

WANDI WARBLER

WANDI PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.

All correspondence to: The Secretary, 400, DeHaer Rd, Wandi, WA 6167.

EDITOR Ph: 93970249

December 2008

Presidents Report

Wandi Frustration.

In this edition you may find some frustration. One of the big attractions for many who move to Wandi is the opportunity to have a bit of space to keep some horses. Despite previous assurances and agreements between the horse community and the Council, the Council has introduced an "inspection fee" for those who keep horses. Taken at face value it all sounds fair and reasonable, right? Until you look a little more closely, and find that fees and inspections are not only contrary to previous agreements, but also that they were introduced without any community consultation on the matter, without guidelines on what is expected of horse owners, and without any horse-specific expertise by those who are to conduct the "inspections". At a recent public meeting the CEO justified the inspections on the basis that they could be supported by legislation, even though he failed to provide any substantial reason for undertaking inspections in the first place, let alone justifying the fees. Fortunately Mayor Carol Adams has now intervened and hopefully common sense will prevail, but questions remain such as "is it coincidence that this is happening now the Council has done away with specific representation for special rural areas?" and "if it is horses this week", what will be the target next week, especially since the CEO asserts that horses are the only stock animals kept in Wandi. Maybe ignorance really is bliss. (See also the article submitted by the Kwinana Equine Action Group later in this edition..ED)

For some reason I have been unable to grasp, it seems like the local community newspaper will no longer be distributed in Wandi, so I guess that will mean more focus on our wonderful Wandi Warbler. For those who will miss the community newspaper there is a pretty good online service at <http://kwinana.inmycommunity.com.au/>

Wandi Landcare is going very well under Fred's management. For more details and latest events see his report later in this edition.

Take care, enjoy the Christmas season in peace and safety, and have fun reading your Wandi Warbler.

Until next time,
Peter Hegarty.
WandiProgress@gmail.com

WPA COMMITTEE & MEETING DATES 08/09

Dates for 2008 - 17 Dec and for 2009 - 14 Jan/18 Feb/18 Mar /15 Apr/20 May/17 June/15 July/19 Aug/16 Sep/21 Oct/18 Nov/ 16 Dec

President: Peter Hegarty

Vice Presidents: Fred Erdtsieck, Les Whiddett

Treasurer: Sandra Knight

Minute Secretary: Ken Workman

Committee members: Chris Chalmers, Debbie Cocks, Shane Addis, John Lydon, Rod Cocks, Jim Russell, Rod Pattinson

The committee meets every third Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm. All residents are most welcome to attend or if you have some concerns in the Wandi area and would like the Progress Association to assist, please contact any member.

New committee members are always welcome and we would love YOU to become part of our community, contact Ken Workman on 9397 1060 or email woodboroughwa@bigpond.com for further details.

The Wandi Warbler is now available via email, please help the environment by joining our electronic mail list. Contact WandiProgress@gmail.com to be added to our database.



Wandi Community News - Hey Kids!...Santa Clause is coming to Town

Look out for on Santa and his local firefighter volunteer helpers on Christmas morning. As he will be very busy he will not have the time to come down driveways. He will play loud Christmas music so the best thing for families to do is to listen out for him and to wait at their gate/driveway. A clearly visible "Santa Please Stop Here" sign is helpful, especially if there are small children. Thanks also to the Town of Kwinana who provide Santa with the lollies all bagged up.



The Wandi Progress Association wishes everybody a Happy, Safe and Joyous Christmas along with a healthy successful 2009 ☺

Around the Resource Centre

Has anyone had a look around the resource centre lately? It is really looking very good with the grass being cut on a regular basis by the council along with Mulching etc. The new Fire tank is looking a bit of an eyesore at the moment but that is because they are still working on the piping etc. We gather that the present sand sides will be covered by rocks which should make it look better. The great thing about the tank of course is that the source of water for firefighting will be more secure than it was before.

Don't forget that there are now a couple of free BBQ's, one near the tennis court and another on the old Hope Valley school side. With the close access to the playground etc it is a great place to have those larger family gatherings. We ask that all you leave is your "footprints" along with a clean BBQ for the next user.

With the advent of these long lovely summer evenings the tennis court is being used more often, to book it phone Debbie (9410 2009) or Ken (93971060) between 9:00am and 5:00pm. The cost is \$5 per hour. Yearly memberships are available at \$125 as well. A \$20 key bond is required on both hourly and annual memberships.

Just a reminder about the rules of using the courts, after use please take the tension off the net otherwise the wire stretches and make sure you lock it. Some people have been seen to let their children lean on the net, please treat it like it is your own property. Also there have been instances of younger people climbing the wire fence to gain access. This is damaging the fencing. Any culprits will be reported and prosecution may result.

Where's our Local Rag???

It seems that the Wandi area is no longer going to get a copy of the Kwinana courier or any other local paper. The reason we understand is all about economics, the usual excuse these days. They also say that advertisers are not getting value for money from our community, this is rubbish of course because I am sure that all of you make use of the local tradesmen, shops etc. Makes one wonder about the word "community". Anyway the Wandi Progress Association are "on the case" and will be making submission to both the newspaper and the council in that it is the main way that council passes on their community information.

You can however access each edition 'online' at <http://epaper.communitynews.com.au>

Recreational Group News

Boxing Training – Smithy's Gym

Ian Smith reports that they have been overwhelmed at the interest of many people of all ages, wanting to get fit and are now almost full. Any interested new members, please phone first for available times.

Contact phone numbers are needed for all members and their next of kin. Please register this info in the book provided in the club. Fees will rise on the 1st January 2009 to \$7 pp.

Contact Elaine for more details on 94391078, mobile 0412404674 or email elliejo@westnet.com.au.

Kwinana News

7th December - Sloan's Christmas Party - Sloan's Reserve, Leda - A family day like no other at the best picnic spot in Kwinana - 10am- 4pm
Contact: 9439 0289

Kwinana Carols by candlelight – Date not set yet – phone the council on 94390200

Yagin Tours Resume – Located at the Spectacles wetlands these two hour tours which will run on Saturdays and Sundays until April include guided walks, storytime and bush tucker. For more details and bookings phone the Town of Kwinana 94390200

Broadband Update

Ocean Broadband – Reports are mixed on this service but if you have problems do not hold your breath in terms of getting anybody to fix it up. Based on personal experience the service is not all that reliable, however others do report that they have had reasonable results. If it works it is great, if it doesn't it is a nightmare. It is reasonably priced and is generally pretty fast.

Telstra BigPond – All the reports are that it is reliable and fast. In my own location signal strength was down but still worked. When I installed an external antenna my signal strength was excellent. Look for the special offers to keep your costs down, at the time of writing this Telstra had a half price for a year and a free modem when signing up for three years. Can be a bit pricey but is really fast when signal strength is at its optimum.

Welcome to New Residents

We welcome all new residents to our community.

Here is some background to some of our latest, the Fletcher family.

Neil, Nicky (his wife) and Rory (aged 6) along with Thomas and Tetley their Border Terriers moved here from the UK in July after coming here on holiday to visit family for several years. They became permanent Australian residents a year ago and chose to live in Wandi because of its lovely countryside. They have family that lives in Wandi as well. Neil is running a property maintenance business hoping to offer a reliable and professional service to Wandi and surrounding areas. The family is looking forward to being a part of the Wandi community for many years to come.

The Wandi Warbler would love to hear from you if you are new to the community!

Prepare for bushfires – Fire Breaks and Prevention Works

Reminder - Fire Breaks and prevention work has to be done by **1st December**. Failure to comply with the legal requirements can result in an on the spot fine of **\$250**, and the work been done by Council contractors with the cost been passed onto the land owners. Fines are even higher if convicted in court. Besides for legal issues, the main reason to do fire prevention work is to protect your family and neighbours. It is hoped to inspect all properties in the whole of Kwinana.

Open fires and BBQs

Reminder no burning of bush is allowed in the Prohibited Burning Period from 1st December to 31st March. This includes at night.

Reminder to use care when having a BBQ. Make sure you have a clear area around it, there are no overhanging trees, and the BBQ is closely monitored. If the fire danger is Very High or Extreme, only gas BBQs are permitted. To find out what the fire danger is call 1196.

If you need more information, feel free to contact Ray Sousa or the Ranger Team at Council Offices 9439 0200. Be careful and safe this summer "

Bushfire Ready Action Group

Approximately 26 residents attended the meeting on 13th October and heard interesting presentations which emphasised the "Stay or Go" theme along with the importance of making sure you and your neighbours work together. We thank Ray Sousa, Steve Treeby and Phil Brown.

Prepare for bushfires ... stay and defend or go early

Now is the time to review your Bushfire "Stay or Go Kit". Stay and Go kits or DVDs can be delivered by Mandogalup Bush Fire Brigade or Council Officers, just contact Steve (0408 988 122) or Ray (9439 0200).

Full details, more information and pdfs are available on the FESA website

<http://www.fesa.wa.gov.au/internet/default.aspx?MenuID=325> .

It is also worthwhile adding the emergency alerts website to your internet favorites so that you can get updates on a bushfire in the area. <http://www.fesa.wa.gov.au/internet/Alerts/default.aspx#> .

In addition it is worthwhile remembering that 720 ABC Radio also broadcast alerts at 15 minutes past the hour and 15 minutes to the hour or ringing 1300 657 209 for regularly updated messages.

Help the Bush Fire Brigade Volunteers Help You

Just a quick reminder from the last Warbler, with the advent of people locking gates and having automatic gates thought needs to be given to access for emergency fire vehicles. One option is to have an additional, traditional gate into the firebreak area. This would allow fire vehicles to cut a padlock and enter your property via the firebreak.

Wandi Hall Emergency Evacuation Centre

There has been a request for a volunteer to assist with managing the evacuation centre during incidents such as a bush fire. This would leave more emergency services free to deal with the incident and also means that people see a local face at a time of high stress. If you are intending to "go" during an incident and would be at the emergency evacuation centre anyway this may be a way that you can help. There may be an opportunity to attend an Evacuation Centre training course taking place on Wednesday 10 December 2008. The training covers all aspects including; involvement, opening the centres, setting up the centre, roles of various agencies, communication systems, registration, and many other aspects.

For more details please contact Ray Sousa on 9439 0200

Wandi Landcare / Progress Association Website

The Wandi Landcare Group and the Progress Association now have their respective web domains. They are www.wandilandcare.org and www.wandiprogess.org . There is still much work to be done but the sites will develop over time. You can also download the latest edition of the "Wandi Warbler" in full colour here.

Wandi Landcare Group.

As we go into a quieter period on the Landcare Calendar, I would like to reflect on what has happened since the Spring edition of the Wandi Warbler. With the late November rains I hope that the survival rate of the seedlings planted out on your block is good. Those planted around the lake in June this year are thriving with few mortalities to mention. I will now update you on the different activities that have happened.

Courses.

Several members took advantage of the courses that were run over October and November. Everyone left much wiser and with a new skill set to help them towards revegetating and maintaining the weeds on their land. The courses attended were "Herbicide Safety and Application" and "Seed Collection". All involved enjoyed themselves and had nothing but praise to say about them. This will go along way towards making people more self sufficient.

These courses were kindly funded by International Power Mitsui at no cost to the attendees. I have enough funding for another Herbicide Course to be run sometime after the first rains next year so if you wish to attend, please feel free to contact me. If you are not a Wandi Landcare member signing up is only a formality.

I am looking for expressions of interest from the Wandi community and friend groups for possible future courses to be held under the Wandi Landcare group. Please contact me if you are interested and I'll put you on a list.

Interpretive Signage

Six of the smaller interpretive signs were placed around Magenup Lake over November. These were installed by a team of "Green Corp." volunteers who also did a great job clearing out the weed growth around this year's seedling planting. The weeds were especially bad around the second planting and now the seedlings now have some growing space. We can hope that with these late November rains their chances of survival will greatly increase. For some horticultural training, a large number of Jointed Rush cuttings were collected and potted on at Ngulla Community Nursery and these will be planted out next year after the rains as they like wet feet. With any luck these will start a new patch out on the Magenup Lake area.



Some of the Green Corp members busy installing an interpretive sign

Merry Xmas and have a Happy New Year.

Fred Erdtsieck
Wandi Landcare Group Coordinator
T: 9397 2232
M: 0428 604 032
E: pearling@oceanbroadband.net

Kwinana Equine Action Group

Well it's been a very busy couple of months for the group with Kwinana Council invoicing horse owners for \$100 to renew registrations. We have been campaigning vigorously to have the fee removed as it was agreed originally that no fee be introduced without comprehensive community consultation. This was written into budget papers but was not adhered to. For the second time in 4 years council has sent out invoices for payment without following proper process. At the council meeting held on the 12th November a motion was passed, albeit with a small majority, that the fee be withdrawn until a thorough community consultation process has been carried out. This is a start but we still have a long way to go. It was with the help of the Wandi Progress Association and other groups giving us letters of support that assisted us in getting the motion passed.

It has become apparent in our talks with council that they intend to only have horses and no other animals excluding dogs and cats in Kwinana Shire. I have pointed this out to the Wandi Progress association as some people do have cattle, lamas, goats etc.

We have also had talks with our new M.L.A. Rodger Cook and made him aware of the problems we are having with the Town of Kwinana. We also updated him with previous issues in relation to our properties, land use and keeping animals.

We will keep you updated in next issue.

Contributed by **Barrie Donohoe** (barriedonohoe@bigpond.com) or phone 93970440

Snakes Alive! – Dealing with Snakes

Now that summer has well and truly arrived here in Wandi the snakes will be very active as usual, so it is worthwhile having a bit of a refresher on what to do if you see one...or two ...or three, you may not see many but there are lots out there! The most common snakes here are the Tiger Snake and Dugite.

The following is reproduced thanks to the WA Department of Environment and Conservation.

During spring and summer, many reptilian creatures will come out of hiding to bask in the sunlight causing concern and potential risks to unsuspecting people and their pets. During this time you should take precautions and be aware of your surroundings in order to minimise the chance of dangerous encounters with any snakes.

You need to remember that snakes do live in the environment of the metropolitan area. They are an integral part of the

natural environment and play an important role in wildlife ecosystems.

Common snakes seen around Perth

The most commonly encountered dangerously venomous snakes in the metropolitan area are dugites and tiger snakes.

Tiger snakes (*Notechis scutatus*) are most common in vegetation around wetland areas. They are also often seen throughout the year sunning themselves in open areas and may be found well away from water.

Dugites (*Pseudonaja affinis*) are most commonly found in the drier bushland areas around Perth, especially grasslands. They are fast-moving snakes that are attracted to aviaries and other locations where mice can be found.

Both species hunt small mammals, frogs and lizards, and though they are active in the day, they are also active at night in warm weather.



Precautions you should take

Peoples' dislike of snakes is most often based in fear and the lack of knowledge on how to live with them, but by taking precautions and making a few adjustments in lifestyle, the possibility of a dangerous encounter with any snakes is reduced.

- Be aware and take care in bushland and grassy areas.
- Walk and/or cycle on cleared areas only, where the ground can be seen.
- When out bushwalking, wear long trousers and boots or other enclosed footwear that preferably cover the ankles.
- Keep a watchful eye on the ground about a metre ahead of where you are walking and avoid entering areas of long grass, rushes and undergrowth.
- Remove from residences, any long grass and items lying on the ground such as corrugated iron, which may provide cover for snakes.
- Reduce mice numbers around the house.
- Learn the [correct treatment for snakebite](#). (*Opens in a new browser window.*)

What to do if you find a snake

If you encounter a snake it is important not to approach or aggravate it in any way. Most snakebites occur when people accidentally step on them, or when they are attempting to kill them. As the warmer days of spring approach, snakes become more active and noticeable as they leave their winter retreats in search of a mate and food.

If you find a snake in a garden or a house, you should contact the department on (08) 9334 0292 or 9334 0333 and you will be referred to one of a number of volunteer reptile removers.

If volunteers are unavailable at the time, there are commercial operators that provide snake removal services. Advice can be provided by phoning the department on (08) 9334 0292 or 9334 0333.

If you are interested in snakes and other reptiles, contact [WA Society of Amateur Hepetologists](#)

Wandi Ecowatch- Another African Invader

AFRICAN LOVEGRASS

(Eragrostis curvula)

African Lovegrass is a summer growing perennial grass. It is often found on disturbed sites but it seldom invades well-managed farmland or native bush areas although it has the potential to encroach into these areas. It is a large, tufted perennial to 1m tall, with greyish-green, often in-rolled leaves. Lovegrass produces many seeds in greenish-purple or blackish flowers that can be up to 40cm long.

The main features that make Lovegrass a weed include- it causes a major fire hazard, reduces traffic visibility on roads, blocks surface drains, increases costs of road maintenance, detracts from the surfaces of playing areas, reduces aesthetic appearance and reduces pasture production.

It is time to spray and individual tufts can be spot sprayed with glyphosate. Old stands may first need a spring burn or slashing to remove dead material. It would be a good idea to start with your verge.

From the Shire of Gingin weed action group



Do you have any useful community news such as crime in the area etc? Contact the Editor on 93970249 or email jimrussell@iceweb.com.au

At the Hall and Resource Centre

Smithy's Boxing Gym - Boxing Training

Mon - Thurs 5:30 to 7:15pm



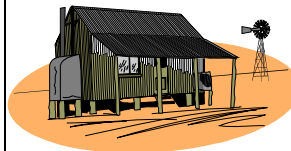
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Mob 0412404674

Email: elliejo@westnet.com.au

WANDI HALL HIRE

Phone Debbie Cocks on 9410 2009
for further information
or bookings



WANDI CRAFT GROUP



*1st & 3rd Thursday
of the month*

*A friendly group that meet for a chat and
participate in a variety of crafts. Contact Debbie on
9410 2009*

OLD TIME FAMILY DANCE



**2ND Saturday
of each month**

7.30pm start

**Live Band - Supper supplied - No alcohol
Contact Pat - 9439 2727**

WOODTURNING CLUB



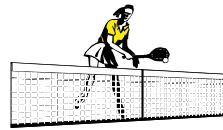
All meetings held in the Green Workshop
First & third Thursday of the month at 7.00pm

Wednesday
Men - 8.00am to 12.00
Women - 12:00 to 3:00pm

New members always welcome.
For further information phone Alan 9528 2520

TENNIS COURT HIRE

Have a fun day with the family or friends by hiring our tennis courts Or become a member with an annual fee. Healthy family fun!!



Cost is \$5.00 per hour per court with a \$20 key bond.

For more information or bookings phone Debbie Cocks - 9410 2009

WANDI PLAYGROUP



The day is changing for 2009 - please phone for details

A delightful group of mums and children meet every Tuesday
Contact - Jenny (President) - 94379484
Johanna (Secretary) - 93970455
Melissa (Treasurer) - 93972841
for further information

WANDI BOOKCLUB



2nd
Wednesday of the month

Wandi Hall Club rooms 7.30 pm
Contact: Marie Tully 9410 0245.

SAVE EQUUS



Meet the Magenup Equestrian Centre

1st Monday of each month, at 7.30pm. All horse lovers are welcome

WA SCROLLERS

Members of the Australian ScrollSaw Network Inc.
Meet every Tuesday morning 9.00am - 12.00
Where: Clubrooms, Wandi Hall
Beginners welcome
Contact: Kevin Treasure - 9529 3227



WEST AUSTRALIAN GUILD OF WOODCARVERS INC. WANDI

This branch of the Guild meets in the green shed every Monday morning between 9.00am & 12.00. - Beginners or advanced welcome.
Contact- Fred Brewer 9419 3558

SOUTHERN DISTRICTS TRITON CLUB

Meet every fourth Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in the Wandi Hall Clubrooms.

Contact - Gary Withers Ph 9593 2317

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*The Wandi Progress Association wish all of our
readers a*

