

WRIGHT PARK UPGRADE

Advance Kingscote Progress Association

DETAILS

Location: Wright Park,
Cnr Cygnet Rd &
Telegraph Rd, Kingscote,
Kangaroo Island, South
Australia

Timeframe: August 2013 -
March 2015



OVERVIEW

In 2013, Advance Kingscote embarked on the second stage of improvements at Wright Park as they wanted to make the park environmentally sustainable for the future. The following steps were undertaken during this process;

- Installed 4 x 6000 gallon rainwater tanks to collect stormwater from neighbouring building to irrigate gardens/lawns
- Installed solar panels on neighbouring building to power the pump for irrigation system
- Installed fully automated pop-up lawn and garden dripper irrigation systems for more efficient watering
- Installed fitness/play equipment to improve parks function and amenity value
- Upgraded and sealed existing footpath, improving safety and access
- Added additional garden beds to screen neighbours fencing/houses for aesthetics and privacy.

MOTIVATION

Wright Park was donated to the community by Herb & Lucy Wright in 1977 and is a large parcel of land located on the main intersection as you enter the township of Kingscote. For many years it was a large, often yellow or dead lawn area that had so much potential, if only it looked a bit nicer.

In 2010, Advance Kingscote undertook stage 1 of the redevelopment and since the completion of the stage 2 improvements, not only has the first impression of the town greatly improved but so has the number of people using and enjoying the park. There are often people using the fitness equipment, enjoying take away dinner on the now green lawns or kids kicking the footy or playing cricket. This area is now a place to pause and enjoy rather than look the other way.

"We are extremely proud of the outcome of this project and the gift we have given to the community and the visitors who stop along their travels."

PROCESS

Through discussions with the neighbouring Mitre 10, Advance Kingscote were able to install solar panels on their roof to offset the running cost of the pump for the irrigation system and also collect rainwater runoff. SA Water donated the tanks, as they were available from a previous project. By capturing rainwater run off, they were able to irrigate the lawn and gardens without the cost of using mains water. Not only does this improve the environmental sustainability of the park, but it allows for the park to be green all year round.



Advance Kingscote and Kangaroo Island Council worked together on elements of the project, with the council transporting the tanks and then the volunteers installed and plumbed them in, connected the stormwater and pump and erected the safety fence at the front. The council also requested a concrete mowing strip for the new garden beds. These were constructed by the volunteers on the front of all the beds and then the beds were planted with water wise plants.

A local irrigation specialist installed the pop-ups and drip irrigation, council widened and sealed the footpaths on the northern side of the park. The Rotary Club of KI donated the children's play equipment and the Hospital donated the adult exercise equipment.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION



The following groups were involved in the project

- Advance Kingscote committee & volunteers
- Kangaroo Island Council
- Rotary Club KI
- KI Hospital (SA Health)
- Linden Lea Mitre 10

Approximately 400 hours of volunteer labour went into this project over many months with many volunteers involved (plumbing, fence building, concreting garden borders, planting).

COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

The Kingscote community has seen what can be achieved when collectively groups work together, and what this area can now be used for. This is demonstrated by the different demographics that are now seen enjoying the facilities. Newspaper articles were used to inform the community of the project's completion and the volunteers and groups involved.



OUTCOMES

Savings

- actual water usage and cost of water saved by rainwater harvesting
- energy saved by installing solar panels to power pump for irrigation system.

Benefits

- increased usage, more facilities (tables, shelter, play equipment), safer footpaths bordering the park, improved visual aspect for the town.

COST

Total cost of the project was \$61,417.45, with the bulk of the costs being solar system, footpath, fencing and irrigation systems.

FUNDING AND PARTNERS

To get started in 2013, Advance Kingscote applied for a Kangaroo Island Council Community Infrastructure Grant to the value of \$57,361 and was successful in their application.

Play and exercise equipment was donated by Rotary KI and the Hospital. The remainder of the money came from Advance Kingscote Progress Association funds, and there were hundreds of hours of volunteer work undertaken to complete the project.

BEFORE



AFTER



CONTACT DETAILS

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