

COURSES & CLASSES

A HERALD PROMOTIONAL FEATURE

Local Learning Centres: Evolving with the community

Community learning centres have been dotted around Perth suburbs for decades now, with a history that stretches back to the 1980s. For example, in 1985 a group of enterprising young mums who were babysitting each other's children formed the South Perth Learning Centre (SPLC). It featured a crèche and ran classes such as Italian, bread-making and

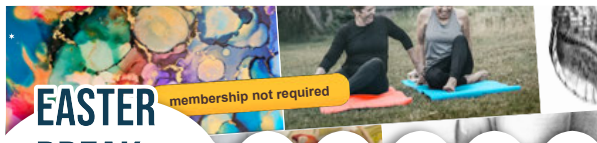
Australian literature. For local young mums, this provided much-needed respite from daily child-rearing and from motherhood isolation. Fast forward to today, and women's participation in the workforce has jumped from 45% to 75%. With young mums now mostly at work and their children in purpose-built daycare centres, community learning centres had to



L-R: Mavis Drake (Cryptic Crosswords Club), Migara Ramanayake (Drawing teacher), Fiona Buchanan (Pastels teacher), Lisa Anstis (Committee chair), Tania Daymond (Watercolour teacher).

adapt. These centres now deal with a different type of social isolation, running classes and activities mainly for retirees—however they have not

shed their original DNA. As an intergenerational initiative, Glyde-In in East Fremantle (est. 1981) runs an Intergenerational Play program with the local kindergarten; while Kalamunda Community Learning Centre (est. 1978) has actually kept its crèche to this day. For its part, SPLC engages uni students from Curtin University and UWA as volunteers and interns who assist with marketing and technology. Let's hope suburban community learning centres continue to flourish as hubs for multi-generational community activities for many decades to come!



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Just an eyesore

COMPLAINTS about ugly graffiti have been increasing in Fremantle over the last few months.

Shop operators and property owners are wondering if that might have something to do with the City of Fremantle no longer cleaning up unsightly tagging from private walls.

There definitely appears to be much more of the stupid vandalism visible on Fremantle streets, so is anyone doing anything about it at all?

There are many CCTV cameras all over our city, so is Fremantle council passing on information about the graffiti morons to WA Police?

Take them to court and force them to clean up their own childish mess!

Let's be very clear about this: Graffiti is not art! It is property vandalism. Nothing else!

It is worse than dogs pissing against every post and tree.

It does not matter if it is stupid, illegible tags, or political messages.

Last week I wrote on my Freoview blog that I absolutely agree with the "Free Palestine" message, but totally disagree with the way they do it, by spray painting it on buildings, signs and advertising boards.

Doing it that illegal way diminishes the very important message, and that is disappointing.

I don't necessarily disagree with Fremantle council's stand that it is not the role of government to clean up private property, but graffiti makes our tourist city look very untidy and uncared for, so maybe a better solution can be found.

Is it, for example, something the Fremantle Chamber of Commerce could take up, and pay for a contractor to remove the nuisance nonsense?

And it is not just graffiti that is visual pollution on our streets.

One only has to look at the old Woolstores building opposite Clancy's that is packed with large posters, that promote concerts and bands.

It's ugly and it's not acceptable!



The same apply for silly stickers put on traffic signs, downpipes, vacant shop windows, and any surface that is visible to the fools who engage in this silliness.

I am still seeing the Men's Shed volunteers going around town though, scraping stickers off signs and posts, so at least there is still some minor cleaning going on in Fremantle.

Why does anyone believe they have the right to damage other people's properties, that needs to be cleaned up and costs the owners, or local councils (yep, that's all of us!) a lot of money?

There are also some misguided people, who believe they are artists, who spread the same, repetitive and badly done images all over town, believing they are beautifying Freo.

Please give us a break from that mediocrity!

Graffiti and illegal bill posting has been around for many decades.

It remains a visual eyesore that riles the vast majority of people, but no one in government takes much notice of.

That needs to change, because the general public and property owners hate the ugly rubbish, and so do I.

Roel Loopers/Freoview



FREMANTLE WESLEY MISSION

A CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY PROPELLED BY LOVE AND HOPE

We wish to extend a warm welcome to join us for the following Easter Weekend Services.

Good Friday Service - 9:00 am
Easter Sunday Service - 9:30 am

The Church will also be open on Maundy Thursday between noon and 1 pm for Meditational Communion.

- CONTACT INFORMATION -
Cnr Cantonment & Market Street, Fremantle
0432 323 920 | hannes@fwm.org.au

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