



City of Marion

News & Views

Spring 1996
Number 29



INSIDE

ON THE TRAIL OF DANCE

The Tjilbruke dancers dance along the trail they are named after, from Marion to Cape Jervis and soon to Kangaroo Island. If they have their way, they will dance on around the world. The new Aboriginal dance group, supported by the City of Marion, takes its name from the legend of Tjilbruke, from whose tears for his dead nephew grew the springs of the South Coast. Its dozen performers dance the traditional Kurna stories and rituals, some of which are thousands of years old ■

Continues on Page 8 ...

5000 soldiers invade Seacliff

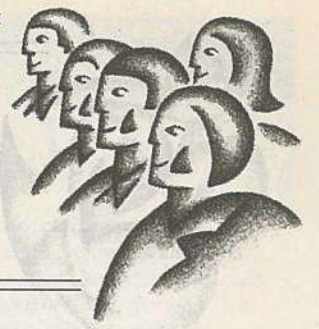
2

Marion's space race

12

Kids, crime and community

14



BUGs ON THE ROAD

A few Sundays ago, the Marion BUGs set off from the City of Marion administration centre along the Mitchell Park bikeway to Marleston.

Then they pedalled down the Westside bikeway to the Bay, and across to Brighton on the Glenelg-Marino bikeway. The final leg to Marion was along a track beside the Noarlunga railway that some of the BUGs want the Council to establish as a bikepath. Total distance of the ride: 28 kilometres.

One cyclist had come north down the hill to start his social ride. At journey's end he rode south back up the hill. He's 74. The day out was made possible by a city-wide bike plan that already has won for the Marion Council the National Heart Foundation's prestigious 1996 Healthy Hearts Award. So it's a fact: this year Marion has the top local government outdoor recreation facility in South Australia. But there are still a few clicks to go. Sixty per cent of on-road bikeways are in place, mainly in the northern plains areas. Hallett Cove, Trott Park and Sheidow Park will come on-road this financial year. Off-road, Sturt River and Hallett Cove Linear Parks will be upgraded in the future. The Council wants the disused Adelaide-Willunga railway corridor preserved as a linear park, and then there's the State Government's Southern Expressway veloway, in which the Council has a coordination role. All this involves feats of engineering and traffic design, and most of all it involves the cyclists of Marion. The Marion BUGs, or Bicycle User Group, offer ideas and report on safety measures - and have fun cycling while they do it.

BUGs' Malcolm Healey, a Telstra technical officer of Clovelly Park, is "thrilled and excited" by the Marion bike plan "with more to come". Now 55, he's been cycling "since the bad old days of the mid-'60s when they pulled up the bike track on Anzac Highway." For Malcolm, the plan vindicates his 30 years in the inside lane and acknowledges that "cycling is the way of the future, it rides rings around cars for short distances. It's good for the environment", he says, "healthier for the individual and offers frustration-free transport in heavy traffic."

I'm not anti-car, but I am anti-driving half a kilometre to the shop. I'm pleased that Marion has embraced the concept. The council closed off Railway Terrace at Edwardstown to through traffic. The road is still closed to cars, but after BUGs put its case, cyclists can ride along it." And while he doesn't ride fast enough to get bugs in his teeth, Malcolm Healey says it only makes sense that there should be many more BUGs on the road ■



BUG members, Malcolm Healey and (from Marion Council) Irena Morre

5000 soldiers invade Seacliff

Their only known adversaries are a family dog and a ginger tabby. When Kelly the long-haired German Shepherd and Tigger the cat take on the 2nd Royal Horse Artillery or Cromwell's Ironsides, the casualties are huge.

Two complete rooms in a house at Seacliff have been taken over by a joint force of soldiers of the Napoleonic era, the British Empire and ancient Rome. Their only known adversaries are a family dog and a ginger tabby. When Kelly the long-haired German Shepherd and Tigger the cat take on the 2nd Royal Horse Artillery or Cromwell's Ironsides, the casualties are huge.

"Kelly bumps into them and they fall over like dominoes," says the army's commanding officer Brian Wagstaff. "One goes and the lot go." Kelly, when operating alone, is outnumbered 5000 to one. Her only advantage is that each of the soldiers is 54 millimetres tall, and unable to hurt even a dog. But they do make up one of the finest collections of tin soldiers in Australia.

They established a beach-head in South Australia as long ago as 1963, when 13-year-old Brian brought a small advance party ashore in a tin trunk. Since then the soldiers have widened their sphere of influence to collectors around the world. For many years they were left to fend for themselves behind enemy lines until Brian, a marine pollution control consultant in civilian life, returned them to active duty on the birth of his son Edward, now 17.

Brian's elite corps are those Royal Horse Artillery from Edwardian times and plastic figures called Swoppets from the Wars of the Roses, moulded and sculpted in the 1950s and '60s. But there are many other fine military specimens, from the Trojan Wars right up to World War II.

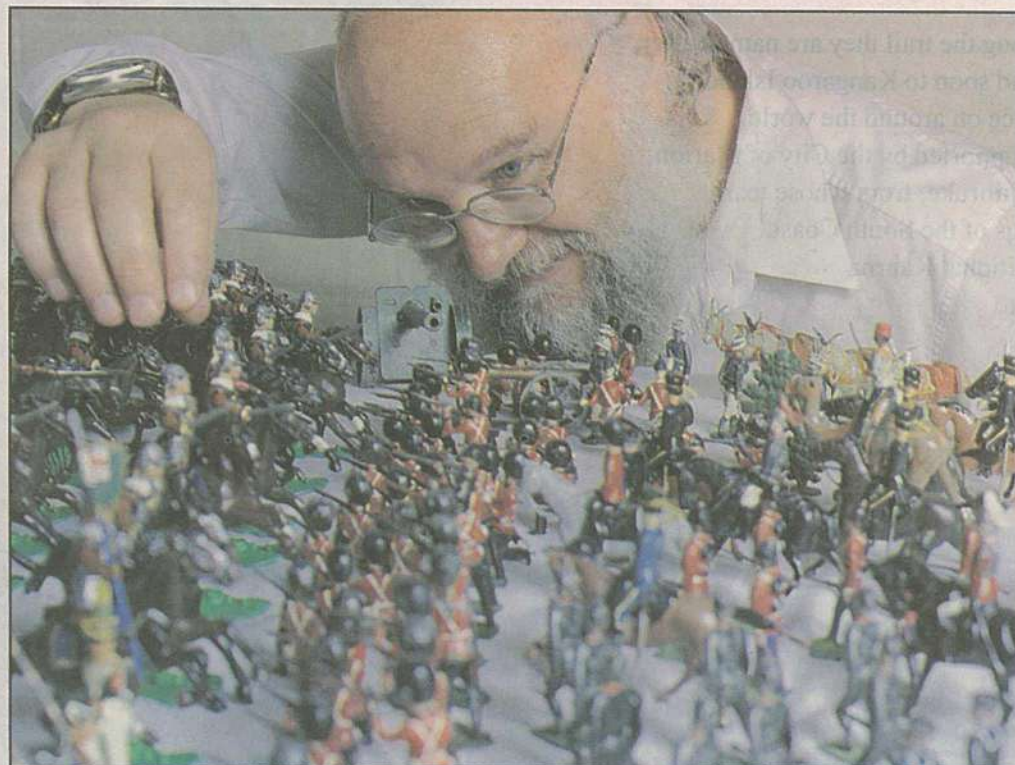


Their commander, however, won't have a bar of the modern fighting tin soldier. "You can forget Desert Storm," says Brian. "There's no romance there - it's all clinical and technical." And maintaining a standing army under cover in the suburbs is a logistical challenge. "I would recommend this hobby only to those who are patient," says Brian. "The soldiers gather dust, and I could spend every day of the week keeping them in shape. They've moved into the cellar, and some are hiding in boxes."

"My wife Lyn tolerates them, and my daughter Alice helps me out with them every now and again but Edward, I'm afraid, is into very loud rock music these days." Brian adds to his army at garage sales, antique auctions, through other collectors and by word of mouth. And he is not averse to swapping his old soldiers for other old soldiers. He also will provide appraisals for those wanting to start up private armies of their own.

Despite his love for his 5000 tin troops, Brian is adamant he doesn't like fighting and wars.

"It's an interesting contrast. The more I study military history, the more I realise conflict should be kept to tin soldiers on a table, where they are away from the four-footed enemy, ever ready to change the course of history with the flick of a tail." Telephone 8296 6405 ■



Brian Wagstaff lines up his troops

OLD SCHOOL DAYS

As a child in England, Peter Jolly enjoyed his school days. He enjoys them even more now in Australia, 60 years on. Peter, of Seacombe Heights, went back to school in 1988 after retirement and a serious illness left him with the option of "vegetating or using my brain".



Peter Jolly with Hamilton Year 8 student, Jodie McNamara

Photography, his profession, was "a bit expensive as a hobby," he decided, but computers were on the way in. So the brain won. Peter saw an ad for a computer applications course at the then Mitchell Park Re-Entrance School on Marion Road, and has been learning something new ever since. Now 71, (Marion's oldest secondary student), he has studied creative writing, desktop publishing and graphic design - with a semester of music thrown in - at what is now known as Hamilton Secondary School.

"I was always a great believer in education," he says. "It's essential, and with several teachers in the family I was not unacquainted with it. Studying keeps my brain active, which I think is essential at this age. It keeps me out of mischief." Acquiring new skills also has its practical applications. Peter's desk at home is a "mess of bits and pieces of writing and design, for my own enjoyment and for my family," he says. Limited edition Peter Jolly birthday cards for his daughter Lynne and grandsons Brett and Scott are the direct result of his schooling, second time around. So too is Peter's reactivated social life.

"Through school I've met a wide range of people - the youngest 18, several in their 30s and one who's 52," he says; and he especially cherishes his friendship with Peggy Sargent of Glenelg, whom he met at creative writing classes and lunches with, once a week. "Without school I'd be stuck in the house on my own, speaking to nobody," Peter says. "It's good to get out, and to meet young people." He still drops into the City of Marion's Cooina Recreation Centre once a week to play cribbage.

This year Peter got his days mixed up, and missed a class. But no, he says, "I would never wag school. Education's too important to do that." ■



'CAR PLAN' CONCERNS

The future direction of the entire Australian motor industry will be guided by the current Federal Inquiry into the Automotive Industry, or "Car Plan", according to Mitsubishi Motors Australia. For the City of Marion, the Car Plan is no less of a concern. Mitsubishi is the largest manufacturer in the Marion Council area. With 5200 employees at the Tonsley and Lonsdale plants and another 3000 at large automotive suppliers such as Bridgestone and Monroe Australia, the car industry is the major economic force in Marion.

Along with GMH at Elizabeth, the industry accounts for 11.5 per cent of South Australia's economy. The inquiry is investigating the industry's operation, and will chart its course past the year 2000. Marion Council is preparing a submission to the inquiry in cooperation with other councils. "Mitsubishi is more than a car manufacturing plant," says City Project Manager Peter Kay. "It's an industry that supports other industries, and supports Marion as well.

"Our submission will focus on social, economic and environmental factors and creating more opportunities for the car manufacturing and component industries. We will do everything we can to preserve employment in Marion. With vehicle imports already increasing to about half of Australia's market because of lower tariff barriers, local production is decreasing. Unless the inquiry can be convinced to support the car industry, Mitsubishi, Marion and the State's economy are seriously threatened." That's the view of the leading figures in the fight to preserve the car industry in Adelaide's southern region. According to Mr Rex Keily, Mitsubishi's Government Relations Manager, reduced tariffs and other measures already have lowered support for local manufacturers.

With the Government's 25 per cent tariff protection due to drop to 15 per cent by 2000, the position of Marion businesses connected with Mitsubishi could become critical. Other countries have tariff protection - up to 300 per cent in Malaysia. "Mitsubishi is not against lowering tariffs, but only if every other country does it as well," Mr Keily says. "Why should we be the first to lead the way? Australia is already a very open market. Our competitors' markets are not so accessible." The Government's response to this issue of access to other markets and competitive support for local industry is where the future of the Australian automotive industry lies. "We appreciate the Marion Council's involvement and that they have recognised the potential outcomes of the Car Plan inquiry," Mr Keily says. "Making its own submission is right and proper. It's very astute of the council to do that." The Southern Development Board of the Southern Region Councils will present two submissions to the inquiry, one dealing with the human and social impact, and another from an economic and employment perspective. The board's Executive Director, Mr Lindsay Haylock, says research for the submissions is likely to show that "negative Federal Government tariff decisions from the Car Plan review will decimate the local economy.

"There are warning signs. Take a minimum of 8000 car industry employees out of the 115,000 people in the southern regional councils area, and that leaves a big hole." ■

THE PREMIER VOTES FOR MARION



Marion State Youth Parliament ... aimed at self-esteem and confidence

Few Marion residents would know that the Premier of South Australia is on the Marion Council's crime prevention committee. Even fewer would know that the Premier's name is Scott Robertson, and he's a Year 10 student at Sacred Heart Senior College. Scott was elected leader of his State in July at a meeting of his party peers aged between 13 and 26.

As Premier, Scott, 15, is head of the Youth Parliament of South Australia. He has spoken in the Legislative Assembly, and has the ear of the other Premier, Dean Brown, and the Youth Affairs Minister, Bob Such.

In his own electorate, Scott is a member of the Marion State Youth Parliament team, part of a council strategy to give young people access to decision-making procedures early

The Youth Parliament definitely has been very rewarding

in life. In July, Scott and 14 other students from high schools and colleges in Marion introduced bills in the Youth Parliament aimed at the reform of pawnbroking and youth drug control legislation.

Both were debated at Old Parliament House and passed in the affirmative.

They have been given to Youth Affairs Minister Bob Such for presentation to the Brown Cabinet. Marion has been involved with the Youth Parliament, set up by the YMCA, since its inception last year.

This year, of the 10 teams, two were from Marion, and only Marion participated as a defined council area. "You could say the Council is fairly pro-active in encouraging youth leadership," says Marion's youth development officer Eric Plet.

"Our strategies such as Youth Parliament and the three-day Beyond Imagination program are aimed at raising self-esteem and self-confidence.

Half our team were Beyond Imagination graduates. The programs are an empowerment process, and Scott is a good example. Last year he was the best speaker in the entire Youth Parliament, and this year he was elected Premier. Scott has the makings a fantastic politician."



Scott Robertson

One of Eric's goals is for a young person to be elected to the Marion Council, and there is a Marion Youth Council in the wind. In the meantime, Scott's position on the Marion crime prevention committee is a start. Scott's three committee meetings a month and his two years in Youth Parliament have given him a taste for public life. "I'm not sure yet about my career path," he says, "but I'd like a profession in which I can get out and help people and make a genuine difference to society."

Already Premier Scott has picked up some political skills. Not for him the one-person party. "The Youth Parliament definitely has been very rewarding," he says, "and not only for me and the team from Marion, but for the 100 people who were involved this year and last. Everyone got something different out of it, and everyone will benefit from it." Spoken like a Premier from Marion, now and in the future ■

OLD HAZARDS NEW MEASURES

Edwardstown/Melrose Park is one of the oldest industrial areas in Adelaide, established long before the modern era of outer-suburban, purpose-built industrial parks. Along and near that section of South Road there are large and small businesses, from metal trades and automotive service industries to plastics and components manufacturers which use a wide range of dangerous and hazardous substances on a workday basis.

Close by live Marion and Mitcham Council residents, also in older suburbs. These councils have decided both sections of the community need a new approach to ensure that Edwardstown/Melrose Park is maintained as a safe place.

In conjunction with Mitcham, Marion is in the process of introducing a chemical management and emergency planning education project to protect residents, workers and the environment.

"In the past, businesses have not always had access to information and guidance about management of hazardous substances and emergency planning procedures," says Marion environmental health officer David Vaughan. "Many industries and small businesses in Edwardstown use acids, alkalis, solvents and cleaning chemicals that are not only flammable but toxic. There is concern that improper management of dangerous and hazardous substances increases the potential for workplace incidents and environmental harm from spillages or fires," he said.

"The project will encourage better understanding and management of hazardous substances and the prevention of emergency incidents. Both workplace occupational health and safety and the environment are set to benefit from the project." ■

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Marion's looking forward!

The City of Marion has come a long road to where it is today, from its pre-European occupation by the Kaurna people who lived along the Sturt River, to the arrival of immigrants, and the later establishment of the Village of Marion. A great leap forward was taken during those early years when the District Council of Marion was proclaimed on the second of September, 1886.

Just two days later, this new Council held its first meeting - laying the foundations for the 110 years of development which has followed. This Council served a population of just 250 people who occupied less than 60 dwellings. At the time, Marion was primarily a rural farming area noted for its horticulture and viticulture.

Marion remained a predominately rural community until the 1950s when the post-war boom provided the impetus for the rapid industrial, commercial and residential growth that followed. Today Marion is one of the largest and most diverse cities in South Australia. Stretching from the Glenelg tramline to the southern hills and coastal cliffs, Marion in 1996 boasts more than 20 ethnic groups among a population of nearly 80,000 people.

As a corporation, the City of Marion has worked closely through consultation and communication with its residents to build a dynamic and contemporary city which is well positioned to meet

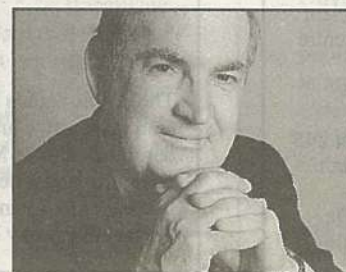
challenges of the future. Our elected members strive to meet the often competing interests of our strong industrial, commercial, residential sectors, while addressing its global environmental responsibilities. Our city today is at the leading edge of environmental initiatives which have set it apart from many of its counterparts - initiatives such as its world-class waste and recycling

program, its coastal management strategy, the Edwardstown Project, and through its commitment to responsible management of its water resources. Marion has retained its focus on the need for sound community development strategies and social justice principles, having developed solid and responsive social support services, while culturally, it has invested considerable energies into developing arts and cultural programs such as the Red House, the Celebration of Marion and Warriparinga Aboriginal and European Interpretative Centre.

As we move on into the twenty-first century, Marion will continue to keep an eye to its position in the national and international arenas, while working with our communities, local agencies and other levels of government to address our responsibilities at the local level.

In this way, I believe our communities of tomorrow will also be able to look back with pride, to celebrate the past, and to look forward to the future with confidence as we now can do ■

Marion Mayor
Colin Haines





MARION: WHERE YOUR COMPOST COMES BACK TO YOU

The Marion Council area has 31,000 240-litre mobile garbage bins for green organic material. At the rate of around 180 tonnes collected each week, in the right hands that adds up to one large heap of compost. Most of it used to go to the dump along with the other rubbish, useless except for landfill. But now, in a recycling first for South Australia, Marion residents can have their compost back, in 30-litre bags ready to go straight into the ground. The idea of the boomerang compost belongs to Peter Wadewitz, manager of Peats Soil and Garden Supplies at Aldinga. After five years' involvement with Marion, Peter decided "wouldn't it be nice for the business to give something back to the council and make it work properly for both of us."

Thus was born the first bagged form of garden compost produced from green organics collected at the kerbside. Solo Waste collects, Peats Soils composites and Marion residents can themselves collect on their own organic investment. Marion recycling coordinator Ken Sellar considers this return a just reward twice over: to the Council for operating the only full green organic kerbside collection in the State, and to Marion residents for their cooperation in the sorting of the material. Most importantly of all though, the process closes Marion's first environmental loop.

"Nothing is truly recycled unless it is used again," says Ken. "Here we've reduced waste on landfill, demonstrated a use for green organics, and found a market. That's closing the loop." Marion's Green Organics compost is available at Bunnings stores at Noarlunga and Marion in a special two-for-one offer until the end of November. Bunnings state manager Darryl Milburn says his company is more than happy to be involved. "It's in line with our environmental policy. It's a concept with major benefits." ■

THE ENERGY CENTRE

The Council has conducted the first energy audit of its administration centre on Sturt Road as part of Local Agenda 21. The audit used a sophisticated meter to monitor electrical energy patterns and fluctuations on a daily basis over a two-week period. It showed that the base load to keep the building operating during working hours was quite high. The audit also involved talking to the people who work in the building. Staff on the north side of the centre were found to be warmer than those on the south side, and some said conditions were stuffy.

As a result of the audit's findings a number of changes are being made in the building to reduce energy use and costs. The air-conditioning is being improved, and energy-efficient lighting is being installed. The centre was also revealed as a "negative vacuum". That is, air pressure is lower on the inside than on the outside. So if you're walking past 245 Sturt Road and are sucked in, don't worry. It isn't a Marion Council employee trying to sell you a raffle ticket. It is only the air-conditioning, and it is being fixed ■

PLAY FOR ALL

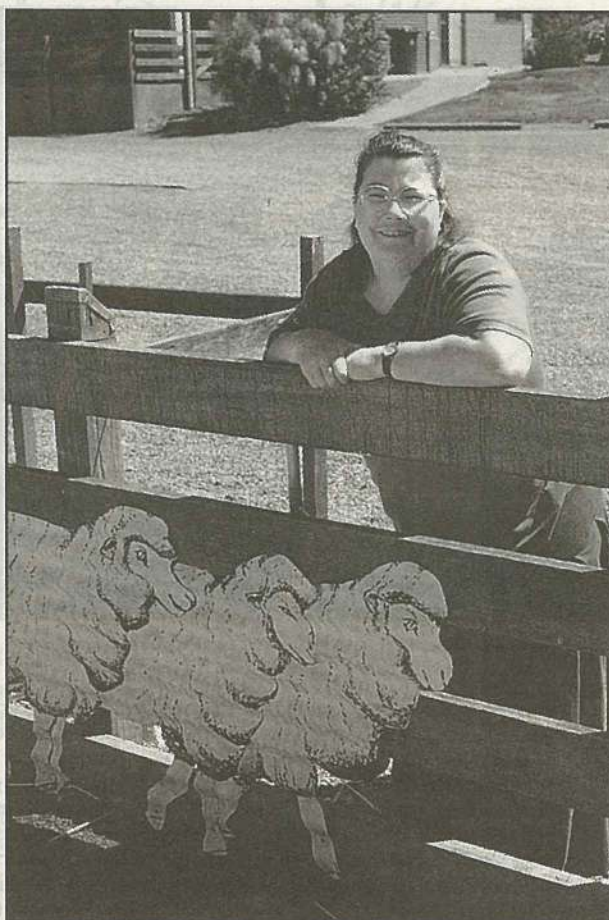
Siobhan McKuen-Taylor of Morphettville was born with cerebral palsy 42 years ago. As a child she could go around on the hurdy-gurdy at the local playground, or someone might push her on a swing. Mostly though Siobhan had to sit on a bench, watching other children play. Playgrounds were unsafe for a girl on crutches. Her nine-year-old son Matthew is vision-impaired and has a physical disability similar to muscular dystrophy. But as far as places to play

"They represent more enlightened thinking towards providing people with disabilities with access to all Council facilities."

go, Matthew is luckier than his mum. Now he can go to Marion Council's Perry Barr Farm at Hallett Cove - or to Noarlunga's Wilfred Taylor reserve, or Happy Valley's Serpentine Recreation Ground. There Matthew will find new equal access playspaces created specifically for children with disabilities by a joint project of the Southern Region of Councils.

Yet the innovative playspaces are for everyone. Designed by artists after consultation with young disabled people, they are the brainchild of the cultural and arts development officers of the three councils. To Marion cultural development officer Don Chapman they represent "more enlightened thinking towards providing people with disabilities with access to all Council facilities." At the same time the playspaces take all people, of all ages, away from the concrete and sand and steel playground, and back to the world of nature and play.

For example, artist Margaret Worth has designed an intricate undulating tiled "playway" that allows access to every aspect of the Perry Barr Farm play space. The playway crosses a suspension bridge over a recreated river bed en route to the historic farmhouse.



Siobhan McKuen-Taylor at Perry Barr Farm equal access playspace

"Before, you couldn't get to the farmhouse and its implements," says Don. "Now you can, and to the chookhouse and the cattle run as well, and have fun along the way."

"Disabled" means more than wheelchairs, says Siobhan McKuen-Taylor, who was a member of the three councils' Equal Access Play space committee. At Perry Barr Farm her son will be able to use his senses of touch and smell. So can anyone else. "Eventually signage will be in Braille, and some plants have been selected to give off unusual, interesting fragrances. These are more than your ordinary children's playgrounds. "These are for everyone." ■

Briefly

MORE CHIPS, PLEASE

Marino's popular fish and chips shop by the beach at 1 Marine Parade might be further upgraded. The owners want to install summer outdoor eating facilities, build a pergola and landscape the area. Marion Council will investigate closure of parts of Marine Parade and Jervis Terrace to help with the improvements.

RATES DROPPED

Council has ruled that four properties owned by Errol Noack House in Penrith Court and Bradley Grove, Mitchell Park, will not have to pay rates "for so long as they continue to provide assistance to ex-service personnel and/or their dependants."

LOOS GO

The public toilets between the Marion Sports and Community Club and the Bowling Club will be demolished. The MSCC says the toilets are "very unsightly and a health hazard," and the public can use the club's own toilets which are "open most of the day every day of the week."

LONSDALE ROAD LIGHTS

Traffic signals are expected to be operating at the intersection of Lonsdale Road and Ramrod Avenue, Hallett Cove, by the end of December. Council assisted the Department of Transport with a traffic study for the area, which has caused safety and access concerns in the community for the past seven years.

LGA EXECS

Mayor Colin Haines and Happy Valley Mayor Trevor Fletcher are Marion's nominations to the Local Government Association State executive committee - Region 4 Southern Metropolitan.

NEW BOOK BUS

Marion's new mobile library, bought from the City of Casey in Melbourne and upgraded, will begin service late in November. The library cost "significantly less than the budgeted amount," the Community Development Committee was told.

HALF SLAM DUNK

The SA Housing Trust, in consultation with Council, will install a half-size basketball court on Trowbridge Avenue Reserve at Mitchell Park. The court conforms with successful environmental design crime prevention principles.

SUMMER SALAD DAYS

Supermarket self-service salad bars can be a health hazard, and summer is the season food bacteria love best. Council environmental health officer David Vaughan says Marion residents should observe three rules for their take-home, ready-to-eat potato salads and the like in the warmer months ahead. They are:

* Maintain the cold chain. After the supermarket on warmdays, put the salad container in an Eskey with an ice-brick in the boot of the car. Once home, the container should be kept in the fridge.

* Keep the salad covered in the fridge, at below four degrees. Some bacteria which cause food poisoning, such as Listeria and Yersinia, can grow at normal fridge temperature.

* Don't keep salads longer than two to three days.

David says supermarket self-service salad bars in the Marion area have been found to maintain acceptable hygiene standards, so should be no cause for alarm if the rules are followed.

However, salads containing meat, dairy products or egg generally are more perishable, and the most likely to cause food poisoning ■

FOOD SAFETY FIRST

All food premises in South Australia, from five-star hotels to the corner deli, will have to be registered and accredited under proposed statewide food hygiene laws. The proposal mirrors the approach being taken nationally by the Australia and New Zealand Food Authority, or ANZFA.

Local councils, who traditionally police food hygiene, will be affected by the legislation, which is proposed by the South Australian Health Commission and is aimed to be operating by 2001. In a discussion paper released by State Cabinet, four regional bodies would be set up in Adelaide to take over the 28 metropolitan councils' role. Council's senior environmental health officer Roger Feely anticipates that one approach would be for Marion to become involved with the other councils in a cooperative arrangement to administer the legislation. The Council is still developing its position to put in a submission to the Health Commission by December 6.

"The European Union has uniform food safety practices, and the same has largely happened in the US and Canada," Roger says.

"This is not just a fanciful idea that will never come off. Australia is likely to have standard food hygiene laws, and local government will play its part in them." ■



RATES FREEZE...

The limitation on general council rates applied throughout South Australia by the State Government will mean savings to Marion residents, according to the council's corporate services manager Jeffrey Rittberger. The rates "freeze", as it is known, is intended to ensure some benefits flow back to the community as part of the local government reform process. Marion Council rates in 1997-98 and 1998-99 will be restricted to the level of rates raised in 1995-96 with adjustments equivalent to Cost Price Index movements between the March 1995 and March 1997 quarters.

Provisions exist within the regulations to grant a council exemption from the rate limitations if extenuating circumstances exist. "Council's ability to achieve some of its planned objectives could be limited as a result of this resolution," Mr Rittberger says.

... AND ROADS ARE ROPED IN

For the first time, all infrastructure assets such as roads, footpaths and drains will be identified and a depreciation amount included in Marion Council's Budget for this financial year. They join other Council assets such as buildings, plant, furniture and equipment, which traditionally have been brought to account on an annual basis.

The treatment of identifying and depreciating assets is in accordance with Australian Accounting Standard 27, on which local government accounting is based. However, Mr Rittberger says the Council's decision does not change the Budget, which is balanced for the year ending June 30, 1997. "It is merely a non-cash entry." The identification of infrastructure assets in the financial accounts will provide Council with better information to manage its public assets ■

News & Views

Marion News & Views is produced four times a year by the City of Marion and is circulated to all households and businesses in the Council area.

The Editors welcome contributions from the community. Letters to the Editor should be signed and include the author's full name and address.

Every effort is made to report all community information fairly and accurately, but the Council accepts no responsibility for any errors or omissions which may occur. The views of the contributors are not necessarily shared by the Marion Council.

Co-Editors
Terry Bruun
Wendy Fowler

**Graphic Design,
Illustration and
Production**
Andrew Rammell

Editorial Committee
Ald. Wolf Bierbaum
Terry Bruun
Mayor Colin Haines
Cr. Bruce Hull
Wendy Fowler
Cr. Ross Young

Cartoonist
Ross Bateup
**Nature of Marion
(Page 16)**
Debby Haskard

Journalist
Lance Campbell

Printing
Cadillac Print

Photography
Catherine Gasmier

Distribution
Salmat

SKATEBOARD MADNESS IN MARION



But first Marion needs the input of young skaters as much as the young skaters need Marion. A skating grand prix is on the drawing board for some place in Marion, some time next year. Ideally the grand prix will include speed-skating, skateboarding, rollerblading and roller-hockey in competitive, trick or exhibition forms.

The family weekend event could be the first step towards that international facility, says youth development officer Eric Plet.

Marion Council now has its first skateboard "funbox" at Capella Drive, Hallett Cove. The curved skating bowl is a direct response to requests from young skateboarders and rollerbladers in the Council area, who advised on the design.

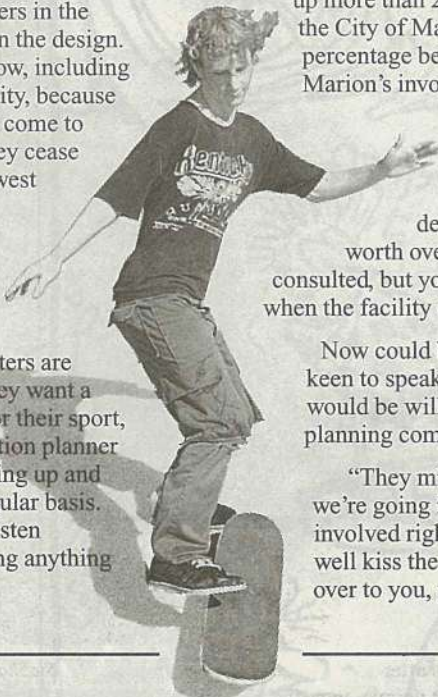
Other funboxes may follow, including an international skating facility, because when the world skating stars come to

A skating grand prix is on the drawing board for some place in Marion, some time next year.

Australia they cease to perform west of the eastern seaboard.

Young Marion skaters are adamant they want a better go for their sport, says recreation planner

Dominic Fitzsimons. They ring up and petition the Council on a regular basis. And Marion is prepared to listen "because nobody else is doing anything about it."



Young people between 10 and 24 make up more than 20 per cent of the population of the City of Marion, the second highest percentage behind 25 to 39 year-olds. Marion's involvement in the skating

interests of that age-group is long overdue, Eric admits. Six years ago the Council considered developing a skating facility worth over \$250,000. Skaters were consulted, but young people were disappointed when the facility did not eventuate.

Now could be different though. "We are keen to speak again to young people who would be willing to be on the grand prix planning committee," Eric says.

"They might decide what direction we're going in. If we don't have teenagers involved right from the start, you might as well kiss the whole idea goodbye." So it's over to you, young skaters of Marion ■

CHURCHGOERS DRIVE ON WATER!

The 250 parishioners of St Elizabeth's of Hungary used to call their car park "Lake Lizzie." It was a hard, dry old lake in summer, a dustbowl, and a rubber boots job in winter. But by the time this Christmas is celebrated at the Anglican church at Warradale, the congregation will be proud parkers on a model stormwater management project described by Marion Council as a potential "forerunner of things to come".

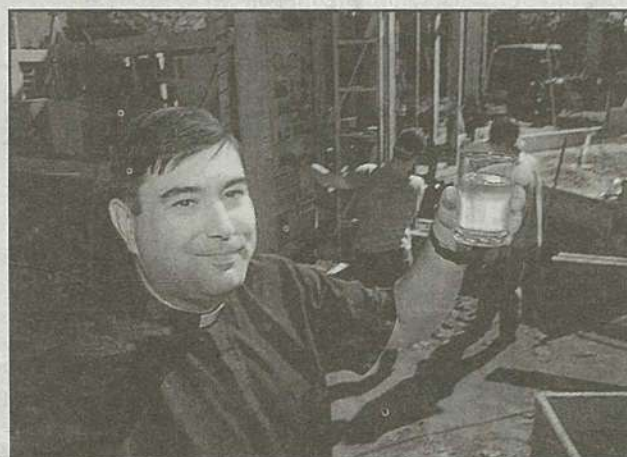
In fact, the Council has tapped into the church's initiative by expanding it to the adjacent Dwyer Road Reserve. Water from the church roof and tennis courts will pass through a honeycombed plastic brick car park surface via engineered gravel filter media in a trench to two bores. From there the clean water can be reclaimed from the aquifer by pumps to irrigate Dwyer Road Reserve and the church grounds.

"We'll actually be able to grow a few things there at last, even grass on the car park itself" says Bob Hancock, a member of St Elizabeth's parish council for 20 years and himself the manager of an engineering company.

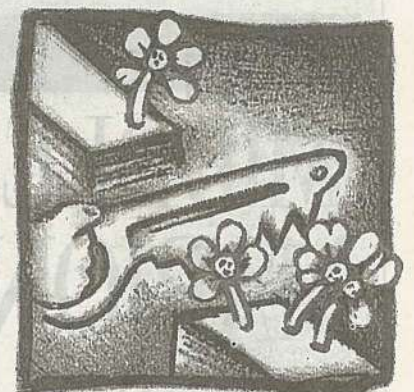
Originally the church wanted to bitumenise the car park, on the "cheap". But when Bob and the team asked for money, they learnt that associate professor John Argue of the Urban Water Resources Centre at the University of South Australia had "already sold the stormwater management concept to head office."

"As churchgoers, we liked the idea of stewardship of resources, so we decided, 'Why not?'" and Prof. Argue went to work. Financial support was supplied by the Council, the Patawalonga Catchment Water Management Board and the Department of Transport's stormwater services division. Darryl Schintler, Marion's project engineering senior technical officer, says the St Elizabeth's project shows the advantage of the involvement of several parties. "The church community came to us, and the Council is running with it."

"The project wouldn't have eventuated if it had been left to one party, but four got together and they're making it happen." While initial costs - around \$85,000 - might be considered high, future use of the technology on a larger scale will mean much quicker returns. "The benefits can be quite easily determined," says Darryl. "If it works well we can use it on a larger area such as a racecourse or a major sporting arena." As he points out, if the car park had been bitumenised, the Council would have been left to deal with the stormwater run-off. Says Bob Hancock, one of the unlikely team of car park stormwater management trailblazers from little St Elizabeth's: "If it can work for our 40 cars, it can work for 400. I'd love to see Marion do something like this, perhaps at that great big shopping centre over there." ■



Rev. Peter Simmons raises a glass to clean water



DEVELOPMENT AND YOU

Have you ever considered locating your main living area on the north side of the house, to take full advantage of the sun and its energy? Or choosing natural colors and building surfaces for your dream home in environmentally sensitive areas, so it sits naturally in its environment? Or installing detention tanks at your commercial premises to control the release of rain water into our stormwater systems? Reducing paved areas, so the rain is put to better use in your own garden at home or work?

These are just a few of the ideas that have prompted Marion Council to begin a process of reviewing its planning controls, particularly in respect to environmental considerations. Marion wants to update its Development Plan, Council's planning blueprint, as part of its commitment to the Marion environment through Local Agenda 21, the local government program that promotes sustainable environmental development and management.

As Marion's planning regulations stand now, the guidelines and controls in the Development Plan may be insufficient to meet the environmental demands of the future. A statement of intent indicating Marion's intention to review its Development Plan, submitted by its Environmental Policy Advisory Committee, is believed to be the first in the State to look at environmental considerations on a council-wide basis.

"Any development proposal that comes into council has to be assessed against policies in the existing Development Plan," says Marion policy planner Sue Draper.

"Those policies are not specific enough in terms of environmental considerations. In terms of environmental planning, we would like more to work with."

The Statement of Intent is before the Minister of Housing, Urban Development and Local Government Relations, Scott Ashenden. If approved in principle, public consultation will play a part in any changes. "The aim is to identify the issues, to encourage environmental sustainability," says Sue Draper.

"We can improve the quality of life in the City of Marion, both now and in the future." ■



City Manager
Jeff Tate

MIDDLE MARION

Picture Adelaide as three concentric circles. The inner circle is the Adelaide Central Business District and adjacent suburbs. The outer circle comprises the developing suburbs. Between them lies a huge band of 'middle suburbs' that forms a suburban bridge in and out of the city. These middle suburbs, of which Marion is a part, are where most of Adelaide's residents live and play a significant part in the Adelaide economy. Yet they are not recognised as having an identity or role that warrants inclusion in current debate about planning for the future of Adelaide. The agenda is dominated by inner and outer city issues and recent discussions about Adelaide 21 and the future of the Central Business District are good examples of this.

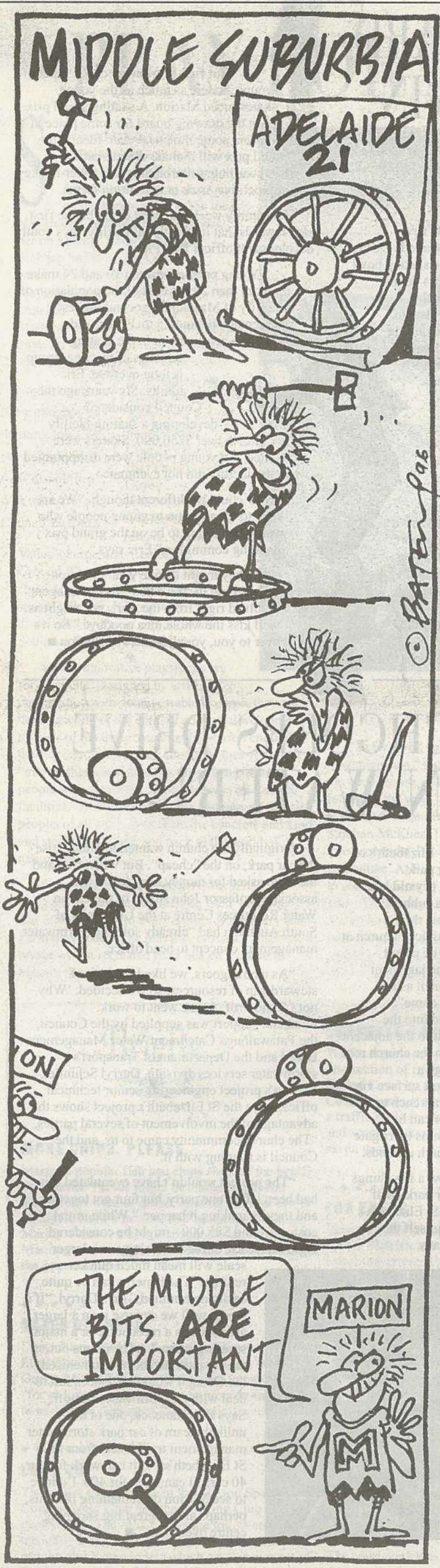
There are few articles written about middle suburbs as a whole and they rarely attract the attention of social researchers. It is as though the middle suburbs, developed after the second world war, are seen as stable areas with few problems. That of course, is not the case. Middle suburbs experience social, economic and environmental concerns in the same way as other areas. Unemployment, vandalism, traffic and volume, pollution and access to services can be as much a part of life in the middle suburbs as elsewhere.

Undoubtedly, the scant attention paid to the middle suburbs by the media is a reflection of the lack of strong action by the State and Federal Governments in these areas. Intent on kick-starting developments in the city's heartlands and outposts, they have overlooked the enormous development potential of the suburbs that connect them. Middle suburbs are populous, ageing and can not afford to be neglected. Unless strategic planning is implemented by all spheres of government, this suburban bridge may begin to sag in the middle.

This makes it all the more important for Local Government to be proactive and visionary about the middle areas. Councils are well-positioned to do this because they manage a broad range of responsibilities that allow them to recognise and link local issues. Councils are uniquely capable of operating 'horizontally' across a geographical region. This is in contrast to State and Federal Governments which split their functions between various 'vertical' departments with specific responsibilities not designed to deliver integrated solutions.

However, councils can play a pivotal role in identifying issues and linking the relevant departments and agencies for more comprehensive and co-ordinated responses to local issues. I believe this is what Marion has achieved by its action in the Marion Regional Centre, the Edwardstown Project, Laffers Triangle and cultural initiatives that are improving the City of Marion and neighbouring areas. Marion has grasped its position as a middle suburb and is providing the impetus and bridges for State and Federal entry into these projects to revitalise the city and secure a better quality of life residents.

As part of this process, strategic planning workshops for the City of Marion will be held in mid-1997 and I urge all residents to take part in this important planning process ■



Does the community need an aquatic facility in Marion?

ALDERMAN
GRAHAM CRUNKHORN



Selected Members of Council have allocated \$50 000 this financial year (1996/97) to have concept ideas and sketches prepared for a 'NEW AQUATIC FACILITY' for the City of Marion. The current swimming pool has served the community well over the past 18 years, but it is tired, and with standards and community expectations changing it is time for the Marion Council to make substantial plans for the development of an Aquatic Facility on the same site. This will result in a facility that the community will be able to enjoy for the next 20 years.

The community have a lot more recreation and leisure time available today compared with past years so their desire for more family oriented facilities is increasing.

We do not want to just sit in the sun and watch our children play or swim in the pool; we expect facilities that will cater for all the community to visit, take part in or just enjoy.

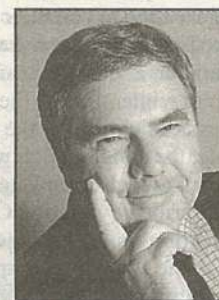
You will be able to swim 12 months of the year in first class facilities.

What is an Aquatic Centre? An Aquatic Facility that will cost the Council between \$6 million and \$8 million over two financial years is one that will provide for learn to swim classes on an ongoing basis both for children and adults, it will have aqua aerobic classes, lap swimming for competitive swimmers, it will cater for southern clubs and school swimming competition, it will have up-to-date change facilities, it will provide an area for people to just play in water, it will have a cafe for light meals and coffees etc.

It will have spa pools, palm trees, and beach entry so that it is a safe environment for all families to use. You will be able to swim 12 months of the year in first class facilities. Please write and tell me what else you would like the Council working party to consider in your Aquatic Centre. I would be pleased to hear from you. The Council has talked about this issue long enough and over many years. It is now time for this Council to make a firm commitment to the community ■

Valuing Children

ALDERMAN
WOLF BIERBAUM



The single most important contribution any of us can make in any society is to help our children grow with confidence and high self esteem. I salute all those mums, dads and grandparents who love their children unconditionally and imbue them with the joy of living. In today's society where material wealth often transcends emotional wealth we expend too much of our energy on achieving material goals - either for ourselves or for others.

It is time to take stock of what is important before it is too late for your little ones. Recently, a multi-denominational Christian Fellowship group offered to pray for any issues I may need help with. I responded by asking these good folk to focus their prayers on bestowing the gift of being loved and belonging, on all our children.

Too many of our children are deprived of love and care, and sometimes much more than that. As a Council, we often focus attention on the consequences of deprivation. As Chairperson of the Crime Prevention Committee, I feel strongly that we must raise the importance of better protecting our little ones by pooling our professional resources and developing appropriate programmes to achieve that awareness in our community. If you too feel strongly on this matter I am certain your prayers will be heard ■

Overseas Examples

ALDERMAN
CLEM SENIOR

Having just returned from holiday, I must apologise for the brevity of my contribution. In the course of my travels I looked at libraries, art centres, and community halls. I also looked at other aspects of waste management and recycling and realized that Marion, in still not having a hard rubbish collection, is not satisfying all the residents' expectations ■



ALL THAT

JAZZ

The Marion Sports and Community Club has swung to the sounds of Satchmo and Benny Goodman, South Australian-style, for only six months. Yet already the 140 members of the Southern Jazz Club - after 25 years as wandering music-makers from the Tonsley Hotel to the Highway Inn - feel at home there with their regular Thursday night gig. In return for the Marion hospitality, the Southerners turn on the trad jazz, the dancing and the toe-tapping. They feature one of Adelaide's half-dozen jazz bands every week, and sometimes they call in the interstateers, such as the acclaimed Melbourne band The Creole Bells.

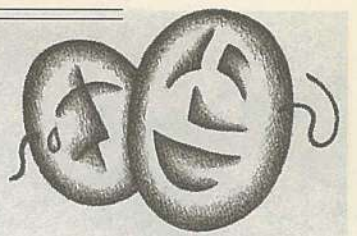
Recently the Swedish Kings, of international repute, topped the bill. "That was a night," says club member Elaine Wright, but to the Southerners, any jazz night is a night.

They say once you're a jazzer, you're always a jazzer, and the Southern Jazz Club plays true to form. Deryck Bentley, on trombone, toured with the legendary Graeme Bell Band in the 1950s, and Bill Munroe, on trumpet, travelled to America with David Dallwitz.

Dot Brooker is 82, and still kicking up her heels. Members' ages range from the late 30s up to Dot, and Elaine admits "a lot of our musicians are getting older, so we're trying to establish workshops for young musicians. "We'd like to hear from anyone who can help with a suitable venue."

The club isn't concerned about trad jazz becoming old hat. "Look at the way it was featured at the Atlanta Olympics," Elaine says. "It was given quite a high profile at the closing ceremony." The Southern Jazz Club's main focus though, "is to keep the tradition alive." And to have a good time in the process, which jazzers always do.

*(left) Deryck Bentley
and Bill Munroe*



BOOK REVIEW

CRY OF THE BENU BIRD
New Release at the Marion Library

By C SHANA GREGER
Houghton Mifflin
Company, 1996

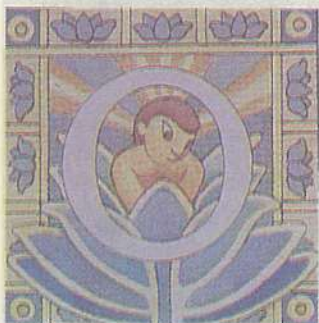
The illustrations have the ability to transfix, and the story is ancient. One of several versions of Egyptian creation legend, *Cry of the Benu Bird* gives fascinating insight into the birth of another culture. In the beginning there is only Nun, a sleeping ocean which speaks, and Chaos, the surrounding darkness which threatens to envelop all.

After many ages, the Benu Bird, something like a phoenix, bursts from Nun's waters and drives back the darkness. Glowing with the first light, it throws back its head to emit a long, echoing cry, and life begins...

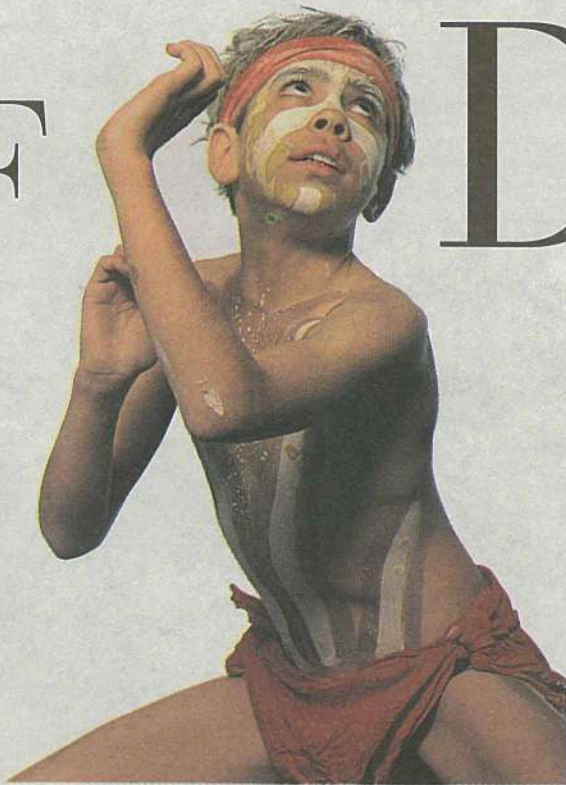
Sheger's illustrations are full of that light. Her pictures are simple, almost dream-like in their warm, golden tones. Muted yet powerful designs, drawing on traditional Egyptian style, enable children to appreciate a myth of creation. A lotus flower emerges from the depths of Nun, in the centre of which a child lies cradled. He grows to become Atum, the Complete One. His breath is a sigh which separates air and moisture. This breath is at the same time male and female, Life(Shu) and Order(Tefnut). A series of unions lead to the creation of Earth(Geb) and Sky(Nut), who in turn create sun and moon, stars and planets. It is almost difficult to locate the original characters because of their constant change of form, but the illustrations tell the story in themselves.

There are some interesting parts in Sheger's version which capture the imagination. For example, as Atum strains to think of a way to fend back Chaos, the droplets of sweat on his forehead become minor gods. He must then create beings to care for the gods, and his tears harden into people. He calls out the names of all the plants and animals in the world, which gives Sheger the chance to showcase her art. Overall, the inevitable cycle of birth, death, inheritance of duty and existence give the story its ageless quality, and makes it as relevant now as it was to the people of ancient Egypt. Greger has combined several ideas from mythical stories originating in the city of Heliopolis. The Benu bird itself can be found in the writings of Herodotus, a fifth-century Greek historian. The clarity and enchantment of the illustrations and the simple, understated access to legend make *Cry of the Benu Bird* an unusual book, traditional and yet not quite conventional. ■

Meg Worby



ON THE TRAIL OF DANCE



What we do
and what we
have to say,
is unique.

The Tjilbruke Dancers



The Tjilbruke Dancers are inspired by the land they grew up in, and by "the old values and ancient wisdom that still exists today," says the group's founder Joseph Williams.

"The fact that the group exists and can maintain itself on the momentum of shared Aboriginal spirit, resources and knowledge is a wonderful thing."

Joseph is a dancer, actor, musician, artist and administrator who has danced with Canberra's Bapu National Indigenous Dance Company and played didgeridoo with Coloured Stones, Australia's longest-running Aboriginal rock band. The inspiration for Tjilbruke came when Joseph, 30, returned from Canberra to Adelaide's south, where he had gone to primary school at Noarlunga, determined to "involve the Aboriginal family in something that would act to make change, and make theirs a better place."

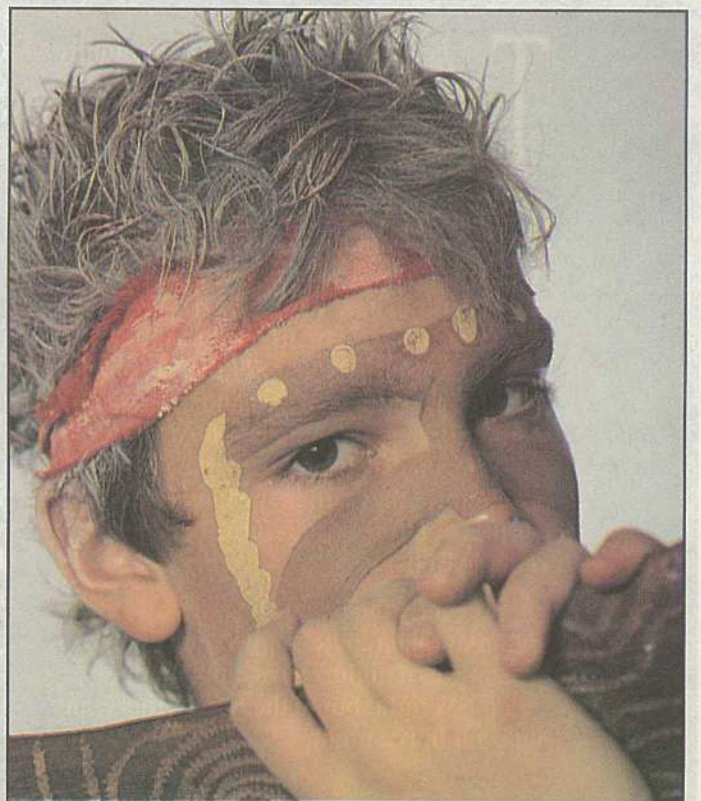
Tjilbruke had its start at an open day in January at the proposed Warriparinga Interpretive Centre site at Laffers Triangle, Sturt. Joseph gathered together tribal elders who "tried to show everybody what they knew." Equipped with that knowledge, the group of dancers visited spring sites along the Tjilbruke trail, "talking and dancing through the people's stories," Joseph says. "We danced on the beaches. We had interest from caravan park owners and many other people along the way.

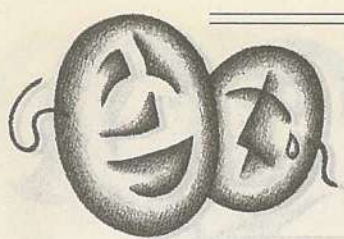
"We knew we had something to offer, something to show many different people, not just Aboriginal people." Since then the Tjilbruke Dancers have performed at festivals throughout the south. They plan to add a theatrical aspect to their work, and to include non-indigenous performers. The dancers have come a long way since January, but Joseph is not yet satisfied.

"There are many Aboriginal people sitting on these stories and dances, not realising they now have the opportunity to tell them. We are continuously looking for material, the songs and dances that relate to the land and Australia as it used to be."

Marion Council has encouraged the dancers by helping out with office space and financial assistance. "There are people at the Council who understand the importance of what we are doing in the region," Joseph says. "I really respect them for that." So far the Tjilbruke Dancers are "still getting the feel for the arts world. We are giving them eagerness and are encouraging others to be involved." They operate out of Joseph's 1986 Falcon station wagon, "but I can see us evolving into a permanent professional dance-theatre company. The future for many Aboriginal people is in the contribution they can make in areas like eco-tourism and cultural tourism."

In December and January, at the height of the tourist season, the dancers intend to perform on Kangaroo Island. "We'll seek permission from the local council to camp there, and dance there." In the long-term, the Tjilbruke Dancers who made their start in Marion could perform far further afield than KI. Joseph Williams himself has contacts in the United States. "Why not?" he says. "What we do and what we have to say, is unique." ■





IT'S PARTY TIME

When the Marion area's community theatre group started, rock 'n' roll was still king. Now rock 'n' roll is back on stage again at the Pioneer Hall for Christmas.



Galleon Theatre Company has been putting on a show for 30 years. When the Marion area's community theatre group started, rock 'n' roll was still king. Now rock 'n' roll is back on stage again at the Pioneer Hall for Christmas. Sixteen Galleon performers are in rehearsal for the December 6 opening of *It's My Party*, described by its writer/director Susan Oldknow as "Judy and Johnny at a birthday party, with romances and love triangles as vehicles for the great old rock 'n' roll songs of the '60s."

It's My Party is Susan's directorial debut, after co-directing for Galleon, *Skeleton in the Closet*, a play about anorexia. And she's having, as they said in the '60s, "a ball".

"Galleon always does a fun show for Christmas," Susan says. "In the past they've done vaudeville and Broadway. I thought we should do some rock 'n' roll, because I really love that old music. It's music the audience will remember."

While it might come as a sobering thought to many of Galleon's mature-age theatregoers that their rock 'n' roll music is "old", the show certainly isn't.

"*It's My Party* is a show about teenagers, so we have plenty of young people in it," Susan says. "They're loving the music too. The singing and dancing in rehearsal already is really good."

Galleon has always had ties with the Marion community; former Mayor Kevin Hodgson is on the committee, and has been known to don the greasepaint. "Galleon gives people an opportunity to do something creative and expressive," Susan says. "Galleon is a real community theatre group."

And from now until Christmas it's also one long party ■



Australia has so many beautiful places. It is so scenic to paint.

It inspires me. Some of my colors might still be strong and bright, very Indian, but I think I'm changing with the Australian landscape.

SPIRIT OF INDIA, Scent OF gums

Marion artist Loka Bag is Malaysian by birth, Indian by blood, and Australian by inspiration. Her first Australian painting, when she came here from Calcutta to join her family in 1992, was of gum trees in the Shepherds Hill area. "My mother-in-law took me for a drive there, up a rough road with gum trees either side," Loka says. "I was fascinated."

"Australia has so many beautiful places. It is so scenic to paint. It inspires me. Some of my colors might still be strong and bright, very Indian, but I think I'm changing with the Australian landscape. I'm more of a naturalist in my painting now. My themes evolve with nature. I believe we must have balance with nature, we must co-exist."

Marion artist, Loka Bag



Loka works in the Red House shop and gallery, where her art will be included in December's Myths and Legends exhibition, drawn from Marion's 200 artists. "There are quite a lot of artists here," she says.

"It is quite an active art community."

As a young girl in Kuala Lumpur, Loka watched her grandfather paint and sculpt, before going off to study in India where she gained a PhD in art history at a school near Calcutta established by the poet and philosopher Tagore.

Now painting is her "religion". "It transports me into a different world and gives me great happiness."

If I could paint forever, I would. ■

News & Views Who's who

Introducing the people behind *News & Views*... They're talented professionals working to bring you the stories, the images and the look of Marion...



Snaps... Catherine Gasmier

Six o'clock in the morning and knee deep in seawater, Catherine Gasmier snapped a series of photos for "News & Views" that captured the camaraderie and play of a group of elderly dawn swimmers known as "The Icebergers". One of the photos won a series of prestigious local and national awards, and earned her the title of "SA Commercial Photographer of the Year 1996."

A freelance photographer, Catherine is a local girl who has been shooting for Marion for a number of years.



Scoops... Lance Campbell

Lance Campbell is one of South Australia's most experienced journalists and freelance writers. He is a sports columnist with 'The Advertiser', and a former arts editor and feature writer.

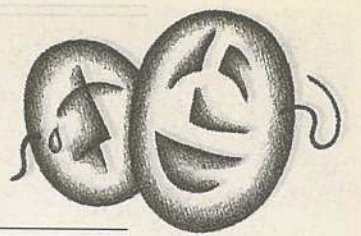
Lance grew up in the Marion area, and still likes to buy his fish and chips at Marino.



Style... Andrew Rammell

With a stack of awards, certificates and a degree in Visual Communication, Andrew Rammell entered the real world of graphic design and found an unexpected place where sleep is unnecessary and true romance is having a computer that works.

While working full-time at Icarus Design and doing the odd freelance job, Andrew spends his free time (ha ha) working on his forthcoming childrens book.



Happenings

INTEREST GROUPS

Hallett Cove Youth Project

Drop-in Sessions for 12-18 year olds. Tuesdays 3.30pm - 5.30pm, Thursdays 3.30pm - 7.30pm. Suites 8-9, The Professional Centre, 1 Zwerner Drive, Hallett Cove. Fridays 6.30pm - 9pm. Safe, supervised, free recreation and information time for young people. Telephone 8322 4877

Glandore Environment Group

Glandore Community Centre, 25 Naldera Street, Glandore. Family picnic, BYO food and drinks. Regular meetings feature speakers on environmental issues, planning for community based activities such as tree planting, pollution monitoring and social events. New members welcome. Telephone 8293 7561

Calisthenics

Vermont Calisthenic Club, St Stephen's United Church, Edwardstown. Mondays 5pm - 6.30pm (juniors), 6.30pm - 8.30pm (seniors) Tuesdays 4.15pm - 6.15pm (tinies), 5pm - 7pm (subjuniors)

Fun and fitness for all ages, qualified coaches. Calling for new 'recruits' for next year. Telephone 8297 3631 or 8297 2808

Aboriginal Health Drop-In

Fridays 10am - 3pm. Clovelly Park Community Health Centre, 1140a South Road, Clovelly Park. Activities that improve physical and emotional health, shared lunch once a fortnight. Guest speakers and health professionals. Telephone 8277 2488

Spanish Speaking Women's Group

Clovelly Park Community Health Centre, 1140a South Road, Clovelly Park. First Friday of each month, 10.00am - 12noon Telephone Bernarda 8293 8222

COURSES AND CLASSES

Jam Sessions

Hallett Cove Youth Project, 1 Zwerner Drive, Hallett Cove. 1pm - 4pm, 27 October and 24 November Musos 12-25 years, all styles welcome. Drum kit etc on site. BYO instrument. "Gold" coin donation. Telephone 8322 4877



Stoneware platters and mugs. Black slip decoration with gold lustre \$12 mugs; \$20 platters.

Billie Adams, potter/sculptor

"Why Is My Baby Crying?"

October 28, 10am. Church Hall, St Elizabeth's Anglican Church, 16A Dwyer Road, Oaklands Park Telephone 8356 8128

Beginner's Children's Writing Course

Wednesday mornings October 16 - November 20, 10am - 12 noon Park Holme Library, Duncan Avenue, Park Holme 10 places only available Telephone 8294 5703

Stress Management

Tuesdays for six weeks commencing October 29, 10am - 11.30am Glandore Community Centre, 25 Naldera Street, Glandore. Cost: \$11 includes tape and hand-outs Telephone 8371 1139

Healthy Cooking for One

Tuesdays for six weeks commencing October 15, 9.30am - 12.30pm Glandore Community Centre, 25 Naldera Street, Glandore. Cost: \$26. Includes demonstrations, recipes and tastings. Telephone 8371 1139

Organic Gardening

Fridays for 10 weeks commencing October 18, 10am - 12 noon. Glandore Community Centre, 25 Naldera Street, Glandore. Cost: \$26 Includes lectures and demonstrations. Telephone 8371 1139

Effective Communication for Couples

Thursdays for five weeks commencing October 24, 7.30pm - 10pm Glandore Community Centre, 25 Naldera Street, Glandore. Cost: \$70 per couple Telephone 8371 1139

English Conversation

Thursdays (school terms), 9.30am - 11.30am Glandore Community Centre, 25 Naldera Street, Glandore For people from non English speaking back-grounds, improve English skills in a friendly environment. Telephone 8371 1139

Harm Minimisation Program

Wednesday and Friday, 3.00pm-5.00pm Clovelly Park Community Health Centre Basic information on safe injecting and sex practices. Reducing risks, safe disposal of needles. Referral to treatment programs if requested. Strict confidentiality and no fee involved. Telephone 8277 2488

COMING EVENTS

Quiz Night

26 October, 7.30 pm. Cove Sports and Community Complex, Lonsdale Highway. Loads of prizes, laughs and quizzing. BYO Supper, bar facilities available. Book a table. Telephone Pauline Gunn 8387 1029

Hallett Cove South Primary School

20th Birthday Reunion and Spring Fair. October 27, 11am - 4pm At the school, Cnr Gretel Cres & Livonia Crescent, Hallett Cove. Amusements and activities, displays, stalls, food and drinks. Meeting of old scholars and teachers. Telephone Mandy Coghlan 8296 2698

Australian Youth Choir

November 3, 2pm Cooinda Elderly Recreation Centre, cnr. Sturt and Diagonal roads, Sturt Seniors Week entertainment. Cost \$4.00 includes afternoon tea. Telephone Jillian Smith 8366 6521

Melbourne Cup Luncheon

November 5, 11.00am for 12.00 noon luncheon Cooinda Elderly Recreation Centre, cnr. Sturt and Diagonal roads, Sturt Spit roast, salads, dessert, BYO drinks, Sweeps, free bingo. Cost: \$10.00 Telephone 8298 7322

Melbourne Cup Afternoon

November 5, Mitchell Park Neighbourhood Centre, 1 Cumbria Ct., Mitchell Park Join in and watch the Melbourne Cup. Bring plate of afternoon tea to share. Telephone 8277 8435

Melbourne Cup Affair

November 5, 10am Cinema 1, Jetty Road, Glenelg.

Feature film "First Wives' Club", starring Bette Midler, Goldie Hawn, Diane Keaton and Maggie Smith. Followed by Cup Luncheon and Colors Parade of Fashion prior to the Main Race being shown. Melbourne Cup Sweeps, Raffles and Lucky Seat prizes. Tickets \$15, proceeds to the Royal Flying Doctor Service, organised by Adelaide Auxiliary and Rotary Club of Edwardstown. Telephone 8298 5571 or 8276 5078

Weekend Day Trips From Cooinda

November 10, Hahndorf Meet at Cooinda Elderly Recreation Centre, cnr. Sturt & Diagonal roads, Sturt 9.45am for 10.00am departure Sunday morning and be delivered to your own door after trip. Tours suit elderly people and include tea, coffee and cake. Bring or buy own lunch. Cost: \$12.00 Telephone 8298 7322

Berry's Musical Ensemble

November 21, 1pm. End of Year Concert. Cooinda Recreation Centre, cnr. Sturt & Diagonal roads, Sturt. Featuring special talents together with an audience singalong. Telephone 8298 7322

Carols in the Park

December 4, 6pm onwards. Glandore Community Centre, 25 Naldera Street, Glandore. Music, carols, stalls and food. Fun for all. Telephone 8371 1139

Immunisation Night Clinic

November 28, 3.30pm - 7pm Hallett Cove Shop Ctr., Ramrod Avenue, Hallett Cove. No appointment necessary, please bring immunisation records if available. Free vaccinations against Adult Tetanus and Diphtheria, Oral Polio, Triple Antigen, Hib (Hibititer), Measles/Mumps/Rubella. Telephone 8375 6600

Clay heads fired once. Decorated with acrylics and lacquered. \$70 each.

Marlie Unmuth, Artist



MISCELLANEOUS

Young Artists 15 - 26 years

Like to be listed in a directory of young artists living and working in the City of Marion? Design the directory cover - \$500 prize to winning designer. Entry closes November. Telephone HCYP 8322 4877 or Don Chapman 8375 6682.

Clothing Sale

Grace Clothing. 1/44 Towers Terrace, Edwardstown. Open Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays 10am - 4pm. Non profit ministry of Edwardstown Church of Christ. Donation of clothing gratefully accepted especially large fittings. Leave at shop or picked up on request. Also toys, books, records etc. Telephone 8297 4008.

Sturt Primary School Closure Events

Twilight Sports Day/BBQ, November 22 Time Capsule Reunion/Afternoon Tea, November 24 School Open Days, November 25 to 29 Reunion Dinner at Marion Sports and Community Club, November 29. Grand Finale, December 18. Sale of mugs, wine glasses etc bearing school's emblem and creating booklet of memories. Telephone 8296 2071

Twilight Christmas Carnival

December 6. 4.30pm - 9pm Trott Park Neighbourhood Centre, 34 Hessian Crescent, Trott Park. Craft stalls, entertainment, Father Christmas, food. Telephone 8387 2074

Immunisation Night Clinic

October 31, 3pm - 7pm Westfield Shoppingtown Marion, Oaklands Park. No appointment necessary, please bring immunisation records if available. Free vaccinations against Adult Tetanus and Diphtheria, Oral Polio, Triple Antigen, Hib (Hibititer), Measles/Mumps/Rubella. Telephone 8375 6600

Cards, photographic collage. \$3.50 each.

Ashley Starke, photographer

Cards, handpainted watercolour. \$3.50 each.

Natalie Lewcock, artist

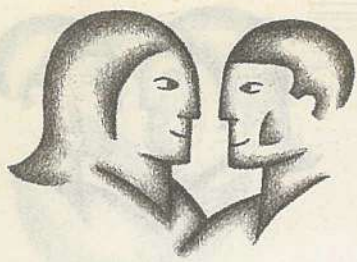
All items shown on this page are for sale at the Red House Art Gallery, 245 Sturt Road, Sturt. Telephone 8296 3677

The Deadline for the Summer Edition of News & Views is **November 15, 1996.** Please send your contribution to the Editor, News & Views, P.O. Box 21, Oaklands Park, SA 5046 Telephone Wendy Fowler on 8375 6804



Hand screen printed tea towel. Cotton linen blend. \$10 each.

Maria Hilder, textile artist



ON EVERYONE'S AGENDA ACT LOCALLY, THINK GLOBALLY

Marion residents are working with Marion Council to develop an action plan for the ecological sustainability of the city into the 21st century...



JO CONNOR

Environmental Management graduate



SIMON WHEATON

Soil and Management consultant



MICHAEL O'DONOGUE

Teacher, involved with Sturt Linear Park



GRAHAM ADAMS

Department of Environment and Natural Resources policy secretariat



LINDA-MARIE HALL

Flinders University Environmental Masters student

Local Agenda 21 will look at the Council's own performance to ensure that environmental considerations are balanced with economic and social factors in all of Council's operations and functions.



Local environmental round table talks at Marion Council

Local Agenda 21 is an international environmental program to promote sustainable development that had its start at the Rio Earth Summit in 1992. The City of Marion is one of five South Australian councils in the program, which involves hundreds of local government authorities and communities all over the world. Local Agenda 21's motto is Act Locally, Think Globally. The emphasis is on partnership - as Marion puts it, "Council and Community working together for a sustainable future." The Council went looking for partners: Jo Connor had studied environmental management. She had learnt to consider the environment in her daily decisions. One of Jo's daily decisions was whether to join the Council's Environmental Policy Advisory Committee chaired by Mayor Colin Haines. She liked involvement in issues at local level, she decided. You get more done that way.

You act locally, while still keeping the big picture. Jo joined EPAC. By doing so, she put herself right in the biggest picture possible. She was on Local Agenda 21 as one of eight community representatives, four elected members, four Council staff and a State Government representative from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. Now Jo is a partner in putting together an issues paper which is one of the first steps towards developing a Local Agenda 21 policy for Marion.

What makes Local Agenda so important, says Marion environmental officer Maggie Hine, is its recognition that sustainable development starts at the local level and allows communities to develop a long-term action plan to protect the local environment.

"For the City of Marion, participation in Local Agenda 21 offers the opportunity to build on environmental success stories such as our kerbside waste and recycling program, the Bike Plan and the Edwardstown and Melrose Park Pollution Prevention Program," she says.

"Local Agenda 21 will look at the Council's own performance to ensure that environmental considerations are balanced with economic and social factors in all of Council's operations and functions.

"It also aims to promote a greater community involvement in, and awareness of, environmental issues."

These issues might include water management, air quality, coastal management and bio-diversity, industrial pollution, waste minimisation and recycling, and housing and urban design. However, the community might feel there are other more important issues and associated actions. The Local Agenda 21 approach is that some of the actions can be undertaken by the Council, and others by the community. But all of them rely on the cooperation of both community and Council. The other SA councils involved in Local Agenda 21 are Streaky Bay, representing the rural area; Whyalla, regional centre; Happy Valley, rural fringe; and the City of Adelaide, CBD.

Marion was chosen as the suburban council, and all will be used as future Local Agenda 21 models. Marion can expect to see documentation of its EPAC committee's work in the early part of next year. In the meantime, for the community members their six months so far on EPAC have strengthened their commitment to community participation in Local Agenda 21.

Says Linda-Marie Hall, a Flinders University student doing a Master's degree in environmental studies: "Local Agenda 21 has the potential to achieve a greater integration of both existing and new environmental plans and programs into those on a regional, national and global scale."

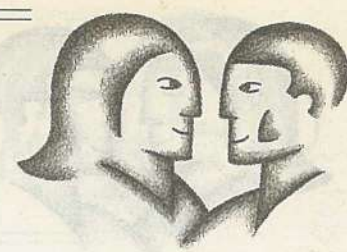
Michael O'Donogue, a teacher who is involved with the Sturt Linear Park: "EPAC is Marion Council serving its residents and businesses by ensuring the community has its say in helping pursue ecological sustainability for the 21st century."

Graham Adams, of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources policy secretariat: "The participation of every Australian - through all levels of government, business, unions and the community - is central to the effective implementation of ecologically sustainable development."

Simon Wheaton, soil and management consultant: "Community consultation in Local Agenda 21 is an important part of the process. Watch for the opportunity to have your say."

And finally Jo Connor: "We have a common goal - a better-educated community and council whose members will incorporate an environmental ethic in all their daily decisions." ■

* EPAC has vacancies for two community members. Contact Maggie Hine on 8375 6836 if your environmental choice is to act locally, think globally.



Marion has entered the space race. The Council won't go so far as to buy Woomera for the task ahead, but it will take a particular interest in any space facilities that crop up in its own backyard. By that the Council means community space, not outer space, and any sort of space will be considered. It might be as big and green as a disused school oval, or as small and black as a dilapidated old house block, or a piece of abandoned drainage land.

About one-quarter of Marion is community space, and Marion has 250 reserves. "That's a lot of reserves," says Marion recreation planner Dominic Fitzsimons, "so why should the Council jump into the space race? Because there's a still a need for more space and to improve the function of existing space, that's why."

Much of that reserve land down south is hilly terrain and old railway corridors, while the north of Marion is distinctly lacking in open space. Edwardstown and Glandore, for example, have only their ovals.

"The Council is trying to maximise its open space opportunities for the future," says Dominic.

"The importance of open reserves is demonstrated by the fact that large developers are promoting them in their own developments. People want open spaces, for many reasons. These include:

- play
- human development
- interaction with the environment
- relaxation
- sports
- community interaction
- socialisation
- health and fitness
- sense of space

And not all open spaces have to be flat and green; hills and gullies also are fine for environmental interaction and sense of place.

The first giant step for Marion-kind in the space race was taken when the State Government offered funding for upgrading of existing reserves. It was a small step next for the Council to devise an overall strategy with the help of consultants, Hassell Planning. The strategy is not only about finding new spaces; it is also about retaining old ones.



"Losing large areas of community space can result in the loss of recreational opportunities for the community, particularly if there are few open space alternatives in the area," says Dominic.

In the past, formal sporting areas have been dominated by a few sports such as cricket, football and tennis. They can leave other sports with limited opportunities for development, even if the demand is there. The growth of interest in non-structured recreational activities has increased the need for adequate areas for facilities such as basketball rings. One of Marion's earlier excursions into the space race was the old Glengowrie High School oval, now called Hazelmere Reserve and enjoyed by all ages. Two other schools are soon to close - Sturt Primary adjacent to the Marion Sports and Community Club, and Marion High, close to Mitchell Park Oval, Hamilton High and Sacred Heart College Middle School, which already offer important amounts of open space.

"These are significant sites because of the limited number of open space venues in northern Marion," Dominic says. "We will certainly look at them."

Glenthorne

Glenthorne, the CSIRO's 228-hectare property off Majors Road, O'Halloran Hill, is up for sale. While it is presently zoned Rural B, it is not zoned Hills Face and the CSIRO might be keen to change the zoning to maximise its potential sale income.

Laffer's Triangle, bounded by South, Sturt and Marion Roads, is probably the City of Marion's most prominent open space for both location and effect.

"It is an opportunity to retain Aboriginal and European cultures in the one area," says Dominic. "It also breaks up the urban landscape as you travel along those hectic main roads, which are sure to get busier when the Westfield development is finished."

The Council's plan is to lift the quality of open spaces in Marion's south, and to increase the quantity in the north, says Dominic.

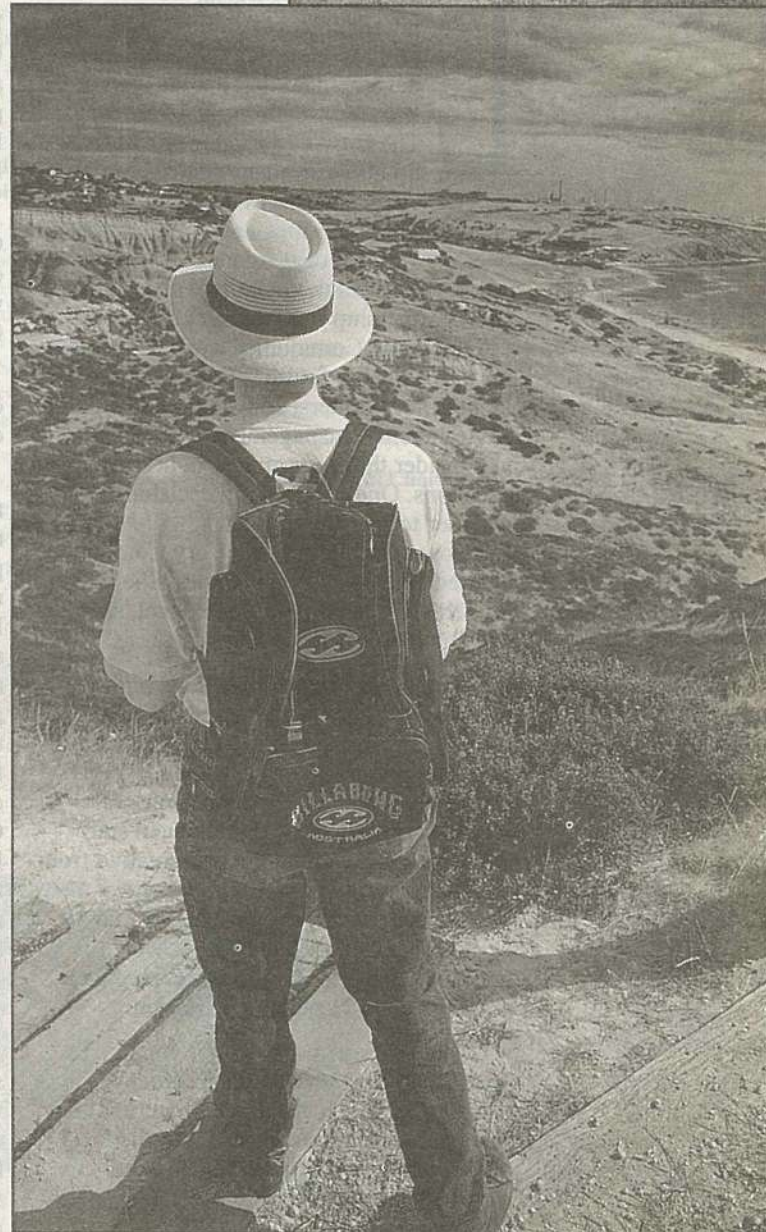
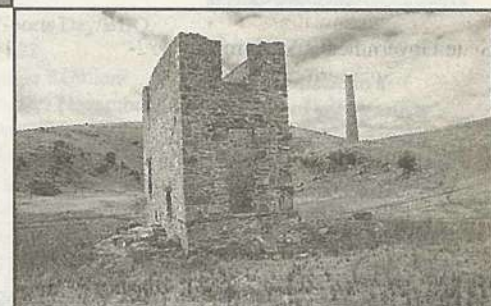
"We've been led by the community in the space race, and we still need that input."

Therefore all Marion residents can regard themselves as honorary space spotters. They should shift their eyes from the heavens and come back down to earth - in the quest for open space. Factors to keep in mind when keeping an eye out are:

- areas significantly lacking in open space
- areas significantly lacking in certain types of open space combined with a significant local demand
- the quality of open space
- areas of significant environmental importance

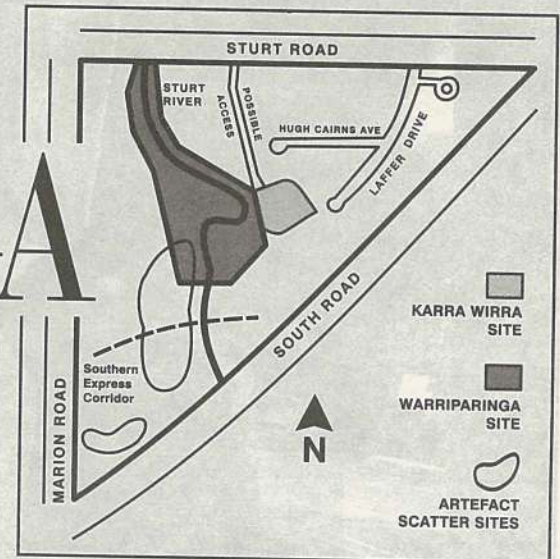
So while you could say the Control has achieved lift-off in the space race, there are countless ways to improve the provision of community space in Marion before touch-down ■

THE RACE FOR SPACE





THE ROAD THROUGH WARRIPARINGA



The proposed Warriparinga Interpretive Centre at Sturt is a unique and original concept. Along with the Marion Regional Centre, it is the Marion Council's most important development project. But it is also a potential source of conflict between the Council and the State Government. When the Centre and related projects are completed, they will combine the Aboriginal and European heritage of the southern Adelaide region in an act of reconciliation of which both major partners, the Kaurna people of South Australia and the City of Marion, are proud. The site, known to most Marion residents and many beyond as Laffer's Triangle, is bounded by the Main South, Marion and Sturt Roads and is traversed by the Sturt River. It includes wetlands, vineyards, the historic early settlers' Fairford House and cultural material held in deep spiritual regard by Aboriginal people.

Unfortunately, it also involves the State Government's \$112 million, 22-kilometre Southern Expressway - a boon to the South but a source of some concerns to Marion Council. A section of the Expressway will cut across the southern tip of the Laffer's Triangle site.

According to a consultant's report commissioned by the Council in response to an environmental report for the State Department of Transport, the Expressway could threaten the site's historical, spiritual and archeological significance, along with its visual and landscape impact. Air quality, noise and water run-off from the expressway are other factors that need further investigation. "There remains little doubt that ... the impact of the Southern Expressway upon the Laffer's Triangle and Warriparinga land will be significant," says the report by the firm of Phillips and Cielens.

"We consider that based upon current assessment data, our knowledge of the site and surrounding conditions, that it would be inappropriate to locate the northern carriageway across the Laffer's Triangle."

The Department of Transport insists that the conclusion of its own report is that the aspirations of the proposed interpretive centre will not be affected "in any way" by the Expressway. It says "the route chosen will result in minimal impacts on the local environment." Both the Marion Council and the Kaurna people agree that they would have preferred the Expressway to avoid Laffer's Triangle. After that consensus though, the two parties part company over the land they hope eventually to turn into a cultural showpiece with the Warriparinga Centre as its main focus. The Kaurna people, through the Kaurna Heritage Committee, recently reached an agreement with the Transport Department which will see them lose 10 per cent of their archeological sites in return for a compensation package which includes employment and education opportunities.

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Kaurna children at Warriparinga

However, Marion Councillor Bruce Hull, who is also chair of Warriparinga, feels that the consultation process has been inadequate. "We understand with reluctance there is no hope of stopping the Expressway running through Laffer's Triangle," he says. "But we are seeking proper mitigation. We are intent on minimising the effects of the Expressway. We believe more thought should go into landscaping and greening of the area. And there are land management issues. What about the historic grapevines? Who is going to manage them? Our consultant's report is quite scathing about Stage Two of the Expressway, which will mean a second carriageway to the west of the first. This will have to intrude further into Laffer's Triangle. There's the noise factor. Will the tranquility and spirituality of the place be affected by it? Run-off water from the Expressway is likely to flow into the north-west corner. Will the water be clean, and how will wetlands and the Sturt River be affected? In my view there should be some opportunity for Warriparinga to be part of the whole process. I don't think it's unreasonable for us to be consulted, and try to work in with the Expressway. But there's been no consultation."

Laffer's Triangle, bounded by South, Marion and Sturt Roads and traversed by the Sturt River, includes wetlands, vineyards, the historic early settlers' Fairford House and cultural material held in deep spiritual regard by Aboriginal people.

Councillor Hull says the Warriparinga-Laffer's Triangle issue is "more than just the Southern Expressway. There are so many challenges for the triangle. There is the role of the Patawalonga Catchment there, the MFP, Flinders University and Bankers Trust. They're all involved, together with others such as the Marion Historical Society, the Friends of Warriparinga and the Kaurna committee. It's very complex." The agreement between the Transport Department and the Kaurna people "in the end was a good result for all parties," says Paul Dixon, chair of the Kaurna Aboriginal Community Heritage Association. "For the 10 per cent of the archeological sites we were prepared to sacrifice for the long-term benefit, 90 per cent will remain in place. "Some spearheads, scrapers and anvils will be destroyed, but we are able to monitor the entire Expressway for further sites. Already there are three - at Warriparinga, Christie Downs and Old Noarlunga/Hackham West.

"Young Aboriginal people will be employed on landscaping and there will be a higher education program. There will be Aboriginal art interpretation sites along the Expressway, a pedestrian park, bridge and walking trails for cultural tours for the general public. An access road and car park will be built for Fairford House. Basically it means we have an avenue to the cultural tourism market, an avenue for Aboriginal people to break out of the poverty cycle. The whole concept is exciting. By using two different cultures, it is unique and of benefit to everyone. The theme of reconciliation has always been there. We now have some control over the Warriparinga area, which is viewed as a very mythological site by all Kaurna people. We consider we had a lot of community consultation over the compensation package. We're enthusiastic and now we want to get on with it."

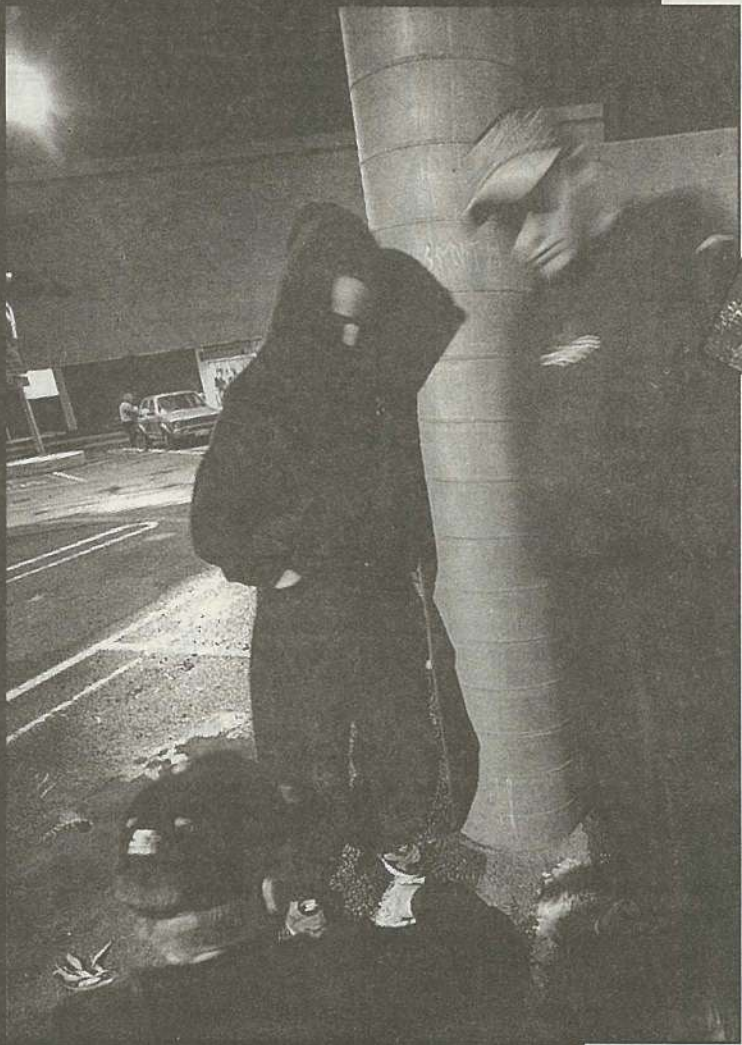
Councillor Hull says he agrees about the importance of the Warriparinga Interpretive Centre, and its reconciliation aspect. But he adds that "Marion Council hasn't agreed to anything because we don't want to find in time that we've compromised the activities of Warriparinga." He points out that the Department of Transport left the European component out of the Kaurna compensation package for the Southern Expressway, and he fears this omission might "twist the reconciliation program" ■



(Above Top) Map showing Warriparinga and Southern Express Corridor

(Bottom Left) Fairford House

(Bottom Right) Sturt River, Warriparinga



Positive options for youth through Marion's youth development programs

KIDS, CRIME AND COMMUNITY

Young people are out on the streets more than other people. Sadly, sometimes the streets are their 'home'. Therefore they are more visible, and typically attract more police patrols.

The Hallett Cove area has a low crime rate by any standards, and according to Neighbourhood Watch (Police) statistics, incidents of crime in most categories are falling.

However, the community and the Marion Crime Prevention committee are keen to address and further reduce incidents of vandalism, underage drinking, graffiti and car related offences in the area. Hallett Cove has many sporting facilities for young people, but for those not inclined to participate in those sports available, there is little else.

Marion Crime Prevention Coordinator, John Tomaino, is eminently qualified (in criminology, justice administration, public attitudes toward crime and sentencing) to guide us through these issues.

"At times," he says, "vandalism crime in the area can be quite serious. For example, I know of a restaurant owner who can no longer get property insurance due to damaged windows."

Beajaye Wright, Coordinator of the Hallett Cove Youth Project, and John are adamant that appearances can be deceptive.

"According to statistics, there is not more youth crime in our area than any other area," Beajaye says.

Adds John, "Young people are out on the streets more than other people. Sadly, sometimes the streets are their 'home'. Therefore they are more visible, and typically attract more police patrols.

White collar crimes such as fraud are not as visible, yet they cause far more financial and physical harm than street offences.

Of the hundreds of young people in our area, only a handful become involved in crime and then they usually grow out of it. It is an age where we experiment, find our identity and so on," says John, "and with their lifestyles, place themselves at greatest risk." Nevertheless the issues need to be addressed by appropriate strategies.

The Hallett Cove Youth Project was formed six years ago to respond to young people in need of support, it is involved with a community committee to provide summer activities, particularly during school holidays.

The Marion Crime Prevention Committee, funded by Marion Council and the Attorney General's Department, is developing a graffiti vandalism prevention programme.

To ensure the most appropriate strategy is targeted, it is important to look at the most successful program (in action) locally, interstate and overseas.

"This, together with community support and other strategies, will go a long way toward preventing these types of activities and minimising their harm," says John.

"The real challenge," says Marion Crime Prevention Committee Chairman Alderman Wolf Bierbaum, "is for families and the community to become more responsible with our

youngsters to ensure they are valued and responded to more appropriately."

"It is my personal experience," says Wolf, "that a large number of parents today do not know where their children are, nor what they do. Throughout Adelaide there are literally hundreds of youngsters who live on the street - fending for themselves as best they can - even going to school during the day and living in a 'bin' at night.

"That is not acceptable! Is one of those children yours? We cannot condone unacceptable behaviour, but we need a little tolerance at times to really understand what is happening in our communities."

John Tomaino says, "there is much you can do yourself to minimise opportunities for property crime, such as having the neighbours check your home while you're away."

"You can change the physical environment of certain trouble spots by increasing lighting or clearly marking your private property with an engraver. There is a whole range of advice available," he says.

Residents' concern about unruly behaviour from drinking in car parks and on beaches means that those areas may be declared dry zones. Marion Council is also considering implementing "Council Watch" where council employees would be invited to report any potential trouble spots. "They could be additional eyes and ears on the road," John says.

"It is appropriate to focus programs on one area at a time, so results can be more easily measured," John says, "yet the work of the committee will continue throughout the whole Council area, using its network / partnership model for all kinds of issues such as vandalism and domestic violence.

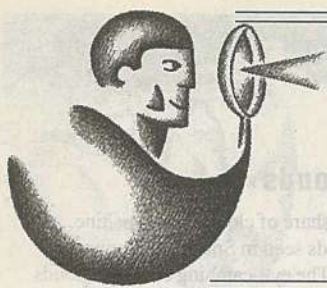
"Hallett Cove and other parts of the City of Marion are generally peaceful places with their share of problems typical to most areas," John Tomaino says.

"But we are constantly assessing and improving our strategies for crime prevention."

Beajaye Wright approaches the future in Hallett Cove with optimism. "Already there are excellent things being done by talented young people at the youth centre," she says. "It's always a shame when a small number of anti-social people spoil it for others." ■



Hallett Cove Youth Project - "where excellent things are being done."



A FAIR CONTEST

BENCHMARKING MARION CITY COUNCIL

“If the Council units are not competitive after benchmarking, they will be given the opportunity to improve.”



“Marion might choose to compare its own customer services with those of the Hyatt Regency Adelaide.”

The image of local government as a world of its own is about to change forever, and the City of Marion is set to become a model for that change.

The vehicle of that change will be “contestability” - a process of comparing Council services or projects with other organisations in similar fields, using quality, cost and customer service as the main criteria.

For example, Marion might choose to compare its own customer services with those of the Hyatt Regency Adelaide, or its parks and gardens operations with those of a Victorian council.

The comparison is called “benchmarking”. Its goal is to make the Council more competitive on the open market, which ultimately will mean better, more efficient and more accessible services for Marion residents.

If the Council’s services do not measure up after benchmarking, it is possible that those services may be provided by external organisations, with Marion managing the contract.

Already other councils are making enquiries about the Marion model, which has organised the Council’s operations into business units for contestability.

The Environmental Services and Public Infrastructure units have been chosen to lead the way, and are undergoing three months’ preparation for benchmarking.

“The business unit managers are enthusiastic and committed to the contestability program,” says Janet Binder, manager of Marion’s organisational development unit, which is in charge of contestability. “With local government reform, growing financial pressures and increased responsibility for economic development, environmental and people services, councils are facing some of the biggest challenges ever.

“There is demand for local government bodies such as ours to be more competitive and accountable. Contestability will do that.”

Marion’s move to contestability was initiated through an enterprise agreement with unions such as the Australian Workers’ Union which, says Janet, has been “very supportive” of the Marion model.

The Council is in the process of identifying benchmark partners. “We’ve had early discussions with the public sector and others in local government. Now we are searching the private sector. At least three other organisations are needed for benchmarking.

“If, after evaluation of the results, our own units are considered to be competitive - on a par or better - they will continue to provide in-house services for a set period in accordance with the benchmarking criteria.

“If the Council units are not competitive after benchmarking, they will be given the opportunity to improve. We’ll be able to say ‘This is where you need to lift your game.’ Depending on the service, that could take six months. But if after the improvement process our own people still have not reached the benchmark, the Council has the right to put those services out to open tender. The Marion unit can apply, but so can anyone else.”

The initial benchmarking will take about six months, and it is a matter of some urgency.

“With the council rates freeze, if we can keep costs down and provide the same level of services in the face of increasing demands, that’s what we have to do,” Janet says.

“That’s what contestability is all about.”

Mammals of the Air

Although the mammal list for Marion's park areas includes mainly introduced species (eg. the rabbit, fox, dog and cat) the air space above holds some surprises at the advent of evening. Up to seven species of native Australian bats may be pursuing their winged insect prey above the parks during Spring. The list includes Gould's Wattle Bat, the Lesser Long-eared Bat, the White-striped Mastiff Bat and the Yellow-bellied Sheath-tail Bat (left).

Contact Terry Reardon of 'Batwatch' at the South Australian Museum on 8207 7468 for further information about the bat experience

Head in the Clouds

Spring skies have their share of clouds and sunshine. The most common clouds seen in Spring are known as **Cumulus** and **Stratus**. The eye-catching cumulus clouds are low-level, with vertical rolls or towers climbing from flat bases. Stratus are also low-level and will be seen as a large grey mass. If they have a ragged base, then they are referred to as "fractostratus".

The brilliance of **Cumulus** Clouds

The Spring Night Sky

The biggest of all the planets in our solar system shines brightly in our evening sky. Take a walk outside on any clear evening, look west, and you can't help noticing a brilliant yellow star. Only, it isn't a star, it's Jupiter. It is more than 1300 times greater in volume than the Earth, and 318 times greater in mass. The only thing we see on Jupiter is the tops of its clouds; the surface of the planet is hidden under tens of thousands of kilometres of atmosphere. The atmosphere is made up of mostly hydrogen and helium, with methane and ammonia in smaller quantities. On Jupiter the clouds form coloured bands that circle the whole planet. The Galileo space craft, launched NASA, and which arrived at Jupiter in December 1995, is on a mission to study the giant planet and its moons.

Contact Astronomical Society of South Australia on 8353 5762

NATURE OF MARION SPRING in MARION

Marion has its own beautiful elements of nature that change with each shifting season. Here's some of the signs of Spring that can see if you get out and about in Marion

Spring into Flower

Longer days in Spring provide more hours of sunlight for plants. With warmth, water and light plants around Marion will grow more quickly - most of them rushing to flower. Native trees begin a time of rapid growth, and short-lived plants will germinate, grow to full size, flower and then die before next winter. The following beautiful native plants can be seen in Spring at Marion's Marino and Hallett Cove Conservation Parks.

Contact Botanist Dr Barbara Randall on 8296 2832



Native annual plant, **Velleia**, has bright gold flowers about 2.5cm across, at the end of stems about 15cm long. Crowds of them look like yellow pansies among the stems of native grasses.

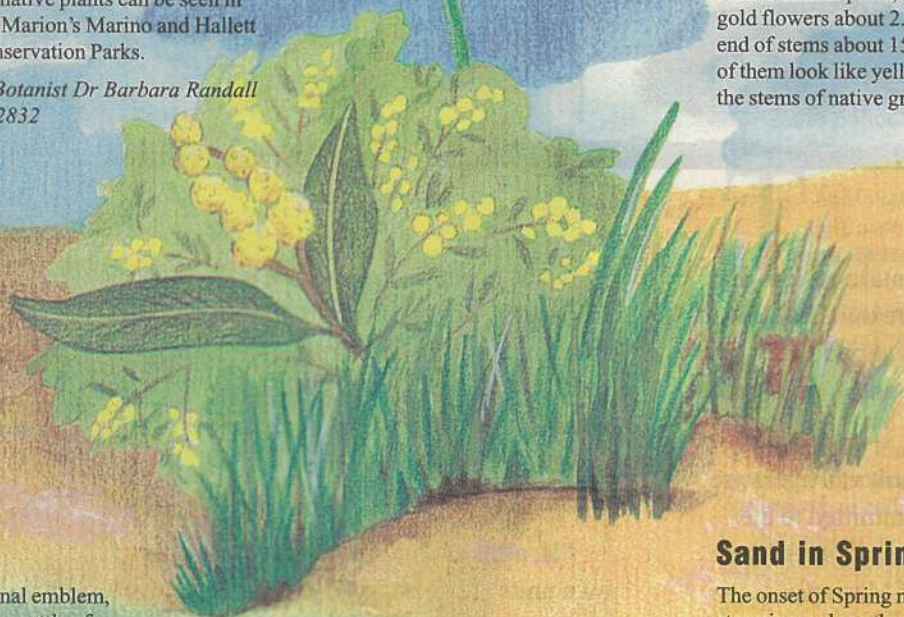
Avian Activity

The surge in growth of Marion's plant and communities stimulates breeding and increased feeding in all bird species. Observers in Marion's parks will see such species as Richard's Pipit and the introduced Skylark in the grasslands where they conceal their nests at this time of year, or possibly small coveys of Stubble Quail which burst into flight at the very last moment. In the air above the reserves you may see Australian Kestrels or Black-shouldered Kites (above) hovering in anticipation of Spring bounty in the form of insects, small reptiles or mice.

Phone the SA Ornithological Association on 8263 2098 for more information



Our national emblem, the golden wattle of **Acacia pycnantha**, is just starting to flower in the Marion area



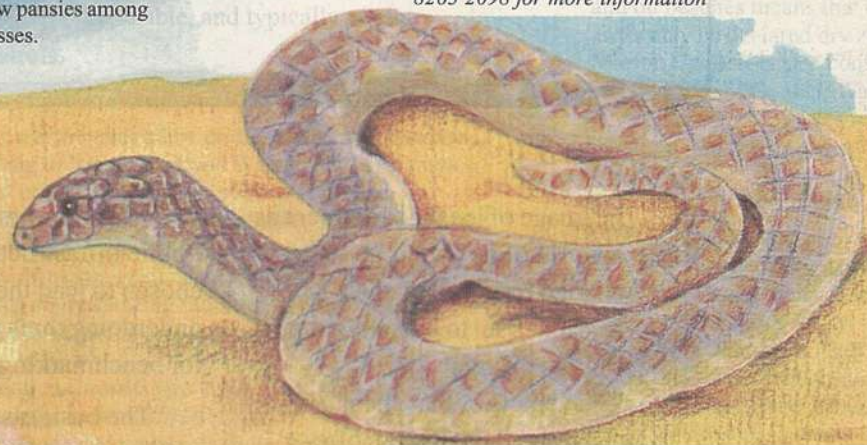
Sand in Spring

The onset of Spring means less storminess along the coast. With calmer conditions, less sand is swept off the beaches to the offshore sand bars and sand from these bars moves onshore. The result is that we can expect better beach conditions at Hallett Cove as we approach Summer.

Reptile Reappearance

The end of the winter chill brings the reptiles out of their dormitories. Warmth means activity to these cold-blooded vertebrates and all species will commence the search for food and breeding partners. In both Marino and Hallett Cove conservation parks you may see the larger skinks - the Shingle-Back and the Eastern Blue-Tongued Lizard - or the small skinks - the Bougainvilles, Striped and Dwarf Skinks. The Eastern Brown Snake is also found throughout the area and is regularly seen by residents and walkers.

Contact the SA Herpetologists Group at the SA Museum on 8207 7500 for more information



Sea Spring's Beauty

Beach walkers at Marino and Hallett Cove will see an increase in marine organisms washed up on the shore. There will be fewer Port Jackson Shark egg cases to be seen, but some fortunate observers may notice a beautiful Leafy or Weedy Seadragon (right). These creatures are exclusive to Australian waters. Warmer temperatures in Marion's inshore waters heighten marine activity amongst many species in Spring.

Please report any Seadragon sightings to: Dragonsearch (08) 8200 2455



Calamari begin laying their egg masses over seagrass beds off the coast of Marion.

Large King George Whiting will move south down both sides of the Gulf.



Information courtesy of:

Botany
Dr Barbara Randall,
Consultant Botanist

Coastal Sands
Tony Wynne,
Dept. Env't. & Nat. Res.

Weather, Clouds
Keith Burrows,
Bureau of Meteorology

Marine Biology
Dr Keith Jones,
SA Research & Dev't. Inst. (SARDI)

Fauna
David Jackson,
Wildlife Protection Authority

Astronomy
Joseph Grida,
Astronomical Soc. of SA