

Seadragon Festival

– Sunday March 13,
10am-3pm
Marine Parade

OUR popular celebration with an emphasis on the marine environment takes place once more next month with a parade, street theatre music and fun for all. Watch for a new feature, a Wild Side Pet Walk. More details – from Carolyn Ryder at the Civic Centre and in next month's Council news page (March 12).

News in brief...

Meetings at Civic Centre

NEXT Council meeting – February 28, at 7pm.

Committees:

Works and Corporate Services – February 22, 7pm.

Development Services – February 21, 6pm.

Planning applications for APRIL close on MARCH 2.



COTTESLOE COUNCIL NEWS

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AUSTRALIA DAY IN COTTESLOE

A superb Australia Day Celebration on the Civic Centre Main Lawn brought together people from Cottesloe, Mosman Park and Peppermint Grove for the investiture of new citizens and presentation of Australia Day Awards.

Pictured (left): North Cottesloe Primary's Walking School Buses won the Community Event/Group of Year Award.

TWILIGHT CONCERTS AT THE CENTRE

MUSIC for all tastes will play at the Civic Centre in a short season of Twilight Concerts.

This free entertainment (6pm-8pm on each occasion) is aimed at the whole family, so bring your picnics, rugs and chairs to the Main Lawn and hear:

■ Sunday, February 27 - WAYJO (WA Youth Jazz Orchestra).

This brilliant outfit has nurtured many of the State's conservatorium-trained, talented young musicians. Among the current crop of talent are reeds player Ben Collins and vocalist Jasmine Nelson.



Ben Collins and Jasmine Nelson

■ Sunday March 6 – The Oz Big Band, another great swinging group.

■ Sunday March 13 – Ever-popular Royal Australian Navy Band (WA Detachment).

There's no finer outdoor location to enjoy these musical treats, as the sun sets over the ocean. Barbecues, tea and coffee are available and free.

EHO Service in Summer

SUMMER in WA is for holidays, celebrations, parties and great outdoor activities on the beaches and ovals. It's also a time for extra consideration of neighbours, who might not appreciate the extra volume produced by parties and other events!

On behalf of the local community Council's EHO (Environmental Health Officer), Ruth Levett is responsible for a range of services including food and food premises, public buildings, public swimming pools, water quality, noise, and infectious disease. She also looks after health education, liquor licensing, waste collection and disposal.

SWIMMING POOLS

Residents are personally responsible for the water quality of their own domestic swimming pools (while making sure they are properly fenced according to current regulations is the responsibility of Council's building surveyor.)

But monitoring water quality in public pools is a high priority for EHOs in the summer months. Long hot periods and many more swimmers create ideal conditions for the growth of harmful bacteria and amoeba. Water testing is conducted, in addition to the daily monitoring undertaken by the premises themselves and pools are also checked for safety requirements.

NOISE CONTROL

Noise is another problem emphasised in summer, and unfortunately the number of noise complaints received is growing. Surprisingly, it's

air conditioners, not parties, that are the most common cause of complaints. Usually, if monitoring shows noise above permissible levels, Cottesloe's EHO can liaise with the property owner, and installers of the equipment, for an acceptable resolution.

If you have an air conditioning system, please check and ensure it's installed to meet Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations.

The other common sources of noise problems are parties, and building sites. Council officers will advise you of the rules and regulations, and full and detailed information is available on the Council website.

FOOD SAFETY

Eating out is another of the summer delights and it's comforting to know that our EHO runs a regular inspection programme – on a risk assessment basis – of all food premises to make sure they maintain a satisfactory standard.

All local food outlets are checked at least four times a year. In Cottesloe compliance with the regulations is of a very high standard.

This is reflected in an overall drop in complaints about premises and food-related illness.

Ruth monitors food storage and transport, food temperature control, labelling requirements, and chemical and microbiological testing

- which also shows a very high standard of compliance.

HEALTH

Reported infectious disease cases in our area are few, but the EHO remains alert to their potential.

Various pests are on their 'hit-list'. Even though Cottesloe is not particularly prevalent to all of them, here are some summer nuisances to be aware of.

EUROPEAN WASPS

European wasps can be distinguished by their honeybee size and shape, black and bright lemon-yellow striped body markings, jet black antenna and hind legs tucked up in flight.

(Extra information – see Garden Note No. 6 on the Department of Agriculture's website; www.agric.wa.gov.au)

HEAD LICE

From time to time there are outbreaks of Pediculosis (head lice) in schools. Please examine your children's hair periodically and watch for any repeated scratching.

RODENTS

Rats are a major risk to the health of the community and can transmit serious diseases. Their fleas, lice and ticks can also adversely affect pets and humans so everyone is encouraged to

check the Council website for the unpleasant details, and positive help in spotting and dealing with them. (It's worth finding out the warning signs because rats normally come out at night and usually are not seen unless they are very hungry or out in large numbers.)

Rats can be discouraged and controlled by denying them food and shelter; simple precautions will prevent or help get rid of them, and baiting is also relatively simple.

Cottesloe provides rat bait, free, to Cottesloe residents.

MOSQUITOES

Mosquitoes carry numerous diseases, some of which are particularly dangerous to humans (eg Ross River Virus). Mosquitoes are most active for one to three hours after sunset and again at dawn. It is suggested that you cover up with loose clothing to prevent mosquito bites and use an effective repellent.

Check that pot plant drip-trays are emptied at least once a week, and gutters are kept free of leaves and able to drain freely. Attention should also be given to ornamental fishponds and swimming pools for mosquito larvae and to ensure that any containers or objects capable of holding water are up-ended or removed.

A variety of brochures are available from the Council.



Cottesloe Citizen of the Year Don Morrison (centre), Young Citizen of the Year David Knezevic (right) and Walking Bus organiser Melissa Payne stepped up to receive their awards and share the dizzy heights with stilt walking jester Glen Swift.



Above: New Cottesloe citizens pictured with Mayor Rob Rowell are (back) Charl Burger, (Mayor Rowell), Carlo Del Corso; (front) Ms Geok Teen EE, Mrs Bonita Lafaras, Mrs Beverley Muhling.

Below: Group shows Paul Harris, Ms Jane Trounson, Michael Warner, Michael White, Ms Andrea Wroth, Mrs Lisa White with her children George, India and Noah (the three with name tags) and some of their friends!

