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COTTESLOE COUNCIL NEWS

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News in brief...

Lose your electronic waste

EARLY in June the FREE electronic waste recycling station sponsored by Apple will set up again in the Napier Street car park. Extremely well-used last year, the service takes computers and equipment, TVs, home office and entertainment equipment, electronic games and consoles. Some things CANNOT be taken – such as white goods, hazardous material and more. Details will be published next month.

Checking security of your business

FREE appraisals of the security of local businesses is available from the police. Experts from the Central Metropolitan Crime Prevention unit will come to your premises, assess the existing arrangements and advise you on possible improvements. To arrange an appraisal, please call the Crime Prevention unit on 9284 3999.

Great Gardens

REGISTER now – online at www.greatgardens.info or tel: 1300 369 833 – to be sure of a place at the free Great Gardens mega Sustainability Day in Cottesloe.

It's on Sunday May 2, 10am-4.30pm, at the Civic Centre.

Sessions are:

Great Gardens workshop - 10am-noon.

Great Food Gardens workshop – 1pm-2.30pm

Synergy Energy Efficiency workshop - 3pm-4pm

April meetings

NEXT Council meeting Monday April 27, at 7pm.

Development Services Monday April 19, 6pm.

Works and Corporate Services Tuesday April 20, 7pm.

Planning applications For consideration in JUNE, applications close APRIL 30.

RTG – do we join?

SHOULD Cottesloe join other local councils in a process that could lead into a Regional Transition Group? That's the question facing the Council, and once again opinions from the Town community are sought.

The concept of amalgamation has advanced since the last time residents' views were requested.

Specifically, after looking at submissions by western suburbs councils, the Minister for Local Government, John Castrilli, wrote to Mayor Morgan requesting that Cottesloe, with other local councils, should start the process of forming a Regional

Transition Group (RTG).

Said Mayor Kevin Morgan:

"The Council discussed this at great length and agreed numerous conditions should apply before we moved forward with an RTG.

"Paramount among these is prior consultation with our local community, and that is already well under way."



Peter Tilley's 'threshold of a dream' is Cottesloe's newest art acquisition, purchased for \$12,000 at this year's Sculpture by the Sea.

Made from cast iron and mild steel, the 1.87m artwork is likely to be installed in Station Street.

Its creator says 'threshold of a dream' represents 'The obstacles that life puts in the way (and that) come between the figure's imagination of a journey and the realisation of that journey.'

Peter is eastern states-based. He has taken part in numerous group and solo exhibitions, including Sculpture by the Sea at Bondi and Cottesloe several times since 2004.

Cottesloe's new memorandum of understanding with the exhibition organisers ensures the event will continue for at least another three years.

Win prizes with your literary memories!

MORE than \$2,500 swells the awards pool for this year's local literature prize, which calls upon writers to share their memories. Entries close on May 28, 5pm. For an entry form, please contact your local council offices; or download one from the library at – www.thegrovelibrary.com

'The Usual Suspects' rock on the lawn!

IF 70s, 80s and 90s classic rock and pop is your bag, get into it with The Usual Suspects.

This six-piece band of Perth based pro. musicians can play anything you love – from 'Route 66' to 'Cocaine' – and 'I Shot the Sheriff' to 'Evil Ways'! The

Usual Suspects have entertained all over the metro and at private and corporate functions. Now they're in Cottesloe, Sunday April 11 on the Main Lawn of the Civic Centre.

No special parking arrangements; walk in through the usual gates and bring chairs, rugs, picnics – whatever you wish. Don't be late – the band starts playing at 7pm!



Last year's service at the Civic Centre

ANZAC Day at Civic Centre

COTTESLOE'S RSL branch have organised the annual service to remember Australians who served, and those who lost their lives in all wars. It's on Sunday April 25, beginning at 6.45am. There will be a parade, flag-raising, prayers, readings and the Last Post will be heard. Please enter at the Civic Centre south gate, which is opposite Loma St. A light breakfast will be served afterwards.

Mayor to speak on RTG at SOS meeting

AN extra opportunity for community interaction on the RTG issue comes at the AGM of SOS Cottesloe, on May 3. At the meeting in the Lesser Hall of the Civic Centre, Mayor Kevin Morgan has been asked to talk about the structural reform and Regional Transition Grouping. Everyone is welcome to attend the AGM.

Online

Full information about the RTG process went online at the end of March.

Included is a straight-forward feedback form, asking for comments on a short range of options.

Partnership

On March 22 Cottesloe Council received a report recommending that a desirable partnership would be with Claremont, Mosman Park and Peppermint Grove. Since then, some of those Councils have voted against proceeding into an RTG process.

The feedback form on the Cottesloe website takes account of these decisions.

Comments

Cottesloe has outlined conditions to be met before proceeding further. As stated by Mayor Morgan, community consultation is prominent among them. Local residents need to be well aware of these conditions – summarised here – so they can make the most informed comment on whether the Council should proceed.

The Council has advised the Minister that Cottesloe is willing – with conditions – to enter into the RTG process as far as stage one – the development of a Regional Business Plan. Cottesloe would then review its position based upon the outcomes of that plan.

Conditions

1/ The Town will not formally enter the RTG until the community has been consulted.

2/ If councils involved in the RTG process decide NOT to proceed, they can instead adapt the Business Plan for use by a regional council.

3/ Within the Business Plan, the Civic Centre, grounds and the War Memorial Town Hall, will be preserved as a community asset accessible to the general community.

4/ Amalgamation will not cause any forced redundancies of Council staff.

5/ The Minister will notify the Town of levels of state funding for development of a Regional Business Plan prior to any agreement.

Which councils?

Our Council has stated that it would consider joining with the Towns of Claremont, Mosman Park and the Shire of Peppermint Grove to form a Regional Transition Group.

Also, it has requested that the Minister support and approve the boundary adjustments (as resolved by

the Council in September 2009) as part of the RTG, to include the communities of Swanbourne in the north and North Fremantle in the south.

Representation

However, before confirming its final intentions, the Council will reaffirm the community's support for entering into a RTG.

The Council has also told the Minister that:

- the Mayor should be the member of the RTG Board and the Deputy Mayor the deputy member of the Board.

- the negotiated RTG Agreement should be submitted to Council for endorsement prior to it being executed on behalf of the Town.

- the RTG agreement should incorporate scope to include a Regional Business Plan with boundary adjustments.

- the RTG agreement should incorporate an agreement for elections prior to the start of any new local government.

For more information, and to make comments on the RTG process please go to the Council website.



A tremendous turnout of 100 volunteers made a successful cleanup of Cottesloe beach on Cleanup Australia Day, reports the Town's sustainability officer, Petra Zele.

"They covered the beach, Marine Parade and John Black Dune Park and picked up 28 bags of rubbish, and that included seven of recyclables – mainly bottles," she said. "We thank all the volunteers and councillors who made such a valuable contribution on March 7."

(Picture: Councillor Patricia Carmichael, foreground, was one of the litter-pickers.)