

North Swanbourne Beach Users Association

P.O. Box 35, CLAREMONT 6010

NEDLANDS CITY COUNCIL POLICY HARDENS

During 1986 the Nedlands City Council, spurred on by a vocal handful of beach residents, has hardened its attitude to nude bathing.

Council policy (as of 3-4-86) is :-

- (a) Administration commence a prosecution in the event of there being a breach of Clause 14(1) of By-law 14 at Swanbourne Beach.
- (b) Administration and Council's Solicitor be instructed that such prosecution is to be launched as a test case of the validity of the by-law and in no way is it to be based upon any moral indictment of the behaviour of the person prosecuted.
- (c) Before launching a prosecution:
 - (i) Administration ensure that any signs relating to breaches of the by-law be properly situated so that the public is correctly informed of those areas under Council jurisdiction.
 - (ii) A meeting be arranged between interested Council members, Police representatives, Swanbourne Ratepayers Association representatives and the North Swanbourne Beach Users Association to discuss the proposed prosecution for breach of Clause 14(1) of Council By-law 14.
- (d) Administration prepare a report of the prosecutions before taking any further action and in the event of prosecutions being successful, Administration prepare a recommendation for obtaining a vesting order for the remaining unvested Crown land situated between the northern boundary of Reserve 27250 and the

municipal boundary in order that By-law No. 14 (Safety, Decency, Convenience and Comfort in respect to Bathing) can be applied to both the Swanbourne Beach and North Swanbourne Beach areas.

CARRIED

This item was carried unanimously without discussion.

Clause 14 of the bylaws reads :-

14. (1) Any person over the age of four years bathing within defined area in water exposed to the public view or using the beach for sun-bathing in the public view, shall, in order to secure the observance of decency, be properly and adequately clad.

(2) Where a beach patrol officer or inspector appointed by the Council considers that the costume or other clothing of any person using the defined area is not proper and adequate to secure decency, the officer or inspector may order that person to put on adequate clothing, and if that person refuses, he may be removed from the defined area by that officer or inspector.

The important words are "decency" and "properly and adequately clad." There is no definition as to what properly and adequately clad is in the bylaw and when pressed, the Council refused to commit themselves. They did infer that it may be a problem to prosecute topless bathers or G-stringers.

On April 29th the Council invited representatives of the Swanbourne Coastal Ratepayers Group, the Police, ourselves and councillors to a discussion-type meeting. Everyone had a chance to air their views. The ratepayers opened and for nearly two hours talked about one topic only - perverts. Parking problems were not mentioned. Obviously the years of complaining of blocked streets and the more recent refusal to permit a new parking area, as approved by Council, was a sham. They complained that, by our behaviour, we attract perverts and that some of their female members had been "approached". When asked by the police why these incidents were not reported they said they were distrustful of any police action. The constabulary were not amused. The police have said that Swanbourne beach has no more problems than any other beach and I consider it is necessary to prove that we have a substantially different problem before any credence can be given to it. They cannot do this because it is no different to other beaches.

The Council explained their change of policy (to appease the residents) and also expressed disappointment in all the State Governments' lack of action over the years in the matter of nude bathing in W.A. Everyone heartily agreed on this point. Rex and I then countered with many points. Considering my inclination to waffle and the frustration bottled up inside, self control was difficult. Since ignorance of the law is no excuse we wanted to know the meaning of adequately clad, but we got no answer. We also wanted to know why it was that if the police did not consider

the beach had a problem and the beach users did not have a problem, then how could the residents a half a mile away behind locked doors have a massive pervert invasion? Again no answer. A few local residents seem to be the spanner in the works and their arguments are based on emotions and personal morals rather than facts.

I also laboured the point that we are the public of W.A. using a public beach and as such deserve adequate facilities. We pay taxes too and Councils receive Govt. funds to maintain public facilities. What we wear whilst swimming has nothing to do with our need for toilets, parking or beach showers.

The current status is :-

(a) Legally nothing has changed. Nedlands Council does not have jurisdiction north of the border (ie. 270m north of the parking area) so we can carry on bathing "au naturel" there.

(b) Signs have been erected but only refer to Council land south of the border. These signs are causing confusion and this has been reflected in recent vandalism of the signs. Our attempt to correct this confusion was rebuffed.

(c) The Council rangers and beach inspectors (two new ones for the duration of the Cup) WILL try to prosecute for nude bathing on their land only. So please DO NOT drift over the border. No names have been taken to date.

(d) Item (b) of Council policy must surely be B-grade garbagem

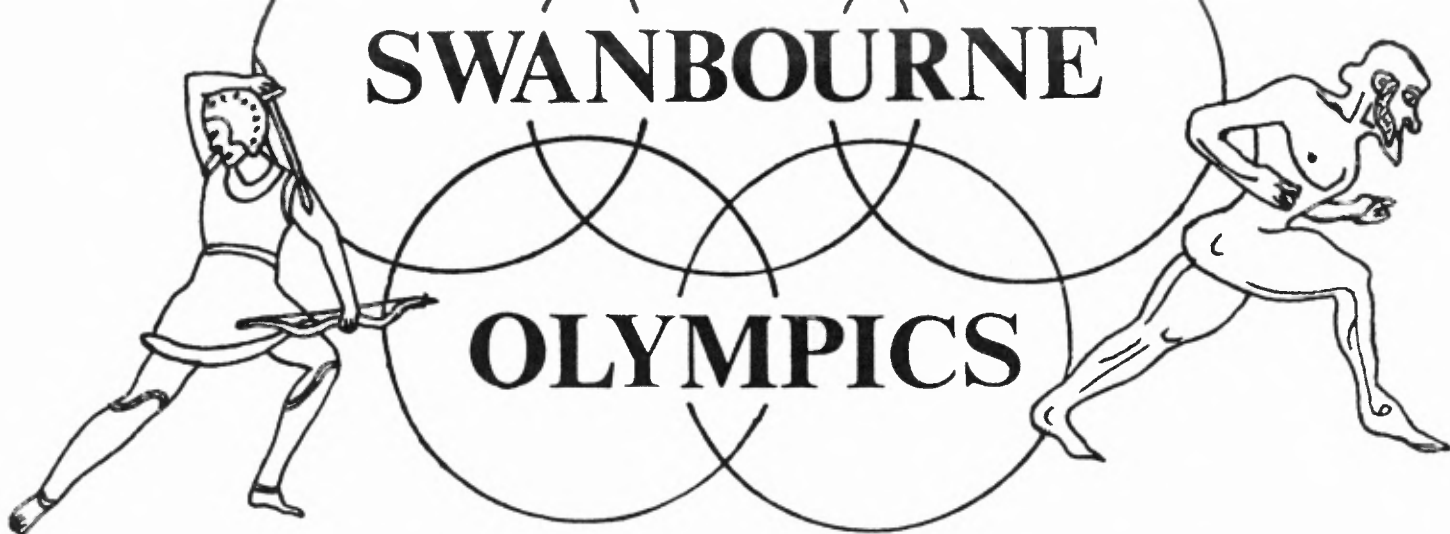
(e) Meanwhile, no extra parking, toilets or beach showers.

My personal attitude is I don't care what Council does on its land. But if item (d) is ever exercised they are in for a fair dinkum bluey. But think about this. If the Council lose a prosecution on their land, the bylaw (like all other beaches) will be invalid. All beaches will effectively be free. A new bylaw would be drawn up during which the Govt. will have to consider its policy to free beaches. If the Council wins, it proceeds with item (d) and again the Govt. has to decide whether to transfer the land and hence condone the resulting legal furore. Win or lose the Council is forcing the State Govt. into a decision on free beaches. But if no one crosses the border the whole idea is merely academic.

The Future

Don't let all this worry you. Our power has always been in the number of nudists using the beach so if you want to know what you can do to help, then just keep coming down to the beach and enjoy yourself. Not an awesome sacrifice is it?

MERRY CHRISTMAS FOLKS !!!!



You are most welcome to join with us in the fifth Olympic games to be held at North Swanbourne Free Beach. Put a big circle on your social calendar and tie a string on your finger, whatever. But be there and participate !!

DAY: SUNDAY 11th JANUARY 1987

COMMENCES: 10.00 am

DRESS: IMMATERIAL

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Four Legged Race (all)
(four legged folks accepted)

The Great Tyrathalon (M) (F)
(a tyresome event)

Sand Castle Builders (kids) (adults)
(sculptors glee club)

Best Bum (M) (F)
(all entrants must have one)

Swim Through Swany (M) (F)
(drowning is cheating)

Spud and Spoon Act (adults) (kids)
(not mashed or chips)

Flour Sack Struggle (adults) (kids)
(without flour this time)

Fill 'er Up, Mate (all)
(six per team - no containers)

Hop, Step and Jump (all)
(in flippers - like a swan)

Tug-of-War (all)
(in the briney)

WITH A LUNCH BREAK SOMEWHERE

At some stage, possibly around lunchtime, we shall have a little game of soccer with a rather large soccer ball. More later.

A very warm welcome to all the interstate nudists here for the A.N.F. Convention at Sunseekers Club. Hope you all visit our beach and stay on for the famous Swanbourne Olympic games. The same goes for all overseas visitors here for the America's Cup - please join with us, relax and enjoy the good times !!



bop'n' barbie



Bruce

WHERE Kiosk (or Surf Club Hall)

TICKETS from the beach Kiosk (see Doc)

WHEN

Sunday January 11th at 6.00 pm after the Olympics

HOW MUCH

\$12 food & entertainment inc. (drinks extra)

From out of Hobart's stormy bay
 A pirate ship set sail
 The Captain was a runaway
 From old Port Arthur jail,
 The crew was fierce and full of fleas
 The parrot, it was blind.
 They landed on old Swaney beach
 To see what they could find.

They took a silver cutlass each
 Then up the sand they crept.
 Alas it was a nudist beach
 At this, the Captain wept,
 "It's not them girls with nothing on
 That make my face so ruddy,
 It's just that all my men have gone
 To sunbake in the nuddy."

The pirates chortled, "Yo ho ho!
 We're in our altogethers!"
 The Captain's parrot squawked, "Hello!"
 And took off all its feathers.
 "It's mutiny!" the Captain roared
 And swore a dozen oaths
 Then madly climbing back aboard
 Sailed off with all their clothes.

They begged him, "Captain, please return
 Our pirate pantaloons!
 The sun's so hot, our bums'll burn
 And shrivel up like prunes!"
 The Captain sniggered, "What a shame!
 Farewell my little dears!"
 And that is how they earned their name -
 The Crimson Buccaneers.

Doug MacLeod

(with only a teensy alteration)

Nude beach pointer sunk

The nude bathing fraternity has failed in an attempt to get Nedlands to erect a sign at Swanbourne Beach to indicate where the nude beach is at north Swanbourne beach.

Last week the council refused, because it feels it would encourage more nude bathing.

The council says it can not be seen to be giving permission to people to bathe nude.

The sign had already been painted and shown to a council committee.

It is part of a nude beach users' organisation campaign to direct people to the right area so they will not be prosecuted for inadvertently swimming nude on the council-controlled beach.

Nedlands rangers have started making their normal regular summer visits to Swanbourne and the council has said it wants to prosecute someone in a test case.

Councillor Roger Lilleyman said he had doorknocked the Hollywood ward on this subject this year.

Without exception people had told him the council was out of step with modern thinking on the subject of nude bathing.



MOBILE DISCOS D.J. HIRE

FOR ALL OCCASIONS

Phone 367 9513

★ Aerobics Long-time Swanbourne beachgoer and volleyballer extra-
 ★ Gym Training ordinaire, BRIAN WALLACE, welcomes fellow "bodies" to
 ★ Massage support his new venture. Especially convenient
 location for people who work in the city. Keep fit and tanned
 Bring along this advertisement for a special NSBUA discount !

★ Suntan
 ★ Sauna
 ★ Trained Staff

The Executive Health Club

London Court, Perth (St. George's Ice End) Telephone 325 2342

THEY WERE SERIOUS WHEN THEY SAID IT !!!

"Morality is simply the attitude we adopt towards people whom we personally dislike"

and

"There is no such thing as morality or immorality in thought. There is immoral emotion."

Oscar Wilde

-- oOo --

"Each day I stand on my verandah and count the perverts driving past."

Resident of North St., Swanbourne, at a
Council meeting.

-- oOo --

O'Tooles Commentary on Murphy's Law.

"Murphy was an optimist."

-- oOo --

Q: "What does the shirt, the bra and bikini top still support and conceal?"

A: "Male fantasy and priveledge."

and

"Expecting the woman to cover the body as the antidote to male lust and rage is not only ineffective; it also burdens us and excuses men."

Nikki Craft, American feminist, naturist.

-- oOo --

"(I am) not the keeper of public morals. People who pursued certain activities or interests had a right to pursue them provided that they did not impact on other people."

Premier Brian Burke, on hotel strippers.

-- oOo --

"I should also make it very clear that despite any prosecution, successful or not, I shall continue to attend the free beach as a nudist and I shall not be alone."

Bruce Grieve, in a letter to Nedlands Council.

-- oOo --

"Maybe it is cheaper for Nedlands City Council to provide misleading information on signs to manipulate the public instead of providing fundamental facilities, such as parking and toilets."

Kim Sutton, in a letter to Post Newspapers.

-- oOo --

FOR ALL NEWCOMERS WELCOME !!!

Your choice of beach is the best decision you have made all summer. Our only rule is LIVE AND LET LIVE (or do your own thing but don't interfere with other's lifestyles). If you have a nuisance problem or whatever, please contact one of the regulars and we will act on any complaints. It is the safest, cleanest, friendliest beach in W.A. - let's keep it that way.

THE DUNES

As you can see they are now fenced in (all the way to the border of City Beach). Some years ago the Agriculture Dept. proposed fencing in all dunes in the metro area. With Government funds most Councils have fenced off their dunes. Since our dunes are on State land, the Army received the funds to provide the expertise and equipment while the unemployed did the hard yakka of fencing and seeding. The results are encouraging. The Army has said they will patrol the area to discourage vandalism. Please don't place your towel too close to the vehicle tracks.

CAMERAS

If you wish to take any photos ASK FIRST. Its only common courtesy and some folks can get a might touchy. During the Olympics, please restrict photos to the events. Indiscriminate candid photography WILL be discouraged.

THE OLYMPICS - YOUR BIT

Each year the enthusiastic few organise and run the olympic games. I guess that is par for the course in any social group. We accept that. But by far the main difficulty is obtaining enough prizes. Surely with all the thousands who attend the beach, someone has access to a commercial enterprise who may be willing to donate to this fun day. So how about pitching in - ask around - if you want help or suggestions please see me (Bruce) on the beach. We would rather have several smaller prizes than a large one. All donors will be thanked on the day and also be listed on a donor's blackboard. It's not fair to use the same contributors each year.

Some examples :- any beach gear (suntan creams, hats, towels, windbreaks, umbrellas, etc.), drinks, toys, something to do with the America's Cup, or even cash (used to buy the childrens prizes). I would like to know before Christmas but definitely by January 4th. Assistance in this area will dramatically ease the load.

Ta muchly.