



# THE Forum

THE LATEST NEWS FROM OFFICER'S MOST VIBRANT NEW ADDRESS

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## A word from our Editor

With the construction of over 200 homes now completed, Arena at Officer is an exciting and burgeoning community of more than 400 residents. In April, Arena residents celebrated their first Easter in their new home. Young children, and the not so young, had great fun welcoming the Easter Bunny on his first visit to Arena.

With our display village completed, a huge range of homes are available for inspection, including 40 diverse designs. In May, the Arena Home Show welcomed a great number of visitors and the success of our latest land releases shows that Arena continues to be extremely popular.

We'd like to remind our readers that a walking group regularly meets every Tuesday at 7.15pm in Arena Park. It is a fantastic way to meet other Arena residents while making the most of our parks and wetlands.

We welcome your feedback on The Forum and any ideas for stories, so feel free to contact me with your clever thoughts. In the mean time we hope you enjoy our latest offering.



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## CAMPING OUT FOR THEIR FUTURE



Aaron and Jenna, proud homebuyers at Arena

You've heard of camping out for concert tickets, or the latest iPad release; now homebuyers are camping overnight for a chance to build their dream home at Arena.

Competition to secure a lot from Arena's previous two land releases, the Rose Garden and the Havencourt, was so tight that some eager prospective homebuyers braved the cold and camped out overnight at Arena.

David Phillips spent three nights outside the sales office at Arena to make sure he got his first choice in the Rose Garden Release. David says he and his wife Rhonda had a block in mind before the release, and knew competition for it would be tough – so he began his camp out at 8am Wednesday for a Saturday morning release.

Lining up certainly paid off for David, as he and Rhonda were able to secure their preferred lot: a 576 sqm block in the Rose Garden Release. "We're really happy with the location and particularly with the sense of community and neighbourhood that we got, which seems to get a bit lost these days," David said. "We'll be building later this year, and we're looking forward to moving in."

More recently, Narre Warren local Aaron Buggy camped out overnight at Arena so he could pick a block in the Havencourt Release for himself and his partner, Jenna Prowse. "Our purchase appealed to us because it was the right block, in the right place, and at the right time," Mr Buggy said. "We love the local area and Arena has everything we need, in one place."



# HAVE A SAY ON YOUR COMMUNITY

Community means different things to different people, sometimes involving an active engagement, sometimes a place to belong, or a context where services are provided.

Monash University, Cardinia Shire Council and Windermere Child and Family Services are conducting a research project entitled Building Family and Community Resilience in the Growth Corridor to help residents build the sort of community they want.

The Monash partners are keen to talk to residents about their interests, issues and concerns when living in newly established communities.

If you would like to have your say, please contact Marg Lynn on mobile 0419361039 or email [Marg.Lynn@arts.monash.edu.au](mailto:Marg.Lynn@arts.monash.edu.au)



Easter fun at Arena Park



Little Amelia Wilkinson (aged 2)



Braiden (aged 2) and Dakodah (aged 3 months)



## EASTER BUNNY HOPS INTO ARENA

As the sun shone down upon Arena Park on what was a beautiful Easter morning, there was a hum of excitement from gathered adults and children alike as the Easter Bunny was on his way!

Much to the excitement of all, the Easter Bunny came to Arena Park on Easter Sunday for an assortment of fun-filled activities to celebrate our first Easter together!

A large group of local kids were delighted to partake in a guerrilla-style Easter egg hunt. Our youngest egg hunter was 3-month-old baby Dakodah, who was kindly helped out by her 2-year-old brother Braiden. Naturally, all our hunters found lots of yummy chocolate eggs!

Easter Bunny ensured everyone joined in for a few Easter songs and to help the kids partake in an Easter egg race. He soon found himself chased around by all our enthusiastic hunters however!

Many thanks to all the Arena residents who came in to celebrate with AVJennings. Lots of fun was had by all and we look forward to an even bigger and better Easter egg hunt next year!

### DEVELOPMENT SNAPSHOT

	COMPLETION DATE
Entry statement and artwork	completed ✓
Arena wetlands sanctuary	completed ✓
Stage 3 Titles	titled
Stage 8 Titles	expected July 2010
Stage 4 Titles	expected August 2010
Stage 9 Titles	expected October 2010

# ARENA ON SHOW

Potential home-buyers travelled from far and wide on Saturday 22 May to attend the Arena Home Show – making the day a fantastic success!

AVJennings knows buying or building a new home can be an exciting and at the same time, a daunting process. That's why we had so many experts on hand to assist with any and all home questions our visitors had, including experts in landscaping, sustainable gardening, outdoor living, finance and even feng shui!

It was good to see so many home-buyers get all their research done in one place.

And for those seeking to build their new home at the attractive Arena estate, Saturday's event coincided with the Havencourt Release, featuring 21 blocks of land, with most allotments enjoying a tranquil court setting.



Future residents at Arena, the Wades joined in the Easter fun.

## THE WADES CAN'T WAIT

The first thought that popped into Tracey and John Wade's minds when they visited Arena for the first time was that it "felt like home". And, thanks to their purchase of a lot in the Gallant Release, it soon will be!

Tracey says she and John were happy with the price of land and were attracted to the fantastic amenities Arena had to offer. "With two young children, we love the fact Arena has a great family atmosphere and will soon have its own shopping centre," Tracey said.

With these amenities and their workplaces both close by, the Wades are looking forward to spending more quality time with their children, Jayden, aged 10, and Jemma, aged 8.

"Our kids are looking forward to exploring the Arena nature reserves and wetlands on the weekends.

"Arena offers us everything we need in one location."

Tracey and John love the "modern look" of Arena, and have chosen a 4-bedroom design for their new home.

The Wades hope to start building immediately – the sooner they can move into their "forever home", the better!

## OUR NEW PLAY SPACE

Currently being completed at Arena is our new District Play Space. Located near the future sporting precinct, corner of Princes Highway and Arena Parade, the playground offers so much more than a standard play structure.

Designed to encourage exploration and imagination in a natural setting, the space will comprise an explorative garden, timber log obstacles, a forest clearing maze, a rock garden and slides.

Intended to appeal to the wider community as well as Arena's residents, the District Play Space will encourage imaginary play, exercise and sensory exploration, offering our children an experience like no other.

Set to be completed soon, make sure you watch this space to find out more about this exciting addition to Arena!



## COMMUNITY FORUM

Are you a resident at Arena or do you have a local business you'd like us to talk about? Please get in touch with us and we will be happy to publish your story.



### LET'S GET ACTIVE Walking Group

Every Tuesday  
Meeting at 7.15pm in Arena Park  
For more details, call Margie Conley on 5945 4432 or email [m.conley@cardinia.vic.gov.au](mailto:m.conley@cardinia.vic.gov.au)

### Q. DID YOU KNOW?

Watching a 30-minute TV show burns 181 KJ of energy.  
Going for a 30-minute walk around the wetlands sanctuary burns 600 KJ of energy.  
**Go on a walk instead!**

## KARL MAKES HIS MARK



Visitors to Arena can now gaze upon a set of newly installed artworks, thanks to promising local young artist Karl Russo.

The pieces are designed to represent elements of the Arena lifestyle like nature, community, sport and healthy living, and can be found to the western side of the main entrance to Arena, on the corner of Princes Highway and Arena Parade,.

Karl, a developing 24-year-old architect with Orchard Design, based in Officer, says that he hopes residents and visitors enjoy the pieces.

"The pieces are sculptural, they are made with materials of great integrity and substance and are

designed to be a feature, not just signage," Karl said. "I hope the community likes the works. I hope that people get up close and have a look and a touch, and become familiar with the works".

Karl says that working on the Arena project has helped his interests and career to develop.

"From my time at Orchard Design coupled with my Landscape Architecture studies, I became increasingly interested in how sculpture and art can be introduced into the landscape. It was great that this project at Arena was open to pushing the signage component into a more sculptural level that is interactive with people and the landscape," he said.



### PET PHOTOS

Do you think your pet is cute? Please send your photos and we will publish them in the next edition of The Forum.



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To register your interest in the development visit [www.arena-at-officer.com.au](http://www.arena-at-officer.com.au) or call 131 878