

Interesting articles appearing in the press regarding Water, or rather Lack of it:

“Urgent measures including a fast-tracked expansion of a sewage recycling plant and an extended winter sprinkler ban are being considered to help stave off a looming shortage of drinking water.

The Water Corporation said yesterday it was looking at ways to ensure there were enough scheme supplies to meet demand amid record low run-off into Perth’s dams and soaring use. Fronting a parliamentary estimates hearing, chief executive Sue Murphy said Perth’s dams were rendered all but redundant last year when they lost more water through evaporation than was provided by inflow.

Mrs Murphy said the situation was significantly worse than the Water Corp’s worst-case scenario planning, which assumed the dams would not be needed by 2020. As a result, she said the corporation was now canvassing a host of measures aimed at safeguarding supplies, including an extension of the winter sprinkler ban into September on a permanent basis.

Other options included bringing forward supplies from a water recycling project in Perth’s north as well as fast-tracking plans to double its size. “

Now if they had lived in Gidgegannup they would have known all this, as we were all aware that there had been very little run off, if any, into dams and that if it weren’t for the fact that we all have rainwater tanks then we things wouldn’t have looked too good. So surely it is obvious that urban blocks of land, particularly in the Outer Metro area, need to be big enough to provide room for a rainwater tank, to supplement scheme water and provide an independent water supply for fire fighting purposes.

Mind you that it possibly a bit difficult for City based planners to get their heads round!

Ok I know I keep going on about **stock on road**, but they can cause a very nasty accident and it is a great idea to check them at least daily and make sure the fences can keep them in. To that end we are revamping all our fences after nearly 30 years of living here. Kasanova’s escape was a good wake up call.

The Kangaroos are no great help with this as they regularly go over and under fences, wrecking them on the way.

Possibly because we have horses, we get a great number of birds cohabiting, Galahs, wild ducks, crows, magpies, parrots and Cockatoos. Many of these are protected, most of them are pretty destructive destroying vegetation and polluting water troughs and dams. Not a popular view I know but a true one. Maybe it is time for some control measures on what now could be classed as “pests”.

Talking of pests – we are the proud owners (tongue in cheek) of a new puppy. A lovely little Golden Retriever called Simmo, a friend for Woosha (get the connection). I had forgotten how much work puppies are and how early you have to get up. Also hadn’t bargained on Woosha regressing to the same age. A four year old puppy is quite another thing! Great fun though, but am I glad that they are securely locked in the garden area. Wouldn’t want these two out wandering.

Water again. The Wooroloo Brook started flowing after the heavy rains further East. Has now stopped but a very early start.

Talking of early starts. We used to have some Gidgegannupians who forecast the break to the season. Anyone game to do it this year?

A thank you again to the City and the Rec Club for the events they have put on this summer, culminating in the film night on the 13th February. Check out

[http://www.swan.wa.gov.au/Events?dlv_OC%20CL%20Public%20Events%20Listing=\(pageindex=4\)](http://www.swan.wa.gov.au/Events?dlv_OC%20CL%20Public%20Events%20Listing=(pageindex=4))

There are a huge amount of Events and also Activities for the Community. Also posted on www.gidgegannup.info and the Community Facebook page.

Continuing complaints of Driver behaviour on the Toodyay Road. If you see something report it, rego. Time, place and date. It's the only way to make a difference.

Another truck lost it's brakes as it was starting to descend Red Hill, fortunately the driver took avoiding action and crashed the truck into the side of the road. This just highlights that there is nowhere for vehicles to go when this happens. Fortunately, so far, we have had quick thinking drivers but it would be nice not to have to rely on that in the future and plans be made for the Red Hill Deviation. Lots of money, poor economy, but at least it could be planned.

There is to be a cycle event on Sunday 10th April in Gidge starting at the Recreation Club.

Hope to get more details for next Gidgegram.

Thanks Janette for this one:

A young monk arrives at the monastery. He is assigned to helping the other monks in copying the old canons and laws of the church, by hand.

He notices, however, that all of the monks are copying from copies, not from the original manuscript.

So, the new monk goes to the Old Abbot to question this. He pointed out that if someone made even a small error in the first copy, it would never be picked up!

In fact, that error would be continued in all of the subsequent copies.

The head monk says; "We have been copying from the copies for centuries; but you make a good point, my son."

He goes down into the dark caves underneath the monastery where the original manuscripts are held as archives, in a locked vault that hasn't been opened for hundreds of years.

Hours go by and nobody sees the Old Abbot

**So, the young monk gets worried and goes down
to look for him.**

He sees him banging his head against the wall and wailing.

"We missed the R! We missed the R!

We missed the bloody R!"

**His forehead is all bloody and bruised and
he is crying uncontrollably.**

The young monk asks the old Abbot, "What's wrong, father?"

With a choking voice, the old Abbot replies,

"The word was

CELEBRATE!"