

# Aspendale Gardens News

Autumn  
2013

The official Newsletter of AGRA,  
Aspendale Gardens Residents Association



Distributed quarterly to over 2300 homes in Aspendale Gardens, and growing strong... [www.agrainc.org.au](http://www.agrainc.org.au)

## Proposed Development on Roof of our Shopping Centre

Artists impression showing approximate size, not design.  
See pages 2 to 5 for full story.



### October 2012 Council Elections

Our last Newsletter was the pre council election issue delivered to all residents in Aspendale Gardens in October 2012. As past practice we had briefed all South Ward candidates on the issues we believe important to Aspendale Gardens voters and those issues that we believe important for the region. We sought their support and printed all candidate replies in the Newsletter. We hope that those reports were of help to voters when deciding who to vote for. We also held a pre-election "meet the candidates" meeting at the community centre where residents and visitors were able to ask the candidates questions. We thank all candidates who were able to attend and explain their policies and beliefs as well as answer questions. To ensure impartiality we arranged for an independent Chairperson for the meeting and we would like to thank resident Marc Wilson for doing a very good job.

The following candidates were successful in the South Ward: Councillors; John Ronke, Tamsin Bearsley and David Eden. Well done!

We take this opportunity to thank all candidates who stood in the south ward for participating in the democratic system that we are all fortunate to be part of. In particular our thanks to Dan Moloney who was a South Ward Councillor in the previous Council. Dan had put in a lot of work during his time at Council however Dan was unsuccessful this time. In addition our thanks to past South Ward Councillor Trevor Shewan who was also unsuccessful this time around. Both of these councillors frequently attended AGRA monthly committee meetings to keep us up to date with developments and to also to listen to our needs and give advice and guidance at our committee meetings. We thank both ex councillors for their dedication to Kingston City. AGRA looks forward to working with all councillors and council officers at Kingston.

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### Your AGRA Committee:

President - Ken Carney - phone: 9587 5483  
(kjcarney@iprimus.com.au),  
Vice President - Andrew Bearsley,  
Treasurer - John Zeccola, Asst Treas. - Serge Yan,  
Minute Secretary - Tamsin Bearsley  
Asst Minute Secretary - Katrina Harrison  
Newsletter Advertsing - Henry Warren  
Other Committee - Reny Frighetto, David Cree.  
Newsletter Editor - Sam Constantopoulos  
Website Editor - David Schmidt  
Newsletter Distribution - Karina Ces

**Please seriously consider  
joining this amazing  
Community Group.**

We are also seeking a new  
auditor, must be a CPA. If you  
know of someone who might be  
interested for this once a year  
volunteer review of accounts,  
please let us know.

## **AGRA Pre Election Survey of Candidates and subsequent Newsletter:**

For your information the Victorian Local Government Investigations and Compliance Commission wrote to AGRA on the 15<sup>th</sup> of October confirming that they had received a complaint related to the distribution of the survey by AGRA to candidates in the coming elections. They advised that in essence the complaint did not constitute a breach of the local government act. They said the actions of the residents association to examine the candidates who have nominated for public office are appropriate and reflective of the robust political scrutiny provided for in our system of democracy. A review of the material by the inspectorate did identify some deficiencies relating to authorisation and AGRA resolved these promptly. We have now learnt about the local government act and will not repeat these mistakes in future questionnaires and newsletters in particular during the coming federal election.

We were impressed with how the Inspectorate dealt with the issues and how quick and helpful they were. They said that the Inspectorate acknowledges the efforts of our organisation to provide fair and balanced information to the electorate as part of the electoral process. That's what democracy is about!

## **Planning Applications and Objections; Proposed Development on roof of Shopping Centre.; Planning Reference Number KP-519/2012.**

After meeting or receiving communications from local residents who have concerns about this proposed development AGRA submitted an objection to Council. We have summarised key points in italics below.

*Objection - Reference KP-519/201211/13 Narelle Drive Aspendale Gardens (Lot S2 on PS504835M) - Applicant Eliza Constructions 14/12/2012; The Aspendale Gardens Residents Association Inc. has met with and been contacted by a number of residents relating to this application. We object to the proposed residential development on the roof of the Aspendale Gardens Shopping Centre. Some of our reasons are recorded below.*

*The concept of a three or four story construction on this site even for business 1 or 2 in Res 3 zone is way past the intention of the Kingston Planning Scheme. The proposed development will not contribute positively to local urban character and will result*

*in a detrimental impact on neighbouring residential properties and on neighbourhood character and amenity. The proposal is not consistent with the vision or objectives of the locality. The proposed development does not respond to the neighbourhood character in terms of scale and bulk.*

*This stage 1 mixed use proposal represents an overdevelopment of the business site from one based on local residential design and amenity to one suited to a major transport and business hub such as Mordialloc or Mentone. The intent of the legislation as quoted in the submission cannot possibly have envisaged changing the neighbourhood character and integrity of Aspendale Gardens by allowing this type of development.*

*We note that this is stage 1 of a 2 stage project. Stage 2 plans are not available.*

*The proposed development will have an excessive visual presence and a detrimental impact on neighbouring properties through the loss of visual amenity for surrounding residents, including the risk of balconies being used for washing etc. A business zoning does not give licence to destroy community amenity. Four stories and 23 units are not acceptable. This is overkill.*

*Homes around the shopping centre have building caveats (e.g. minimum 16 squares). This proposed high density development will conflict with genuine residential expectations and property values. The expectation is that any residential development of the shopping centre should maintain the low density concept that the neighbours have had to meet themselves.*

*Vehicle Access and Safety The number of vehicles that this proposed development requires brings real safety issues in terms of entry and exit and passing problems on the proposed ramp and into and out from the ramp through to the road. We are concerned that the proposed ramp access could be inadequate for emergency and delivery vehicles to the dwellings.*

*Car Parking The existing Shopping Centre Car Park is full at peak times with additional spaces being taken up at the Community Centre Car Park. The proposed ramp requires the removal of eight*

*existing parking spaces. This will compound existing car parking problems and is likely to force vehicles to park outside the school on Kearny Drive and/or in surrounding areas including the community centre. Alternatively customers may choose to shop elsewhere.*

*Waste Storage and Removal Where will the 46 rubbish bins for rubbish and recyclables go? (This number of bins could also increase in numbers should future expansion take place).*

*Future Operation of the Shopping Centre: The proposed development would have an undesirable impact on the structure and operations and functions of the existing shopping centre. There is 'provision for future expansion'- what does this entail? What limits exist for future development? Possible increased noise levels impacting on local residents including from open balconies.*

*Risk to current use and hours of operation and management of the shopping centre should residents of the units complain of noise, smells and other factors including for example the bi-annual Community Fun Day. This will have an adverse*

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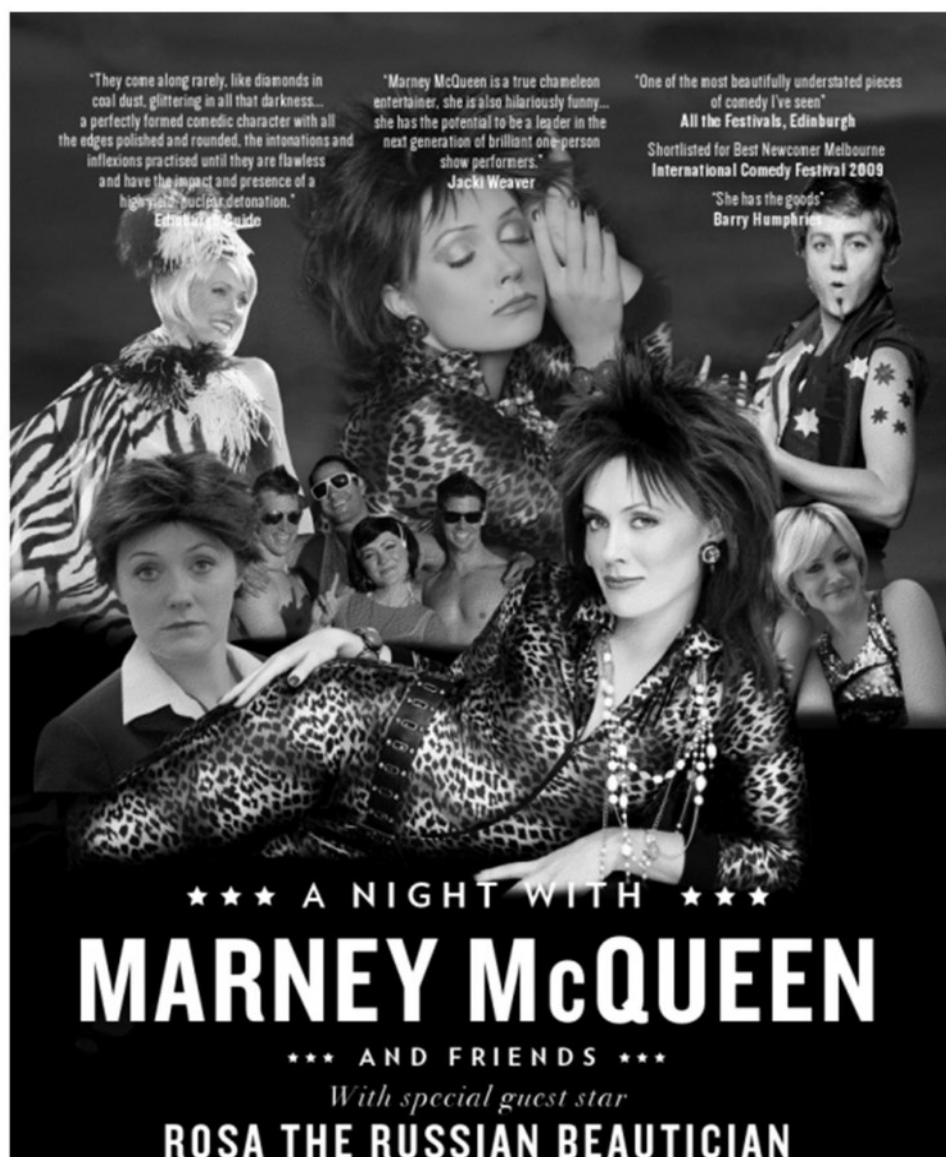
**Tiny Tots** 5 years and under Sat 9.00-9.45am  
**Tinies** 7 years and under Sat 9.45-11.15am  
**Sub Juniors** 9 years and under Sat 11.30am-2.30pm  
**Juniors** 12 years and under Thurs 5-8pm  
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# Comedy Comes To Aspendale Gardens

Saturday, 23rd March 2013



As our major fundraiser for the year the Aspendale Gardens Community Service brings Marney McQueen, internationally renown comedy act to Aspendale Gardens. Don't pay to go to the city for a good laugh, support your local community, bring your friends and get a free glass of bubbly and complementary nibbles. All funds raised will go the Aspendale Gardens Community Centre.

**\$35 for a single, or \$30 per person for a table of 10**

**Tickets available online [www.agcsinc.org.au](http://www.agcsinc.org.au) or at the Aspendale Gardens Community Centre (95875955)**

**7.30pm for an 8.00 pm start**

**Drinks at bar prices, BYO supper (some nibbles provided)**

*impact on the management and services the Shopping Centre supplies to the public. It could impact on profitability of operations including tenant and shop owners being adversely impacted in terms of viability.*

*Will the new residents have grounds to complain about hours of operation, smells and noise coming from the shopping centre below? Will this affect trading hours?*

#### Other Concerns

*Does the proposed development meet open space requirements or are there greater private open space requirements (Residential 3 Zone)? A small thought, where will children play?*

*Not in keeping with the area that is family homes on family size blocks. Will degrade the local community.*

*Does Parkmore have apartments, does Southland have apartments, why would you want to stick 23 houses or dwellings and add 92 people and 46 cars to a tiny village like Aspendale Gardens?*

*AGRA intend to hold a community meeting to review and discuss this proposal where we will ask the owner of the property (Pretlok), the Owners Corp along with the developer and our South Ward Councillors and other interested parties to attend so that we can discuss the issues involved with our residents. Prior to any meeting AGRA will letter drop all local properties including houses close to the shopping centre and shop owners or lessees.*

*We point out to Council that this proposal if successful will set a precedent for similar shopping and neighbourhood business centres within Kingston for example the Dingley Village Shopping Centre.*

*Yours Sincerely: Ken Carney President Aspendale Gardens Residents Association, Inc*

Subsequently AGRA copied the developer and asked if they would like to meet the AG community to present their case and answer questions. Grant Worthington one of the Developers phoned me and we discussed a number of our objections but the developer could not see any benefit by talking direct with the community without Council in attendance and said he would see us at a Council Preliminary Conference between Objectors and the Developer. AGRA distributed notes from that discussion to council and to those who had objected through AGRA. We also copied Ritchie's and Pretlok so they are up with the play. At the time of writing that meeting has been scheduled for 5.00pm to 6.00pm on the 26<sup>th</sup> February.

#### **Wetlands & Environment (Green Wedge)**

Protection of the Kingston Green Wedge:

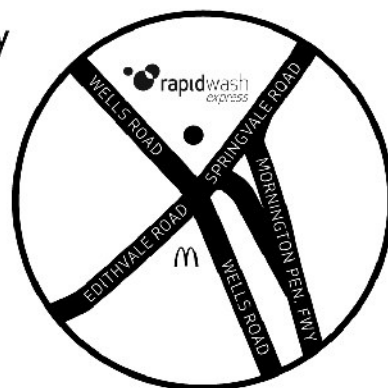
Ref: 2011 Review of the Green Wedge by COK; The AGRA Submission to the Green Wedge Review was submitted on the 12th November 2011. The submission is on the AGRA website.

At the AGRA October 2012 meeting then Councillor Trevor Shewan advised that Council had voted for the Green Wedge Springvale Road area to be re-zoned for commercial use Trevor

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advised that this decision may be reversed when the new council is elected. Trevor also advised that council was proposing to change the allowable uses of the green wedge.

AGRA is unhappy that Council voted to remove this area from the Green Wedge. Councillor Rosemary West moved some motions on the Green Wedge at the 26th November Council meeting which included one saying Council resolves to retain the Urban Growth boundary in its present location along Springvale Road as shown in the original April Kingston Green Wedge Plan (final plan).

This would have achieved our objective had it been passed. AGRA will monitor future developments relating to the Green Wedge at Council through our SW Councillors.

### **Yammerbook Nature Reserve, (Drills Land)**

The lakes are looking good and a lot of bird life has been seen around and on the lakes this season. Plans for new paths and viewing platforms are being finalised. AGRA holds \$1,500.00 from grants on behalf of the Yammerbook Committee.

### **Mordialloc Creek, Screening Industry between Bowen Rd & Governor Rd & Extension of Waterways:**

Objective: For a considerable number of years AGRA and Yammerbook Committee members and

Village Committee members have sought assurances from Melbourne Water and Kingston City Council that any future Industrial Developments along Mordialloc Creek between the Wells Road Bridge and the Waterways Lakes will be shielded from view of residents and path users through the construction of earth mounds and plantings.

As part of our expression of interest AGRA included the following report:

### **Future Screening of the Braeside Industrial Development Relating to Screening**

AGRA and Council for many years have been discussing the need for adequate screening of the industrial factories that will be constructed on the raised land that uses earth (fill) from the creek development. The new factories will be raised from current ground levels by the fill from the creek by at least a metre making them an even worse eyesore.

As Councillor John Ronke said, once the Melbourne Water plans are on the table and approved Council can then work on achieving this objective. We understand that any planning permits will require property owners to plant adequate screening that will hide the factory structures from the wetland.

We believe that Council should have or will now develop a vision for the area between the factories and the waterway development. Melbourne Water have said they will co-operate with Council however they have some limitations in planting

because of the below ground pipelines that follow the boundary of the creek. For example tall trees with deep roots may not be possible however tall trees can be planted in depth within the industrial development providing adequate space is reserved.

Find following an AGRA concept sketch that shows the type of vegetation we would like planted to ensure full screening of the industrial estate. We suggest that there will need to be consistency of planting species with



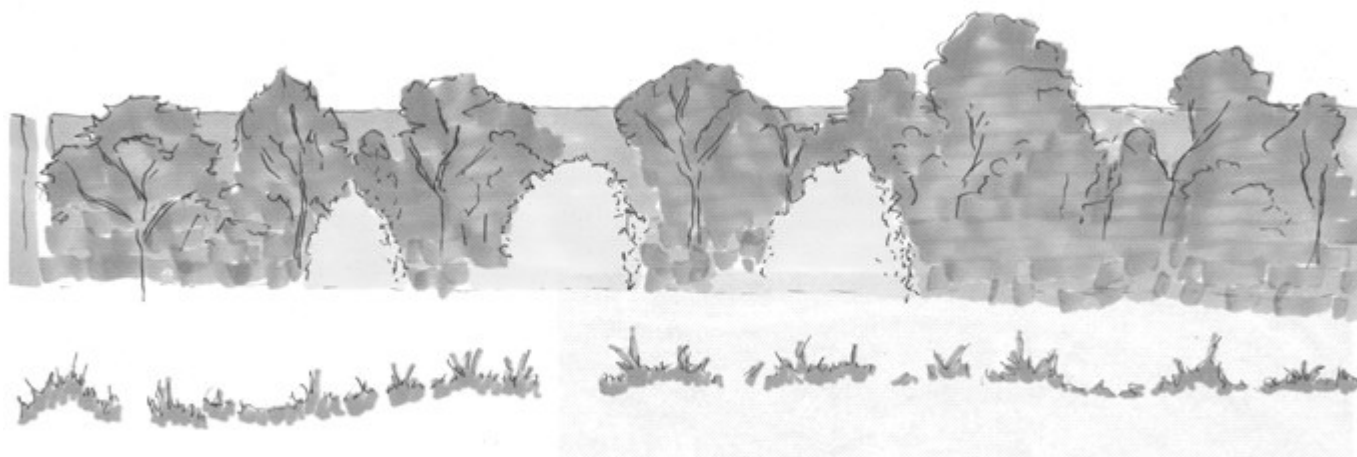
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AGRA concept sketch that shows the type of vegetation we would like planted to ensure full screening of the Braeside industrial estate.



indigenous plants only (e.g. no palms, cordylines or weedy species etc.). Our suggestions would include medium to tall trees such as Acacias, Eucalyptus and Casuarinas' with understory planting such as Banksia, Bursaria, or other species found in the local EVCs. The tall trees must hide the factories.

Our objective is that there must be a planning requirement incorporated in any permits to allow sufficient reservation for in depth screening between factories and their creek facing boundary.

AGRA looks forward to continuing our work with Council and Melbourne Water on this aspect of the project.

**Melbourne Water Access Track within the Edithvale North Wetland. This relates to the section between the Nurten Parade entrance to the track and the Longbeach Bicycle Trail.**

Not progressing at Council! It was not budgeted for last year. We ask for it to be budgeted for this year.

### **Greening of Wells Road**

Despite the heat and dry period last year's planting are looking good. Committee member Katrina Harrison will be working with Council to expand on the plantings that took place last season. The objective is to make Wells Road a major attractive southern entrance to the City of Kingston.

### **Flooding under Mordialloc Bridge Wells Road.**

Issue raised by a local resident who has been working through Council to get this problem fixed. The COK has written direct to us on the 23/24 October 2012.

*Flooding under the Mordialloc Bridge Wells Road update on the progress The path under the Mordialloc Bridge dips through an existing open drain that is subject to flooding during storm events. Council recently regraded the soil beside the path as a temporary measure to reduce the depth of water sitting in that area. During storm events residents are advised to use alternative routes such as the pedestrian crossing at Forbes Drive.*

*We recognise that this is an undesirable situation and have programmed the design of culverts to raise the level of the footpath and reduce the frequency of flooding. These works will be subject to Melbourne Water approval and, subject to their requirements, are likely to be constructed sometime during 2013.*

*The path also crosses under Wells Rd and this path is also subject to flooding and closure during storm events. Recent inspections indicate that the pump is operational and there is no sign of significant water lying across the path.*

*Hopefully the problem is now resolved [See pic below] however we ask the resident concerned to let us and Council know if problems continue.*



## Playgrounds & Reserves; Sporting Ground in Aspendale Gardens; Land acquired for this purpose by COK.



An update was sent by Council to local residents in November 2012. A more recent update was recorded in the February 2013 COK Village Committee Minutes:

*As Ken was not present to report, a discussion was had around the progress of the redevelopment. Cr. Bearsley stated that though there were initial informal plans for the park being completed in summer, the ground is not ready for use. She related that during a November update, the ground, earthworks, and cricket pitch had been completed, and that the next stage was the development of paths, park furniture, shade tree planting and bin installation. Updates at that time had stated that*

*the reopening date was subject to weather conditions as they would determine when the new turf is established enough for use. It was expected that the grounds would be ready for the 2014 cricket season.*



As you can see in the photo Council have erected an attractive fence to prevent visitor vehicles parking in the Kerr Crescent Reserve.

## Beautification of LL Stevenson

Last September 2012 minute reads Katrina raised the question: would like to see some money put into the grounds and playground at the main shopping centre. This area is our central hub, and she would love to see it have some more planting, a better, more natural playground. It is so open and uninviting at the present Council have since responded as follows:

*LL Stevenson: Council's Playground Strategy recognises that LL Stevenson Reserve is the central hub and 'Town Park' for the Aspendale Gardens area. It is envisaged that a playground and park refurbishment landscape concept plan will be prepared in 2014 subject to funding. Minor improvements were undertaken at LL Stevenson Reserve in 2010/11 during which the picnic shelter was replaced and significant new park tree planting was undertaken. AGRA to monitor in the future and seek involvement in planning.*

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### Contact Details

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Fellow CPA, Taxation  
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<http://members.ozemail.com.au/~kevin.slavin/>

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## Youth spaces - Rage Cage

Council has written direct to us in October 2012.

*Youth spaces Rage Cage: The recommendation contained within Council's Active Youth Spaces Strategy regarding the rage cage is Recommendation 40 Page 9. (Long term priority \$80k Notional funding 2018/19 financial year - Page 10). Design and construct (single stage) an extension to the Rage Cage to establish a local standard street skate facility on the grassed area, ensuring effective integration between the two areas, including appropriate seating, viewing areas and access through the end fencing. (NB: the skate park component is not intended to be fenced.) The timeframes that have been communicated to AGRA via the consultation process were those associated with the Active Youth Spaces Strategy as a whole, which was adopted by Council in October 2011.*

*There are no current plans/budgets to bring forward this recommendation, but when the recommendation does get progressed (estimated in 2018/19 subject to funding), there will be a consultation process surrounding it.*

## Communications: AGRA Face Book Site

The committee decided to develop a trial AGRA Facebook site. Katrina and Andrew have got the test site up and running. We will monitor and see how well the site performs.



**AGRA is now on Facebook. "Like us" to keep up to date with local happenings and receive updates on initiatives.**

**You can find us under:  
Aspendale Gardens Residents Association.**

## AGRA Community Needs and Desires Survey

AGRA has formed a subcommittee to develop objectives from last year's survey to result in a five year plan.

Please stay tuned for the outcome or feel free to join AGRA to have your input.

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## Telstra Monopoly on ADSL 2+ for the Mordialloc Sub-Exchange

### Internet Speeds in Aspendale Gardens

Internet speeds in Aspendale Gardens have improved significantly for a number of residents - but not all - since AGRA investigated and wrote to David Thodey, CEO of Telstra.

### Background

Most Aspendale Gardens residents connect to the internet via ADSL connection in the Mordialloc South Sub Exchange (MLSC) on Wells Rd. All wired internet services are provided by Telstra as wholesaler and are resold through other ISPs as "Off-Net" plans.

So what does this mean for you?

Your internet speed will vary depending on who the ISP is and what speeds they are capable of reselling. Not all ISPs resell ADSL2+ speeds.

From the results of our survey so far, if you are on:



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Telstra Bigpond: ADSL2+ speeds available  
iiNet: Off-net ADSL2+ speeds available - requires "\$10/month Turbo Pack"

TPG, Netspace, Dodo: Off-net ADSL2+ plans available through "ADSL2+ Off-Net plan"

### Highlights from our survey

Some residents have reported a 400% improvement in speeds, up to 1800KB/s. This is fast enough to stream standard definition movies through a smart TV. Hooray!

### Lowlights from our survey

On the other hand, many residents in western Aspendale Gardens report that they don't have access even to basic ADSL at all. They are desperately unhappy and frustrated.

Their local connection point, DA118, is in desperate need of a 'Top hat' upgrade by Telstra. This is a big problem for residents, and clearly unacceptable.

Kingston Council and Telstra, take note - immediate action required from you.

### Join the conversation

We have a survey running to see how internet speeds are improving - or not - for residents. Let us know what your experience is - you can find a link to the survey on our Facebook page under "AGRA - Aspendale Gardens Residents Association".

## NBN

AGRA will be reviewing the NBN delivery date for Aspendale Gardens and Kingston. We understand Council are carrying out a business survey within



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## Community Notice: Please give way to Pedestrians upon entry and exit to Shopping Centre

certain areas of Kingston and we will seek the inclusion of residential areas in any case Council make to government for the supply of NBN services within our region. Council represent all ratepayers and should make sure that this survey includes all ratepayers' needs not just business. Many residents need NBN to work from home and for their children school studies as well as to benefit from the modern entertainment systems that people have been purchasing. We will be following up with Council and if necessary our local Federal Member of Parliament Mark Dreyfus QC MP.

### Education/Schools - Secondary Colleges

History: Residents at the AGRA AGM highlighted the concern the community has about the lack of choice available for secondary schools in the area.

We understand that the Parkdale Secondary College enrolment boundary will not be changed for next year's grade 7 class however, the future beyond this year is certainly less clear. The school community will have to remain vigilant about what zones will apply for schools in future for example Parkdale, parents should be looking out to the years beyond the next state election. In other words if you

have any concerns about future school zonings be prepared to voice your needs as a state election issue. At the present time you could be excused if you came to the conclusion that resolving the issue is being delayed until after the next election. Hope that's not the case.

### Shopping Centre

#### AGRA-Ritchie's Bi Annual Community Fun Day

Planning is underway for this year's Community Fun Day. The scheduled date is Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup> of November 2013.

#### Community Spirit.

We have two major community minded companies based in our Shopping Centre, Ritchie's and the Bendigo Community Bank. Both distribute some of their profits back into the community and that is real community support.

#### Ritchie's Community Benefit Card

We take this opportunity to remind residents that Ritchie's contribute half of one percent of their

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profits back into the community. If you shop at Ritchie's and don't have a community benefit card we suggest you sign up, decide where you want your donation to go. A lot of parents direct to the Kinder or the school or the community centre but also sports clubs etc.

### **Post Office or Post Office Agency Aspendale Gardens**

The need for a local community Post Office service was identified by residents as the number one priority in last year's community needs survey. On the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2013 AGRA wrote to Australia Post and outlined our approach to determine if a Post Office service can be justified in Aspendale Gardens. An abbreviated version of our letter is shown below.

*Since receipt of your letter 17/8/2011 our association continues to receive requests from residents asking for a local post office service. During July and August 2012 we carried out a major Community Needs survey and the need for the local post office service again came in at number 1 with 68% of respondents seeing it as a vital community need.*

*We recognise that a lot of time has gone by since our community started this local Post Office project and we have decided that demand criteria may have changed during that period of time. Therefore we plan to carry out a full in depth community survey to determine current demand for post services in our local shopping centre and ask that you support us by supplying a list of all of all the services that a local post office agency would supply. We ask that you include in your list new innovative concepts such as the local Branch being a base for collection of orders placed through the web. Anything you can supply to assist our evaluation will be welcomed.*

*We will then carry out our wide community survey to determine demand. We can then assess the outcome and whether the case for a local Post Office service stands up. We will then pass that research data onto Post so that you can also assess the information.*

*We will seek responses from all households within Aspendale Gardens asking them to confirm which services they would definitely use at a local Post Office agency and the frequency. From those responses we should be able to build a profile that will confirm the need for the local service or*



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determine that demand and needs have changed. You may be able to add questions to our survey that will help you. We think this is a fair and open approach and look forward to your cooperation in preparing the data upon which we can build our survey.

*Yours Sincerely Ken Carney President Aspendale Gardens Residents Association, Inc*

We believe that this is a fair and open approach by AGRA to Australia Post to enable us to determine if the case for a Post Office Agency can be justified. We await a reply from Australia Post. We sent a copy of our letter to our federal member Mark Dreyfus QC MP and he has acknowledged our letter and has asked to see the data when we have it and will again make representations on our behalf at that time.

## Bendigo Bank

Aspendale Gardens - Edithvale **Community Bank®** branch has already given out over \$35,000 to local community groups since opening in May 2010. Some of the local clubs to have received funds include our local schools, community centre and sports clubs. Waterways Café has also just been granted a Defibrillator Unit, giving locals access to this life saving device in case of an emergency. Please support our community bank as support from customers is what allows it to invest in our community.

## General Australia Post - Green Bin Branagan Drive Opposite Park



*Before*



*After*

A local resident raised her concerns about an unsightly green bin rusting, poorly installed covered in graffiti etc. AGRA photographed the bin listed our concerns and wrote to Australia Post: On 14 Jan, Allison (Aus Post) advised the following:

\* Box leaning 2.5% - Post Response - this is to stop rain getting into the box.

\* Graffiti - Post Response - Post operations will remove shortly. (Done)

\* Poorly laid concrete - Post Response - Operations say acceptable standard of finish.

\* Rust on box - Post Response - Post operations - will remove at the same time as the graffiti. (Rust has been painted over).

\* Suggestion made to place the box somewhere else in the suburb - Post Response - Post advise that the nature strip is crown land and that Post are within their rights to place the bin where they have. If residents have a better location Alison will pass onto operations. Remember if it's moved then someone else may be unhappy.



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### SCHEDULE

Mon	9.15am	Thump boxing
Tue	9.15am	Tummy hips and thighs
	10.30am	Sizzling seniors
	7.00pm	Thump boxing
Wed	9.15am	Express abs/legs
	7.00pm	Emotional/binge eating group
Thu	9.15am	Casual running /walking - FREE!!
	2.00pm	Beginner Thump boxing
	7.00pm	Combo pt group
Fri	9.15am	HIIT High Intensity Interval Training
	10.30am	Sizzling seniors
Sat	9.30am	Combo PT group

## Aspendale Gardens-Edithvale **Community Bank®** Branch



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- 4** The community, not Bendigo Bank, chooses which community projects receive support.

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## Hooliganism: Mordialloc Police Focus Group

It has been reported that a number of letter boxes have been vandalised in the Branagan Drive area. To our knowledge, this vandalism has occurred twice, the first in November and again on Friday 8th of Feb. On each occasion major damage has been inflicted upon each letterbox. On the first occasion the damage was inflicted around 3am and the second, vandals were heard and chased by residents into the Branagan Drive Park. Police have been informed. We believe there may be other victims from last year and would like to put these people together. Hopefully these vandals will be identified and reparation made. If you have any information or can assist in any way please email us here at AGRA.

## Traffic Safety & Amenity

The AGRA committee has organised a subcommittee to plan actions relating traffic safety issues.

## MPF - Dingley Freeways and Traffic Reduction Wells Road

The Dandenong By-Pass between the Eastlink tollway and Westall Road is now operating. The Dingley By-Pass between Westall Road and South Road will commence construction in the near future. The Mornington Peninsula Freeway Southern Extension between Carrum Downs and Moorooduc (Mount Martha) joining the existing Southern MPF to Rye is now operating. The only part of this major integrated transport system that has yet to be given the go ahead is the Northern section of the Mornington Peninsula Freeway between Springvale Road and the Dingley By-Pass. Vic Roads are currently carrying out a study on completion.

The opening of the southern section of the MPF (Peninsula Link) has resulted in a significant amount of traffic being removed from community roads to the south of Frankston including the Nepean Highway. The same will happen to local roads between Frankston and north to South Road and the Nepean Highway

with completion of the northern section of the MPF. AGRA will continue to work for completion of the MPF Extension.

## Aspendale Gardens Branagan Drv & Kearney Drv Safety Measures (Rat Run)

As you know AGRA has been seeking a report from Council on the outcome of the traffic management systems that were installed along Branagan Drive and Kearney Drive and Langslow Drive. We wanted to confirm whether this community driven project had achieved the outcomes expected. Below is the report from Council.

Reduction in Traffic Speeds			
	Near Jones Crt	b/n Llewellyn & Gilchrist	Rosie Crt
2006 to Jul 2012	ave by 4 km/hr	ave by 10 km/hr	
Jun 2008 to Jul 2012		ave by 12 km/hr	ave by 3 km/hr

Decrease in Daily Traffic Volumes			
	Near Jones Crt	b/n Llewellyn & Gilchrist	Rosie Crt
2006 to Jul 2012	ave by 250 vehicles	ave by 350 vehicles	
Jun 2008 to Jul 2012		ave over 500 vehicles	ave over 600 vehicles

As you can see from the table and comments it appears that the traffic treatments have been very successful for the community in terms of safety and traffic management.

*The figures above represent the reduction in either average traffic speed or volumes over the time stated. For example, near Llewellyn, the speeds have gone down 10km/hr from the 2006 figures but 12 km/hr from*



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the 2008 figures. This means that the speeds actually went up between 2006 and 2008 and that these traffic management treatments have been successful in addressing this negative trend.

Basically, since the road humps were installed, in Branagan Dr, both the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile traffic speeds and the average daily traffic volumes have reduced considerably. It is thus considered that the current road humps have been an effective treatment for that street. The 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed is the measure generally used to determine if speed is an issue or not and measures the speed that 85% of traffic is travelling at speed or slower. The 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speeds are now all below the 50km/hr speed limit. The daily traffic volumes are between 3,000 and 3,500 per day; volumes of over 5,000 per day or

residents will be pleased with this outcome showing both a reduction in speed and traffic volumes. Many residents had previously confirmed this improvement verbally and we now have the statistics to confirm what they experience. We believe this study has also been helpful to Council. We thank Council for working with the community on this project.

#### **Winners Circle Safe Entry and Exit & Pedestrian Crossing for Children; Need for Traffic Controls.**

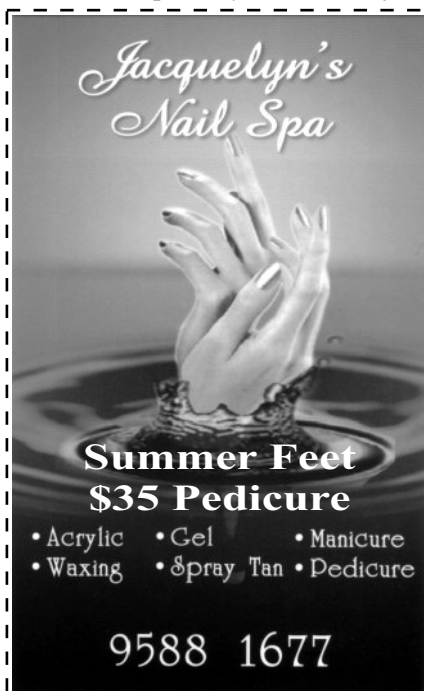
On the 19<sup>th</sup> of May 2012 AGRA reappraised council of the long term need for traffic controls at this dangerous junction which have now become more important due to children crossing at Winners Circle to catch the bus at the new bus stop close to Sanctuary Place to get high school each morning. Council said that they cannot help and that this is a matter for local MP's. Also need a pedestrian safety crossing. AGRA to ask Vic Roads to consider the need for pedestrian controls and/or full traffic controls and to take up with our local MP's.

#### **Boundary Road and Governor Road Traffic Junction (Roundabout) Traffic Controls Needed.**

We need these controls to improve safety and traffic flow. Installing controls here would if timed correctly would also assist with the traffic problems at Winners Circle by creating a gap in traffic. We will take up with Council and local MP's in particular Lorraine Wreford MP in whose ward these areas are situated.

#### **Need to Widen Governor Road to 4 lanes.**

Both of these items are linked and were part of request to candidates before the 2012 council elections seeking



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higher in a collector road are an issue. It is therefore considered that no further treatments are necessary in this street. These are good results and it would be nice to see such daily speed and volumes repeated on other collector roads within Kingston.

AGRA and no doubt a significant number of our

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support for both to be resolved. As for as widening Boundary Road Vic Roads on the 16<sup>th</sup> of April 2009 said that they had no plans to duplicate Governor Road until volumes exceed 20,000vpd.

During a meeting at Council on the 19/5/2012 we were told that volumes have now reached over 20,000vpd.

AGRA will again take up with Council and local MP's in particular Lorraine Wreford in whose ward these roads are situated.

#### **Red Light Camera: (Nurten Parade and Wells Road Intersection)**

We have again been in contact with the Department of Justice and can report that the project has been approved and that it will be for two red light/speed cameras one at Royal Palms and one at Narelle Drive. This is based on their research which clearly sees the area as very dangerous.

The project is now with a budget committee. Another 20 to 30 cameras are to be rolled out in Victoria and our project is in the top five. Installation surveys will be carried out and quotes called. The DOJ cannot tell us how long this will take but expected completion this year.

AGRA has asked our local state MP's to seek a follow up with the appropriate Department and both have responded positively. We are hopeful that there will be no more delays with this project which is clearly recognised by DOJ as being important for road safety.

#### **Traffic Lights and Bike Path Burdekin Parade to Braeside Park and Springvale Road:**

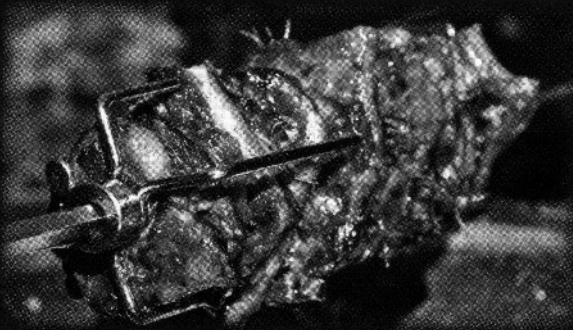

Council have told us that this traffic management project has now reached the required vehicle count and that they have written to the developer to get the project underway. We have not heard anything for some time expecting the works to commence. We will be chasing up immediately.

#### **Bicycle & Pedestrian Paths between Wells & Boundary to Industrial Area up to Ctr Dandenong**

The following statement from our 19/5/2012 meeting with Rachel Hornsby and Mayor John Ronke was discussed. Consultants are preparing plans with a report due in August last year. AGRA pointed out that there is no safe bicycle pathway between Aspendale Gardens and other areas south west of the Wells Road Bridge to the Braeside Industrial Estate and other areas which should be taken into consideration by the consultants. Bicycle use is being encouraged by the state government and local councils and we have a major cyclist problem between the Wells Road Bridge and regions to the north. We have no update and will promptly chase up with COK.

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### Fitness trails:

AGRA have suggested that with the high number of bike paths, parks, creeks, wetlands and beaches Kingston Council could help improve community health and fitness and get people outdoors into the fresh air if we had fitness trails through Kingston. Many could be linked. Young people, youths, school kids, mums and dads, mature citizens, people who want to lose weight or build muscle for medical reasons, etc. would all benefit. We plan to create some concepts to submit to Council and ask anyone who would like to send us their ideas for simple equipment and the location for these trails please let us know either through the AGRA website [www.agrainc.org.au](http://www.agrainc.org.au) or through our Facebook address. Obviously we would like to see this start in Aspendale Gardens but everywhere will benefit. An example for consideration; Bowen Road through Burdekin Parade and along the bike path on Governor Road into Braeside Park. Another could easily run from behind our school right through to Mordialloc and along the beach area. We look for your suggestions.

We are also seeking a new auditor, must be a CPA. If you know of someone who might be interested for this once a year volunteer review of accounts, please let us know. Ken Carney, President.



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