

Strategic Plan WRITTEN BY GREG PEIRCE

Towards the end of 2000, the YAC set about developing a strategic plan. This was to aim at getting a clear vision of what our goals were and how we were going to achieve them. It also involved determining issues which faced young people in the area and how we as a group could actively add to the solution of those issues. It consists of:

- Introduction;
- Mission Statement;
- Setting the Context;
- Vision;
- Objectives; and
- Strategies.

The mission statement of the YAC is 'to create an exciting, diverse, vibrant and safe atmosphere for the youth of Claremont'. The Strategic Plan is a fluid document looking three years into the future.

Once completed the Plan was presented by our President, James Nicholls and Vice President, Paula Chinney, to the full Claremont Council. As one of our objectives is to 'to become a valued and respected group by the Council members...' this was an important step. The Strategic Plan was well received by the Council members.

The YAC is now pursuing its goals in accordance with the Strategic Plan.

Objectives WRITTEN BY AMBER SHERGIS

The Youth Advisory Council of Claremont has many objectives, which we would like to achieve. Primarily, we wish to provide a forum for the views of youth to be expressed and heard and to provide facilities and services which will benefit young people. One possibility is the establishment of a youth cafe. We would also like to become a valued and respected organisation, thought of as worthwhile by both Council members and the youth of Claremont.

Youth Café WRITTEN BY JULIA RHODES

We have been discussing the idea of establishing some sort of a youth centre, possibly in the form of a youth cafe, for some time now. The idea developed after a series of workshops we participated in which addressed issues facing the youth of Claremont. We identified loitering to be a problem, and the lack of a place for youth to "hang out". We came up with the idea of a youth centre that would not only address the loitering issue but also provide a positive place for the youth of Claremont to go. We are intending on conducting surveys and research in order to evaluate the feasibility and popularity of a youth centre for the future.

Address to Council WRITTEN BY PAULA CHINNERY

On Tuesday 19th October 2000, James Nicholls and I attended a special Council meeting. Prior to the meeting, James and I had dinner with the Councillors, where we had the opportunity to meet all the Council members and talk with them. Afterwards, at the Council meeting, after some other items on the agenda had been dealt with, James made a speech to the Council about the establishment of the Youth Advisory Council Claremont, and our aims and objectives for the future. Then I thanked Council for their strong support and enthusiasm for the Youth Advisory Council. The night was successful, and a great opportunity to meet and get to know Council members, and to talk with them about Youth Advisory Council and our appreciation of their support.

Claremont Christmas Carnival WRITTEN BY KATE PULLINGER

The Claremont YAC participated in the annual Claremont Christmas Carnival on Thursday 30th November 2000 and had a wonderful time. The night involved a fun and lively atmosphere for the whole family. Santa Claus made an appearance and overall the night was a great success. Our YAC, which has been running for about 6 months, was in charge of the fairy floss machine, and everyone enjoyed helping out and we all had a great time. We were successful and raised a promising amount. The Claremont YAC is looking forward to organising more youth activities in the future, which may include a festival and youth cafe. So far we are having a great time and learning more about youth issues related to our area.

AMPFEST Written by Christian Christiansen

Move over Big Day Out. Claremont YAC and few other local YAC's have created an event to rival Perth's biggest festivals. It is AMPFEST.

AMPFEST was created to showcase Perth's new young talent. There were a number of heats held throughout February and March 2003 culminating in the final heat held at the Quarry Amphitheatre in City Beach.

This year with over 20 bands playing in the knockout heats for the chance to play in the finals, music lovers and people looking for a good time were treated to some great performances. The standard of the performers were very high and the final heat was a day to remember. The four finalists gave excellent performances, battling it out for the major prize. And while the finalists were being judged, the bands, CARTMAN and LASH kept the audience entertained.

This year the winner was Tantrum and although they deserved it, the other competitors were close. Congratulations to Tantrum; hopefully they can go on and succeed interstate and perhaps nationally!

Next years AMPFEST the YAC's are aiming to improve the event by creating a more festival style atmosphere. This means bigger crowds, more music and great activities.

Everyone from the Claremont YAC hopes to see you there and if you have any suggestions we would love to hear from you.

ANZAC DAY Written by Blair Hebenton

This 2003 ANZAC Day ceremony at the Claremont War Memorial marked the third anniversary that YAC members have played a part in this special day in Australian culture and history. The morning ceremony has been well attended these last few years and this year was no exception.

Several members of YAC were involved in the memorial. Porcia Maley delivered an impressive speech on the meaning of ANZAC Day and the importance of the younger generations of Australians continuing the tradition as the older ones move on. Her message was well received and appreciated by the audience, especially the many veterans and members of the RSL who were in attendance.

Blair Hebenton and Katherine Bennetts laid a wreath at the memorial on behalf of the young people of Claremont, and there were several other members of the YAC who came to the ceremony aswell.

This ANZAC Day ceremony really has been a place where the YAC has successfully bridged the age divide and shown a really positive side of the youth of Claremont to other sections of our community. ANZAC Day also has a special significance for several of the YAC members who have had family members who have been members of Australia's Armed Forces, and some of whom have attended ANZAC Day at Gallipoli, the birthplace of the ANZAC tradition.

The ANZAC Day experience was really enjoyable for us as young people to be a part of, and it means a lot for us to be involved in. It's beginning to become something of a tradition for the Claremont Youth Advisory Council, and really shows people in our area that young people can make a positive and meaningful contribution. It's a great experience for all of us involved, and has meant a lot to the older veterans and members of the RSL, and it is one of the most worthwhile aspects of being a YAC member.