

Vines
RESIDENTS
ASSOCIATION (INC)



The Grapevine

NEWSLETTER

26 FEBRUARY 2022



UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR

The VRA is committed to ensuring we share everything we receive with our members.

The following is the email that we have received:

"Dear Aaron,

We wish to thank all those who provided input to the most recent public consultation phase for the proposed Vines redevelopment, which is currently being reviewed by the Vines Resort owner, The Vines (WA) Pty Ltd.

While remaining committed to transforming the Resort into a contemporary community hub to meet the recreational and lifestyle needs of the community now and in the future, Vines (WA) does not wish to rush the project. The current review period is likely to extend until at least mid-2022 at which time a further update will be provided.

Kind regards,

On behalf of Danny Murphy,

Rebecca Hooker"

As soon as the VRA receives any further updates we will ensure all the VRA members are notified.

History of The Vines

Did You Know ?

Overseas tourism and the sale of iron ore were major factors in improving the economy of Western Australia in the mid 1980's. All efforts to support any form of Japanese tourism was given immediate high-level attention by the WA State Government.

As part of the "Tourist Drive" the State Government provided substantial planning and financial support to allow the development of The Vines Resort and Country Club. This included:

- \$20M "frontier development" support (current value estimated at \$100M) being provided by the then Department of Water (now Water Corporation);
- extensions to the State power supply;
- adjustments to the roads to provide access to the approved development; and,
- planning assistance.

This assistance, as was the approval of the development, was given on the proviso that public access to the golf course was guaranteed.

Treasurer's Report

A HUGE thank you to Residents who have donated to The Vines Residents Association (VRA) Fighting Fund. Residents have donated **\$128,848**.

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

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 Association. 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

PLEASE NOTE

A NEW QR CODE IS
BEING ARRANGED

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  0493 386 674  www.thevinesra.com.au  @TheVinesResidentsAssociation

Celebrate Your Neighbour

Celebrate your neighbour. It's time to "Celebrate Your Neighbour" by nominating someone in your community who has made a difference in your life. Maybe it was someone who dropped off groceries or walked your dog? Is it the neighbour who finally said 'hello'? Or the local customer who ordered take-away from your business and helped keep you afloat?

Neighbour Day is March 27, and we want to help you celebrate a "Kind Neighbour"!

No act of kindness is too small, so let your neighbours know how much you appreciate them! Entries close March 16th and there are \$3500 worth of prizes up for grabs. Nominate a neighbour.



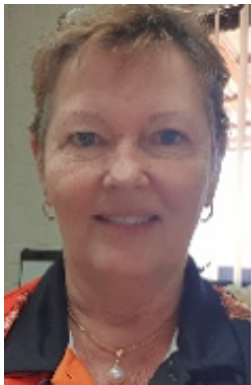
Survey - Phase 2

SURVEY – PHASE 2 OF THE VINES (WA) REDEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL

As you may be aware the VRA sent out an email invitation to respond to a brief survey gathering information about your views and experience in relation to Phase 2 of The Vines WA redevelopment proposal. This survey was emailed to 306 members on 16 February 2022. To date we have received feedback from 107 respondents – just under half of the number of members who were invited to complete this survey.

If you haven't already responded, please do so as your feedback is highly valuable to the VRA in assisting the development of strategies to oppose the redevelopment proposal.

Community Liaison News



You may remember we have a new Community Liaison officer on the committee.

Robbie's role is to raise the profile of the VRA in the community and to build membership and participation in VRA activities. To that end we are anticipating building "neighbourhood connections" to facilitate better communication with members and to create a greater sense of community with some smaller community events in your neighbourhood. Watch this space (and your mailboxes) for news of these events and ways in which you can participate and support the VRA to build the kind of community we all want to live in – one that is connected and provides the semi-rural lifestyle chosen by residents of The Vines.

We urge you to talk to your neighbours and encourage participation in the VRA through membership. If you would like some assistance in approaching your neighbours, please contact Robbie via the VRA email.

Wine Talk

Vintage 2022 certainly did kick off quite quickly. What started out as a five-day heatwave, is feeling more like a month long heatwave. There's no doubt vintage is energising, exhausting, stressful, crazy - ultimately satisfying

For most wineries, all the whites are in. Ferments are underway and leaving beautiful aromas throughout the wineries. The reds are starting to trickle in. Now it's a waiting game to see how the vines are going to handle this extended period of heat.

From reports coming in, crops yields are up on 2021 and the quality has been excellent. The main challenge for many wineries appears to be getting picking crews on the days needed.

Vintage is always a super busy time of the year for all winemakers and grape growers. There is an added buzz going in the region and I'm sure we're all looking forward to seeing how the 2022 wines will evolve.

Courtesy

Lauren Pileggi

President, Swan Valley Winemakers Association



Safety

In February the police attended The Vines for:

- 8 disturbances;
- 1 noise complaint;
- 2 burglaries;
- 1 stealing;
- 3 traffic related incidents; and,
- 2 suspicious person/vehicles



Over the month of February, Traffic Police conducted radar duties on Vines Ave and Hermitage Way due to reports of drivers travelling at excessive speed.

As continually raised by residents, speeding motorists have been an ongoing issue along the main thoroughfares throughout The Vines. This is a safety issue for golfers trying to cross the roads and obviously for our local beloved wildlife.

While watching the progress of police, it was noted that numerous cars were flashing their headlights to warn oncoming motorists of the presence of police ahead. As a result, the majority of cars which were travelling in excess of the 50kph speed limit, slowed down prior to approaching the police. Obviously, the number of vehicles stopped for speeding was low and not a true reflection of what we see on a daily basis.

Police also leave the area with the impression that most drivers are compliant and driving within the speed limit, so returning to complete similar traffic duties becomes low priority. If any future similar police actions take place, please refrain from flashing headlights so the true issue of speeding motorists is highlighted and justifies police attendance.

Environmental Matters

Gould's Monitor (Goanna - Varanus Gouldii Gouldii)



This is our largest local reptile, growing to a maximum of 1.6m. Also known as the racehorse goanna because of its speed! They are active during the day, generally on the lookout for food, which can be almost anything meat-based - reptiles, insects, small mammals, and carrion.

Goannas are highly intelligent and observant – often standing on their hind legs to get a better view of what's going on around them.

Smaller ones are vulnerable to drowning in our pools, as are so many other of our local animals. If you don't have a cover, another option is a swimming pool critter saving escape ramp or frog log animal saver – see photos below.

