

IN TOUCH

First festival will be a big surprise

THOUSANDS of people are expected to flock to Penrith for the first major City Festival.

The event will kick off with the Western Soul Connection Alternative Expo on Saturday, November 5 and will close with a free family concert on November 19.

Penrith Festival Committee decided to host one huge festival to promote Penrith, discover local talent and raise funds for charity.

Committee chairman, Terry Bondfield, said profit would be injected back into the Penrith community, including a Youth Sports and Arts Academy.

"The public will be surprised by our first effort," he said.

Events include the Western Soul Connection Alternative Expo, Riverfest, Street Tumbling Championships, street buskers and stall fair, wine fest and a family concert.

Some of the major attractions are boat and waterskiing demonstrations, Featherdale Farm animals, helicopter joy flights, woodchopping, clowns, rides and games.

Discover your psyche



SUSAN Ashley and Robyn Caughlan will take you into the world of the psychic

THE Western Soul Connection Alternative Expo which will host some of the most amazing events - a major psychic fair, firewalk display and a fashion parade starring Miss Australia - will be on at the Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre on November 5 and 6.

Organisers, Susan Ashley and Robyn Caughlan, have put together a weekend of fun-filled entertainment. There will be psychic readings (including tarot, astrology and clairvoyancy), a choice of healing by way of massage, aroma and colour, and Indian and Aboriginal artworks for sale.

Ms Caughlan displays 18 of her designer labels, (the dress worn by 1995 Miss Australia entrant) in a Mythical Dreamtime Fashion Parade on November 6.

Penrith City Star is giving away 10 weekend passes to the Western Soul Connection Alternative Expo and a double pass to the Dreamtime Fashion Parade (worth \$50).

Send your entries to: Penrith City Star's Festival Competition, Suite 1 Camina Arcade, 498 High Street, Penrith 2750.

Gardens in fine shape say judges

THE entries in this year's Penrith City Star Garden Competition are of an exceptionally high standard, according to Penrith City Garden Club president Frank Scala.

Despite a lack of rain, Mr Scala said some top quality gardens were in the running for the thousands of dollars in prizes, with the winners to be announced later this month.

However, Mr Scala said the prizes were not the main attraction, as most gardeners liked to show off their gardens.

Mr Scala said he and other garden club members, who were carrying out preliminary judging on all entries, had been most impressed by the standard.

With more entries this year than last, Mr Scala said they had been particularly impressed by new gardens in Glenmore Park and the increased participation by firms.

"These gardens in Glenmore Park, which are on small blocks and less than three years old are flourishing," he said.

"Considering the weather, which has been dry and pretty crook for gardeners, all are measuring up quite well."