

FRIENDS OF ALLEN PARK BUSHLAND GROUP



WINTER 2021

It didn't rain it poured!

Bushcarers across the region will have relished this winter's rainfall. It just kept on coming, and although there were erosion issues in parts of Allen Park, generally the bushland held out very well, particularly down the log-and-chain. This is the result of a lot of work to secure the embankment - thanks to all those who helped in that regard. The rain gauge near the cottage collected 414mm from 1st June to 27 August!



With over 1800 seedlings to plant, there were 2 big planting events: one in the Boobook Sector, and the other on the embankment near the Swanbourne oval - each event was well supported, which



greatly assisted us achieving our targets.

500 seedlings in 1 morning session



The next generation planting in the Boobook Sector

We were very grateful to Vicki for having prepared the sites to speed things up on the day. It was good to have newcomers to the group, and a mix of ages, which is wonderful. We do hope you will keep on coming as we now have the joy of weeding following that lovely rainfall! Tuesday's group filled the gaps and completed the planting schedule in time to allow the rain to give the seedlings a good start.

So long, but (maybe) not farewell!

We would like to extend a special thank you to Ralph who has been a most treasured member of our group. He has moved back to Ireland. Ralph brought humour (not that it's lacking), enthusiasm, energy, a passion for the bush and a never say die attitude. Ralph will be remembered besides the aforementioned, for trudging along Sayer Street with barrow loads of water when we planted in the Boobook Sector. That was a mammoth task.

A farewell toast to Ralph



Cottage repairs underway



Friends of Allen Park Cottage as of 26 August 2021

Things are finally starting to move at the cottage. There is now fencing around it as contractors prepare the site for renovations. That means that we will gather near the Hollow on bushcare days before moving to work areas. The local community groups have been very supportive - Mayo CG has kindly granted some storage space for tools and the FAWWA has offered access to the table outside and use of their kitchen facilities following our bushcare sessions.

Winding down after a session with a morning tea is integral to bushcare gatherings and really builds community. That sense of belonging, for whatever reason, is treasured. The doors are never closed to anyone, and should people find they are time poor and can only manage a short time with us, they will be welcomed regardlessly.

Children's Hospice

There have been no SAWG meetings since May. On the 11th July 2021, PCHF held its first information meeting with the community since the announcement in August 2020 that a site in Allen Park had been selected for a children's hospice. 5000 square metres of A Class reserve has already been excised for this purpose. It is apparent that little was gained from the session due to limited flow of information about the project. The dearth of information from PCHF prompted the community to organise a meeting on the 9th August at the Associates Rugby Club, with the purpose of gathering questions from the community about the project.

This was well attended and provided the opportunity for questions to be documented so that they could be directed to respective parties: the State Government, City of Nedlands, PCHF, CAHS. Those who attended the meeting will have the questions emailed to them and shared among interested friends and neighbours. Regrettably, the loss of A Class reserves across the Swan Coastal Plain continues unabated. Much needs to change and bring WA's planning laws up to the level of other states whereby Third Party Appeal Rights can be heard and areas such as this can be protected.

Regeneration



Banksia grandis seedling 24 years on....

The verge at Tom Collins is full of surprises, and this little bull banksia seedling (*Banksia grandis*) is the first to be recruited from the 1997 banksia planted with Swanbourne Primary School, then Mayor Colin Barnes and journalist/intrepid traveller Tom Fremantle. Adjacent to the seedling are many budding common mignonette orchids.

Spring walk

Join us for a walk through Allen Park

Date: 4th September

Where: meet at Jameson Street entry to the Boobook Sector, finish at Swanbourne Beach

Time: 9am start - end 10.30am with morning tea

Register early as the walk is limited to 20 people

Following bushcare Day: 2nd October 9-11am

Wildlife casualties

It has come to light that 2 tawny frogmouths have died in recent times. One found on Kirkwood Road and the other near the cricket nets. One must question, how did this happen? It is a timely reminder to consider the effects of rat poison on wildlife, particularly raptors and possums. If anyone has a rat plague, please copy this link and read up on how best to control rats and mice. Please note, only buy First Generation rodenticides such as Ratsak Natural, Ratsak Double Strength, Big Cheese All weather block bait or Racumin. **Do not buy Second Generation Rodenticides!!**

All poisons will harm pets and wildlife, so do not leave them out in the open. They should be in a bait box.

<https://www.natureconservation.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Rat-Control-Native-Wildlife-Information-Sheet-Final-2-.pdf>

Contact details: Ring either 93847983 or 93831501, or email foapbg@gmail.com 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>

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