

FRIENDS OF ALLEN PARK BUSHLAND GROUP



SUMMER 2019

This summer has turned out to be extremely dry, however, we can be thankful for a dedicated band of volunteers who have been watering a number of last year's seedlings that were planted around Sayer Street and in the Boobook Sector. It is likely that watering will continue until early April, so if you'd like to help out, our contact details are below.

Rainbow Bee-eaters

For many years, a few pairs of this migratory species have chosen to burrow into the sandy soils in Allen Park to breed and raise their young, however, this summer they've been remarkably absent. If you did happen to notice these beautiful birds flitting over the bushland during the summer, please let us know. It would be reassuring to know they returned to this area to breed again.

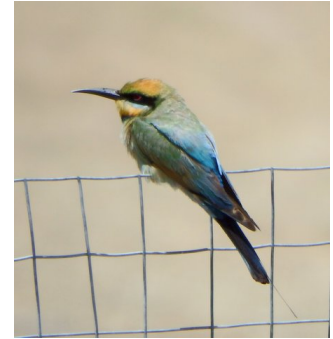


Image: N. Hills, Rainbow bee-eater

AGM

The AGM in November was held at the Associates Rugby Club, which has proven to be a popular venue, and was followed by the screening of the acclaimed *Secrets at Sunrise*, a documentary about the elusive and critically endangered Western Ground Parrot.

Of note, over 850 volunteer hours were recorded for 2018. Aside of on-ground bushcare activities, the committee had been busy on a number of fronts including writing submissions on the Walkway (Lot 353), Nedlands' LPS3, Swanbourne Master Plan, Urban Forest Strategic Plan, and revising the Constitution in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Act of 2015.

Plans for 2019 include:

- Summer watering roster - Sayer Street and Boobook Sector
- Seed collecting
- Cottage fundraising drive
- Planting 1800 seedlings including Wembley waxes to replace Geraldton waxes
- Defining the boundary for revegetation work on the northern end of the Swanbourne Beach Oval according to the Swanbourne Master Plan. Seed collecting for revegetation in the following years.

The executive committee was returned unopposed for another term, and for what may prove to be a busy year ahead, as there is anticipation that the cottage restoration project will finally get underway.

Update on the Cottage Restoration Project

In anticipation of the Allen Park cottage restoration project proceeding, we registered with Lotterywest last April and on advice applied for an ABN and GST. Unfortunately we were then held

up on a number of fronts including the need to demonstrate that the cottage would have multiple users, and a budget for the repairs was necessary in order to make an application to Lotterywest. Having satisfied those requirements, we now await the outcome of a meeting held this last Monday 11th February, between the City of Nedlands and Lotterywest, which hopefully will give the green light to go ahead. It is to be a joint venture and we will provide information to assist with the application, which will be made by the City as the cottage is not owned by us.

It has been established that our group will not have to find a big pot of money to contribute to this project, but will be able to provide in-kind support in as many ways as possible. A target to raise funds will be set and donations will be welcomed. Below are images of the cottage that we propose to name "Pleasant Valley Cottage".



Rear view of Allen Park cottage with Templetonia retusa flowering in the foreground



Looking north towards the cottage

To encourage people to support this project, our first Bushcare Day for 2019 will be at a later date and will be on the 16th March.

It will be an OPEN DAY.

If you've not had an opportunity to visit the cottage before now, the door will be open for you to check out our displays and to appreciate why this cottage is a valuable community asset. There will be a hands-on workshop to help assemble native bee posts and install them in the bushland.

The door will be open between 10am and 1.30pm, with refreshments.

You are welcome to invite your friends and neighbours.

Clean Up Australia Day

The City has organised a Schools Clean Up Australia Day event at Allen Park on Friday the 1st March from 9.15 – 10.45am. Loretto Primary School will be doing a clean up and will be meeting at the Bridge Club car park at 9.20am. 31 students will participate. If you're free to lend a hand on the day, you'll be most welcome.

Opportunities to get involved:

First Saturday of the month We generally meet from 9-11am. We meet first at the FOAPBG cottage near the cricket oval. Instructions are left on a whiteboard outside the cottage with the activity of the morning and a map indicating the whereabouts of the group should anyone arrive late.

Alternatively, there is also a small group that continues to meet on a **Tuesday morning** (9.00 – 11.00) throughout the year. These sessions are guided by the City's Conservation Officer Vicki Shannon, and it's a good time to come along if the weekend proves difficult.

The following bushcare morning will be 9-11am on 6th April: watering and seed collecting.

There are still plenty of hot days ahead and we encourage you to keep a watchful eye on the bush and report any suspicious behaviour to respective authorities. If there's a fire, report immediately to 9382 2222. Please also beware of bobtails, goannas and snakes, which are very active now. We urge dog owners to keep dogs on leads to protect wildlife and encourage owners to pick up after their four legged friends.

Contact us if you are interested in participating in any of the activities or would like more information. Volunteering is a great way to meet locals and the exercise is free!

Ring either 93847983 or 93831501, or email foapbg@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook, and you can also visit us on the Urban Bushland Council's website at <http://www.bushlandperth.org.au/member-groups/3-north-of-the-river/44-friends-of-allen-park-bushland>

Community news

Splashfest . Don't forget that the annual 'Splashfest' is on the beach oval from **2-5pm** on **Sunday the 10th March**.

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The Treasurer FRIENDS OF ALLEN PARK BUSHLAND GROUP INC. 20 Lynton Street, Swanbourne, 6010.

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

NAME:

ADDRESS.....

Email:

Tel: (Home) (Wk) (Mob)

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

Note: Please include your name in any EFTs.

Written by L. Shaw for FOAPBG.