



BLACKBURN VILLAGE RESIDENTS GROUP

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TIME OUT

There's always something to celebrate about living in Blackburn. This year is BVRG's tenth anniversary; ten years of making sure planners don't forget that residents here really value Blackburn's special environment.

Your committee are therefore especially delighted this year to extend to you a cordial invitation to join us at:-

THE RVRC DINNERS

to be held at
The Jumbo Restaurant
on
FRIDAY 29 NOVEMBER
7.00 for 7.30

A section of the restaurant has been reserved and a banquet meal arranged for \$20 a head.
Alternative dishes available.
Liquor & BYO licences.

Why not take this opportunity to introduce your friends and neighbours to BVRG? Bring them along to this community celebration of living in Blackburn.

RSVP Friday 22 November Aileen Kelly (AH) 9878 8162 Ron Grainger (AH) 9877 3348



VIC CODE 1 REVIEW

The main thrust of the BVRG submission to the Committee of Review of Vic Code 1 (Subdivision and Single Dwellings) was that in established suburbs such as Blackburn it was as important for single dwelling development to be in sympathy with neighbourhood character as it was for medium density development.

COUNCIL STAFF CHANGES

After the disruptive reorganisation of Council planning staff over the last two years yet another restructuring process has been announced. This follows the recent appointment of Peter Seamer as CEO and Stephen Wright as GM City Development.

We trust the disruption will not be repeated.

PLANNING REFORMS - LOOK OUT FOR THE STRATEGIC STUDY !

Council have commenced work on the Municipal Strategic Study, forerunner of the Statement (MSS), the draft scheme for Whitehorse to be exhibited after Council elections next year.

The MSS will indicate the direction of Council's policies regarding future land use and development. It will provide the rationale for the statutory controls to follow. It will help provide '*... a unique opportunity to develop a planning scheme which is a development facilitation tool rather than simply being a development control document'*

While the theory might be acceptable, it is up to us as individual residents to ensure that the final Planning Scheme reflects our values and not just the views of those with a pecuniary interest in development.

We shall be pressing for a timetable of public consultation if none has been announced by early 1997.

COUNCIL ELECTIONS

It remains as true now as when we stated it in 1988 that, '*Local identity is not something that can be imposed from outside. It is something that grows gradually over time and its main repository is to be found in the people of the locality...In Blackburn, this identity is already well established and the community has a long record of seeking to preserve it!*'

You might remind candidates of this when they seek your vote in the new Wards of Blackwood, Springfield or Riversdale, and that you expect them to insist that a genuine process of community consultation precede any contemplated change in your environment.

TO THOSE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE DINNER

We extend seasonal greetings to you and your families and look forward to your continued support in 1997.