

Progress Leader

Ph 9941 1500 Classifieds 9875 8000 \$1 incl. GST

TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2008

www.progressleader.com.au



» MAKEOVER

EASTER AT HOME

PAGES 18-20



» PLAY

OFF THE WALL

PAGE 31



» DUMPED

TROLLEY TROUBLES

PAGE 3

Phone towers make locals see red and want to . . .



Mobile phone tower sites in Boroondara

Ashburton	3
Balwyn	9
Balwyn North	7
Camberwell	17
Canterbury	8
Glen Iris	10
Hawthorn	21
Kew	19
Surrey Hills	4

Paint it black

EXCLUSIVE

BIANCA CARMONA

THEY don't glow in the dark, but there's a new look to some houses and shops in Hawthorn and Kew.

Some residents fear electromagnetic radiation from phone towers will affect their health.

And now – despite the long-term effects of electromagnetic radiation still being widely debated – about 20 families and businesses have settled on a startling “solution” that has experts sceptical.

Residents are using “special” black anti-radiation paint imported from Germany to cover their houses. One resident is importing curtain fabrics and window film, which he says also block radiation.

Hawthorn's David Mould embarked on the hunt for “protection” after he lost a battle against a phone tower being built 50m from his house.

It is one of 21 phone towers in Hawthorn. Mr Mould was horrified when he measured radiation readings of 4392 microwatts on his son's pillow.

He said international building guidelines recommended no more than five microwatts a square metre.

“We even considered moving,” the father of three said.

Then he discovered a German paint the manufacturer claimed uses carbon to

deflect electromagnetic radiation. It costs about \$149 a litre, plus tax.

After coating his house and the internal ceilings with the black paint (then covering that with standard paint in the original colour) the readings dropped to 0.7 microwatts, he said.

But Kordia electromagnetic safety consultant Vitaf Anderson was sceptical.

“We don't know of anyone who uses this paint for effective screening,” Mr Anderson said.

Australian Mobile Telecommunications Authority spokesman Randal Markey said scientific evidence by independent experts showed “no justification” for the paint.

His view was supported by Prof Rodney Croft, executive director of Swinburne University's Australian Centre for Radiofrequency Bioeffects Research, who said mobile phone base stations were unlikely to have any effects on humans.

Prof Croft said it was not known if long-term exposure affected health.

But Mr Mould is resolute and has organised the treatment for 20 houses and businesses. “Not everyone's concerned, but for anyone who is, there is something you can do,” he said.

Kew Organics owner Jack Verbeek had his shop painted after a phone tower was installed on top of a nearby bookshop at Willsmere Village. He said electromagnetic radiation readings at the shop had decreased dramatically.

A painter applies the anti-radiation paint to a house in Hawthorn.

N33PP303

OVER 80 AIRCONS on display

- HOME
- OFFICE
- SHOPS
- FACTORY
- SCHOOLS

BEAT THE HEAT THIS SUMMER

DUCTED EVAPORATIVE COOLING

Bramar coolair brivis

FROM **\$2698***

AND REMEMBER... WE WILL BEAT ANY PRICE*

INSTALLED AIR CONDITIONING

LG MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC

That's the difference!

LG SPLIT SYSTEM \$1195*

AND REMEMBER... WE WILL BEAT ANY PRICE*

AIR CONDITIONING

DUCTED AIR CONDITIONING TO 4 OUTLETS

LG DAIKIN

FROM **\$4195***

AND REMEMBER... WE WILL BEAT ANY PRICE*

HANS SAYS "Beat the summer heat!"

Don't leave it to the last minute to arrange your cooling needs. Come in and see our huge display centre with over 80 display units and 20 brands. Don't forget to bring in your room sizes or plans!

We are your cooling specialist.

1110 Toorak Road Camberwell (Opp. Camberwell Rd).
E: sales@camberwellelectrics.com.au

AND REMEMBER WE WILL BEAT ANY PRICE!*

9809 2222

WE'RE OPEN MONDAYS TO SATURDAYS

camberwell ELECTRICS Superstore

*Conditions Apply. Offer based on back to back install, single storey, pitched roof, domestic install. Electrical wiring extra.

38PPVIA27679F/R/08