

Action to Stop Efforts to Reduce the 2009 Ministerial Conditions at Jandakot Airport

By Dr Eddy Wajon

Jandakot Airport Holdings (JAH) leases Jandakot Airport in the City of Cockburn, between Leeming and Canning Vale, from the Commonwealth. Under the Commonwealth Airports Act, JAH is required to prepare, review and abide by Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure approved Master Plans for the airport every 5 years.

In the 2009 and 2014 Master Plans, they were allowed to clear more than 167ha of the Threatened Ecological Community Banksia Woodland of the Swan Coastal Plain, habitat for Threatened Carnaby's Cockatoo and the Threatened Grand Spider Orchid *Caladenia huegelii* for non-airport related development (i.e. commercial warehouses, offices, shops), along with extension of existing and construction of new runways. Since then, no work has been done on a new runway, but many large warehouses and retail outlets have been constructed on land cleared to make way for these profit-making ventures.

As part of the 2009 Master Plan and associated Commonwealth Environment Minister's environmental approval (EPBC 2009/4796), JAH were required under Approval Condition number 3 to conserve/preserve in perpetuity 119ha of land in Conservation Precincts 1a, 1b, and 2. Now, in preparing the 2019 Master Plan, JAH is seeking to revoke and breach this Ministerial Condition and to clear 65% of the Banksia woodland which is supposed to be protected in perpetuity under this condition. The 119ha of bushland in these Precincts consists of the recently Commonwealth-listed Threatened Banksia woodland ecosystem and supports Commonwealth-listed Threatened species

Carnaby's Cockatoo and Grand Spider Orchid, three Matters of National Environmental Significance. If this latest Master Plan is approved, the 119ha of Banksia woodland would be reduced to 43ha. The purpose is for commercial development, not aviation development.

Many groups and individuals are appalled by this proposal. This includes the WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, the WA Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, the City of Cockburn, the Friends of Ken Hurst Park (FoKHP), the Wildflower Society of WA (WSWA), the UBC and the Australian Native Plants Society Australia (ANPSA). However, because the airport is Commonwealth land, WA environmental and planning legislation and policies do not apply.

JAH have spoken to some Commonwealth and State government departments, some communities and regional groups about this plan (but tellingly not the FoKHP, the WSWA or the UBC, who they know would be vehemently opposed to this proposal), and disguised this breach of Ministerial Conditions by re-labelling the Conservation Precinct areas they wish to clear. They have also state that clearing the areas proposed would be better use of the area than leaving it as bushland.

Dr Eddy Wajon, the Convenor of the FoKHP and the National Conservation Officer of ANPSA, has requested a meeting in Canberra in late August with the Commonwealth Ministers for Infrastructure and Environment, as well as their Shadow Ministers, to discuss these concerns

and to seek a way forward. He would be accompanied by the current National President of ANPSA, the past National President of ANPSA, the incoming National President of ANPSA, and Mary Gray, President of the UBC.

There has been support for the objection to this proposed plan to clear the bushland from a range of influential parties. Ben Morton, the Federal Liberal Member for Tangney, in whose electorate many members of the FoKHP reside, has written a letter to the Commonwealth Minister for Infrastructure requesting that this application to reduce the Conservation Zones not be approved. He has also requested that the Minister for Infrastructure and the Minister for the Environment meet with us in Canberra to discuss our concerns. The recently re-elected Federal Labor Member for Fremantle, Josh Wilson, in whose electorate Jandakot Airport sits, is appalled at the proposal and has offered to help us meet the Shadow Minister for Infrastructure and the Shadow Minister for Environment.

The State Labor member for Jandakot, Yaz Mubarakai, in whose electorate Jandakot Airport sits, is also concerned about JAH's proposal to ignore

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Editorial

It is now 18 months since Labor was elected with a landslide win, substantially influenced by the Roe 8 saga. Labor's platform includes impressive recognition and good management of our unique biodiversity in the south west hotspot highlighting "biodiversity is crucial to environmental sustainability and must therefore be protected" and "more can be done to protect our unique wildlife, native forests and community heritage, particularly in the Kimberley and south-west regions of Western Australia" and "ensure that proposals to destroy native vegetation for urban development are appropriately assessed under the Environmental Protection Act" and "examine cost effective incentives for bushland and wetland protection programs that give financial rewards to landholders who meet high standards of ecosystem management". (Refer <https://www.walabor.org.au/platform>)

The UBC has continued to advocate for the complete implementation of the Bush Forever plan and program, including securing all Bush Forever sites for conservation and their transfer to 'A' class reserve status. Some sites are yet to be acquired despite ample funds available in the Metropolitan Region Improvement Fund (MRIF). Further, the collection of sites already acquired by the WAPC have still not been transferred to the Crown as 'A' class reserves and allocated to suitable conservation

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previous licence conditions. He has written to the WA Minister for Planning, Hon Rita Saffioti, requesting them to contact the Commonwealth Departments of Environment and Infrastructure and strongly oppose the proposal. The WA State Liberal leader, Mike Nahan, has also apparently expressed his concern about this proposal and conveyed his support for our efforts.

While the development and approval of the 2019 Master Plan is still somewhat off, and a draft 2019 Master Plan would be open to public consultation sometime in 2019, we believe that it is better that the draft 2019 Master Plan does not propose and makes no mention of any plans to clear any more bushland on the site, especially in Conservation Precincts 1a, 1b, and 2. We believe it is easier to attack the idea now rather than when it is proposed in a formal document that has already had some Commonwealth informal support.

There is currently a petition on Change.org calling on the Commonwealth Minister for Infrastructure to not approve JAH's proposal (see https://www.change.org/p/infrastructure-minister-michael-mccormack-stop-jandakot-airport-clearing-more-rare-orchids-and-banksia-woodland/w?source_location=petition_nav).

Please go to this site and express your support for our campaign to stop this proposed clearing.

There is already awareness in Canberra by the Commonwealth Minister for Infrastructure about these plans and about widespread opposition. It is now necessary to turn that opposition into deletion of the proposal. Everyone can help.

land managers, and there does not appear to be any coordinated action across the relevant agencies to facilitate this process. DBCA and Regional Parks have not been allocated the required additional funding and staff resources to take over management of the list of sites they plan to manage as part of the conservation estate for the Perth region.

This stalemate must end. Despite regular discussions with agency staff, and relevant Ministers and their staff before, during and after the SAPPR process, UBC representatives feel frustrated at the bland repetitive excuses used to avoid and justify lack of leadership and action to secure all Bush Forever sites and to properly protect our unique, priceless biodiversity according to existing conservation plans, policies and listings.

The UBC looks forward to revision and updating of both the *WA Environmental Protection Act* and the *Biodiversity Conservation Act* to provide for legal recognition and protection of Threatened Ecological Communities, protection of the habitat of rare species of flora and fauna, critical habitat, wetlands, and compliance with EPBC Act *Approved Conservation Advices and Recovery Plans*.



Mike Hammond and Natasha Del Borrello, Department of Water and Environment Regulation, and Mary Gray, UBC President following a presentation at the UBC meeting on August 8. The talk focused on the development of the next Gnangara groundwater allocation plan expected to be released for public consultation by the end of the year. DWER's publication "Our Groundwater Future in Perth: securing Gnangara Groundwater and Adapting to Climate Change" (May 2018) can be found on http://www.water.wa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/9539/112061.pdf.

Urban Bush Telegraph 2019

The UBC Committee has recently agreed that, from 2019, we will start charging for the printed copy of UBT.

The charge will be \$15 per year to cover printing and postage costs for 4 editions per year. There will be no charge for the electronic copy which all members receive via email link. The UBT can also be downloaded from the UBC website.

This step has been taken to help UBC manage its budget whilst keeping our annual fees at \$45 for Group membership and \$35 for supporters.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

Compiled by: Renata Zelinova

PLEASE SEND CONTRIBUTIONS TO: ubc@bushlandperth.org.au

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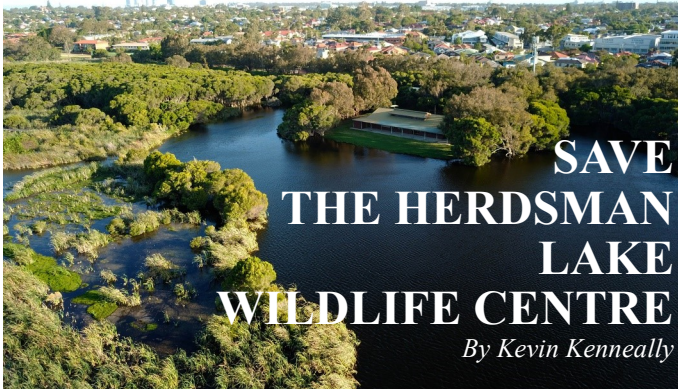


Photo by K Kenneally

For many of those who grew up in Western Australia over the last century, the WA Gould League evokes a childhood nostalgia. Often their first introduction to birds and wildlife was through their membership and attending school excursions or camps conducted by this iconic organisation. Established in 1939 as a not-for-profit non-government organisation at the behest of the Department of Education, the WA Gould League's teaching and administrative staff has been funded by successive State governments.

But after nearly eight decades of inspiring over 500,000 young Western Australians to care for our precious wildlife and environment, the WA Gould League's Herdsman Lake Wildlife Centre (HLWC) may have to close its doors.

With its unique combination of science, culture, history, and Aboriginal knowledge, the HLWC, established in 1984, has supported teachers to raise generations of Western Australians to be passionate caretakers of our unique wildlife, as well as the coastal wetlands and landscapes that we share with them. The Wildlife Centre provides education on the impacts of climate change on wetlands, water use and highlights the critical importance of hands-on experiential learning in understanding and appreciating the State's natural history.

But unless we stop State Government funding cuts of \$165,000, our young people could lose the Herdsman Lake Wildlife Centre by the end of this year - and in doing so, lose access to an incredible depth of understanding and appreciation of our Western Australian wildlife and environment.

The Wildlife Centre was funded by public donations to build an education centre that was gifted to the government to be run by WA Gould League. Members of the public paid for the building, so the government's contribution should be to fund the staff. All other funding to operate, maintain and run the Wildlife Centre is raised by fee-for-service from visiting school groups. The WA Gould League could not raise student fees to a level that would cover the salaries expenditure. The Education Minister has said that her department will facilitate exploring partnerships with industry to support areas that have been impacted by the funding cuts, but to date nothing has been forthcoming. But this begs the question of why would industry or other organisations fund facilities that the government does not deem worthy of support?

The partnership between the Department of Education and the Gould League, operating from Wildlife Centre, is a unique exemplar model of effective out-sourcing of specialist service provision by the education department. The Gould League equips teachers to integrate science and sustainability as well as Aboriginal culture and history into

their classroom activities. It connects students with the natural world and allows them to appreciate the value of their environment. It empowers the community to live more sustainably.

Federal Education Minister Simon Birmingham wants more students to study science and maths at university and wants to have at least one science or mathematics-trained teacher in every Australian High School. These are the very issues that the WA Gould League has promoted through its environment and Aboriginal education programs at the HLWC for nearly 40 years. The Gould League, for over 80 years, has had the advantage of having outstanding scientists and specialist teachers on its management committee that underpins the award-winning education programs offered at the Wildlife Centre. Given STEM's importance, why would the State Labor Government, as part of its budgetary cuts to education, cease the funding of \$165,000 that supports a teacher and an administrative assistant at the Wildlife Centre that could result in its closure at the end of the year? It is not too much to ask given that the management committee of the Gould League are all volunteers and the Wildlife Centre raises all of its running costs.

All the work that has gone into this centre over the past three decades would be lost if the WA Gould League and the HLWC were to close. The Wildlife Centre is located in an urban environment located close to the City of Perth. Cities are increasingly recognised for the critical role they play in biodiversity conservation, environmental stewardship and global sustainability. Sustainable approaches to the development and management of urban environments are pivotal to our children and our planet's future.

If the HLWC were to close we would never get it back again, and the biggest losers would be our young people. We cannot allow this to happen.

Please ask Education Minister Sue Ellery to restore State Government funding in full for Herdsman Lake Wildlife Centre, so that it can continue to inspire generations of Western Australians to care for our wildlife and environment.



Photo by K Kenneally



A celebration was held at the Cockburn Wetlands Education Centre (CWEC) on Sunday 22 July to mark the 25th anniversary of its opening.

More than 80 invited guests joined the celebration which included a series of short speeches followed by a morning tea.

Felicity Bairstow compered the event and introduced local Noongar elder, Marie Taylor, who offered a welcome to the significant Aboriginal site in the Beelihar wetlands. She was followed by the CWEC Board President, Philip Jennings, who was one of the original founders of the Centre in 1993. He recounted how the idea of the Centre came about through the experience of the campaigners at Farrington Road in 1984 and how funding was obtained to build and staff it. Next came the former Bibra Lake Scout leader, Malcolm Small, who was also heavily involved in the planning and establishment of the Centre. The scouts have been an important part of the Centre since its inception.

The fourth speaker was the Wetlands Officer, Denise Crosbie, who gave a brief summary of the Centre's major achievements over the years. These include the planting of more than 200,000 trees in the Beelihar wetlands and the revegetation of the banks of Bibra Lake with local species of trees and rushes. She described how the Centre has become the focus of community conservation efforts in the southwest corridor through its conferences, education programs and community tree planting.

More than 20,000 people use the centre each year for education, landcare, scouting and community meetings.



Some of the member groups representatives: (from left) Philip Jennings, Darryl James and Malcolm Small.



New CWEC logo unveiled by Philip Jennings, Denise Crosbie and City of Cockburn Mayor Logan Howlett.

The annual Wetland Management Conference is held at the Centre on World Wetlands Day each year (2 February) and it is the largest event of its kind in Australia. During the recent protests against the clearing in the Beelihar wetlands for Roe 8, the Centre was the base for hundreds of protestors who turned out each day to oppose that destructive project. She mentioned that the Cockburn Wetlands Centre is run by the volunteers and a small group of staff and its funds are obtained from sponsors, fees for services and hire charges.

The assistant Wetlands Officer, Danielle Tyrles, gave a brief outline of the Centre's plans for the future. These include ecotourism and community outreach. A major enhancement of the environmental precinct at Bibra Lake is planned over the next two years. This will include some new buildings and upgraded facilities. She thanked the City of Cockburn and Lotterywest for their generous support of the Centre over the past 25 years. She mentioned that Lotterywest has recently funded a major refurbishment of the Centre, which included new furniture, an updated web site, a new logo and signage.

The event concluded with the Mayor of Cockburn, Logan Howlett, thanking the Centre for its work and its contribution to the Cockburn community. He then unveiled the Centre's new logo and insignia.

Attendees then enjoyed a pleasant hour of networking with old friends and acquaintances over morning tea in the Centre's gallery.



Volunteer, Dr Felicity Bairstow, the new CWEC frog mascot and staffer Danielle Tyrles.



Photo by M Owen



Photo by M Owen

Well camouflaged, might be mistaken for a tree branch but on a closer look...Tawny frogmouth. Underwood Avenue bushland, Shenton Park.

Tawny Frogmouth in Underwood Bushland.

It was a beautiful day in Underwood and I was searching for the first spider orchids.

A bird shadow passed over my head and my goshawk-alert instinct kicked in as I flinched.

Looking ahead, to my wondering eyes appeared a beautiful tawny frogmouth.

Her eyes were wide open, as were mine. I skirted to the other side of her, so I wasn't looking into the sun and by the time I got around she had assumed the dead branch pose.

No doubt her mostly closed eyes were keeping a watch

on me. I took a few photos and beat a retreat so as not to disturb her. Looking back, I saw that she had gone, probably to a less exposed place to shelter during daylight.

At dusk and during the night she would be catching food such as spiders and insects, worms and small animals.

I thought that she was a female, as she has some rufous colouring and males tend to be larger.

On another day, there were about 10 or so wrens on the track going down from the peak. They didn't seem secretive, just very busy. Also I heard a Pallid Cuckoo on several morning walks.

Marg Owen



Photo by M Owen

**Friends of Brixton Street Wetlands
FLORA WALK 2018**

Saturday 15 September

8.45am for a 9.00 am start, meet at the end of Alton Street, Kenwick

Botanists Bronwen and Greg Keighery will guide this walk while highlighting an amazing number of species in this important bushland. After the walk, join the Friends of Brixton Street Wetlands for morning tea.

RSVP 9459 2964 or 0407 544 679

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Friends of the Spectacles

Makuru has been a busy time for the Friends of the Spectacles. In addition to our monthly bush care sessions, we prepared for, and held, our annual NAIDOC event on the 1st July, 2018.

The Spectacles is a special place for the local Noongar people and it is wonderful to be able to celebrate and share our love of this special place with them.

Elders prepared a feast of kangaroo stew and damper, and for the first time we had a Noongar woman lead an informative walk to the bird hide. In harmony with the theme of NAIDOC this year – Because of her, we can!, we had a female indigenous dance troupe [Kwabardak Moorditj] perform traditional dances, to great acclaim.



Photo by G Allen

Participants at NAIDOC Week celebrations at The Spectacles enjoyed the performance by a female indigenous dance troupe Kwabardak Moorditj (photo above) and kangaroo stew with damper prepared by Elders (photo below).



Photo by G Allen



Photo by G Allen

Community volunteers planting at The Spectacles in July.

Seventy visitors came to participate in this special day with us. As well as eating and celebrating, every visitor was provided with gloves and a plant and together we planted almost one thousand native seedlings.

Our seedlings, and the bushland in general is flourishing with all the recent rain, and the *Banksia menziesii* (firewood banksia) has been flowering prolifically this winter. The Spectacles themselves are full of water and the paperbark lined path out to the bird hide is a picture to behold.

Alison Reid

Friends of Trigg Beach

have been involved in two recent activities at Trigg Beach bushland:

1. **Lot 2 West Coast Hwy, Trigg.** Earlier this year, a second house of the three original houses within the Trigg Beach Parks and Recreation reserve was demolished leaving a vacant block. The first block was cleared and incorporated into the car park. Unfortunately the area was planted with Norfolk Island Pines by the City of Stirling before we had an opportunity to become involved. When we noticed the second block (on the Clarko Reserve side) was vacant and cleared we contacted the City of Stirling and were advised that the land had been acquired by the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage.



Photo by C Murphy

Cleared former housing lot in the Trigg Beach Parks and Recreation Reserve, February 2018.

We contacted the Department and met with representatives on site on 15 March 2018. Also attending the on site meeting were representatives of the Friends of Trigg Bushland, Stirling Natural Environment Coast Care (SNEC) and the Northern Suburbs Wildflower Society. We were assured by the Department representatives that the land would be rehabilitated and planted with local species from local provenance. We would be consulted when the species were selected (this happened) and the Department would work with the City of Stirling to plant the area.

The Friends of Trigg Beach representatives and the other groups were asked to be involved in a summer watering program for the first summer (2018/19), we readily agreed and will be seeking volunteers to assist with this when required. Please let me know if you can help with this task. There is water on site so it will not be onerous nor time consuming if we have enough volunteers.

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Photo by C Murphy

The former residential lot replanted with locally indigenous plants, June 2018.

2. Revegetation at Trigg Beach. A lot of weeding and planting has recently taken place at Trigg Beach in the sand dunes along the foreshore car parks to the beach and also in the South Trigg Beach Reserve south of the southern car park. Three Friends of Trigg Beach representatives met with Murray Woods from the City of Stirling and SNEC who are coordinating the dune vegetation weeding and planting.

We asked to be kept "in the loop" when future works are proposed. Our role is to assist with volunteers where we can but most importantly, to be vigilant to ensure that inappropriate development or planting does not occur in the car park area, the Bush Forever 308 area and at Trigg Beach in general.

Given the development pressure that is taking place at Scarborough, we need to be vigilant to ensure that Trigg Beach's natural environment is protected and valued as a remnant of how our coastline looked for thousands of years.

Please let me know if you wish to become more actively involved in our group. Please also spread the word to your friends and neighbours so that we can increase our Supporter base.

Robyn Murphy

Friends of Hepburn & Pinnaroo Bushland Inc

It has been another great year for rain to help sustain the beautiful bushland of the Hepburn Heights Conservation Area, which is part of Bush Forever Site 303. The bush is looking fantastic with wildflowers starting to appear. Especially noticeable now are the yellow flowers Hibbertia and Acacia, also Honey bush, Wisteria and Parrot bush.



Photo by J Hudson

In 2015 a fire burnt 1 hectare of the bush. The burnt area has made a good recovery with new growth of many species including *Xanthorrhoea preissii*, *Hibbertia hypericoides* (see insert picture), *Nuytsia floribunda*, *Macrozamia fraseri* and *Banksia* species.

2018 marks the 25th anniversary of the Friends of Hepburn & Pinnaroo Bushland Inc. The group has been active since 1993 and activity continues this year with a successful Clean Up Australia Day event attracting 24 people; and group members braving the cold and wet weather to participate in planting and weeding activities. This year we will continue our project to control Cape tulip and Wild Gladiolous by hand weeding these bulbs.

Scheduled activity days for the group are:

August	11th	25th
September	8th	22nd
October	6th	20th

The group can be contacted by email friendsofhepburn-pinnaroo@gmail.com

John Hudson

WILDFLOWER SOCIETY OF WA-EASTERN HILLS BRANCH

We've had an interesting collection of talks over winter, from parasitic plants, to pollination (or lack of) and drones across the Kimberley! Our plant sale in May was a huge success despite the 30 degree day. More than 4500 plants were sold, with an incredible variety and number of species. All plants were propagated and nurtured by members which is a massive effort.



Photo by P Riordan

Plants propagated by the Eastern Hills Branch of the Wildflower Society ready for sale.

This month on the 24th August we have Dr Ken Atkins updating us on the latest in the area of flora conservation legislation and policy. On September 28th Alex George will talk about the latest in classifications especially with respect to his favourite genus, *Calathamnus*. September is OUR time when all the flowers are at their best and on the long weekend we'll have our annual excursion, this time to Wongan Hills. Both members and non-members are welcome to join this 3 day trip.

Our propagation group continues to meet on every second Monday and our seed cleaning group on alternate

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Wednesdays for several months of the year. We have also started a "Plant Learners' Group" for those just beginning their journey into wildflowers. In October there will be 2 plant identification workshops run by expert members. These will also be open to both members and non-members.

For more details see our website at <http://www.wildflowersocietywa.org.au/branches/eastern-hills-branch-or>
email eastern.hills.branch@wildflowersocietywa.org.au

Pamela Riordan

Bungendore Park Environmental Group Inc

We have reached a stage after 37 years where mass plantings are not required, only care and maintenance.

This year we tackled the main entrance that had become obscured by shrubs. A busy bee was held on the 15th July to clear the area ready for planting seedlings mainly ground cover plants. The low growing plants will not only enhance the main entrance, but also help with security of the parking area by making it more open.



Photo by J Cartwright

Clearing the main entrance to Bungendore Park.

The City of Armadale Bushcare team led by Dan Walker augured the holes ready for the 2018 National Tree Day. There were 63 participants to help the Group plant out 600 seedlings. In particular twenty Roleystone Girl Guides and Leaders came to help. The elder members showed the youngsters how to tap out the seedlings from the pots and plant them correctly. In just under 2 hours all the plants were in. Their efforts were rewarded with a hearty afternoon tea.



Photo by J Cartwright

2018 National Tree Day volunteers

Future Events

Walk and Weed: This year our *Walk and Weed* will be held on Sunday 16th September. We will be meeting at the main entrance in Admiral Road, Bedforddale at 8.30am. We should be finished by 10.00am followed by morning tea. So if you want to help remove "garden escapees" from the park come and join us.

Breakfast in the Park: Our ever popular bush breakfast is being held on Sunday 11th November commencing at 7.00am. The Armadale-Kelmscott Lions Club members will again prepare the breakfast on their mobile kitchen.

John Cartwright

Dune restoration in Guilderton

We came. We planted. It rained !

Enthusiastic volunteers came together on the morning of Sunday 10th June to help get seedlings planted on the Guilderton north dunes.

This is the 4th (and hopefully final) year that we'll revegetate the old vehicle tracks in the 22ha conservation area fenced off in 2014. We had about 1200 plants of 8 different species, grown from seed harvested from the dunes by volunteers back in 2016 and grown on by APACE for us.

The morning started sunny and everyone got stuck into it. It started to cloud over and the rain started about 11am so waterproofs on. A huge downpour at 11.30am was the beginning of the end as water filled boots and wet bodies made retiring to the Country Club for lunch very appealing.

Over all, about 2/3 of the plants got planted by the 25 strong crew which is a magnificent effort - well done to all the volunteers who gave up their time including members of the 4WD Club of WA, Guilderton, Sovereign Hill and Woodridge residents, Conservation Council and SERCUL.

Thanks to Rachel from Moore Catchment Council who has made this project possible and Hamish from North Agricultural Catchment Council (NACC) for coming down with equipment and water bowser - he was last in from the rain! Thanks to Moora Citrus for sponsoring the oranges for refreshments - very tasty.



Photo by L Johnson

Part of Guilderton dunes with conservation fencing being installed before restoration works started in 2014.

Local volunteers planted the rest of the plants over a few sessions on much nicer days. We have reused the covers and sticks, most of which will really be ready for the bin when they have done their job this time.

The winter rains should ensure that this year's plants do as well as the earlier plantings and the tracks will be all but gone as they grow. Thank you to everyone who has made this project work.



Photo by L Johnson

Successful restoration of a track in Guilderton dunes (2018).

This project was funded through NACC's Coastal program delivered via the National Landcare Program. The Guilderton north dunes restoration project has been made possible by Moore Catchment Council (MCC) and done under the banner of Guilderton Community Association. We are now also working with the 'Tending the Tracks Alliance' (TtTA), which aims to maintain 4WD access to tracks while minimising damage in coastal areas. We hope to see one serviceable track between Guilderton and Seabird, giving 4WD beach access at limited points, rather than the free-for-all access that does so much damage and can lead to 4WDs being banned.

The aim of the TtTA is to deliver win-win outcomes in several areas between the city limit and Dongara.

Despite the past community efforts to prevent clearing of the coastal dunes South of Guilderton, the Moore River South development was approved in September 2014 and the whole property of 2,099ha (including 357ha of urban development) has been on the market since August 2015.

With its isolation in this cul-de-sac in a rural Shire, we think that the expense of creating water supply, sewerage, power and access would make it an expensive project that will never be viable, especially if we can see the bush around it protected in parks so it can never become part of the city.

Friends of Moore River Environment now focuses on the protection of the estuary and on the better understanding of how the estuary works. We do water quality monitoring with DWER, work with Gingin Water Group and others working in our area.

Very unfortunately NACC has now shut down the coastal programme and the Jurien Bay office so we will really miss their support. MCC is vital to us.

Linda Johnson

Banksia Woodland in the New Museum for WA

The unique flora and fauna of our Cottonwood Crescent Bushland will feature in a community artwork being developed for the New Museum for WA, which opens in 2020.

The mural will be displayed in a new exhibition that showcases WA's unique environments, including the banksia woodlands.

WA Museum Education Manager Arlene Moncrieff investigated many banksia woodlands areas in the Perth suburbs for this project and decided Cottonwood Crescent was an excellent place to demonstrate the features and creatures of this unique environment.

The **Friends of Dianella Bushland** was very happy to be involved in this project and host the field trip where the young people photographed the local flora and fauna with an artistic eye as well as a scientific one.

The young people will be working with local artist Chloe Flockhart and staff from the WA Museum to prepare drawings of the animals and insects for inclusion in the mural.

We look forward to seeing the final artwork when it is complete

Contact Jan on 0408 024 800 www.museum.wa.gov.au/new-museum



Next - An A Class Reserve/ Coastal Park?

Did you know the City of Rockingham's Draft Strategic Community Plan-(2019-2029) is open for comments till 4.30 pm on Friday 31 August, 2018 and seems a great opportunity to promote the A Class/Coastal Park?

This is an opportunity to flood the city with requests to include Cape Peron as an A Class reserve and Coastal Park.

The City of Rockingham's Community's Vision for the Future includes: "manage and use our land and marine environments in a manner that preserves them and recognises that the climate is changing." This must include Cape Peron.

Aspiration 1 (Tourism) aims to "Promote the City as the premier metropolitan coastal tourism destination." And, as such, must include Cape Peron as an A Class reserve and Coastal Park.

Aspiration 2 is to "Grow and Nurture Community Connectedness and Wellbeing". Preserving Cape Peron is essential to this aspiration.

Aspiration 2 includes Aboriginal heritage and inclusion

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of which there are several sites in the Cape Peron and Lake Richmond areas.

Aspiration 2 aims to "Facilitate comprehensive community engagement on issues facing the City, ensuring that residents can provide input into shaping our future." The community has made its views clear and strong on wanting Cape Peron preserved as a coastal park - more so than on any other issue facing the City.

Aspiration 3 (Planning for Future Generations) includes:

- * Plan and develop community, sport and recreation facilities which meet the current and future needs of the City's growing population.
- * Plan and control the use of land to meet the needs of the growing population, with consideration of future generations.
- * Acknowledge and understand the impacts of climate change, and identify actions to mitigate and adapt to those impacts.

All of the above make the preservation of Cape Peron as an A Class reserve and Coastal Park essential.

A copy of the Draft-Strategic-Community-Plan-(2019-2029) is available at:

[http://rockingham.wa.gov.au/getattachment/Our-city/Share-your-thoughts/Draft-Strategic-Community-Plan-\(2019-2029\)/Draft-Community-Plan-Vision,-Community-Aspirations-and-Strategic-Objectives-\(2019-2029\).pdf.aspx](http://rockingham.wa.gov.au/getattachment/Our-city/Share-your-thoughts/Draft-Strategic-Community-Plan-(2019-2029)/Draft-Community-Plan-Vision,-Community-Aspirations-and-Strategic-Objectives-(2019-2029).pdf.aspx)

For further information contact the Manager Strategy and Corporate Communications on 9528 0333 or email customer@rockingham.wa.gov.au.

It seems a great opportunity to really flood the City. That way they can't deny the public support, hopefully it will give some momentum to a current motion and also get included in the 2019-2029 Community Plan. Click on this link to read more on the Hands Off Pt Peron website for more information <http://handsoffpointperon.com/great-opportunity-to-promote-cape-peron-as-an-a-class-reserve-and-coastal-park/>

Dawn Jecks

Blackadder/Woodbridge Catchment Group

On 2 July 2018 the proposal to clear Threatened Ecological Community (TEC) vegetation (belonging to the critically endangered Forrestfield Vegetation Complex, also known as Floristic Community Type 20c "Shrublands and Woodlands of the Eastern Swan Coastal Plain") at Lot 102 Farrall Road Midvale was declared a "controlled action" under the Federal *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

This decision was welcomed by the Blackadder/Woodbridge Catchment Group (BWCG). It has been a long road to get to this point. In 2014 the land was owned by the State and was sold to a private developer. The developer engaged an environmental consultant which concluded that there was no TEC at the site. BWCG objected to the survey methodology and engaged an experienced professional botanist to get a second opinion, which found that there was a TEC at Lot 102. Subsequently the



Photo by P Cloran

Bushland on Lot 102 Farrall Road, Midvale

State Department has reassessed the site and now there is no dispute that it is a TEC. Due to the very restricted distribution of this ecological community no condition or size thresholds have been imposed by the "Commonwealth Approved Conservation Advice".

The proponent still wishes to clear it and will seek permission from the Federal Minister. The BWCG believes that every last remnant of this ancient and diverse ecological community - rich in tiny epiphytes, annuals and orchids - is precious and protecting it is a matter of national environmental significance.

Phil Cloran

Mullaloo Beach Community Group Inc. has had another busy year caring for biodiversity in Bush Forever Site 325 and Marmion Marine Park. Our projects combine hands on conservation actions and community education. Some of our activities so far this year have included:

- Invertebrate surveys with Spineless Wonders
- Marine debris and biodiversity surveys throughout the summer organised by Wanneroo Scout Imani Benfell.
- Night stalk with Scouts at Ocean Reef.
- Weeding - our extensive planting efforts are easily overlooked as we do not use plant guards but the piles of orange bags full of weed biomass are everywhere!
- Planting with CVA Earth Assist students, Mercy College Bush Rangers, Belridge Education Support Unit, Ocean Reef High School Life Saving Cadets and a number of Joey, Cub and Scout Groups organised by Carra-



Photo by S McArthur

Weed biomass ready for collection



Photo by S McArthur

Quenda at Westview Parking Station, Mullaloo

mar Venturer Amelia Benfell.

- Beach Discovery Day with Angela Rossen and UWA students Matilda Murley, Ashleigh Haddon and Paige Grant, Birdlife WA, Friends of North Ocean Reef Iluka Foreshore Reserve, Friends of Marmion Marine Park, Carramar and Wanneroo Scouts and many others.
- Learning about Nyoongar culture and bush foods with Marissa of Bindi Bindi Dreaming.

Our conservation efforts over the last ten years were rewarded by being able to watch a foraging Quenda on the edge of Westview Parking Station. Quenda are also being sighted quite regularly around and north of Key West Parking Station and there has been a recent sighting in Korella Park Bushland (500 metres inland of the Foreshore Reserve).

With the State NRM Office project nearing completion, we are looking forward to more Coastcare Events planned for our Coca Cola Foundation - Landcare Australia project and new Coastwest project. We are very grateful for the ongoing support from the City of Joondalup Natural Areas Crews and Adeline and Kate of Perth NRM.

Sharon McArthur



Photo by S McArthur

Installing Pitfall Traps during invertebrate surveys.

Friends of Hollywood Bushland

Many thanks to all the helpers who turned out for the School planting day in July. It was a very busy morning with nearly 300 children, 600 plants and 3 hours to get it done, but done it did get. We were very lucky with the weather as showers were forecast for all morning, but someone was on our side, and it held off until all was done and put away. We revegetated a large empty area, so hopefully with the rain they will all go well.

Special thanks must go to Vicki and Ken from the council who dug the holes, put the plants near the holes with the sticks, which made it much easier and quicker for the work to be done. And, let us not forget the school children who gave us their time and their energy, a big thank you to them.

The Reserve is beginning to look lovely. The *Acacia denticulosa* (Sandpaper Wattle) is spectacular this year, as are the Cockies' Tongues - *Templetonia retusa*. So we have the bright red and yellow really brightening up the Reserve. There are plenty of others flowering, so do go for a walk.

Trish Hewson

◇ What's new? ◇ What's new? ◇

Dieback Working Group Inc

DIG 2018

"Working together - combating plant disease through collaboration"

The focus is on how we can work together more effectively to manage significant plant pathogens impacting our cultural, environmental and other values. Join leading representatives from community, industry, government and academia to determine the way forward, hear new research and make a strategic difference.

Register Here: <https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=385682&>

DATE: Friday 31 August 2018

TIME: 8:00am - Registrations / 8:40am - Conference Starts / 4:00pm - Close

VENUE: Bendat Parent & Community Centre, 36 Dodd Street, WEMBLEY

Volunteer Grants 2018 - open for application

The Australian Government is inviting applications via an open process to apply for funding to support volunteers under the Volunteer Grants Activity.

Volunteer Grants aim to support the efforts of Australia's volunteers by:

- providing small amounts of money that organisations and community groups can use to help their volunteers
- forming part of the Government's work to support the volunteers who help disadvantaged Australian communities and encourage inclusion of vulnerable people in community life.

Applications close at 2:00 pm AEST on **18 September 2018**.

For further information about eligibility and how to apply, go to the Funding Round Application page: <https://www.communitygrants.gov.au/grants/volunteer-grants-2018>



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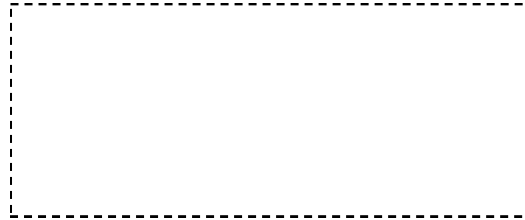
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Urban Bushland Council's Events

WALKS & TALKS

Saturday 15 September 9-11am

Guided walk with Friends of North Ocean Reef - Iluka Foreshore

Burns Beach car park (end of Ocean Parade off Burns Beach Road)

Saturday 13 October 10-12am

Guided walk with Friends of Hepburn & Pinnaroo Bushland

O'Leary Road Padbury

Thursday 18 October 6-8.30pm

Citizen Science and Black Cockatoos

2 Delhi Street West Perth

For more information go to <https://www.bushlandperth.org.au/events/>

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

Office:

URBAN BUSHLAND COUNCIL WA Inc

Lotteries House 2 Delhi Street West Perth WA 6872

Ph 9420 7207 E-mail: ubc@bushlandperth.org.au



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

