



**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY APRIL 30, 2003  
AT 7.30PM IN THE WILSON COMMUNITY HALL

1. WELCOME: **Maria Valli**, President, in the chair, commenced the meeting at 7.40pm and welcomed all present to the meeting. The President thanked the Special guest Speakers, the **City of Canning Mayor Dr Mick Lekias** and **Kelly Exell**, from the Swan Catchment Council. The President thanked the invited guests for their attendance and interest in the WRRRA Annual General Meeting. These were: **Executive Officers of the City Canning, Acting Sergeant Ray Anderson** from the Cannington Police Station and the **Mason Ward Councillors: Mr Lindsay Elliott, Mr George Beacroft and Mr Joe Delle Donna**.
2. NOTICE: President presented notice of AGM details advertised in Canning Times Community Newspaper, 15th April, 2003.
3. PRESENT: All present were asked to sign attendance sheets, however, only 23 people, including two special guests did sign. The four City of Canning Executive Officers present, five WRRRA committee members and one invited guest did not sign attendance sheet. Therefore 33 people were present – 25 members and 8 non-members.
4. INTRODUCTION: The President introduced the 2002/2003 WRRRA committee members present.
5. APOLOGIES: Mr Morrison (City of Canning), Dee Schwass, John Noble, Paul Duncan and Ted Foreman.
6. MINUTES: The minutes of the AGM held on Wednesday 1st May 2002 were received as a true record on the motion of Maurice Winter and seconded by Bernadette Hunt.
7. BUSINESS ARISING From the 2002 AGM Minutes:  
The Chair explained that many of the issues arising would be dealt with during the course of the meeting, either as Formal Reports or in general business.
8. COMMUNICATIONS:  
Relevant to AGM: Canning Times Community Newspaper Notices for the AGM were published on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> April 2003 in the Calendar Section.
9. REPORTS:  
1. The President's Report is attached in the Reports section.  
  
The Motion to receive the report was moved by Maurice Winter and seconded by Max Zeller.

2. The Treasurer reported that the WRRRA 2003 income was \$2,713 and the expenditure was \$2,865, rendering a net loss of \$152. However, with a credit balance carried forward from 2002 of \$2,016, the WRRRA Anglican Deposit Fund at 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2003 was in Credit Balance of \$1,919.

The Motion to receive the Treasurer's report was moved by Julie Parrish and seconded by Maurice Winter.

3. The Treasurer presented an Audited Report. The Report contained a Statement of Financial Performance, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cashflows and an Audit Opinion on the Accounts.

The Motion to receive the Auditor's Report was moved by Maurice Winter and seconded by Max Zeller

4. The Hot Issue Reports for 2002/2003 containing the issues raised at the last AGM (1<sup>st</sup> May 2002) and dealt with by WRRRA Committee during 2002/2003 was presented as follows:

- The Fern Road Traffic/Speed report was presented by Max Zeller. The report sights the Council's response to WRRRA concerns regarding, Council trucks on Fern Road, parking at Riverton Bridge, footpath access and safety along Fern Road and utilizing traffic volume and speed counter initiatives on Fern Road.
- The report on the Roe Hwy/Stage 8 issue was presented by Maria Valli. It outlined the WRRRA activities in Save Our Suburbs campaign over the last year.
- Sewerage needs in a small part of Wilson has received attention by WRRRA and the numerous letters and lobbying activities were outlined in Maria Valli's report.
- An update on the Dual Use Pedestrian/Cycle Path around Canning River Regional Park was presented by Max Zeller. WRRRA was pleased to report that the Council was supportive of the plan to complete Dual-Use Path around the Canning River Regional Park through Wilson.
- Neighbourhood Nuisance issues were addressed by WRRRA in a number of ways. Maria Valli explained the multi faceted and community based approach promoted by the organization.
- Underground Power requests resulted in WRRRA approaches to Council. Maria Valli's report outlines future activities.
- High Density Developments in Wilson are producing a variety of responses, however, the WRRRA members have expressed concern in regards to road safety, adequate or inadequate infrastructure. Maurice presented the report explaining WRRRA future plans at this stage.
- The Homeless Youth House in Parkhill Way produced concerns at the last AGM. In his report, Maurice explained that the concerns were unfounded and that the house is operating efficiently and producing positive effects for our community.

- The Public Transport report (or rather the lack of public transport within the local Wilson area to Carousel and the City) was presented by Julie Parrish. There are a few organisations involved at present and the WRRR Committee will be pursuing this matter further in 2003/04 with the appropriate parties.
- The Gull Service Station Site and Bore Contamination Report was presented by Max Zeller. The property is currently up for sale and bore monitoring is continuing.

**Refer to the Reports Section (attached) for further details.**

## 10. GUEST SPEAKERS:

### **Mayor of the City of Canning, Dr. Mick Lekias**

The Mayor of the City of Canning, Dr. Mick Lekias, was called upon to address the AGM. In her welcome to the Mayor, the President, explained that it was his 50th Wedding Anniversary and thanked him enormously for fulfilling this commitment to the WRRR and how much it was appreciated.

The Mayor's address referred to his pride in the City of Canning and the achievements of the Council during the last 12 months, including:

- The City's objective to be debt free achieved in 2000/2001.
- The completion and success of the Riverton Leisureplex.
- Social support for younger people with disabilities increased by 3000 hours per annum.
- Youth Centre at Sevenoaks College.

The Mayor also mentioned the Leach / Roe Highway Issue and the outlined the Council's campaign to ensure that Roe Highway Stage 8 is constructed to help reduce heavy traffic within the City of Canning.

The Mayor also touched on some of the issues concerning Wilson and adjoining areas, including:

- Underground Power submissions (for adjoining areas).
- Community concerns re: Road Traffic volumes and speed.
- The installation of traffic controls and the council's recently announced "Speed Alert Device" initiative.
- Extensions to the dual purpose pathway proposed in 2003/2004 draft budget, including the section along Fern Rd to Bungaree Rd. To be built at a cost of \$135,000.
- Planning issues relating to completion of the path to Riverton Bridge.
- Residential Zoning Schemes (affecting Wilson).
- Gull Service Station site.

The Mayor also mentioned that 33 local residents received Centenary Medals, including the Mason Ward Councillors, Mr Joe Della Donna and Mr Lindsey Elliott. He commended the high level of community spirit and commitment exhibited by residents of the City of Canning.

Finally, the Mayor formally acknowledged and thanked the Executive Officers of the City for attending the AGM.

**Refer to the Reports section for the complete text of the Mayor's address.**

Maria Valli thanking the Mayor for his talk and introduced the second guest speaker.

**Kelly Exell, Swan Catchment Council**

*Formerly co-ordinator for Canning Plain Catchment Group (CPCG)*

Kelly Exell presented an informative power point presentation, depicting the fragile position of the Perth Water Systems and the constant challenges they are forced to meet.

**Refer to the Reports section for an outline of Kelly's report.**

Maria and those present thanked Kelly for the presentation.

## 11. GENERAL BUSINESS

The President declared the floor open to General Business.

### **Footpaths:**

- a) Anne Drake questioned an Canning Executive Officer (Silvio) in regards to the quality of the paths in Wilson. The Officer explained that they were aware of the problems and that bitumen was a better surface for bikes and City must be mindful of the effect of herbicides used to eradicate weeds on the Catchment area.

### **Council Depot:**

- b) Hal Spencer, a resident of 27 years on Leach Highway, expressed concern at the Council traffic being re-routed to Leach Highway rather than Fern Rd, which would increase further the volume of trucks on Leach Highway.
- c) Maria Valli suggested that the Council Depot be moved because the Council vehicles were now using Braibrise to exit Leach and enter Fern Road. The Executive Officer (Silvio), explained that it was unlikely that the Depot will be moved, due to estimated cost of \$4.5 to \$5 million. A feasibility study is planned. Bernadette Hunt suggested that income from sale of land be included in study.

### **Traffic Volume and Safety Issues:**

- d) Jeff Rees questioned the figures of traffic counts on Fern Road, which were used by the Mayor in his address. Silvio answered the query. He acknowledged the figures were out-to-date. He also explained that Fern and Riley Roads were classified as local distributor roads.
- e) Jason Durbin raised the issue of safety in regards to volume of traffic. He spoke about the crest of a hill on Fern Road, which is potentially hazardous and requested that on 1 or 2 days a week formal observations be made in regards to dangerous driving antics. He also mentioned that many of the developments on Fern Road, were for the elderly; and commented on the ineffective traffic controls already in position on Fern Road.
- f) Jean Durbin mentioned the dangerous driving on Watts Road.
- g) WRRRA mentioned that, a Police Officer from Cannington, explained that 60-70km in a 50km zone did not warrant traffic police control. Despite the fact that 60% of motorists were travelling in excess of the speed limit. The WRRRA Committee undertook to pursue this matter (as this response is clearly not acceptable).

- h) Bernadette Hunt mentioned that speeding is problem at Riverton Bridge.
- i) City of Canning Officers explained that City of Canning is planning to purchase a mobile “Speed Alert Device” as part of a public campaign to reduce speeding in the City. It is hoped that the device will be used along Fern Road. It will also be available to schools and community groups.
- j) The WRRRA formally requested that the Council capture and publish the data collected by this device for further analysis (and action).
- k) Jeff Rees voiced a problem (which WRRRA have previously raised) to the Executive Officers, regarding the ineffectiveness of the design of current speed control devices along Fern Road.
- l) Lindsay Elliott mentioned, that at this stage, he believed that the proposed “Speed Alert Device” would be the most effective option to change driver behaviour.

**Underground Power:**

- m) Hal Spencer raised the issue of the cost of underground power. Silvio responded to the question, stating that \$4,500 was the base figure for underground power. He explained the criterion of selection by Western Power. Physical and electrical contiguity and they work in fronts. Melville and Albany were two pilot areas. Rossmoyne was selected on the basis of affordability and the selection criteria. All present were assured that extensive canvassing would be conducted before any commitments on underground power would be pursued.
- n) There was some discussion about the underground power issue, which revolved around where it would be feasible and the demographics of Wilson.

**Recycling:**

Les Durbin Commended the City on the Recycling Plant.

**Recreational Complex on the North Side of the River:**

Paul Merlo, an executive officer of the City, explained that Consultants are investigating the need for a multipurpose facility on the north side of the river. Issues being considered include: justification, funding, the age of Queens Park Recreation Centre location and public transport requirements. At present the Council is considered several sites North of the River or the City Centre Area (near Wharf and Sevenoaks St). Council has commenced allocation of funds for this project over the next 5-7 years.

**Aircraft Noise:**

Jason Durbin commented on the decrease in aircraft noise. Stewart Devenish and Joe Della Donna continue to work hard and question the Federal Minister on the current and future issues. Currently Perth Airport caters for 85,000 to 90,000 aircrafts a year, however, projected figures forecast 350,000. Stewart emphasized that Noise Abatement Procedures and Altitudes were a Priority for the City.

**High Density Zoning:**

High Density Zoning Issues were raised. Stewart Devenish, responded with a brief overview of the rules. R coding determines the number of dwellings permitted. R17.5 was changed to R30. North of Leach Hwy 17.5 was changed to R30 and South of Leach Hwy went from 17.5 R25. Base Coding R17.5 is average lot area of 571m<sup>2</sup>. R25 is average lot area of 350m<sup>2</sup> and R30 is average lot area of 300m<sup>2</sup>. Codings are the result of 1997- 2000 changes. The proposal to reduce from R30 to R25. It must be appreciated that equal numbers support as oppose the changes. The impact on land value cannot be underestimated. Some residents are using land in Wilson for their superannuation. North of Leach Hwy 62% opposed the down size coding. South of Leach Hwy 73% supported down coding

to R25. The Council supported the change. Suggestion made that details and issues that went into the down coding be revised and studied. WRRRA are canvassing the issues and ideas. But questions need to be answered. In terms of not how many approvals have been granted, but how many are waiting to be approved. Safety issues and Environmental issues are not brought into the equation, however, residents feel these issues should be paramount. Stewart advised the WRRRA to be cautious and prudent in what they requested from the Council. WRRRA advised that they would survey and petition Council accordingly.

**Neighbourhood Watch in Wilson:**

Jean Durbin raised Neighbourhood Watch and Maria Valli responded that in Wilson it seemed that an 'ad hoc' neighbourhood watch seems to work.

At this point General Business was suspended because of the time.

Maria Valli excused the Executive Officers and thanked them sincerely for their presence and contribution to the AGM.

12. **Election of Office Bearers:**

Maria Valli vacated the chair and was replaced by Lindsay Elliott. Lindsay took the opportunity to thank the Committee for all their efforts and introduced a Council candidate present at the meeting, Ferdie Ferrante.

Lindsay Elliott then declared all positions vacant and called for nominations.

- **Maria Valli** was re-elected unopposed as President.
- **Maurice Winter** was re-elected unopposed as Vice President.
- **Paul Duncan** was re-elected unopposed as Minute Secretary.
- **Max Zeller** was elected unopposed as Secretary.
- **Julie Parrish** was elected unopposed as Treasurer.
- The motion was moved Maria and seconded Maurice that **Jason Durbin** join, **Theresa O'Neill** and **John Noble** as Committee Members.

Lindsay, George and Joe, the Mason Ward Councillors, expressed their appreciation to the members for questioning the City's Executive Officers on the issues, which they as our representatives continually do on our behalf.

13. **Membership Subscriptions**

On the motion of Max Zeller and seconded by Maurice Winter, members agreed to retain the annual WRRRA membership subscription to five dollars.

14. **Meeting closed at 10.10pm.**

All present were invited to remain and chat over a supper.

## AGM 2003 REPORTS

### 1. PRESIDENTS REPORT

By Maria Valli

I would like to personally thank you all for attending this AGM as it demonstrates that you are interested and supportive of this association. After last years' AGM many residents raised concerns and issues for the new committee to tackle. It has been a very challenging, busy, and progressive year with many issues and concerns being addressed by the committee.

It was also terribly sad for all of us to experience the sudden death of Jules Clinckers a dedicated committee member whose portfolio was aircraft noise. He will be sadly missed.

Although enthusiastic initially, Ron Morgan and Phyllis Caine, for personal reasons unfortunately had to retire from the committee very early in 2002. This made the committee stronger as with only a few of us left it meant we all had to work together as a team.

A personal thank you goes to each of the committee members for their contribution throughout the year. Without each of them taking on particular portfolios we wouldn' t be where we are today. We all choose to do this voluntarily and it gives us all great satisfaction when we are supported by our members.

Of course, it is always sad to see dedicated and enthusiastic people leave the committee.

Bernadette Hunt due to work commitments is resigning after 2 years of service to this committee. She came on board initially when the association was in crisis, and in her first year was actively involved with issues related to the Canning River Regional Park and in the past year she was the newsletter editor. Thank you so much for everything you have done I' m sure everyone in Wilson is very appreciative.

As President I am delighted with the profile that this association has gained. When I reflect on the AGM held on May 2 2001 thirteen people myself included volunteered to act on the WRRRA committee after it was decided that this association had to continue after twenty two years of service to the community in working for civic improvements in the suburb. We have made it to 24 years and have a much healthier membership. Our goal was to achieve this, however, it cannot stop here. We have a wonderful newsletter, published three times a year with the assistance of our advertisers and is positively accepted within the community. Our fabulous and impressive website that keeps you updated with information, minutes, issues, letters and responses and connects you to other links related to the issues has been an asset.

It is also great to see the Canning Community Newspapers support us by printing articles on our behalf. The association is also very appreciative of the Councillors who make time to attend our monthly meetings. Through them our voice is heard with in Council chambers during Council meetings.

As you can see this association has been working? I urge you all tonight to consider how you can be of assistance to this committee, which in turn will help Wilson. All committee positions are vacant and we really do need more people to nominate and come on board to assist with the improvement of Wilson. Do not hesitate to nominate yourselves tonight for whatever role in the future committee, as your suburb needs you!

**Help us to assist you get things done in our community. There's POWER in numbers – Become a Committee Member or consider being a WRRRA Member.**

## **2. REPORT : FERN ROAD TRAFFIC**

**By Max Zeller**

WRRRA recently submitted a Community Petition signed by 166 local residents to the Council to express concerns over the increasing volume and speed of the traffic along Fern Road, between Riverton Bridge to Bungaree Road, and the ineffectiveness of the existing traffic controls.

In response to the petition, the Council has agreed to:

- Advise its truck drivers to use Leach Highway instead of Fern Road;
- Construct a formalised parking embayment adjacent to the Riverton Bridge park and a traffic island and footpath extension to improve safety for pedestrians crossing Fern Road. The funding of this project has been listed on the Draft 2003/2004 Annual Budget;
- Undertake new traffic volume and speed counts along Fern Road to determine if the Roe Highway extension and the reported reduction in traffic along Leach Highway has had any impact on Fern Road and report back to WRRRA (together with the 85 Percentile Speed).

On a related matter, the WRRRA Committee would like to commend the Council for initiating the Speed Alert Program (as part of the public awareness campaign to enforce the 50km limit).

We look forward to seeing the Speed Alert device on Fern Road in the near future.

## **3. REPORT : ROE HIGHWAY STAGE 8**

**By Maria Valli**

The proposal to delete the Fremantle Eastern Bypass and Stage 8 from the original Roe Highway plan has occupied most of the committee' s time this year.

We supported the Save Our Suburbs campaign and it' s rally by doing letter drop offs to most households in Wilson. We also worked with City of Canning by attending Carousel and Bentley Plaza to set up a display and had the opportunity to speak to people urging them to complete the public submission forms before the due deadline.

Our website provided current and appropriate links related to this controversial issue.

The new committee will continue to keep you informed as we await the outcome of the many thousands of submissions sent in.

## **4. REPORT : SEWERAGE REPORT**

**By Maurice Winter**

The committee continues to recognise the need for Deep Sewerage throughout Wilson. The association has written a number of letters to the Water Authority but to date it seems not to be a priority. With the proposed development of Clontarf the new committee will continue to lobby the Water Authority and Local Parliament on the importance of having our suburb finally all connected to sewerage, hopefully much earlier than is planned.

## **5. REPORT : CRRP DUAL-USE PATH (North-Side)**

**By Max Zeller**

The issue of the lack of a Dual-Use Pedestrian / Cycle Path on the north side of the Canning River Regional Park raised much debate at the AGM. WRRRA, together with the Canning Bicycle Users Group, has requested the Canning Council to construct these paths as a priority.

WRRRA recently submitted a Community Petition signed by 144 local residents to the Council asking for timely completion of the Dual-Use Path; and the immediate construction of the footpath from the Old Lake Grove Walkway along Watts Road and Surrey Road to Fern Road.

We are pleased to report that the Council has agreed to:

- Construct the section of shared path from the depot to Bungaree Rd AND the requested footpaths along Surrey Rd (Fern Rd to Watts Rd) and Watts Rd (Surrey to footpath connecting Old Lake Grove) as soon as funding is available, i.e. Both of these projects will be considered for listing in the 2003/04 Annual Budget; and
- Consider the construction of the footpaths along Bywater Way and the remainder of Watts Rd in preparing future budgets. These footpaths are already listed on the Council' s Forward Plans.

The associated Report ET-041-03 prepared by the Council outlines some of the constraints in the construction of the shared path on the north side of the Canning River Regional Park in relation to the funding, land ownership and the management plan. It' s worth noting, however, the Council appears to be very supportive of the plan to complete Dual-Use Path around the Canning River Regional Park (through Wilson).

## **6. REPORT : ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**

**By Maria Valli**

At the last AGM many residents expressed a concern regarding anti-social behaviours in different parts of Wilson. The committee established a set of guidelines and published them in the newsletter as a guide for anyone experiencing this problem. In each of our newsletters we endorse the neighbourhood watch basic rules as a reminder for each one of us that we need to look out for each other. If each of us work towards building a community spirit in our street or area then crime will reduce. Currently it is my portfolio to liaise with the Neighbourhood Watch committee and to report back to this committee. At the present time Wilson is experiencing a very low crime rate and we hope that this will continue. It is also pleasing to see Canning Security patrolling our suburb. I' m sure that we all appreciate their presence.

## **7. REPORT : UNDERGROUND POWER**

**By Maria Valli**

As many of you read in our last newsletter the association has frequently requested to have underground power lines in Wilson.

The advantages of underground powerlines are:

- It improves the reliability of electricity supply.
- Hiding the lines also beautifies the suburb and adds to the safety aspect by eliminating wooden poles along the streetscape.

The association is particularly concerned that Wilson keeps being left out, as our suburb does not fit selection criteria. WRRRA would like to see how residents feel about this issue by asking City of Canning to survey Wilson residents. Once collated this data will determine whether our association has the power of numbers to lobby Western Power in the future.

The new committee will be following this issue very closely.

## **8. REPORT : HIGH-DENSITY DEVELOPMENTS**

**By Maurice Winter**

The Association has recently been questioned over the need of high-density housing within some parts of Wilson. In particular, members have expressed concerns over the impact of high-density developments within established areas and along busy roads - as the existing infrastructure is already struggling to cope. A suggestion is to ask City of Canning to change the current zoning regulations from R25 to R20 or R17.5. Tonight the Council will be asked to explain the current dual zoning scheme that covers much of Wilson.

Depending on the outcome of tonight the new committee plans to conduct a follow-up survey to identify how all Wilson residents feel about these changes and this will determine the power the association will have to lobby the Council to consider this issue as a high priority!

## **9. REPORT : HOMELESS YOUTH**

**By Maurice Winter**

At last years AGM, the WRRRA had a request from a number of residents in regards to an article that appeared in the Comment News concerning the building approval of a Homeless Youth House in Parkhill Way, Wilson.

Since that matter was originally brought to WRRRA' s attention, I have attended several meetings on behalf of the concerned residents and ratepayers and have also committed my time to be on the house committee, which puts me in a position to relay any concerns (and positive feedback) directly to the 51 John of God/Lighthouse Assoc, that our members may have.

Along with Maria (Valli), I attended the opening of Bendat House, in February and we were pleased to be informed that the intended residents were not the drug addicts and murderers we anticipated, but ordinary people who had found themselves in extra ordinary circumstances, who where needing help and assistance in a homely and community based environment.

I also had the same concerns as the residents in the area of Bendat House, but now, knowing the objectives of the Lighthouse Assoc, I only wish them well in their endeavours with its occupants.

I feel that any prejudices we as a community had, should be dispelled, its there for wellbeing of the youth and it can only have a positive effect on the Wilson community.

## **10. REPORT : PUBLIC TRANSPORT STUDY**

**By Julie Parrish**

A major concern was brought to the attention of our committee at last years' AGM regarding the lack of suitable public transport services for the elderly and youth from Wilson to Carousel or to the city.

During the year the committee wrote to Transperth, Westfield Shopping Centre and Hoyts Theatre asking for a better service and suggested a Circle Route be extended to Carousel.

As a follow-up to this issue WRRRA also submitted a response to the Southern Suburbs East-West Public Transport Study outlining a "local perspective" of the existing public transport issues in Wilson.

In particular, the steering committee was urged to consider:

- The Wilson area in their planning (allowing for projected growth).
- Providing alternative public transport services for the Wilson area to reduce both the travel time and frequency of services to/from the City Centre.
- Providing suitable connections to the Carousel Shopping Centre, Riverton Forum and the Curtin University.

The association also requested the opportunity to meet with the planning consultants to discuss these improvements. The new committee will be addressing this issue in the coming year.

## **11. REPORT : GULL SERVICE STATION BORE CONTAMINATION**

**By Max Zeller (on behalf for Dee Schwass)**

Residents in McManus Street are concerned with the smell of bore water, which is causing social and environmental problems. The residents are seeking assurances regarding their safety and want to know what the long-term health effects will be, if any, as a result of the contamination of the groundwater in the area.

A recent meeting between WRRA, Gull Petroleum and their environmental consultants confirmed that the landfarming process on site is close to completion. The site will once be levelled and seeded and, once plants are established, the fencing will be removed.

The next step for the site will be ultimately determined by the Board at Gull Petroleum; Perhaps selling the site or possibly rezoning it. Test bores will continue to be used to determine the success of the work done, until the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) are satisfied with results.

Rest assured that WRRA will be keeping in touch with any future developments.

## **12. MAYOR'S ADDRESS**

**By Mayor of the City of Canning, Dr. Mick Lekias**

I am pleased to be asked to address you this evening to highlight the achievements of Council during the past twelve months.

- Once again the City' s efficiency in maintaining acceptable rate levels is reflected in the 2002/2003 financial year. The revaluation of Gross Rental Values by the Valuer-General allowed the City to reduce its rate in the dollar from 6 cents in 2001/02 to 5.8 cents this financial year.
- The responsible management of funds saw the City achieve its objective to become debt-free in the 2000/2001 financial year.
- The Riverton Leisureplex project, one of the largest commitments undertaken by the City, has already surpassed expectations and is attracting high patronage.
- Social support for frail aged and younger people with disabilities, funded through the Home and Community Care Program, has been increased by 3,000 hours per annum.
- The latest Youth Centre at Sevenoaks College has proven to be another success story, with young people in the surrounding area utilising the facilities on a regular basis.
- Development within the City Centre is continuing and it is hoped to see the project completed by 2012.

In giving you an overview of the achievements of the City over the past financial year, I have not mentioned the contentious issues we have dealt with or are continuing to deal with.

### **Fremantle Eastern Bypass / Stage 8 of Roe Highway**

The deletion of the Fremantle Eastern Bypass reservation from the Metropolitan Region Scheme and the decision not to proceed with Stage 8 of the Roe Highway will have a direct impact on the continued use of Leach Highway for the freight of transport between Kewdale and the Fremantle port.

The City believes the campaign run in conjunction with resident/ratepayer groups has been very valuable. It has provided an opportunity for us all to work together for a common goal.

The effectiveness of the campaign can only be ascertained when the impact of the 10,000 submissions received by the WAPC is divulged by the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, Alannah McTiernan.

The City has now focused the campaign on the effects on our community of the continued increase of heavy truck traffic on Leach Highway. Over 2,500 letters have been sent to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, Alannah McTiernan, Minister for the Environment, Judy Edwards and local politicians.

### **Other Local Issues affecting Wilson**

I would now like to discuss some of the issues specific to the local area.

- The selection criteria for underground power, set by the Office of Energy, includes continuity of the system. The system has not yet reached the borders of Wilson. However Shelley, Riverton, Willetton North and St James/Bentley, the areas put forward by the City, do meet this criterion.
- The estimated cost per lot is \$4,500 of which the State Government pays 50%.
- Traffic volumes and speed are of concern to the community throughout the City.
- Fern Road is one of the areas being constantly assessed by the City. Traffic counts have not changed noticeably since the first traffic count of May 1985. The installation of traffic treatments in 1993 did reduce speed levels.
- A Speed Alert Device, which the City should have by early May, will be used on streets like Fern Road to reinforce the speed limit and encourage driving within the speed limits.
- A shared path from the depot along Fern Road to Bungaree Road is proposed on the 2003/04 draft budget at an estimated cost of \$135,000.
- Unfortunately this cannot proceed through the Castledare site until this site is further developed and the private land given up.
- The path from the rear of the Canning River Gardens development through to the Riverton Bridge is through land managed by CALM. On the current Canning River Management plan this section is shown as a footpath/track. The Plan will be reviewed in 2007 when consideration of a shared path via a boardwalk can be considered.
- Footpaths are listed on the forward plans for Surrey and Watts Roads.
- Only two areas of Wilson remain to be sewered. The area near Waldecks on Manning Road is due to commence in the next few weeks and will take 6 weeks to complete. The last are near Teaguer Street is planned for 2007, however is dependent on the development of Clontarf.

### **Residential Zoning**

Since the early 70' s the predominant residential zoning in the Wilson area allowed for one housing unit per 500 square metres up to a quadruplex on a 2,000 square metre lot.

In 1994, under TP Scheme No 40 development provided for one unit per 500 square metres up to one unit per 333.33 square metre.

In 1997, Amendment No 74 reduced various upper density codings throughout the City.

In Wilson the proposal was to reduce the upper coding to allow for one unit per 400 square metres. In December 1999, following submissions to Council it resolved to modify the Amendment to retain the one unit per 333.33 square metres zoning for Wilson properties between Leach Highway and Manning Road to encourage a range of accommodation types and redevelopments on large tracts of older housing stock.

New Residential Design Codes were adopted by the state Government late last year. Land requirements for zonings have altered and in reviewing the City Zoning Scheme, Council will look at the effect of these changes.

It is interesting to note that during the past year, Council has received and approved 18 applications for development of 27 new or additional grouped dwellings within the Wilson locality, mainly for conversion of an existing dwelling to 2 grouped dwellings. The significant development of grouped dwellings along Fern Road was approved prior to this period in accordance with the density requirements applicable at that time.

### **Gull Service Station Site**

Following investigation of the potential source of hydrocarbon contamination at the Gull Service Station on the corner of Bungaree Road and Eureka Roads Wilson, the Contaminated Sites Section of the Department of Environmental Protection were requested to deal with Gull and their environmental representative ERM.

There is no contaminated sites legislation in WA, therefore no statutory authority to assess and manage contaminated sites. Site assessment, remediation and validation are undertaken on a voluntary basis.

Gull have undertaken all the necessary tests on and around the site and have kept residents informed on the progress of the remediation process.

In December last year, the DEP said the site appears suitable for redevelopment subject to the placement of a memorial on the certificate of title identifying the residual soil and groundwater contamination.

### **In Conclusion**

On a more social note, I would like to congratulate the 33 local residents who will be receiving a Centenary Medal. It demonstrates the high level of commitment and community spirit that exists within our City.

The City of Canning is a progressive City and as we move forward our achievements will continue to grow.

The decisions of Council are based on finding the best overall outcome for the City and its residents/ratepayers and we ensure this is done in an open and fully accountable manner.

In closing it is always my pleasure to acknowledge the contribution made by my Council Members, management and staff.

As a Council and a City, we will continue to operate on the basis of co-operation, honesty and integrity in all our decisions and above all work as a team for the progressive and efficient operation of the City.

Thank you.

## **GUEST SPEAKER'S ADDRESS [OUTLINE]**

By Kelly Exell

**The Canning Plain Catchment Group** is comprised of community members, environment groups and local and state representatives.

- The Catchment Area is wherever the Water flows. A map demonstrated the direction of the water flow and illustrated that much of the Welshpool and Belmont Industrial areas water flows into the Mills Street drain in Wilson.
- The City of Canning and the City of Belmont are both involved, because they are the local government authorities responsible for the priority areas.
- A particular area of concern is from Nicholson Road to Shelley Bridge.
- The Integrated Catchment Management (ICM) is concerned with protecting the environment and provides one approach to manage the natural resources.

### **Major Issues:**

- Poor water quality flows into the Main Mills Street Drain from the industrial area. The water is high in nutrients and contaminants. The result is a loss of biodiversity; the plants and animals habitats are destroyed or dramatically altered.
- Residential and Industrial contaminants are flowing through the catchment.
- Visual manifestations of the contaminants are algae blooms and provide evidence that the River is under stress. The Swan and Canning Clean Up Programme aim to reduce algae blooms.

### **The Catchment Management Plan**

- Requires comprehensive data.
- Target areas are determined.
- Risk Analysis is conducted.
- Community Environment Groups are involved.
- Settlement Bits and Compensating Basins are used.
- The Water Corporation, the City of Canning and the City of Belmont are involved. The Catchment Management Plan July 2003 commends their involvement.

### **Key Obstacles:**

- Wastewater
- Network design that is sensitive to water
- Effluent
- Small to medium industries are unregulated.
- Residential run off
- Positioning of Compensating Basins – a type of water storage to prevent flooding, plan is to convert the basins to ecological storage units, rather than ugly containers.

### **In Summary:**

The Plan is to complete the design of 'what is to be done', implement the plan, increase awareness of the realities and what is being done and improve the partnerships involved in the exercise to save our water ways.

Kelly explained that Marion Cahill is her replacement and can be contacted on 6250 8084.