

### **Coleman & Vincent Streets residents**

had their third workshop in the Sustainability St program on 25 February 2009. Eight residents were present.

There was some discussion in the early part of the meeting that some residents would not be coming to the meeting because they were concerned that not enough things will occur to deal with the pressing needs of the residents. If you keep reading you'll see how much is happening.

### **What has happened?**

Those people at the meeting said that a lot had been done since the last meeting. Some of these things were:

- Residents had attended the Public Forum for the Save our Buses Campaign and made their feelings know. Bernadette gave an update on what Council was doing in representing the Holroyd communities' views about this matter. Residents had also signed the letters to local members and the Minister for Transport, raising their concerns about the changes to bus services.
- Residents had saved water in a number of ways including:
  - Placing a bucket in the shower
  - Reusing water from a range of places, washing up, air conditioners, cleaning teeth etc
  - Using less water to wash up

### **What is planned to happen?**

Residents who attended the meeting started the process of planning and deciding upon how to use the \$7,500 funding that is made available through the project. Tracey, Paula and Eunice will talk with a number of residents and bring a proposal to the next meeting for more discussion and approval. At this stage it is agreed that the money will go towards;

- Purchase and installation of water tanks
- Purchase and installation of an irrigation system linked to the water tanks
- Restoration of the existing gardens



[Coleman and Vincent St properties] - including soil, mulch and replanting

**Be at the next meeting to have your say about this.  
It is important to state your views.**

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting for Coleman & Vincent Street residents is at 10.00am on

**Wednesday 11 March 2009**

We will be looking at ways to reduce our waste, deciding on a project proposal and receiving responses from NSW Housing on the issues we raised.

### ***What was raised with Housing NSW and what is the process for dealing with these issues?***

Residents raised a number of issues with Housing NSW. Henryka Ogrodniczek indicated that a report would be given at the next meeting about how each of these matters is being addressed. It should be noted that only the matters marked with an \* in the list below had been previously reported.

- Gutter and Downpipe cleaning
- Tree trimming
- Roof leaks 6,7 and 8 Vincent St\*
- Tile slippage 4 and 5 Coleman St – also the community room
- Community Room Maintenance issues
  - Basin
  - Leaking taps
  - Toilet role holder
  - Hand dryer
- Cleaning of community room. Clarification of responsibilities
- Mould in 5 Vincent St following repairs
- Access by possums into wall cavity on Units 3 and 4 Vincent St
- Tree roots destroying path \*
- Communication in languages other than in English

### ***The First Lucky Winner***

Just by attending the meetings, Paula was the first lucky winner of the \$100 Bunnings Gift Voucher. Make sure you come to the next meeting to be in the draw for the second \$100 Gift Voucher.



### ***What else did we talk about?***

We talked about saving energy at this meeting. By using the **Energy Shortcut** (pictured below), it was pointed out that hot water is the biggest energy guzzler in NSW Homes followed by space heating and cooling. Using the shortcut we can all understand where we are using energy making it easier to reduce our energy consumption.



We identified lots of ways to reduce our energy bill without making a big change to our lifestyle. Some of our ideas included:

- turning the hot water thermostat down
- sealing around doors and windows to block draughts
- turning off appliances at the wall
- reducing our shower time
- only having lights on in the room/s you are in or using task lighting
- only heating or cooling the rooms we are using
- putting on more clothing before turning on the heater
- washing clothes in cold water and avoid using a clothes dryer – let air and sunlight dry them wherever possible
- choosing appliances with a high energy star rating – the more stars, the less energy consumed

**For more information about the Sustainability Street program contact Holroyd City Council on 9840 9981.**