

COCKBURN

JUNE 2018

# SOUNDINGS

YOUR CITY OF COCKBURN  
MAGAZINE



Find out more  
on page four.

*Go  
Green!*



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### On the cover

Spearwood resident Mark Layton going green with his three children Alicia, Patrick and Olivia. Read more on page 4.



## Message from the Mayor

There has never been a better time to learn about the sustainability initiatives and opportunities available across our City. If you are already an avid supporter then please continue to share the sustainability message with neighbours, family, friends and work colleagues. All sectors of our community are able to contribute whether it be your home, school, club or community association, small to medium business, industry or elsewhere where decisions about how best to address the many aspects of sustainability are part of the conversation.

The City adopted its Sustainability Strategy 2017-2022 and Sustainability Policy in November 2017 with a focus on a sustainable future economically, socially and environmentally; including business activity, job opportunities and the sustainable use of resources. Measurable targets and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) were set by the senior managers group to support the City in achieving the sustainability outcomes articulated in the Strategic Community Plan. The KPIs are directly aligned to the Corporate Business Plan and culminate in the Sustainability Action Plan.

The strength of partnerships has never been more evident in achieving our sustainability goals.

Those partnerships have seen projects commence or planned, including the Armadale Road Bridge with links to the freeway, the widening of Armadale Road, roadworks across the City including Russell and Hammond Roads, Spearwood Avenue widening and bridge works, Karel Avenue and bridgeworks, public transport improvements with the METRONET (inclusive of the extension of the Thornlie line to Cockburn Central), more pedestrian and cycle paths, actions to minimise water consumption in our parks, solar panels on many of the City's facilities, geo thermal at Cockburn ARC, waste minimisation at the Henderson Waste Recovery Park, and the progressive introduction of the three bin rollout.

I encourage you to read the information on sustainability as you turn the pages of this edition of Cockburn Soundings.

[cockburn.wa.gov.au/sustainabilityreport](http://cockburn.wa.gov.au/sustainabilityreport)

*Logan K Howlett*

Logan K Howlett, JP  
Mayor

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Mobile: 0407 337 650

[Lkhowlett@cockburn.wa.gov.au](mailto:Lkhowlett@cockburn.wa.gov.au)

## Your Say

Is there a burning community issue you'd like to talk about, or perhaps praise a local group or club? Write a letter to the Soundings Editor and you could see it published in the next edition.

✉ Send your comments to [communications@cockburn.wa.gov.au](mailto:communications@cockburn.wa.gov.au) or refer to the back page for our postal address.

## Comment on Cockburn

Visit [comment.cockburn.wa.gov.au](http://comment.cockburn.wa.gov.au) to see what projects are open for comment and feedback.



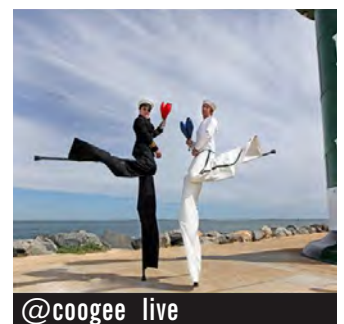
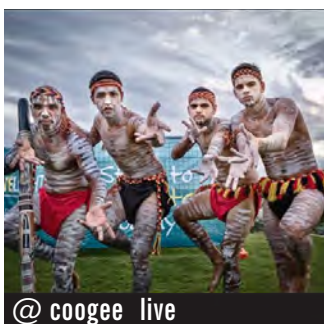
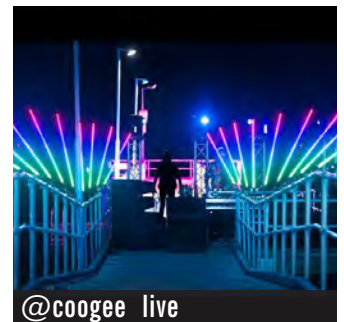
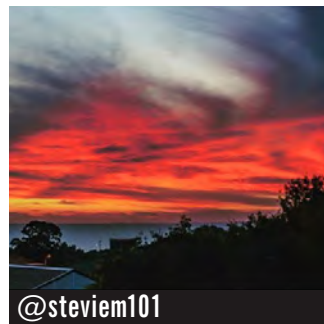
## Social channels

[facebook.com/cityofcockburn](https://facebook.com/cityofcockburn)  
[twitter.com/cityofcockburn](https://twitter.com/cityofcockburn)  
[instagram.com/cityofcockburn](https://instagram.com/cityofcockburn)

## Contact us

T: 08 9411 3444  
 E: [customer@cockburn.wa.gov.au](mailto:customer@cockburn.wa.gov.au)

## Your Cockburn life on social



📷 Share your Cockburn life moment on Instagram with the hashtag [#cityofcockburn](https://www.instagram.com/cityofcockburn)





Mark with his children Patrick, Olivia and Alicia in their sustainable backyard

# Easy steps to a zero-waste home, reducing your household waste

Whether it's leftover oyster shells or dog bones, read how avid recycler Mark Layton has found ways to recycle just about every possible waste item that comes out of his Spearwood home.

## What does recycling look like in your home?

We started with just a worm farm and separating our waste. Once we got that sorted, we got a compost bin and soon after that we were finding solutions for the things that don't go into a compost bin.

We have a small lidded plastic container in our kitchen for all scraps and leftovers, which is then transferred into the compost bin or worm farm. We've got three kids and as much as I try, they don't always eat everything on their plate! Everything that comes from our compost bins and from

our worm farm goes straight back into our garden here.

## I want to reduce my waste. Where do I start?

When you get your new third bin from the council (being rolled out across Cockburn until 2020 [cockburn.wa.gov.au/3bins](http://cockburn.wa.gov.au/3bins)), the easiest thing to do straight away is to collect anything from your garden that is organic and place it in the lime green-lidded bin. All of that will be turned into compost on a commercial scale.

When it comes to recycling, our job is to make sure we put the right item in the right bin so that it can get to the place where it can be reused. And if you're not sure just ask your neighbour, phone the council, or look it up online. Every council is a bit different about what you can recycle, but general items I think

most people are aware of the basics: cans, plastic, cardboard and paper. And if you've got an item that you're unsure of, don't be afraid to call the manufacturer. I've sent emails to companies asking what their packaging is made of and they usually come back to me pretty quickly.

Once you do that, you can look at setting up a worm farm or a compost bin. But that will depend on how much space you have.

## How did you get started with your worm farms?

I went to a City of Cockburn workshop a few years ago and they offered a subsidy for the cost of the worm farm, which worked out to be about half of the price.

The worm farm is a three-tiered system and you add your kitchen and garden waste on the top tier. The worms are in the middle and





Mark and Olivia with their self-made worm farm



Worms thrive on the leftovers from the Layton's kitchen

what they make, which is effectively soil, ends up in the third tier on the bottom. It does take a little bit of practice to get it right, but it works really efficiently and the worms will eat just about everything.

Worms make two things: worm juice, which is a liquid fertilizer. There's a tap at the bottom of the worm farm so you can fill up bottles and store it and add it to the garden when needed. The best thing is that it's PH-neutral, so it can't burn any plants.

The other thing worms make is castings, a dark coloured dirt. Worms don't make a huge amount, but it's really nutritious for your plants. Every couple of months, I lift one of the trays out and there will be about three or four inches of good soil and that goes into my garden. You can also mix it with some sand and make a potting mix. See pages 8-9 for details of the next worm farming workshop.

### How do you compost?

We use two different types of compost bins at home. We've got a tumbling one which is designed

to put your waste in and you tumble it around every couple of days. It's really good as it makes the compost much faster than the standard compost bins.

The other type are huge, about 400L, and they are really cheap to buy. The downside is that it takes a lot longer, maybe up to 12 months to make a good batch of compost but in saying that, we've been putting stuff into both of our bins for a year and a half and we're a family of five and we've only emptied them once in that time, so everything has managed to go into them for a year and a half and it just keeps slowly composting down.

### What do I do with that?

**Hair** – Having three kids, there is plenty of hair from drains and hairbrushes. Add this to the worm farm!

**Cooking oil** – Cool your used cooking oil and pour it into the worm farm. Wipe the pan down with a paper towel and pop that into the worm farm too – the worms will devour the lot.

**Shells and bones** – Oyster and mussel shells are made up of calcium, something that plants need a lot of. Pop the leftover shells and bones into an outdoor oven (a pizza oven or outdoor fire pit is ideal, as the smell isn't the most pleasant to do inside) and heat up to 180 degrees for a few hours. Once it has cooled down, it will break down to a powder which can then be added to your compost bin.

**Eggshells** – Dry out eggshells and crush them up by hand and sure enough, you'll have something small that you can put on your garden and vegetable beds. And it will stop snails and slugs from eating your plants as they don't like crawling across something so sharp.

**Watch the complete video series on our Facebook page every Wednesday, 6 June – 15 August at 6pm.**

Find out more at the following sites:

[cockburn.wa.gov.au/  
WasteEducation](http://cockburn.wa.gov.au/WasteEducation)

[cockburn.wa.gov.au/UseltRight](http://cockburn.wa.gov.au/UseltRight)



### Speed Date a Sustainability Expert

Each year over 500,000 Australians build and renovate homes, and many more are looking for ways to make their homes more energy efficient and lower their energy bills.

Speed Date a Sustainability Expert is a free, two-hour event where Cockburn residents can receive personalised advice from Western Australia's leading experts in sustainability, covering sustainable home design and building, solar power and battery storage, energy efficiency, sustainable gardening and water efficiency.

Sustainable architect Sid Thoo says there are many undiscovered opportunities in every home to reduce waste, generate clean energy, connect with nature and live smarter.

"Sustainability Speed Dates are a great way to get lots of different ideas about how to make your new home or renovation more sustainable," Sid says.

"It doesn't matter what stage you are at with your project; we can help. There are many cost-effective ideas you can integrate into the design of a new home or renovation, such as choosing a lighter coloured roof, facing living areas and windows to the north, installing ceiling fans and sealing up air gaps that will help make your home cooler in summer and warmer in winter."

Wednesday 11 July, Coogee Beach Surf Life Saving Club, Poore Grove, Coogee.

Register at: [sdse.ata.org.au/sdse\\_event/city-of-cockburn/](https://sdse.ata.org.au/sdse_event/city-of-cockburn/)

# 15 W SUSTA

## 15 Sustainability Grants

Grab a neighbour and apply for a sustainability grant of up to \$4,000 to kick-start an eco project in your community.  
[cockburn.wa.gov.au/grants](https://cockburn.wa.gov.au/grants)



## 1 Building a Sustainable Home

Access the sustainability checklist and design a home that is smarter and cheaper to run.  
[cockburn.wa.gov.au/sustainablehome](https://cockburn.wa.gov.au/sustainablehome)



## 14 Waterwise Verge Incentive Scheme

Register your interest to convert your verge into a waterwise haven!  
[cockburn.wa.gov.au/verge](https://cockburn.wa.gov.au/verge)

## 13 Home Eco Audit

Take advantage of our free in home audit to help reduce your energy, water and gas bills.  
[cockburn.wa.gov.au/ecoaudit](https://cockburn.wa.gov.au/ecoaudit)

## 12 Resources

Explore our range of brochures on solar power, growing local plants, waterwise gardens and more.



## 11 Sustainable Living Workshops and Events

Come along to one of the many fun-filled workshops on gardening, worm farming, smart living and more.  
[cockburn.wa.gov.au/events](https://cockburn.wa.gov.au/events)



# WAYS TO KICK START SUSTAINABILITY AT HOME



2

## Free Street Tree

Request a free street tree for your front verge. Council will select the species and cover the planting cost.  
[cockburn.wa.gov.au/verge](http://cockburn.wa.gov.au/verge)

3

## Land Owner Biodiversity Grants

Apply for a grant to protect the bushland and wildlife around your home if you are in the rural living and resource zones.  
[cockburn.wa.gov.au/grants](http://cockburn.wa.gov.au/grants)

4

## Get Wild About Wetlands

Join a talk, stalk or night walk and explore the natural wonders of Cockburn.  
[cockburn.wa.gov.au/GWAW](http://cockburn.wa.gov.au/GWAW)

5

## Travel Smart

Join bike friendly events and social rides.  
[cockburn.wa.gov.au/travelsmart](http://cockburn.wa.gov.au/travelsmart)

6

## Three Bin System

Be a Good Sort! Recycle items in the yellow-lidded bin, garden waste in the lime green-lidded bin and general waste in the red-lidded bin.  
[cockburn.wa.gov.au/3bins](http://cockburn.wa.gov.au/3bins)

8

## Worm Farms and Compost Bin Rebate

Access \$50 rebates on compost bins and subsidies on Bokashi bins and worm farms.  
[cockburn.wa.gov.au/compostsubsidies](http://cockburn.wa.gov.au/compostsubsidies)

9

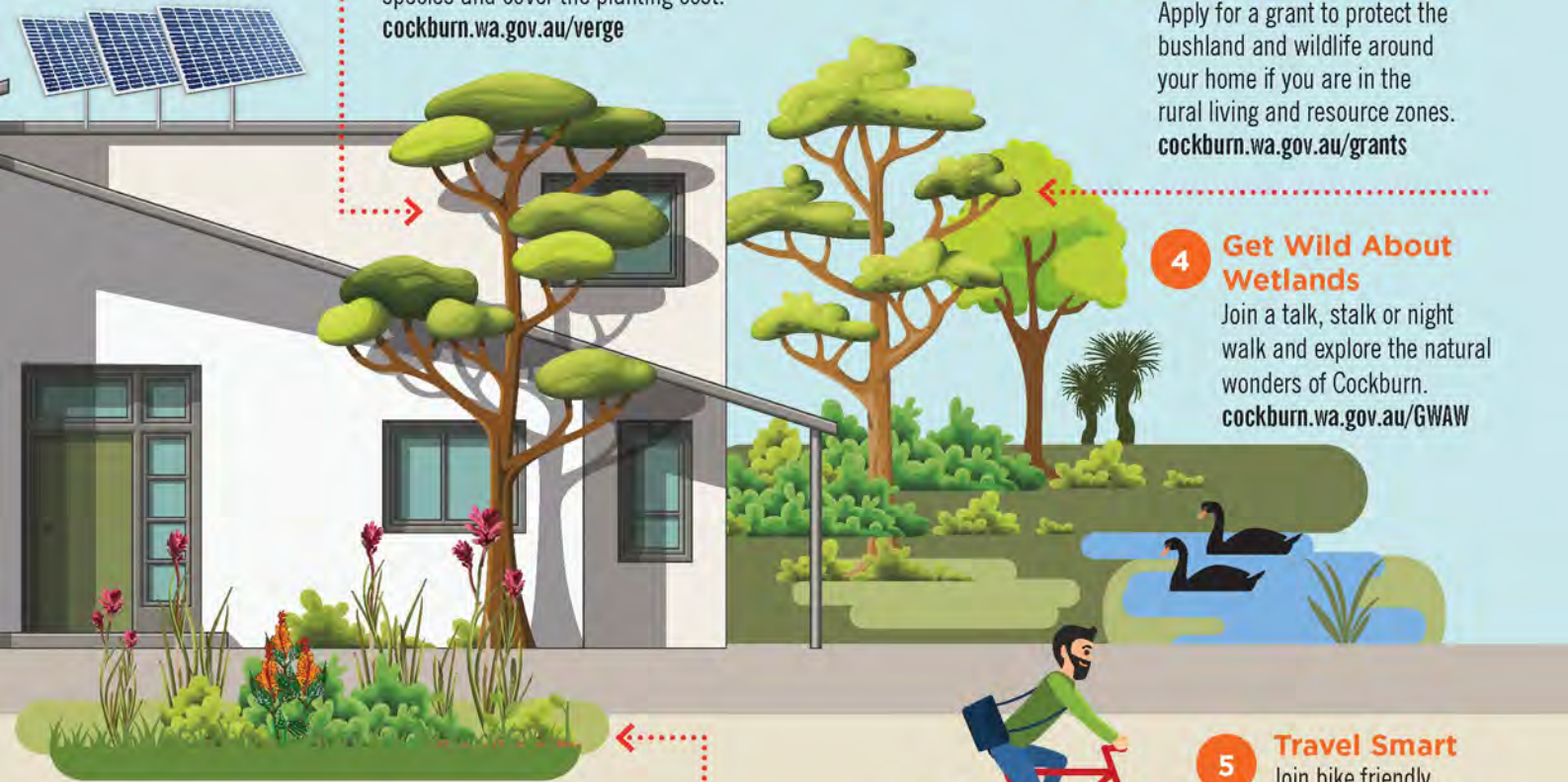
## Bird Bath Rebate

Invite a bird friend over for a drink by installing a bird bath and receive a rebate up to \$50.  
[cockburn.wa.gov.au/birdbath](http://cockburn.wa.gov.au/birdbath)

7

## Native Plant Subsidy Scheme

Green up your garden with discounted native plants available during May.  
[cockburn.wa.gov.au/PlantSubsidy](http://cockburn.wa.gov.au/PlantSubsidy)



## Free Mulch

Pick up from Henderson Waste Recovery Park – bring a ute or trailer and load yourself!

For more information on sustainable living in Cockburn, phone 08 9411 3444, email [customer@cockburn.wa.gov.au](mailto:customer@cockburn.wa.gov.au)  
All programs and rebates are subject to availability.



# Events Calendar

Find more great events and details at [cockburn.wa.gov.au/events](https://cockburn.wa.gov.au/events)



10 June

Community Planting events this winter!

## Friday 8 June

### Henderson Waste Recovery Park Tour

9.30am-midday, City of Cockburn, Spearwood, Free

Get a free, behind-the-scenes look at how waste can be minimised, reused and recycled into new products. Bookings required: [events.ticketbooth.com.au/events/24045](https://events.ticketbooth.com.au/events/24045)

## Sunday 10 June

### Community Planting Event

9am-1pm, Boodjar Moolyiny Reserve, Spearwood, Free

Bookings required: [events.ticketbooth.com.au/events/24045](https://events.ticketbooth.com.au/events/24045)

## Thursday 14 June

### Reducing Financial Stress: Surviving Events Workshop

6.30-8pm, Cockburn Seniors Centre, Spearwood, Free

If you're feeling financial pressure and need some hints on how to survive events like birthdays and Christmas, come along and learn how to get control of your finances.

Info: [cockburn.wa.gov.au/reducefinancialstress](https://cockburn.wa.gov.au/reducefinancialstress)

Bookings required: [communitydevelopment@cockburn.wa.gov.au](mailto:communitydevelopment@cockburn.wa.gov.au)

## Saturday 16 June

### Worm Farming Community Workshop

2-4pm, Aubin Grove Sport and Community Facility, \$5

Learn how to convert your kitchen food waste into fertiliser with worms. You can even purchase a subsidised worm farm.

Bookings required: [events.ticketbooth.com.au/events/24045](https://events.ticketbooth.com.au/events/24045)

## Saturday 16 June

### Dads N Tods Mud Trek

10am-midday, Boodjar Moolyiny Reserve, Munster, \$5

Grab your gumboots and get adventurous on this guided wetland walk. Discover the secret sites of Cockburn and plant a seedling on the way.

Bookings required: [events.ticketbooth.com.au/events/24045](https://events.ticketbooth.com.au/events/24045)



## Saturday 23 June

### Get Planting Cockburn Community Planting Event

9am-1pm, C.Y. O'Connor Reserve, North Coogee, Free

Bookings required: [ticketbooth.com.au/CityofCockburn](https://ticketbooth.com.au/CityofCockburn)

## Saturday 30 June

### Youth Centre School Holiday Program

Various times and prices, Cockburn Youth Centre, Success

More info: [cockburn.wa.gov.au/centreprogram](https://cockburn.wa.gov.au/centreprogram)

Book via [youth@cockburn.wa.gov.au](mailto:youth@cockburn.wa.gov.au)

## Monday 2 – Friday 13 July

### Get Wild About Wetlands (GAW) & Native ARC Holiday Programs

Hope Road, Bibra Lake, Various programs, times and cost

Bookings are essential. For Native ARC programs, book at [trybooking.com](https://trybooking.com). For GAW programs visit [ticketbooth.com.au/CityofCockburn](https://ticketbooth.com.au/CityofCockburn)

## Monday 2 July

### A Harry Potter Celebration

10am-midday, Success Public Library, Free

It's been 20 years since the release of *Harry Potter and The Chamber of Secrets* and we want to celebrate.

Book at [library.cockburn.wa.gov.au](https://library.cockburn.wa.gov.au)





16 June

Worm Farming Workshop



2 – 13 July

Get Wild these school holidays

## Tuesday 3 – Friday 13 July

### NAIDOC Week activities @ Cockburn Libraries

Various times and locations.

NAIDOC-themed school holiday activities at your local Cockburn Library.

Book at [library.cockburn.wa.gov.au](http://library.cockburn.wa.gov.au)

## Wednesday 11 July

6-8pm Speed Date a Sustainability Expert, Free

Coogee Beach Surf life Saving Club, Poore Grove, Coogee

Get the latest tips and ideas on how to reduce waste and save energy and money when designing or renovating your home. Read more on page 6.

Register at: [sdse.ata.org.au/sdse\\_event/city-of-cockburn/](http://sdse.ata.org.au/sdse_event/city-of-cockburn/)



## Because of Her, We Can

### Monday 9 July

#### NAIDOC WEEK Flag Raising Event

10am-midday, City of Cockburn, Spearwood. Free

NAIDOC Week 2018 will celebrate the invaluable contributions that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women have made and continue to make to our communities, families, our rich history and nation.

On this day, we will acknowledge their contributions with a 'welcome to country', the raising of the flag and music from Della Rae Morrison. A morning tea will be followed by a video illustrating the tapestry that makes up our community.



**BECAUSE OF HER,  
We Can!**

8-15 JULY 2018







Jess from Organic Collective

# Very Important Volunteer Card

**The Cockburn Volunteering Service invites businesses to jump on board and be part of the Very Important Volunteer (VIV) program, bringing Cockburn volunteers and businesses together to enhance community spirit.**

The VIV program is free and involves local businesses offering rewards and incentives such as discounts on goods and services to people who volunteer in the Cockburn community. The program also highlights the role that businesses play in supporting community life.

One business already participating is The Organic Collective in

Hamilton Hill. It offers 50 per cent off the delivery fee for organic, seasonal fruit and veg boxes and other goods that are supplied right to the customer's doorstep.

Being involved in the program allows participating businesses like The Organic Collective to:

- Make a significant contribution towards building a strong local, sustainable and mutually supportive community
- Be listed as a VIV business in printed, online and social media advertising
- Be mentioned in a VIV Card advertorial
- Be listed on an information sheet for holders of the VIV Card and

on the City of Cockburn website as a VIV business.

The program is currently supported by 110 Cockburn businesses. Over 1,800 VIV cards were issued last year to Cockburn volunteers. Volunteers love getting discounts at local shops, and business owners make a valuable contribution towards a good cause.

Contact the Cockburn Volunteering Service today to help increase the number of participating businesses in the VIV program.

Find out more by calling 08 9411 3444 or email [volunteering@cockburn.wa.gov.au](mailto:volunteering@cockburn.wa.gov.au)





Veronica Kilrain with her children and their Little Library

## Little Library a Big Hit

**On Freeth Road in Spearwood, you will find a bright rainbow-coloured little library on the verge of Veronica Kilrain's home. The library is filled with a range of adult and children's books all donated and available for the community to enjoy.**

The book exchange concept is part of a global phenomenon, where it is estimated that over 60,000 little libraries have popped up on front verges around the world in 80 countries, bringing people together and creating a community of readers.

As a writer and a mother of five, Veronica is passionate about using books to connect with the

community and sees the many opportunities in older suburbs such as Spearwood, where children can connect with the older generation.

"For me, I know that social integration is the key to longevity of life and mental health, for children's wellbeing and for all of us," says Veronica. "And books are a disarming way to connect with others."

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*"Books are a disarming way to connect with others."*

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"I love connecting with the Indigenous children in the park.

From time to time, we make pikelets and take them over to the park; we sit with the children and encourage them to read."

While the little library is full of books, Veronica says she has not added a single book to the collection and that the books started to appear in the library.

"Every night, my five-year-old goes down to the box and every single night we have a new story."

"We see ourselves as guardians of the library. And the most fascinating thing about the journey so far is that people are really selective about what they are putting into the library and they're really taking care of it."



## Historical Society of Cockburn

The Historical Society of Cockburn is a non-profit volunteer organisation formed by a number of local residents who have been working tirelessly since 1975 to preserve and record the City's cultural heritage.

Since the Azelia Ley Homestead in Manning Park was restored and opened as a museum in 1983, the group was given the role of custodians of the heritage-listed residence. Members open the museum to the public every Sunday afternoon, and Mondays to Wednesdays for booked group tours and school excursions.

Each year the Historical Society participates in the State Heritage Festival, holding a 'Vintage Vehicle and Market Garden Machinery Day' and 'Patchwork in the Park' event, with displays coming from far and wide. The group also host an annual high tea at the museum, giving the community an opportunity to see some of the unique local history from over 100 years ago.

If you share an interest in our local history and would like to get involved, visit [azelialemuseum.com.au](http://azelialemuseum.com.au)



Friends of Woodman Point

## Friends of Woodman Point

**The Friends of Woodman Point is an enthusiastic volunteer group, dedicated to preserving and sharing the history of the old Quarantine Station in Woodman Point.**

Plans are currently underway to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Boonah incident that occurred on 16 December 1918. This little known piece of West Australian history took place at Woodman Point at the end of World War I (WW1). Over 500 Australian WW1 soldiers infected with Spanish influenza were sent to the Isolation Hospital at the Quarantine Station. Over the years, the hospital was in operation (between 1901 and 1979), people with diseases such as smallpox, bubonic plague, leprosy and

Spanish influenza were cared for.

These days, the Isolation Hospital is a museum where visitors on a morning tea or lunch time heritage tour can learn about the unique history of the site and stories of the patients and staff that once lived there. A book about the history of Woodman Point is currently being published, which will have more information on the heritage and historical legacy of the area.

New members are welcome to get involved with Friends of Woodman Point. Meetings take place bi-monthly at the Isolation Hospital building. Contact the group by emailing [friends@woodmanpointquarantinestation.com](mailto:friends@woodmanpointquarantinestation.com) or by getting in touch on Facebook.



## Beeliar celebrating 25 years

Beeliar is celebrating its 25th year and as part of the celebrations the local residents association, the Beeliar Community Voice, is coordinating a project to renew the artwork on the side of the Beeliar Community Centre.

Get involved with the design and have your say on what the new artwork should look like by attending a workshop on Monday 18 June, 7pm, Beeliar Community Centre, 33 Lakefront Avenue.

For more information, email [hello@beeliarcommunity.com.au](mailto:hello@beeliarcommunity.com.au)





Wendy Hopper (L) and Tanya Jackson (R) from the CWA

The newly established Cockburn Branch of the Country Women's Association (CWA) aims to bring the values of the CWA into the community through friendship, fellowship and support.

The group is committed to raising funds to support a variety of causes, but also aims to have fun through craft days, social nights and sharing delicious home-baked cakes and treats at its monthly meetings.

The dedicated craft day each month provides members with a space to create, share or discuss their skills. There are plans to offer craft workshops for members as well as other fun events including high teas, quiz nights and dinners.

The Cockburn Branch of the CWA meets at a building named after the old Jandakot Primary School in Cockburn Central. General meetings are held on the second Wednesday of every month in the evening and craft days are held in the morning on the fourth Saturday of every month.

For more information email [cwacockburn@gmail.com](mailto:cwacockburn@gmail.com), call 08 9321 6041 or join [facebook.com/cwacockburn](https://www.facebook.com/cwacockburn)



Frances and Carol from Creative Shed Cockburn

## Cockburn Arts Groups

### Creative Shed Cockburn

The Creative Shed Cockburn provides a safe, supportive, friendly and creative environment for members of the Cockburn community to work on creative projects on a fortnightly basis. The group welcomes people of all ages and abilities and enjoys sharing skills that can be used at home, work or in business.

Creative Shed Cockburn is looking forward to relocating to the new Men's Shed facility in Cockburn Central. The new facility will allow for woodwork and metalwork projects, as well as existing activities already on offer including cooking, print making, gardening, clay work, sewing, writing and upcycling clothes and furniture. The Creative Shed is always interested in hearing what other creative things people would like to learn.

Find out more by contacting Frances on 0422 810 797, email [aquaheal@bigpond.net.au](mailto:aquaheal@bigpond.net.au) or join [facebook.com/creativeshedcockburn](https://www.facebook.com/creativeshedcockburn)

### Artzplace

Another group enthusiastic about art is Artzplace; a volunteer-run community group that aims to foster creativity and participation in visual arts.

Beginners and experienced artists are invited to improve their skills in a supportive environment. Sessions are held weekly on a Monday evening at the Cockburn Community and Cultural Council building in Hamilton Hill.

Other events and activities throughout the year include retreats, skill development sessions and an annual exhibition in September, which provides opportunity for members to display and sell their work.

Find out more by contacting Eunice on 08 9410 1682 or Anne on 08 9434 4309.

### Cockburn Art Group

The Cockburn Art Group is a dedicated group of artists which has been meeting for over a decade. Its first exhibition was held in 2016 and the next one is coming up in August and will include art and sculpture from a variety of different mediums including watercolour, oils, acrylic, pastels and recycled materials.

Visit the exhibition at Memorial Hall in Hamilton Hill between 10-12 August to view original artwork by local artists.

For more information contact Frances on 0422 810 797 or email [aquaheal@bigpond.net.au](mailto:aquaheal@bigpond.net.au)





Doug Rupe and Jean from Cockburn Care

## Meet Doug Rupe

**Doug has been with Cockburn Care for a year. Cockburn Care is a council-run service helping elderly people and people with disability stay independent for longer. This is his story.**

If you step into Doug Rupe's workshop you will be amazed by the incredible woodwork he has crafted.

Watching the 68-year-old Coolbellup resident move swiftly in his home workshop, you will be amazed by the intricate detail of craftsmanship from window frames to stunning grandfather clocks. Doug, blind from the age of 18 months, knows where each tool belongs in his workshop which is filled with heavy machinery and timber.

"My dad started me on woodwork. He was the jack of all trades and master of none," Doug said.

"He built our house and I just followed on from him. I did woodwork at school and my manual training teacher at Armadale High School was absolutely brilliant, he basically put me through my trade."

"I was the only kid in the school that was allowed to use the

circular saw and I was the only blind kid in the school.

"I was a cabinet maker by trade for two or three years and then I started working for the police department and did that for 41 years. Communications on the radio, fielding calls, on the switchboard and on the radio.

"The switchboards were modified once I had started, very crudely in the early days and then they became more modern and they had a bit of talking technology built into them and then the latest ones were computer operated. Again, they had talking technology."

When Doug retired in 2012, he started his own construction company from his home in Coolbellup as a hobby.

Jean from Cockburn Care has been visiting Doug fortnightly for about a year, helping him out with the cleaning.

Before Jean, Doug said he did it all himself. "Jean comes and runs the mop around and gives the house a good vacuum for anything I've missed".

"We hit it off from day one", Jean says.



## 5 Mins with Cr Stephen Pratt

### What inspired you to become a Councillor?

I first put my hand up to represent the community as I wanted to see improvements at our local shopping area in Coolbellup. I also get a lot out of helping people and meeting new people, so the role of Councillor is great for that. I'm also a big advocate for public art and better spaces for people so am actively working on that at the moment.

### What do you love most about living in the City of Cockburn?

The beach, our lakes and the people that live here are our best assets. I'm also really proud of the ARC and the benefits it brings to the community.

Cockburn Care also runs a daily social club at the centre in Hamilton Hill, providing an outlet for local seniors and those with disability to make and meet friends, exercise and learn new things.

For more information contact Cockburn Care on 08 9411 3780 or visit [cockburn.wa.gov.au/CockburnCare](https://cockburn.wa.gov.au/CockburnCare)





## 5 Mins with Cr Lara Kirkwood

### How long have you lived in the City of Cockburn?

I have lived in the City of Cockburn for eight years after making the move to be closer to my parents' rural property.

### What inspired you to become a Councillor?

In 2016 I was asked for a coffee by Cr Portelli and Cr Terblanche to talk about Cockburn Chat. They both encouraged me to run for council for a long time after that coffee. It wasn't until last year that I strongly believed the Council needed an independent community-minded person on board. I have for a long time, been working to get things done for the local area but felt I could do a lot more by becoming a Councillor.

### What do you love most about living in the City of Cockburn?

I love that we have a strong community here in Cockburn. We have a beautiful landscape, from our rural areas to wetlands and our beaches. You have everything on your door step and as the City grows in the coming years I see it only improving to a place where we can live, work and play.

## Your Elected Members



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## City of Cockburn Wards



**Central**

Beeliar, Bibra Lake, Cockburn Central, Coolbellup, Munster, North Lake, South Lake, Wattleup, Yangebup



**East**

Atwell, Aubin Grove, Banjup, Hammond Park, Jandakot, Leeming, Success, Treeby



**West**

Coogee, Hamilton Hill, Henderson, Munster, North Coogee, Spearwood






#### Contact Us

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#### Connect

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formats on request.

