

Burra Management Committee news

Facelift for the Burra tennis courts

Work to refurbish the surface of the tennis courts at Burra Park has commenced. The courts will be unavailable for approximately four weeks until earthworks are completed and the court markings replaced.

Over the past week the contractor, A D Vest of Hall, has removed the worn surface of the courts and have commenced spreading and compacting the new decomposed granite surface. The root systems of two large pine trees on the perimeter of the courts were interfering with court drainage and have been removed by Palerang Council. Replacement trees will be planted when work on the court has been completed.

The total cost of the work is approximately \$20,000, with \$16,000 being allocated from Palerang's share of the Federal Government's Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program. The balance of funding came from the Burra Tennis club and a portion of the gate-takings from the Burra Open Garden's weekend.

A working bee was held to remove the old court tape markings prior to the commencement of the earthmoving work. When the resurfacing work is completed, the Tennis Club will be calling for volunteers to help replace the lines with new tapes. The netting around the courts will also be replaced as part of this project.

The courts, which were built in the 1950s, were reclaimed from chest-high phalaris and weeds in the mid-1970s by a group of local tennis enthusiasts. Since then, the courts have been maintained by volunteers and are available for community use. Regular Tuesday morning social tennis has been a feature of community life for many years. Unfortunately, the court surface had deteriorated to such an extent in recent years that both social and serious tennis players were deterred from using the courts.

Parking safety barriers installed

The Burra Management Committee would like to extend thanks to local residents Peter and Elizabeth Hawker and Peter Duffy for their working bee to install the parking barriers at Burra Park.

The poles, which were donated by ACTEW, were installed after a request from the Playgroup and Scouts representatives at the BMC's February meeting. Safety issues about parking at the hall were included in the Maintenance Plan drafted by the committee. The committee agreed to investigate further and a visit by Palerang's works managers and OH&S officer followed. They confirmed that the existing parking arrangements presented a danger, particularly to young children.

The Committee heard that many parents of young children are loath to attend functions at the ahll or in the Park, especially at night, due to the risk of children being injured when cars reverse out from the area in front of the Hall. When Scouts have major functions, they lock the gate to the oval and keep all cars out in order to improve safety for children.

The BMC wishes to express their thanks to Palerang's engineering department and the OH&S officer for their ongoing advice and assistance with this project.

There will still be vehicular access to the Hall and about a dozen parking spaces under the pine trees near the tennis courts. Additional parking will be in the designated area currently

occupied by the recycling bins. Extension of this area, the relocation of the recycling bins and additional lighting to the new parking area will be installed as part of this project. Rehabilitation of the grass in front of the hall and children's playground area will be undertaken when the weather permits.

The BMC appreciates the patience of Park visitors and Hall users while this work is completed. Please exercise care when visiting the park.

Rosalind Bush
Publicity Officer
Burra Management Committee

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