



Town of East Fremantle News

AMALGAMATION UPDATE

East Fremantle Council working together on Amalgamation Reform

A few years ago the state government started investigating ideas to create larger, more sustainable local governments, improve efficiency and strengthen service delivery.

After several delays, a final decision was made on 22 October 2014 which will see the City of Fremantle and Town of East Fremantle amalgamate. This decision means East Fremantle residents will now become part of a new, larger City of Fremantle next year. While it's the preferred option of East Fremantle Council not to amalgamate, the leaders of East Fremantle and Fremantle Councils feel it imperative to work together in a professional manner to make this transition as easy and painless for our community as possible.

Looking at the transition positively, there will be some great changes for residents as well as many benefits for the community. From July next year there will be opportunities for East Fremantle residents that stem from being part of a larger council with greater resources. Some of these include parking permits for the Fremantle CBD, the potential for an extension of the Fremantle CAT bus to parts of East Fremantle and other prospective changes that will result in a greater integration between Fremantle and East Fremantle.

As both Councils have progressed over the years our values have always been very similar. Both the Councils have always regarded heritage protection, transport initiatives, promoting an inclusive society and focusing on the environment as a priority and this will be upheld as the Councils work together in the New Year.

DECEMBER 2014

In October 2015 you will also have the opportunity to vote in local government elections that will see a new Fremantle Council established. This new Council will represent the expanded community and make decisions based on this representation.

The changes will come into effect from 1 July 2015. This is to give time for both Councils to plan and budget for changeover to minimize the impact on you and your neighbours. There will be increasing media coverage and communication in the lead up to when the amalgamation is formalised, so you will be kept up to date. For now, the Town of East Fremantle will continue providing you with the services and facilities you currently enjoy and will do so up until 30 June 2015. During this time Fremantle and East Fremantle will be working together to ensure the changeover happens as smoothly as possible.

If you, as an East Fremantle resident have any questions, please feel free to contact the council via our website, Facebook page or by email. Our residents are our number one priority, so rest assured we will continue to work together with your best interests in mind.



**EAST FREMANTLE COUNCIL
ARE NOW ON FACEBOOK**

Keep up to date with community events and information in your local area.

'Like' us on [facebook.com/eastfremantlecouncil](https://www.facebook.com/eastfremantlecouncil)

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Jim O'Neill



It is with great pleasure that Council presents our second newsletter. The big news is the State Government's announcement that the

Town of East Fremantle will be amalgamated into a greater Fremantle as recommended by the Local Government Advisory Board. We have included amalgamation information and the resulting ramifications in this newsletter.

The Town of East Fremantle has attained the 250 signatures which has triggered a poll on the 7 February 2015. At least 50% per cent of electors need to vote on that day with the majority opposing amalgamation.

Should the Town actively oppose this or work with the City of Fremantle to ensure the best possible outcomes for the Town of East Fremantle and its residents? This is a difficult decision for elected members to make. The Town has decided to work with the City of Fremantle as we feel to wait until after the poll will leave even less time to ensure the unique features of our Town can remain should amalgamation go ahead. Elected members and staff will work hard to ensure the best possible outcomes for our Town and I undertake to keep residents informed and updated as much as possible. We must ensure the continuation of our planning scheme and densities, services to the elderly, footpath replacement, park and playground improvements, foreshore works and clubs and community groups.

Despite this uncertainty the Town has continued to plan and carry

out works to improve both our built environment and services. Many of our parks and playgrounds have or will be upgraded to ensure parents and children have access to safe, challenging and stimulating physical activity.

I would like to acknowledge the Friends of the East Fremantle Foreshore led by Helen Congrues, and Frank and Pam Caddy to name but a few. This group has continued to ensure our most important natural resource, the Swan River, is looked after in our Town.

The Plympton Steps will be completed soon to provide safe access to and from the river in particular for our Plympton community.

Many residents may have noticed the renovations to the Council building and Police Station. These are important buildings in our Town and feedback from the community has been most positive.

We have continued our footpath replacement program and during the mid year budget review intend to see if more paths can be upgraded over the next few months.

The cricket and lacrosse renovation has commenced and the volunteer contribution from those two clubs has been nothing short of magnificent.

The review of the outstanding leases in the Town is an important objective for the elected members and we will continue to address this issue.

In an attempt to improve our services all households were given the opportunity to comment via our recent survey. The survey results have outlined the things that you regard as important for our Town

to keep if amalgamated and areas in services and infrastructure we can improve.

To the office bearers of our many community and sporting groups I thank you. Because of your hard work and dedication our Town offers so many different physical and social recreation opportunities for all ages. In a time when social interaction is becoming so important, as we work and live longer, it is these volunteers that are so important.

Lastly I would to thank and recognize all the residents, members of the clubs and sporting groups in our Town and our dedicated and hard-working staff both in the Council offices and the outside work crews.

I take this opportunity to wish everyone a spiritually rewarding festive season.

Kind regards
Jim O'Neill



2014 East Fremantle Festival Best Ever!

GEORGE STREET COMES ALIVE UNDER BEAUTIFUL SUMMER SKIES

As the perfect Summer sun shone on beautiful George Street, the festival vibe was alive and well. With a huge variety of stalls and buskers performing throughout the afternoon it was our best festival to date.



All afternoon, seasoned performers took to the stage and visitors soaked up the entertainment whilst sampling the amazing food on offer from local cafes and restaurants. Patrons enjoyed mouth watering delights from multicultural food stalls selling Spanish paella, Italian Pizza, Malaysian satays, Turkish gozlemes, Japanese pastries, Mexican popsicles, South East Asian street food and freshly made juices.

Glasson Park was turned into a children's paradise as kids got to experience holding reptiles and enjoy petting small animals from the nursery. There was also an awesome bouncy castle for the children to play with their friends whilst parents watched on. And for the adults there was plenty on show as many of the George Street businesses opened their doors and invited the festival crowds in with some even 'peddling their wares' out on the street.

This year the festival crowds were absolutely thrilled with the high quality of artisan products and the range of activities on offer for both young and old. It was a perfect day for the community, families and friends who enjoyed the celebration of East Fremantle.

The Council would like to thank everyone involved for another successful year and offer a huge congratulations to everyone involved.





Pioneers Lunch

Every year the Town of East Fremantle hosts its annual Pioneer's Lunch at the East Fremantle Yacht Club to honour members of the community, aged 60 or over who have been residing in the Town for over 30 years.

Sue Limbert and the Home and Community Care team did an outstanding job organising the event this year, offering a 'door to door' bus pickup for residents who required transport to and from the venue. The room was filled with Christmas cheer

As guests enjoyed a delicious three course meal overlooking the Swan River they were treated to live music from 'Friends of RT', Gordon Lee and a choir performance from the Richmond primary school.

This year's honourable guest was long time resident Mrs Barbara Griffiths. She spoke with ease and humour as she reflected on living in East Fremantle as a pioneer and was greeted with a round of applause as she and Mayor, Jim O'Neill cut the traditional Christmas Cake.

Other special guests included the Hon Simone McGurk MLA, our East Fremantle Town Councillors and Marjorie Green, a former Deputy Mayor.

East Fremantle really enjoys this annual tradition honouring its long time residents and putting on a special day for them to celebrate Christmas and community. It's a time for our pioneers to come together and reflect on the community they have helped build and shape in a room filled with Christmas cheer.

Town Planning Review and Changes in your Community

The consultation phase and formal public advertising of the Planning Scheme Review concluded on Monday, 15th December 2014 and the Council will now consider any received submissions to determine whether or not to forward the Scheme Amendment (with or without changes) to the Minister for Planning for his Final Approval.

The Town of East Fremantle is currently reviewing the existing Planning Scheme because The Planning and Development Act 2005 requires local governments to either consolidate existing town planning schemes or prepare a new town planning scheme every five years.

It is recognised that this document does not reflect current regional policies set by the State Government, however the Planning Review Process provides an opportunity to examine long term planning for the Town and provide a strategy that meets community expectations.

As part of the general review of the Town Planning provisions, proposals have been put forward to make a series of changes to the existing Town Planning Scheme No.3 to bring the scheme up to date.

As a member of the community there will be some key changes you may notice such as new dual coding of building laws which will aim to encourage greater diversity in building types whilst retaining the existing built form character of East Fremantle. Heritage provisions related to properties being considered for redevelopment at the higher of the dual R-Code provisions will be altered by the proposed amendment. This will allow for density bonuses to be offered in respect to applications involving heritage properties, in cases where this would result in a more sympathetic development.

Also, we will see George Street proposing to adopt Residential R-Coding to allow and incorporate the Mixed Business zone with the amendment allowing a new three storey maximum building height.

We hope that these proposed changes will be met with positivity however if you, as a member of the community have any queries about town planning please do not hesitate to contact your member of Council.

FUTURE FREO PROJECT

Future Bright for East Freo

The *Future Freo* project will use evidenced based research to closely examine greater Fremantle, in the lead up to the amalgamation. The year-long project will produce a report that will detail Fremantle as it is today as well as identify opportunities and challenges to ensure that the region is an economically sustainable and vibrant place to live, work, play and invest for current and future generations.

Recently there has been a lot of anecdotal commentary about Fremantle's strengths and weaknesses, both by its residents and visitors. Through the course of the project the committee will examine Fremantle's economic, social, demographic and political character, so better informed decisions can be made and local councils can then create a more unified approach to the future.

Future Freo will be carried out by the Committee for Perth, utilising the FACTBase research team at The University of Western Australia. Fremantle and its surrounding suburbs have a proud history and the committee wants to make sure it has a bright future too. It's only by carrying out this research that they will have a better understanding of the region's opportunities and challenges and also how it compares to other parts of the metropolitan area and other relevant cities around the world.

EAST FREMANTLE PLANS TO RECYCLE RIGHT

East Fremantle has always been passionate about sustainability and waste management. We have always been big supporters of recycling and reducing household waste which is why we have decided to adopt the The Recycle Right Plan to help drive education about this important matter across the region.

The Plan was unanimously adopted on 26 June 2014 by the council for implementation, which will provide options for non-green and yellow bin materials.

As we hope to deliver a consistent recycling message we will aim to drive a positive behavioural change in the community in order to meet State Waste Authority requirements. For more information about the Recycle Right Strategy visit the council website.



Fremantle Road to Rail Campaign Update

On November 19 Main Roads WA posted on its website that it has moved to the project development stage for the Perth Freight Link.

According to a May 19 joint press release between federal minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development, Warren Truss and WA minister for Transport and Finance, Dean Nalder, the \$1.6 billion project will improve freight access between the Port of Fremantle and Kewdale.

The ministers promise that the project will "remove 65,000 vehicles from the surrounding road network each and every day". This will be via a 6-lane, traffic-lights free roadway between the two centres. Presumably, the 65,000 vehicles will then come through Fremantle.

The announced route is through the Beelihar Wetlands, extending the Roe Highway to Stock Road. From there it will involve widening and upgrading High Street, Fremantle and widening Stirling Highway by two lanes.

Nothing has been announced for the section from Canning Highway across Stirling Bridge to Tydeman Road and the port.

The press release states that trucks will save 16 minutes travelling time and that this will generate \$6.90 in benefits for every dollar spent. There is no publicly available business case to justify those claims.

When Senator Scott Ludlam grilled federal transport department officials about that question earlier this year he was told that there is no business case.

"Community engagement is a critical component of this project," the Main Roads WA post states. Residents are invited to register to receive further information through emailing enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au or calling 138 138.

The Fremantle Road to Rail campaign is a local group that is calling for Fremantle Port freight to be directed to the existing rail line in order to reduce truck movements and so eliminate the need for any freeway construction.

It can be reached at its Facebook page, www.facebook.com/freoroad2rail

COMMUNITY SURVEY

Community Raises its Voice

In June 2014, the Town of East Fremantle administered a Community Perceptions Survey to better understand the needs of its residents. The survey was mailed to all households in the Town of East Fremantle along with ratepayers living outside the Town and 523 valid responses were received.

Overall there was a high satisfaction level with the Town of East Fremantle as a place to live with 86% of persons agreeing that they have a strong sense of belonging in the suburb. Residents were also pleased with the efforts the council had made towards maintaining and enhancing the Swan River. We also saw high satisfaction results for environment and waste management, sports facilities as well as cultural events.

The housing mix in the Town of East Fremantle appears to be meeting the current and future needs for most residents.

Based on current and future preferences, there is a suggestion that demand for larger blocks and townhouses may decline, with some growth in the need for single level duplexes, villas, 55+ accommodation and retirement homes.

Along with the good news there was also some more moderate results concerning footpaths, cycleways, streetscapes and heritage development. In particular residents were quite vocal about the preservation and redevelopment of the Old George Hotel.

Altogether, the key messages that we took out from the survey was that the council must demonstrate respectful and collaborative leadership, and bring a strong community together to agree on a shared vision for the future. While many want to preserve East Fremantle's unique history, identity and character, others are calling for more progressive development.

Summer Croquet Season Now Open



On Saturday 25 October Mayor Mr Jim O'Neill hit the red ball through the first hoop and pronounced the East Fremantle Croquet Club season for 2014/2015 officially open.

Mayor Jim O'Neill stated that it was great to see "the strength of East Fremantle as a community resonating through it's various sporting clubs" and that these clubs "provide great benefits to the local community as well as the club members".

Members enjoyed a game of Golf Croquet followed by a light lunch of sandwiches and scones.

The Croquet Club is located at 59 Allen St and welcomes new members. Croquet keeps you mentally and physically fit and will not only challenge you but have you laughing with a fun group who really love this sport.

Historic East Fremantle Lacrosse Team set for Club Room Upgrade

The East Fremantle Lacrosse Club has one of the most distinguished and extensive histories in Western Australian and for that matter, Australian Sport. The concept for the East Fremantle Lacrosse Club started in 1896 when a meeting was held in July at O'Birnes Club Hotel in Fremantle for people interested in playing lacrosse in the Fremantle area.

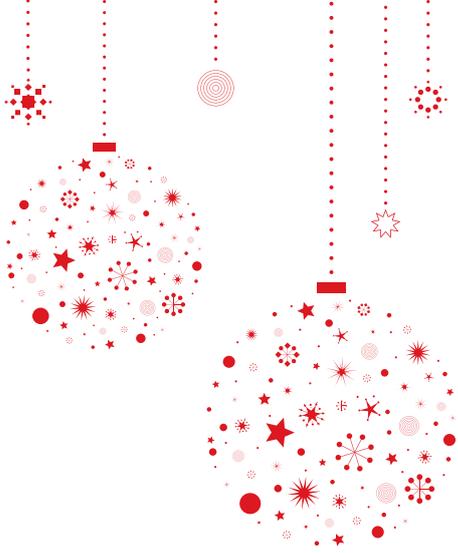


1964 - Former Mayor Mr W. Wauhop, Mr J. Tonkin MLA, Mr J. Craig President East Fremantle Lacrosse Club



2014 - Vic Strnadica President East Fremantle Cricket Club, Simone McGurk MLA, Mayor Jim O'Neill, David Millar President East Fremantle Lacrosse Club

After the sport became more and more popular the club was established and in 1964 the East Fremantle Lacrosse Club Rooms were built for the team to use. So it is only fitting that the club rooms (jointly occupied by the East Fremantle Cricket Club) are undergoing an upgrade thanks to council support and funding from the Department of Sport and Recreation. Located just off Preston Point Road, overlooking the Swan River the new club rooms will be extended to allow for new change rooms, a function room, small bar, canteen and new verandah. We hope this brings even more players to the club and this growing sport.



Garage Sale Trail A Huge Success

This year's Garage Sale Trail was held on 25 October and was the most successful to date. The Town of East Fremantle and Fremantle had over 140 registered Garage Sales. Buyers as well as sellers were singing the event's praises as their unwanted items were swooped up by bargain hunters alike.

The Garage Sale Trail is all about sustainability, fun and being social with your community. Over the past 3 years the event has redistributed over 1.5 million items from landfill, generated more than \$1 million in local economic activity and facilitated fundraising for local groups. The East Fremantle Council is very proud to be involved in this event and we hope for an even bigger and better Garage Sale Trail in 2015.



Your Art Acquisition Panel to Inform New Purchases

As a Public Art Coordinator Correen Hall was thrilled to see East Fremantle acquire two major artworks in the past year. Along with Maggie Baxter, Jim O'Neil and Sian Martin the East Fremantle Art Acquisition Panel select public artworks that will enhance the town's surroundings and culture.

The large sculptures can be seen near Kitson Park and in John Tonkin Park.

Free Outdoor Movies in the Park

In March and April next year, the Town of East Fremantle Council will bring you Movies in the Park. This is a free event and the movies will be screened for the community at John Tonkin Park on Riverside Road. So bring a blanket, a picnic and enjoy a film outdoors.

Movie titles and times will be shown on our website and on the Facebook page.

Along with the movies there will be a range of sporting finals and local school holiday activities over the Summer school holidays. Keep up to date by 'Liking' and following us on Facebook.



NEW ACTING CEO



New Acting CEO – not just a boy from the bush

The Town of East Fremantle would like to introduce Gary Clark, our new Acting CEO whilst long serving CEO, Stuart Wearne, takes some well-deserved leave. Growing up in the small Wheatbelt town of Shackleton, Gary has always had a love for local communities and their development. For the last 20 years Gary has worked in local government leadership roles throughout Western Australia including Meekatharra, Ashburton (Tom Price), Chittering, Brookton and Derby/West Kimberley.

As the new acting CEO of East Fremantle Gary is keen to help the Town promote economic and community development through public engagement and strategic focus. This approach recently saw Gary as the catalyst behind the new Town of East Fremantle's Facebook page, which will help the council inform residents about local community matters, but also for the locals to interact with their council about matters important to them. As well as just being a bit of fun too! He believes that keeping the community informed with what's happening within their town is a great initiative for involvement.

Town of East Fremantle Christmas Closure



Council wishes all our residents a very happy Christmas and a safe festive season. The Town of East Fremantle administration office opening hours during the Christmas/New Year break are as follows:

**CLOSED 12.00 NOON WEDNESDAY
24 DECEMBER 2014 – REOPENING
8.30AM MONDAY 5 JANUARY 2015**

Rubbish/Recycling Services over Christmas and New Year Break

The following changes to rubbish/recycling collections will occur during the Christmas/New Year period:

**THURSDAY 25 DECEMBER services to be collected on
FRIDAY 26 DECEMBER**

**FRIDAY 26 DECEMBER services to be collected on
SATURDAY 27 DECEMBER**

**THURSDAY 1 JANUARY services to be collected on
FRIDAY 2 JANUARY**

**FRIDAY 2 JANUARY services to be collected on
SATURDAY 3 JANUARY**

Please note that Cleanaway will not return to bins not put out for collection on the above alternative dates. All other collection days are not affected.

For life threatening emergencies	000
Police Attendance	131 444
Fremantle Police Station (24 Hours)	9430 1222
Fremantle Community Policing Centre	9336 9940
Palmyra Police Station (until 5pm)	9339 9700
Graffiti Reports	9364 7828
State Emergency Service Assistance	132 500



Town of East Fremantle

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Your Elected Representatives

Your Mayor and councilors are elected by you to represent the Town's residents and ratepayers. Contact details are provided should you wish to discuss a council matter or offer any suggestions.

We would love to hear from you about any matters in East Fremantle that are concerning you and any compliments/feedback you may have for our Town.

MAYOR

Jim O'Neill

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