

Kids About Marion

A Book About Marion Council

Written and Illustrated by Students from Primary Schools in the City of Marion



Produced by the City of Marion

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From His Worship, the Mayor of Marion

The City of Marion is proud to have been instrumental in developing this book about Local Government and Marion Council.

The Council has always had an active interest in its young people through its many self development programs, youth recreational and cultural activities and two drop-in centres, but this is the first time a project of this nature has been attempted.

In the past, our youth education and promotion programs have focussed primarily on young people aged 12 to 25 years but this book has recognised the need by the Council to reach out to a younger age group.

The results, I believe, have been extremely successful both in terms of the book itself, the project's educational outcomes and its opportunities for a closer working relationship between local primary schools and the Council.

This book has been written by 120 children in Years Six and Seven from five primary schools based in different council wards.

A complex and comprehensive project, it has given children opportunities for hands-on learning experiences and the unique chance to see their own work published.

The children have researched, scribed and drawn. They have also visited Marion Council facilities, met their Elected Members, undertaken telephone research, been visited by various council staff, taken part in a Pet Management Poster Competition, exhibited their artwork at the Chambers Gallery and several children have even been interviewed on the Council's weekly Coast FM 88.5 radio program.

And that was prior to their book being launched!

I believe this book will be an excellent resource for future primary school children in Marion as it sits well within the primary schools' Local Government curriculum.

It is charming, easy to read and informative. Congratulations to all those children who helped produce the book and many thanks to their teachers and others who have helped them in their endeavours.

Colin M Haines

Mayor

Foreword

Schools and their local community have a vital responsibility for the education of young people so that they can take an active and responsible role as members of their local community. An essential part of all students' learning is having an understanding of the history, role and responsibilities of local government within their community.

Kids About Marion makes a valuable contribution to providing this information for primary school students in the City of Marion. It also provides a concrete example of the value to schools, students and the local community of working collaboratively.

The students' comments incorporated throughout the book illustrates student interest in learning about their local community and more importantly, being involved in it. As the title suggests, the book belongs to the young people in the City of Marion.

I congratulate Marion City Council and commend this publication to you as a valuable resource for students and teachers.

Rob Lucas

Minister for Education and Children's Services

About This Book

Having 120 young children co-write their own school text book about Marion Council seemed like a great idea until we started editing.

The project had two key objectives: to produce a 'legitimate' school text book about Local Government and in particular Marion Council for use in local primary schools, and to have a children's literary production.

It soon became apparent the objectives might cancel each other out. The problem we faced was ensuring that language, spelling, grammar and facts were correct, without negating the authentic character of the children's work.

The editing process itself was like piecing together a huge jigsaw puzzle of thousands of words from 120 often unrelated projects to make a complete and cohesive picture of Marion Council.

There were also numerous 'gaps' in the information, and given the time constraints in meeting our deadlines we had no option but to fill them ourselves.

Despite the literary juggling, we believe the book strikes a balance between two seemingly competing aims. The spelling's in order, the grammar's fair, the facts are sound, the book is structured and has a reasonably consistent tone. However, it still retains much of the children's own wording, their drawings and their 12-year-old outlook on local government, Marion and life.

The standard of the children's projects was in many cases very high, and what at times may appear to be the editor's hand at work is in fact the feat of an astute young mind. We were impressed by the amount of time and energy that had obviously gone into the children's projects and acknowledgement is therefore due to the teachers who guided them through their work.

Heather Papagiannis

Wendy Fowler

November 1996

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Local Government

History

Before European settlement in Australia, Aboriginal people had their own form of government as group leaders took responsibility for community decisions. When European settlers came to South Australia they brought the idea of local government with them from England. On October 31, 1840 the first election in Australia was held for the Adelaide City Council. By 1890 the population of South Australia had grown and there were more than 170 councils.

Councils were formed so decisions could be made about the community by local people like you and me. It was the council's responsibility to make sure the roads were built and to meet many of the community's daily needs. From then on there were many ups and downs as communities grew larger and councils took on new responsibilities.

Nowadays councils are thought of as important decision makers and helpful people. At last count in 1996 there were 110 councils in South Australia but this number is decreasing because councils are now merging together. In the 1990's local government is becoming more important than ever before as it is getting more authority and responsibilities.

Types of Government

There are three types of government in Australia: Local, State and Federal. They all work together in different ways to provide a lot of services to the country. Each is of the same importance to the governing and management of Australia as the other.

Local Government is closest to the community and contributes to the State and Federal Governments by knowing about the community's needs. We have a local council because there are too many responsibilities for one level of government to take care of. If there was only one government, it would be almost impossible to keep record of every

suburb in Australia. Local government takes care of things such as rubbish and recycling, road making, traffic control, street signs, tree planting, town planning, information, registrations, parks and playgrounds, community and sports centres and many other services. The things a council provides depends on the needs of people who live in the area. Local Government uses all its resources to try to meet these requirements and tells the State and Federal Governments how they can also help contribute.

The Federal Government makes and considers laws which have to be followed by us, Australia.

The State Government makes laws which have to be followed by the whole state. The local government may add a few laws (called by-laws), such as how many cats and dogs you can keep. All of these laws must be followed by everybody in the council area because they are important.

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Marion Council

History

The first people who lived in Marion were the Kurna Aborigines. They called the area Warriparinga, meaning a *windy place by the creek*. Camp sites have been discovered which show that the Aborigines lived there.

The village of Marion was settled by Europeans in the late 1830s after being surveyed by Colonel William Light in 1838. To begin with, Marion was part of the District Council of Brighton but on September 2, 1886 the District Council of Marion was formed. The City may have been named after Marianne Fisher who came to South Australia on the Buffalo in 1836.

As Marion grew, it became known for its market gardens, almond orchards, grape growing, dairy farming and grain production. There was also copper mining at Hallett Cove as well as slate and limestone quarrying. By the 1950s, Marion had changed from a mainly farming area to a council with lots of houses and factories.

Marion Council has built lots of community centres, libraries and other facilities. In 1895 the first Council Chambers were built near the corner of Marion and Sturt Road. This building is now used by Maranatha Christian School. In 1937 the second Council Chambers were built right next to the old one. In 1967, the Council moved again, this time to Marion Road near the Park Holme Library. Then in 1990, the Council moved to the latest Council Chambers on Sturt Road.

When you really look at it, its funny to see how Marion was way back in time when compared to now. For example, George Street Reserve was once a pughole, the source of clay for Wades Brickworks which supplied the bricks for many of the houses and buildings in the area etc. It is also very surprising to find out that between 1933 and 1963 a certain bungalow on Township Road was the police station. Would anyone remember that Laura Cottage was Marion's first post office in 1877?

It is very different from the modern ones we've got now.

Marion Today

Marion has become a large council that starts at the historic tramline in the north and ends at Hallett Cove in the south. It has many places for the community to enjoy. Some of them include community centres and halls, libraries, parks and gardens, a swimming centre, golf park and many more things. There have been many shopping centres built in the Marion Council area. The Council did not actually build the shopping centres but it encouraged the developers to build them. They include Park Holme Shopping Centre, Castle Plaza in Edwardstown, Hallett Cove Shopping Centre - and the biggest of all, Westfield Marion. The Marion Council over approximately 100 years has built many things and will continue with developments to improve our area.

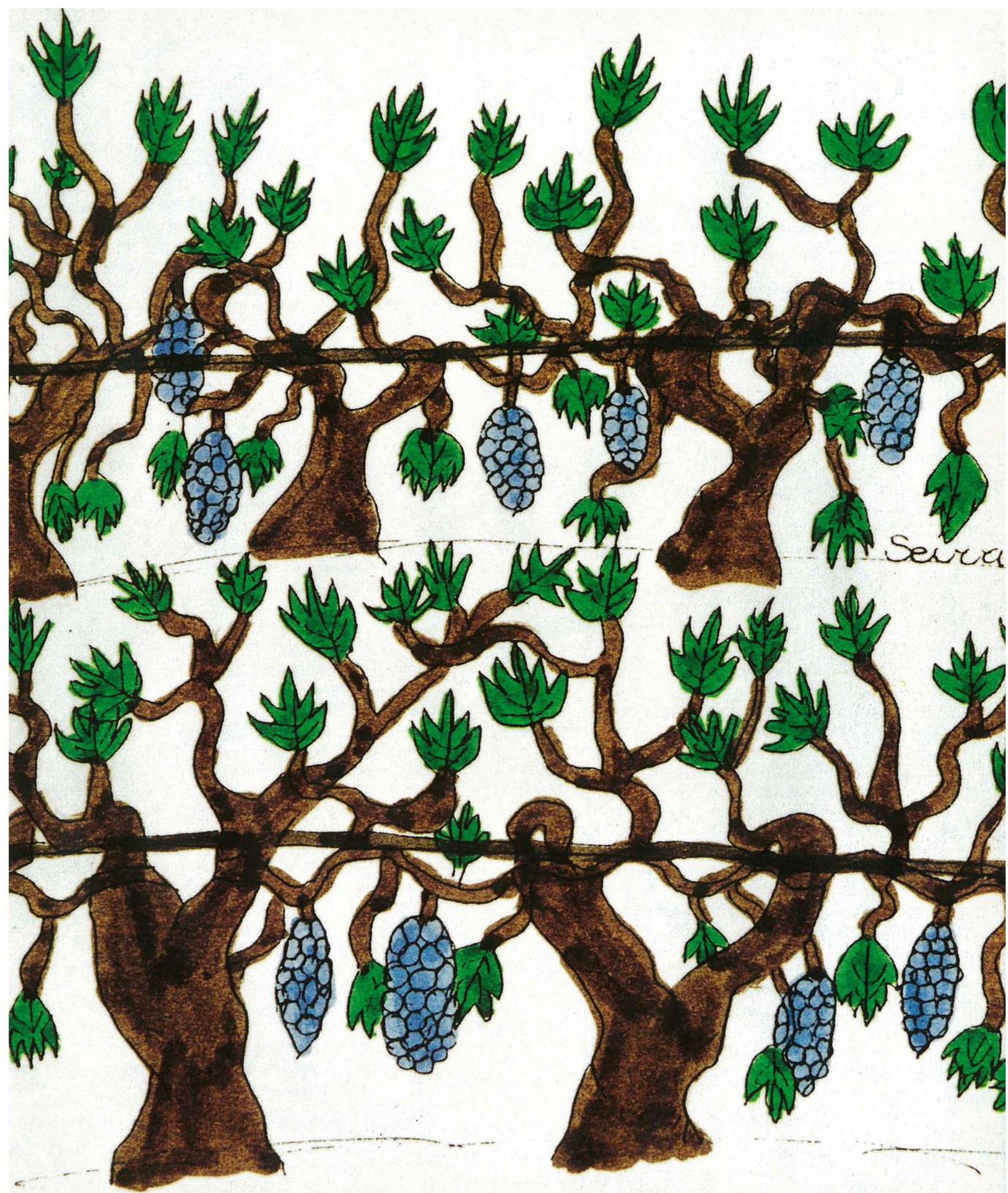
How Marion Council Works

Have you ever wondered who works for the Marion Council and what the Council does for you? This chapter helps you understand why Marion has a council.

Elected Members

Not everyone can decide on all of the local issues concerning our area. That is why we elect council members to represent us. Marion has 16 of them (although this will be reduced to 13 in 1997). Elected members must be fair otherwise they run a great risk of not being voted for at the next election. There are also rules that they must abide by so they can't give special favours to people they know.

The elections are held on the first Saturday in May every other year. The elected members have different views about how their area can be improved. For their ideas to have influence, they need the community to vote for them to show the majority of residents are in their favour. That is why voting is important.



Sevra

Mayor

The mayor is the head of the elected members of council and is voted in by the local community. He or she spends many hours attending meetings and local functions on behalf of the Council. Between 1944 and 1996, there have been 12 mayors in Marion and all of these have been men.

Councillors

Councillors make decisions and policies that affect the lives of all the residents. They visit residents regularly to hear people's opinions so that they can make the best possible choices on behalf of the community. They report back to the Council on problems and concerns such as unsafe roads and footpaths, health risks and neighbourhood problems such as barking dogs and overhanging trees. Councillors are elected by voters in their particular ward. Marion has four wards; South, Central, East and West.

Council Meetings

Marion Council meets regularly at the Marion Council Chambers to discuss and vote on a list of local matters called an agenda. At each of these meetings, up to 60 items of business are considered. Each item that is discussed is given to different community groups before a council meeting. The public and the media are welcome to attend. Sometimes the community can speak at meetings if they have a concern about an issue.

Council Staff

The Council employs people to work for it - for example the city manager, accountants, engineers, environmental and health officers, social and clerical workers, information and cultural development officers, librarians, office and gardening staff to name a few. These people put the elected members' decisions into action. They are paid for their work and not elected. The employed staff may vary due to the needs of the community. So whether it may be new roads, environmental activities or new sporting grounds we rely on our councils to provide us with the necessities that make life easier.

Why Do We Have a Council?

The Marion Council is one of the biggest councils in the Adelaide metropolitan area. Its boundaries spread far and wide. Being so wide-spread, it allows the residents access to a large number of services and facilities. Some of these include the Marion Regional Centre (which is being built and that will be a large centre for community activities), its three community libraries and mobile library and the Marion Swimming Centre and Golf Park. Others range from play equipment in parks, to building public libraries and community halls. The council maintains roads and builds footpaths so that people can get from one place to another safely.

Parks, playgrounds, ovals and sporting facilities are provided for relaxation and fun for the local community. Halls give the community a place to meet in and have discussions or other functions. The council also provides a garbage and recycling service so that you don't have to make long trips to get rid of your wastes each week. There is also the dreaded dog catcher and parking inspector. Even though they are dreaded, they catch dogs and parking offenders for a reason. It keeps the city safe and gives everyone a chance to use local parking facilities. Marion Council also provides health services such as free immunization and European Wasp and vermin control. Marion Council tries to make local services meet community needs.

Money

Do you know what rates are? Rates is a sum of money that has to be paid each year when you own or are buying your own property. All these rates go to the council and the council then pays for all the things it provides. The council also gets its money from parking fines and by charging for dog registrations and other licences such as building permits. Money is given or lent to councils from the State and Federal Governments for certain services and special projects that benefit residents. The council has to be sure it can pay the money back.

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Councils deal with a lot of money each year. To manage it properly the council must have a written plan for how it will use its money called a budget. It is obvious that each area needs a hard working and responsible council which will spend its money wisely.

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Marion's Services and Facilities

Youth

Marion provides things for children such as toy libraries, child care services (at the Council's neighbourhood centres) and playgrounds. Libraries are also useful for students researching projects or simply for reading. Other services are specially for young people aged 12 to 25 years and include youth drop in centres and self-development courses and counselling.

The youth centres come in handy for young people who just want somewhere to hang out with friends, and for those who have hassles there are counsellors and a drug and alcohol worker to help. The Marion Youth Centre also has activities and information for young people. Without Marion Youth Centre, some people might have nothing to do or no-one to turn to!

Elderly People

When you get old in Marion you can go to Cooinda Elderly Recreation Centre and have meals and do courses and classes or just have a nice time talking with your friends. There are also places to live in that the Council has built for older people. Marion provides places where senior citizens can get together in clubs and socialise. Council libraries cater for the elderly by having books with large print and a service which delivers library items to housebound residents. Some older people who can't maintain their homes are sometimes helped by Council's home maintenance workers.

Prevention

Focus on community safety and police, the Mayor, a Crime the community and ways of controlling graffiti by quickly offenders and. The it is most find ways to

Neighbourhood Centres

If you are bored or just want someone to talk to, then neighbourhood centres have plenty of activities and people to help you. There are centres in the north of Marion (Glandore), the middle of Marion (Mitchell Park) and the south of Marion (Trott Park). These are friendly places where you can start new courses, learn new skills, chat with people or be a volunteer.

Volunteers

Volunteering is a good way to meet people and improve your chance of getting a job (because you get to learn new skills). Marion Council uses volunteers and helps train them. Volunteers are very important because they provide us with things we might not otherwise have.

Environmental Health

A healthy lifestyle is essential for all people so they can be happy. Health officers take care of food poisoning, noise, air and water pollution. Environmental Health is a matter of the highest order to Marion Council which has a strong commitment to the health and public safety of its residents.

Immunization

One of the Council's most important health jobs is to immunize people against such diseases as whooping cough, rubella, tetanus, mumps and measles and polio. The Marion Council's free immunization clinics are good for people who have a tight budget and can't afford to go to the local doctor to be immunised. Nobody wants to pay money to be immunized when you can get the service for free.

Food Safety

Marion's environmental health officers check places where food is sold and people eat to make sure the food is safe to eat and won't spread diseases. Some of the diseases which the Council tries to prevent are gastroenteritis, poliomyelitis, salmonella and tuberculosis.





THINGS
You
can
Recycle

- Lawn Clippings
- Bottles (P.E.T)
- Aluminum cans
- Glass
- Cardboard
- Metals



Public Facilities

The Council also checks for unhealthy environments in public areas such as pools, spas and other places that provide privileges for residents.

Animal Management and Pest Control

Animal management and pest control are other issues in the General Inspection unit in the Marion Council and this include rats, cats, dogs, flies, European Wasps and poultry. People who have pets must show they are responsible owners and register their dogs with Marion Council and wear a disc to show this.

Marion Council is also making us aware of the three most important types of flies which are known to be one of the biggest causes of the spread of many diseases and it tells people about how to prevent flies from breeding. Remember: Around food, the fly that's flying is better than the fly that's dying!

The Council believes poultry should be living in a safe, hygienic area and has devised a set of rules for fowls and poultry owners that states, 'Nobody shall keep any bird or animal so it is a nuisance or injurious to your or others' health.' The Council is fairly specific about the size, shape, height and cleanliness of their cages. In the *Keeping Poultry* pamphlet, there is some great advice for litter, fly control and constructing shelters. So for this type of information, you can't go past the pamphlet. Health officers are a valuable asset to the Marion Council and should be thanked for their services.

Waste and Recycling

Marion Council has come up with one of the best ways of recycling and collecting rubbish. People who live in the Marion Council area have two bins: one for recycling and rubbish and the other for green organic material. There are restrictions on what you can put in the bins but residents can recycle glass, bottles, paper, steel and aluminium as well as most garden

matter. Placing the bin at the kerb is easy. All you have to do is leave it half a metre from the kerb, with the wheels facing your house.

The rubbish collected from the Marion Council area in a year is enough to fill 20 Olympic-sized swimming pools. Marion Council has even helped local businesses make compost out of green organic material collected at the kerbside. This recycling service is helping to protect our environment.

Planning

Planning is about the management and development of cities, towns and local suburbs. Planners work out a design for roads and suburbs including where reserves, open spaces, schools, shops, factories and houses will be built.

The areas where each type of development is allowed to go is called a zone. Marion Council says where the zones will be. It also gives approval for new buildings and other facilities. The Council makes sure all new buildings fit in with their surroundings. For example, a three storey house might cast shadows onto a house next door and that would stop the sunlight getting into the house and make it cold in winter.

Traffic Management

Traffic is never ending so there are strict rules to make sure it can run safely. The Council is responsible for the traffic in the local areas and holds meetings where residents can discuss road safety matters. The Council also manages road building and maintenance such as road resurfacing, building roundabouts and other speed controls.

Roads, Footpaths, Playgrounds

The Public Infrastructure Department of the Council builds and maintains roads, footpaths, storm water drains, bike paths and parks and reserves. The Council constructs roads and

fixes problems like pot holes. Footpaths allow people to walk safely alongside the road to bus stops, work and school.

Another important part of infrastructure are the drains which Marion puts under the road to take rain and storm water away from houses to the sea. Sometimes these pipes get blocked with rubbish and leaves and need to be cleaned out with a special vacuum cleaner so water can flow through the pipes again and not overflow onto the streets.

Thanks to the Infrastructure Department, we also have lots of bike paths in Marion so people don't have to walk or drive. We also have 100 playgrounds in 200 parks and reserves which are provided by the Council.

The Council has eight ovals for football and cricket as well as soccer fields, hockey, tennis courts and other sports venues. Marion also has areas where native vegetation and fauna are protected.

Cultural Development

Cultural development is about celebrating life in Marion. People celebrate with painting, sculpture, crafts, theatre, singing, dance and other arts. In Marion there are two Council art galleries where all sorts of people can display their artwork. They are the Red House Art, Craft and Tourism Centre and the Chambers Gallery in the Council building. These are next door to each other on Sturt Road, Sturt.

Marion Council also celebrates its history and is fixing up two places that are important to our history. One of these is Perry Barr Farm at Hallett Cove which was a farm in the old days of Marion. Another one is the Warriparinga Aboriginal and European Interpretive Centre at Sturt where the Kurna people will one day celebrate their culture. Cultural development helps with tourism in Marion which is good because it means more jobs and money in the area.

Recreation

We are lucky to live in Marion because we have both beaches and hills and the Council provides plenty of leisure and recreation for all ages. For example, it has the Marion Leisure and Fitness Centre, the Marion Swimming Centre, Libraries, Marion nine-hole Golf Park and more. If you would like to know more about these things, get a copy of the *Marion Recreation and Leisure Directory* from Marion Council.

Community Information

Communicating with us, the residents, is one of Marion Council's jobs and it does this through the Marion Information Service and also through its newspaper (*News and Views*) and Ward Bulletins. You can phone the Information Service about all sorts of matters and they will give you an answer. They also make the *Marion Community Services Directory* or the *Marion Recreation and Leisure Directory*.

Libraries

People of all ages can sign up to belong to the Marion Library. As a member, you will be given a card which you can use at any of Marion's three branches (at Park Holme, Seacombe Gardens and Hallett Cove). You can also use the mobile library if you're out and about and wish to borrow a book. Besides books, the library also has a good supply of magazines, knitting patterns, puzzles, videos, language books and large print books. There are CDs and cassettes for the younger generation so we can also be involved in an exciting community atmosphere.

The toy library is a great idea and provides toddlers with hours of enjoyment (for those up to five years old). The library has a service called inter-library loans where, if it doesn't have the book you want, it can get it down from another branch.

Economy and Jobs

Some councils like Marion Council help their communities by finding ways to improve local businesses and create more jobs. Marion

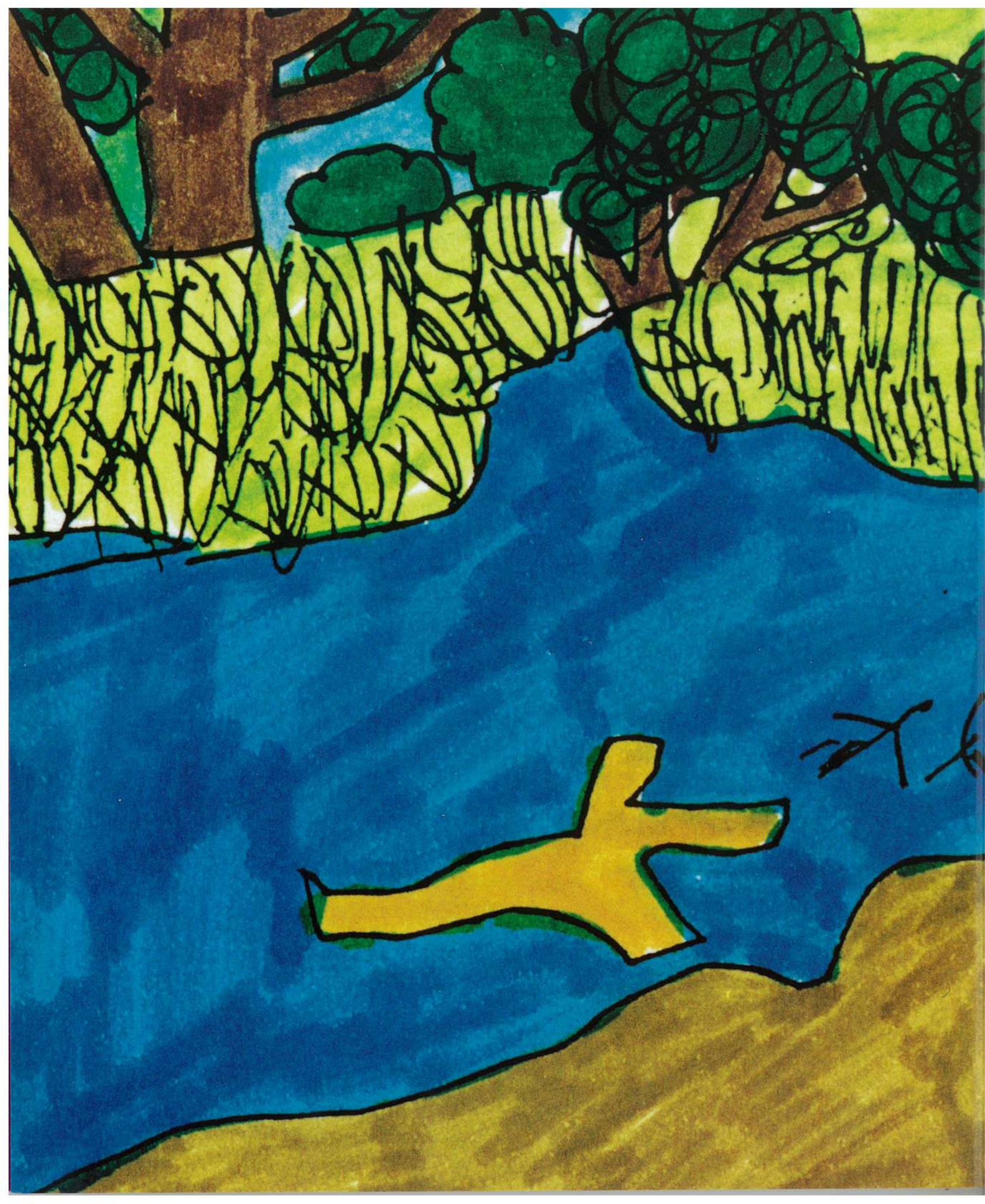
Council is one of them. It is always trying to help the 2000 small businesses which are lying around Edwardstown. Big businesses like Westfield, Mitsubishi, Hills and Monroe can benefit the whole area and need a good council to support them.

Environment

The environment is one of the most important things to the City of Marion and it works very hard to keep our environment safe and clean. It is part of a Local Agenda 21 Program with councils from all around the world which are trying to protect the environment for the future.

Some of Marion Council's environment work includes managing rivers and stormwater, protecting the coastal areas and taking care of native plants, animals and other creatures. Marion is committed to improving the quality of the air we breathe and has also set up a very good recycling project. There is much pleasure and pride to be gained from taking an interest in improving the environment in which we live. The amount of time you devote to this noble cause is at your discretion but the benefits are numerous.







East Ward

The East Ward is within the boundaries of South Road, Marion Road and Glenelg tramline. It has a population of approximately 20,000 people in an area of 12 square kilometres. There are many facilities for the young and old such as the Glandore Community Centre and Mitchell Park Neighbourhood Centre and many parks and reserves including the Sturt River.

East Ward is a good place for new businesses or industries because Marion Council has zoned parts of the area for these things. An example of this is Mitsubishi Motors which is now one of the biggest car manufacturers in the world. There are also many small shopping complexes and a large complex in Edwardstown called Castle Plaza which is one of the biggest shopping centres in Marion.

There are schools in the area including Sacred Heart College, Hamilton Secondary College and several primary schools, so it is easy to find a good education. Marion Council tries to work with schools to teach kids about council and youth activities.

What Marion Council Does in East Ward

Edwardstown Project

Edwardstown is an important area with many houses, shops and factories. Because these are located next to each other, pollution from industry can cause problems for the people living and working in the area. Marion Council is working with local business, residents and other groups to fix these problems by making sure the neighbourhood isn't polluted (that includes air, noise and water pollution). It is also making roads safer and the area more beautiful.

It is helping to make our waterways cleaner by installing trash racks to collect loose rubbish in the Sturt River and checking the amount of pollution going down the river. The Council employs people to clear blocked drains to prevent the flooding of houses. It is also

planting badly-needed trees so that the planet has a better chance of survival. Of course, we can't just watch these officers do all of this. We must give a hand by picking up rubbish and putting it in a bin.

Glandore Community Centre

Marion Council provides many things for all types of people. Glandore Community Centre is just one of many places especially for old and disabled people but that doesn't mean younger people can't go too. The Glandore Community Centre is located at the following address: 25 Naldera Street, Glandore.

It offers a wide variety of sports and activities and here are just a few - yoga, woodwork, art and craft, chess, lawn bowls, pool, darts, cards and board games. There is also dancing for old and new members and beginners.

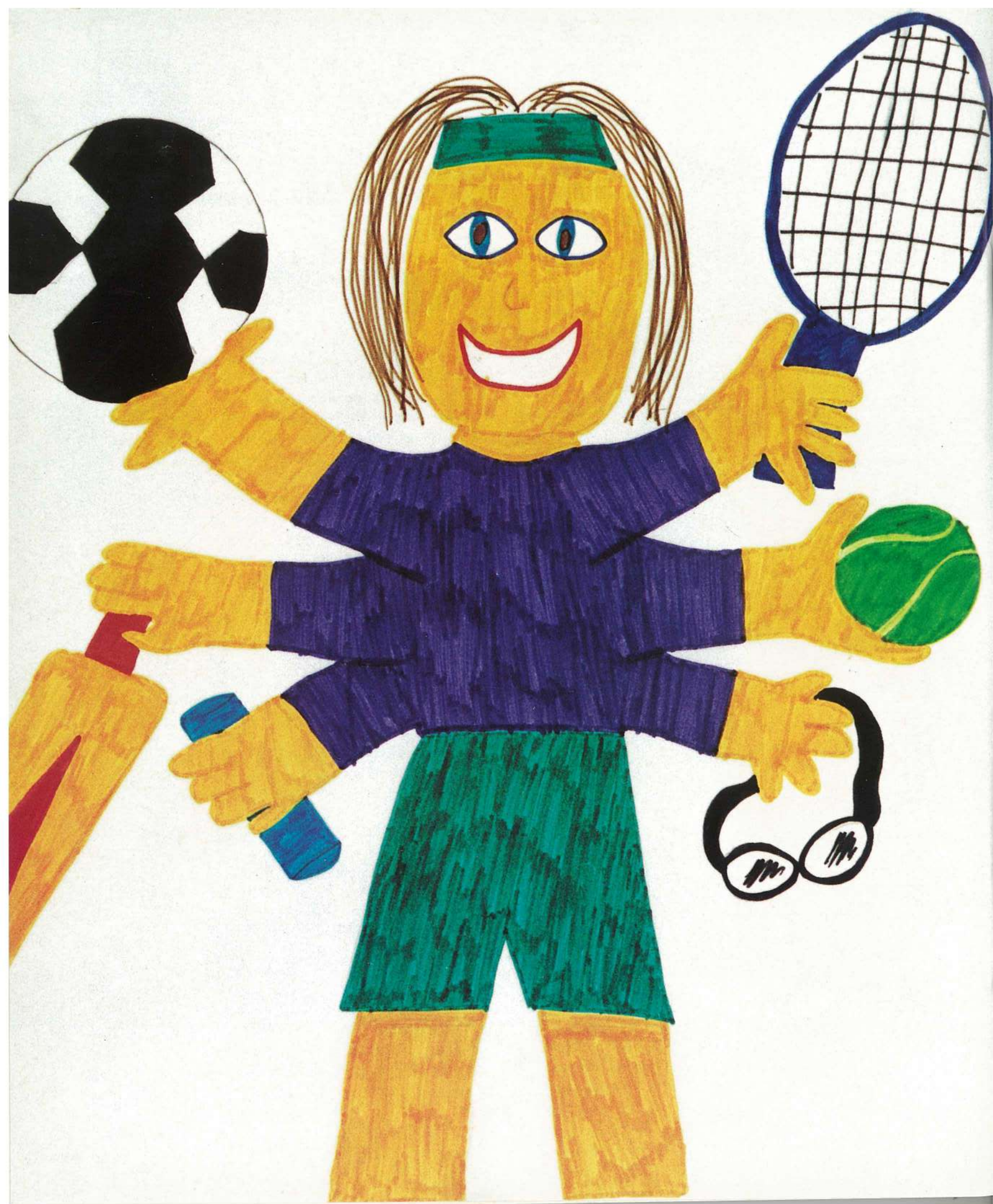
Glandore also helps the needy and less fortunate through other groups at the centre. Glandore Skillshare offers help with finding jobs. For the older and disabled adults who are lonely, there is a service called *Telelink* so they can telephone each other (at a very low price) to share concerns, jokes and stories etc.

So you see, Glandore has many important features for all types of people whether they are disabled or not. It is made for the satisfaction of all people. It's good that places like this are built because sometimes you just feel that you're too old or have lived long enough. At anytime if you are feeling bored you can just visit one of these places so you have new people to talk to and new things to do.

Abbeyfield House

A special house for older people has been built by Marion Council in East Ward. It is called Abbeyfield House and it is a safe and secure home for 10 older people who are helped by a housekeeper. This house is special because it lets older people have their own space to live in, but they get to share some facilities so they have support and are not lonely. It has a





shared kitchen, sitting and dining room, and there is also a guest bedroom and bathroom so a friend or relative can stay. Residents have their own keys so they can come and go as they please.

Mitchell Park Neighbourhood Centre

If you live in East Ward and want to meet new people and learn new things, the best place to go is the Mitchell Park Neighbourhood Centre. A few people who have come from different countries live in East Ward. At the Neighbourhood Centre these people can join groups to help them learn English and they have even written a multi-cultural cookbook. Other courses and groups are run by the centre which help residents have a better life.

Bike Lanes and Linear Paths

One of the most healthy jobs the Marion Council performs is the construction and management of bicycle lanes and walking trails. In East Ward, these include all the old bike lanes as well as the new ones on both sides of Winifred Avenue, Railway Terrace, and West Street. These lanes ensure a safe, fun, healthy weekend out or an efficient passage to work or school. Another fun project is the BMX tracks and half-pipes (ramps) which Marion is planning to build in the City. But mothers may not tolerate the dirt (and mud) collected from the ride!

Parks and Playgrounds

Littered around East Ward are playgrounds and parks where families can have a picnic. Another outstanding project from the Marion Council is the Linear Park Walk. It is a scenic walk that follows the course of the Sturt River. The walk passes many locally known places like the Village of Marion (where Marion was first settled by Europeans), Oaklands Park Botanic Gardens and the Marion Leisure and Fitness Centre. Overall, Marion's bikeways and walking trails give all its citizens the chance to enjoy safe and scenic surroundings.

Marion Depot

Marion has a depot where road building equipment is kept and fixed if it breaks down. There is also a recycling depot at the same place where people can bring certain recycling items that aren't picked up at the kerbside. Beside the depot is the Council nursery where many of the plants are grown that make the city more beautiful and healthy.

Warriparinga Aboriginal and European Interpretive Centre

There is a place in East Ward called Laffers Triangle which has historical importance for Aboriginal and European people. It was once a camping and burial ground for the Kurna people. It contains part of the Tjilbruke Dreaming Trail which is a path that goes from Crystal Brook to Cape Jervis.

In Aboriginal Dreaming a man called Tjilbruke gets revenge when his nephew is killed and he carries the dead body along the coast and his tears form springs along the way. When Tjilbruke reaches Cape Jervis he leaves the body in a cave and when he comes out he turns into an Ibis bird.

There are still gum trees in Laffers Triangle that show where Aborigines cut out their shields hundreds of years ago. The early Europeans also had a farm there. Today Marion Council is making the place into the Warriparinga Aboriginal and European Interpretative Centre that will give Kurna people a place to meet and celebrate. Kurna people greatly treasure the Warriparinga site. The Council will help build a centre where they can display their art and perform dances etc.

Some of the things the Council is doing with the Kurna people at Warriparinga include a conservation study about the Tjilbruke Dreaming Trail, and helping the Tjilbruke Dance Group get money to perform. This group has twelve young Aborigines.



West Ward

Two things you will notice about West Ward are that there are mainly houses here, and the other is the Sturt Creek which goes right through the middle. West Ward is the smallest ward with the least people in Marion. It has an area of just eight square kilometres and there are only 18,700 people living here.

Lots happens in West Ward. For example, there is the Morphettville Racecourse and the TransAdelaide Bus Depot and the Metro Twin Drive-In that is good for families. The army is trained in West Ward at the Warradale Army Barracks.

Marion Council is also busy in this area and has built a swimming centre, library, Oaklands Park Botanic Gardens and Sturt Creek Linear Park. Old people are also cared for very well in West Ward because Marion has built two places especially for the elderly. It is a good place for old people too!

What Marion Council Does in West Ward

Marion Leisure and Fitness Centre

Marion Leisure and Fitness Centre is built on council land on the corner of Oaklands Road and Rosedale Avenue. It was built in 1978 and is open seven days a week, offering aerobics, fitness classes and recreational activities such as korfbal and badminton.

Oaklands Road Vineyards

Surrounded by houses, the historic vineyards on Oaklands Road beside the swimming centre are the last vines in the area on Council-owned land. The vines used to be a big part of this area and started with the first settlement in 1838. The vines were grown for wine and table grapes, but most disappeared in the 1950s when the land was sold for housing.

Marion Council and Richard Hamilton Wines have made an agreement for the small area of grapes left on Oaklands Road to continue producing the Marion Vintage wine.

Sturt Creek Linear Park Walk

The Sturt Creek Linear Park walk is an interesting and fun way to look around and keep fit. There are 15 stops along the way and if you go for a walk you will see a huge Moreton Bay fig tree and Cobham Hall which is now a nursing home. There is Marion Leisure and Fitness Centre, the Warradale Army Barracks and Oaklands Estate Reserve. After crossing the railway line into Central Ward, you can visit the Workmen's Cottages (6-10 Township Road), Westminster School, historic almond trees and the Finnis Street bridge (the original was designed by Colonel William Light in 1839). There are also former market gardens, an industrial estate and Suneden School.

Reserves

In the Marion Council's West Ward, there are 21 reserves and ovals. All of them are open to the public. They are maintained by gardeners and Council workers. One of the biggest reserves is Oaklands Estate which is positioned behind the Driving Development Centre on Oaklands Road. At Willoughby Reserve is the biggest tree in the Marion Council area.

Marion Swimming Centre

The Marion Swimming Centre is a place to go for families and schools. It has a large outdoor area with three deep pools, shallow pools, pergolas, lots of trees and a water slide. The pool is not open in winter, but is open in summer. There are free BBQs, a playground, a kiosk and car parking and later on there may even be an indoor pool. Marion Swimming Centre was opened to the public in 1976. Before it was opened, there used to be a lot of grape vines there.

Oaklands Estate Reserve

Founded by Samuel Kearne in 1844, part of the Oaklands Reserve was used as a campsite during World Wars One and Two. It is now being developed as a botanic garden by Marion Council and native trees and River Red Gums can be found there. It was an important area

25

for the Kurna Aboriginal people and you can still see where the bark was stripped from trees to make wooden dishes called coolamons.

Sister City Gardens

The Japanese City of Kokubunji and Marion have a close relationship because they are sister cities. Gardeners from Kokubunji built a sister city garden at Oaklands Estate Reserve 1994 as a symbol of the coming together of Japan and Australia. The garden is split into two parts: one side of the lawn represents the Pacific Ocean. The rocks between the lawn represents the islands between each of the countries. The stone lanterns, called 'Toro' are a gift from Kokubunji.

Mullana and Cungena Aged Accommodation

When you get very old, sometimes you may need special accommodation. Marion Council knows this and has provided the Mullana Hostel and Cungena Independent Living Units at Morphettville.

Mullana is for old people who need that bit of extra care to get about each day. There are 49 beds and people working 24-hours a day.

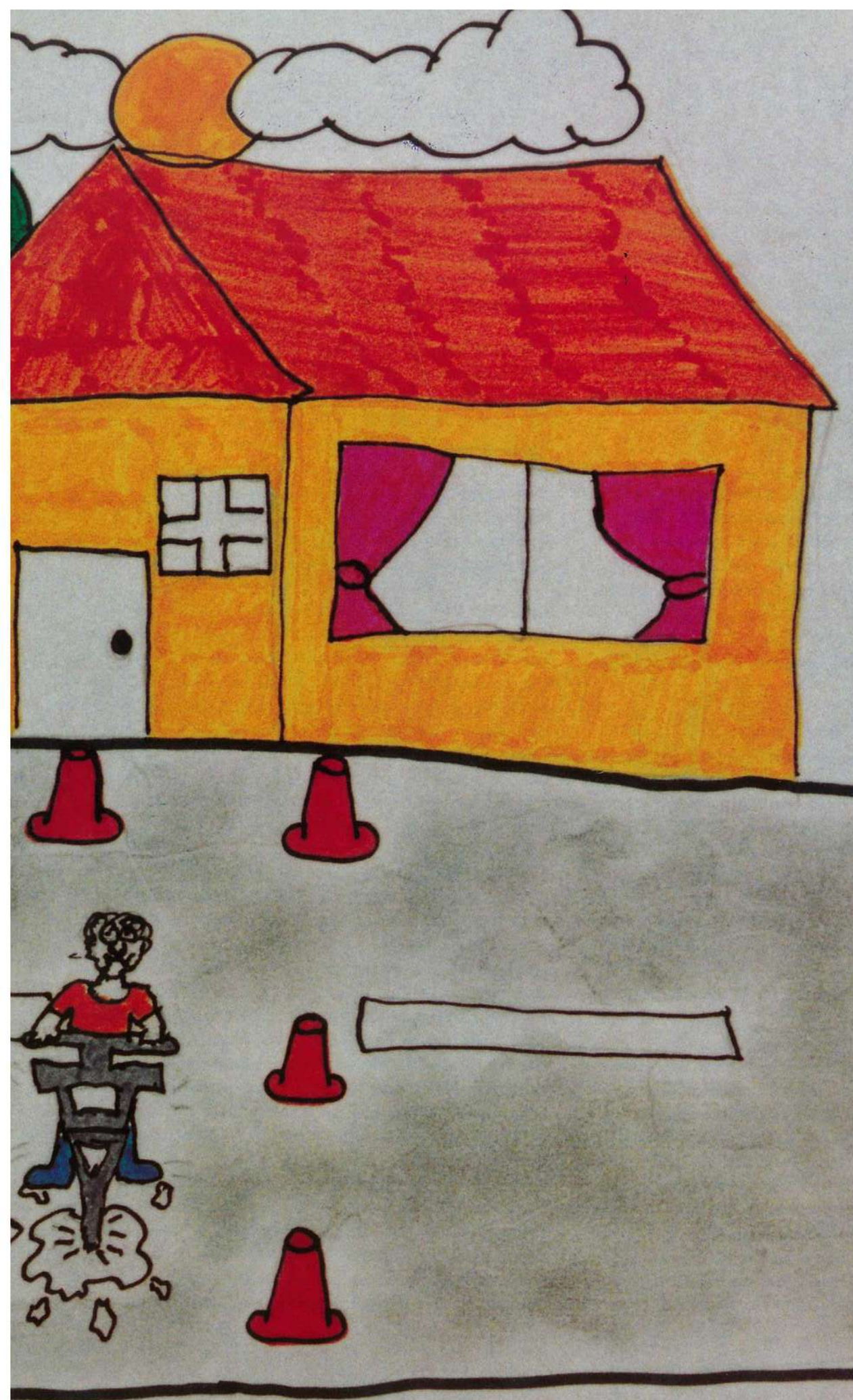
Cungena is for people who still like to look after themselves but might require a little bit of help with some things like cooking or cleaning. There are 39 units at Cungena.

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Pump it up





ROADWORK

Central Ward

Central Ward is in the heart of Marion. With 18,900 people it has the third largest population of all Marion's four wards. It covers the second largest area of 16 square kilometres. It is bounded by the railway line in the north, Sturt River on the east, to the south are Majors Road and Ocean Boulevard while on the west are Arthur Street, Davenport Terrace and Neath Avenue. It has a mixture of hills and plains and both houses and shopping areas.

Many services and facilities have been provided by Marion Council in Central Ward such as the Sturt Road Library, the Marion Youth Centre and the Red House Art Craft and Tourism Centre. The Council Chambers are in Central Ward and it is here that the Council will make decisions about its new Regional Centre to serve the whole City. It is interesting that there are about 10 schools in Central Ward and 28 reserves.

30 The original village of Marion was based in Central Ward and today there are still many historic sites that show where the early settlers lived and went about their daily lives. St Anns Catholic Church on the corner of Finnis Street and George Street was built in 1859. It was used as a school for a time in 1865. The Bell Tower in the back yard of the church was built in a Gum Tree. The Bungalow on Finnis Street was Marion's Police Station from 1933 to 1963.

What Marion Council Does in Central Ward

Marion Regional Centre

In future, Marion Council will have a big centre for shopping and community facilities. The Council is working with the community to design this place which is called the *Marion Regional Centre*. It will be located in the northern tip of the triangle surrounded by Sturt, Morphett and Diagonal Roads and right beside Westfield Marion. The Council has bought land which it hopes to use for a community arts centre, a huge library and perhaps a hall for elderly people. You may be able to sit in the

parcs, ride your bike, visit the shops, go to the cinema, visit a play or places like the CES and other government offices which will be there. The Marion Regional Centre will be one of a few regional centres in Adelaide.

Marion Youth Centre

This centre provides an information, recreation and health service for young people aged 12 to 25 years. It has a pool table, pin ball machines, Sega games, video recorder and has a magazine group, guitar lessons and computer literacy classes. The centre gives out important information to young people about drugs and family matters. There are also things for young people to do during the holidays.

Marion Council Offices

Of course, Central Ward is where you can find the Marion Council itself. The Council offices are located at 245 Sturt Road, Sturt and this building is where many of the workers carry out the day-to-day running of the city. The Council Chambers are also in this building, where the elected members attend regular meetings to make decisions about what Marion Council will and won't do.

Red House and Chambers Gallery

If you want to be an artist then the Red House Gallery and Chambers Gallery (in the Council building) are the places for you. They are places where you can exhibit your paintings if you are an artist and you can even buy hand-made clothes and jewellery. Sometimes children and teenagers have their own exhibitions at these places which is good because it lets the community know what young people can do. (However, all sorts of people can exhibit their art at these galleries, not just young people).

Cooinda Elderly Recreation Centre

Elderly people's recreational needs are catered for very well by Marion Council which has built a recreation centre named Cooinda which means *Happy Place*. It provides many exciting activities for elderly people. Cooinda opened



DELI

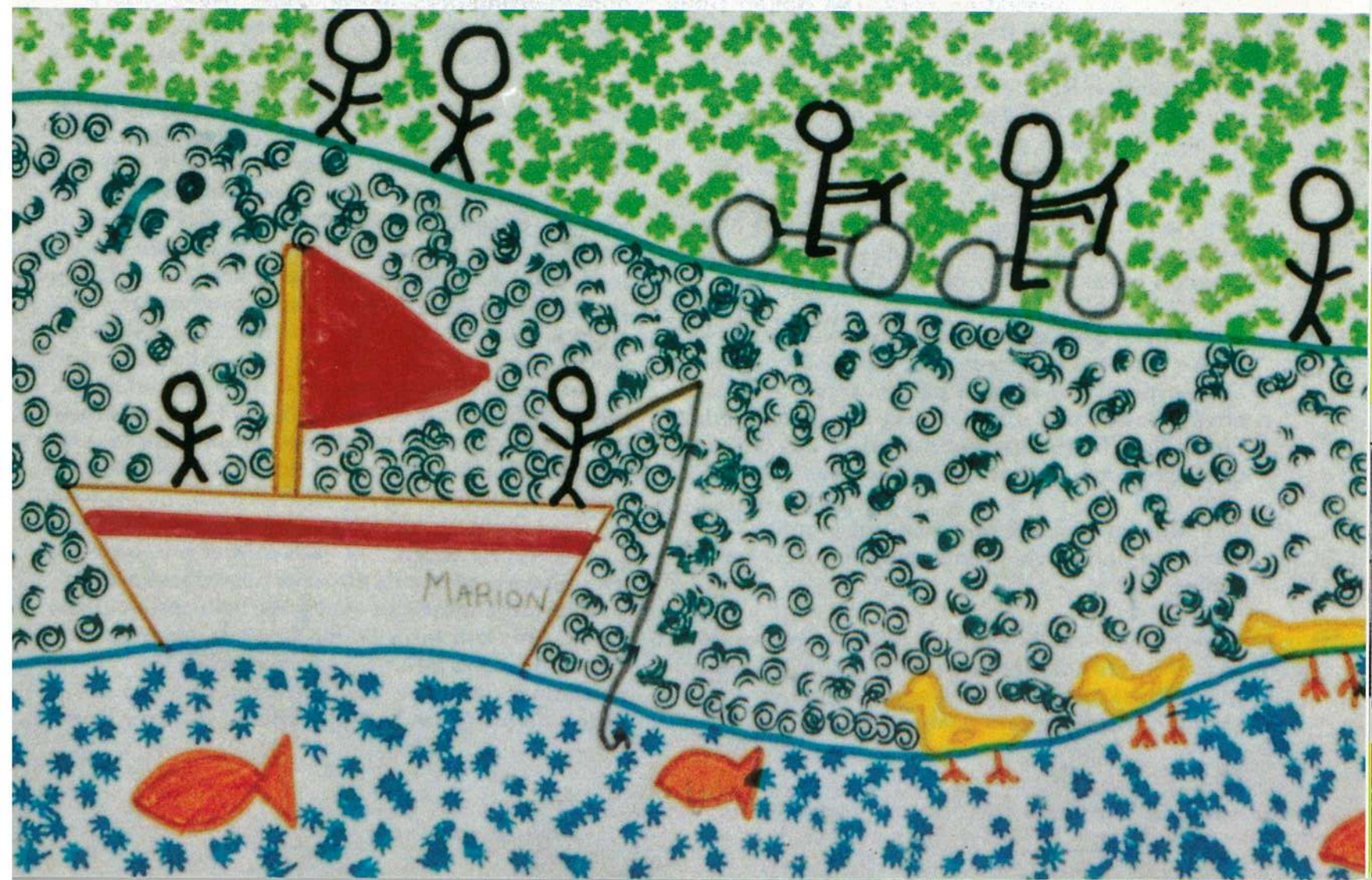
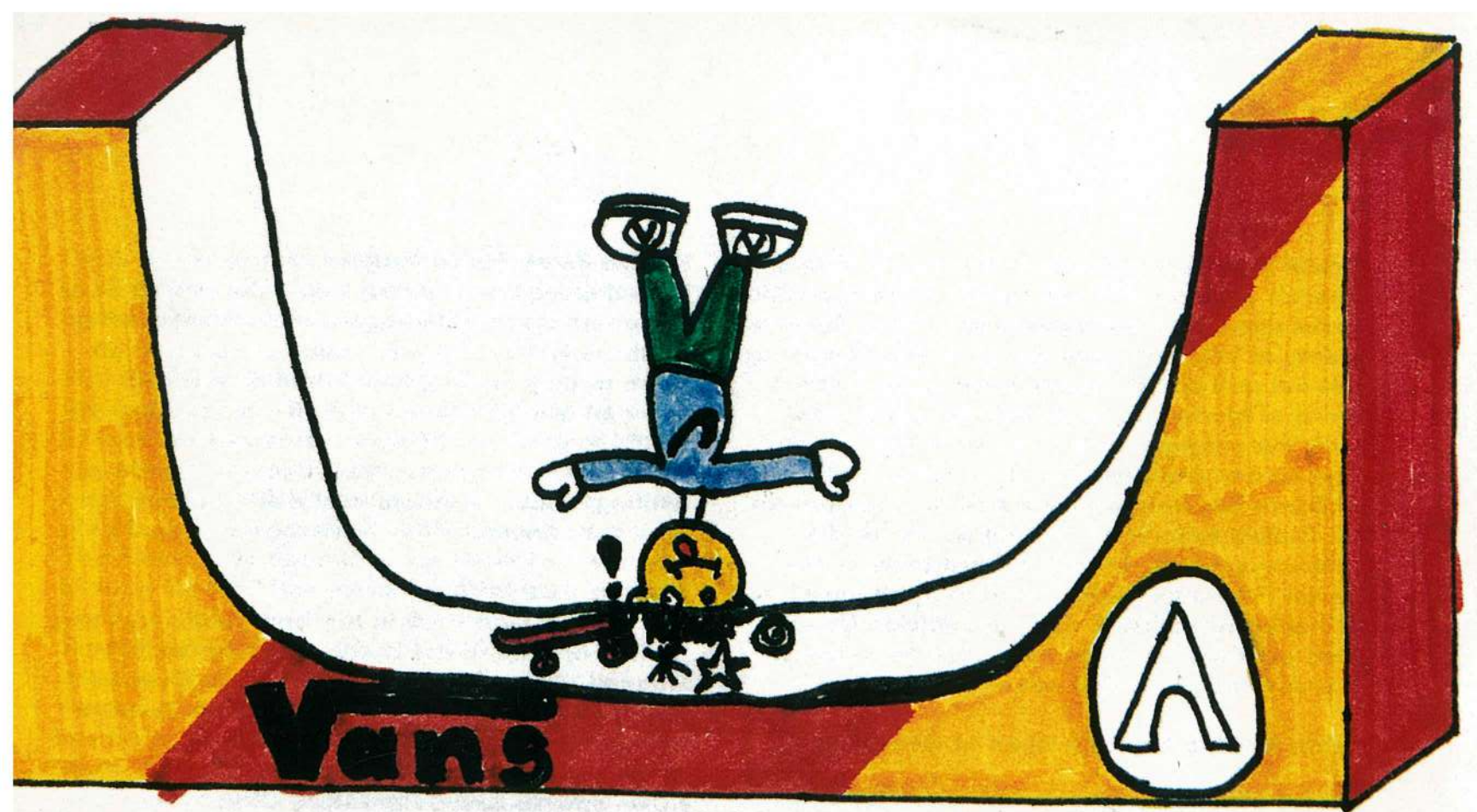
LIBRARY

its doors 17 years ago and since then has been providing senior people with good entertainment and fun. Examples of activities include: old style dancing, modern sequence dancing, games, social cabarets, line dancing and much, much more.

Sturt Road Library

There is a library on Sturt Road called Sturt Road Library. It is Marion's oldest library and was built in 1959. You can get patterns and books. There are also CD-ROMs, videos, CDs, cassettes and personal computers.

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South Ward

South Ward has everything for nature lovers. There's a beach and cliffs and two conservation parks and a recreation park and creeks. There are plenty of hills and open space so you can always get out and about. South Ward is the largest ward in Marion (area 25 square kilometres) with the youngest population (19,800 people). The houses are new. Mainly families with young children live here and some of the children go to Hallett Cove R-12 School or one of the primary schools. In South Ward there is the Coast-FM radio station, Marino lighthouse and O'Halloran Hill TAFE campus. Marion Council also provides services and facilities in South Ward. Read on to find out what these are.

What Marion Council Does in South Ward

Parks and Reserves

There are two conservation parks in South Ward and one recreation Park. The Hallett Cove Conservation Park has important rocks that show signs of the last Ice Age. The Marino Conservation Park contains the last native seaside plants in Adelaide that are the same as before European people came to Australia (in other areas, these have all been cut down for housing developments). The Friends of Marino and Hallett Cove Conservation Parks are always trying to look after these places. Marion Council helps them by giving them money.

There are other parks (not conservation parks) in the Hallett Cove area that have playgrounds and some of these have plants, trees, rest seats, flower beds, BBQs etc. The people who look after the parks would happily say 'Hi' and probably have a chat if you ever see them.

The Marion Council has also put in solar powered lights which is something new for Hallett Cove.

Capella Reserve is seen as a family recreation reserve. Its facilities include a set of football goals, basketball rings, a soccer goal, skateboard ramp and grassed area.

Hallett Cove Youth Project

Hallett Cove Youth Project is in the Hallett Cove Shopping Centre. The age of most people who go there is 12-25 years. Young people can go there to play video games, pool or just talk. You can also get counselling if your are having troubles and it's all free. This centre has its Artcove art programs that let young people try making videos, learn special make-up and hair styles. Sometimes they have a rock concert.

Marion Golf Park

The Marion Golf Park is the first public sporting facility opened in the South Ward by Marion Council. This golf park is situated on Ocean Boulevard and has views of the coast. It has a members' club that is often used.

Cove Sports and Community Club

The Cove Sports and Community Club is the only sporting place in the South Ward where you can enjoy all these things at one place: soccer, football, cricket, marching, little athletics, BMX, gridiron, hockey and bingo. Marion Council has brought more land near the centre so there will be even more sport in future at Hallett Cove.

Elderly People

Though there are not many elderly people living in South Ward, Marion Council still cares for them by sending a special bus to pick them up if they want to go to the Marion Shopping Centre, the Coinda Elderly Recreation Centre or for medical appointments. Also, certain elderly people who can't change a light bulb or install smoke detectors or do other little jobs around their homes can ask the Council to help them.

Perry Barr Farm

The history of South Ward is being preserved by Marion Council at Perry Barr Farm in Hallett Cove. This old farm house is owned by Marion Council and is being fixed up so that the community can see how life used to be in the olden days. There is a playspace at Perry Barr

Farm where people with disabilities can enjoy their own special playground and this came about with Marion Council's help.

The Coastal Working Party

Marion Council and the community are helping to save the coast of Marion from destruction by making special walkways so people don't walk on the cliffs and plants and damage them. It is planting plants grown in the Council's nursery. The Field River goes through Hallett Cove and Marion Council has plans for this too.

Trott Park Neighbourhood Centre

Because there are many young families in Marion, the Council has built a neighbourhood centre at Trott Park that gives them many things to do. The centre has a shopper's creche, craft markets, courses to help parents, kindergym and playgroups and even a group for people who have more than one baby at once. There are recreational activities and clubs for young people too.

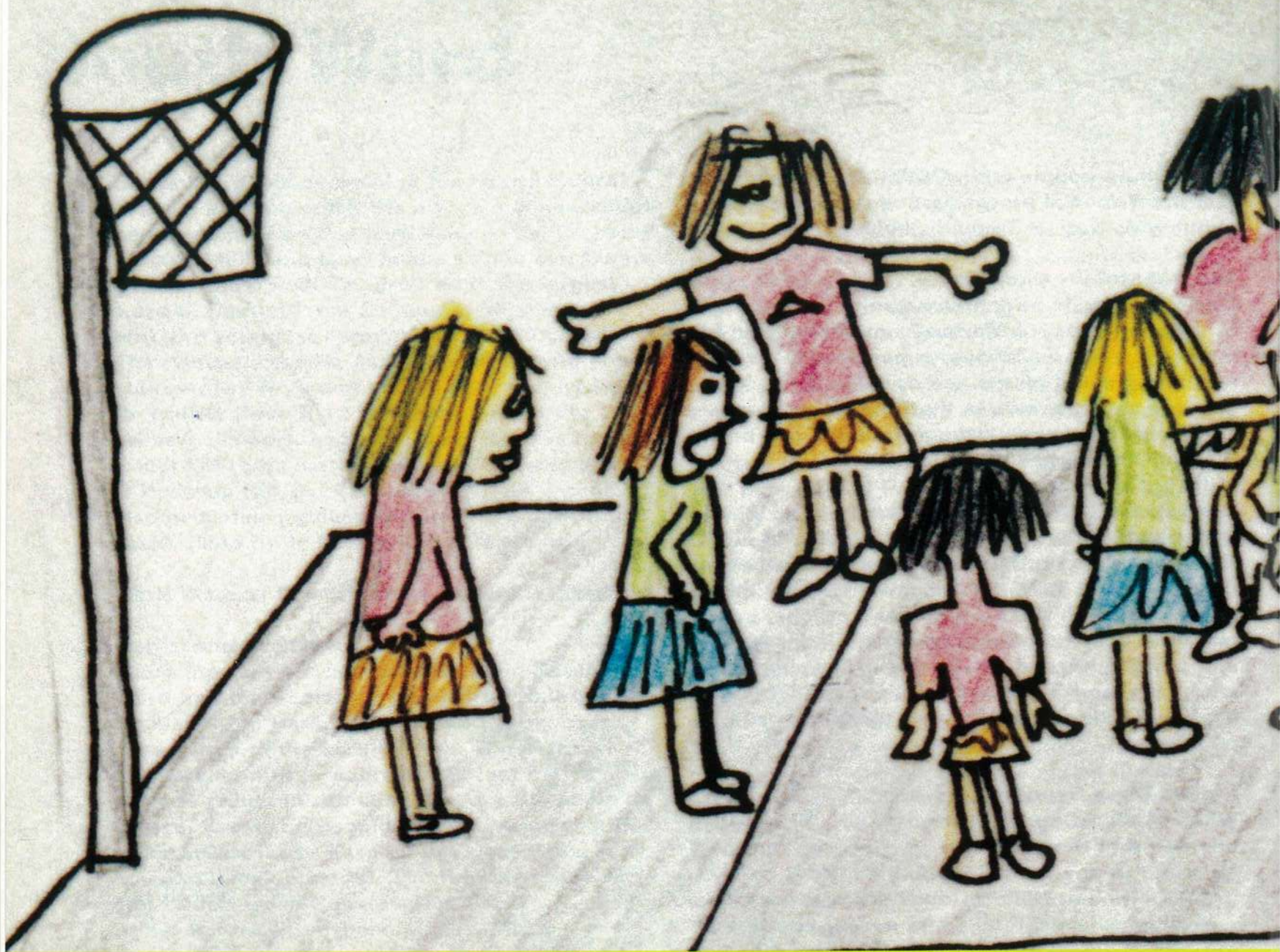
Hallett Cove Branch Office and Library

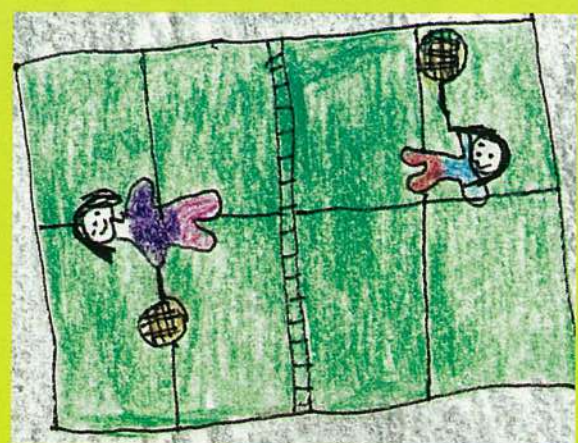
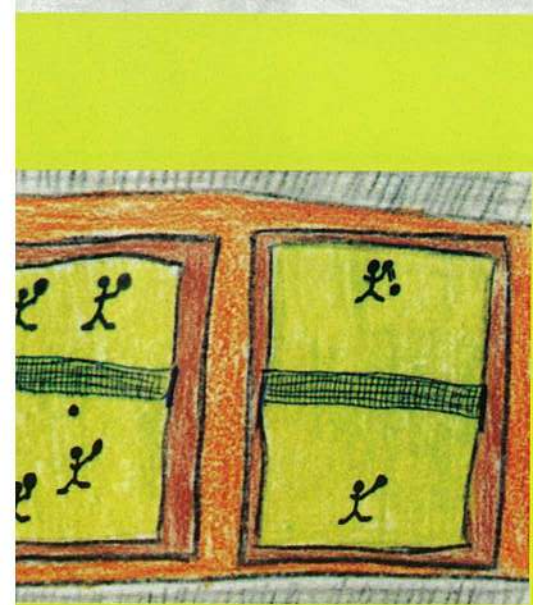
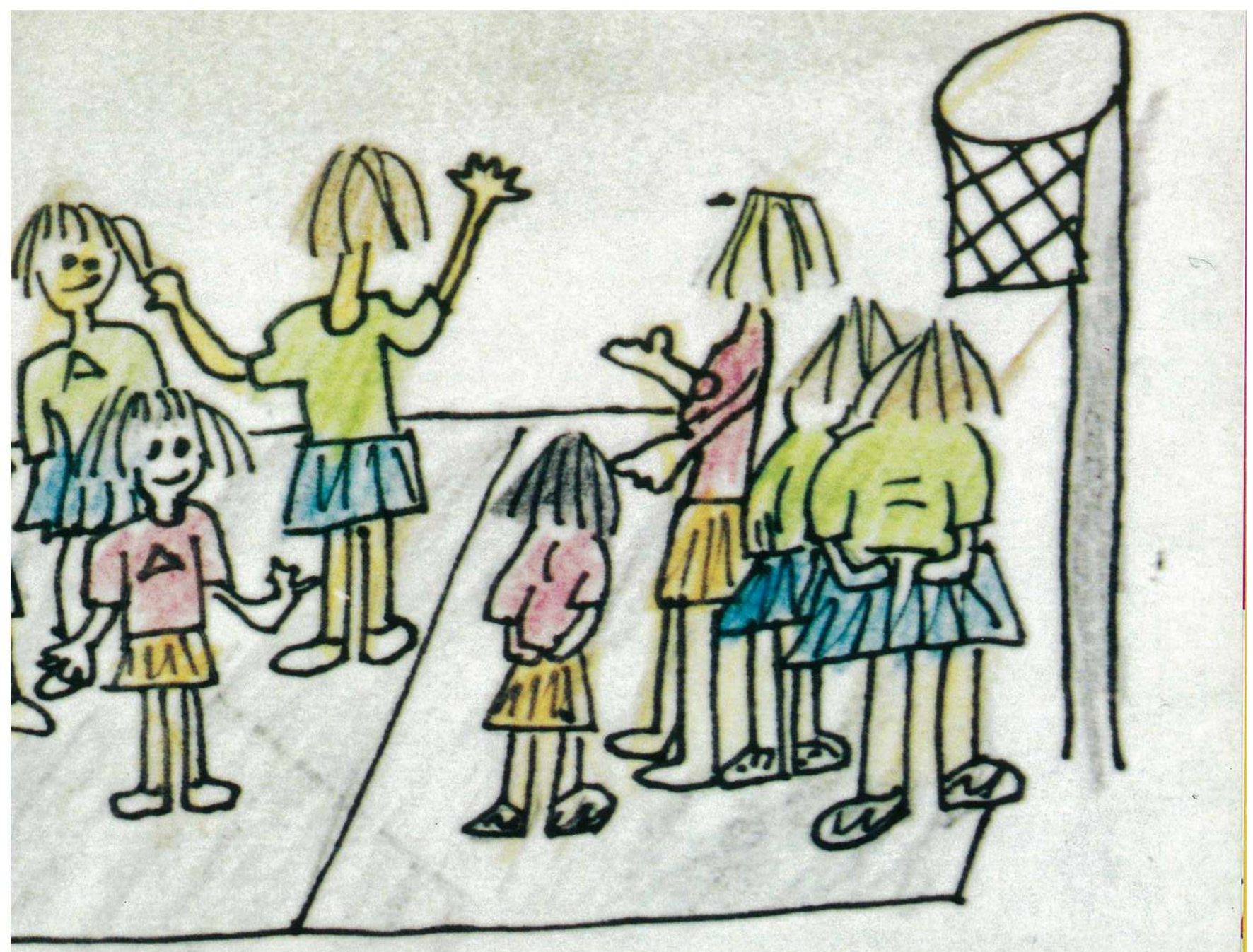
When Marion Council started getting bigger, it decided that the people in South Ward had too far to go to pay their Council bills. So it built a branch office at Hallett Cove and now you can pay all your Council bills and make enquiries etc. there. There is also a library under the same roof where you can do all the things you normally do at Marion's other libraries.

Worthing Mine

The historic Worthing Mine at Hallett Cove is surrounded by hills and one day some houses will be built near it. Marion Council will try to protect the area's history and environment with rules for the types of buildings that will be allowed and where they will go. Any houses that are built here will not harm the environment and it will be the same for water management.

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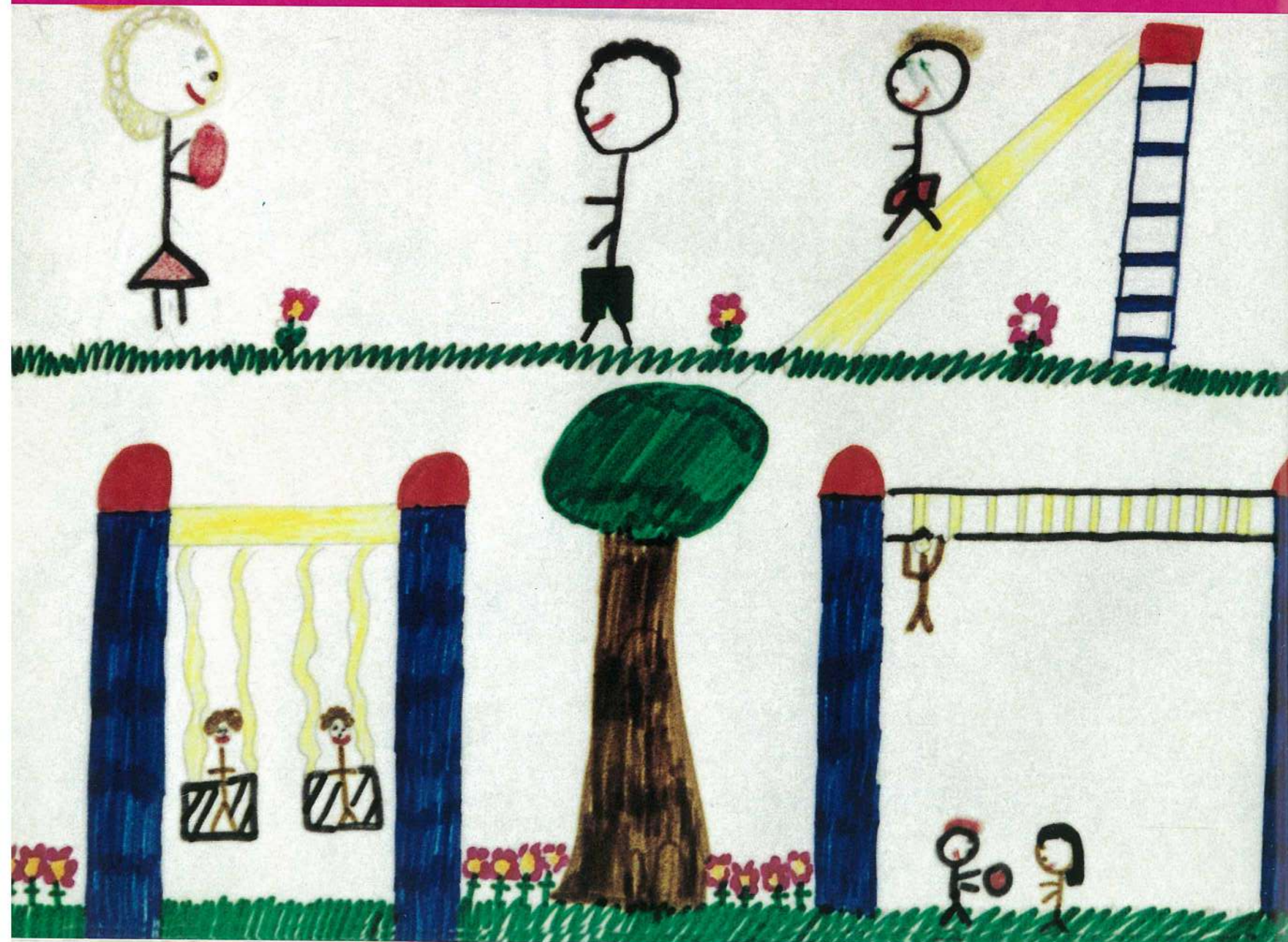
Future Developments

3 The developments in the future, we really don't know much about because we don't know what the future holds but we do know the Council has a few projects in mind.

The Council wants to build a new library, hall and community arts centre at the Marion Regional Centre in a few years as soon as it has the money. This will be the largest development project in the area to date.

Good news for sports lovers! There is going to be some more sports facilities in the near future. Marion may build an international roller/skateboard centre and is studying the possibility of an indoor aquatic centre.

Marion Council is making sure that the city is suitable for future generations by helping the environment and finding ways to improve the economy. It is spending many thousands of

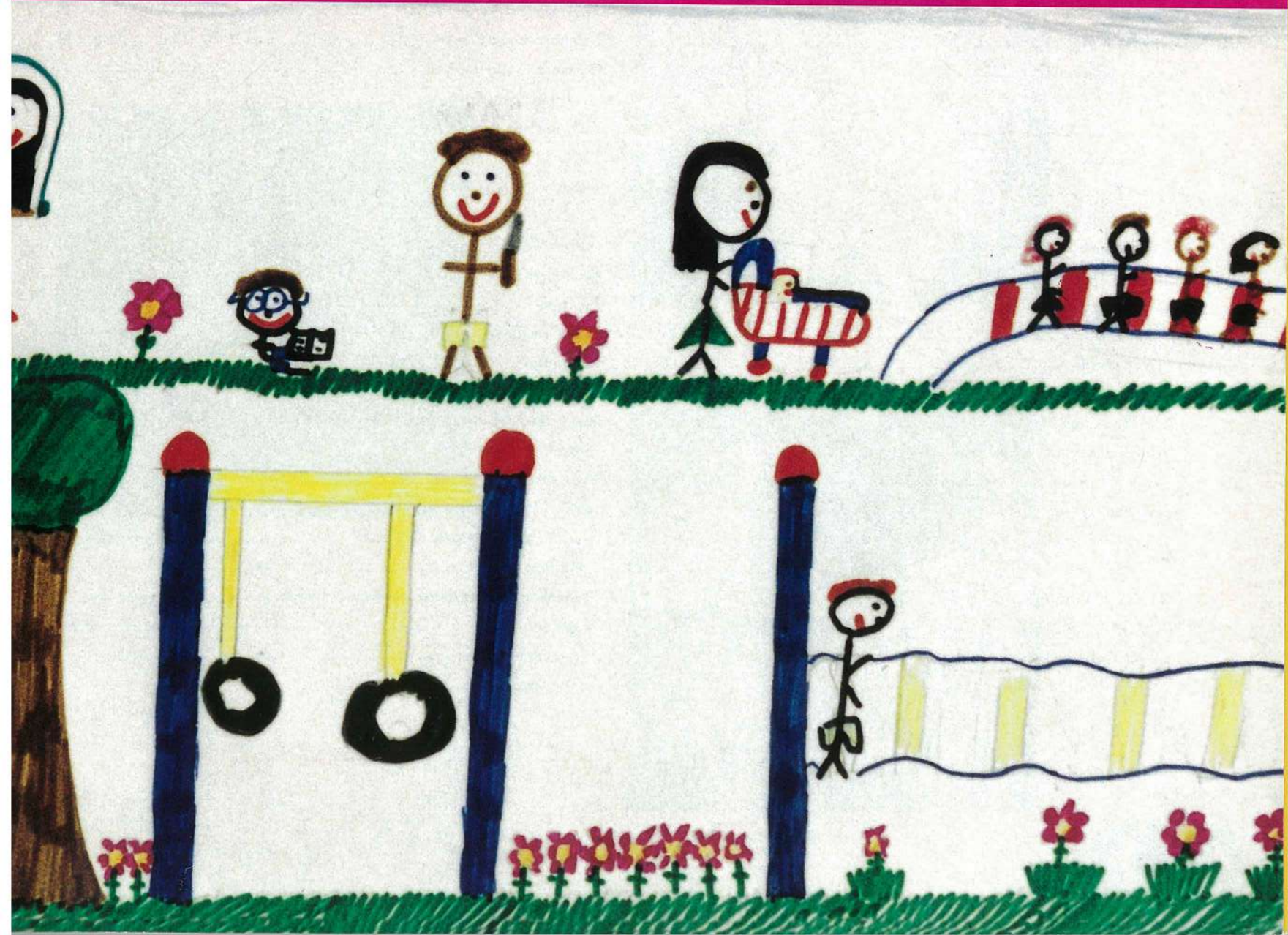


dollars on reserves and parks and it wants to protect the coast. It is also helping schools and community groups to grow native plants in areas around Marion such as the Sturt River.

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As you can see, the Council has as great community service and looks after its citizens very well. The Marion Council is very helpful for the aged, kids and people with disabilities. You should be very proud to be involved in an exciting community atmosphere.

We know we are.



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Marymount Middle School



Dover Gardens Primary School



Hallett Cove East Primary School



Maranatha Christian School



Sacred Heart College Middle School

