

# Aspendale Gardens News

Summer  
2013

The Official Newsletter of AGRA,  
Aspendale Gardens Residents Association



Distributed quarterly to over 2300 homes in Aspendale Gardens

[www.agrainc.org.au](http://www.agrainc.org.au)

## Community Fun Day

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2013

Bring the kids,  
Meet Jimmy Giggle!

Everyone is invited to the Aspendale Gardens Community Bi-Annual Fun Day sponsored by Ritchies Supa IGA, City of Kingston, AGRA, Rotary, Bendigo Bank and local traders.

This will be the third and biggest community fun day so far! **Children activities will be free.** This is the time to bring your children and their friends to the heart of Aspendale Gardens. Our objective is to build local community spirit and to have lots of fun at the same time. See page 11 for program details.

Our thanks to Ritchies and all shop owners, organisations, volunteer groups and individuals who have helped and supported this remarkable local community celebration. The fun starts at 10am and goes until 3pm with live music and entertainment throughout the day. See you there!

Howzat! New sports  
ground sees action

The Aspendale Gardens sports ground has been an objective of AGRA since we started 20 years ago, and from the beginning it was in our drawings for the area.



Aspendale Gardens Sports Ground, 1 November 2013

AGRA now has a result! The Aspendale Gardens Cricket Ground is open for the summer season and is in use by 3 teams.

Since AGRA checked the surface last month, the ground has been mown, top-dressed and seeded to even out the surface. There are still large sandy patches where the grass needs to grow over and cover, however the ground is playable and will get better so long as it is groomed over the season.

We are looking forward to the next phase to provide supporting infrastructure in the Kerr Cres Reserve including rubbish bin, drinking fountain, park furniture and new shade tree planting.



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**Shop 6, Narelle Drive, Aspendale Gardens Shopping Centre**

### Your AGRA Committee

President and Chairperson *Ken Carney*

- phone: 03 9587 5483,
- email: [kjcarney@iprimus.com.au](mailto:kjcarney@iprimus.com.au)

Vice President: *Andrew Bearsley*

Treasurer: *John Zeccola*

Assistant Treasurer: *Reny Frighetto*

Minute Secretary: *Andrew Bearsley*

Assistant Minute Secretary: *Helen Smithwick*

Newsletter Advertising: *Tony Firman*

Community fun day: *Reny Frighetto*

Newsletter Editor: *Andrew Bearsley*

Social Media: *Tony Firman*

Website Editor: *Sam Constantopoulos*

Newsletter Distribution: *Karina Ces*

Other committee: *Adam Bedikian,*

*Henry Warren, Serge Yan*

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## President's Report

AGRA held our AGM on Wednesday the 28<sup>th</sup> of August 2013. We welcomed the following visitors:

- **Lorraine Wreford** (State MP for Mordialloc)
- **Donna Bauer** (State MP for Carrum)
- **Tamsin Bearsley** (Councillor City of Kingston)
- **Fred Harrison** (CEO & Director of Ritchies)
- **Gary Spencer** (Liberal Party fed. candidate)
- **Karen Dobby** (Christian Party fed. candidate)

Apologies were received from:

- Mark Dreyfus QC (Fed. MP & Labor candidate)
- Inga Peulich (State MLC)
- John Ronke (Councillor City of Kingston)
- David Eden (Councillor City of Kingston)

We are pleased to report we had a large turnout for the AGM. We thank all who attended including visitors. Fred Harrison CEO of Ritchies was our star attraction and gave an insightful presentation into the supermarket business and impact of the two big operators.

The outcome of AGRA elections, chaired by City of Kingston Councillor Tamsin Bearsley, is shown on this page – see 'Your AGRA Committee'.

Two of our past members did not stand for re-election due to other commitments. I once again say thank you to **Katrina Harrison** and **David Cree** for their service and significant contribution to AGRA and the community over many years.

We are delighted to welcome new members Helen Smithwick, Tony Firman and Adam Bedikian.

*Yours Sincerely*


*Ken Carney President AGRA Inc*

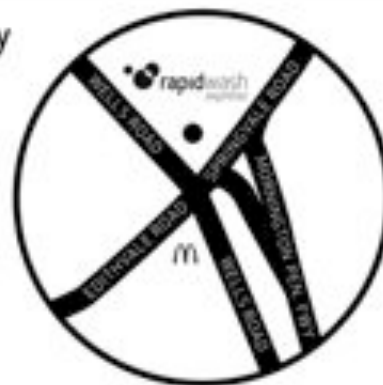
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## Roll the Presses Thanks to you

This AGRA Newsletter is a labour of love. Everything we do at AGRA is volunteering, including the writing, all-nighter editing, and distribution by hand to over 2300 homes.

Our main cost for AGRA is printing. It costs around \$2000 for each quarterly newsletter print run. We are very thankful to our advertisers who help cover costs.

In return, our advertisers **need your support**. Show them some love – and tell them AGRA sent you!

(Ed: order me a Valentino's Mikky Special while you're there?)

## Who's Doing What in AGRA



As your AGRA team, we are a diverse group of volunteers. We all share a common interest – we enjoy doing our bit to serve the community and make it a better place.

If you love Aspendale Gardens like we do, come join the team. Reach out to us on Facebook (Agra3195) and come along to our next meeting. Anyone can attend and participate.

AGRA meetings are held at 7.30pm on the last Wednesday of the month (except December) at the Community Centre and are open to the public.

### AGRA Portfolios:

#### *Environment & Grants:*

Ken Carney, Tony Firman

#### *Community Activities,*

#### *Shopping Centre:*

Reny Frighetto, Karina Ces

#### *Traffic Safety, Amenity, Police:*

Ken Carney, Henry Warren

#### *Telecommunications:*

Andrew Bearsley, Tony Firman



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## Check in Store for Specials!

*Traditional Charcoal Gyros Souvlaki*  
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Mon - Thu: 10am - 9pm

Fri - Sat: 10am - 10pm

Sunday: 4pm - 9pm

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Fri - Sat: 10am - 10pm

Sunday: 4pm - 9pm

Last order 15 minutes before closing time.  
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## TAKE-AWAY & DELIVERY

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9590 9506

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9588 2575

Shop 18 Aspendale Gardens Shopping Centre

(\$4 Delivery charge - Prices inc. GST)



## From Your Local Community Centre

Aspendale Gardens Community Centre  
103 – 105 Kearney Drive Aspendale Gardens  
Phone 9587 5955

As a Community Centre, we rely on volunteers to help the Centre run smoothly. If you would like to help, we are putting together a list of people we can contact when we need odd jobs done (e.g. fundraising events, window cleaning, maintenance, weeding, office administration duties etc). It's a great way of being involved and getting to know members of your community.

If you are able to assist on a casual basis, please contact the office – phone 9587 5955. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

### Occasional Care

Occasional Care is designed for parents or families who need a little break now and then. It is offered as a program at Aspendale Gardens Community Centre and run in the Wattle Room on Tuesday from 8.30 to 11.30 am and Fridays from 12.15 to 3.15pm. Costs \$23.00 per child per session / \$40 family member.

At Occasional Care we do lots of activities indoors and outdoors. Experiences range from reading books or painting at the easels, to pasting various collages, playing in the sandpit and climbing on a giant fort with slide, or lots of singing and dancing with all the children. Come along and find out what we do.

Every week, we have lots of familiar faces and love to meet new ones too. Enquiries phone 9587 5955.

### Upcoming Events

Date	What's On	Venue
30 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Get your Glow on	Multipurpose Hall
6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Pre School Disco	Main Hall
20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Term 4 finish	Centre Closed

### Hall Hire

Looking for a venue for your Christmas Function? Your Community Centre has fantastic facilities, including a full kitchen, indoor and outdoor options, BBQ available. For further information contact the Centre. Enquiries phone 9587 5955.

T: 9551 4617  
A: 8 Arco Lane, Heatherton  
E: arcoh@arcocafe.com.au  
W: arcorestaurant.com.au  
f arco restaurant-group

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---

# ***Ray White.***

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**Ray White Mordialloc**

## Outcome from 2013 Federal Election

The dust has settled since the federal election in September. While the Liberal Party won federal government, Mark Dreyfus QC MP (Labor) was successful retaining his seat and is now in opposition.

Two-party-preferred swing in Isaacs was 6.55% from Labor towards Liberal. Isaacs is now considered a marginal seat.

In the lead-up to the 2013 Federal Election, we sent our Isaacs candidates a pre-election questionnaire about local issues. We posted all candidate responses on the large AGRA noticeboard in the shopping centre. It was hard to miss! We also put links to responses on Facebook and AGRA website.

We thank the candidates who replied. They were Mark Dreyfus QC Labor Party, Garry Spencer Liberal Party, Karen Dobby Australian Christian Party and Laith Graham Australian Sex Party. Five candidates did not submit a response.



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*(Ed: Now that the election is over, you deserve a massage!)*

Our position is that promises made to the Isaacs electorate by the Liberal Party are now federal government policy while the promises from Mark Dreyfus QC also apply where practical to do so. In either case Mark as our federal MP will be able to hold our government to account.

We thought that it would be worthwhile and helpful to readers to list the responses of two candidates (Mark Dreyfus: MD and Garry Spencer: GS) on record in our first newsletter since the federal election. Candidate answers are in *italics*.



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## Federal Candidate Pre-Election Questionnaire

### **Subject: NBN Roll out – Braeside Industrial Area and Aspendale Gardens within the City of Kingston**

#### **1. High Speed Broadband. Do you and your party support the development of the current NBN System?**

MD (Labor) Labor's National Broadband Network is part of securing our economic future. That's why Kevin Rudd and Labor is delivering high-speed, reliable, affordable broadband to every home and business in Australia at no cost to connect.

GS (Liberal) Yes - but in a more affordable form which will be delivered sooner.

#### **2. If you answered Yes to NBN, will you work to get Aspendale Gardens and the Braeside Industrial Region onto NBN within two years?**

MD (Labor) Did not answer.

GS (Liberal) Our goal is for every household and business to have access to broadband with a download data rate of between 25 and 100 megabits per second by 2016 and between 50 and 100 megabits per second by 2019. If fortunate enough to be elected, I will fight for the Braeside Industrial Estate, which is a serious oversight by the current Labor Government, to be connected sooner. A

number of industrial companies have had to move, due to lack of broadband in this area.

#### **2(a). If yes, please explain how?**

MD (Labor) Did not answer

GS (Liberal) We will complete the NBN quickly and cost-effectively by using a mix of technologies that will provide high speed at a reasonable cost.

#### **2(b). If No, please explain why and when you expect you will be able to get NBN into Aspendale Gardens and the Braeside Industrial area?**

MD (Labor) Did not answer

GS (Liberal) See 2(c)

#### **2(c). Please explain the likely speeds and costs to the consumer including any connection costs (guide only)**

MD (Labor) By mid-2016, NBN fibre construction will have commenced or be complete to more than 4.8 million homes and businesses. Another 1.2 million homes and businesses in regional and remote Australia will have access to the NBN's fixed wireless and satellite services. Under the Coalition, households across the country will have the construction of the NBN cancelled and be forced to pay up to \$5,000 to be connected. Tony Abbott's plan to leave millions of Australian disconnected from Labor's NBN will

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\* Watch batteries \* Bracelets

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**PH: 9587 0033**



create a digital divide in every suburb. Kevin Rudd and Labor is delivering high-speed, reliable, affordable broadband to every home and business in Australia at no cost to connect.

GS (Liberal) Under the Coalition's Plan, households will get access to faster broadband by the end of 2016 with download speeds five times faster than today's average. Our goal is for every household and business to have access to broadband with a download data rate of between 25 and 100 megabits per second by 2016 and between 50 and 100 megabits per second by 2019. At present, downloads average less than five megabits per second. To get a broadband service you have to sign up to a plan with a carrier – they will charge you a monthly fee. These fees will vary depending on what the provider offers. Labor's NBN plan is to increase its charges per user to three times current levels by 2021. That will drive up household broadband bills. By 2021, typical families will pay \$300 more per year for broadband under Labor than under the Coalition.

**3(a). Please explain the key elements of your alternative High Speed Broadband service including speeds etc. and when will it be available nationally?**

MD (Labor) Did not answer

GS (Liberal) The Coalition's Plan for Fast Broadband and an Affordable NBN will ensure households and businesses can get access to fast broadband by the end of 2016 – with download speeds five times today's average. Will end the delays and cost overruns and get the NBN back on track through better management, greater transparency and tighter controls. Give priority to regions and suburbs with the poorest existing service in the rollout. Deliver a more affordable NBN than Labor – saving consumers about \$300 a year by 2021. Deliver a smarter NBN that uses a mix of technologies. Our plan will cost less and make the NBN more economically viable. Lessen the strain on taxpayers who could be expected to bear the burden of Labor's delayed and mismanaged \$90 billion plus NBN.

**3(b). Will you work to get Aspendale Gardens and Braeside Industrial Region onto your alternative system within two years?**

MD (Labor) Did not answer

GS (Liberal) Yes

**4. If you are proposing an alternative system please advise likely costs to the user (guide only) and also will there be any connection costs? There has been talk of a connection fee of about \$5,000 to join the household to the node for the Coalition proposal. Please explain.**

MD (Labor) Did not answer

GS (Liberal) Labor says it will cost \$5000 to connect to the Coalition's NBN. That's a lie. Labor's NBN is not free – to get a broadband service you have to sign up to a plan with a carrier – they will charge you a monthly fee. There is no additional fee to connect to fibre to the node. If a person chooses to upgrade their service to fibre to the premises sooner than is planned by the NBN, they would have to pay for the installation, but this would vary depending on the existing infrastructure in the area.

**5. If you wish please record any supporting information**

MD (Labor) Did not answer

GS (Liberal) Kevin Rudd promised everyone in Australia fast broadband by 2013 at a cost of \$4.7 billion. Instead, the NBN has only signed up 10,400 users for its fibre network and the final cost is expected to be over \$90 billion. Families, small businesses, schools and hospitals need fast broadband now and not sometime after 2021 which will happen under Labor's plan. Our plan will deliver the NBN sooner, at less cost to taxpayers and more affordably for consumers.

**Subject: Completion of the Mornington Peninsula Freeway Northern Extension**

**1. We seek support of candidates for this project. We ask if a decision is made for the project to go ahead will you and your party commit to offering the Victorian State Government federal funding towards this regional traffic and transport project?**

MD (Labor) The Victorian Government is responsible for the funding of the Mornington Peninsula Freeway.

GS (Liberal) I'm not in a position to make policy announcements on behalf of a future Coalition government; however, I do believe that it is important to listen to the community and be a true representative of their views. If elected I will work with the local community to present the best possible case for this project to my colleagues in Canberra, as well as here in the State.

## TAX TIME 2013

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**CPA**  
AUSTRALIA



### Services Include

Personal Income Tax Returns	Self Managed Super Fund Tax Returns
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### Contact Details

Kevin Slavin  
FCPA, Reg Tax Agent  
Email: [kevin.slavin@iinet.net.au](mailto:kevin.slavin@iinet.net.au)

**Address:** 284 Wells Rd (Melway 93 E6)  
Aspendale Gardens Vic 3195  
Tel: 0417 599 263  
Website: [slavin.com.au](http://slavin.com.au)

*Call today to book your  
2013 tax time appointment*



## 2. If you wish please record any supporting information

MD (Labor) Unfortunately the Victorian Liberals have locked themselves into funding the East West Link which will have no benefit to Aspendale Gardens. In contrast Federal Labor is delivering \$3 billion to fund the Melbourne metro rail tunnel, to improve our public transport network and ease local traffic congestion. Melbourne metro rail tunnel will return the Frankston line to the City Loop, create a dedicated Frankston loop line and add 19 additional peak-hour services across the network. This will cater for more than 20,000 new rail passengers an hour in peak time. Unfortunately this rail project will not see the light of day under Tony Abbott and the Liberals. However the State Liberals have chosen to fund the reopening of the closed railway gates at New Street, Brighton, which is number 223 on the list of projects requiring upgrades, instead of other crossings which are higher on the priority list and in need of urgent upgrades.

GS (Liberal) The Victorian Coalition Government has committed to a \$1 million feasibility study which is currently underway. If fortunate enough to be elected, I will work with the local community and fight for this project to be completed in full.

### Subject: Need for a Post Office or Post Office Agency in the Aspendale Gardens Shopping Centre

1. If the community survey is positive and shows that demand for services is high and Post will still not meet our community need, will you and your party apply your support to convince Post to open a Post Office service in Aspendale Gardens Shopping centre?

MD (Labor) I have long been a supporter of AGRA's request to have a Post Office located at the Aspendale Gardens Shopping Centre, including making representations on behalf of the electorate to Australia Post. While the Federal Government does not have the authority to direct Australia Post's business decisions in relation to establishing Post Offices, I will continue to advocate on behalf of my constituents.

GS (Liberal) Having spoken to many people in the area, I understand that the issue of a Post Office is something that the local community feels passionate about. If elected I will work with locals and local community groups to fight for a Post Office or Post Office agency at Aspendale Gardens.

### 1a. Please record any supporting information

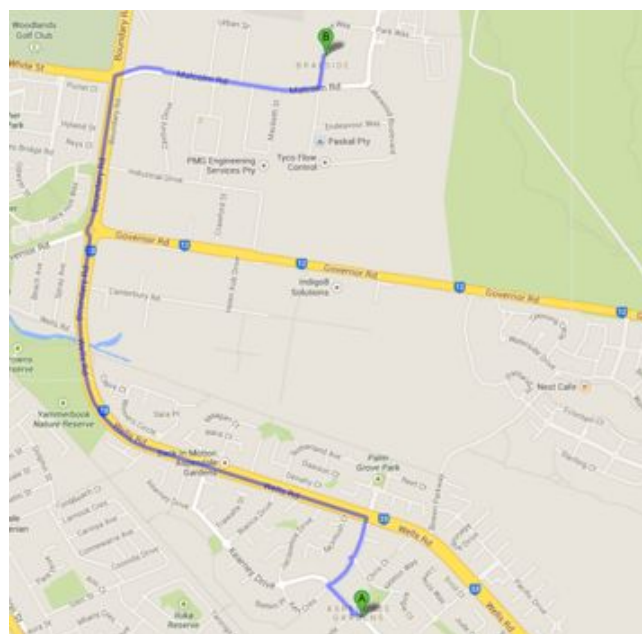
MD (Labor) Previously, I was successful in ensuring a street posting box was located on Wells Road, Aspendale Gardens and advocating for the restoration of a local community post box in Edithvale.

GS (Liberal) I have lived in Isaacs for years, so fully appreciate the need to have good local services. This especially applies to the large community in Aspendale Gardens. Having a local Post Office will not only convenience local shoppers but also help local traders and ensure shopping quality is enhanced locally.

Subject: We also ask you to supply some background information about what you believe are key election issues facing the country and how you and your party plan to resolve them.

MD (Labor) Elections are about choices. For Labor, we have always chosen **jobs and growth**. That's how we steered the Australian economy through the global financial crisis and created almost 1 million jobs since coming to office. Now, with the China resources boom coming to an end, there is a need to diversify the economy and ensure we continue to invest in the high skill high wage jobs we need for the future. In Isaacs, Labor will continue to invest in training and education, so we can ensure our children have the opportunities they need, no matter what their background. That's why Labor has a **Better Schools Plan** to provide more individual support to students and is investing in Trade Training Centres across the country. This election is also about another a choice. And that's a choice between Labor's positive plan for the future or the \$70 billion worth of cuts that Tony Abbott will make to fill his budget black hole. This threatens important local initiatives like Medicare locals, schools and other front line services. We will continue to invest in education, support families through initiatives like the Schoolkids Bonus, roll out **Labor's National Broadband Network** to every home and business in Australia and ensure that our country is well positioned for the future.

GS (Liberal) **Cost of living:** Many families are struggling with the cost of living. We will scrap the carbon tax so the average family will be \$550 better off next **Job security** and support for local businesses: We will give local businesses the support they need to keep jobs secure. We have a positive plan to create two million new jobs over the next ten year. **Border security:** We will deliver stronger borders – where the boats are stopped - with tough, proven policies. **Government Debt and the economy:** Will get the budget back under control by ending Labor's waste. Will build a stronger, more diversified economy so everyone can get ahead.



AG is 4.7km from Braeside post office, without safe cycle path

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Aspendale Gardens Shopping Centre Traders  
& AGRA Inc. proudly present

Aspendale Gardens Community  
Fun Day at the  
Aspendale Gardens Shopping Centre.



**Saturday 16th Nov  
10am to 3pm**

**FREE FUN DAY  
ATTRACTIONS  
FOR EVERYONE**

**Meet Jimmy  
Giggle on  
the day**



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ready for the Night Watch

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SHOPPING CENTRE  
Narelle Drive Aspendale Gardens





## AGRA/Ritchies' Community Fun Day Sat Nov 16<sup>th</sup>, 10am-3pm

**Put this day in your diary!** Thanks to the support of Ritchies Supermarket and the shopping centre management, AGRA is proud to co-host the 2013 Aspendale Gardens Community Fun Day.

There will be stalls, a petting zoo, jumping castle, balloon artists, face painters, fairy floss, demonstrations by local clubs and live music. Come and have some fun!

On stage:

10am-11am: Zumbatronic, Karate, live music

11am-12pm: **Jimmy Giggles**, Animals of Oz, Pilates

12pm-3pm: Balloon Modeller, Jazz band

All day: Fun!



## RITCHIES COMMUNITY BENEFIT PROGRAM HAS TURNED 20 YEARS OLD!



Ritchies would like to thank our customers for supporting us over the last 20 years! The total donations to date have reached over \$42 million dollars which we have donated back to the community to clubs, schools and charitable organisations.

To our customers who have a Seniors Card you can now present your card on Tuesday and Thursday to receive 5% off any purchases you make.

**Shop at Ritchies Aspendale Gardens – where the whole community benefits!**

# SAVE 4¢ PER LITRE ON FUEL





## 2013 Federal Election - So what happens now?

We hope you find this summary of the two main federal election candidate's responses interesting and helpful. Here's what we're doing with this information.

### **Re: NBN Roll out – Braeside Industrial Area and Aspendale Gardens within the City of Kingston**

AGRA is writing to Malcolm Turnbull, Minister for Communications seeking confirmation that the commitments and timelines will be met.

### **Re: Completion of the Mornington Peninsula Freeway Northern Extension.**

A feasibility report is due from Vic Roads before the end of the year. We need updated traffic data on hand so we are fully prepared when the report comes out.

Our Village Committee has sought meetings with both Vic Roads and City of Kingston to obtain updated information and data on traffic volumes throughout our region. We also need to meet our local state MPs to ensure that we are given access to all relevant traffic information before the report is completed.

We have not had success with Vic Roads to date due to Vic Road staffing limitations. We do not want to be unprepared and faced with a political fait accompli on this most important regional traffic and transport infrastructure project. In the absence of VC meetings, AGRA will contact council and other parties directly.

### **Re: Need for a Post Office or Post Office Agency in the Aspendale Gardens Shopping Centre**

AGRA are collating the results from our community survey, and will decide our next action once the data has been analysed. If you have responded – Thank you! If you haven't yet, go on, do it now at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/AgraPostOffice>



Safety cameras on Wells Road

## Traffic Update: Smile for the camera!

### **Red Light Safety Cameras on Wells Road**

*After many years of lobbying various governments on behalf of residents and local drivers, AGRA has a result!*

The Department of Justice has installed red light speed cameras on Wells Road at the intersections of Palm Grove and Royal Palms. We hope to see safer intersections with a reduction in speeding and running red lights.

Wells Road has become a major thoroughfare for city-peninsula traffic, due to a much-needed connection between Mornington Peninsula Freeway and Nepean Highway.

Contrary to the belief of speeding motorists, Wells Road Aspendale Gardens is not a freeway! Crossing Wells Road to get to shops and school can be a dangerous proposition.

Interestingly ABC Radio reported nationally that there was an accident at Wells Road and Nurten Parade during a morning rush hour in October. We hope no-one was hurt, but it was obviously serious enough to warrant a national traffic report.

Our thanks to our local state MPs **Donna Bauer**, **Lorraine Wreford** and **Inga Peulich** MLC for working with the minister to get this safety measure operating.

At the time of writing the lights have been seen snapping photos and we assume this is testing.

### **Traffic Lights required for Bike Path to Braeside Park at the Burdekin and Governor Road Junction**

This has to be one of the most dangerous traffic junctions in our region. A path was constructed by City of Kingston some years ago for cyclists from Waterways, Aspendale Gardens and other areas of Kingston to ride to and enjoy Braeside Park.

Overflow of city-peninsula traffic due to a much-needed connection between Mornington Peninsula Freeway and Nepean Highway has made the crossing of the Buredekin Road / Governor Road bike path very dangerous.

Council report that they expect the developer to meet his requirement to install the traffic lights by mid-

2014, and if this timeline is at risk Council will themselves take measures to ensure that the safety system will be installed by that time. The installation has to make an allowance for the possible widening of Governor Road.

#### **Other Traffic Issues:**

AGRA will be raising the following traffic safety issues with City of Kingston, Vic Roads and local MPs.

#### **- Boundary/Governor Road roundabout**

Traffic controls required to provide southbound breaks in evening peak hour to allow **Winners Circle** residents to safely exit into Wells Road.

#### **- Governor Road**

Widening to four lanes to help get traffic out of Aspendale Gardens, now that volume has grown past the 20,000 vehicles per day mark.

#### **- Wells Road and Forbes Drive**

We have been asked by a number of residents to seek support for improved traffic safety at this intersection.

## **Catching the Bus? BYO Time Machine**

For the first time in a long time we have received communication from a resident seeking improvements in public transport services to Aspendale Gardens.

It looks like bus route 858 could do with some tuning.

- extend route to include Aspendale Gardens Shops
- increased weekend frequency (currently 1 per hour)
- better synchronized connection with train services

For example, if you've caught the 8:30pm train home and are connecting with the Route 858 bus, you'll need a time machine to make the connection – since the bus leaves 4 minutes before the train arrives.

If you have any needs or suggestions relating to public transport please contact us on our website or through Facebook.

## **Cycling to the Post Office? Good luck with that**

#### **Shared Paths from Mordialloc Creek Bridge to Braeside Park Post Office**

AGRA really don't recommend you try this.

There is no safe and direct way of cycling from Aspendale Gardens to the post office in Braeside Park (which is not near at all at 4.7km away).

Bicycle use is encouraged by the State Government and local councils and yet we have a major cyclist problem between the Wells Road Bridge and regions to the north.

A feasibility study has been completed which identified a preferred route with costing to create a north/south shared path. The project will be put forward as a capital works submission from 2014/15 year onwards for funding consideration. AGRA will seek a progress report on the options.

## **Track Work**

#### **Melbourne Water Access Track within the Edithvale North Wetland**

The track between Nurten Parade and the Longbeach Bicycle Trail is beautiful at 6:30am in the morning with sunrise over the wetlands. The track requires maintenance to get it back to a satisfactory level.



**Sunrise over Edithvale North Wetland from MW Access track**

The existing trail should be good enough for use by mothers with prams, cyclists, walkers and those using mobile scooters, all with the purpose of easily and safely getting between the Long Beach trail and areas such as the new Children's Hub on Edithvale Road.

#### **Current Informal Track from the AG Primary School New Sports Ground to MW Access Track**

The existing "goat trail" behind June Pl and Carole Crt, connecting the new Aspendale Gardens sports ground to Long Beach trail is recognised as a significant thoroughfare and requires an upgrade.

The priority of both of these trails has risen to medium importance with the development of the Childrens' Hub on Edithvale Road and recent work

undertaken at the Aspendale sports ground.

This change in priority means that these trails can enter the design phase in 2013/14, and submitted for consideration in the 2014/15 budget. Residents affected by these plans will be consulted. In the mean time, AGRA and the Village Committee will monitor.

## Yammerbook Nature Reserve

The Yammerbook Committee (a subcommittee of AGRA) met recently and the agreed to an amended concept plan for Stage 2 Draft Landscape Design.

There still has to be an overall agreement between Melbourne Water and City of Kingston on the environmental management plan and Pathways Agreement to cover public liability concerns. Council have to prepare a one-in-ten years flood safety measures plan for new paths.

Implementation of the plan once approved will be in four stages, with stage 1 commencing this season. Once the plans are close to finalisation they will be published.

## Greening of Wells Road

Residents may have seen Council removing some trees on Wells Road that are past their "use by date". New plantings will follow.

## Green Wedge

Council has recently voted to ask the planning minister for advice on minimum lot sizes in the green wedge. We will investigate the issue further to understand the reasoning and will post findings in the next newsletter or AGRA website in the interim.

## Grant Applications

After discussion with local groups, AGRA member Tony Firman has prepared grant submissions for the further beautification of Wells Road between Edithvale Road and Mordialloc Creek bridge, including remnant vegetation rehabilitation, water sensitive urban design treatments, and a maintenance program over one year.

Tony Collins from City of Kingston has prepared background plans and costing guides to assist Tony prepare the AGRA application for the first round of Grant opportunities.

## Grant Application to Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority: to develop a master plan for the living links corridor from Mordialloc Creek to Patterson River

The request states: *"with the support of others, including Council, we are looking to produce a master plan for the living links corridor from Mordialloc Creek to Patterson River. A number of projects have looked at some areas, particularly around Mordialloc Creek, Yammerbook Reserve and Edithvale Wetlands, but we have not tied them all together into a cohesive strategy that addresses the revegetation, rehabilitation and recreational opportunities of the entire corridor. Once the master plan has been developed, an execution plan will be developed to tackle the revegetation and rehabilitation in key stages, including existing planned work to support the master plan, plus additional areas identified by the master plan, as funding and resources can be secured."*

Special thanks to Tony Firman and others who have helped develop the request. We await the outcome.

## Mordialloc Creek Work

### Mordialloc Creek Development between Wells Road Bridge and the Waterways Lakes

This project has many benefits including reducing the build-up of sediment at the mouth of the Mordialloc Creek and improving the quality of water at Mordialloc beaches, as well as protecting and providing a positive environment for indigenous flora and fauna. In addition once the development is completed the industrial development bordering the creek will be able to get underway and generate employment in our region.

### The Mordialloc Creek project is now two stages.

AGRA met with Melbourne Water in October 2013 to discussing how they can assist us and other interested parties develop an effective flora visual barrier system to screen future industrial developments along the eastern side of the creek.





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## Project set back 5 years (much worse)

### **Stage 1. Mordialloc Creek - Melbourne Water Project to Create an Operating Lakes and Tidal Wetland between Wells Road Bridge and Waterways.**

This was originally budgeted by Melbourne Water for construction to commence early this year, however this timeline was interrupted when Council decided to seek protection of remnant plants that had been discovered at a late stage. Melbourne Water has met with Council and come to an understanding on this aspect of the program. Revised plans have still not been lodged with Council.

As a result of the delay, Melbourne Water have defunded this project until their next 5 Year plan. The net effect is that the project appears to have been shelved indefinitely.

This outcome brings an adverse impact on the region. Any delays will bring forward future dredging works which will be a massive cost at that time, while also delaying the industrial development along the eastern side of the Creek which will reduce job opportunities in the region.

AGRA have decided to seek the support of interested parties, council and local state MPs to convince the minister and Melbourne Water to reallocate the original funding for this project and get the project underway after the next growling grass frog breeding season in early 2014.

AGRA will communicate with all interested parties and seek support.

### **Stage 2. Current and future screening of the industrial developments between Wells Road Bridge and Waterways.**

We took the advice of state MP Lorraine Wreford and have partnered with the Mordialloc Friends Group who currently work with Council and Melbourne Water across this area.

Graham Daff and Kim Carland from Melbourne Water attended the AGRA October committee meeting. We talked about future plans for screening industry, including how they may be able to help create additional in-depth screening and advising on planting areas between the boundaries of the industrial land and the future bank of Mordialloc Creek.

## Factory set back 5 metres (much better)

We can report that a new building has recently been constructed alongside the creek.

The following report is from Ian Nice City of Kingston:

*Council advise that the building has a 5 metre wide landscape setback to its entire rear boundary which interfaces with the Melbourne Water Wetlands site. There is an approved landscape plan for the whole site, including the 5m wide rear area. The planting to be provided in this setback area includes Eucalypts, Correas, Cassinias, Bossiaes, Danthonias and Deyeuxias which are all native species and suitable to this environment.*

*The building has a height of approx. 8.4m, is finished with painted wall surfaces, including the rear (south facing) wall which will be Wattle – Old Platypus in colour, sort of an earthy, yellow colour.*

*The building itself should be a fantastic industrial showcase for ESD and Sustainable Management design as it incorporates many such features including, water tanks, irrigation of landscape areas from water collection, toilet flushing and truck washing from water collection and LED lighting throughout, required building materials/finishes, energy efficiency, excellent indoor environment quality, waste management commitments and much more.*

*The applicant had a quality ESD outcome with the design and our officers Belinda Tsering and Tara Bryce discussed and added (with applicant agreement) further ESD features and initiatives for the development.*



**Industrial screening required along Mordialloc Creek**

Ian Nice of City of Kingston (continued):

*I think that the approval of this development only proves and validates our (COK's) commitment to there being landscape setbacks to the rear of new industrial buildings/development in this area, with a minimum width of 3m. This development has a 5m wide landscape setback which was negotiated with the applicant.*

*The application was / is on our on-line planning register from the day it was submitted, as are all our applications. Further, a planning officer has been to the site and confirmed that there is a 5m landscape setback between the rear of the building and the Wetlands site. The development is under construction at present and accordingly, the landscaping or painting of the building has not yet commenced.*

*The approved development is the type of development encouraged in this industrial area. The closest point of the site from a residential property to the south is approximately 180 metres and given its finishes and required landscaping should blend well with its surroundings.*

*Ian Nice COK.*

**AGRA's view is that this is an excellent outcome that can be used as a template for future development.**

We take this opportunity to thank all Council Officers involved for their success in achieving these planning objectives on what is the first development alongside Mordialloc Creek like this. We believe this type of approach will benefit the environment and wider community including visitors and tourists to the region. We pass our thanks to any others involved including our South Ward Councillors.

Next Step: meet with local MP's to seek their help to get the screening project underway at the end of the next Growling Grass Frog breeding season.

## Fitness Trails throughout Kingston

Our objective here is to develop local fitness trails so that residents can develop all round fitness while out running, walking or cycling at any time of day. The concept is supported by our Village Committee and by Council.

Future plans for development next year are at Reg Marlow Reserve in Mentone and LL Stevenson Reserve in Aspendale Gardens. There are plans for the installation of equipment at Waterways, organised by the Body Corporate.

COK agrees that Longbeach Trail could be a good location for circuit equipment given its accessibility and clear sight lines. The proposed fitness circuits or trails and the upgrade to the local trails have been placed for consideration on COK next year's budget program.

## Police Report

Sergeant Stephen Ford has passed his local crime report onto AGRA and we print below. It's good news.

*"In comparison to other surrounding suburbs in Kingston, Aspendale Gardens has still got a low crime rate, however there has been a small increase in theft from motor vehicles during the evenings. I advise that residents keep all valuables out of their vehicles; ensure their cars are locked; and attend the Mordialloc Police Station to obtain the anti-theft screws for registration plates which are also being stolen due to petrol prices going up. Other than that, I look forward to hearing from the residents for their point of view of crime in the area and any police related issues"*

## Proposed Shopping Centre Roof Top Development

As reported in our August Newsletter, AGRA attended the VCAT hearing on the 26<sup>th</sup> of August to support our objection to this proposed development. The basis of our argument was printed in the August Newsletter which can be accessed on our website.

Our objection did not get to be heard at the VCAT hearing because the applicant was given more time to answer questions relating to noise from the supermarket operation that would affect rooftop residents as raised by Ritchies and AGRA.

The VCAT meeting has been postponed until November the 25th for a 4 day session. We have since received revised plans from the developer and we are studying the impact of these on our objection.

This proposal remains an overdevelopment of the site that brings mass and bulk into our residential area. This is only stage 1. Stage 2 is an unknown and the developer will not reveal his plans for stage 2.

We show on page 18 the current structure of the shopping Centre with modified photo drawn to scale that shows how the proposed development will look in terms of bulk and size should it go ahead.



## PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT



FRONT VIEW: ADDITIONAL STORIES ARE APPROX 1.5  
MULTIPLE IN EXISTING BUILDING HEIGHT.  
THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT IS OUT OF CHARACTER  
IN TERMS OF HEIGHT, SCALE AND RULE, 1300 m.

\* NO ALLOWANCE FOR STAGE 2.



EXISTING VIEW OF BUILDING: IT SUITS THE  
ENVIRONMENT + AMENITY. RIGHT SIZE DEVELOPMENT

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