



40% GROWTH IN 2007!

Whilst property values may not have quite achieved these heights, membership to the West Leederville Residents Association certainly has. The WLRA now boasts over 700 members and continues to support the residents wherever it can.

President's Report



The WLRA has continued to blossom this year, both literally and figuratively. Our membership continues to increase and we have seen the first crops from the Community Garden.

One of our Committee Members, Kim Maddren, has been recognised in the

Town of Cambridge Volunteer of the Year Awards.

I think a few events have marked this year for me in West Leederville. The Coles development will change the face of Cambridge St and must be an impetus to provide a safe and attractive reworking of the West Leederville section of Cambridge St. The Special Electors' Meeting showed the strong community spirit in West Leederville and our commitment to finding an holistic solution to traffic management. In the face of Subiaco losing many of its iconic public facilities; the markets, the cinema and Lords, we have created a unique community space with the Community Garden. Pop in and have a look. Most Saturday afternoons there are people working away.

For my family Cowden Park continues to be a beautiful space that is used by kids (and adults) of all ages. The West Leederville fete is always an event that demonstrates our sense of West Leederville. And like many in West Leederville we have finally started our renovations.

Looking to the year ahead: the West Leederville Primary School will turn 110; we may see the plans for the redevelopment of Subiaco Oval and we will all be watching the implications of the developments on Cambridge St and the traffic treatments on Kimberley, Northwood and McCourt. The WLRA will be looking at the notion of the Village Vision for West Leederville that will hope to encompass the inevitable changes to our suburb.

I would like to thank all the members of the WLRA for an amazing amount of enthusiasm, dedication and often plain hard physical work. I would like to acknowledge the Town of Cambridge and our Ward Councillors for all their efforts.

Best wishes to all and happy New Year.

Shani Mulheron

Welcome to all the new Councillors at the Town of Cambridge. See page 2 for contact details of our ward members and new Mayor. For full Council details go to [www. http://www.cambridge.wa.gov.au/](http://www.cambridge.wa.gov.au/)

So how far did we get in 2007?

- We have had our 2nd AGM which saw 4 new committee members being Michael Green (Kimberley St), Kylie Delic (Blencowe St), Jeff Dawkins (Northwood St) & Antonella DeGregoris (Kimberley St)
- The Grand Opening of Community Garden was kicked off with a well attended busy bee.
- The Committee has workshopped with the Town of Cambridge (ToC) Community Consultant to develop better lines of communication between the Council and residents.
- Participation in plans for Cowden & Holyrood Parks.
- Liaised with Main Roads & ToC on Traffic concerns.
- Investigating Carbon Neutral programmes.
- Continue to develop website as a Community resource
- Nomination for Volunteer of the Year award.

And where to in 2008?

- More traffic and parking issues .
- Creating a 'Vision' for Cambridge Street.
- Working with ToC on the review of the Town Plan.
- Keeping a keen interest in the redevelopment of Subiaco Oval

Subscribe to receive regular newsletters and Information on West Leederville now. Get to know what is happening in your area. Stay informed. Log on to www.wlra.org.au and go to 'contact us'.

Membership is free!





THE CHANGING FACE OF CAMBRIDGE STREET



The 'Coles development' opened on November 26th. Pedley's Pharmacy nears completion as we go to print with other ground floor retail outlets and 4 commercial tenants on the 1st & 2nd floors to be confirmed.



135 Cambridge Street opens mid 2008 with a mix of apartments on the upper levels and commercial tenants at ground (including travel agent)



38 Cambridge Street, consisting of 2 towers and 32 apartments is up for sale with the expectation that the new owners will proceed with the approved development. In the meantime, the current owners have engaged a contractor to clean up the site.



Cambridge Medical Centre at 178 Cambridge Street opened early next year comprising of 12 Specialist Tenants. Parking will be accessed off Connolly St.

Our new Mayor



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and our Ward Councillors



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CREATING AN IDENTITY FOR CAMBRIDGE STREET

The prospects of turning our part of Cambridge street into a 'drive to' rather than a 'drive through' have been muted for years. The big campaign for the WLRA in 2008 will be to foster "The West Leederville Village Concept"

This is an opportunity for all of us to craft a precinct that works to create a sense of place as well as a structuring a safe and stimulating environment for residents and visitors, pedestrians and commuters. The Council have acknowledged that this area has been 'under consideration' for a long time, so now is the time to provide the community support and resources to make it happen.

In the interests of getting something happening, the WLRA has drafted a preliminary concept incorporating images from locations that have undergone similar revitalization.

Mayor Simon Withers acknowledges that there is a real need to develop this strip and suggests it's a good time for residents to be thinking about what they really want. In 2008 the Council will begin a review of the Town Plan Scheme which will effect the eventual look of Cambridge Street and will evolve from close community consultation.

If you are interested and keen to be involved, you are invited to join the WLRA 'Village' working group . This is an opportunity to have input into the future of our suburb.

If you want more information regarding the Village Concept or are keen to be involved, please contact Fiona Hogg on 0417 823 539





west leederville residents association inc.

YOUR COMMUNITY GARDEN

Since germinating an idea of a community garden in mid 2006, our own Garden has progressed at an astonishing speed. We approached the local community to gauge interest, and found enthusiasm. We approached the Town of Cambridge officers and councillors, and found many keen advocates. Our formal application to use the land was only in February 2007, and earthworks were completed in time for the Inaugural Working Bee on 4th August!

The working bee was a great success, with 80 people from the local area turning up, chipping in and making new friends. The scraggly weeds at our boundaries were mercilessly outed, our shed was born, and the allotments were constructed with germanic precision. Special thanks to *Mick Bryant (BCC Contracting)* for his help with the earth works and we were all kept energised, fed and watered from donations from local businesses, including *Charlie's Corner* and *IGA Wembley*. The allotments are now looking lush and green, and some vegetables have already been harvested.

Volunteers have been busily planting and watering our fruit orchard which includes various citrus, avocados, bananas, and (hopefully soon) mangoes!

The latest is the installation of our wonderful rain water tanks kindly donated by *Pioneer Water Tanks*. A small tank installed to collect water from the shed roof was first to go in, then on Saturday 10th November, an enthusiastic group of local volunteers joined forces to build the 27500 litre water tank that now provides water over the summer for our vegetables! It currently holds water from the on-site bore, but we are still hoping to be able to purify grey water from the adjacent apartments in a few years time. This will be a terrific showcase of sustainable urban agriculture, but there is much work to be done to gain the relevant approvals and funding.

Our next move is to report our success to Council and request approval for more allotments as a conclusion for our "pilot project"

Thanks to an enormous effort by many, a bare patch of earth standing unused for more than 20 years, in just a few short months has grown into a vibrant community resource, lush with organic vegetables, herbs, fruit and flowers! Our sincere thanks to Peg Davies and Sue Taylor for motivating everyone to achieve this.



Traffic Management

Traffic conditions in West Leederville have remained high on the agenda for 2007 and look to be the same for 2008.

The community welcomed early press statements from the new mayor, Mr. Simon Withers, who supports the need to improve the amenity of Cambridge Street in the West Leederville area. The WLRA met independently with Main Roads WA and Council to push for major enhancements to this zone. The responses were positive but 'due process' and Council resources will play a significant part in the timing. Supported by the WLRA, local residents have also asked the Council to consider a 50 kph speed zone in our part of Cambridge Street – a worthy proposition but one that no doubt needs to be considered as part of a thorough review of traffic in this area. Similarly, the issue of pedestrian safety in this area has again raised the possibility of a pelican crossing somewhere between Kimberley and Northwood streets.

Residents would also be aware that work is now complete on the traffic islands to Cambridge Street at the McCourt, Northwood and Kimberley Street intersection. Whilst most residents are disappointed that these have been adopted in lieu of other preferred options, we can't ignore that these measures are being undertaken to improve safety at these intersections. The Council has promised close monitoring of changes to traffic on completion and anticipate having preliminary data by the end of March.

In the meantime, Council continue with their efforts to construct a roundabout at Railway and Southport Streets, which is generally agreed, will reduce rat running through nearby residential streets.





Website Update

The WLRA has been founded on the need to get quick and simple access to the residents/members whilst acknowledging the time constraints of our busy lifestyles. Through a growing e-mail network this has been achieved with great success and we can now communicate with our membership at a time and place convenient to our members without the need to attend meetings.

With the sponsorship of **Webfirm**, we continue to provide our fabulous website providing everyone with access to all sorts of WLRA information and links to community news. It's also a great place for you to send your comments and concerns. If you haven't been there yet, click here to get an eyeful!

www.wlra.org.au

If you don't have e-mail access, information is available in hardcopy on request. (Kim 9388 6885)

PARKS AND GARDENS

Having consulted with local residents, Council will be undertaking the following works in the coming financial year:

Cowden Park - playground improvements inclusive of a shade shelter, a path from Northwood Street to the playground/toilets, a new barbecue facility, new fencing tree planting/pruning and landscaping. The works are programmed to be undertaken this financial year and can be viewed online at:

<http://www.cambridge.wa.gov.au/projects/cpip>

Holyrood Park - playground improvements including its relocation to a safer spot, shade shelter, a new barbecue facility adjacent the building, tree planting, landscaping, irrigation works, including the relocation of the bore away from the playing area, new park access paths including an entrance from the rear of the Town Hall and the Memorial Gardens. The works are programmed to be undertaken this financial year and can be viewed on line at:

<http://www.cambridge.wa.gov.au/projects/hrp>

Neighbourly tips!

How can we help our neighbours? - Look out for each others property, share parking spaces in driveways, swap phone numbers in case of an emergency.

Have you met your neighbour yet?



Did You Know?

- Of the 1794 people travelling to work from West Leederville today, 935 of them will drive and only 69 of those cars will have a passenger. Well done to the 189 who cycled or walked, and for the 7 of you on motorbikes or scooters, please take extra care! www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/d3310114.nsf/Home/census
- If you don't have an e-mail address, the WLRA will post to you any important information, all you have to do is call 'Data Girl' (Kim) 9388 6885 and provide postal details.
- The WLRA membership now exceeds 30% of West Leederville households.
- There is a Council Community Perceptions Survey able to be viewed on their website go to www.cambridge.wa.gov.au/information/css
- That free bin stickers are available from the ToC promoting slower speeds in our streets. These can also be collected from Charlie's Corner cnr Woolwich & St Leonard's Ave.
- That membership to the WLRA is free!
- That school dads meet regularly at JB O'Reilly's every Monday night.
- That Council can assist with graffiti removal...call 9347 6000.
- The Council offers a free child restraint fitting service.
- That there is a Councillors' Report on the WLRA web site.

Thanks again to all the residents and ratepayers of West Leederville

Our Community Garden is for everyone to use and enjoy. We are situated between the West Leederville Bowling Club and the flats on Cambridge Street. Come down on Saturdays between 2-4 for a sticky beak. Special Thanks go to Tim Silbert & Saul Wendt for their continuous digging of the trenches and to Greg Toy for his handy work with the reticulation and daily watering regime.