
MANOR TALK

AUTUMN EDITION 2016

Photography by
Stephanie Pettingill



Manor Lakes

SUBURB RECOGNITION FOR MANOR LAKES

Local residents have successfully campaigned for Manor Lakes to be recognised as a suburb in its own right. Notice of the registration of Manor Lakes by the Registrar of Geographic Names was published in the Victoria Government Gazette on 17th March.

Wyndham City Council was officially notified by the Office of Geographic Names about the name change in mid April. Council will now advise residents and commence the change-over of street signs and other requirements during a period of transition.

Being granted suburb status will enhance the sense of pride and belonging that already exists within the fast-growing community at Manor Lakes. This recognition also reflects how strongly established the Manor Lakes name has become and how deeply its identity is now ingrained within the Wyndham City region.

The area of the new suburb will encompass the land comprising the Manor Lakes estate and extend further westward to the boundary of the Quandong locality.

Buoyed by the news of the suburb recognition after such a long and dedicated campaign, residents have also resumed their lobbying efforts to have the name of Wyndham Vale train station changed to Manor Lakes to reflect its location within the estate boundaries. The petition request has again been brought to the attention of the office of State Treasurer and local Member for Werribee, The Honourable Tim Pallas MP and is awaiting response.

EASTER EGGCITEMENT

This year's Manor Lakes Easter Egg Hunt was held in the new lakeside park precinct on Saturday, 26th March.

The morning's program began with entertainment from performers, The Kazoos, setting a happy mood for Easter egg hunting which followed for children in four age categories.

By the time the hunting commenced, the early cloud had cleared to perfect sunshine and the crowd in attendance had swelled to approximately 2,000 people.

There was much excitement as children dashed throughout the park discovering all the eggs. Organisers did their utmost to ensure nobody went away empty handed or disappointed despite the large numbers participating in all age groups.

Families in attendance also enjoyed a BBQ and refreshments including free coffee, hot chocolate and bottled water.



PICTURE PERFECT

Local amateur shutterbugs captured some stunning images of Manor Lakes for the recent community photo competition.

The winning entrant was Chris Mizzi, whose outstanding landscape photo of the lake titled "Blue" is shown here.

Also depicted on the front cover of this issue of Manor Talk is another wonderful photo titled "Lake Life" taken by Stephanie Pettingill, which was a finalist in the competition.

The marketing team at Manor Lakes supplied prizes for the competition and we congratulate all the entrants for providing such a high standard of photographic work which showcased the beauty and diversity of life within the estate.



Photography by Chris Mizzi

AUSTRALIA DAY BY THE LAKE

The local community at Manor Lakes joined together to make this year's Australia Day celebration on Tuesday, 26th January our most memorable yet.

Held in the newly developed park precinct beside the lake, the carnival-themed event attracted families throughout the entire estate neighbourhood, with an estimated gathering of more than 1,000 people in attendance.

Embracing the patriotic spirit of the occasion, many people dressed in Australian colours or proudly displayed our national flag.

The event provided non-stop entertainment for people of all ages. Popular attractions included an animal petting zoo, giant bubble making activities, circus tricks, giant inflatable shark slide, inflatable obstacle course and Zorb soccer balls.

Parents and children alike were also delighted by the joyous sounds of an African drumming group, joining in with singing and dancing. Australian music also added to the atmosphere and entertainment.

Food trucks helped cater to the crowd and a delicious sausage sizzle was prepared by the local Rotary group. Representatives of the SES were in attendance to promote awareness of their involvement in the community and were thrilled to recruit two new willing volunteers amongst the attendees on the day.



"Overall, we couldn't have been happier with our Australia Day by the Lake event. The weather was perfect and everyone seemed to have such a great time," Manor Lakes Marketing Executive, Kelly Cowley said.

"Utilising the new setting by the lake helped to showcase the estate at its best and added to what was a vibrant scene full of colour and enjoyment. The Australia Day event has become an established social highlight at Manor Lakes and we aim to make the celebration even bigger and better next year."



FUN ON THE RUN

Manor Lakes was proud to be the major naming rights sponsor of the Wyndham Rotary Fun Run/Walk on Sunday, 28th February.

This year's event attracted 700 participants who entered either the 5km or 10km fun run, or alternatively opted to walk over 4km or 8km. The course began from Chirnside Park in Werribee.

Importantly, organisers reported that approximately \$20,000 was raised from the event for the Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal.



LOLLIPOP HILL RESERVE ON WAY

Manor Lakes is set to add to its abundance of parklands, with work on the construction of Lollipop Hill Reserve making excellent progress.

The 1.5 hectare park is being delivered in two stages, with approximately 80% of the total area being contained within the southern section presently under construction.



This first stage is expected to be completed by mid June. This first stage of the Reserve has incorporated the installation of all the main facilities including playground equipment, BBQ shelter, basketball half court and flying fox. Landscaping work on the lawns and tree planting is also well advanced.

OUR LIFE AT MANOR LAKES

REBECCA & BEN COLLINS

Rebecca Collins and her husband Ben made a home for their family at Manor Lakes in 2007. The couple chose the Hartley design from Dennis Family Homes for their first home build. Rebecca reflects on how the estate has progressed over close to nine years living at Manor Lakes.

Where were you living before moving to Manor Lakes?

Central Werribee.

Did you consider other areas before Manor Lakes?

Yes – Point Cook.

What made you choose Manor Lakes as the place to call home?

I grew up in Wyndham Vale so I knew the area well, and we could buy a large block for a reasonable price.

What did your street and Manor Lakes look like when you moved in?

In our street, there were a few houses built and a few vacant blocks that had already been sold. We had a few neighbours already. All the connections were complete and the roads were finished. Manor Lakes didn't have shops, schools or other community facilities but we knew that would soon change, and it did.

What changes have you witnessed over the years?

Building of schools, a shopping centre, community facilities and, of course, many more houses. The growth of the estate also has been amazing to behold. The Regional Rail Link was probably the biggest surprise. When we bought our block we were aware of the transport corridor going through the estate but when the train line was announced we were all very excited. It was great seeing that built over the past few years.

Has anything not lived up to your expectations?

Whilst we have lived here for 8½ years and love it, the delivery of some services has not matched our original expectations, including most notably the provision of recycled water by City West Water which has been subject to delays. But overall, the upside of living at Manor Lakes still far outweighs any frustrations.



What facilities within Manor Lakes do you and your family use?

Each of our three children attend Manor Lakes College, and before that the youngest two attended the local kindergarten. We regularly use the library, community oval, parks and playgrounds. We shop locally and my husband commutes every day to work by train at our new local train station.

Are you active within the Manor Lakes community? Do you participate in any of the community organisation and/or events?

I regularly help at our school and I'm a member of the school's fundraising committee. We attend the Australia Day event here and have helped on the Clean Up Australia Day in previous years.

What do you love most about Manor Lakes and your neighbourhood?

We love the communal feeling and having easy access to nearby facilities. We are lucky to live in a street where we know all the neighbours, and our kids often play together at each other's homes or on the street. It reminds me of my childhood. Our children can walk the short distance to school, kinder and library. The estate has a lot of new walking paths and a lake precinct that we use regularly.