

*Vines*  
RESIDENTS  
ASSOCIATION (INC)



# The Grapevine

NEWSLETTER

12 FEBRUARY 2022

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## UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR

### SPREADING THE WORD

It seems that not only the people that live in The Vines or play golf at The Vines Resort and Country club are discussing the proposed redevelopment by Vines WA Pty. Ltd. Various people from across the Perth metropolitan area and the greater part of Western Australia are now talking about it. They are asking what is happening and WHY?

Last week while I was attending a 70th birthday party in Mandurah, I entered into a conversation with some people that play golf at the Harvey Golf course. As soon as they discovered I lived in The Vines they asked for information in regard to the proposed redevelopment. Given the interest that was shown I would like to encourage every one of you to talk freely about The Vines WA proposal. Don't just focus on the people that live in The Vines but rather on everyone with which you may come into contact. Spread the news to your family, friends, work colleges and other members of the community no matter where they live.

The VRA have been very active in communicating the message of The Vines residents regarding the proposed plans of Vines WA. Meetings have occurred with the shadow Minister for Planning, the Hon. Neil Thomson MLC and member of the Greens, the Hon Dr Brad Pettit, to inform them of the Vines WA proposal and the reasons why the residents don't want this to occur.

Vines WA redevelopment proposal was recently raised at a State Parliamentary Liberal Party meeting that was held in the Swan Valley. As an attendee of this meeting I took the opportunity to brief them on what was actually planned and occurring to oppose this proposal.

In short, the more people that are made aware of what is occurring regarding The Vines Golf and Country Club the more likely we are to prevent these changes from happening. Let them ask their questions and raise their concerns.

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# Treasurer's Report

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A HUGE thank you to Residents who have donated to The Vines Residents Association (VRA) Fighting Fund. Residents have donated **\$128,448**.

We need to keep charging towards our target of \$250K to cover legal costs and to boost the huge public and political awareness campaign now underway.

**A COMMUNITY THAT IS  
ENGAGED AND WORKING  
TOGETHER CAN BE A  
POWERFUL FORCE**



## **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

### **FUNDRAISING**

The VRA Committee is a small team of volunteers with help from a few amazing helpers from within our community. We now need more Residents on board helping by getting out in the community, meeting and talking with other residents about the Fighting Fund campaign and, to help us reach our target. All ideas and suggestions for fundraising are most welcome – email The VRA at: [vinesresidentsassociation@gmail.com](mailto:vinesresidentsassociation@gmail.com)

### **DONATIONS**

In addition to legal costs, the donations will be funding professional Media and Public Relations representation, along with advertisements in newspapers and on radio. These are expensive but essential if we are to be successful in promoting our cause.

To date, The VRA has helped generate an Expression of Interest to purchase the Vines Resort & Country Club as well as a tremendous increase in public awareness and engagement with our public representatives. We have continued our high-profile media engagement with television, radio and local and WA state newspapers. To keep this up until we've won, the VRA 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.

**Please do not leave this to your neighbours. We must share the load** – isn't this who we are as a community? If it helps, please remember that both the QR code and bank direct debit make it easy to spread payments over several months, if you cannot contribute what you want to in a single payment – the direct debit form can be found on the VRA website at: <https://thevinesra.com.au/fighting-fund-dd-form>

### **VRA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**

#### **SIGN UP A NEIGHBOUR AND ENTER THE RAFFLE!**

This week we have 15 new households join The VRA, most of which have been referrals from VRA members. We now have 320 households signed up (over 650 individual members) which makes us one of the biggest Residents Associations. We are asking all of our members to **'sign up one new household'**. All referrals will go into The VRA raffle with the prize being dinner in the Swan Valley for two people (referrer name to be entered on Membership Application). The raffle will be drawn at the end of March.



## HOW YOU CAN DONATE OR JOIN



### FIGHTING FUND QR CODE PAYMENT OPTION



### FIGHTING FUND BANK ACCOUNT PAYMENT OPTION

**BENDIGO BANK**  
**ACCOUNT NAME** The Vines Residents Association  
**BSB** 633-000  
**ACCOUNT** 187023775  
**REFERENCE** Last Name & Street (eg: Smith – Vines Ave)

### MEMBERSHIP DIRECT PAYMENT OPTION

**BENDIGO BANK**  
**ACCOUNT NAME** The Vines Residents Association  
**BSB** 633-000  
**ACCOUNT** 142658913  
**REFERENCE** Last Name & Street (eg: Smith – Vines Ave)

Don't forget to complete a Membership Application. This can be found on The VRA website:

<https://thevinesra.com.au/membership-application>

 [vinesresidentsassociation@gmail.com](mailto:vinesresidentsassociation@gmail.com)  0493 386 674  [www.thevinesra.com.au](http://www.thevinesra.com.au)  @TheVinesResidentsAssociation

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## An Ancient Tree

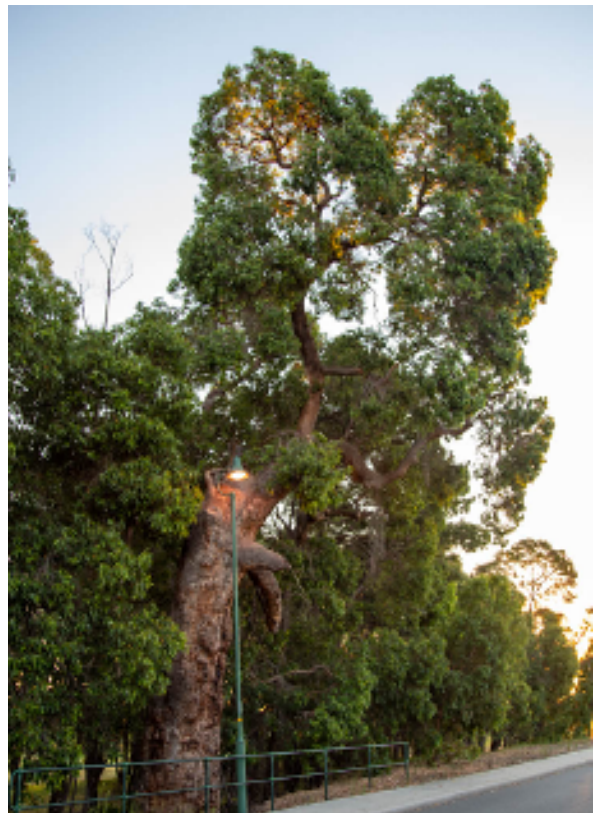
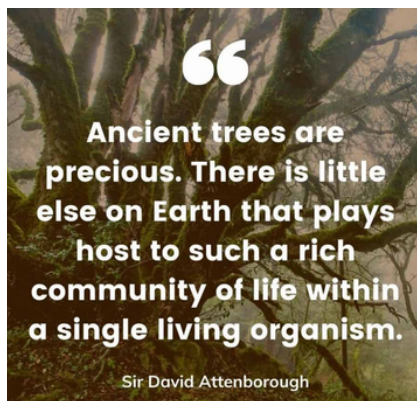
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This tree is 150 years old. When it took its first look at daylight in 1872, the first lightbulb was invented, the metal windmill was patented and Yellowstone became the world's first national park.

For many years now pairs of Carnaby Black Cockatoos have come to roost in this tree to raise their families.

There are five more trees in this grove, all of similar age. If Vines WA redevelopment proposal goes ahead, do you know what will happen to these trees?

They will be bulldozed, cut down, destroyed. We simply cannot let this happen. Join with us to fight this horrible proposal.



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# Environmental Matters

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## Possums

One of our most attractive local residents is the Brushtail Possum (*Trichosurus vulpecula hypoleucus*). This sub-species has a range restricted to just the south-west of WA.

Possums are mostly grey in colour, with a black tip to the tail and a pale underside. Size-wise, they are around 60-90cm long, of which nearly half is their prehensile tails. They are agile tree-dwellers, although they do come down to the ground when it's quiet, or they need to move between stands of trees. They are also nocturnal and need access to mature trees with hollows to sleep and take refuge in during the day. Each one also needs a range from 1-15 hectares, as they tend to be solitary.

Food wise, they are herbivores, eating leaves, flowers and fruit. In the garden, they will help themselves to any leftovers seeds if you feed the parrots! Supplementing their food with occasional treats on a high platform is not harmful provided that it is only occasional. Small pieces of fruit such as apple or banana will be appreciated (not grapes though - bad for possums). But allow the treats to run out for a few days to ensure that the possum doesn't become dependent and continues to find their own food sources as well.

If you would like to give a possum a home in your garden, possum-boxes in a tree are very welcome - we have one resident in our garden's box most of the year. (Message us if you'd like to know how to make one!) Alternatively, if you don't have one in your garden and want to see possums, take a walk by the Ellen Brook in the evening - they hang out in the large mature trees - especially Marri.

Finally, please give these little guys a chance by keeping your cats in at night. Locally, their biggest threats are not native predators like goannas or pythons - it is habitat loss, plus predation from dogs, foxes and above all, cats.



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## History of The Vines

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### Did You Know ?



The land on which The Vines Resort and Country Club is established was originally owned by three pioneer families: the Barrett-Lennard family who settled on land on the banks of the Swan River in Western Australia in 1829; the Copley family headed by Samuel, an English artisan who made a fortune in land deals in Western Australia; and, Doug and Thelma Kendall – early settlers of which little is known.

When first established The Vines was part of Upper Swan. It was not until sometime later that it was incorporated into the present of Ellenbrook.

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# Wine Within The Swan Valley

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## What wine to drink with seafood ...

There are no hard and fast rules when selecting a wine to accompany your seafood meal, just a few guidelines. The best matches are when both the wine and the food complement each other without either overpowering the other. For example, seafood's such as some fish, prawns, crayfish, crabs, scallops, oysters have a subtle delicate flavour, so the wine you choose to drink with these needs to have the same characteristics in order for balance.

Still white wines such as Riesling, Verdelho, Semillon, Sauvignon Blanc, young Chenin Blanc and lighter styles of white sparkling wine will allow you to enjoy the subtle flavours of both the food and wine. Some seafood's such as herring, mullet, mussels, salmon and mackerel which have a higher oil content and stronger flavour, are a good match with slightly fuller bodied wines such as Oaked Chardonnay, Pinot Gris, aged Chenin Blanc and light reds Pinot Noir, Nero D'Avola and Grenache.

The main factor to consider is not only the seafood but what sauces and accompaniments you are going to use when preparing the dish. For example, if you are making chilli mussels then the slightly fuller bodied wines would be perfect, but if you were serving them simply steamed in a cream sauce then a lightly oaked style of white wine would be perfect.

