

MAJOR MILESTONE FOR BUSH FOREVER ACHIEVED

At last the Bush Forever major planning Amendment went to Parliament for approval. The Urban Bushland Council welcomed the recent announcement by the Minister for Planning Hon John Day.

Our bushland in the Perth region is like no other: Perth is one of few biodiverse cities of the world; it is the biodiversity capital of Australia. No other capital city is set in a natural landscape of Banksia woodlands.

The Bush Forever Amendment and Statement of Planning Policy for urban bushland together represent a major milestone in conservation planning for Perth. Some 287 sites of regionally significant bushland are set aside for the



Photo by M Owen

Daryl Schlipalius, Friends of Kensington Bushland points out the diversity of species within Kensington Bushland, one of the Bush Forever Sites subject to MRS Amendment 1082/33..

health of our unique environment and for future generations. It is all about 'keeping the bush in the city'. 'Every city needs its natural spaces: they are impossible to replace once lost'. It is being increasingly recognised that being in touch with nature is good for our health and well being. We suggest it is a basic human need especially for children. What better way to enjoy nature than going for a walk in a local bush reserve.

Bush Forever is based on very sound science and represents community views. We now look forward to the Government's renewed commitment to fully implement Bush Forever by protecting all the sites and making new budget provision for management to maintain the values of each area.



Photo by R Zelinova

Minister for Planning, Hon John Day and Mary Gray, President UBC examine a map showing all Bush Forever Sites subject to the MRS Amendment.

There are scores of local community friends groups caring for bush sites. They are seeking more support from both State and local government agencies to provide more 'on ground' resources to control weeds, feral animals and to raise community awareness and respect for the bush and its wildlife.

For more background information on Bush Forever go to Page 2 and 8.

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- City Bush Guides 2010 experience
- Managing Perennial veldt grass in bushland
- Celebrating sustained commitment to local bushland conservation

and more...

Editorial

At last after 10 years the Minister for Planning Hon John Day presented the long awaited Bush Forever planning Amendment to Parliament on 22nd June. As the Minister stated, this is a major milestone in the regulatory protection of 51,000ha of Perth's bushland 10 years after Bush Forever was first endorsed by a Liberal Government. The major Amendment to the Metropolitan Regional Scheme (MRS) 1082/33 for Bush Forever and related lands was released for public comment in 2004. The accompanying Statement of Planning Policy (SPP) 2.8 for bushland in the Perth Metropolitan Region was also gazetted on 22nd June. See the website

www.planning.wa.gov.au. This provides a 'statutory framework and greater planning recognition for the protection and future management of all Bush Forever areas.'

So what does this mean?

- All 287 Bush Forever sites covering a total of 51,200 ha of regionally significant bushland have statutory definition in the MRS, are shown on the MRS map and are called *Bush Forever areas*
- Amendment 1082/33 will rezone 94 Bush Forever sites to Parks & Recreation reservation (P&R) thereby signalling that the Government intends to acquire these areas at some future date
- The WAPC has spent \$72.718 million of the \$100 million earmarked to purchase 1000ha of Bush Forever lands
- Many - or maybe most sites - are already protected in public ownership as reserves - eg Kings Park, Bold Park, so need not be rezoned to P&R
- There are boundary adjustments to 21 Bush Forever sites
- There are 7 adjustments to boundaries of P&R reserves
- Thus some sites shown on the 2004 maps have been reduced in size and parts have been or will be cleared.
- There is a presumption against clearing in P&R reserves of Bush Forever areas
- Statement of Planning Policy 2.8 applies to all Bush Forever areas.

We still do not have updated data showing the percentage of each of the 26 vegetation complexes secured in Bush Forever areas. The target was to protect *at least 10%* of each vegetation complex where possible, remembering that for some complexes, less than 10% remained on the Swan Coastal Plain in 1997 when the Bush Forever mapping was first compiled. Then other complexes such as Bassendean central and south, and Karrakatta central and south did not meet the target of 10% in the proposed Amendment of 2004 even though plenty existed. The former has suffered significant losses from Perth Airport and Jandakot Airport on Commonwealth lands.

While the UBC certainly welcomes the presentation of the Bush Forever Amendment to Parliament, the full protection of all sites as shown in the final MRS maps is not guaranteed. Despite being Bush Forever areas, some high profile sites remain under threat from inappropriate developments: Underwood Avenue Floreat, Ocean Reef, Paganoni, Jandakot Airport, Anstey-Keane wetlands, North Lake & Bibra Lake, Pt Peron.

But a Government firmly committed to the protection of Perth's unique biodiversity would consistently ensure the sanctity of all Bush Forever areas '*forever*'. Planners would remove all old and new bits of planned infrastructure from Bush Forever areas so that they are totally free of incursions. It is not impossible, but what is likely? Community groups are urged to let local members of State Parliament know that we want to keep these areas totally intact for future generations, for conservation of biodiversity, and for the health of the city. We challenge every State MP to visit the Bush Forever sites in their electorate and become champions for their protection and management.

We look forward to a new government focus on managing Bush Forever areas and on raising public awareness of the values of Perth's bushland. There is a great need for much more budget allocation: to manage sites, for interpretive signage and local education. So now is an opportunity for local groups to be in touch with land managers of bushland areas, to encourage more active management and to welcome the State Government's formal recognition of Bush Forever.

The Urban Bushland Council is holding a *Bush Forever Forum* on Sunday 11th July 10am - 1pm at the Old Observatory, National Trust, 2 Havelock St West Perth
Morning tea provided

Now that the MRS Bush Forever Amendment has finally been presented to Parliament after 6 years, what has changed since the 2004 version and what does it all mean?

How will the Statement of Planning Policy 2.8 for urban bushland affect the ongoing implementation process? What developments if any will be allowed and where?

Does 'Bush Forever' really mean bushland forever?

Come along and see the big maps showing the boundaries of Bush Forever sites and how they have changed if at all after the public comment period. See also the 94 areas that will be rezoned to Parks and Recreation reservation and any other changes.

Tim Hillyard, Manager WAPC Property Management Services, will explain what the Bush Forever Amendment means, the MRS text amendment and the Statement of Planning Policy 2.8 and answer your questions.

We can also look at the Bush Forever '*Actions*' listed in Volume 1 of Bush Forever (p xiv December 2000) that are yet to be carried out or completed, such as the public awareness strategy and initiatives for local bushland protection through local bushland strategies prepared by local governments.

City Bush Guides Reflections

By Jannina Halicki

'We must be the change we wish to see' Ghandi

Visiting overseas countries, no matter how exciting can be a daunting experience, especially when numbers, signs and the residents language are all not able to be understood. I only have to walk 179 paces and I enter a land that has been described as 'beautiful', 'stupendous' and 'magnificent' (cited in Elliot, 1983) and I am overwhelmed as I was unable to identify the surroundings. Overseas visits have an expiry date and therefore you soon learn how to identify common signs and learn the most common lingo. The bush, only 179 paces away has always been there and there was no urgency for me to be familiar with my local area.

Upon scanning my local paper I saw a small advertisement for a 'City Bush Guides Training Course'. I cut it out, procrastinated for two weeks and finally rang the number. A passionate advocate for biodiversity from the Urban Bushland Council answered all my questions and I was enrolled. On April 14, I finally met this advocate, Lesley Shaw, who is an amazing, articulate, organised professional who facilitated the course that has changed the way I look, understand and am now in total awe of the Australian bush. Throughout the course, Lesley introduced to us Western Australian Bushland Superstars.

Phylis Robertson initially whetted our appetite with the 'Bush Forever' site, Kensington Bushland. On these 9 hectares of bushland I learnt that 'Jarrah' means tree and all these years I have inappropriately been saying Jarrah tree meaning tree tree. I discovered there really is such an insect as an Ant lion – whereas I have always put them in the same category as fairies, sorry Tinkerbell, I don't believe in fairies – but there really are Ant lions and I have seen them!

The eloquent Margo O'Byrne inspired and guided us comprehensively through the facets of public speaking. She then had our group participate in activities to put these newly acquired skills into practice to ensure our success as bush guides.

Captain Planet and Luke Skywalker are my former heroes, now that I have met the illustrious Sir Robert Powell! He will be forever remembered as the person who finally taught me how to identify Eucalypt species. I can never enter the Bush without my autographed copy of 'Leaf and Branch' which has been invaluable in identifying species that are new to me. I will never complain again when technology doesn't work, which meant Sir Robert revisited our group and educated us in soil types and vegetation on the Swan Coastal Plain. The referenced notes that he provided us with, are invaluable.

Imagine digging into laterite so that frogs could be encouraged into a garden! Mad! Nutty! So motivated by listening to the benefits by Western Australians own Frog Doctor – Johnny Profumo – I laboured intensively and in Autumn we had brown male frogs calling from the burrows they made in our organic vegetable garden and not from the bog I constructed, to the female frogs. Nonetheless, only Johnny could

so inspire, that even my husband now believes frogs croaking is romantic!

Ric How from the WA Museum led us through a fascinating investigation; discovering and identifying Reptiles on the Swan Coastal Plain. Through data analysis we realized the impact urbanisation, decreased rainfall, the introduction of feral species, disease and fire have had on reptiles.

Ric also introduced the phenomenon we all knew existed but couldn't quite articulate: nature-deficit disorder, which was coined by Richard Louv. Louv explained he needed to ring alarm bells about the harm caused by alienating children from the natural world. It is estimated that children spend up to 55 hours per week attached to electronic devices. Ric challenged us to make a difference!

Imagine Lewis Carroll reciting 'Jabberwocky', the creator and author breathing life into his poetry! That's what it was like when all our senses were engaged when Kim Fletcher infused storytelling into our course. With his bag of treasures and *Xanthorrhoea preissii* spike we ventured into the Kensington bushland and he infused life into the biodiversity with his storytelling techniques. Breathtaking!

I must admit, I am ashamed that in the past I have not treated Fungi with the respect it deserves. Roz Hart elevated the status of Fungi with the realisation of their invisible acts of sustainability. Roz effectively conveyed the importance of Fungi in our bushland and despite the absence of rain, Roz, ably assisted by fellow course member Joy, discovered a magnificent Rose Gill Fungi and the now identifiable Dog Poo Fungi.

With the assistance of Rod Smith from Birds Australia I was able to observe ten bird species that visit the Kensington Bushland. The black faced cuckoo shrike was a species I had never even seen or heard of, but now can identify. By the colour of its face, I can now tell the difference between a male and female Magpie Lark. With our eyes cast upward we monitored the movements of a Wedge tail eagle and deliberated over its location and actions.

I have now completed the Urban Bushland Council City Bush Guide Course. What does this mean? Eight weeks ago I would walk 179 paces, enter my local bush and I knew nothing! How can a seven week course change the way I perceive the acquisition of knowledge? The course empowered me! There are people who love our bush so passionately; they willingly desire to share their knowledge and experience, by writing books, speaking publically, create websites, start friends of bushland groups, belong to wildflower, fungi, frog and bird societies, write poetry, are members of the Urban Bushland Council and the list continues ... The Urban Bushland Council Course has embedded in me foundations. I am no longer in a foreign land when I enter the bush. I am beginning to interpret the surroundings with the resources I have in my foundations. In

(Continued on page 15)

ROE 8 EXTENSION THREATENS IMPORTANT NATURAL AREAS

By Marion Shaw

South Metro Connect conducted a public consultative workshop on June 1st, 2010 to consider items of public interest in issues relating to the development of Roe 8. The historical route of Stage 8 passes through North Lake Reserve close to Hope Road, Bibra Lake. Environmental issues rate high and there is much public feeling about introducing a 4 or 6 lane highway into the reserve. For this reason South Metro Connect left the public consultative workshop for this section till last. Public Consultative Workshops have been conducted for Stage 7, Kwinana Freeway to Bibra Drive, and Stage 9, Stock Road to North Lake Road. One attendee pointed out that this locks Stage 8 into following the historical route through the wetlands. It seems this was the view of South Metro Connect as this point was not refuted during the briefing session.

South Metro Connect (SMC) is an agency derived from the W.A. Government, the Main Roads and a private consultative company, Aecom. It is therefore promoting the stance of the Barnett Government which is committed to building the final sections of Roe 8.

In the general briefing reference was made to Highway overpasses needed to cross Hope Road and the wetlands near Roe Swamp, of Bibra Drive bridging Roe Highway and of an underpass for the highway under North Lake Road. There is likely to be an ecological link between North Lake and Bibra Lake reserves. These crossings were shown on the Discussion Drawing supplied to all participants.

Another point in the briefing was that as the construction footprint is likely to change another submission will be made to the Environmental Protection Authority for its approval. Importance of the reserves to the Noongar People was acknowledged and consultation with them is planned.

As current Chairperson of the Friends of the Cockburn Wetlands Education Centre, Bibra Lake, I sought a late entry to the workshop and was able to sit in the Open Space Format for the brief time I could attend. In contrast to the Structured Format where participants first consider

specified issues Open Space Format gave all available time to participants raising issues of interest to them.

Issues of concern raised in the Open Space session were the roosting trees used by Carnaby's cockatoos and the impact on the rarely sighted Graceful Sun Moth population which has been sighted near the proposed Roe 8 route. The Discussion Drawing showed where seven trees have been noted in the reserves as potential nesting sites for the Carnaby's.

One attendee suggested the highway be rerouted to include areas where bush has already been cleared ie. including the area cleared for the Fiona Stanley Hospital and that cleared for Cockburn Central some years ago.

My on-the spot, verbal contribution was that the North Lake and Bibra Lake reserves were not available and that the Stage 8 Roe Highway should be routed otherwise.

Several days later I visited SMC Office in Blackly Row, off Hammond Road near Yangebup Lake and spoke with the environmental officer. Many surveys are currently underway or to be undertaken of native species in likely effected areas of the Beeliar Reserve. The envisaged Roe 8 will be fenced so that quendas and tortoises will be protected from becoming road kill. I raised the issue of the possible impact of the possible Roe 8 extension along Hope Road on the black swans when they fly between the lakes. This would be a danger if the highway was raised or crossed by an overpass. It is yet to be considered by SMC.

Together with successful applicants from those who attended the three workshops SMC continues to analyse workshop feedback. An ultimate Public Environmental Review to include a "preferred design" will be submitted to the Environmental Protection Authority and Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts. Early in 2011 there will be a further twelve week period for public comment.

Anyone wishing to know more or to contact SMC should visit their website www.southmetroconnect.com.au

NATIONAL REGOGNITION FOR LOCAL BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION EFFORTS

Western Australian Local Government Associations' Perth Biodiversity Project and South West Biodiversity Project were announced as Category winners of 2010 World Environment Day Awards on 4th June at an Awards Presentation Dinner held at the Grand Hyatt in Melbourne. This national awards program is organized annually by the United Nations Association of Australia (Victoria Office).

Awards were presented in 14 categories and the new Department of Sustainability and Environment Biodiversity Award went to the Western Australian Local Government Association for the Perth Biodiversity Project and the South West Biodiversity Project.

The Award acknowledges the continuous effort in assisting Local Government in the internationally recognized hotspot for biodiversity conservation to conserve biodiversity locally.

UNAA's judges commented on these projects as 'hav (ing) demonstrated how local governments can strategically and systematically build biodiversity conservation into their vital roles as managers of land and as statutory planners of land use. The projects provide an innovative and effective approach that could have widespread application throughout Australia.'

FIGHT FOR UNDERWOOD AVENUE BUSHLAND STILL ON

By Margaret Owen

The protracted fight to save Underwood Avenue Bushland continues, as further Kafkaesque nightmarish events continue to happen.

The UWA proposal for housing needs approval from Local Government, State Government and Federal Government. It was a wonderful evening on December 15th 2009 when the City of Nedlands councillors voted that it did not agree that the proposal for Lot 4 Underwood Avenue may be implemented.....” Councillors were reminded that their preferred option was that the bushland remain as bushland.

After this decision which was conveyed to the Appeals Convenor, the Vice-chancellor of the UWA, Alan Robson, requested a private meeting with councillors to ‘share information’ and to ask councillors to rescind the previous decision. Councillors were presented with a power point show and they received a confidential package.

Because of the lack of agreement caused by this decision of the City of Nedlands’ councillors, the state Minister for the Environment appointed an Appeals Committee, under s 45 of the EPAct, to consider the lack of agreement and to make a recommendation of the Minister for the Environment who would be bound by that recommendation. The Appeals Committee also had to consider the matter of the Carnaby’s cockatoos.

This committee is now in abeyance however, because at the council meeting of 26 April, the City of Nedlands councillors changed their minds after the Vice-chancellor’s private address. The circumstances of this change of mind were most odd and mystery surrounds both the reason for the change and the way the motion was presented and passed.

This is what happened as far as we are able to fathom it. At a committee meeting (not a council meeting) Councillor Binks put forward a notice of motion to revoke the previous motion. Most residents only became aware of this through the local newspaper, the Post, on the Friday before a long weekend and the motion was to be put the following Tuesday night. However legal opinion was sought by some councillors and it was advised that while it was not possible for the Council to revoke the earlier resolution, because it had already been acted upon, it was possible for the Council to form a different view based on new information. Not all councillors knew of this advice.

One councillor flew from China to vote on this matter and two other matters close to his heart and then returned to China. This was a 16,000km round trip.

At the meeting of 26 April, the councillors were passionately and courageously addressed for three minutes by Mrs Ruth Reid, a Nedlands ratepayer, who urged councillors to save the bushland for future generations and to think very carefully about the decision they were about to make. Councillor Binks voted that Margaret Owen not be heard but he was a lone hand and she addressed councillors.

Council business got underway but then the councillor who

had flown from China, Cr Hodsdon, requested that item 14.3 (Underwood) be brought forward. From then on it was a smooth, slick and seemingly orchestrated and calculated sequence of events. Cr Binks said he wanted to change the motion. No longer was the motion to rescind the previous motion, but the motion was that due to new information and considering the matter further, the Council no longer held the same view and it generally supported the UWA proposal subject to conditions. Councillor Binks read out numerous pages supplied by UWA, and another councillor added pages relating to changes to conditions. The vote was put and passed without councillors against the motion having a chance to speak. A member in the audience, enraged, shouted out; Where is the transparency in this? This is outrageous, shameful – shame on you councillors.” She was asked to leave the chamber.



Photo by M Owen

Because of outrage over the manner in which the council had acted, (and there is now legal opinion that proper procedures had not been followed and preventing debate had been improper), a public meeting was called by the Nedlands Electors Association. This was attended by 115 people and Mary Gray, president of the Urban Bushland Council was one of the speakers.

It has been a long fight to protect this wonderful bushland and still it continues. There is no proposal before the Federal Government as the UWA decision makers wish to have approval from the state and local government first.

Carnaby’s cockatoos roost nearby and go into the bushland on some mornings, spending a lot of time investigating the hollows in the big dead tuart trees. This evidence is all new and has been given to the state Minister for the Environment and to the federal Department of Environment Water and Heritage.

Sleepy time for a cockatoo on a lovely winter's sunny day.

It was one of those wonderful winter mornings with not only the bush in Underwood Avenue Bushland, but the sun warming the cockles of your heart.

The gorgeous hovea and hibbertia and two species of banksia are flowering.

Suddenly I heard the familiar call of cockatoos and three cockatoos flew into the bushland just near me. Looking through binoculars I could see one cockatoo take a leaf from the *Banksia menziesii* and take a delicate bite out of the edge of it as if it were an apple. He continued to bite and eat the leaf, taking small pieces down the edge of the leaf and not going into the middle vein. I found this quite surprising.

A female cockatoo landed in another *Banksia menziesii* only six metres from me. She settled down onto her feet and there before her was food within reach. She was picking the very small and curled new leaves one at a time to eat.

After grooming her feathers she started to have what looked like a seniors moment. Or was she a young bird who needed her morning nap? Her head went nod, nod and she started to doze in the sun. By this time she had sat there for forty-five minutes so I left her. Life is hazardous for cockatoos but this was an enjoyable time for her.



Photo by M Owen

Cockatoos in Underwood Avenue Bushland on a Sunday morning

As we venture out in the morning to get the paper, return to have our usually rushed breakfast, clean our teeth and then set out for the day, we may not be aware that high up in the tree tops at their roosting sites, cockatoos are preparing to start their day too.

Just west of Underwood Avenue Bushland around 300 cockatoos sleep high in the trees at the corners of Underwood Avenue and Brockway Road.

Last Sunday morning, silence reigned until 6.26am but then the start of a 'purring' contact noise could be heard if you were there under the trees. This soft sound was followed soon after by the alarm clock-like 'weeeeloo' calls.

A taxi goes by below, the driver perhaps just heading home. Above, a cockatoo nips off a twiglet of leaves, which falls to the ground. Cockatoos start flying between

trees; some fly to the south-west corner trees and others fly from the south-west corner trees. Some seem to have taken a dose of madness as they screech around tilting to the right and then the left.

As cyclists wheel through in the barely light morning, cockatoos erupt from the trees and head off to the west, or to the north-east or to the east. This sudden departure is a spectacular sight.

Last Sunday the group flew east over the glass-houses and into Underwood Avenue Bushland. They landed in banksia



Photo by M Owen

trees and on the branches of the tall dead tuart trees near the top of the ridge. Cockatoos favour these tuart perches, perhaps because they get a good view. Many chew at the wood with their beaks and some investigate tree hollows.

Slowly the cockatoos moved through the bushland, flying from perch to perch and calling. After several hours they had moved right across the bushland and flew off to the north-east.

At that time, many of Perth's people were looking forward to the afternoon's footy.

I was told by Ron Johnstone, Curator of Ornithology at the WA Museum, that if we lose this flock of cockatoos in the western suburbs through clearing our banksia, jarrah and tuart woodlands we will never have cockatoos back in the area. Cockatoos need all the food resources available to them and they range over the whole of Underwood Avenue Bushland.

Shelducks in Underwood Avenue Bushland.

"What does the duck say? Quack, quack, quack?" Well not these little black ducks.

The call of the male Shelduck or Mountain Duck is described by Graham Pizzey, (A Field Guide to the Birds of Australia) as a "strange deep zizzing grunt" and that of the female as "higher pitched resounding 'ong gank, ong gank' or strident 'ow ow ow ow'"

It was these strange noises which attracted me to find their source. Five Shelducks were sitting on this very tall tuart in the bushland they call home. We usually see these birds at lakes but they nest in hollow trees, breeding from June to November. I believe that only two days after hatching, the young have to fall from the nest to the ground and then

walk led by both parents to the water. This is an extremely perilous journey.

Underwood Avenue Bushland is the nesting home of these birds. The ones with the white ring around their eyes are the females.



Photo by M Owen

PERENNIAL VELDT GRASS (*Ehrharta calycina*)

By Julia Cullity

Perennial veldt grass (*Ehrharta calycina*) is a serious environmental weed of Perth's bushland capable of invading good condition vegetation, competing with and displacing native plants and disrupting fire ecology.

A native of southern Africa, perennial veldt was introduced to Australia as a

pasture grass but was of limited use for agriculture. During the past century it has naturalised and become widespread in southern Australia and is also a threat to natural areas in the USA, Chile and New Zealand.

Description and biology

Perennial veldt is a long-lived clumping perennial grass 30–70 cm high with short rhizomes and purple-red flowers held above the leaves. It grows actively through the winter and dies back and becomes dormant over the dry summer months. Perennial veldt reproduces from seed and is a prolific seeder that accumulates a large soil seed bank. The seeds persist in the soil for less than five years. Germination occurs in response to seasonal rainfall with the majority of germination concentrated in early winter (June). Adult plants begin to flower in late winter (mid-August) and seed is normally set by late spring (November). Work in Kings Park has shown that seedlings produce very few seed in their first year but go on to produce prolific seed in subsequent years.

Confusing species

Two other grass species could be mistaken for perennial veldt. Weeping grass (*Microleana stipoides*) is a native grass, distinguished from perennial veldt by a more prostrate, spreading habit, wirier stems, deeper-green leaves and a weeping and differently-shaped inflorescence. Annual veldt grass (*Ehrharta longiflora*) is distinguished from perennial veldt by its annual life history, less erect habit, brighter lime-green leaves and larger florets with long awns.



Illustration L. Sandiford

Ecological impacts

Perennial veldt has been listed in *Swan Environmental Weed Assessment 2008* as one of the top 30 priority environmental weeds in the Swan catchment due to its distribution, invasiveness and ecological impacts.

While it is capable of invading intact bushland, disturbance (particularly fire) aids its spread. Perennial veldt responds well to the extra nutrients and open conditions after fire and it not only has the ability to resprout, but germinates rapidly compared to native species, leading to early dominance. The dense, dry, fine fuels of the grass invasion then promotes more frequent fires which in turn favour the regeneration of weedy grasses over native shrubs, herbs and grasses. In time this can lead to almost monocultures of perennial veldt in the understorey of our banksia and eucalypt woodlands.

Management

With an ability to establish a persistent soil seed bank, a successful control program for perennial veldt will require an annual treatment over successive years. For small infestations cut out plants ensuring crown removal, at any time of year. For widespread populations spot spray the grass selective herbicide Fusilade Forte® at 3.3-6.6 L/ha (13 ml/L) in winter on actively growing plants prior to the sending up of flower stalks (usually June to early August). It is important to spray regrowth and seedlings following unplanned fires to reduce further spread.

More information

Dixon B. (1999) Best Management Practices for the Control of the Perennial Veldt Grass *Ehrharta calycina* In: *Managing Our Bushland* K. Tullis (ed) p147-149. Urban Bushland Council, Perth.

Florabase <http://florabase.dec.wa.gov.au>

Keighery, G.J. & Bettink, K.A. (2008) *Environmental weed census and prioritisation summary for the Swan NRM Region 2008 & Environmental Weed Assessment 2008*, Swan Catchment Council and DEC visit

www.dec.wa.gov.au/content/view/3582/2024/

Reprinted with thanks from *Bushland News, Urban Nature Program, DEC*



Photo by J Cullity

If left unmanaged, perennial veldt grass can out compete native plants and dominate the understorey.

TO FENCE OR NOT TO FENCE.....

By Colma Keating

Canning River Residents Environment Protection Association (CRREPA)

Many people, both CRREPA members and non-members have raised concerns about the fencing of areas of the foreshore.

CRREPA supports the use of temporary fencing by the City of Canning that allows areas to regenerate free from the added pressures of people, pets and watercraft.

Along the foreshore between Bullcreek and Shelley Bridge, sites where fences have now been removed (see photos) after fulfilling their important role in stabilisation and rehabilitation include:

- ✦ Corinthian Road 1995, removed pre 2003
- ✦ opposite 183-187 Riverton Drive 1996, removed pre 2004
- ✦ opposite Rob Bruce Park 1996, removed pre 2004
- ✦ Beryl Avenue 1996, removed 2009
- ✦ Linkwater (East) 1996, removed pre 2000.



Photo by D Matthews

Above: 1995 – Corinthian Road, Shelley
Below: 2003 – Corinthian Road, Shelley



Photo by D Matthews



Photo by D Matthews

1996 – opposite 183-187 Riverton Drive, Shelley



Photo by C Keating

2009 – opposite 183-187 Riverton Drive, Shelley



Photo by D Matthews

1996 - Beryl Avenue, Shelley



Photo by C Keating

2009 - Beryl Avenue, Shelley

Wire has been removed. The posts are being retained as a way to demark the beach area.



Photo by D Matthews

1996 – Linkwater (East), Shelley



Photo by C Keating

2006 – Linkwater (East), Shelley

CRREPA also requested the ‘guiding’ fencing along Bull Creek because of the increasing damage caused by boat users accessing their moorings as well as fishers. This low, ranch style fencing has been designed to be less intrusive, whilst guiding foreshore users to access points. It is more costly and the City is monitoring its effectiveness and durability.



2008 – Bullcreek – ranch style guiding fencing

More recently CRREPA requested temporary fencing opposite 133-137 and Second Avenue because of ongoing damage to this steep embankment (Refer CRREPA News # 31) where significant and ongoing CRREPA, Lions Club of Booragoon and City of Canning Bushcrew rehabilitation work has been focussed. Whilst the bulky fencing was not what we hoped for, once they have done their job, they will also be removed and we are most grateful for their service.



Photo by C Keating

2010 – Second Ave, Rossmoyne

2010 DIG DIEABACK INFORMATION GROUP CONFERENCE

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BUSH FOREVER IMPLEMENTATION IN A NUTSHELL

Bush Forever is a whole of government plan designed to identify, protect and manage regionally significant bushland. It seeks to protect an additional 17,800 hectares to be added to the 33,400 hectares already protected to some degree. This represents a total of 18% of the original vegetation on the Swan Coastal Plain portion of the Perth Metropolitan Region.

There are 287 Bush Forever sites representing the target of at least 10% of each of the 26 vegetation complexes on the Swan Coastal Plain portion of the Perth Metropolitan Region. Vegetation complexes with the lowest percentage of area within Parks and Recreation reserves are those that will not achieve the minimum 10% target after full implementation of Bush Forever (See Table 4 in Vol 1). They are Dardanup, Coonambidgee, Regan, Serpentine River, Guildford, Beermulah, Bassendean Central & South, Forrestfield and Yanga vegetation complexes. In 3 of these complexes there was more than 10% remaining in 2000, but we do not know how much has been cleared since then.

In December 2000 the Liberal government 'presented and endorsed *Bush Forever* to the people of WA as a policy position to guide future decision-making and to protect and manage Bush Forever sites...' There are lots of very good statements about the virtues of Bush Forever in the Ministers' Foreword, the Vision and Summary (p v-ix Bush Forever Vol 1 Dec 2000). Also the Policy Statement including Actions (*Ibid* p xiii-xvi) is vitally important.

Notably there are 15 actions to be implemented over the 10 year period from 2000 to 2010 and progress on many is very limited and for some nothing has been achieved.

A fundamental issue is that insufficient funding has been allocated to Bush Forever - both for securing sites and for administration of the implementation process and management of sites

In early 2001 there was a change of government and Labor made a pre-election commitment to implement Bush Forever. State Cabinet endorsed Bush Forever and the process of implementation continued.

The Liberal Government allocated new funding to establish a Bush Forever office with four staff including an ecologist in DPI. All land holders of Bush Forever sites were contacted and there was a periodic newsletter produced for 3 or 4 years. The technical inter-agency working group met regularly to progress detailed administration of sites where necessary.

There was also a Bush Forever Advisory Group on which the UBC was represented by Mary Gray. The group was chaired by the WAPC Chairman and included representatives from the UDIA, the resource industry (sand and road metal sector), the community, local government, a land valuer (in the interests of private landholders), with support from DEP, DPI and the Bush Forever Office. Af-

ter about 3 years the Group was disbanded by the Chairman of the WAPC.

In August 2004 the major Metropolitan Region Scheme Amendment for Bush Forever and related lands (MRS Amendment 1082/33) was released for public comment for 3 months. At the same time a draft Statement of Planning Policy 'Bushland Policy for the Perth Metropolitan Region' (SPP no 2.8) was released for comment.

In June 2005 (or perhaps it was 2006) the WAPC voted to remove the provisions for ***Bush Forever Protection Areas*** as Special Control Areas in the MRS Amendment to the text and MRS maps. Thus the proposed provision of statutory protection over all Bush Forever sites was lost.



79% of the vegetated land area within Bush Forever was proposed in the Amendment to be reserved for Parks and Recreation, leaving over 6600 ha of Government owned sites without security. Out of 55 Bush Forever sites (covering 13,200 ha) owned by government agencies, only 14 and parts of another 5 sites are being proposed for rezoning. Until the recent announcement, we did not know what changes have been made to the proposed rezoning of government sites. However, we still do not know what the outcomes are of negotiations with agencies over the 36 sites not proposed for rezoning.

Failure by Government to allocate adequate operational funds for management of Bush Forever sites by DEC is alarming. There is no additional budget allocation this financial year for the new lands being added to Bush Forever and existing Regional Parks do not have enough funds for proper management.

Group News Group News Group News

NATURE RESERVES PRESERVATION GROUP 20 YEARS OF LOCAL ACTION

In recognition of this milestone, Tony Fowler, a founding member and long standing office bearer and past President, compiled a short history of the Group. It is reprinted here with permission.

The Catalyst

In mid 1989 the Kalamunda Shire proposed selling off 40-or-so bush reserves for housing, and purchasing an equivalent area of land for four large recreation reserves. This was to become known as Scheme 13. Letters of opposition to the Scheme appeared in the local press and local Lesmurdie resident Bill King requested those opposed to the Scheme contact him.

The Beginning

On 16 June a meeting was held at Bill King's house to prepare strategy, including six motions to be put, for a proposed Special Meeting of Electors.

On the 21st August the inaugural meeting of 'NRPG' was held at Bill King's house. Bill was elected Convenor, Tony Fowler Deputy. Councillors Clyde Bevan and Dennis Hardwood offered to liaise with the Council and advise on procedural matters. CSIRO research botanist John Marshall offered his services in an advisory capacity. The decision was made to form Nature Reserves Preservation Group and to call a Special Meeting of Electors. The NRPG collected 740 signatures of those opposing Scheme 13.

A survey of Scheme 13 reserves, compiled by John Marshall, was published on 18th September 1989.

The Action

On a wet, windy night of 27th September 1989 close to 1000 residents attended the Special Meeting of Electors. The council hall was full and people were outside on the verandah. At the meeting, six motions were proposed that led to Shire actions including the appointment of the Shire's first environmental officer, the formation of what is now CESAC, and a 1990 Shire Strategic Plan having as Corporate Goal 3 'To be environmentally sensitive and encourage the retention and rejuvenation of our environment.'

The Outcomes

On 16th November 1989 the Kalamunda Shire CEO invited six NRPG nominees to a special meeting of Shire Planning and Building Services Committee to be held on 29th November '...to consider options for treatment of local public open space areas in the Shire.'

This was followed by a meeting on 17th May 1990 with Shire staff to discuss Strategic Plan Goal No 3 objectives (the environment). In June, the NRPG requested CEO Kelly allot \$50,000 in 1990/91 budget for an Environmental Officer and as a result, in July 1990 the Shire advertised in the employment pages of the West Australian.

Consolidation

In September 1990 the NRPG organized a Logo Competition for 12-17 year olds. The winner was Andrew Hutchison (14) from Bickley. The logo remains on our letterhead and can be seen on a bus shelter on Canning Road.

In October 1990, the Shire invited nominations from the NRPG for membership of the Nature Reserves Advisory Committee (NRAC). In early 1991, NRAC was re-named Bush Reserves Advisory Committee (CEAC) and, more recently, the Community Environmental and Sustainability Advisory Committee (CESAC).

In 1993 the NRPG was finally incorporated.

Ongoing contribution and activity

1994: Input into and submission on the Shire's District Conservation Strategy (DSC) by many members over many hours, finalized 1995.

1994: Submission to the Select Committee on Metropolitan Development and Groundwater Supplies in the Perth Metropolitan Area.

1995 onwards: Battle to preserve natural bushland within the Activ land in High Wycombe.

1996: Reserves database presented to the Shire.

2004: Submission on Kewdale-Hazelmere Region Integrated Master Plan, Swan Coastal Plain Environmental Protection (Swan Coastal Plain Wetlands) Policy and Regulations 2004, MRS Amendment 10000082/33 Bush Forever and Related Lands, Bushland Policy for the Perth Metropolitan Region Statement of Planning Policy No 2.8, Local Government Biodiversity Planning Guidelines for the Perth Metropolitan Region, Perth and Peel 'Dialogue with the City' Strategy.

2005: Submission on BGC brickworks on airport land; 24 page submission on Kalamunda Shire Town Planning Scheme (TPS) 3.

2009: Latest submission on Perth Airport Draft Environmental Strategy 2009/14.

Funding

While funding for the NRPG has been strictly through membership fees and private donations, as an incorporated body the committee and members have successfully applied for many environmental grants available for projects conducted by affiliated Friends Groups. From 1996 to the present time, the NRPG has attracted \$70,899 in funding for environmental projects within the Shire of Kalamunda.

Upcoming Events

Spring Festival - 6 September 10 am - 4 pm

At Jorgensen Park, Kalamunda.

All welcome.

Group News Group News Group News

Friends of Lake Gwelup

Friends of Lake Gwelup will be having two Bushcare Days this year, on Sunday 22 August and Sunday 19 September, between 9am and 12noon. We will be undertaking weeding and general cleanup activities. A Community Information Morning Tea will also be held on Saturday 16 October, in conjunction with the monthly morning walk, which sets off at 8am. At around 10am morning tea will be provided for walkers and the local community, with several nearby environment groups to be invited to participate. All activities leave from the carpark adjacent to the scout hall, in Huntriss Rd Lake Gwelup.

Friends of Star Swamp Bushland

The 25th Anniversary year has been very successful so far, with over 400 people attending the 25th weekend. The next major event will be the annual Spring Wildflower Walk on Sunday 22 August, at 2pm. An exhibition of paintings by Year 4 students will also be on display between 1pm and 5pm on the day. This exhibition is the result of a Wildflower Painting Competition organised by the northern suburbs branch of the Wildflower Society. These activities are at, or leave from, the Henderson Environment Centre, Groat St North Beach.

Christine Curry

Friends of North Ocean Reef – Iluka Foreshore

City of Joondalup planning to clear bush within Bush Forever 325 at Iluka

The community has learned this week that the City of Joondalup is planning an extensive program of coastal path widening at Iluka, involving clearing a strip of bushland between 1 and 5 metres wide, alongside the dual-use pedestrian and bicycle path. The reasons given are that the bitumen path is less than the Australian standard of 3.5 m wide, and that there are safety issues between cyclists and pedestrians.

However, the environmental value of the bushland to be cleared is extremely high, and the clearing would violate rules to protect Rare and Endangered Fauna, Declared Rare Flora, Priority Ecological Communities, and would remove a 2 to 3 metre-wide strip of a community revegetation project. The clearing would remove part of a Graceful Sun Moth habitat of *Lomandra maritima*, in which Graceful Sun Moths (*Synemon gratioiosa*) have been recorded in 2010. The proposed clearing would also remove a 4 to 5 metre-wide strip of a steep vegetated dune face, whilst retaining a cleared grassed park on the other side of the path – thus suggesting that planted Kikuyu grass has a higher priority in the City of Joondalup's environmental management plan, than natural vegetation. Part of the project of the community Friends of North Ocean Reef – Iluka, a revegetated dune face, would be cleared. Work on this dune commenced in 2005, with an Envirofund grant, and is currently continuing with a Community Grant from the Minister for the Environment. As recently as two weeks

ago, the Friends group spent grant funds on a contractor, to hand weed Sea Spinach out of the established plantings, in an area now announced to be cleared for path widening. All this volunteer and contractor work will be completely wasted if the planned clearing goes ahead.



Photo by M. Apthorpe
Dune under threat from a new proposal to widen access tracks in a foreshore reserve, above shown in 2005 when rehabilitation works by volunteers commenced and below as it looks now.



Based on the secrecy and lack of consultation thus far in the year-long planning process, the local Friends Group feels little confidence in the assurances that the City of Joondalup will consult with coast care representatives at the detailed design stage, as the clearing plan is already detailed in plans to be put before Council on 22nd June.

A clearing permit is pending with Department of Environment, awaiting the City of Joondalup's survey for documented Declared Rare Flora, which cannot be carried out before September.

This strip of coastal vegetation in Bush Forever Site 325 is one of the highest quality and most diverse limestone heathlands and dune complexes in the Perth metropolitan area. It will be yet another blot on the City of Joondalup's record if still more of this Cottesloe Central and South vegetation is cleared, so that the pine fencing on each side of the path can be "maintained", and the path realigned to improve cycling speeds. The clearing of bush behind the pine fencing has already created a weed super-highway for invasive weeds, and the current plan envisages an even wider weed corridor beside the path, and the destruction of still more bush.

Marjorie Apthorpe

Group News Group News Group News

Friends of Hollywood Bushland

The current weather forecast is for almost of month of rain - that we should be so lucky but always hopeful. We planted over 180 plants at our last working bee and have as many to plant at our next working bee on Sunday 13th June. The usual time of 9 am to midday with our break for morning tea at 10.30 am.

Many of you may have noted that it is (or was) National Volunteer Week. Unfortunately we do not qualify as volunteers and I quote from a note from the Council "At this time I can not invite the Bush Care volunteers due to past Procedures & Guidelines." If we are not volunteers who save the council quite a large sum of money over the years, I am not sure what we are. However, perhaps to say thanks to our very hard working folks, we will put on an extra special morning tea.

We are also hoping to put some flyers round all the streets in the neighbourhood in an effort to attract some new members. Brenda Winning and her daughter Ali have created some very lovely flyers and Ali (aged 11) is busy working on a web page for us. You will have seen Ali's letter to the Post encouraging the young to join up - our thanks to Ali - we need all the publicity we can get.

The Reserve is slowly recovering and there are some flowers out. Greenhoods have popped out a few leaves, always the first of the orchids to show themselves.

The school is keen to plant again this year and have decided on Friday June 25th. Those of you who can help supervise, please make a note in your diaries, we need friends to help supervise. It is exhausting, but satisfying and the children seem to really enjoy it. We aim to plant in the same area as last year, infilling.

A few dead rabbits have been seen in the Reserve and in the Cemetery. We are not sure if they have been poisoned or it is something else, but owners of dogs should be aware if they let their dogs off the lead.

Friends held a planting day on the 13th June.

Trish Hewson

Friends of Paganoni

CHUDITCH AT PAGANONI SWAMP RESERVE

It has been a pretty exciting time for members of Friends of Paganoni Swamp over the past couple of months. In May, a chuditch and phascogale were found in traps set by Dr Brian Chambers, PhD students Valentina Mella and Paul Chachelle and Associate Professor Roberta Bencini, with the help of undergraduate students, all from the University of Western Australia. Members of the Friends group were also present. It is only the second live chuditch recorded on the Swan Coastal Plain in the past twenty years so we thought it was a pretty impressive find. Both the chuditch and phascogale are threatened. As well, there have been at least two recent confirmed sightings of the Western Yellow Robin, a species also in decline on the Swan Coastal Plain.



Photo by L. Stubbs

The chuditch was trapped within 200 metres of the area proposed for rezoning in the draft Southern Metropolitan and Peel Sub-Regional Structure Plan. This species requires large areas of protected habitat for survival so any reduction in the size of the Reserve puts it at risk. It illustrates how important it is to take a precautionary approach to planning: any proposal to rezone quality bushland currently managed for conservation should be rejected at an early stage in the planning process.

For more information please contact Leonie Stubbs of Friends of Paganoni Swamp on 0439 921 298 or email FoP@westnet.com.au

Leonie Stubbs

Friend of Cockburn Wetlands Education Centre HOW IS IT AT BIBRA LAKE?

The water levels are still very low but the narrow water channel on the western side of the lake is widening. A lot of Bibra Lake and also North Lake appear as expanses of open space covered by low brown vegetation but are probably very soggy underfoot.

We need lots of rain to raise the watertable to cover the entire lake beds with water. Waterbird numbers are increasing with lots of Pacific Black Ducks, Grey Teal and Australian Ibis. Hardhead are very recent arrivals. Our summer itinerant visitor from the north, a Rajah Shelduck, is still around & seems to have formed some attachment with two Mountain Ducks. They seem to co-exist happily!

Patricia Smith

Friends of Yellagonga

Preservation of the long necked turtle has become a priority for Friends of Yellagonga due to a strong commitment by Kevin McLeod. We commissioned Dr Jacqui Giles to undertake a study of these creatures in Lake Joondalup and Lake Goolelal to estimate the present population and age range. This provides a base-line against which future studies can be measured. Members assisted by paddling Jacqui's canoe and in other ways. Jacqui is to provide training for members so we can continue the work.

(Continued on page 14)

Group News Group News Group News

(Continued from page 13)

Fox control: foxes are the worst predators the turtles face, digging up nests and eating the eggs. We were successful in lobbying the Cities of Joondalup and Wanneroo, also DEC, to initiate a fox eradication program. This resulted in the trapping of 13 foxes, and that program will be ongoing. FOY members will be placing steel mesh barriers over nesting sites this breeding season as the fox menace is still present.

Christmas Day bushfire: A deliberately lit fire on Christmas Day devastated a few hectares of Yellagonga Regional Park between Hocking Road and Lake Goollelal. We have been revegetating the damaged area with some success. A major planting exercise was held on 26 June when FOY were joined by staff from DEC. Workers were rewarded with a sausage sizzle.

Graham Sinclair

Friends of Shenton Bushland

After the storm that swept through Perth on 22nd March, bushland looked like a bushfire had gone through due to stripped trees and dead foliage caused by hail damage. Three months later life is returning to the bushland as a observed by ECU researchers doing bird banding in the reserve. They found many bird species returning as trees are producing new leaves to replace the damages and removed foliage. While Jarrah began to produce leaves soon after the storm, Allocasuarinas have been the slowest to regenerate.

The Bush to Beach Walk 2010 will be held on 12 September. More details will be available closer to date. For more information contact Dani on 9381 3470.

Adapted with thanks from Shenton Bushland Newsletter No 76 June 2010.

Friends of Trigg Bushland reported an unusual sighting in Trigg Bushland. In January 2010, Nigel Jacket spotted a rare bird that was not on the bird list for Trigg bushland. The Australian Owllet Nigtjar is a small owl-like bird with very large eyes, especially relative to its small head and body. While widespread, it is a rare species in the Trigg bushland area. It is very secretive, hiding and breeding in tree hollows. It has a very peculiar call that can be heard at <http://birdsinbackyards.net/species/Aegotheles-cristatus>.

Friends of Trigg Bushland organise weeding days on first Sunday of each month, starting at 9 am. To confirm meeting place, contact the Friends Group on 93499 9105. Guided walks are held on the fifth Saturday of the month. Next walk will be held on 31 July, meeting at 8 am on the south side of St Mary's Anglican School. Tuart mapping sessions are held on Monday afternoons. No experience is necessary and all survey equipment will be provided. For further details contact the Friends Group.

Barbara Alcock, member of the Friends of Trigg Bushland is keen to encourage kids spending more time in their local bushland. She says, "Today, things are a lot different

for children; there does not seem to be so much bush, Friends Groups do not like new 'goat tracks' being created. And Councils pull out tree houses! What a pity that developers can't leave one empty block of land in each development so kids can climb trees, ride bikes and generally explore without adults having to direct play. Did you know that climbing playground equipment does not offer a child's body the same sensory challenge? Rungs that are evenly spaced offer children no opportunities to work their bodies in space and sensory perceptions the way unevenly spaced tree branches develop children's spatial awareness."

According to www.childrenandnature.org, children exposed to frequent and varied opportunities for free and unstructured play in the outdoors are smarter, cooperative, happier and healthier.

Therefore, Barbara is keen to encourage children to explore the bush and is offering her time to share ideas on how it could be done. Anyone interested can contact her on petara@iinet.net.au.

Adapted with thanks from Friends of Trigg Bushland Newsletter June 2010.

Friends of Lake Gwelup Events Calendar

2010 Fungi Survey - Saturday 17th July
(by RSVP only)

Guided Walks

Saturdays 17 July, 21 August, 18 September
9.30 am

Walks may take more than an hour. Adequate footwear and clothing is a requirement. Meet at the Scout Hall off Huntriss Road, Karrinyup.

Bush Care Day

Sunday 22 August 8-11 am

For more information go to www.friendsoflakegwelup.org or contact Christine on 0430 013 364.

Friends of Warwick Bushland Events Calendar

Sunday 18 July - Bush regeneration, fungi spotting
Sunday 15 August - Nature walk & bush regeneration
Sunday 15 September - Bush regeneration.

Meet at 9 am at the Bowling and Tennis Club car park,
Lloyd Drive, Warwick.

Contact: Janina Pezzarini ph 0431 665 138

SAVING HEPBURN HEIGHTS BUSHLAND

A quality publication covering the history of the area and the campaign to save the bushland from development. Copies available from Alan Lloyd ph 9401 6652 or email to lloydfamily31@optusnet.com.au. Price: \$30 or \$33 (including postage)

All money raised by the sale will be used for projects associated with bushland management.

Joan Payne honoured

Past President and co-founding member of the Waterbird Conservation Group, Joan Payne has been recognised as a Member of the Order of Australia for her service to the protection and conservation of wetland bird species and the urban bushland environment in Western Australia.



The Order of Australia is an order of chivalry established by Elizabeth II, Queen of Australia in 1975 "for the purpose of according recognition to Australian citizens and other persons for achievement or for meritorious service".

Joan cofounded the Waterbird Conservation Group (Group) after an outbreak of botulism at Thomsons' Lake in Munster in January 1984 caused hundreds of waterbirds to be sick and dying. Volunteers, including Joan, took the sick birds back to their homes and turned their bathrooms and laundries into bird hospitals.

President of the Group for nearly 20 years, Joan was actively involved in the establishment of the Wetland Trust Fund in 1993 to assist the Group in managing Folly and Maramanup Pools in Baldivis. The Group has actively managed and rehabilitated these wetlands for the past 17 years for the protection of natural vegetation. Joan was a Wetland Trustee for 10 of these years.

Joan coordinated the campaign "Coalition Against Duck Shooting" to ban duck shooting in WA, which after years of campaigning was banned in 1990.

In 2001 Joan received the Bessie Rischbieth Award. This award issued by the Conservation Council of WA is given in honour of a pioneer of the conservation movement in WA, and is awarded annually to an individual volunteer who has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to the Western Australian environment.

Joan has also served on the Executive Committee of the Conservation Council of WA for more than 13 years including holding the position of Vice President for a number of these years.

Through campaigns to protect urban bushland in Perth, Joan was instrumental in the protection of the Brixton Street Wetlands, home to a huge diversity of 320 species of plants. This is now a protected nature reserve managed by the Department of Environment and Conservation and the Friends of Brixton Street Wetlands.

Joan continues to protect the Western Australian environment through her role as an Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) board member. Joan joined the EPA in 2003 and is appointed until 2013.

◇ What's new? ◇ What's new? ◇

PERTH URBAN ECOLOGY SYMPOSIUM 25-27 AUGUST

A forum for presentation and discussion of recent developments in approaches to the management, conservation and restoration of natural ecosystem fragments in urban areas, featuring presentations by eminent international researchers and practitioners.

Registrations close 30 July 2010. For more information go to

<http://www.environment.murdoch.edu.au/groups/ecology/workshop.html>

Australian Network for Plant Conservation Inc (ANCP) 8th National Conference

Planning conservation to achieving restoration: a conference for everyone involved in conserving Australia's unique flora and native vegetation.

28th September to 1st October 2010, Perth WA

For more information and to register visit: <http://www.anbg.gov.au/anpc/index.html>

Western Australian Museum International year of biodiversity



In response to the proclamation of 2010 as the International Year of Biodiversity, the Western Australian Museum has created a series of programs to celebrate the unique biodiversity of Western Australia.

The Harry Butler Lecture Series IN THE WILD WEST

A program of lectures by WA Museum scientists and associates. Lectures are held at various venues in Perth, Geraldton and Albany.

For dates and locations go to:

<http://www.museum.wa.gov.au/whatson/year-of-biodiversity.asp>

(Continued from page 3)

2010, the Year of Biodiversity, I desire to inspire others, as I have been inspired by Lesley Shaw, Mary Gray, Chris Sarti, Sir Robert and all the other Western Australian Bushland Superstars. I don't know everything and being asked a question as I guide a bushwalk is no longer formidable. Thank you for the amazing opportunity!

Support the Urban Bushland Council

Join or renew your membership

Groups:

Membership with voting rights is available to groups committed to the protection of urban bushland for \$35 a year (GST included). A growing membership strengthens the cause and groups benefit from the network.

Individuals:

Supporter membership is only \$25 per year (GST included). Supporters can attend meetings and receive copies of the "Urban Bush Telegraph"

Groups and supporters are reminded that annual membership fees include one printed copy of the *Urban Bush Telegraph* (currently published quarterly). Additional printed copies can be ordered at a cost of \$5.00 per copy per annum.

Send your name, address and cheque or postal order to:

Treasurer, Urban Bushland Council WA Inc, PO Box 326, West Perth WA 6872

Urban Bushland Council Activities

***Bush Forever Forum* on Sunday 11th July 10am - 1pm
at the Old Observatory, National Trust, 2 Havelock St West Perth**
For more details see page 2

City Bush Guides at Whiteman Park

Sunday 1 August 10 am

Sunday 3 September 10 am

Meeting at Visitor Information Centre

City Bush Guides at Port Kennedy

Sunday 3 October

Meeting at beach parking area at the end of Port Kennedy Drive.
Bring some water, morning tea and picnic lunch.

All welcome

UBC PUBLICATIONS

***Wetlands to Wastelands?* - proceedings of a seminar about the future of bushland at Perth Airport (2004)**

Available at UBC's website

<http://members.iinet.net.au/~ubc/html/infosheets.htm>

***Burning Issues*—proceedings of a workshop about fire management in urban bushland. (2002)**

Available from the UBC for \$11, postage included.

***Building Partnerships between Community Groups and Local Government for Our Bushland*—proceedings of a seminar (2000). Available from the UBC for \$5.50, postage included**

***Managing our Bushland* - proceedings of a conference about the protection and management of urban bushland (1998). Available from the UBC for \$11, postage included.**

***Burning our Bushland* - proceedings of a conference about fire and urban bushland (1995). Out of print; available in libraries.**

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

Compiled by: Renata Zelinova

PLEASE SEND CONTRIBUTIONS TO:email

ubc@iinet.net.au

Copy deadline - 15 September 2010

PERTH'S BUSHLAND BIRTHDAY & PERPETUAL CALENDAR

\$15 plus \$2 postage

Available by mail order from the UBC office.

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E-mail: ubc@iinet.net.au

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