power Project continues to forge ahead in the Western Suburbs with both the Town of Claremont and the Town of Mosman Park being successful in their submissions for Round Two.**

In Claremont 1580 lots will be serviced – all of the remaining South Ward and the section between the railway line and Stirling Highway.

In Mosman Park 600 lots will be involved in the area roughly bounded by the Shire of Peppermint Grove, Stirling Highway, St Leonards St, Lochee St and the Swan River Foreshore.

Agreements between the Local Government Authorities, Western Power and the State Government are being prepared and will be signed soon.

It is expected these projects will begin by the middle of next year and be completed within twelve months.

As the Minister for Energy, the Local Member and a resident I am delighted to see the benefits of the underground power project coming to fruition. Since the introduction of the pilot project in 1996 the number of

submissions has increased significantly as the benefits, both practical and aesthetic have become apparent.

Stirling Highway in particular will benefit from Round Two because it includes the entire highway within the Municipality of Claremont. Overhead lines on both sides of the highway will be removed to complement the

*Continued on Page 2*



*Trees will no longer have to compete with overhead wires*

## North Fremantle Silos

**Many of you will be aware of the controversy surrounding the demolition of the North Fremantle Grain Silos.**

I have taken the time to become more informed about their history and the potential heritage value of the silos.

I am not swayed by the argument that the whole structure should be preserved, and support the demolition of the 1964 structure as being



*North Fremantle Silos - Hospital Silo (left).*

necessary to clear land which is required for efficient container handling and storage operations.

I do, however, believe there is merit in re-assessing the fate of the original Hospital Silo.

The Hospital Silo was built in 1943 and reflects a significant period in the history of the wheat industry and grain export through Fremantle. For me, and I suspect a majority of people, the telling factor is the role it played during the Second World War. The importance of Fremantle Port to wartime naval operations and the positioning of the Navy's Port War Signal Station on top of the silo are a significant part of our wartime history and heritage.

*Continued on Page 2*

## Leighton Beach Update

**In my previous newsletter (copies of which are available from the Electorate Office) I stressed the importance of a thorough planning process being undertaken before any development was considered at Leighton Beach.**

An opportunity to back track and take a fresh look at the whole area is now available with the release of *planning guidelines* from the Ministry for Planning which will allow for a full public and accountable process.

Ten thousand copies of the Leighton Railway Marshalling Yards (scoping paper) will be distributed to community, local government and business groups and individuals who have registered an interest in the area.

The guidelines set out which issues will be examined when setting parameters for the area and the time frame in which they will be achieved. As Local Member and Cabinet Minister I will press for the major planning issues to be resolved as soon as possible.

Along with coastal setback requirements (I am committed to a 100 metre setback as a starting point for discussion) final planning guidelines would also set environmental standards, provisions for public access to the beach, protection of views and heritage, open space requirements and appropriate ideas for development.

A proper planning process is something I have consistently wanted and I acknowledge the efforts of those in the community who through a very visible campaign have worked tirelessly towards this end.

**For residents in Claremont, Mosman Park, Cottesloe, South City Beach, Swanbourne, North Fremantle, Floreat, Karrakatta, Mount Claremont, Peppermint Grove, Shenton Park.**

Continued from Page 1

## Power

completed Round One Project in the adjacent areas of Peppermint Grove and Cottesloe and another Round Two Project in Nedlands which will see underground power extend right down to Dalkeith Road.

No longer will old, rusted, trolley-bus poles provide an unsightly vista on this major link road between the Port of Fremantle and the City of Perth.

Plans for planting trees and beautification projects along this section of the highway should see a marked improvement in a major road that cuts through the very heart of the Western Suburbs.

Continued from Page 1

## Silos

The Hospital Silo accounts for only one-sixth of the total silo area and I believe it should be retained. It is recognised that the question of maintenance and access is of primary importance in a working port and I do not dismiss these issues. These matters can be considered in the future and do not provide grounds for demolition.

The Port of Fremantle is the economic base of Fremantle; the Port and the City are mutually dependent for their future prosperity.

To preserve the Hospital Silos is a modest compromise and one which will demonstrate a proper regard to an important period in the history of both this State and the Port of Fremantle.

# Transport-Planning Issues

**Transport and land use are highly contentious issues for so many residents of the western suburbs.**

Quite rightly, people want to protect their lifestyle and enjoy the beaches, riverfront and parkland areas.

The desirability of the area and population growth means there will be continuing strains over new developments and residential density.

Steadily growing use of private vehicles means pressure on what is a natural transport link between the northern and southern suburbs.

The need for good planning cannot be overstated.

There are currently five studies being done in the Western Suburbs on traffic and planning issues. No wonder so many people are feeling confused.

The five studies are:

- Leighton Planning (see p1);
- Fremantle to Cottesloe Transport Study;
- Stirling Highway Reserve Review;
- Stephenson Highway Reserve Review and the
- Shenton Park Integration Study.

The **Fremantle to Cottesloe Transport Study** is seeking to separate regional traffic from local traffic. Curtin Avenue could be re-aligned close to the western side of the railway line with Port Beach Road and Marine Parade maintained as a local, traffic calmed, scenic drive. The study also addresses

improved east-west access for cyclists and pedestrians.

I do not support a heavy truck route through the area. That would be inappropriate.

The **Stirling Highway Study** is looking at rationalising existing road reserves with major considerations being safety, public transport requirements and the protection of heritage buildings.

The **Stephenson Highway Review** is examining whether this reserve needs to be maintained within the Metropolitan Region Scheme. The reserve has been part of metropolitan planning since 1963. The reserve was taken out of the main area of Bold Park in 1995 but does still go through the section north of Oceanic Drive including Wembley Golf Course.

The **Shenton Park Integration Study** will focus on the transport needs of the suburbs either side of the railway line between Claremont and Subiaco. This is particularly relevant for Shenton College, which is due to open at the beginning of 2001. The proposed bridge over the railway at Aberdare Road has attracted conflicting opinions.

An essential part of all these studies is community involvement and feedback. Should you require further information on any of these studies please contact Nina at the electorate office.

## Perry Lakes Stadium Site

**The future of the Perry Lakes stadium site - bounded by Underwood Ave, Brookdale Street, Alderbury Street and Meagher Drive - is currently under consideration after the announcement by the Town of Cambridge (freehold owner of the land) that it has plans to redevelop the area.**



*Perry Lakes Stadium. What is its future?*

The stadium is no longer a suitable sporting venue and has been under used for some time.

An amendment is proposed to rezone the land to urban to allow for residential development. Urban zoning includes provision for parks and open space.

Facilities for athletics, basketball and rugby will need to be relocated. I support the use of the land on the southern side of Underwood Ave being made available for basketball and rugby. A new home will need to be made available for athletics, with Curtin University being a popular proposal.

However, before anything happens, there needs to be a proper environmental assessment given the sensitivity of the area in its proximity to the Lakes. The need for adequate buffer zones and extensive areas of open space will need to be addressed. The community also needs to be fully included in any decision about the approved mix of housing and public open space.

# Claremont School Of Art

**New life is slowly but surely emerging on the site of the old Claremont School of Art in Princess Road, Claremont.**

Since the relocation of the School of Art to the Central Metropolitan College in Northbridge the buildings have been vacant but behind the scenes much has been happening.

The site and buildings - the property of the Education Department - are now vested in the Claremont Primary School.

Architects have assessed the buildings and site and are drawing up amended plans.

The first priority is the school - the expansion and upgrade of school facilities. The Government has budgeted for a covered assembly area and dedicated pre-primary facility.

Demolition of the 1960's brown buildings in the middle of the site will allow for additional space and some of the bitumen playing area will be replaced with grass.

This stage should be finished by the beginning of the next school year.

The frontage along Princess Road will also be cleared up and some sheds will be demolished. It is expected this clean up will be done before the end of the year.

The second stage will provide much needed art/craft and music facilities and enhance the school library. The school library will be located to what was the gallery with an opportunity for the Claremont Town Library to be co-located with the sharing of resources. Discussions between Education Department of WA (EDWA), the school and Claremont Council will soon begin to see how best this can be done and to

ensure the needs of all parties are met. No money has been allocated for this stage, yet.

The final stage is to hand to the community those buildings and facilities which will not be required by the school. The heritage value of the remaining buildings is being assessed and EDWA is working with the Claremont Arts Association - made up of Members of Council, P&C, local business and art groups - to ensure those facilities made available to the community are well managed.

A community art group is currently operating from the sculpture centre and offers courses for

a wide cross-section of age groups.

The architect has given some options on the use of the land remaining on the eastern end of the site. A small part could possibly be sold for housing and stage two could start immediately with those funds.

It will take some time to complete this stage if the land is not sold.

As the Minister and Local Member I know there are strong views about this land and nothing will occur until the school and community have been consulted and are broadly supportive of any recommendations.



*One of the buildings that may become available for community use*

# Shenton College

**“Excellence Through Self and Community” is the motto which will guide staff and students when they move into the new \$23 million, state of the art, Shenton College.**

Expected to be finished by the end of the year, construction is currently on schedule with several areas in the middle school almost complete.

Set amongst natural bushland, opposite the Shenton Park Railway station, the school will provide students with the best facilities and practices available in the area of education.

The year 8-9 middle school program, with its four learning communities and its emphasis on pastoral care will link to the upper school years 11 and 12 with a year 10 transition program.

The College will also have significant links

with the University of Western Australia (UWA) allowing for work placements for year 10 students within the full range of occupations at UWA and a gradual introduction to university life for Shenton students.

A Bikewest cycleway linking Swanbourne Station to Perth is currently under construction and will provide a safe route for students to access the new college. The long term goal is to have this link extended through to Fremantle.

Along with the conservation plan, it is proposed to have the Flanders House extensions - three residential wings built in the 1970's - demolished before the opening of the school.

These buildings, adjacent to the new school oval, are not heritage listed and are inconsistent physically and aesthetically with the five buildings, which make up the original Lemnos Hospital site.



*Shenton College middle school buildings*

## Swanbourne Primary School

**Discussions with Aboriginal Elders about Aboriginal heritage issues at the new Swanbourne Primary School have been progressing well and plans for the school are once again starting to move forward.**

Aboriginal people lived in the area up until 1951 and it is only fitting this should be recognised.

Architects for the project have revised the drawings and documents for the replacement primary school taking into account the changes required by the Aboriginal Cultural Materials Committee. The drawings have been discussed with parent representatives and include some minor alterations resulting from these discussions.

The project went to tender in late May and it is anticipated that a building contract will be awarded by mid July. The school should be finished by May 2001.

# APACE (WA)

**Hidden away behind the Stirling Bridge in North Fremantle is a unique organisation seeking to remain in its present location.**

APACE (WA) is a self-supporting, community-based organisation promoting appropriate technology and sustainable development.

Founded in 1983, its activities and facilities include:

- A community revegetation nursery and revegetation service.
- Training and education programs, particularly for unemployed and disadvantaged groups.
- A specialist appropriate technology library, open to the public for reference and as a lending library for Apace members.
- Renewable energy design advice and consultations.

Its credibility and value as an organisation are reflected in its many successful applications for grants. The group recently received a grant of

\$6700 to fund a Schools Bush Appreciation Program.

APACE operates under a peppercorn lease on Lots 8 & 9 Johannah Street, North Fremantle.

The lease expires in November 2002 and the Ministry for Planning has advised Apace of its intention, at that time, to rezone the property to urban and to sell off the site. The land is adjacent to a reserve area along the foreshore and is seen locally as a community site

As the Local Member I support the initiatives of this group and am concerned about their future tenure of the land. I will try and ensure the land remains vested in the City of Fremantle and sub-leased to Apace so it can continue its valuable work in the community.



*Winter House – administration centre for Apace*

## Infill Sewerage Program

**The Government is continuing to close the gaps with its \$800 million Infill Sewerage Program. It aims to provide reticulated sewerage to those areas of the metropolitan region where septic tank effluent disposal systems represent a threat to public water supplies, public health, the environment or constrain urban development and redevelopment.**

The proposed works will result in the connection of the remaining 175 lots in the area of South City Beach lying between West Coast Highway and Challenger Parade. Works are expected to begin in the financial year 2002/2003.

Two other areas also being considered for inclusion in the program are located

in Mosman Park, one between Chidley Point and the Golf Club, the other in the area behind the Minim Cove Park

A comprehensive long-term community awareness and education program is being undertaken to encourage householders to connect to the reticulated sewerage system as soon as it is available.

### Electorate Office

Suite 12, 589 Stirling Highway, Cottesloe, WA, 6011  
Telephone (08) 9383 1505 Fax (08) 9385 2352

## Ask Nina . . .



### SENIORS CARD

If you are 60 years of age or over, a permanent resident of Western Australian and not in the full-time workforce you can apply for a Seniors Card.

The Seniors Card offers a range of discounts on products and services, including public transport, motor driver's licenses, TAFE Adult Education courses and UWA Community Courses.

As a Seniors Card holder, you may be entitled to a rebate of up to 25% on the Water Corporation's annual charges for water, sewerage and drainage services to your property. Seniors Card Members are eligible for a Seniors' Ticket, which allows FREE travel on all Transperth buses, ferries and trains on Sundays and public holidays.

Ask Nina for an Application Form and Discount Directory.

### HOW WE ARE GOVERNED

The Constitutional Centre has released a new booklet entitled 'Dynamics in Government'. This is a comprehensive and easy to understand guide to the workings of government in Western Australia.

The booklet is a must for high school students, or anyone who wants a concise reference work about the State's constitutional arrangements.

Call in and ask Nina for your free copy.

### WA.GOV.AU

Did you know all Government Press Releases are posted daily on the State Government's Web Site? This is only one of the hundreds of services available at <http://www.wa.gov.au/>. The site makes it easy to access Hansard, Acts of Parliament, current publications, studies and reports.

This is not a site full of dry statistics, though they are there if you want them, but a useful tool to access a wealth of fascinating and informative subjects.

Look up the DOLA site to find the story behind your street and suburb name or log onto CALM and read the latest Landscape magazine online. Or log onto <http://www.wa.gov.au/emblems/index.html> and find out about the Gogo Fish.

### SPORT AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES

If you are looking for a new hobby or recreation activity, ask Nina for the Directory of Sport and Recreation Activities for Adults.

It contains contacts for every activity you can think of and some you have never heard of, from hot air ballooning to flower arranging to marching.

### CURRENT LEGISLATION BEFORE PARLIAMENT

Heritage, Animal Welfare and Law and Order issues are all matters of concern to the community. All of these areas are currently under consideration in legislation before Parliament. Ask Nina for more information about the Heritage Bill 1999, the Animal Welfare Bill 1999 and the Criminal Law Amendment Bill, passed in 1998.

### BACK COPIES OF NEWSLETTER

If you would like to obtain back copies of newsletters please call into the electorate office to collect them.