

Where the secret

Community Priority Projects 2013-2014

RELEASED! AFTER BEING EXPOSED BY THE GEELONG ADVERTISER

AUSTIN WARD CR JOCK IRVINE	BEANGALA WARD CR JAN FARRELL	BROWNBILL WARD CR MICHELLE HEAGNEY	BUCKLEY WARD CR ANDY RICHARDS	CHEETHAM WARD CR ROD MACDONALD	KILDARE WARD CR STRETCH KONTELJ
Thomson Reserve Master plan\$80,000 Newcombe & District Sports Club ..\$75,000 St Albans Breakwater Cricket Club ..\$50,000 Grinter Reserve BMX Track.....\$55,000 East Geelong Mens Shed\$50,000 Ervin Reserve Masterplan\$30,000 St Albans Sporting Club.....\$60,000 St Albans Sporting Club.....\$40,000 Thomson Reserve.....\$65,000 St Albans Sporting Club Netball\$15,000 Splashdown\$30,000 Newcombe & District Cricket Club..\$15,000 Library Contribution\$15,000 Whittington Flamefest.....\$20,000	Memorial Park Master plan\$177,600 Collendina Reserve Master Plan\$192,000 Collendina Reserve Playground\$13,400 Ocean Grove Park Performance Space\$200,000 Ocean Grove Community Garden...\$22,000 Bellarine Aquatic Centre\$30,000 Ocean Grove/Barwon Heads Summer Shuttle Bus\$10,000 Ocean Grove Carols by Candlelight \$10,000 Women's Advisory Group\$15,000 Bellarine Youth Action Team.....\$15,000 Spud Fest\$15,000	Pedestrian Crossing Ryrie St.....\$35,000 Central Geelong Public Art Strategy \$25,000 Geelong West Forecourt Public Art..\$30,000 Public Art Central Geelong.....\$5000 Geelong West Neighbourhood House.....\$50,000 Little Malop St & Little Ryrie St Carparking.....\$125,000 Playground Development\$30,000 Eastern Park Master plan.....\$100,000 Kenworthy Reserve.....\$10,000 Geelong Art Society.....\$30,000 Geelong West Neighbourhood House.....\$15,000 Ukrainian Association Geelong.....\$5000 Central Geelong Partnership Projects.....\$100,000 West Oval.....\$30,000 Courthouse Street Art.....\$10,000	Burdoo Reserve Road and Carpark\$60,000 Hitchcock Ave Footpath.....\$20,000 Grovedale Sports Club\$60,000 Barwon Heads Village Park.....\$300,000 Grovedale Sports Club\$50,000 Library Contribution\$20,000 Geelong Library & Heritage Centre Arts Strategy\$80,000 Agribusiness Study\$10,000	Minor Capital Renewal Projects\$35,000 Clifton Springs Tennis Club.....\$120,000 Lake Lorne Reserve\$40,000 Memorial Park Leopold Master Plan\$230,000 Library Contribution\$15,000 Leopold Strategic Planning Project\$100,000 Knowledge Economy\$60,000	Footpath Works Melville Ave, Newtown..... 100,000 Friers Reserve Pavilion 27,000 St Peter's Cricket Club 150,000 St Joseph's Netball Club 200,000 Newtown & Chilwell Football Netball Club 30,000 Kevin Kirby Reserve Master Plan5000 Geelong Swimming Club8000 Murghebuloc Cricket Club 30,000 Geelong Rowing Association 50,000
					
Total \$600,000	Total \$600,000	Total \$600,000	Total \$600,000	Total \$600,000	Total \$600,000
CORYULE WARD CR LINDSAY ELLIS	COWIE WARD CR EDDY KONTELJ	DEAKIN WARD CR RON NELSON	KARDINIA WARD CR BRUCE HARWOOD	CORIO WARD CR KYLIE FISHER	WINDERMERE CR TONY ANSETT
Beacon Point Rd Arts Sculpture\$25,000 Portarlinton Reserve\$90,000 Portarlinton Football & Cricket Club Pavilion\$150,000 Portarlinton Netball Club\$150,000 Parks & Playgrounds Improvements.....\$55,000 Clifton Springs Fountain\$20,000 Portarlinton Safe Harbour Strategic Plan\$100,000 St Leonards\$10,000	Separation St, Bell Park parking management\$60,000 Indented Car Park - Thorburn St, Bell Park\$18,000 Bell Post Hill Roundabout\$12,000 Myers Reserve - Bell Post Hill Football Netball and Bowls Club ..\$194,000 Myers Reserve Play Ground.....\$29,000 Playground Dane Ave\$29,000 Hume Reserve\$32,000 Pettitt Park\$40,000 Beauford Ave streetscape\$99,000 Ukrainian Association Geelong\$12,000 Slovenian Association Geelong\$16,000 Multicultural Policy Development - Diversitat\$14,000 Bell Park Sports Club (Ballarat Rd, Batesford)\$25,000 Aboriginal Action Plan\$5000 Multicultural Action Plan\$15,000	Wandana Heights Tennis Club\$120,000 Queens Park Playground\$180,000 Barrabool Cricket Club\$190,000 Queens Park Golf Club\$20,000 Waurm Ponds Tennis Court\$24,000 Friends of Buckley Falls\$20,000 Highton Reserve Carpark\$6000	Public Art Program - High St Belmont\$20,000 Marshall & South Barwon Cricket Clubs\$100,000 McDonald Reserve\$50,000 Alexander Thomson Kindergarten...\$20,000 Winters Reserve\$100,000 Disc Golf - Barwon Valley Park\$10,000 Barwon Valley Golf Club\$130,000 Grovedale Baptist Kindergarten ...\$10,000 Geelong Manufacturing Council\$20,000 Geelong Bioscience Centre.....\$30,000 Belmont Business Association\$40,000 Geelong Harness Racing Club\$10,000 Geelong Greyhound Racing Club ...\$10,000 Geelong (Thoroughbred) Racing Club.....\$10,000 Belmont Island Litter Traps\$40,000 Future Proofing Geelong\$40,000	Roundabout Upgrades\$10,000 Leisuretime Centre\$20,000 North Shore Netball\$100,000 Evans Reserve Soccer\$120,000 North Shore Sports Club\$40,000 Shopping Strip Regeneration\$40,000 Detroit Park Furniture.....\$6000 Stead Park Pet Park\$40,000 Fountain of Friendship Park Master plan\$10,000 Christmas Carols\$13,000 Cloverdale Community Centre\$5000 Line Marking Bike Lanes.....\$10,000 Open Space Tree Planting - Cloverdale\$10,000 Stead Park.....\$10,000 Hungry Brochure\$6000 Inclusion Week Activities\$5000 Library Contribution\$10,000 Skaart Festival\$20,000 Northern Suburbs Youth Action Team..\$5000 Family Services Strategic Plan\$20,000 Children's Week.....\$20,000 Tiny Bubbles Program\$10,000 Municipal Early Years Program\$20,000 Norlane Bowls Club\$5000 BMX Track Stead Park\$25,000 Waterworld Masterplan\$20,000	Pedestrian Crossing - Windemere Rd..\$2000 Austrian Club Corio\$15,000 Heritage Seat - Eastern Gardens ...\$15,000 Restoration of King Edward Statue \$25,000 Corio Bay Archery Club\$20,000 Corio Cricket Club\$35,000 Rennie St Reserve\$15,000 Centreway Shopping Centre\$5000 Hendy St Tennis Courts\$20,000 Elcho Park Golf Course\$60,000 Lara Pool\$11,000 Corio Moorabool Pony Club\$22,000 Lara Heritage Festival\$50,000 Lara Food & Wine Festival\$20,000 Lara Arts & Culture Theatre\$70,000 Lara Scouts\$10,000 Lara Museum & Historical Centre ..\$20,000 Asher Rd Playgroup, Lovely Banks\$20,000 Anakie Primary School\$15,000 Kevin Hoffman Walk\$25,000 Corio North Trees\$30,000 Queen Victoria Statue Relocation ..\$25,000 Lara Youth Festival\$20,000 Lara WiFi\$25,000 Six Ways Shopping Centre\$25,000
					
Total \$600,000	Total \$600,000	Total \$560,000	Total \$640,000	Total \$600,000	Total \$600,000
GRAND TOTAL: \$7,200,000					



**LEARN
EARN
GROW**

vfalearning.vic.edu.au/fitness

78 Yarra Street,
Geelong 1300 304 751



Download QR Code App and scan with your Smartphone to find out more!

OPEN DAY!

Find out about an exciting career in:

- PERSONAL TRAINING
- SPORTS DEVELOPMENT
- CHILDCARE
- MASSAGE THERAPY
- OUTDOOR RECREATION

We have both Full Time & Part Time options available. Victorian & Commonwealth Government Funding available.



**TOMORROW
10AM - 3PM**

**FREE PRIZES &
GIVEAWAYS,
ALL WELCOME!**

ward funds went

SHANE FOWLES

TWO Geelong councillors have used large portions of their ward allocations to fund community organisations they had links to.

City Hall has released for the first time where it directed funds chosen through its Community Priority Projects scheme, following *Geelong Advertiser* revelations this week about the secretive \$7.2 million annual fund.

Analysis by the *Geelong Advertiser* of the 2013-14 ward allocation funding shows Cr Jock Irvine directed \$165,000 of his maximum \$600,000 towards four separate initiatives at St Albans Reserve — home to a sporting club where he was president for 10 years.

The Austin ward councillor stepped down from the role at the St Albans/Breakwater cricket club in March this year.

He said a listing on the City of Greater Geelong website yesterday that he was still president was an error.

Initial budget talks had begun as far back as November 2012, but City of Greater Geelong CEO Stephen Griffin said the ward allocation projects were first raised in April this year.

Ward allocation projects listed for the reserve include \$50,000 for the cricket club, to provide new safety netting, furniture and training equipment.

Further funding was granted for the reserve's social rooms, which is home to the St Albans/Breakwater Cricket Club and the St Albans Football Netball Club.

That was for a kitchen upgrade (\$60,000) and new decking for the social rooms (\$40,000).

The St Albans netball club (\$15,000) was also a recipient.

Cr Irvine yesterday said he had resigned from the club presidency and the committee on March 10, prior to discussions on the specific initiatives for the budget.

"Community priorities are identified and initiated by members of the community



Councillor Jock Irvine, inset, was previously president of the St Albans-Breakwater Cricket Club.

Costa tells City Hall to smarten up

ANTHEA CANNON

GEELONG power-broker Frank Costa has warned City Hall to "smarten up" or face State Government intervention over the ward funding revelations.

Mr Costa said there were some "very worrisome" elements in the council administration, including the \$600,000 per councillor per year ward allocation.

"Twelve wards can't need the exact same amount every year," he said.

"(And) there's definitely been bullying of our former mayor.

"I think it's good that the State Government is looking at this, in light of what happened at Wangaratta. We've been put on notice that we better smarten up or we're in for a few serious problems."

Geelong Chamber of Commerce president Kylie Warne said the chamber supported a thorough investigation by Local Government Minister

Jeanette Powell. "The Geelong Chamber of Commerce is concerned about the practice of City of Greater Geelong councillor allocation of funds to ward projects without due governance processes in place, as reported by the *Geelong Advertiser*," Ms Warne said.

"The community rightly expects high levels of transparency from our elected councillors, especially when allocating large sums of ratepayer monies."

Yesterday he said he was only a paid-up member of the club — as he was of several local sport and business organisations — and did not believe there was a conflict of interest.

"You would think the ward councillor would know what the wants and needs of the ward would be," he said.

"There was money to

other projects that the community had determined are worthy of pursuit."

Cr Ellis said the projects were included as part of the Portarlington Recreation Reserve Master Plan, which had been in the works for years and completed before his election last October.

The projects form part of the council's annual \$7.2 million Community Priorities Funding created in 2004 but first revealed by the *Geelong Advertiser* on Thursday.

Geelong's council is being investigated by the Local Government Inspectorate as part of a wide inquiry into ward-funded programs throughout Victoria, with Minister Jeanette Powell confirming Geelong had the most expensive scheme in the state.

"The Government is concerned that some of these ward funds (in Victoria) are being allocated by individual councillors without adequate assessment against published criteria and without auditing the benefits to ratepayers," Ms Powell said

this week.

Despite being in existence for eight years, it took until yesterday for the council to publicly identify the projects funded through this scheme.

The list is for 2013-14 only, and is not backdated to include previous budgets.

The projects have always been published in the annual budget but are listed under different sections.

Neither Cr Irvine nor Cr Ellis declared any conflict of interest during discussion and voting at open meetings on the 2013-14 budget.

Mr Griffin said the process for the budget began with a strategic workshop last November, before three workshops in February and March. "A budget briefing was then held on Monday, April 15, and it was at this meeting that new community priorities were discussed," Mr Griffin said.

"There was a final budget discussion on April 22 before the draft budget was tabled at the open meeting of council on May 14, 2013."

shane.fowles@news.com.au

who come to councillors with their preferred projects — as a ward councillor I act as an advocate on behalf of the community," he said in a statement issued by the Geelong council's media unit.

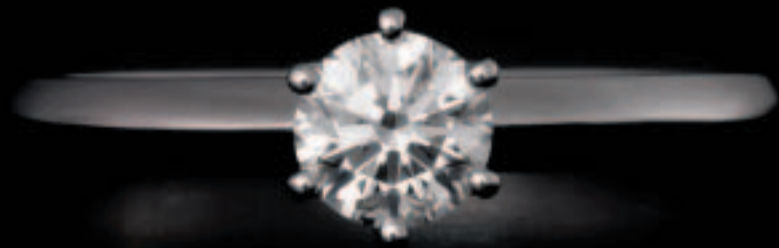
Analysis of spending in the Coryule ward, represented by first-term councillor Lindsay Ellis, revealed three

of the eight projects chosen were for the Portarlington Reserve, home to the Portarlington Football Netball Club. The projects, totalling \$390,000, went to netball court and pavilion upgrades.

On the council's website, Cr Ellis is described as a "supporter and sponsor of Portarlington Football Netball Club".



Geelong excellence since 1927



18ct White gold round brilliant cut diamond ring \$5,365
Customisation made easy, choose your diamond, choose your setting.
With a huge range of loose diamonds in-store, Duffs can craft your perfect ring.

Shop 34 Market Square, Geelong Ph: 5221 6636
Shop 1171 Westfield, Geelong Ph: 5229 5555
www.duffsjewellers.com.au

DUFFS
JEWELLERS

SHOWCASE
JEWELLERS

