Case Study 52

Inglewood Civic Centre

Inglewood WA
The Inglewood Civic Centre’s landscape redevelopment is part of the upgrade to Beaufort Street, which runs north-east from the Perth CBD to suburban Morley.

Beaufort Street’s footpaths were paved in a distinctive “knitting pattern” (Inscape issue 4) but the Centre’s paving pattern is more conventional. “The original courtyard was turfed from one side to the other with a number of shade trees and we wanted to make it a more durable surface,” says Bruce Reid from City of Stirling’s Parks and Reserves.

The overall design including hard surfacing was carried out by his colleague Walter Van Der Loo. Reid worked on the laws and plantings. “The lawn was picked up as a theme in a smaller, oval-shaped reserve with a sloping bank backed by an elliptical retaining wall.”

Flanking the 890 square metre landscape are a number of civil and civic buildings including a library, community and childcare centres, café and office suites. A paved podium at the library entrance replaces a sloping bank.

The centrally-located retaining wall comprises two leaves of brickwork, with a reinforced cavity, laid on a reinforced concrete footing. The inner face is waterproofed with a bituminous compound. The wall is an ideal seating height and capped with bottom-friendly bullnose bricks.

The Inglewood Civic Centre, Inglewood WA

The Civic Centre paving is part of a streetscape redevelopment in the Perth inner-city suburb. The paving provides a durable, all-weather surface and allows the retention of established trees.
The radial pattern of the 230 x 150 mm pavers (a slightly wider format than usual in eastern states) follows the shape of the turfed central space. The pavers are laid in a 30 mm compacted sand bed. In common with Western Australian practice, there is no crushed rock sub-base, thanks to the well-drained sandy soils.

Undoubtedly the landscape’s visual centrepoint is “Here Birdy Birdy!”, a whimsical multi-part mosaic sculpture by Perth artist Claire Bailey. It depicts a man taking his dog for a walk and replacing a duck egg in a nest but finding the duck has come to rest on his head!

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