

# FRIENDS OF ALLEN PARK BUSHLAND GROUP



## Spring news 2015

All our Friends and readers of the local press and other media will be aware of the position regarding the future of Seaward Village and the welfare of its residents. Having garnered the attention of Deputy Liberal leader Julie Bishop and Premier Colin Barnett, it appears that good sense has prevailed and the matter is now in the hands of the Assistant Minister for Defence. He has appointed Lt Gen. Mark Evans to conduct a review of the proposal by DHA to demolish and rebuild the village, selling part of the land plus adjacent bushland for civilian residences. FOAPBG will write a submission to support issues and concerns raised at the community meeting in September. However, **it is vital that the review receive many individual submissions to convey the strength of community support** for refurbishment of the existing houses as preferable to the village demolition and sale of the land. Please find the time to make even a brief submission via email to the Review Secretary at [kathleen.powell@defence.gov.au](mailto:kathleen.powell@defence.gov.au) by Friday, 15 January 2015. For guidance as to key points for submissions, please go to the website [saveallenpark.org](http://saveallenpark.org). As the closing date for submissions is 15<sup>th</sup> January, residents and members are urged to make their submissions as soon as possible.

### Stop Press: -

There will be a community meeting on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January at 5:30 pm at the Allen Park Tennis Club, which will be attended by Lt Gen Mark Evans. Organisations making submissions will present, providing an opportunity for Lt Gen Evans to ask questions. A strong show of support at this meeting will certainly convey a message to Canberra that this community cares about the preservation of our Allen Park bushland as well as the security of the Defence families. Please be there if you can.



*Sayer Street looking east*

realise that students from Swanbourne Primary School planted along the north side of the path in 1999.

### Sayer Street Reserve

A show of hands at a City of Nedlands council meeting resulted in two signs being erected on Sayer Street. These signs alert users of the road to the fact that Sayer Street traverses an 'A' Class reserve (Lot 19283) and requests drivers to slow down and be aware of wildlife crossing the road.

Users of the road may not

## Bushcare's Major Day Out (BMDO)



On the morning of the 12<sup>th</sup> September, the annual BMDO was spent planting and weeding near Sayer Street. We were fortunate enough to be given a number of Wembley wax seedlings to plant. These were grown by Friends of Kings Park, and highly prized as they are a local variety. Most of them are thriving and some have come into flower, thanks to the efforts of Judy, Denise and Malcolm, who have been watering the seedlings twice weekly since planting in September. If anyone could help with watering, please contact us. We have ordered more seedlings for next year. Meanwhile, the Variegated fairy-wrens continue to use the Geraldton wax as refuge and favourite nesting sites.

### Lot 150 Sayer Street

The City of Nedlands voted in November to rationalise City-owned blocks and consider a swap of land in Dalkeith, giving Lot 150 (11 Sayer St) to the crown for the purpose of recreation. This would consolidate the green corridor adjoining the Boobook Sector to Allen Park, through which the Whadjuk Trails Network (Bush to Beach section) passes. Our community has been lobbying to return the block to bush following recommendations in previous management plans to do so. Should this be successful, FOAPBG will apply for a grant to revegetate the area.

### Crevice skinks are back

Much to our delight, the crevice skinks (*Egernia napoleonis*) have returned to the FOAPBG cottage following disruptions due to a new retaining wall being constructed outside. Those of you who participate in bushcare days will know they are a friendly bunch. They now have offspring that are equally tolerant of our activity in the area.

### AGM and wind up for 2015

Carnaby's Black Cockatoos were the focus at the November AGM, thanks to guest speaker Trish Brennan, one of Kaarakin's dedicated members. Visitors may have noticed that the cockatoos are back for the summer and trimming the parrot bush for us.

In summary, 2015 has been a busy year: over 465 hours of volunteer time was spent in on-ground activities, of which 78 hours were committed to watering Flyash Hill to satisfy the Coastwest Project objectives. Around 290 hours were spent on administrative tasks including meetings, letters, emails and submissions that flowed on as a result of the Defence Housing Australia proposal to redevelop Seaward Village.

The traditional end of year wind up was enjoyed by a merry band of workers on a morning that turned out to be the coolest and wettest yet for a December Bushcare morning. We weeded on the eastern slope of Melon Hill, and spirits were not dampened by the conditions as the bush was found to be in far better condition than we had expected. There has been quite a lot of regeneration, including lots of parrot bush replacing that lost over recent years.

### Summer watering

Yes, the time has come to continue the watering roster over the summer – we will be watering in the area near the Associates' bunker on the top oval and on the west face of

Flyash Hill. There is a tap and hose for us to use, making the task easier this year. As usual, more hands make light work, so please consider donating an hour of your time, and register to help us out on a Saturday or Sunday morning once or twice a month.

Approaching the summer break, please be vigilant when out walking, particularly if you have a dog. Please keep it on a lead to avoid incidents involving snakes and bobtails.

Please also be on the lookout for suspicious behaviour, and contact the emergency services should there be the need.

Activities will resume in March, so in the meantime, enjoy the break and best wishes for the festive season.



Interested in becoming a member and devoting a couple of hours a month? Ring either 93847983 or 93831501, or email [foapbg@gmail.com](mailto:foapbg@gmail.com)

Visit us on the Urban Bushland Council's website at <http://www.bushlandperth.org.au/member-groups/3-north-of-the-river/44-friends-of-allen-park-bushland>

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**Memberships are now due. Please note individual membership fee is now \$10 and family \$15.** If you wish to continue receiving a quarterly newsletter, please fill out your details below and return to:

The Treasurer FRIENDS OF ALLEN PARK BUSHLAND GROUP INC. 16 Lynton Street, Swanbourne, 6010.

Membership: Individual (\$10) Family (\$15)

NAME: .....

ADDRESS: .....

Email: .....

Tel: (Home) ..... (Wk) ..... (Mob) .....

Electronic fund transfers to: Friends of Allen Park Bushland Group BSB: 036 034 A/C.: 193802

**Note:** Please include your name in any EFTs.

Written by L. Shaw for Friends of Allen Park Bushland Group