

*Vines*  
RESIDENTS  
ASSOCIATION (INC)



# The Grapevine

NEWSLETTER

12 MARCH 2022

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## UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR

As we say goodbye to summer and we welcome the cooling temperatures of autumn, you may be thinking that the VRA has been a bit quiet. Like everyone else, we have had to consider capacity restrictions applied by the WA state government due to COVID. As a result, we are unable to schedule another members meeting in the short term. However, please rest assured that we will do so as soon as we can.

The Vines Management have been eerily quiet. We have heard nothing from them. They have not responded to our letter. I know what I think a lack of response means however, I will let you answer that question yourselves. I can advise that I have heard whispers that Mike Stanton has been given a new role which involves him concentrating on the redevelopment.

You are welcome to get in touch with the VRA should you have any specific questions you would like answered or comments or ideas to share to help us move forward in our efforts to stop the proposed WA Vines redevelopment. Please be assured that we will always respond to you.

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## What's Happening In The VRA

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This is a quick review of key events in the past two months:

- Prospective buyers of The Vines WA asked VRA to post their Expression of Interest to The Vines WA and gave us a copy;
- VRA presented our opposition to the redevelopment to influential Liberal and Greens Politicians: Both productive responses;
- We met twice with the Local Labour Representative who was requested to arrange a meeting with The Vines WA owner. Meeting awaited;
- We met with Swan Valley Tourism representatives. Great support;
- We had good accolades for the PR6 media interview on 20 January 2022, with some press coverage;
- We presented our VRA Strategy on opposing the redevelopment proposal to members on 20 January, 2022;
- We filmed 5 short videos opposing the redevelopment;
- We wrote 50 pages on The History of The Vines, ready to print when we have a sponsor;
- We ran our own VRA survey on response to phase 2 of the redevelopment; and,
- We wrote a few letters to 'decision makers' with whom we have a difference!

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# So, What's Ahead

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- Video viewing;
- History reading;
- A series of neighbourhood BBQs;
- Some more confidential exploits;
- We think the Redevelopment Plan will be submitted, but not until after the election; and,
- Continued efforts to increase VRA membership – of great interest to any politician!

Thank you for your trusting support, you fuel our endeavours to stop the redevelopment!

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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 **\$130,148**.

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 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:

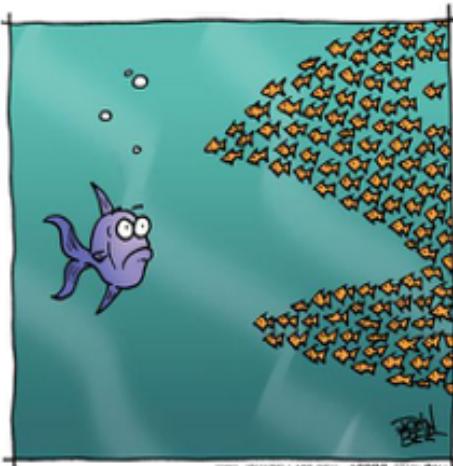
<https://thevinesra.com.au/membership-application>

[vinesresidentsassociation@gmail.com](mailto:vinesresidentsassociation@gmail.com) 0493 066 674 [www.thevinesra.com.au](http://www.thevinesra.com.au) @TheVinesResidentsAssociation

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## Community Liaison

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As the cartoon suggests – **there is strength in numbers**. So with that we are endeavouring to build the strength and the voice of the VRA through membership.

You may recall in the last newsletter we said we were going to commence a more localised approach by holding a series of community BBQ events in your local neighbourhood. The first of these BBQs (sausage sizzle) will be held this coming Sunday (ie 13 March 2022) where local residents (members and non-members) are encouraged to pop in and say G'day! This is an opportunity to meet members of the committee and to ask your questions in a more personalised forum.

We are wanting to keep these BBQs intimate (around 50 – due to COVID restrictions) but urge you to pop in – even if just to show your support for 5 or 10 minutes.

This is also an opportunity to **meet your neighbours** and build a strong neighbourhood culture. Keep an eye on your mailbox over the coming weeks/months for your invite – and bring along a new neighbour if you can.

Reminder: If you are wanting more information or seeking clarification of anything to do with the proposed development – our Community Liaison Officer – Robbie, is more than happy to call you or meet with you at a time and place that works best for you. Robbie can be contacted by calling the VRA on 0493 066 674 or emailing the [vinesresidentsassociation@gmail.com](mailto:vinesresidentsassociation@gmail.com)

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# Help Needed With Technology

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At the last VRA members meeting a gentleman offered the VRA Committee assistance with technology matters. If you are that person can you please contact the VRA? We need your support. Thank you.



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## History Of The Vines

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The VRA have developed a 50-page booklet detailing the history of The Vines from the 1980's when a Japanese consortium took interest in privately owned land in the northern extremity of the Swan Valley until today. We are currently looking for a sponsor to cover the cost of printing this booklet so that it can be made available to all VRA members.

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## Wine Talk

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### **A shortage of Vodka on the shelves - The Swan Valley can solve that problem!**

Distilling has been a tradition in the Swan Valley for close to a century, with grapes being distilled into spirit commercially at Valencia and at Houghton in Middle Swan from the early 1900's.

Today distilling in the Swan Valley is a fine art with dedicated distillers handcrafting a wide range of spirits including Vodka, Gin, Brandy, Limoncello and Rum.

Did you know that spirits have zero carbohydrates, are vegan friendly and some are gluten free? It is no wonder chefs, foodies and mixologists are seeking out the small batch award winning spirits produced and available right here in our Swan Valley.

A few firm favourites that come highly recommended are:

- **Old Young's Distillery – Two-time Australian Champion Australian Distiller**

Pavlova Vodka, Pure NO 1 Vodka, Smoked Vodka and a range of award winning Gins as well;

- **Harris Organic Wine and Spirits**

The first Australian Certified Organic Vodka can be found at Harris Organic Wine and Spirits, Duncan Harris's medal winning Organic Brandy is also well worth a mention; and,

- **Swan Valley Gin Company**

Turkish Delight Vodka, Blood Orange Vodka, PX Vodka and Rhubarb infused Vodka plus a wide range of infused Gins, Vermouth and even Negroni can all be found here.

To view all the local distilleries and the full range of products available go to the **Swan Valley Distillery Trail** at [www.swanvalley.com.au](http://www.swanvalley.com.au)

