

community newsletter

February/March 2010

First Annual Carols at The Ponds a Great Success



Sunday 20th December was a night to remember at The Ponds. Some 4,500 people gathered for the first annual Carols at The Ponds. From 6pm there were camel rides, train rides, food for sale and on stage entertainment.



Many very talented performers delighted us with all our

favourite Christmas carols and songs. Santa arrived on a fire truck. The Nativity Pageant included live animals and was narrated by our special guest, Kamahl. The evening concluded with a spectacular fireworks display.



Street Party Time at The Ponds

Several residents took advantage of our street party voucher offer to assist them in having a great party in December. Kerrie & Peter from Picnic Street had 11



families come along and all had a great time getting to know each other. Ed & Bron from The Ponds Boulevard had their party on their driveway (pictured), all

enjoying the night. Andrew & Amanda from Widgeon Road not only had 25 residents come along to the party on Christmas Eve, but everyone also pitched in at the end of the night to assemble bikes, swing sets, slippery slides and a cubby house, ready for Christmas morning. See our website for full story.

Green Travel Club

The Rouse Hill Town Centre Green Travel Club is now open to the residents of The Ponds. The club promotes and provides incentive for a mode shift away from single occupancy car trips to more environmentally friendly modes of transport. Community members are invited to join the club. Membership benefits include family bike rides, free bike safety and skills training, rideshare database and special events and promotions. For more information visit www.rhtc.com.au/greentravelclub or email Sue Wiblin at Sue.Wiblin@gpt.com.au. Sue will be our guest speaker at the February Meet Your Neighbour Night.



A New Lake is Coming to The Ponds



Landcom hosted a workshop in late 2009 to generate ideas for the design and activities for The Lake precinct located in the North East of The Ponds (the existing dam is pictured above). The comments and suggestions received have now been developed into design options and a public display of these will be held in February. Details of the exhibition venues and how you can comment on the designs will be advertised shortly. To find out more call 1800 233 076.

John Palmer Public School Update

John Palmer Public School, which opened in 2008 with 44 children, has now grown to nearly 250 children. Nine new staff members have been employed for the new school year, five being full time teachers. The staff were welcomed at a lunch on Wednesday 27th January, provided by The Ponds Community Development Programme.

The Ponds Community Website is where you will find photos of past events, news, event details and lots of useful information. Please visit www.thepondscommunity.com.au. Your feedback is also welcome.

The Ponds Community Facilitator, Riverbank Drive, The Ponds.

 The Ponds

www.thepondscommunity.com.au 0412 620 115

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The Ponds Baby News



Left: Alisha, born 20/12/09, weighing 2.84k & 48.5cm long. First child to Ishita & Shami. Congratulations!



Right: Ananya, born 14/12/09, weighing 3kg & 49.5cm long. First child to Ambika & Girish. Congratulations!

If you have baby news, please contact Tuula

Community Events at and Around The Ponds

Cheese, Wine & Chocolate Night - Meet Your Neighbour Night

When: Sunday 21st February at 6.00pm

Where: The Ponds Sales & Display Centre

What: Great opportunity to meet people. Interesting guest speaker & food. Children welcome, activities provided.

RSVP: For catering purposes, please contact Tuula by Tuesday 16th January.

Boat Building Workshop for Family Fun Day Land Boat Race

What: Come along and build your boat for the Land Boat Race during Family Fun Day (see below). Afternoon tea & materials provided.

When: Thursday 18th February from 3.15pm

Where: John Palmer Public School, covered games court area



The Ponds Family Fun Day

When: Sunday 14th March 2.30-5.30pm

Where: Corner of The Ponds Blvd & Riverbank Drive

What: Fun for everyone with live entertainment, including Wiggles Characters, Land Boat Race with prize money, free BBQ, bumper boats and more.

Land Boat Race Registrations: To register for the Land Boat Race, please contact Tuula for a registration form and more information.

Would you like to Host a Street Party?

If you would like to organise a street party, a limited number of \$50 vouchers are available to help with the cost. Please contact Tuula.

John Palmer Parents' Group at The Ponds

When: Every Friday during school term from 9.15am to 11.15am

Where: Far end classroom, John Palmer Public School (access via gate on Pebble Crescent)

Meet new people, have morning tea, plus there will be plenty of activities for the children.

Please pack a nut free morning tea for your child.

Cost: \$3 per adult per day to cover costs.

Supported by The Ponds.

Contact: Tara on 0433 662 839



Earth Hour

When: Saturday 27th March at 8.30pm

What: Join the millions of people around Australia and the world and turn your lights off for one hour.

For more information visit www.earthhour.org.au



EVENTS COMING UP:

School Holiday Activity – Jewellery Making Workshop

When: Thursday 15th April from 10am to 12pm

Where: The Ponds Sales & Display Centre
Suitable for girls, boys and adults

The Ponds Autumn Party

When: Saturday 24th April at 5.00pm

Where: The Plaza, next to The Ponds Sales & Display Centre

What: Food, entertainment & outdoor movie

The Ponds Community Newsletter

is prepared for the residents and friends of The Ponds by our Community Development Facilitator, Tuula Schaeffer, from Connections Community Development. We use this newsletter to let you know about activities, events and news in the area. If you have news or announcements you would like to share or feedback on events or community issues, please contact Tuula on tuulas@theponds.com.au or phone 9629 1212 or 0412 620 115 or visit The Ponds Sales & Display Centre.

