

# community newsletter

June/July 2011

## Environmental Workshop - A Great Night Out



The Ponds was the place to be on 27th April for an educational night out. After a delicious dinner the adults sat down for an interesting workshop with environmental officers from Blacktown Council, learning about composting and worm farming. Each household received a free compost and kitchen tidy bin and all went home inspired.

## “Funraising” at Ladies Night Out

It was a night with a distinct Bollywood flavour as ladies got together at The Ponds for a Cancer Council fundraiser.



There was delicious food, music, drinks, dancing, even a dance lesson and lots of beautiful saris. A highlight of the night was the raffle with a main prize of \$500 Accor vouchers, sponsored by Eden Brae Homes. Picture: raffle winners. For more photos visit the Gallery at [www.connectionscd.com.au](http://www.connectionscd.com.au).

## Development Update at The Ponds

Riverbank Drive bridge is under construction and is expected to be completed by the end of August. Good news for Kalina residents – you will have “internal” access to the rest of The Ponds by December. Construction to extend The Ponds Boulevard to Schofields Road continues in conjunction with the lake works. The playing fields are nearing completion, and once complete their use will be managed by Blacktown City Council. The rain garden and pond works continue in the open space corridor. For more news, visit our website.

## Living at The Ponds: Survey of Residents

Landcom is keen to hear about your experiences of living at The Ponds. Residents are invited to take part in a survey which is being conducted on behalf of Landcom by an independent research company, Elton Consulting. The survey will be delivered to your home. Your feedback will be used to help Landcom better understand how people feel about The Ponds and the wider neighbourhood. It will also be used to help plan the community development program. We encourage you to return your completed survey form to Elton Consulting by 30<sup>th</sup> June. In return, you will receive a \$30 gift voucher. A short overview of the findings will be made available in a future Community Newsletter.

## Meet the Residents:



Tracy Bach has been coming to events at The Ponds even before she and her husband moved into their new home. Tracy and a neighbour recently participated in Relay for Life, a Cancer Council fundraiser raising \$780. A group effort from work raised around \$5,000. Well done Tracey!

## Making Friends at a Neighbourhood Party

The new park along Viceroy Avenue was the perfect venue for a neighbourhood party. Organised by June and Bill, who



have just moved to The Ponds. The event was a great way to meet others from the surrounding streets.

## Mothers' Day Celebrations

The annual Mothers' Day competition was held at Barnier, Schofields and John Palmer Public Schools. The winners received prizes they were able to give to mum as a gift. The competition was sponsored by The Ponds and Bunnings. An afternoon tea was also held at John Palmer Public School. See our website for photos and stories.



The Ponds Community Facilitator, Riverbank Drive, The Ponds.

 The Ponds

[www.thepondscommunity.com.au](http://www.thepondscommunity.com.au) 0412 620 115

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### The Ponds Baby News:

*Right:* Baby Lara, first born to Karen and Sam on 2<sup>nd</sup> March, weighing 3.34kg and 49cm long.

*Below right:* Baby Isaac, first born to Elaine and Andrew on 10th October, weighing 4kg and 52cm long.

*Below left:* Baby Sehansa, born to Jayamali and Senarath 4th April, weighing 3.2kg and 52cm long.



### Your Local Library Update

There is a great variety of services available at our local Dennis Johnson Branch Library (at Blacktown Leisure Centre, Stanhope). Baby Rhyme Time, Story Time, Multicultural Story Time, free homework help for high school students and online tutoring. A Justice of the Peace is available Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 1 - 3pm. For more information phone 9421 2670 or visit [www.libraries.blacktown.nsw.gov.au](http://www.libraries.blacktown.nsw.gov.au).

### Community Events at The Ponds

#### Free Fitness Classes on Tuesdays in June

To help you fight off winter weight gain and provide an opportunity to experience a variety of fitness classes, you are invited to come along for free 45 minute sessions each Tuesday evening:

**When:** Every Tuesday in June at 7 pm

**What:** Group Fitness on 7<sup>th</sup>, Zumba on 14<sup>th</sup>, Bollywood Dancing on 28<sup>th</sup> and kick boxing on 28<sup>th</sup>

**Where:** The Ponds Sales and Information Centre

**RSVP:** to Tuula the day before each session

Please bring an exercise mat or towel to the group fitness session.

#### The Ponds Coffee Club

Great way to meet people.

**Time:** 10.00 am

**Dates:** Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July

**Where:** Coffee Guru, Stanhope Village (look for The Ponds Coffee Club sign on a table). Special discount applies to Coffee Club attendees.



#### Sunday Dinner at The Ponds

Free dinner and great opportunity to meet people.

Guest speaker. Children's activities provided.

**When:** Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June

**Time:** 6.00pm

**When:** The Ponds Sales & Display Centre

**RSVP essential** to Tuula by Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June

### Craft/Jewellery Making Workshop - School Holiday Activity for Adults and Children

For adults and children 5 years and older

**When:** Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July at 10.00am

**Where:** The Ponds Sales and Display Centre

**RSVP:** by Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July to Tuula – limited places, book early to avoid disappointment.

### Over 50's Group

The Ponds Over 50's Group meets regularly and is a great way to make new friends.

**When:** Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July

**Where:** Bill and June's place, 1 Emperor Avenue

**RSVP:** to June on 9836 5785

Bring your own meat for a BBQ plus salad or desert to share.

### The Ponds King Tots Playgroup

**When:** Wednesdays at 9.30am

Thursdays at 10am

Fridays at 9.30am

**Contact:** Michele for Wednesday group (see below)

Tracey on 0412 068 997 Thursday group

Alda on 0405 593 973 Friday group

**Where:** Neighbourhood Centre, corner of Fyfe Rd and Carindale St. Playgroups meet during school term.

### Are you interested in a Monday Playgroup?

Please email Michele (contact details below).

### Coming Up at The Ponds:

#### Meet Your Neighbour Night

**When:** Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August at 6 pm

#### The Ponds Family Fun Day

Will be held in September this year. Further details to follow.



We welcome **Ariel Tate** to our community development team at The Ponds. Ariel works one day with us, the rest of the time he is a graphic designer with Connections Community Development.

### The Ponds Community Newsletter is

prepared for the residents and friends of The Ponds by our Community Development Facilitators, Tuula Schaeffer & Michele Girdham, from Connections Community Development. We use this newsletter to let you know about activities, events and news in the area. If you have any feedback on events or community issues or have news or announcements you would like to share, please contact:

Tuula: phone 0412 620 115 or email [tuulas@theponds.com.au](mailto:tuulas@theponds.com.au)

Michele: phone 0431220 935 or email [michele.girdham@connectionscommunitydevelopment.com.au](mailto:michele.girdham@connectionscommunitydevelopment.com.au)

They are based at The Ponds Sales & Display Centre, phone 9629 1212.

