

THE



# The Grapevine

Vines Residents Association Newsletter

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## ***The greedy developers are coming!***

Late on Friday afternoon, the developers, LWP Group, emailed the VRA to say that the Development Application will be submitted during the week of the 6th December.

The fight is now on to save jewel in the crown of the Swan Valley and the soul of The Vines suburb.

As we knew that this would be coming soon, on Monday the VRA held a briefing for VRA members and those residents overlooking the areas to be destroyed by the proposal.

At the event, the VRA launched a Fighting Fund to stop the redevelopment. The target for the fund is \$250,000 to cover both legal costs and create a huge public and political awareness campaign.

**Residents and members who attended should be incredibly proud – they have donated over \$80,000 in the first 4 days!**

*Now it's down to every resident to help, not to let their neighbours carry the load for them.*

Think about what you will regret most if you don't act now.

- Is it when property values drop by the estimated 10-20%?
- Or will it be when developers roll in with the diggers and chainsaws and take out the trees, the 9 holes and the driving range?
- Or when the building noise starts and continues for years?
- Or when the bushfires burn your home down, because they filled the lake in and built houses on it, so that the helitac helicopters have nowhere to get water from?
- Or when you and your family can't escape in an emergency because the roads are blocked by all the extra traffic?
- Or when the last kangaroo dies, the last cockatoo flies away to starve, because there's nothing left?
- Or when developers come for the next nine? Because if they come for the first, we believe they will come for the next nine, and the next nine, and then the last nine ...and then it's all gone.

# The Defence

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Block the development</b>    | <p>The VRA have prepared a comprehensive case - hundreds of pages – for saving The Vines in response to the Development Application.</p> <p>A very strong case has been developed, to be taken to the West Australian Planning Commission by John Hammond on our behalf. The case will demonstrate that the Development Application does not reflect the intent for the land. It does not meet the conservation requirements, it does not meet the green space requirements, it does not meet the fire hazard requirements, the traffic requirements, the amenity requirements, or indeed the contracts that so many people have signed.</p>                        |
| <b>Take away the profit</b>     | <p>John Hammond is investigating legal actions including financial penalties and stop injunctions.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>There are alternatives</b>   | <p>The community should not have any concerns for threats about the viability of the golf course.</p> <p>The owner and directors of The Vines WA Pty Ltd have been contacted by buyers who are interested in buying the resort and golf course. The VRA have met with the buyers and have written copies of the Expression of Interest.</p> <p>We have heard the pessimists say “If you don’t support this development, they might sell the whole thing!”. Good! Because this is the jewel in the crown of the Swan Valley and there are buyers interested in buying the resort and golf course and bringing the resort back to the standard that it should be.</p> |
| <b>Good Legal Council</b>       | <p>The VRA has selected John Hammond, a highly experienced lawyer with a strong public profile. He is the ex-Mayor of Cottesloe and a previous Chairman of their Residents Association. John is an expert in this field and cares deeply about The Vines community</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>..and it all needs money</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Exceptional legal representation is crucial, but expensive.</li><li>• Money is required for media campaigns, money is required for graphic artists, and we need money to raise public awareness and to get the story into the public domain.</li><li>• Politicians have an obligation to follow their own laws, for development, for conservation, for safety, for fire, for schools, for roads. These issues must not be allowed to be covered up and for this Development Application to be snuck through over Christmas.</li></ul>                                                                                       |

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# How you can Donate

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We are asking for \$1,000 per household. Any unspent funds from donations of \$1,000 or over will be returned on a pro rata basis, to donors who provide their name and address.

## LEGAL FUND (Bank Account payment option)

|                             |                                                     |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <b>BENDIGO BANK ACCOUNT</b> |                                                     |
| <b>ACCOUNT NAME</b>         | The Vines Residents Association                     |
| <b>BSB</b>                  | 633-000                                             |
| <b>ACCT</b>                 | 187023775                                           |
| <b>PAYMENT REFERENCE</b>    | Last Name & Street ( <i>eg: Smith – Vines Ave</i> ) |

## 1. LEGAL FUND (QR Code payment option)



## 2. MEMBERSHIP Direct Payment

|                             |                                                     |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <b>BENDIGO BANK ACCOUNT</b> |                                                     |
| <b>ACCOUNT NAME</b>         | The Vines Residents Association                     |
| <b>BSB</b>                  | 633-000                                             |
| <b>ACCT</b>                 | 142658913                                           |
| <b>PAYMENT REFERENCE</b>    | Last Name & Street ( <i>eg: Smith – Vines Ave</i> ) |

# What's coming up?

## Membership Drive!

### **Call to Action!**

***Everyone, from our lawyer to politicians, have told us that the strength of our defence is enhanced by the number of people shown to be involved.***

Our membership numbers are incredibly important, which is why we will knocking on every door in The Vines to ask residents to join us. Please contact the VRA if you can help. Even a few hours will make a difference.

## November

VRA Christmas  
Carols and a  
Christmas movie  
- it's nearly time!

## HOP ALONG TO A Family Christmas Event

COMMUNITY DRIVEN, AND SUPPORTED BY  
THE CITY OF SWAN



## 6PM - CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Indian Blue Chorus generously donated their time to perform for us

## 7.45PM - MOVIE SCREENING - ELF

... *Santa* will be making a special visit!

**SUNDAY, 28 NOVEMBER 2021**

**@ Portmarnock Park, The Vines**

Bring the whole family along and get into the true spirit of Christmas.

Nearby Residents are encouraged to walk to the event.

You can either pack a picnic or purchase a sausage sizzle, drinks and snacks on the evening.

**FAIRY FLOSS ● POPCORN ● ICE CREAM ● SNOW CONES ● GLOW STICKS  
DRINKS ● SAUSAGE SIZZLE**





# The Social Side

## Pandemonium!



Thank you to all the Residents that supported and attended the VRA social event at Pandemonium Estate. If you didn't make it, we highly recommend a visit!

On the day, the weather was absolutely stunning, and a perfect way to spend a Sunday afternoon. We sipped on wine, indulged in Paella and shared a few laughs along the way. The afternoon ended with a wine quiz that saw the 'blue' team win by one point.

Thank you, and we hope to see you at our upcoming Christmas event.

## WINE CONVERSATIONS WITH MARK CHURCH

November has seen the awards presentation and exhibitor tasting of the **2021 Australian Chenin Blanc Challenge** at Perth's State Buildings.

Chenin Blanc is one of the most widely grown grape varieties in the Swan Valley, used to make crisp sparkling wine, dry wines that can be consumed young and fresh, or released after some years of bottle development, when they become concentrated with complex depth of flavours and weight. The judging and presentation is organised each year by the Swan Valley Winemakers Association, bringing together the best Australian Chenin Blanc to celebrate, improve and encourage the quality and diversity of Chenin Blanc wines.

This year, the wine judged as the Best Chenin Blanc in Australia in 2020, was the John Kosovich 2015 Bottle Aged Chenin. This wine has just been released and is available now at the cellar door or online ([www.johnkosovichwines.com.au](http://www.johnkosovichwines.com.au)).

In 2021 Torrent Wines were judged to have The Best Chenin Blanc in Australia with their Swan Valley Chenin Blanc 2015 ([www.torrentwines.com.au](http://www.torrentwines.com.au)). The other trophy winners were the Oakover Estate 2021, the Voyager Estate Sparkling Chenin Blanc and John Kosovich with their 2019 Chenin.