



Welcome to the autumn edition of our newsletter! You are invited to add your news to our content by emailing us at: oracle@oxley.vic.au or phoning Alison on 0407 349 824. You can also contact us to have your copy of the ORacle emailed.

Oxley Residents' Assoc.

The Oxley Residents' Association has been busy working on projects nominated through our Community Plan. We are currently pursuing information related to the ongoing management responsibility and directions for Stan Allen Reserve with DEPI, Vic roads and Council. Residents interested in the future management of this reserve are encouraged to attend the next meeting to discuss this further.

The Oxley Residents' Social Committee have some fun events planned for residents this year. Keep a watch for advertisements for our high tea, garage sale, winter progressive dinner and trivia night. Dates to be advised. If you are able to help with any of these events, please contact Dianne Feldtmann on 5727 3623.

Oxley Shire Hall

You might notice some more improvements occurring around the hall grounds:

- Council have recently re-graded and gravelled the parking area.
- LED globes have been installed at the hall to reduce lighting costs.
- An extension to the shed is planned to increase space for storage of hire equipment
- A watering system is to be installed at the hall grounds to keep the grass green over summer using our tank water.
- The committee were unsuccessful in obtaining a RCOW grant to extend the heritage wire fence along the western boundary.

Please contact the Secretary Janet Heath on 0437 243 583 or email oxleyhall@gmail.com for all Hall Hire bookings.

Oxley Recreational Reserve

The Committee has successfully obtained a grant for \$25 000 from Council that will go towards works at the Reserve pavilion. Works include a roofed outdoor eating area, flooring for the kitchen, an air conditioner, an upgrade of the toilet and shower facilities and the construction of an RV dump point. The committee would like to thank Sandra McDonald for her work in putting the submission together. These upgrades will help to support the increasing popularity of the Reserve grounds and facilities for all users.

To help us plan for the future, the Committee is currently surveying people regarding their use of the Reserve. We would love for you to have your say about the future use of the reserve. The survey can be found online at www.oxley.vic.au on the Home page or please call the Committee Secretary Dianne Feldtmann on 5727 3623.

The meeting minutes and booking calendar can also be found on the web at www.oxley.vic.au/oxleyrecreationreserve.

Bush Market News

The Oxley Bush Market was very successful last year. The committee worked hard to fit in as many stalls as possible, raising \$10 300 in stall fees. In addition, the Monster Market Raffle raised \$2 324 for the Oxley Residents' Assoc. All these funds will be saved for future town projects.

Mobile Phone service

A recent article in the Chronicle titled '**Bid to fix Indi coverage**' describes the process to register a mobile phone black spot for further investigation. The Residents' Association have always fought to improve our mobile phone service coverage. Please help us to do this by submitting your name, address, provider and telephone numbers to mobilecoverage@communications.gov.au We think the more people who register from Oxley, the more chance that we have of improving our service.



Rural Street Trees

Council are responsible for maintaining rural street trees. Rural street trees are trees that are planted on nature strips and roadsides within the 80km/hr limits of our township.

Before **planting a new tree/shrub on a nature strip or roadside**, you are required to seek approval from Council. Council representatives will ensure that the tree/shrub is appropriate for the location.

Council are also responsible for **maintaining rural street trees in Oxley township** and regularly undertake pruning and the removal of dead or diseased trees. Council can be contacted for assistance with pruning street trees on individual properties where required.

Council has a budget for the **provision and maintenance of rural street trees for 2014** and is keen to work with interested community organisations to help plant trees/shrubs in parklands (e.g. Oxley Memorial Park, Stan Allen Reserve) and to develop a co-ordinated plan for roadsides/nature strips in town. Residents would have to help in the watering and maintenance of these planting for the initial establishment period of two years. Planting would be undertaken in Autumn 2014.

Contact the Council Customer Services front desk 5722 0888 to lodge a request for assistance. For specific information about planting new rural street trees, please contact Geoff Riddock (Arborist for Amenity/Parklands), or Scott Draper (Sustainability Officer for remnant vegetation and native plantings).

Council have produced a guide titled 'Managing Urban and Rural Street Trees'. A small number of this publication has been left at the Oxley Shop for collection if you are interested in finding out more information.

If you are interested in being part of a program for planting new street trees in Oxley or our parks/reserves, please contact Sally Day on 5727 3616 as soon as possible.

Oxley Fire Brigade News

I commend the folk of the Oxley area for their continued good work in preparing their properties, with few exceptions. There is sometimes some confusion about the difference between the "Fire Danger Period" and "Days of Total Fire Ban". People should note that during the Fire Danger Period, it is not OK to burn off without a written permit, even if we have had some rain. If in doubt, brigade members can explain, or people can visit the CFA website to find the "Can I, Can't I?" form (www.cfa.vic.gov.au) or find phone numbers to direct questions to.

Once again, the brigade extends the call to community members who are interested in joining the brigade. It is worth noting that the average age of members across CFA is about 54 years old, and we need to enlist the support of those newer members of our community who have capacity to support their community through joining the brigade. We are especially keen to see people who have capacity to help during normal working hours. Contact brigade captain, Tony Ciavarella during business hours 5727 3384.

Other News

Have you noticed the new **Travellers Aid rest stop** in the King George Gardens in Wangaratta? Services include refurbished toilet facilities, baby change facilities, comfortable breastfeeding area, public transport information, low cost mobility equipment hire and personal care for people with a disability. phone 1300 704 530 or see www.travellersaid.org.au/travellers-aid-wangaratta or for more information.

Upcoming Meetings

Oxley Residents' Association & Oxley Shire Hall Committee – 3 June 2014, 7.30pm

Oxley Recreation Reserve Committee – 22 April & 27 May, 7:30pm at the Reserve Clubrooms.