



Ardoch News

Ardoch
the Village Green

Volume 5, Issue 2

June 2002

Ardoch—a very special place

by Lisa Fam

For the last six months I have been working with the City of Port Phillip on an exciting community arts project called **margins, memories & markers**.

Funded by VicHealth and the council, the project aims to capture the experiences, stories and memories we have of special places in our neighbourhoods, and celebrate this connection through the development of public art works.

On the 13th of April, ten of Ardoch's past and present residents gathered at a Back-to-Ardoch Afternoon Tea at Cottonwood, to share their memories, photographs and stories of life at Ardoch. For two, James Whiting (opposite) and Eve Ross, it was a reunion after forty years.

Over coffee and cake, and with the help of St Kilda artist and writer Julie Shiels and Project Coordinator Ilka Tampke, we recorded our memories on linen table napkins. These were later used in an Ardoch table setting, which was displayed at the exhibition "**x marks the memory**" at the St Kilda Library.

At the exhibition opening on 16th May, Harry Greenberg entertained the crowd with his humorous story "Completely Starkers", based on an experience he had with naked swimmers in the Ardoch Pool.

This wonderful collection of memories will be displayed on a web site later this year, and may also be used in recordings for a sound sculpture due for construction in Alma Park.

Many thanks to Eve Ross, Harry and Marge Greenberg, Laura Segovia and Ian Redwood, Leah Boulton, Hayley Maroney and Adrienne Moran, Amanda Francis, James and Karen Whiting, James' sister and Meredith Doig for their valued contributions to the project.

See over for more pictures and quotes..



James Whiting revisits his childhood home at Magnolia Mansions

"In the early 40's all the men at Ardoch had to dig trenches on the big lawn as air raid shelters."

Eve Ross



Ardoch residents share afternoon tea and stories

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Ardoch Cards

Beautiful hand-made cards, with Ardoch scenes in different seasons—

the Green, the garden, flowers and trees.

Only \$4.50 each.

Something different, something personal.
Ph Lisa on 9530 2205.



Body Corporate Stuff

Parking Spaces and Garages—are you insured?

Ardoch Body Corporate insurance covers all the buildings and public liability on common property. The common property includes the gardens, grassed areas, pathways, driveways and stairs.

However car parking spaces and garages are, like the interior of apartments, owners' own property registered on title. These do not form part of the common property covered under the Body Corporate's public liability insurance. If someone injures themselves crossing a car space, and they can prove negligence, the claim could be against the owner of that property and not the Body Corporate.

We strongly recommend all owners have contents insurance which includes public liability for incidents that occur within their lot – that is, the apartment and their car parking space. Owners should disclose to their insurers that the "insured premises" includes the car park as well as their apartments.

Michael Nugent, Body Corporate Manager



Light not working?

If you notice a blown light on the common property (eg, on the outside of buildings, around the Green etc), please call Michael Nugent on 9866 6167 to have it fixed.

Lark House Garden Design

Following the annual tree trimming conducted by Treescapes earlier this year, professional advice is being sought regarding an appropriate garden design for the front of Lark House. Clearly this is an important area, one that should capture the essence of Ardoch for presentation to the passing public on Dandenong Road. The design will include a medium term plan for the larger trees in the area.



Ardoch – a very special place (cont.)

"When I bought my washing machine off a woman living at Ardoch in 1996, I knew I would someday live there myself."

Leah Boulton

"On a cold windy day, Mum and I love to fly our kites. We rug up really well so we are cosy to go out on the Green."

Hayley Maroney

"Within hours of our daughter being born there was a notice on the tree: WELCOME HANNAH."

Laura and Ian

"Hot sparklers were an extra hazard if they were left on the grass."

James Whiting



Ardoch memories go on display

CAN YOU HELP?

Do you know of any former teachers or students of Ardoch (when it was a school) who would be interested in telling their story?

Please contact **Lisa Fam on 9530 2205 or lisa-fam@today.com.au. Thanks!**



Brick paths

Many of you will have noticed that tree roots are lifting some of the bricks along the paths, particularly around the Big Tree.

Options for fixing this problem include:

- ◆ Returning the relevant parts of the paths (around the Big Tree) to lillydale toppings
- ◆ Replacing the relevant parts with bitumen
- ◆ Removing the path to the west of the Big Tree altogether
- ◆ Forming a 'decorative bridge' over the problem areas
- ◆ Cutting the tree roots, and making the path flat again.

Clearly the problem is not going to go away (coz the roots will keep growing!), and at the moment we're trying to work out what's the least expensive and most long lasting way of solving this problem. This includes getting professional advice from Treescapes regarding treating the roots.

If anyone has any other ideas for solving this problem at a reasonable cost, please call or write to the Body Corporate Manager, Michael Nugent (see p 4 for contact details).

Gutter Cleaning

You'll be pleased to know that we've finally found a reputable firm that agreed to take on cleaning the gutters at Ardoch. Due to the height of some of our gutters, it's been difficult to track down a firm with the appropriate skills and equipment. Nevertheless, the first clean should be conducted in the next couple of weeks.

Lawns and Plants

Apparently someone forgot to tell the grass that it's winter. While we have cut back on the frequency of mowing, we've had to put the brakes on any new plants in order to constrain the gardening budget. Don't worry, no doubt we'll catch up next financial year.

Enron Capitalism

In case you were wondering how Enron came into so much trouble, here's an explanation reputedly given by an agriculture professor to explain it in terms his students could understand:

Capitalism: "You have two cows. You sell one and buy a bull. Your herd multiplies, and the economy grows. You sell them and retire on the income.

Enron venture capitalism: "You have two cows. You sell three of them to your publicly traded company, using letters of credit opened by your brother-



in-law at the bank, then execute a debt/equity swap with an associated general offer so that you get all four cows back, with a tax exemption for five cows. The milk rights of the six cows are transferred via an intermediary to a Cayman Island company secretly owned by the majority shareholder who sells the rights to all seven cows back to your listed company. The annual report says the company owns eight cows, with an option on one more. Repeat as necessary until you have \$62 billion in assets, then declare bankruptcy."



Drifting over Ardoch, June 2002

Ardoch in 1939

A Permanent Return to Ardoch

I moved with my parents to "Ardoch Mansions", as it was then known, during the first school term in 1939. We rented Flat no 7, which is now a unit in Phoenix. The whole of Ardoch was owed by one person at that time. All flats were occupied by tenants, many of whom were families with teenage children.

The manager of Ardoch was Miss Jessie Brownlee, the sister of the famous opera singer John Brownlee. She was a formidable figure, very large, with a resounding deep voice. She made sure all teenagers behaved well! In contrast, her maid was of small stature and timid disposition.

The "Village Green" was then smaller, as the roadway extended down past Kingfisher, turning left to the end of Magnolia, and right to the garages and billiard room, which occupied the site of Bellbird. There were two asphalt tennis courts where Bluebird now stands.

John Campton, Magnolia Mansions



Ardoch
the Village Green

What's on in Port Phillip

Committee of Management

Strata Title Flat Management

Michael Nugent 9866-6167

George Bell 5243-0350

John Campton 9525-0917

Anthony Desiderio 9525-0929

Barbara Devlin 9521-2979

Meredith Doig 9530-2954

Susan Drakeford 9510-7620

Rowan Frew 9510-1136

Andrew Hird 9753-5653

Tom Jackson 9525-0813

Bill Keay 9873-4870

Judelle Scheer 9525-0996

Meetings are held on the last Wednesday of the month. Call anyone on the Committee to raise a matter at a meeting, or write directly to Michael Nugent at Suite 15, 20 Commercial Road, Melbourne 3004.

FOR LOCAL COUNCIL MATTERS

roads, rates and rubbish

dogs, dags and disoriented drivers

PHONE PORT PHILLIP ASSIST

9209 6777

6-7 July

10am-5pm

Bridal Exhibition at St Kilda Town Hall

Featuring more than 50 exhibitors, the show will cover all facets of wedding planning, including cakes, gowns, suits and invitations. Door prizes include a honeymoon package to North Queensland. Four fashion parades each day, at 10.30am, noon, 2pm and 4pm. \$10 single, \$15 double, children under 16 free. More info from Susan Dibbs at Wishful Weddings on 8302 8166.

11-21 July

Melbourne Underground Film Festival

Sunday, 21 July at 2.30pm

St Kilda Historical Society AGM and election.

Also, commencing 3.15 pm, Carole Rasmussen talks on her award-winning book on the long and diverse history of the Melbourne Museum. Meet at the St Kilda Library Community Room. Enquiries: 9690 9584 or visit the website: www.vicnet.net.au/~hsosk

Sustainable Living

The City of Port Phillip's Sustainable Living At Home program encourages households to move consciously in the direction of sustainable lifestyles.

The program coordinators are looking for households (units, houses, apartments) to join Sustainable Living at Home Round 2, which will commence in June/July 2000.

This program is based one developed in Sweden following the Rio Earth Summit some years ago. For anyone interested in social change, community development and sustainability, it's a must! To register, go to www.portphillip.vic.gov.au/sustainable_living_at_home_program.



World Rowing Masters

A chance to host Italian Olympians at Ardoch ...

In October this year, Ardochians Amanda Francis and Rosemary Guyatt will be competing in the World Rowing Masters Championships in Ballarat. They are hoping friends and neighbours at Ardoch will help them billet ten rowers visiting from Como in Italy.

"I've met most of these guys, and they're great fun! They're in their 30s and at least two have rowed at Olympic level in Atlanta. Rosemary and I can accommodate four, and we are looking for accommodation for the other six. Their English is not great but we'll be on hand to help. Nothing like body language and hand gestures to get by with the Italians in any case! Of course we'll not be mentioning the world cup and no, they won't be travelling back via South Korea."



The Italians will be arriving on 7th October, and will need accommodation for the nights of the 7th, 8th and 9th, before heading off to Ballarat for the weekend of the Regatta. If you can help put these guys up, please call Amanda on 0402 017 511 or at home on 9530-2448.