



RAYNEY TRIAL
- Page 17

Cambridge

POST

54%
more readers*
in the western suburbs *see page 2

Vol 39 No.42

Ph. 9381 3088, 276 Onslow Road, Shenton Park, 6008. www.postnewspapers.com.au

October 20, 2012

'Mazing fun on terrace

Rose Skinner will build a maze on Bay View Terrace in Claremont next week.

The 29-year-old artist is one of five creative forces hired by Claremont council to celebrate the street's refurbishment in the Bay View Terrace Festival.

Rose will begin creating her mixed-media masterpiece at noon next Friday, when the Terrace is closed to traffic.

"It will all be pre-fabricated - it's just a matter of assembly," Rose said.

"People will have to find their way through the maze and have some kooky encounters on the way.

"The maze will be made from found objects sourced from verge collections."

Other artworks include moving decorations in lane off the Terrace and a floating octopus sculpture.

Premier Colin Barnett will open the festival at 6pm.

There will be food, music, and roving entertainers.

On Saturday, kids will be kept busy in their own activity corner where they can create art to take home.

Some Claremont boutiques will show their wares as Vivien's models strut their stuff in the latest summer fashions.

Chefs Riki Kaspi and Sophie Budd will cook on the main stage.

Methodist Ladies' College Year 12 fashion students will dress mannequins in their own creations.

Rose's maze will be at the southern end of the Terrace, outside the former Alannah Hill shop.

For more details, go to www.claremontnow.com.



Amazing ... Rose Skinner will create a mixed-media masterpiece on Claremont's Bay View Terrace next Friday.
Photo: Billie Fairclough

Nedlands breaks the bank

By LINDA CALLAGHAN

Hard-up Nedlands council ended the financial year with a \$1.4 million surplus that was 1000 times what it had predicted.

Earlier in the year, some councillors said the council needed to merge with another because of its dire financial plight.

But the annual report says it has been in a healthy position for the past seven years.

The final audit for the year to June 30 shows the council had \$1.2 million more revenue than expected, saved \$1.1 million on expenses and \$1.8 million on deferring capital works.

Liquidity, less dependency on rates, and the ability to service debts were also good.

"The city has had good liquidity levels over the past seven years," staff said in a report to go to the annual meeting of electors.

"Lending institutions generally prefer debt service ratios of local governments to be not more than 10.5%," staff reported to the audit and risk committee.

"The city's debt service ratio was 5.21% for 2011-12 and has been below 10.5% for the past seven years."

The rate coverage ratio measures dependency on income from rates.

The higher the ratio the better.

"The city's rate coverage ratio has increased to 63.8% in 2011-12," the staff report said.

A chart showed it had not been below 52.9% in the past seven years.

Coles goes down, down

By LLOYD GORMAN

Coles' chances of a land swap to redevelop its Subiaco store plummeted this week.

For one-and-a-half hours on Tuesday night, 18 Subiaco residents told councillors they opposed swapping council carpark land in Park Street for Coles land.

The carpark is at the end of Park Street, between Crossways Shopping Centre and Coles.

The packed gallery loudly applauded as each speaker finished addressing the council's corporate, community and technical services committee.

None of the 18 supported the in-principle land exchange agreed to by councillors in June.

Shopkeepers, retailers and business owners from Rokeby Road, Crossways and other parts of the CBD had also voiced strong objections to the land swap at previous meetings.

In June, councillors made the proposed swap conditional on community consultation.

They also stated the swap would depend on council approval for the design and development plans for the entire site and that these would be what was built.

Rawson Street resident Brian Prentice reminded the committee that it had been 114 days since that decision had been made and advertised by the council and there had been no call for public submissions.

He queried the difference between the public consultation for the proposed redevelopment of Bunnings-Homebase on Salvado Road and the Coles venture.

Another speaker reminded the meeting that a petition containing more than 5000 names had been handed into the council asking it not to proceed because it would mean trees in the carpark would be destroyed.

In response to a question about the delay in the public consultation process, CEO Stephen Tindale said it had been caused by the changing nature

ished addressing the council's corporate, community and technical services committee.

None of the 18 supported the in-principle land exchange agreed to by councillors in June.

Shopkeepers, retailers and business owners from Rokeby Road, Crossways and other parts of the CBD had also voiced strong objections to the land swap at previous meetings.

In June, councillors made the proposed swap conditional on community consultation.

They also stated the swap

would depend on council approval for the design and development plans for the entire site and that these would be what was built.

Rawson Street resident Brian Prentice reminded the committee that it had been 114 days since that decision had been made and advertised by the council and there had been no call for public submissions.

He queried the difference between the public consultation for the proposed redevelopment of Bunnings-Homebase on Salvado Road and the Coles venture.

Another speaker reminded the meeting that a petition containing more than 5000 names had been handed into the council asking it not to proceed because it would mean trees in the carpark would be destroyed.

In response to a question about the delay in the public consultation process, CEO Stephen Tindale said it had been caused by the changing nature

of the case against Mr Rayney for the alleged murder of his wife.

Mr Agius was addressing the court on statements made by Mr Rayney after his wife's disappearance which he said showed consciousness of guilt.

He described Mr Rayney's behaviour as odd and suspicious.

• Please turn to page 17

• Please turn to page 110

• Letter, page 12

Outperforming the competition!

Average days on market
25

List to sell price percentage
97%

Call the agent getting the results. Fast.

Jillian Jeffery
0409 301654

9 years experience in real estate sales

THE PROPERTY EXCHANGE 9388 3988 thepropertyexchange.com.au



Here's where we go...

The POST is local and relevant with the highest readership in the Western Suburbs. See www.postnewspapers.com.au
Each week 52,350 copies of the POST are distributed, reaching every household and business in the western suburbs.
These suburbs are shown on the map on page 2. Extra copies are delivered to other selected riverside suburbs.



Agius: 'Lies' connect Rayney to murder

Lloyd Rayney could not afford to let his wife live once he had attacked her, it was alleged in the Supreme Court on Thursday.

Prosecutor John Agius QC was summing up the state's case against Mr Rayney for the alleged murder of his wife in August 2007.

Mr Rayney denies knowing anything about his wife's death.

Mr Agius said Mr Rayney would not have left his wife unconscious had he attacked her following an argument.

She would have reported him to her lawyer or told her friends about the assault the next day.

"He had to do something with her body," he said.

"If she had a heart attack because he said 'boo' when she came in the door, he would have called for an ambulance."



Brian Martin



John Agius

Mr Agius said it was central to the state's case that Corryn Rayney had left for bootscooting on the night of August 7 and come home.

The evidence that she had returned was a black coat left on her bed identified by bootscooters, seed pods, soil and a brick particle found on her body and the fact that her purse had been found in the back seat foot well of her car,

covered with a towel.

Mr Agius said evidence showed it was highly unusual for Mrs Rayney to take her purse to bootscooting.

He said Mr Rayney had planted her purse in the car to cover his tracks should it be established by other means that Mrs Rayney had come home.

"It was part of the subterfuge to support the suggestion she had returned home and gone out again," he said.

He said another factor relied on by the state was that the Rayneys' marriage was bad and had manifestly broken down.

It was also central that Mrs Rayney had intended to return home from bootscooting to discuss with Mr Rayney how to resolve details of their divorce without involving lawyers.

Mr Agius pointed to "two lies" by Mr Rayney that were relied on.

One was that he had driven his wife's car to a legal dinner in the weeks before she disappeared.

"The significance of the lie is the location of a dinner place card," he said.

A place card from that dinner was found 100m from the entrance to the Wattle Track in King's Park leading to where Mrs Rayney's body was buried.

Mr Agius said the most likely way for the card to have got there was when Mr Rayney reversed the car over a bollard at the track entrance, damaging an oil sump. There was evidence the driver had got out of the car and put the bollard and its base back together, he said.

At that point, it was suggested, Mr Rayney had gone to his

pocket for some reason and accidentally displaced the place card which over the next four days had been blown by wind 100m from the spot.

"It was a damning piece of evidence," he said.

It was found by chance four days after Mrs Rayney disappeared and four days before her body was discovered.

The second "lie" was in response to a detective shortly after Corryn Rayney disappeared.

Detective Sergeant Paul Robinson asked Mr Rayney if he could interrogate the alarm system of his Como home.

Mr Rayney had lied when he said the alarm was not working,

Mr Agius said.

He said Mr Rayney had dragged his wife's body across the front garden of the family home and put it in the car.

He dismissed the defence suggestion that a third party had killed Mrs Rayney after she had arrived home from bootscooting and disposed of the body.

He said the risk of being seen by somebody going past was far too high.

The defence was due to sum up its case on Friday. It was expected to raise questions about the forensic evidence connecting Mrs Rayney to the family home in Como on the night she disappeared.

Agius defends evidence

A suggestion that police planted seed pods in Corryn Rayney's hair was faced head on by the prosecutor at the Supreme Court on Thursday.

John Agius QC said any analysis of the evidence did not indicate that seed pods were introduced by someone after a preliminary examination of Mrs Rayney's hair.

"Why would some police officer plant two or three seed pods got from Monash Avenue for some nefarious purpose before we knew what would be found in the post mortem or the crime scene," he said.

The state's case is that two liquidambar seed pods found in Mrs Rayney's hair and one found in the body bag link her murder to the Rayney family home in Monash Avenue, Como.

The night Mrs Rayney's body was removed from a make-

shift grave in King's Park on August 16, 2007, she was taken directly to the state mortuary in Nedlands.

There forensic pathologist Gerard Cadden examined her head for any obvious wound.

Shown a video of this examination five years later, he said he was very surprised that he had missed finding the pods that night.

Mr Agius said that it was not until the next day that the pods were discovered.

But he said on the night of August 16 the video shows Dr Cadden was not raking through the hair, he was looking for scalp injuries.

Mr Agius also said that screams heard in King's Park by several witness on the night Mrs Rayney disappeared could not show she was murdered in King's Park.

Doubt cast on evidence

• From page 1

Acting Justice Martin asked Mr Agius whether the behaviour he listed could also be consistent with someone confused and distressed about his missing wife.

"He was caught up in the most terrible of circumstances. His wife and the mother of his daughters was missing - everybody is distressed and over the next few days it gets even worse with all the public attention," Acting Justice Martin said.

He asked whether Mr Rayney's conduct could not be equally explained as the confused actions of an innocent man.

He said looking at such behaviour after the prosecution had established its perception of guilt was the wrong approach.

Acting Justice Martin also asked Mr Agius about the illegal tapping of the family's home phone.

He asked whether the attempted concealing of this showed consciousness of guilt about how the illegality of phone tapping would affect Mr Rayney's career as a barrister or a consciousness of guilt about murder.

Mr Agius called Mr Rayney's statements inconsistent with the objective material available to the court.



OTTOMAN
EMPIRE

ARCHITECTURAL ANTIQUES · MARBLE · GARDEN FURNITURE · FINE LINEN

NEW COLLECTION IN STORE NOW

TERRACOTTA URNS · ANTIQUE RUGS · METALWARE · RARE TEXTILES

INTRODUCING A SUPERB NEW COLLECTION OF ORGANIC HAND LOOMED TOWELS AND ROBES. FINE ANTIQUE RUGS AND RUGGERS, OTTOMAN GLASS, POTS, WOODEN BOWLS AND FABULOUS CUSHIONS.

AMHERST STREET CORNER CO STREET, FREMANTLE. WWW.OTTOMANEMPIRE.COM.AU - PHONE. 0423 936 930

OPEN WED - SAT 10AM - 5PM, SUN 1PM - 5PM - FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK - OTTOMAN EMPIRE