



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

Social Networks Uncovered

A social networking site is an online place where a user can create a profile and build a personal network that connects him or her to other users.

In the past five years, such sites have rocketed from a niche activity into a phenomenon that engages tens of millions of internet users. More than half of all online young people aged 12-17 use online social networking sites, and older teens, particularly girls, are more likely to use them. For girls, social networking sites are primarily places to reinforce pre-existing friendships; for guys, the networks also provide opportunities for flirting and making new friends.

These sites are profile focused and activity centres around web pages that contain information about the activities, interests and likes (and dislikes) of each member. Permissions are a very important feature of most social networking sites. They allow members and groups to control who gets access to their profiles, information, connections and spaces, as well as degrees of access. Managing relationships online and managing your online presence are key to having fun with and using social networks safely. Young people tend to use social networking sites to communicate and socialise with their contacts and build their existing friend networks, while some use social networks to collect contacts to display their popularity.

The majority of young people actively manage their online profiles to keep the information they believe is most sensitive away from the unwanted gaze of strangers. While many post their first name and photos on their profiles, they rarely post information on public profiles they believe would help strangers actually locate them such as their full name, home phone or mobile phone number.

55% of online teens have profiles and most of them restrict access to their profile in some way. Of those with profiles, 66% say their profile is not visible to all internet users. Of those whose profile can be accessed by anyone online, nearly half say they give at least some false information to prevent identification.



YAC Discussions

- the right to vote

Young Australians could be given the right to vote under new proposals being considered by the government. More than 35 years ago the age of voting was lowered to 18 years from 21 years.

At its August meeting the Bassendean Youth Advisory Council discussed a Government white paper which would introduce non compulsory voting for 16 and 17 year olds.

The Youth Advisory Council felt that 16 and 17 year olds were able to make informed and educated decisions. By the age of 16 many young people had reached adulthood, had a lot of responsibilities, and had an interest in government through their education, employment and the environment.

The Youth Advisory Council felt the fact that the proposal was for non-compulsory voting would mean that only those young adults who wanted to have a say would do so.

It was felt that the change in policy would inspire young adults, allowing them to get involved in politics at a Federal, State, and Local level.

The Bassendean Youth Advisory Council meets monthly. If you want to get involved and have your say then contact the Town's Youth Development Officer on 9279 2329.



Fitness ... is his Life

Former Youth Centre user Tim Budge has taken over the management of the TrySport Gym at Steel Blue Oval Bassendean.

Tim, who is only 20 year old, says "fitness should be an important part of everyone's' life". Memberships at the gym have been increasing since he has taken over and this can be attributed to Tim's positive attitude towards personal fitness.

