

WANDI WARBLER

WANDI PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.

All correspondence to: The Secretary, 2 Lill Place, Anketell, WA 6167.

EDITOR Ph: 93970249

June 2012

Wandi Progress Association News

You can contact the Wandi Progress Association via Email

WandiProgress@gmail.com

Wandi Progress Association commits \$40,000 to new Resource Centre

Rod Cocks, Les Whiddett together with representatives from Town of Kwinana have met with Lotterywest in regards to funding for Shed extension. Lotterywest require more money to be allocated from Council funds or an additional grant to be obtained. "In kind" donations from WPA such as site works were discussed. There was a long discussion on increasing WPA allotted contribution (currently \$15,000) and requesting pledges from the various clubs which would benefit from the project. As a result it has been decided to allocate a further \$25,000 of our funds to the project, making the total WPA commitment now \$40,000.

Restoration of Bushland

Janet Carr attended a DEC meeting regarding restoration work being undertaken to offset the clearing of vegetation at Jandakot Airport where 17 hectare of bushland has been identified as being dieback and relatively weed-free. The land has been cleared and the topsoil is being moved to three sites, the principal being Anketell/Thomas Road (12 hectare site). Direct seeding and planting of seedlings is being undertaken plus germination from seeds in the topsoil is being monitored. It is hoped to increase the available Banksia Woodland area for habitat for the Carnaby Cockatoos.

WPA Committee & Meeting Dates 2012

20 June / 18 July / 15 Aug / 19 Sept / 17 Oct / 21 Nov / 18 Dec

President: Rod Pattinson

Vice Presidents: Fred Erdsieck, Les Whiddett

Treasurer: Peter Hegarty

Secretary: Janet Carr

Committee Members: Angela Bambaci, Chris Barnes, Debbie Cocks, Rod Cocks, Jim Russell, Wayne Tentori, Ken Workman

Mayor Carol Adams Corner

It is with great pleasure that I provide the residents of Wandi with an update from the Town of Kwinana.

Future Train Station

I am sure local residents are as eager as the Town for information regarding the road to rail issue and the State Government's decision on a future Train Station for Mandogalup. Unfortunately though, there is nothing new to report at present. As previously reported, the State Government is yet to indicate its preferred site for a future train station in the region and the road to rail issue is ongoing, with the Town expressing our concerns in regards to road safety, maintenance and congestion as well as the general adverse effects which will be felt by the wider community. The Town of Kwinana continues to lobby the State Government on these two issues and hopefully in my next update I will have some new information to report.

Community Resource and Knowledge Centre

The \$22m Centre continues to progress (although a bit slower than we had hoped) with the opening of the facility now pushed back to late 2012/early 2013. Road works on Chisham Avenue in the Town Centre will also commence in the coming weeks and will help better connect the many aspects of the Town Centre Revitalisation.

Regional Sporting Facility

The Town has recently had discussions with the Rockingham Kwinana Development Office (RKDO) in regards to the need for a 'regional' sports facility in the Casuarina/Wandi/East Wellard area. The RKDO is a State Government funded office that is in place specifically to assist with large scale developments in the Kwinana and Rockingham regions. With major growth occurring east of the freeway, a major sports facility, similar to Lark Hill in Secret Harbour, would be hugely beneficial to the area. We will keep you up to date with this new initiative in future communications.



Wandi Community Centre

We are focusing on securing grant funding for a future Wandi Community Centre and it is great to see the Wandi community groups providing so much support, both in terms of resources and individual funding, to help get this project off the ground.

Kwinana Marketplace/Town Centre

Although not Council run initiatives, I am also pleased to see development of our new major shopping centre, the Kwinana Marketplace, progressing smoothly and the new "Admiral" Tavern now open for business. As the first new commercial business to commence operations as part of the Town Centre Revitalisation, the Admiral has certainly set an impressive standard for future retailers.

Local Government Reform

Onto other news and the Metropolitan Local Government Review Panel has released its draft findings on local government reform and while not recommending specific boundary realignments, the report certainly paints a unique picture of the local government sector moving forward. On the issue of reform, the Town of Kwinana will continue to maintain our previous position; that either the status quo remain or as recommended in our initial submission to the panel, that the Town of Kwinana expands to encompass all of industry along the Western Trade Coast – a proposal which focuses on the economic importance of industry as well as Kwinana's proven track record of administering the complex needs of both industrial and residential communities.

With that said, the Town of Kwinana will also commence discussions with our neighbouring councils to ensure that, regardless of the eventual outcome, the specific needs of the Kwinana community are fully addressed.

"City of Kwinana" - City Status

On a brighter note, I am delighted to report that the Town of Kwinana, having officially surpassed the 30,000 residents threshold, has received confirmation from the State Government that we have now achieved all the requirements to become a City! It may seem a bit odd to be celebrating our progression to a City amidst all this talk of reform and amalgamation however it is important the community is not put on hold and that we continue to progress with essential projects, city status being one of them.

I look forward to addressing the Wandi community again, as well as attending your anniversary BBQ in October and also invite you to join us on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/townofkwinana), which has been gaining a lot of momentum in recent weeks, to share your thoughts, concerns and favourite aspects of the Wandi and Kwinana community.

Yours in Kwinana,

Carol Adams

Mayor

Ocean Broadband Wandi Transmitter Status

This is of interest to any residents who are still using the Ocean Broadband Service.

The present arrangement is that Ocean Broadband has their antennae and equipment installed in the Wandi Community Centre. Under our contract with them they are required to pay us rental for the space for their equipment of \$1000 per year. The original contract was for 5 years and subject to a further two periods of 3 years each should they wish to continue the agreement. Back in March the WPA asked them for two years rent they owe us (since it appears they didn't pay last year). Also now the five years period is finished. Earlier in the year we asked what they intended given that we hadn't received any 3 year renewal from them. In April we got back an email asking for a formal invoice, which was then sent, and they indicated that they were preparing a contract for three more years. Given that it is now the end of May we contacted them again and asked what was happening and were told that it was being "decided by the manager". We asked that they get back to us urgently and the latest news is that the Ocean Broadband manager has assured us that they will be sending us a contract renewal for the next three years and will pay the rental early next week. Obviously this situation will need to be resolved and we continue to work in the best interests of the community.

NBN in 2013?

Out of Interest a search of the NBN rollout for Wandi details; Fibre Work to commence within one year - we will commence work in your postcode from Feb 2013 in phases with last work scheduled to commence in Dec 2013*.

Bandicoot Survey

The Department of Environment & Conservation and WWF Australia have called on residents to report sightings of Bandicoots as part of a survey. Bandicoots are under threat from habitat loss, vehicle strike and predation from cats, dogs and foxes. The survey is to help identify where Bandicoots are currently living and to compare this with previous surveys and to see if numbers are changing.

Details of how to be involved in the survey are on the WWF website www.wwf.org.au

Wandi Anniversary – 25 Years Of Progress

Who would have thought from those early meetings in residents' houses and Mandogalup Hall that Wandi could have its own Community Centre which is now home to more than 25 organisations who meet on a regular basis as well as a dozen groups who meet casually. Additionally the hall is used for weddings, engagements, Christmas functions, elections etc.

We think it is fitting that all present and former residents be invited to celebrate our 25th anniversary this year. Please mark **Sunday 28 October** on your calendar now. Further details will appear on our website in due course and flyers will be distributed in October.

Please Help Us With Our History

As part of our celebration, we are planning a display about Wandi's progress over the years, but we need your help. If you have lived in the area for 20 years or more, you will have seen many changes. Please let us know what you remember.

- What was the price of blocks of land originally?
- Which schools did your children attend?
- The Kwinana Freeway extension did not open until 1994. If you worked in Perth CBD what route did you take to work and how long did it take?
- Where did you shop? (prior to Cockburn Gateways shopping centre being opened)
- Is there an important event that occurred in Wandi? eg., bushfire. How did it affect your family? When did it occur?
- What major changes (good and bad) have occurred in the area since you moved here?

Any other information of interest would be a great help.

- Do you have any photos or memorabilia we could copy to use in the display at our celebration?
- Do you have any older relatives who may remember the area prior to it being sub-divided?
- Do you keep in contact with people who previously lived in the area as we are keen to contact as many previous residents as possible.

Wanted: First Aid Attendants

Volunteers with a current First Aid certificate are required for our 25th Anniversary celebrations on Sunday 28th October 2012 between 10am – 3pm. We require someone on-site to comply with the Town of Kwinana's requirements. If you are able to assist for a couple of hours, please contact Janet on 9410 0982 or secretary@wandiprogess.org

Please email: secretary@wandiprogess.org or ring Janet on 9410 0982

Vintage Cars

Do you own a vintage car? As part of the WPA's 25th anniversary celebration on Sunday, 28th October, we would like to have a display of vintage cars. If you are an owner and would be interested in displaying a vehicle at our event, please contact Rod Cocks on 9410 2009.

Wandi Progress Association Website – <http://wandiprogess.org>

The Wandi Progress (WPA) and Wandi Landcare Group (WLCG) web sites can be accessed just by typing either wandiprogess.org or wandilandcare.org in your browser. Some of the links on previous issues of the Wandi Warbler will not work directly but if you edit them to remove the prefix, you can access the file normally. Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause but it will make it easier for all further down the road.

Events Calendar

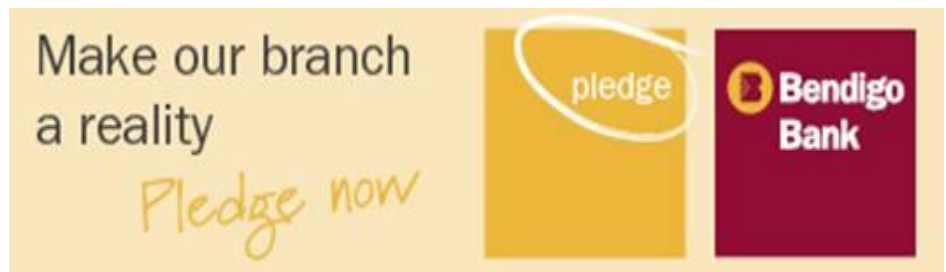
The Events Calendar page on the WPA website is starting to have plenty of free local events and activities added. The link is http://wandiprogess.org/_php/events.php and it is located on the home page menu. If you wish to add your local activity here please email Fred Erdtsieck at events@wandiprogess.org.

WPA Blog

The WPA blog can be found at <http://blogg.wandiprogess.org>

Bendigo Kwinana Community Bank Project

A number of people from the Kwinana Community have joined together to explore the possibility of establishing a **Community Bank**[®] branch in Kwinana.



A **Community Bank**[®] is different to other bank branches – It is a locally owned and operated company, which functions as a franchise of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank. When the local company begins to make a profit, the funds available after paying operating expenses will be reinvested back into the community through dividends to shareholders and grants to community groups and projects. Only 20% of the profits can be distributed to shareholders, so the majority is available for grants and sponsorships.

If we are successful establishing a **Community Bank**[®] branch in Kwinana your local community has the potential to benefit once the branch is operating profitably. There are currently 289 **Community Bank**[®] branches Australia wide that have combined returned more than \$70 million to their communities. In Western Australia, 41 **Community Bank**[®] branches have contributed over \$8 million.

We are very excited to have commenced our campaign to establish a **Community Bank**[®] branch in Kwinana, and are currently inviting local community members to pledge their support by indicating the amount they intend to invest in the local community company that will be formed to operate the branch. A pledge target of \$800,000 from more than 300 local people has been set, and already more than \$70,000 has been pledged. This is a very promising start to the campaign. No money is required at this stage, as pledges are simply used to gauge the level of support for the project. If there is sufficient support a Feasibility Study will be completed before we consider issuing a prospectus to raise the working capital required for this venture.

We would love the opportunity to share with you the benefits a **Community Bank**[®] branch could bring to Kwinana. The Steering Committee and I are keen to make presentations to as many groups as possible and I encourage you to contact me so we can arrange a suitable time for your group. For further information or to organise an appropriate time to discuss the **Community Bank**[®] concept, please do not hesitate to contact me on the numbers below.

Alternatively, if you wish to pledge your support for this fantastic community initiative, please find attached a copy of the pledge form.

I would also like to inform you that we will soon launch our website, www.kwinanacommunityproject.com.au which will help you to find details on the current progress of the campaign, upcoming events and other general information.

Thank you for your time and for supporting the campaign to establish our very own **Community Bank**[®] branch in Kwinana.

Kind Regards

John Iriks , Chairman - Steering Committee, Kwinana **Community Bank**[®] Project

P: 08 94191077 I F: 08 94191721 I E: john@kpcaccounting.com.au

The Wandi local representative on this committee is Les Whiddett, so if you have any questions you can contact him on 94100290 or email leswhid@bigpond.com

Around the Resource Centre

Tennis Courts - To book the tennis courts please 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. ***Please do not forget to remove the net tension and pick up your rubbish after playing.***

Wandi Community Facilities - If you are a member of a club or would like to start a new club that would benefit the Wandi community please contact one of the committee or attend a WPA meeting to discuss your proposal. Contact **Debbie on 94102009**

Wandi Playgroup

Well its almost that time again. Wandi Playgroup would love for you to send through to the Town of Kwinana your slips, which come with your rates, supporting us. It makes a big difference to the way we operate.

We need new members NOW! Wandi Playgroup would LOVE to see new children join in on the fun. You are welcome to start anytime. We are an easy going group who need continued involvement from the local community. We have great quality toys and plenty of them, a craft cupboard full of gear waiting for use and a shaded playground and sandpit. What more could you ask for! Playgroup is a fantastic way to develop social and sharing skills. All of the children who come love the relaxed atmosphere and enjoy themselves. Please come down! We also have great end of term party's / Christmas party and are running excursions throughout 2012.

Fees are cheap and casual rates are available and there is no fundraising.

We run on Tuesdays through out school term from 9am to 11am. Fruit time is around 10am. Please bring a piece of fruit. Your first session is free. For further information please call Susan on 93932304 or Natalie on 94987210.

Clean up Australia Day Sunday 4th March



Twenty-one (21) Wandi and Anketell residents assisted at the Clean Up Australia event organised by the Wandi Progress Association on Sunday 4th March. Several other people collected rubbish during the week prior to the event as they were unable to attend on the day. We collected 47 bags of rubbish, along with dumped building materials, many car tyres, a TV etc. The majority of the rubbish consisted of drink bottles, aluminium cans, fast food containers and cigarette packets. After the event, volunteers enjoyed refreshments provided by the Satterley Property Group. The WPA also thanks the Town of Kwinana who arranged for a staff member to collect all the bags within an hour of us finishing our work.

Feel Like Getting Fit - Casual Cycling Anyone?

A few 40 year old guys from Wandi are fortunate enough to have permission from their loved ones to go on a short cycle early every Saturday morn. We all ride together at a steady pace, no sprints and chat, mainly about that next gift for the wife but sometimes about how the employer would benefit if they would only implement our suggestions and how we are all saving for a bigger shed (after the family's next holiday). Afterwards we drop in at Maca's for a healthy light breakfast and a drink.

All welcome, tradesmen, professionals, students and the retired or cunning and wise. We meet at Cockburn rail station at 6.30am (time changes depending on season) Contact Kim 9410 2539 or email iska@netspace.net.au

Wandi Landcare Group Update



Tree planting – Sunday 20 May 2012

Despite the glorious weather, the numbers for our community tree-planting day were down dramatically on previous years. Perhaps this was due to the March Warbler being sent electronically and, unfortunately, we failed to email a reminder closer to the date. Next year we promise to bombard you with reminders!!

Although we had small numbers, we still managed to plant over 450 tree seedlings. Angela Jakob, Bush Care Officer from Town of Kwinana, organised the event and Leah from Ecojobs was her assistant. We had two international visitors who cycled from Murdoch Station to join us – Harvie from France and Louisa from Holland, who had seen the flyer put out by Kwinana Council. The morning was finished off with a BBQ, sponsored by Town of Kwinana and cooked by Rod & Debbie Cocks. A Cappuccino Xpress coffee van, sponsored by Satterleys, provided coffee and muffins. Thanks to everyone involved.

Further 2012 plantings within the Town of Kwinana will be held on:

Sunday 10 June at Bertram Sanctuary Reserve

Sunday 24 June at Chalk Hill

Sunday 1 July at Homestead Ridge

Sunday 29 July at Rotary Wildflower Reserve

Wandi Weed Alert

Sydney Golden Wattle



THIS WEED ALTHOUGH IT HAS PRETTY FLOWERS IS A REAL THREAT TO OUR WANDI NATIVE BUSH – NOW IS THE TIME TO CUT MATURE TREES DOWN, ONCE CUT AT THE ROOT IT WILL DIE. PULL UP SMALL PLANTS BEFORE THEY BECOME AN ISSUE,

The Sydney Golden Wattle is a tree that originally came from the Eastern States. It has been introduced to Western Australia, and because it is fast spreading and tough, it has become a weed, dominating our creek and swamp areas. The Sydney Golden wattle spreads across the bushland by seed. The birds eat the seed and deposit them through their droppings. The seeds of the wattle also spread easily by getting blown in the wind and carried along in the water. This way of germinating is extremely effective which means it causes a lot of problems by spreading quickly. The wattle is also such a nuisance because it is a very hard wearing plant and hard to kill off completely as the seed will stay in the ground for a long time. The wattle kills the native plant life by growing over the species blocking out light and sun. It also uses up valuable water resources. This can lead to the extinction of our local species. THE TREES CAN GROW TO 20 Metres AND CREATE A GROVE – ALL NATIVE BUSH UNDERNEATH WILL DIE.



Pigface

Commonly seen throughout the urban area, pigface is an introduced perennial with large triangular, succulent leaves. It produces characteristic large yellow flowers which age to pink. This is a serious pest of pasture and sandy soils.

Eradicate by pulling up plants or chemical spraying with Roundup.

Wandi Crime Watch

The WPA is concerned about recent break-ins in Wandil. Residents should be vigilant and report any suspicious activity or vehicles to police.

A white Triton Ute has reportedly been seen parked at entry to community centre, it was driven away without its lights on. Should you sight any suspicious vehicles please report them to police even if the registration number was not taken.

Also a vehicle pulled out the bollards and cut up the oval in March. The damage has since been fixed by council.

In addition there have been reports of vandalism at Honeywood Estate.

Incidents – There were reports of burglaries in;

April

Bodeman Road

May

Although not detailed in the latest police reports we understand that there have been burglaries in Lyon Road and Anketell.

Illegal dumping is now becoming rife in our area, if you see it happening please make a note of the vehicle registration and report it to council on 94390200.

There are reports of a few cases of bag snatching at the congested Kwinana shopping centre car parks, while construction is going on take extra care when loading shopping into your vehicle and be aware of what is going on around you.

If you have a portable GPS in your vehicle and have it stolen, it could give the location on where you live, whoever stole it would have access to that information and use it to see when no one is at home and break in.

Also mobile phones could have personal data in the memory bank, such as bank account details. Once again if it is stolen someone would have access to that information.

Scamwatch

Carbon Price Scams

WA ScamNet is warning consumers and businesses to be on the lookout for carbon price scams.

How these scams work

Carbon price scams may come in a number of forms, targeting consumers and businesses:

- Scammers may also set up fake websites which look very similar to official Australian Government websites. The sites may ask you to enter your personal or financial details, or offer to sell you fake carbon credits.
- Beware of phone calls seeking your personal banking details to pay carbon 'tax' compensation into your bank account. These are likely to be scam calls.

Protect yourself

- The Australian Government will never call you to ask for your bank account details or to offer you carbon price compensation. Government services are never paid via wire transfer.
- The Australian Government website www.australia.gov.au is a safe portal for finding government services.
- Be alert to scam survey calls which ask for personal, business or financial details. Hang up immediately if you receive a phone call out of the blue:
 - asking for your bank account or personal details,
 - claiming you need to pay or transfer money to receive a compensation payment or tax payment, or offering to sell you carbon credits or permits for a carbon pricing mechanism or emissions trading scheme.
- Never provide or confirm your personal or business details over the phone unless you made the call using contact details you found yourself and you trust the information.
- If you think that a call might be a scam hang up and check by using official contact details which you have found independently. Never use phone numbers, email addresses or websites provided by the caller.
- Never enter your credit card or banking details on a website unless you have checked it is authentic and secure. Legitimate websites which ask you to enter sensitive personal or business details are commonly encrypted to protect your details.
 - This is usually identified by the use of "https:" rather than "http:" at the start of the internet address.
 - This can also be identified by a closed or unbroken key or padlock icon at the bottom right corner of your browser window.
 - If the 's' is missing or there is an open padlock or broken key icon, your information may not be secure and the website could be a scam site.
- If you think you have provided your account details to a scammer, contact your bank or financial institution immediately.
- Businesses make sure you only deal with people you know and trust. Avoid having a large number of staff authorised to make orders or pay invoices. This will reduce the risk of your business paying for something that it is not required or is not legitimate.

Help me scam (also called the grandparent scam)

A friend emails with an urgent request to send them money overseas by wire transfer.

They lost their wallet, passport and other documentation and desperately need money to pay for their hotel bill, food and to fly home.

“I need this help so much and on time because I am in a terrible and tight situation here, I don’t even have money to feed myself for a day which means I had been starving myself so please understand how urgent I need your help.” Could you turn your back on a friend in need? In this case, yes because this is no friend at all. It is a scammer.

Scammers are breaking into people’s email accounts, impersonating people in those accounts, and sending emails to all the contacts in their address books. The email is quite clever because the writer apologises for not telling the recipient that they are overseas on a business trip. They even go into detail about the trip. They explain away the need to use wire transfer by saying it is easier and quicker than transferring the money online straight into their account.

One consumer that fell for the email told WA ScamNet that he responded immediately to the request and wired the money overseas. He then got more requests to send money. Afterwards he thought: why had his friend not got help from her insurance company, the Australian Consul and why was her English so poor? Another consumer has reported that scammers hacked into her email account and were sending the “Help Me” email from her email address. This is a nasty email that banks on the good-heartedness of people wanting to help friends and colleagues.

It illustrates how important it is to keep your anti-software current on your computer and how you should scrutinise email requests, even those purporting to come from friends.

Another version of this tricky emergency help me scam comes in the form of a mobile telephone text message, as one unlucky person brought to WA ScamNet’s attention.

The scammer pretends to be a relative (in this case a brother) in a text message which asks the recipient to save his phone number, and also asks: “How was your weekend?”, to make it look genuine. But this time, the scammer has lost his wallet and needs money to be wire transferred to an overseas post office.

The scammer claims the money will be picked up by a friend because he has no identification. But this is where alarm bells should ring loudly!

These scammers create a fictitious urgent and desperate situation to trap their victims.

The scammers are hoping that those targeted will be so upset and alarmed they will act immediately and won’t stop to think or independently verify the story – but that is exactly what they need to do.

If you receive a phone call or email asking for assistance for a family member or friend, try to contact that person independently to make sure that the story is true before sending any money.

There have also been cases where people’s email accounts have been hacked into and these help me messages sent to all their friends in their contact list. It just takes one to respond and send money by wire transfer and the scammer’s act of fraud and deception has been rewarded.

WA ScamNet recommends that you never reply or send money to somebody who approaches you in this manner without making absolutely sure the person you are dealing with really is a friend or family member.

Update 24 May 2012 ‘Help me’ scams on the rise

WA consumers have lost tens of thousands of dollars so far this year with a spike in reports of ‘help me’ scams.

So far this year Consumer Protection has received seven reports from victims of this type of scam with losses totalling more than \$62,000. This compares with only four reports in 2011 with losses of \$2,300.

Recent examples include:

- A woman sent \$30,000 after getting a call from someone purporting to be from the Australian embassy in Belgrade, saying her mother had suffered a heart attack and needed money for urgent medical treatment and transport. The scammer spoke Serbian, the victim’s first language.
- A Church in Bunbury sent \$3,300 after getting a call from a Pastor who claimed to be held by customs in the Philippines while on his way to Bunbury for a funeral.
- A woman sent \$5,000 but contacted Consumer Protection before sending a further \$25,000 to supposedly release her brother from jail in Germany.
- An 83 year old Croatian woman living in Perth sent \$3,000 after receiving a phone call from someone claiming to be from the Croatian embassy in Dubai and saying her sister needed assistance because she had lost her passport and tickets while in transit on her way to Australia for a surprise visit. The scammer spoke fluent Croatian.

Neighbourhood Watch - Did you know that the WPA monitors Neighbourhood Watch reports and issues alerts via email? To register contact WandiProgress@gmail.com

Portuguese Millipedes Invade Wandí

This year was the worst autumn invasion seen for many seasons, so personally I went to war against the little critters. I used Coopex as a chemical barrier which was pretty successful, however needed to treat twice. One needs to get mulch away from the house and clear leaf litter if possible. Also turn off external lights and look around your house at night to see if any light can be seen, then eliminate the light source.

The following is from the Department of Agriculture publication "Garden Note 02 by Marc Widmer, Technical Officer, South Perth published in 2003 and updated in 2006". For the full article with photos go to http://www.agric.wa.gov.au/objtwr/imported_assets/content/pw/ins/gn2003_002.pdf.

Portuguese millipedes (*Ommatoiulus moreletii*) belong to a group of animals called Myriapoda (meaning many legged), which also includes several native Australian millipedes and centipedes. Millipedes normally live outdoors where they feed on leaf litter, damp and decaying wood, fungus and vegetable matter like tender roots, mosses or green leaves on the ground. Their slow crawling, rounded bodies have two pairs of legs on each body segment and rows of glands that secrete a pungent yellowish secretion when the millipede is agitated. This secretion is composed of organic chemicals called quinones, which make the millipedes distasteful to predators such as birds. There are well over 1,000 species of millipedes worldwide, and for many of these only a few experts can tell them apart.

Distribution

The Portuguese millipede naturally occurs in southwest Europe. They were first recorded in Western Australia around Roleystone in 1986 and (since the late nineties) have been found in other areas in the southwest of Western Australia. They are also found in South Australia, ACT, Tasmania and Victoria.

Description

The smooth, cylindrical body of the Portuguese millipede distinguishes it from the native species around Perth, which have a bumpy look. Native millipedes are usually found in low numbers and are widespread. Portuguese millipedes congregate in large numbers and are quite mobile, especially after the first rains in autumn. Portuguese millipedes will curl up into a tight spiral when disturbed, or try to escape with thrashing, snake-like movements. They are 20 - 45 mm long with 50 body segments when fully developed. The adults range in colour from slate-grey to black. The juveniles are light grey/brown, often with a darker stripe along each side.

Life cycle

Portuguese millipedes reproduce in autumn and early winter. They would probably begin mating in March or April and lay most of their eggs in April and May. This would explain why they appear so mobile and so abundant after the first rains. Mature females lay about 200 pinhead sized, yellowish white eggs in a small hole they have made in the soil. An immobile, legless stage hatches from each egg and develops into the first active stage of the life cycle after about one week. This first stage has only three pairs of legs, but each time the animal moults until it is mature, more legs and body segments are added. Millipedes grow or develop through a series of moults. During moulting millipedes are very fragile because the new cuticle is soft and easily damaged when first formed. The millipede usually eats the old cuticle. After the first year of life, juveniles have reached the seventh, eighth or ninth stage of development and will be about 1.5 cm long. After this stage they will moult only in spring and summer. Portuguese millipedes usually mature after two years when they are in the tenth or eleventh stage of growth and some can live for more than two years.

Millipedes as pests

Although millipedes play a useful role in breaking down organic matter in the soil, Portuguese millipedes are pests when they reach high population levels. Portuguese millipedes are not harmful to animals or humans, but they can be a significant domestic nuisance when they invade homes and gardens in their thousands each autumn and spring. They are one of the few millipede species that are attracted to lights at night, and this is presumably why they invade homes. They do not breed inside houses, and once inside a house will probably die. Millipedes can occasionally damage horticultural crops such as melons, strawberries, tomatoes and potatoes, yet in small numbers they do no harm. No damage to broadacre crops has been reported.

Millipede control

Management

Portuguese millipedes are attracted to lights. Turn off external lights which are close to buildings and minimise the escape of light from buildings through use of curtains, blinds and weather-strips on doors. Effective door seals will prevent the entry of these unwanted pests.

Clean up the area

Millipedes in the house and garden will probably have resulted from eggs laid within 100 metres from the house, and while compost is good for gardens, it also allows higher populations of millipedes to develop. Reducing the area covered by organic matter such as compost, leaf litter and mulch, will help reduce millipede populations by diminishing food and areas of shelter.

Biological control

Some spiders, beetles and scorpions will eat millipedes, but these predators do not significantly reduce millipede numbers. They are also parasitised by a nematode and a European fly. Work was under way to establish this fly in South Australia, but the flies were released and never seen again. In 1988 the parasitic nematode, *Rhabditis necromena*, was released by the Department of Agriculture South Australia in more than 2000 locations in that State. The pest status of the Portuguese millipede has decreased in many areas in South Australia since that time. *Rhabditis* has been found in millipede populations from the Perth area, and this seems to have provided relief in some areas but

we can't bank on this for total control. These nematodes attack only millipedes and are active during late autumn and winter. Nematodes may take several years after introduction to reduce millipede numbers, especially in areas adjoining bushland which can support enormous populations of the pest.

Physical barriers

- Smooth barriers can stop millipedes from entering houses because they cannot cross smooth, vertical or rounded surfaces. These can be fixed to walls, below doorsteps, window ledges and vent bricks - keep them clean and free of bridging vegetation. These barriers must be continuous with no breaks (unless placed under doorways), to allow millipedes to bypass.
- Plate glass, 7.5 cm wide and 4.5 mm thick, can be set around the base of the house. This prevents millipedes from entering because they cannot gain a foothold on the smooth surface.
- A variation of the barrier for vertical surfaces is to include two adhesive aluminium tapes along the barrier, charged with a small electric current drawn from something like a 9 V battery. Connect the positive pole of the battery to one tape and the negative pole to the other. Space the tapes 10 mm apart at all points to avoid short circuits. Millipedes are stunned or killed when they touch both tapes.

WARNING: Do not connect these tapes to a mains electricity supply.

- A moat and trap system can also be installed around dwellings. 100 mm C-Purlin with return lip, buried flush with the surface of the ground may be used for this. Millipedes fall into the moat (wet or dry), and cannot escape the overhanging sides. The ends of the channel may also be modified to include a trap, but this is not necessary as the millipedes will die in the moat if it is clean and free of debris for them to feed on or dwell in.
- A less permanent barrier is formed using a wide smooth vinyl, polypropylene or polythene tape (48 mm at least). Teflon-coated tape can also be purchased. Fix the tape to the wall with contact adhesive.
- Light-traps have offered good control. One can be constructed using stormwater pipe or even a box with holes at ground level, using low voltage garden lights or a weather-proof fluorescent light to attract the millipedes at night. This should be placed along the outside wall near where the millipedes are entering and the floor of the trap treated with an insecticide such as carbaryl. Alternatively, a light trap can be set up away from the house. The trap-box should be buried flush with the surface of the ground and it must have smooth sides so the millipedes will fall in and not escape. A weather-proof light assembled above this will lure the millipedes to the trap at night.

Chemical control

Chemical barriers at least one metre wide present millipedes with a treated surface wide enough to kill them before they enter a house. These pesticides have a limited active life and must be re-applied for ongoing control - especially during periods of rain. Chemicals can be applied to outside walls, paths and garden beds or other areas where millipedes are thought to breed. The following chemicals are currently registered for use against millipedes;

- Bendiocarb (Ficam®)
- Carbaryl (Carbaryl®) Agchem Carbaryl 800 WP Insecticide®, Agchem Carbaryl Insecticide Spray® or Agchem Carbaryl SC Liquid Insecticide®.
- Cyfluthrin (Baythroid®)
- Pyrethroids applied to doorsteps and window ledges, for example, Baygon Household Insecticide Surface Spray®.
- Pyrethroids have little residual effect and should be sprayed directly onto the millipedes. Many brands of domestic insect sprays contain Pyrethroids.

Disclaimer: Chemicals must be used in accordance with instructions on the label. Mention of trade names does not imply endorsement or preference of any company's product by the Department of Agriculture, and any omission of a trade name is unintentional. Recommendations were current at the time of preparation of this publication.

Other Very useful information can be found at

http://www.sardi.sa.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0005/44888/millipedes.pdf .

Baysol Snail & Slug Bait can be used to control Millipede populations in the garden.

(***but remember Baysol is poisonous to animals, cats, dogs and people).

Finally please consider supporting the Wandii Progress Association and Wandii Landcare Group by becoming members – cost of membership is only \$10 and \$5 respectively – Download an application form at

http://wandiiprogress.org/resources/WPA2011_MEMBERSHIP_APPLICATION_FORM.pdf

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

Happenings at the Hall and Resource Centre

Smithy's Boxing Gym - Boxing Training

Mon – Thurs 5:30 to 7:15pm



\$7 per night

Phone Elaine on 94391078 or Mob 0412404674

Email: elliejo@westnet.com.au

WANDI HALL HIRE

Phone Debbie Cocks on 9410 2009

for further information or bookings



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Meet at the
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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

WANDI PLAYGROUP



Tuesdays at the
Wandi Hall
9:00 – 11:00am

A delightful group of mums and children meet every Tuesday

For further information contact -

Susan (President) - 93932304

Natalie – 94987210

WANDI BOOKCLUB



2nd Tuesday
of the month
at 7:30pm

Contact: Marie Tully 9410 0245.

MARQUETRY GROUP

Meets: Wandi Community Centre
Every Friday 9.00 – 12.00

Contact: Jim van Brink Ph. 95278501

Email. Jim.vanbrink@gmail.com

PYROGRAPHY GROUP

Meets: Wandi Community Centre
1st Wednesday of each Month, from 7pm

Contact: 0439 113 121

baggd@inet.net.au

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

A general woodworking club. Beginners welcome. Meet every fourth Thursday of the month, except December.

7.30pm at "The Shed" Wandi Community Centre, DeHaer Road Wandi

Contact - Gary Withers Ph 9593 2317

Email: SouthernDistrictsTriton@gmail.com

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 or Ken Workman - 93971060 between 9:00am and 5:00pm

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

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

A general woodworking club. Beginners welcome. Meet every fourth Thursday of the month, except December.

7.30pm at "The Shed" Wandi Community Centre, DeHaer Road Wandi

Contact - Gary Withers Ph 9593 2317

Email: SouthernDistrictsTriton@gmail.com

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Fred Erdtsieck Mobile: 0428604032
Tel: 93972232

Email: fred@wandismallharvest.com

*Like to advertise a group or business in the Wandi Warbler?
Contact the Editor on 93970249 or email jimrussell@iceweb.com.au*

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gables - domes - flats - pyramids - carports

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