



Area 98 Aranda – Cook Newsletter April 2009

Neighbourhood Watch

“Neighbours working together to promote a sense of well being, safety and security”

Serving Aranda, north-east Cook & Jamison since 1986

Zone:
Your Zone Leader Is:

Coming Events

Sun 19 Apr 9.00 - 12.30. Friends of Aranda Bushland will meet in the Snow Gums area off William Hovell Drive. The group will do their bi-ennial step-point monitoring survey and have a general tidy-up of all our previous plantings. They need to make sure the plants are well protected against kangaroos for the winter and to remove all unnecessary stakes and plastic from the area. Everyone is welcome to help and morning tea will be as usual at 10.30am and **there will be pikelets and proper coffee!**
Enquiries 6251 1345

Wed 6 May 7:30. Neighbourhood Watch Meeting and “ACTEW Water Conservation” presentation in the Function Room at West’s Southern Cross Club Macquarie. Open to members of the public. All are welcome.

Sat 9 May 8:30. Friends of Mt Painter work party from 8:30am to noon. Come to the water tanks and follow the red markers west along the track below the tanks.

Garbage and Recycling



RECYCLING

Aranda:	23 Apr 7 May 21 May
Cook:	16 Apr 30 Apr 14 May

Bins should be placed out at 7am. Inquiries phone Cleanaway on 6260 1472 for recycling or 6260 1547 for garbage.

Waste Tip: Concerned about getting rid of your mobile phone. Don’t just throw it into the bin. Mobilemuster is the official recycling program of the mobile phone industry and this free service takes back all mobile phone components including handsets, batteries, chargers and accessories. Just hand in your old mobile at any of the 60 drop off points in the ACT, including your local Telstra, Optus, Vodafone,

3Store, Allphones, Fones Zone, Crazy Johns and Cartridge World stores as well as ANZ Branches.
http://www.tams.act.gov.au/live/Recycling_and_Waste/Recycling_Options_in_the_ACT/recycling_guide#mobile_phones

Save Water For Life

ACTEW’s Water Conservation Office will be coming to the Neighbourhood Watch Meeting at 7:30pm on Wed 6 May 09 to talk about water conservation in the home and garden. So come along and get some tips on how to save water as well as information on the products and assistance the ACT Government provides to help us make the most out of that precious drop.



Your Local Agent

If you are thinking of selling or would just like an update on the Market situation, please contact me for an obligation free appraisal - I am only five minutes away.

Marie King

Tel: 6251 9111
Mob: 0411 793 937
mk@bel.peterblackshaw.com.au



PETER BLACKSHAW
MARKETING QUALITY PROPERTY

Thank You Richard



On Wednesday, 1 December 2004 Richard Landsdowne took over as the Coordinator for Area 98 Aranda Cook Neighbourhood Watch. Over the next seven months Richard progressively took over the roles of Secretary, Membership Secretary and Newsletter Editor. Although the role of Secretary was later taken over by Patricia Moth,

Richard's commitment to Neighbourhood Watch never wavered and he chaired meetings, produced the monthly newsletter, represented the area at ACT Neighbourhood Watch Meetings and organised a variety of other activities, including the local clean-ups. In February this year increased family commitments required more of Richard's time and he resigned his position as the coordinator. Although he continues to be a Zone leader and distribute the newsletter

Police Appeal for Witnesses after Elderly Lady Injured

For those of you who may have missed the media release in mid March, ACT Policing is appealing for witnesses to an incident at the Jamison Shopping Centre in Macquarie on Monday 16 March that left an elderly lady in hospital with minor injuries.

About 12.20pm, the 74-year-old victim was withdrawing money from the Commonwealth Bank automatic teller machine at the Shopping Centre when a woman behind her attempted to take possession of her wallet.

A struggle occurred, with several members of the public coming to the victim's aid. The offender then left the area on foot, running past the Commonwealth Bank and the Australia Post office, toward the bus stop on Bowman Street.

Police believe the female offender dropped her white Nokia mobile phone during the struggle. The phone was picked up by a female member of the public, who left the scene prior to police arrival. Police are appealing for this female to make contact with them in relation to the incident.

The female offender is described as Caucasian, about 5'3" (160cm) tall and about 25 years of age, with a slim build and brown hair just below the collar. She was wearing light coloured tracksuit pants with writing on the rear and a tight coloured T-shirt.

Police are urging anyone who may have witnessed this incident, or who knows the identity of either of these women, to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or www.act.crimestoppers.com.au.

Sidewalk Safety

Despite the heat and lack of water over the summer months, trees and shrubs continue to grow and in some areas this has become a problem with access to footpaths. Overhanging limbs and bushes can pose a threat to the safety of passers-by. Homeowners are often unsure as to who is responsible for keeping footpaths clear, and what the requirements actually are.

Canberra Urban Parks and Places have provided the following advice. "Foliage which is on the nature strip, or growing on your lease and overhangs a footpath, must be pruned to maintain a minimum height of 2 meters clear above the footpaths and pruned back in line with the edge of the footpath (including hedges and groundcovers). For safety purposes, pedestrians must have access to the entire width of the footpath."

So basically if your property is bordered by a footpath you are responsible for trimming back any foliage that juts out over the path up to a height of 2 meters. To ensure that the shrubbery on your property does not encroach onto pavement space, take a few minutes and walk along the path to check. City Rangers do periodic checks from time to time so don't be caught out.

Over the next few issues of this newsletter the topics of street trees and nature strips, what can and can't be done,

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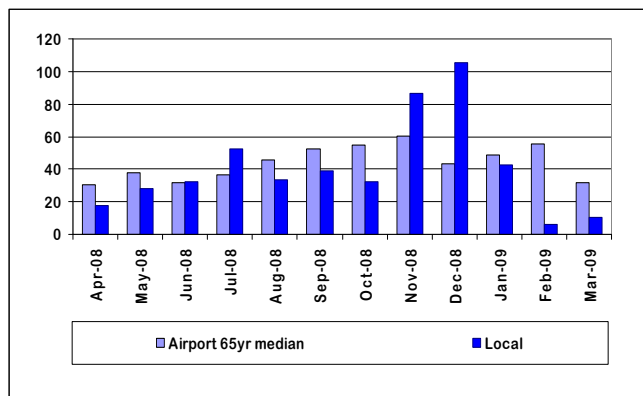
to his neighbours he no longer takes a leadership role. Richard we wish you well and offer our thanks for all the fine work you did for us.

Special Thanks to the Grahams

The Aranda Cook Neighbourhood Watch Committee would like to give a special thanks to John and Venetia Graham for their commitment to Neighbourhood Watch over many years. The Grahams, of Aranda, were early members of our area's Neighbourhood Watch and were Zone Leaders for many years. They also took on the responsibility of delivering newsletters to three zones. However, after a long period of service to Neighbourhood Watch and other organisations in the community they are no longer able to continue with their delivery round. So thank you for your tireless effort over the years and we hope you will continue to enjoy reading the newsletter for many years to come.

will be dealt with. If you have any concerns now, contact Canberra Connect on 13 22 81 with your query or for more information .visit their website at <http://www.canberraconnect.act.gov.au/CAP/accesspoint/c?action=menuHome>

Water Matters



For the calendar year 2009 our rainfall total is now 65.9 mm over 9 days; slightly more than in 2004 but much less than all years since then.

Our recorders collected the following:

- Dexter St, Cook - 10.5;
- Mirning Cr, Aranda - ;
- Noala St, Aranda - 11; and
- Bindaga St, Aranda - 9.6.

Previous March totals were:

- 30.5 mm over 7 days in 2008
- 40.4 mm over 7 days in 2007
- 224.8 mm over 3 days in 2006
- 61.8 mm over 6 days in 2005
- 3.5 mm in 1 day in 2004.

Dam levels in at the end of March were at 45.15%

Water Tip: If you are looking for a way to use your "Greywater" for the garden the simplest way is to make the transfer as direct as possible. You can do this by using a bucket or basin in your sink or shower, attach a diversion hose to your washing machine discharge hose, fit the laundry tub with an approved hand operated diversion valve to gravity feed water to your garden or have a plumber fit a similar approved diversion valve to your bathroom waste pipe. Remember to ensure that the water you use does not contain any harmful fats or detergents.

More water saving ideas for your home and garden can be found at ACT Government's water Strategy website: www.thinkwater.act.gov.au/

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Aranda Cook NHW Takes Action

At the 2007 Aranda Cook Neighbourhood Watch Annual General Meeting concerns were raised to about the welfare of the trees at the corner of Redfern St and Bowman St (Opposite BP service station) due to the use of the area for an overflow car park. There was also some disquiet about drivers creating a traffic hazard by entering and leaving the area over the curb at a busy intersection. As a result, in early 2008, Richard Landsdowne, the Coordinator for Area 98, wrote to the Minister for Territory and Municipal Services, expressing residents concerns and suggesting a number of ways to alleviate the problem.



In May 2008 Richard was advised that contracts for the installation of seventy meters of log barriers along the Bowman Street corner had been let by Parks Conservation and Land. Also longer term plans for more permanent barriers, the mulching of the area and landscaping were underway. Now the landscaping work itself is well underway and the grove of trees is protected, unauthorised parking has stopped and mulch is steadily taking place of hard packed dirt with a few straggling grasses.



Bill Packard 1925-2009

It is with great sadness I report the passing of a very special person, Bill Packard.

Bill was diagnosed with colon cancer a few months ago and underwent surgery but this was followed by liver cancer from which he died.

Bill lived his life caring for people, his family, students and in later years the elderly. He was master of Bruce Hall, ANU from 1961 to 1987. When he retired Bill became a passionate volunteer, working for Northside Community Centre, the ACT Palliative Care Society and Friends of Aranda Bushland among others.

He was an incredibly generous man with the capacity to see and acknowledge the best in people; he gave of his time, his gifts and his energy with a complete freedom.

Bill was convenor of Friends of Aranda Bushland for the year 2003-4 until he went off to China on one of his many travels. We loved Bill for his happy disregard for rules. Sun protection was treated with disdain. On how many summer days would he turn up in his shorts and perhaps a singlet or may be not even that. We will remember Bill at FoAB particularly for his provision of morning teas for our work parties. Morning tea went from bought biscuits and hot water and instant coffee or tea bags to a spread fit for a king. Every morning there was quiche, both vegetarian and with bacon, a mountain of pikelets with cream and a great array of home-made jams and coffee made from the best beans, all served with Bill's smile and laughter.

Bill we shall miss you and know we will never replace you, but most of all we thank you for what you gave us and what you have made us as a group.

The Ideal Birthday Gift

If you have been struggling to find a suitable gift for birthdays, then the answer is the:

"Canberra Entertainment Book"

It costs just \$50 and is packed full of discount vouchers for dining, hotel accommodation, theatres, sports and retail services, with 25% to 50% off, or two-for-one offers. New deals include \$5 off \$100 Coles gift cards, and \$10 admissions to Dendy cinemas.

It is possible to recover the book's cost through savings made after paying for two restaurant meals.

Furthermore, for every book sold Aranda-Cook Neighbourhood Watch will receive \$10. This has been a constant source of annual income for funding neighbourhood watch activities over the past seven years. The latest book has just been launched and is valid through to June 2010.

Please contact Peter Phillips on 6251 2351 to place your order and he will deliver the book to your home. (As at 1 April there were 11 books remaining in stock.)



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