

**2013 Planting season at Star Swamp and Ken Hurst Park**



*Photos by J Taylor & E Wajon*

**Inside this issue:**

Stop the Boardwalk campaign success	2
Shenton College bushland	3
Importance of bushland - students perspective	4
Group News	5
2013 Beach Clean Up	11

# Editorial

Leading up to the Federal election the major parties are giving low priority to the environment.

Federal government leadership is desperately needed on a broad range of issues, including ensuring that Australia has a comprehensive, adequate and representative ('CAR') reserve system to balance the increasing extent of mining and land development activities. Bush Forever has this goal.

This is especially important for us here in WA, where the south west is a biodiversity hotspot of world significance, and Perth itself is one of few biodiverse cities of the world. No other city in the world is set in a natural landscape dominated by Banksia woodland. Our species rich woodlands are unique and they are under threat from both insensitive development and climate change.

Recent proposals by federal Labor to remove provisions of the federal Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act - and leave biodiversity protection to State jurisdiction - are alarming. Fortunately COAG did not agree, but watch out for this again with the next federal government whether Labor or Liberal.

Whilst the Labor candidate for Perth, Alannah MacTiernan, has a proven record on public transport and is a strong advocate for scientifically based action on climate change, the Labor Party appears to be stepping back from being proactive on other environmental issues such as biodiversity conservation.

In his prolific postal election material, the Liberal candidate for Perth Darryl Moore, has barely mentioned the environment, and then only with what turns out to be a half-baked and expensive scheme to establish a 'green army' who would be paid to do on-ground work. He is seemingly ignorant of the fact that for decades a number of competent and efficient organisations have been carrying out significant on-ground work programs with skilful volunteers and little cost to the taxpayer. Is a warlike title of an 'army' really appropriate? We in community Friends groups are not fighting our precious bushland, on the contrary we are nurturing and caring for it.

At the State level, it was Richard Court's Liberal government that introduced Bush Forever and made a commitment to fully implement it in 10 years by 2010. The next Labor government continued this process but the Barnett government has seriously curtailed the implementation process in the last four years. The UBC's 'Bush Forever Report Card' gives full details and is available on our website and also in hard copy from our office.

Barnett's most recent act was to cancel the Environmental Community Grants program and to top it off, has also withdrawn the Community Environment Awards program. Our community organisations who work so hard as volunteers on public lands for the public benefit have proven track records in doing on-ground work. In the absence of a massive increase in State funding for land managers to do this on-ground work, this mean move beggars belief. The UBC

calls for a bigger and better Community Bushcare funding program to be immediately introduced by the State Environment Minister. UBC member groups and supporters are strongly encouraged to visit their local State MPs to press for such support.



Photo by K Sarti

Mary Gray, Stephen Hopper, Christina Ramalho and Judith Cullity after Professor Hopper's talk.

On 2nd July, Professor Stephen Hopper spoke on "The loss, conservation and restoration of banksia woodlands and thicket in the Southwest Australian Floristic Region - a review." to a large audience that gathered at the UBC General Meeting. This was a wonderful considered talk full of interest. Stephen said that the biggest threat to Banksias is the urban bulldozer.

## STOP the BOARDWALK Campaign Success

Congratulations to all that supported the now successful campaign to protect the South Trigg Beach Class A Reserve Bush Forever dune reserve from an ugly and environmentally damaging aluminium boardwalk - forever!

Letters will be sent to the Councillors who voted against the boardwalk thanking them for their thoughtful comments at the last Council Meeting and their sensible decision to oppose the boardwalk proposal. Only two councillors voted for the boardwalk. Letters will also go to the many experts and groups who supported our campaign, generously sharing their expertise and their time.

There will be a celebration soon, probably in a couple of weeks. In the meantime, keep an eye on our Facebook page and webpage for up to date news on the South Trigg Beach Reserve: <https://www.facebook.com/SaveTriggBeach>

Thanks to those of you who have sent messages of congratulations, sharing the joy and celebrations - inspiring!

## Shenton College Bushland all but gone

With the year 7 students becoming part of high schools in 2015 we were aware that high schools would have to find new accommodation for them.

Shenton College, on the corner of Lemnos Street and Selby Street, in Daglish, had an area of Banksia, Jarrah and Casuarina bushland on its northern boundary facing Lemnos Street. Shenton Bushland lies to the west of the college and Underwood Avenue Bushland lies to the north west. A major roosting site for Carnaby's cockatoos is 1500 metres away to the north west. Carnaby's cockatoos frequently used the college bushland for foraging after travelling through Underwood Avenue Bushland from their roost site.



The Friends of Shenton Bushland, the Urban Bushland Council and others were concerned for the protection of the bushland at Shenton College. To achieve the best that we could, we wrote letters to the school and had several meetings with the school principal, the architects and the landscape architect.

The new year 7 building is going to be half buried into the landscape and will have earth over the roof which will be planted on the edges. Because of the excavation involved, mountains of soil have been deposited inside the fence along Lemnos Street.

Adjacent to the building was to be an area of retained bushland and adjacent to that, the area was to be prepared for an 'informal play space' with 'play landscapes.' This suggested that students would have a natural area with a minimum of cleared bushland. We were

led to believe that 50% of the bushland would be retained. We had advised the architects that we would like to see the Grass Trees (Balgas) remain in their natural position, rather than being relocated which is time consuming, not always successful and requires much extra watering. A few Banksia and Jarrah have been able to be retained in this area.

The site now looks shocking. The architect has stated that they had to work under the constraints of the school specifications and the 'informal play space' and 'play landscape' concept has not changed. The ground has to be shaped. He stated that there would be no net loss of green space. He added that when the builder starts work, the builder takes ownership of the site. The builder determines the approach albeit with agreements, and the builder's plan was to salvage the grass trees and other native plants and put them in a temporary nursery. Then they can be planted back on site. We had advised against this.

Lemon scented or spotted gums and a huge old dead Jarrah with hollows have been cut down for the entrance road to a carpark. The Jarrah has been cut to protect the hollow and this section will be located on site.

So now we have a very small patch of bushland left untouched in the central area surrounded by desert. Will the remaining few Banksias and Jarrah be able to survive into 2015 and beyond for the benefit of the students?

## A TALE OF TWO COCKATOOS

A Tale of Two Cockatoos is a short movie which in 2 minutes and 40 seconds tells the alarming story of Carnaby's and Baudin's black cockatoos. It has been created to help promote the difficulties these two endangered species face.

<http://cockatoos.treehugger.com.au/>  
Help to spread this tale by sharing the video

## St. Emilie's Woodland

By *Tahlia Satti* – Year 6 *St Emilie's Catholic Primary School*

The St. Emilie's Woodland is closed to eradicate the die-back. Some people believe it should be closed forever, to thrive. But the woodland can be opened for the students and still grow strong. The way is to make sure no more disease is brought in is by disinfecting people's shoes to prevent more diseases from infecting the trees. It is the safest way to care for the bushland.

Firstly, our bushland is the strongest way to still build children's awareness of the ecosystem and the importance it holds for Australia. It needs to be kept strong, but also help students experience the wilderness and is the perfect way to educate students about our landscape's dynamics. Our area is a biodiversity hotspot and it contains more than 1500 animal and plant species but has lost 70%. The bush needs to be protected, but also be open to students to experience the bush. If children continue to be so absorbed in technology, they will not develop an understanding of the woodlands, and would have no interest in looking in from the boundary. If they can safely enter and experience the woodlands, they will care for the area to keep it healthy in the future. It is the best solution.

Also, the plants will not be exposed to anymore disease, or be re-infected with dieback. Do you want to destroy such an influential part of Australian culture? The south west of Western Australia has a huge 'endemic' biodiversity. Our woodland is important to Australian culture, and should not be misused and endangered! The plants can thrive and grow strong, and we will not need to worry about the banksia trees, which are the most likely to be infected by dieback, being killed off. Do not let the woodland be destroyed!



*Photo by C Cooper*

*Tahlia Satti, Year 6 student at the St Emilie's Catholic Primary School bushland.*

In addition, some people question the price of the chemical used to clean shoes, Phytoclean. But is a small amount of money worth our bush area, or being able to see the whole woodland? No, its not. Our woodland can also be used to help calm people, especially when they are stressed, as it can help them relax and breathe in fresh air without the worries of the outside world. We must be able to help people to calm down in the natural and native environment.

Clearly, the best way to help our bushland is to be able to experience and be educated. The best way for our woodland to remain safe is by stopping disease being brought in on our shoes but still being able to enter the area. It is definitely the best solution to save our woodlands.

## City of Stirling Community Hand Weeding Day

In July, the City of Stirling hosted one of several community hand weeding days in bushland at Dianella Regional Open Space (Dianella ROS). Efforts focused on the removal of weeds such as Pelargonium, Nightshade, Carnation Weed, Veldt Grass and Fleabane.

Dianella ROS is a reserve of conservation priority because it is used as a foraging and habitat site by threatened and endangered species such as the Quenda (Southern Brown Bandicoot), Carnaby's Black Cockatoo and Black Red-tailed Cockatoo.



*Photo by J Taylor*



*Photo by J Taylor*

The event was a huge success with the 36 attendees hand pulling approximately 1 tonne of weeds in two hours. Afterwards, participants enjoyed a guided nature walk conducted by David Pike, president of Friends of Star Swamp, followed by a light lunch at the Jim Satchell Community Centre, Dianella where everyone enjoyed an up close encounter with 'Missy', a Black Red-tailed Cockatoo brought along by Trish Brennan from Kaarakin Black Cockatoo Recovery Centre.

# Group News Group News Group News

The Friends of Wireless Hill have an agreement with the City of Melville that the Friends will manage the area of best condition bush land at Wireless Hill (Bush Forever site 336) by hand weeding. This area covers almost 7 hectares and includes the Wildflower Walk with a great diversity of orchids and native herbs. Since 2010 the Friends have paid skilled bush care contractors to assist us with this hand weeding. We have had grants from the Swan Alcoa Landcare Program, the DEC Environmental Community Grants and the Commonwealth Caring for our Country program to undertake this work, generally paying for two workers for six hours (one day) per fortnight.



## FOWH Agreed Weed Management Areas



The area adjoining the Wildflower Walk and the City of Melville Council car park, now being managed by hand weeding by the Friends of Wireless Hill.

Melville has provided almost \$11,000 (including GST) for this project. Having paid professionals to assist our volunteers makes a huge difference to the rate at which we can remove weeds and allow regeneration of the native flora to begin. We are grateful for the support of the City of Melville in this project.

Of course all urban bushland will need to be constantly defended for threats such as weeds, feral animals and arson, but our experience is that once the native plants are able to fill the gaps left by weeding it is difficult for weeds to reinvade. The practice of removing the weeds from the bush rather than leaving them to decompose on the soil is also beneficial in preventing the ready access to nutrients that enhances weed growth.

*Margaret Matthews*

## Friends of Paganoni Swamp

Our Friends group has been busy over the past months. We have undertaken woody weed control, have participated in an informative post-fire workshop organised by Urban Nature, a fungi walk led by the indomitable Phylis Robertson and worked with a number of students from Central TAFE who assisted us in weeding our revegetation site. It's always a joy to work in such a beautiful and diverse patch of bushland.

We were successful in obtaining monies under the West Australian Natural Resource Management Program to control weeds on Paganoni Road's southern road reserve. Managing weed invasion from road reserves can be frustrating so we were very thankful for the grant and are working with SERCUL and the City of Rockingham to find a sustainable long term solution to protect the Paganoni Swamp Reserve.

One of the problems working in such a large reserve has been a limit on the amount of resources in the form of guides that can be carried in our backpacks, etc. To a

The 6.94 ha area the Friends of Wireless Hill have been managing by hand weeding since 2009, which includes the Wildflower Walk.

Recently the City of Melville agreed to extend the no-spray area to include the area between the Wildflower Walk and the Council offices. The Friends will manage this area by hand weeding. This area is valuable as it was the only part of the bushland not totally cleared when the Wireless Station was built in 1912 and still has some reasonably large trees as well as pink fairy orchids which have become scarce in the Park in recent years.

The Friends applied for a grant through the City of Melville's Community Partnership Funding to pay for fortnightly weeding of this area over the next year. We are pleased to hear we have been successful and the City of

*(Continued on page 6)*



large extent this problem has been solved with a bird guide (including bird calls), the Perth fungi guide and our field herbarium able to be loaded onto a member's tablet for easy reference whilst on site. Another advantage in having the field herbarium on hand is that we can quickly check to see if a plant in flower is on our list and if not it can be collected, photographed, its position recorded on a GPS and then scanned into the original document at a later date, thus adding to our store of knowledge.

To join any of our activities please contact Leonie Stubbs on email [FoP@westnet.com.au](mailto:FoP@westnet.com.au) or mobile 0439 921 298.

*Leonie Stubbs*

## FRIENDS OF ELLIS BROOK VALLEY- FREE PRESENTATION 18<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER

Good things have been happening at Ellis Brook Valley recently. A new Gazebo and information display has been built at Waterfall Gully which is at the end of Rush-ton Road in the Valley. Generous funding was provided by Lotterywest. In addition the Gosnells Council has approved a further \$140,000 for a major upgrade to other facilities at the same location.

The Friends Group have partnered the City of Gosnells with the planning and implementation of both of these projects.

The octagonal gazebo is 8 meters from side to side and its rustic construction enables it to fit harmoniously



into the bushland setting. It provides shelter and a focal point for visitors and also contains 8 large information panels. These include maps, information on the various walks and pictures of some of the plants and animals that may be encountered. Most of the material and the art-work for the information panels was supplied by the Friends Group.

The upcoming upgrade of the surrounding facilities will include a new and rationalized road and car parks. Also the adjacent brook side areas will be revegetated and landscaping and paths added. More picnic tables will be provided. The Friends Group will be active with much of the planting and finishing work.

The Friends of Ellis Brook Valley are aware that Ellis Brook Valley is not as widely know about as it should be despite its wonderful scenery and stunning wild flowers. We are therefore hosting a free presentation evening called *Beautiful Ellis Brook Valley Now and the Future*. We will show some of the superb scenery and the amazing wildflowers. There will be a discussion about the current and future issues. **The presentation is on Wednesday the 18th September at 7.00 pm at the Lyle Richardson Hall, Agonis Function Centre, 2232 Albany Highway Gosnells.** All welcome.

*John Bowler*

## Foxes in Underwood Avenue Bushland.

Although probably some Carnaby's cockatoos have flown the long flight to the wheatbelt for the breeding season, by early August there were still a few hundred around in the western suburbs. Some may stay to breed in Underwood Avenue Bushland. They have certainly been investigating hollows in the bushland.

After roosting each night Carnaby's cockatoos wake and get ready to leave their roost site by around 7am.

On many occasions the flock flies east from the roost site into Underwood Avenue Bushland.

When a large number of Carnaby's are in the bushland the noise and activity are remarkable. One morning, amid all this excitement, a strange noise was heard. Looking from the trees to the ground I saw a fox about eight metres away. The excitement of having so many large noisy birds around was more powerful than the fox's need to be hidden. The strange noise was the bark of the fox. I heard this bark twice more and a fox was seen once more.

Foxes have been and continue to be a menace. They are in the bushland every night and day killing what they can. Every year they eat the rainbow bee-eater chicks by digging into the tunnels. This, as well as the proliferation of weeds is very distressing.

Underwood Avenue Bushland is a Bush Forever site. The

# Group News Group News Group News



Photo by M Owen

University of Western Australia asserts that the housing development will proceed and that the University does not have to manage the bushland for foxes or weeds until the 'residential estate' proposal is approved.

The Vice-chancellor Professor Paul Johnson has written to the Friends of Underwood Avenue Bushland (12 September 2012) stating that:  
"The University believes its proposal to develop a residential estate on the north-eastern corner of the land [Underwood Avenue Bushland] is an appropriate compromise between retaining bushland, protecting the feeding habitat of Carnaby's Cockatoos; providing for homes in an area where all services are available (including transport and education); enabling sustainable develop-



Photo by M Owen

ment of the city to the [sic] support the increasing population; and allowing the University to meet the needs of local, national, and international communities."

A letter, 31 May 2013, from the convenor of the Friends of Underwood Avenue Bushland to the UWA Chancellor, requesting that the Friends make a presentation to members of the UWA Senate about the bushland, has not had an answer.

*Margaret Owen*

## **Campaign update: Save LOT971, 52 Creaney Drive Kingsley – Petition**

The Kingsley and Greenwood Residents Association (KAGRA) organised a petition requesting that the Council of the City of Joondalup **Does Not Approve the Sale of any portion of LOT971 , 52 Creaney Drive, Kingsley**. A total of 1977 City of Joondalup residents signed the petition, tabled at the Council Meeting on 25th June. This is one of the largest petitions received at the City of Joondalup. It is an emphatic declaration that residents want this 9,400m2 remnant bushland block with approximately 112 Jarrah trees, 27 Banksia, 16 Sheoak, 16 Turart, 15 Jacksonia and at least 150 Grasstrees to be preserved rather than sold for development. We invite UBC Groups and Supporters to visit the Facebook page set up for the Campaign to Save LOT971:

<http://www.facebook.com/savekingsley>

*Dave Blackburn*

## **Friends of Western Swamp Tortoise**

September 2013 marks 50 years of field study of the Western Swamp Tortoise (mark and recapture) since it was rediscovered. Tortoises marked in 1963 by Alan Burbidge included:

- No. 1 female 13 September 1963 NW Swamp, Twin Swamps Nature Reserve
  - No. 2 juvenile 25 September 1963 Ellen Brook Nature Reserve (EBNR)
  - No. 3. female 2 October 1963 EBNR
  - No. 4 female 2 October 1963. EBNR
  - No. 5 male. 2 October 1963. EBNR
- (No more were marked until 1964).

Since the 1990s, Perth Zoo's Native Species Breeding Program has been successfully breeding Western Swamp Tortoises and over 400 have been successfully released into the wild.

For further information on any of the group's activities, contact Jan on 9344 2872 or 0408024800  
Email: [westernswamptortoise@yahoo.com.au](mailto:westernswamptortoise@yahoo.com.au)  
or check out the website  
[www.westernswamptortoise.com](http://www.westernswamptortoise.com)

*Reprinted with permission from the Tortoise Tales No 17.*



## Walk in Koondoola Bushland Sunday 11 August 2013

Photo by K. Sarti

Koondoola Bushland is a wonderful Bush Forever site of 123.5ha. Managed by the City of Wanneroo, it is regarded as their second highest priority reserve. The bushland is on the border of Karrakatta dunes and Bassendean dunes so plants from both communities are present. The change in vegetation was obvious.

The walk was organised by the UBC in conjunction with the Northern Suburbs branch of the Wildflower Society with David Pike as the leader. Some of David's observations are shared.

The greatest threats to the bushland are climate change, frequent fires, storm-water directed into the bushland and off-road vehicles. Twenty-four car bodies had been removed from the bushland prior to the fence going up. Storm water comes into the lower area at such a rate, that the soil was washed from underneath flooded gums and many trees fell over. The storm water also brings oil, nutrients and lots of rubbish. Water abstraction from bores has lowered the ground water and what were wetlands are now damplands.

Because of the frequent fires Jarrah has not been able to recruit seed. In the past, flower pickers picked *Stirlingia*. *Stirlingia* grows taller after fire and it was found that there were numerous spot fires to encourage this growth. *Verticordia nitens* is not doing well in the bushland because of the fires.

The Kangaroo Paws as usual were wonderful. Cats Paws too were flowering in different colours, some almost an iridescent yellow.

Dryland sedges are a feature of the bushland and we looked at *Hypolaena exsulca* and *Schoenus grandiflorus*.

*Banksia ilicifolia* is declining due to water draw-down as it is highly susceptible to declining ground water levels. The fungi season was cut off quickly by the cold dry spell this year.

We all had our eyes open for the first Forester Moth which is usually attracted to *Philothea*, and we did see one. We also saw the first green Scarab beetle on the

*Hibbertia*. The beetle was a male and David said that the females are much bigger than the males.

David looked under lots of grass tree spikes and bark on the ground for slime moulds. We didn't find any. Portuguese millipedes eat a great deal of mycelium in the bushland.

The *Haemodorum* flower never opens and the pollinator has to pull the flower apart to get in.

All the flowers which are buzz pollinated have blue petals with yellow anthers. As soon as the flower is pollinated the anthers turn red. Insects cannot see red so they do not go to the pollinated flowers. *Conostephium* is puff

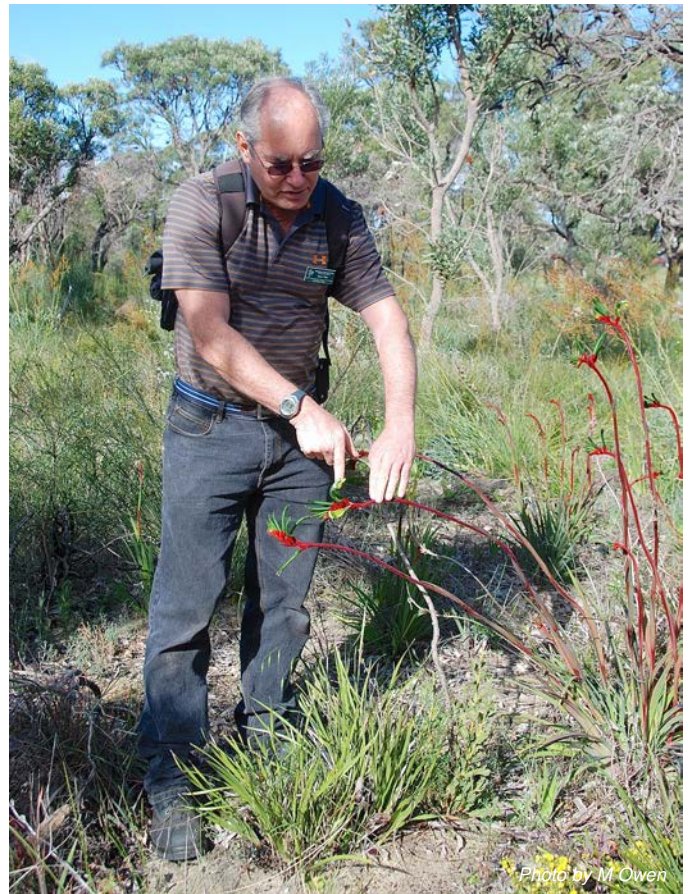


Photo by M. Owen



# Group News Group News Group News



Photo by M Owen  
David Pike guided a bushwalk in Koondoola Regional Bushland.

pollinated. As the pollinating insect squeezes the flower the pollen puffs out.

Blue flowers such as *Dampiera* are out now. The ultraviolet part of the colour spectrum is visible to insects in dull conditions. *Hybanthus* or native violet is flowering now. It is also called fairies aprons. Like the *Dampiera*, the *Hybanthus* has a yellow centre which points the insect the way to the reward.

Smokebush was flowering and the smokebush is pollinated by the smokebush bee. This little bee is very well camouflaged and has a small head and has either a small mouth or tongue to get the nectar. Smokebush also has a small sawfly attracted to it. The female has a single pair of antennae but the male has a double antennae. *Synaphea spinulosa* that is in full flower now, has a very similar shaped flower to smokebush.

Of the pea flowers, *Davesia triflora* is one of the first to flower and is finished flowering by mid May. *Daviesia physoides* is not flowering yet. *Isotropis*, so lovely, is now flowering.

The Western Blue Butterfly emerges in November as does the Spoon-winged Lace-wing. Koondoola is a beautiful bushland. As David said there is very little mid-story plants so looking across the bushland we see fields of colour. I hope you can all visit it soon.

**The UBC has another spring walk guided by Bronwen and Greg Keighery to Anstey Keane Damplands at 10am on Monday of the Queen's birthday long weekend 30<sup>th</sup> September.**

Marg Owen

## Ken Hurst Park Planting Day

About 28 people from the Friends of Ken Hurst Park, Murdoch branch of the Wildflower Society, the Southern Metropolitan Regional Council (SMRC), the Department of Environment and Conservation, and PDC Design volunteered their time on Sunday 23 June 2013 to assist with planting 800 plants into Ken Hurst Park. It was threaten-

ing to be another wet event but fortunately the rain held off until the very end.

The City of Melville supplied 290 plants of 22 species which were planted into a track on which topsoil had been spread in June 2012 and into which tubestock had been planted. The average survival of the 2012 planting was about 50% with most of the deaths being *Banksias*. The park has suffered from many dry years recently, and there are many dead *Banksia* in the bushland. 2012 was somewhat wetter with more summer rainfall, which together with the topsoil transfer, better preparation of the ground and tree guards were suspected of contributing to



Photo by E Wajon

the higher plant survival rates than had previously been achieved (approximately 5%). The 500 banksias supplied by DEC were planted in the bushland along the track as mitigation for some of the clearing at Jandakot Airport.

It seemed as though most attendees had previous experience with planting so the event went very smoothly. Once finished we returned to the SMRC reception centre for our Subway lunch and were treated to very pleasant coffees thanks to the coffee machine at the Centre. These were highly appreciated after the cold and wet outside. I would like to thank all who were involved. I know we couldn't do it without you.



Photo by E Wajon

There has been progressive germination from the topsoil from Jandakot Airport spread on the tracks and other degraded areas in 2012. While there are some weeds, such as Veldt Grass and Sticky Dittrichia, there has also been

# Group News Group News Group News

substantial germination of *Hibbertia subvaginata* and *Gompholobium tomentosum*. Other plants that have germinated include *Laxmannia squarrosa* and *Hypocalymma robustum*. It is planned to do a more thorough inspection soon to see what else has germinated.

*Eddy Wajon*

## Wildflower Society WA - Perth Branch

*10th September:* Vegetation of the Western Suburbs by Greg Keighery

*8th October:* Fragmentation of Banksia Woodland by Cristina Ramalho

*12 November:* The Last Patches: Conserving Threatened Ecological Communities in WA by Val English

Meetings of the Perth Branch of the Wildflower Society are held on the second Tuesday of each month in the Subiaco Community Centre across the road from Crossways Shopping Centre in Bagot Road. Doors open at 7.30 pm and the meeting begins at 8 pm. Supper is served after the talk and everyone is eligible for the door prize. You do not need to be a member of the Society to attend, entry by a \$2 door charge.

For more information please visit <http://members.ozemail.com.au/~wildflowers/> or email Nina McLaren [wildflowers.perth@ozemail.com.au](mailto:wildflowers.perth@ozemail.com.au)

## Friends of Shenton Bushland



*Photo by M Owen*

*Dani Boas-Jelinek, Friends of Shenton Bushland, welcomes bush-walk participants.*

Shenton Bushland is spectacular now. The walk there on 1st September attracted about 60 people. The *Diuris magnifica* or Pansy Orchid is flowering in incredible profusion. The species is described in 'Orchids of South Western Australia' as having a 'dense colony forming habit' and this is certainly the case in Shenton Bushland. 'The Pansy Orchid has a rather narrow geographical range between Mandurah to Lancelin, with a possible further occurrence north of Kalbarri.'



*Photo by M Owen*

*Diuris magnifica in Shenton Bushland*

## Friends of Warwick Bushland

Have launched the website for the Friends Group, including a range of information about Warwick Bushland, Photo Galleries, Walk Trails, Upcoming Events, useful downloads and links and lots more. Plus The Group has a Facebook page:

<http://friendsofwarwickbush.wix.com/friendsofwarwickbush> and at

<https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofWarwickBushland>

## Latest UBC Publication *Perth's Bush Forever Report Card*



Proceedings of a one-day conference, held on 7 December 2012, exploring Bush Forever, the WA Government's commitment to its implementation and site management issues.

Hard copies available through mail-order at \$25 plus \$3 postage or download free from the UBC website:

[www.bushlandperth.org.au/resources/publications](http://www.bushlandperth.org.au/resources/publications)

# THE GREENS' GREENWAY VISION: SAVING BUSHLAND AND BUILDING AFFORDABLE CONVENIENT HOUSING

Extracts from Scott Ludlam's speech in the Senate on 19 June

On 19 June Greens Senator Scott Ludlam spoke in parliament about the urgent need to preserve the bushland remnants of the Swan Coastal Plain. Working with the Urban Bushland Council and other local groups, the Greens have prepared the Perth Greenway study to relink, remesh and heal some of the damage that we have done to the fabric and underlying ecosystems of the Swan Coastal Plain. As Scott said, 'This depends on answering the question: what about urban growth? How are we to live? How should our cities grow and develop?'

'In WA it seems that developers - or some of them - can put their finger virtually anywhere on a map and name the most outrageous and insane proposal that they like and nothing appears to be standing in their way. Many of the places that are most seriously threatened on the Swan Coastal Plain are threatened by State Government processes. And in all these places the last line of defence is the community itself and the people who show up and inspire others to stand in the way. In the past it has also been our federal environmental law. But we do not appear to be able to trust either of the old parties to protect our precious places'.

Scott quoted Mary Gray from the Urban Bushland Council who has noted that 'Western Australia has the best biodiversity in Australia and the worst legislation'. Scott went on 'WA's Wildlife Conservation Act is more than a century old and it was originally called the Gaming Act. It was written to describe how you could legally kill wildlife, so in some ways it is an apt description of Perth's current planning system'.

'I am proud to have worked with the Property Council of Australia and the Australian Urban Design Research Centre on a study called Transforming Perth. Not all the developers in WA are a bad lot, and in some cases they are

turning away from the sprawl-merchant methodology. They are looking for new ways of doing things. This [practical and thought-provoking investigation](#) identifies the amount of developable land along seven of Perth's main transport corridors in 19 local government areas. It quantifies the number of new dwellings this would translate to at three different density scenarios, and clearly illustrates the targets for new dwellings under Directions 2031 could easily be met through infill alone'.

'The report also recommends new models for community engagement, design-led processes, and entirely new ways of planning and governance for our city. It is public transport oriented, protecting urban bushland within Perth and protecting heritage in places of value to the local community'.

'Transforming Perth envisions sustainable, beautifully designed townhouses lining vibrant high streets buzzing with light rail, with activity, with people. And for every hectare, just by way of example, that you take up to what in planning notation is R160 or 160 dwellings per hectare you save 16 hectares of urban bushland or farming and agricultural country on the edge of town. Perth no longer needs to expand in this way'.

For more information on the Greens' vision for convenient affordable housing which also saves our urban bushland, see:

<http://greenswa.net.au/sites/default/files/transformingperth.pdf>

<http://scott-ludlam.greensmps.org.au/node/27722>

<http://wa.greens.org.au/content/perth-greenways-initiative-%E2%80%93-bringing-city-life>

<http://www.greenswa.net.au/bikevision>

◇ What's new? ◇ What's new? ◇ What's new? ◇ What's new?

## 2013 Beach Clean Up

Tangaroa Blue is looking for volunteers to join us for the 9th Annual West Australian Beach Clean Up. This year's event will take place over the weekend of **October 12th and 13th**. Last year's WA Beach Clean Up saw 1358 volunteers remove 64 306 pieces of marine debris from WA's coastline. That was a whopping great 4228.55 tonne of rubbish removed from 111 beaches right around the state!

For more information on Tangaroa Blue and the Western Australian Beach Clean Up efforts over the past 8 years please visit the Tangaroa Blue website -

[www.tangaroablue.org](http://www.tangaroablue.org)

## PERTH REGION NRM

### SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM

Individuals and community groups are invited to submit applications for capacity building activities of up to \$1500 value.

More information on the Small Grants Program objectives and eligible activities can be found on :

<http://www.perthregionnrm.com/community/grants-and-funding.aspx>

Or by contacting Mog Piasecka on 08 9374 3333 or email to [mog.piasecka@perthregionnrm.com](mailto:mog.piasecka@perthregionnrm.com)

**Application close 4.30pm, Friday 20th September.**

# 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 \$45 a year (GST included). A growing membership strengthens the cause and groups benefit from the network.

### Individuals:

Supporter membership is only \$35 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

**Monday 30 September 2013 at 10 am**  
**'Spring bushwalk - Anstey Keane Dampland'**

Join us for glorious wildflowers at one of the most floristically diverse sites in the metropolitan area.

Venue: Anstey Keane Reserve, corner of Anstey and Keane Roads Forrestdale

For information visit [www.bushlandperth.org.au](http://www.bushlandperth.org.au)

### UBC PUBLICATIONS

#### *Perth's Bush Forever Report Card*

**Proceedings of a conference (December 2012)**

Available through the UBC website:

<http://www.bushlandperth.org.au/resources/publications>

#### *Perth's Banksia Woodlands - Precious and Under Threat*

**Proceedings of a symposium (2011)**

Available from the UBC for \$20 plus \$3 postage.

#### *Endangered Black Cockatoos in Western Australia*

**Proceedings of a symposium .**

Available from the UBC for \$20 plus \$3 postage.

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

Available from the UBC free.

#### *Building Partnerships between Community Groups and Local Government for Our Bushland—proceedings of a seminar (2000)*

Available from the UBC free.

#### *Managing our Bushland - proceedings of a conference about the protection and management of urban bushland (1998)*

Out of print; available in libraries.

#### *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: [ubc@bushlandperth.org.au](mailto:ubc@bushlandperth.org.au)

**Copy deadline - 1 October 2013**

### PERTH'S BUSHLAND BIRTHDAY & PERPETUAL CALENDAR

**\$15 plus \$2 postage**

**Available by mail order from the UBC office.**

### Office:

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Web site: [www.bushlandperth.org.au](http://www.bushlandperth.org.au)



Urban Bushland Council WA Inc



<http://twitter.com/#!/UrbanBushlandWA>

