

# SOUTH-EAST CITY NEWS

Edition No 8

SOUTH-EAST CITY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC (SECRA)

November 2006

Ratepayers across the state have now chosen their Local Government representatives for the next 4 years – except of course for us, because Adelaide is reviewing its representational structures and our election will not take place until some time in 2007. Many residents feel that we were better served when we had ward councillors – after all, state and federal lower houses are elected on a locality basis – but the Options Paper seems to find more arguments in favour of retaining the status quo. SECRA will be guided by its members but will probably maintain its position of looking for a change based on a sensible division into wards reflecting communities of interest and equality of representation.

**We encourage members to read the Options Paper and make their views known to the Review Panel – and to us.** Recent articles in the press have suggested that the Council is dysfunctional and should be sacked by the State. We may have issues with some aspects of Council policy and accountability but calls for sacking are totally out of order. Councils are a fundamental part of our democratic system which must be defended at all costs. Adelaide Council will be judged – albeit a year late-by its ratepayers and electors at the ballot box and no other way is to be tolerated .David Plumridge.

**WORKING WITH THE HOMELESS** We recently paid a visit to the Hutt Street Centre which provides a wide range of services for people who are homeless or in need of short-term support when their lives have fallen apart for one reason or another. A small staff is assisted by many volunteers. Over 200 people are being helped at any one time and services include wholesome meals, access to social workers, showers and laundry, op shop The centre is supported by Catholic Churches, Corporate Sponsors and Government grants but relies heavily on fund-raising activities. One such event is the **PORTAVIN TOUCH WINE 2006** a day of wine, sport, food and family fun on Sunday 19 November at Park 17, Greenhill Road. Australian rugby legend Nick Farr-Jones will join 40 teams from wineries across the country in a touch football tournament to raise funds for Adelaide's homeless people Details at [www.portavintouwhine.com.au](http://www.portavintouwhine.com.au)



**CLIPSAL AGAIN....**Following recent vigorous debate in the press the following points need to be made very clear.

SECRA is not opposed to Clipsal as an event and we accept that it will be with us until at least 2015.

- However, we do want to reduce the adverse impact of Clipsal on residents, not just in Adelaide but in many suburbs east and south of the City.
- Clipsal occupies the Parklands for 5 months; we think this time is too long; we see long-term damage and certainly no improvements by the Motor Sport Board.
- The greatest nuisance is not the cars but the constant noise of non-essential joyriding helicopters.
- We do support horse-racing, horse trials, pedal power, student sports and the many other community events which are regularly held in the Parklands.

**But most of all we are opposed to permanent buildings being built for motor racing in Victoria Park, one of the few areas of open unspoilt Adelaide Parklands.Council and SAJC should work together to redevelop existing facilities.**

**BAKEHOUSE THEATRE** The last show for 2006 "Norway. Today" is now on and runs Wednesdays to Saturdays until November 18<sup>th</sup> Bookings on 8227 0505. The continuing future of our local theatre will be helped by strong local support.

**CIVIC TRUST AWARDS** The Clipsal V8 Supercar Race set-up in Victoria Park received a Civic Trust Brickbat Awards



**THE BEAUTY OF SPRING** At this time of year the south-east corner of the city really looks a picture. The Plane trees in Hutt St, the Jacarandas, the roses and the new landscaping in Hurtle Square are a credit to the Council. However, sustainable watering is an issue if we are to maintain the (exotic) trees but then lets remember the intrinsic value of the trees and all the good they do in soaking up carbon dioxide and giving us oxygen.



**ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR** From time to time the south-east precinct seems to become the target of people who show no respect for other people's property or peace of mind. Residents are entitled to expect police protection against property damage, unruly behaviour, graffiti and vandalism. There may be underlying reasons for such anti-social behaviour but governments need to provide support to the perpetrators and the police have to protect the community. SECRA has convened a meeting with Jane Lomax-Smith and the police to confront these issues and work towards solutions. It is critical that residents report such behaviour to the Police, no matter how minor it may seem to be.

**RUBBISH COLLECTIONS.** Council is to be commended for its initiative in collecting cardboard from commercial premises but the way it is done leaves a lot to be desired. Early in the afternoon of collection, rubbish is piled up on the footpath for pick-up overnight. Not only is the material a hazard to pedestrians but it presents a very poor image to visitors to the city. These pictures, taken near the Central Market, are not isolated cases. Surely there is a better way. In fact Council's domestic recycling collection using open crates and runners is not best practice and is not conducive to efficient recycling, safe work practices or street tidiness.



**CHRISTMAS GET-TOGETHER - BOOK THE DATE NOW – WEDNESDAY 13 DECEMBER 6-8.00PM**

The committee reckons we've had enough formal meetings for one year and its time to celebrate Christmas in a more relaxed way. The idea is that we will meet in the Olive Grove at the end of Halifax Street, we will provide some drinks and nibbles and invite members to drop-in, say hello and get to know one another better. No speeches, just a chance to meet your committee and your fellow members. We look forward to seeing you all there to celebrate the festive season.

**OUR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WILL BE HELD IN FEBRUARY 2007 – MORE DETAILS TO COME**

*We welcome your comments and suggestions.....*

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