

MJLA has moved with the times

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Please update your address book now!

Welcome to the autumn edition of **Ampers&nd 2004**, the official newsletter of Jeavons & Jeavons Pty Ltd.

Heavy petting

There are considerable physical & mental health benefits of pet ownership. Cats & dogs saved \$3.86 billion of national health expenditure in 1999-2000! In 2003 64% of Australian households owned a pet. (www.petnet.com.au)

Whilst urban parks management has placed tighter controls on pets in the last decade there has been a major increase in demand for dog off-leash & agility areas.

Unduly restrictive policies are likely to be counter productive. There needs to be a mix of policies to suit the context as well as development & promotion of acceptable behaviour which requires dog socialisation!

@leisure has had to tackle the dog issue in hence the forthcoming seminar:
Raining Cats 'n Dogs.

Management Roll out

@leisure's recent **Pipe Dreams** seminar on skate park management was a huge success. Ninety people attended & heard presentations on trends, management case studies, risk management issues, & location & design issues.

For skaters, injuries are part of the territory. The Monash Accident Research Centre's most recent statistics on skate injuries for July 02 -June 2003ⁱ show the following:



- ❑ The majority of injuries were in recreation areas (28%) rather than on road (19%). **This is a major change since 2001.**
- ❑ 1621 people were injured on skate boards & in-lines from 2002-'03.
- ❑ 68% of injuries were from skateboards & 32% from in-lines.
- ❑ 39% of injuries were suffered by 10-14 yr olds, 15% by 15-19 yr olds, & 14% from 5 - 9 yr olds.
- ❑ Males had 78% of all injuries
- ❑ 69% of females injured were on inlines.
- ❑ Fractures accounted for 51% of all reported injuries.
- ❑ 24% of injuries were to the wrist, 13% the ankle, 11% the forearm, 9% the elbow & 8% the hand or fingers.

@leisure regularly undertakes risk assessments & management plans for skate parks. They have recently assessed Stonnington's skate & BMX parks, & written new maintenance checklists.

REPLAY

Our most recent seminar was **Replay**, which discussed redesigning & retrofitting playgrounds for access & inclusion of people with a disability. The key to social inclusion in a playground is whether a child can get to the 'coolest' place & play there just like everyone else (see www.beyondaccess.org/index.htm.) They don't want to be disabled children playing by themselves on equipment labelled 'disabled equipment.' They want to be out there with their non-disabled peers." (see www.npfa.co.uk/pdfs/can_play_will_play.pdf)

Speaker notes are available for \$50 per seminar. For info contact jake@jeavons.com.au.

NEXT SEMINAR OCTOBER 2004



A one-day seminar on companion animals in public space and ways to manage the increasing demand.

The seminar will address issues such as:

- Trends in demand for dogs and cats
- Impact of animals on open space
- Managing areas for dog exercise
- Designing areas for pet play
- Dogs and playgrounds
- Local government case studies

👉👉👉 **INTERESTED** 👉👉👉

Email your name to jake@jeavons.com.au to join the mailing list for Raining Cats 'n Dogs.



MARY JEAVONS
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

www.jeavons.com.au is warming up. A release date is just around the corner.

Around the Grounds

Playground upgrades are under way for the City of Bayside (5 sites) & Elwood Beach Café has been completed. Maroondah City Council has commissioned MJLA to prepare a plan for an **All Access Play Environment** at Federation Estate in Ringwood. A **playground strategy** is being developed for the City of Boroondara with 103 playground sites. As a result of MJLA's **playground strategy** for the City of Swan Hill, important steps have been taken to upgrade in play, sports areas in its townships & rural areas. Moonee Valley City Council has just signed off on an **Access for All Playground Plan** by @leisure & MJLA.

The City of Albury has engaged MJLA to upgrade its premium park, Noreil Park. MJLA has (with Paul Gardiner Architects) completed tender documents for a large accessible playground at Victoria Lake in Shepparton & a **new playground design** has been completed for the Shire of Mornington (Mt Martha).

Are you in the loop?



Wheelchair detector loops to activate pedestrian lights are being trialled by VicRoads & the City of Banyule.

Like the detector loops installed for cars, when a chair rolls over the loop it activates the pedestrian signal to save the person in the chair having to reach to press the button.



Saw cuts for detector

Thanks to Ivan Peterson for this contribution.

Funny Dunnies



Due to the success of funny dunnies in the last edition of Ampers&nd the tradition continues. Send your funny dunny pictures to

jake@jeavons.com.au. @leisure has developed a model to evaluate functionality, location, accessibility & condition of toilets & is currently undertaking a toilet strategy for Yarra Ranges.

Photo source: www.starwrecked.com

Grants-get'm in!

- VicHealth's **Community Festivals & Celebrations** grants close on 25th August 2004. Get'm in!
- Twenty-five schools were recently granted \$7.58mill for community sport, recreation, arts, culture, information technology education & activity programs as part of \$30 million Community Facilities Funding for primary & secondary schools. That leaves some \$22.42mill for school Business Case grants for 2005/'06 **Applications close end of August 2004.**
- Over 400 sports clubs received grants of up to \$2,000 in Vic Health 2004 Sports Injury Prevention Program. The Program is expected to run again next year. Applications open in November.

Don't miss out on funding for your next project.

@leisure can assist to develop your project & apply on your behalf! We have considerable experience seeking funds from community, education & state & local government.

Product Profile



This lightweight swing seat with a back & restraints is suitable for kids aged 5-12 yrs.

For more information contact Jeff Wilson, at Omnitech. Ph 9872 6322

New Playground Standard

The good news is that Standards Australia committee has been sent the final draft for sign off &, all going well, the final document should be published by November 2004! How requests for amendments & teething problems will be dealt with remains to be seen.

Surf & Turf

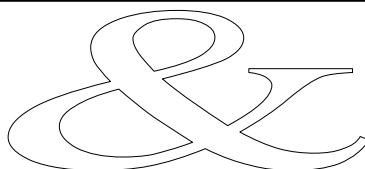
On July 1 Royal Life Saving Society Australia (Vic) & Surf Life Saving Vic officially become one organization, known as Life Saving Victoria. @leisure is preparing a marketing strategy for the newly formed organisation. Events & festivities are also being held this year to celebrate 100 years of life saving in Victoria. Recent released are also Guidelines for Water Safety in Urban Water Developments in conjunction with Melbourne Water. @leisure is currently preparing Open Space Strategies that include beaches in Kingston, Hobsons Bay & Port Phillip. Away from the surf, @leisure has recently completed a revision of Maroondah's Open Strategy.

PLAYGROUNDS & POSITIONING IN CHILD CARE CENTRES

The positioning of a building on the site in centres is critical to maximise opportunities for outdoor play. A child could be in a centre from 6 weeks old until 5 or even 6 years old. So the role in each child's development cannot be underestimated. MJLA is involved in the design of numerous outdoor areas in child care centres, preschools and kinders. Projects include Boroondara Pre-school, Davis St Kinder in Kew, Wonga Park community centre for City of Manningham, three centres in Albury, and six private child care centres in various parts of Melbourne. MJLA is happy to advise clients on the preliminary siting of buildings so as to optimise both indoor and outdoor play spaces.



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