



# IDIOM

*defn: (noun) the language particular to a people or district, community, or class.*

## Bassendean Youth Services

Bassendean Youth Services are situated underneath the McDonald Pavilion at Steel Blue Oval on the corner of West and Guildford Roads near the Skate Park.

The Youth Centre is open for young people to 'drop-in' between 3pm and 6pm Tuesday to Friday, and offers a broadband internet and computer game café, XBOX, band room, and DVD movie projector. Everything happening in the afternoons is free, and the centre is available for young people aged 12 to 25.

The centre also runs LAN parties, band rehearsals and entertaining activities most weeks. Saturday activities are also offered every couple of months. In the past activities have included: Adventure World, Go-Karting, Outdoor Rock Climbing, and Paintballing. Most of these activities only cost a few dollars per person.

During the next school holidays the Youth Service will run a number of activities including a full day of Go-Karting. Come into the Youth Centre to find out what's happening next or check out our website for more information - [www.bys.net.au](http://www.bys.net.au)



## Graffiti and Urban Art

**Graffiti and Urban Art are the same thing aren't they?**

Graffiti, which is sometimes known as 'tagging', is the use of spray paint or marker pens to vandalise public or private property and is an illegal act. Urban Art on the other hand is the use of spray cans to create legitimate art pieces with the permission of the property owner. The unfortunate thing is that graffiti vandalism can be so destructive and expensive to clean up that the wider community has a negative view on anything to do with spray cans.

Legitimate Urban Art can be seen at a variety of public places such as some bus stops, inside the Youth Centre and on the volunteer fire brigade shed at Ashfield Reserve. Taggers can be a huge problem for Urban Artists because they have a hard time convincing the community of the legitimacy of their art form. At times, taggers will even spray or write over the top of urban art murals.

In an attempt to show graffiti vandals the damage they are doing to the Urban Art scene, Bassendean Youth Services will soon undertake an education campaign at local primary schools where some well known artists get to share their perspectives.

The Youth Service will also run a series of Urban Art workshops for those who want to develop their artistic skills in a legitimate environment.





# Urban Art Project

In recent months, Bassendean Youth Services received funding to run a series of urban art workshops for local young people.

These workshops aimed at diverting young people away from illegal graffiti tagging, and developing their artistic skills to create legitimate art pieces. The interior of the Youth Centre provided a canvass for the young artists, who were mentored over a period of 5 weeks by renowned urban artists 'Abnormal Design'. The program was a great success and engaged 15 young people to create a huge underground themed mural.

Those looking for further urban art opportunities can contact Drew from Abnormal Design on 0420 810 949, who's next project is a giant 250 metre long mural!



## Cyber Bullying

Recently, the police referred a 14 year old girl to the Juvenile Justice Team for filming an assault on another girl on her mobile phone at a local high school.

Usually, schools have dealt with this type of thing themselves, but the Education Department are now backing the use of Police intervention as a way of curbing the filming of fights and bullying.

Did you know that if a student has conspired with another to film a bullying incident, then they can be charged with assault too. If they harass another student via the internet or a mobile phone then they can be issued with a misconduct restraining order.

Cyber bullying affects more than one in five young Australians, and of 12 to 13 year olds, 55 per cent of boys and 65 per cent of girls owned mobile phones.

Text messaging is the most common form of cyber bullying and is used to deliver and spread threats, insults and rumours.

In the first semester this year, there were 413 assaults in public schools and the State Government has committed \$1 million over the next 4 years to address bullying.



## Skatepark update

One of the effects of the skatepark being well used is that there's sometimes rubbish build up, especially over school holidays. The Town of Bassendean's Youth Advisory Council consulted skaters who regularly use the park and recommended that new bins be installed closer to the skating area. The idea is that skaters will have bins close by and be more likely to use them, keeping the park in good condition and a showpiece of the Town's commitment to young people.