

Vines
RESIDENTS
ASSOCIATION (INC)

The Grapevine
NEWSLETTER

26 MARCH 2022



UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR

Throughout my career I have always known if you can't do something yourself you find the best person that can and get them to do it, otherwise it either won't get done, or will be done badly. What does this have to do with our suburb and The Vines redevelopment I hear you asking. Well as many of you know, a special meeting of Vines Golf Club members was held on Thursday 13th January 2022. As more than two months has past since this meeting I thought there might be a need to quickly remind you of what occurred at that meeting.

The meeting held at the request of golf club members to ascertain the potential impact of the proposed development on them as club members, was chaired by Ray Jordan. He was accompanied by Danny Murphy from LWP and Mike Stanton who is known to you all.

The first hour of the meeting was taken up by Danny Murphy talking about the proposed redevelopment rather than answering the questions of golf club members. As this did not meet the requirements of golf club members a number of those in attendance opted to leave.

When eventually the golfing questions were addressed the answers provided were on par with the standard of my golf – they left a lot to be desired.

Since that meeting numerous comments have been made by individuals who are both golf club members and members of the VRA, that the Minutes of this meeting are still not available.

Apparently staff at The Vines Resort and Country Club have been very busy and have not had sufficient time to complete them. Given this we thought we would help them out. The minutes/transcript of the meeting is now available on the VRA webpage.

Treasurer's Report

A **HUGE** thank you to Residents who have donated to The Vines Residents Association (VRA) Fighting Fund. Residents have donated \$131,202. 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



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>

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 5 new households join The VRA, most of which have been referrals from VRA members. We now have 327 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.

Community Liaison

We held our first “meet your neighbours” BBQ in Chandon Park on 13th March 2022. We sent out approximately 100 invitations to people living in close proximity to this venue. While the event was planned on relatively short notice it was quite successful with 27 people attending – 5 of which signed up as new members on the day.

It was a lovely afternoon with plenty of sausages, onions and buns to help keep the conversation flowing. It was great to see everyone mixing and getting to know the less familiar faces.

This Sunday evening (ie 27th March) we are hoping to have a repeat performance of this event in the Pavilion Circle precinct. A similar number of invitations as were distributed to the Chandon Park event, have been placed in letterboxes of homes within this precinct. While according to weather forecasts for the weekend there is potential for wind and rain, we are forging ahead with these arrangements. However, in the event that we have to cancel this event we will post this information on the VRA Facebook page. There will also be a notice placed on site at Dingle Park. In the event that this occurs the event will be rescheduled within the next few weeks.

We would like to encourage everyone to attend one of our “meet your neighbour” events when invited. Please bring along a non-member of the VRA who might want to “get with the strength” and be part of the fight against the developers.

Current planning is to hold a further “meet your neighbour” BBQ on Sunday 10th April in Ailsa Park. If you live close to this venue, please keep your eyes on your mailbox for your invitation to this event.

If you are wondering when a “meet your neighbour” BBQ will occur in your area and are willing to assist in arranging an event of this type please contact the VRA via email: vinesresidentsassociation@gmail.com. We are only a small team but with sufficient notice, one or more of us can work with you “to get this off the ground” and help you on the day of the event.

Real Estate Agents Promoting VRA

The following real estate agents have been given a quantity of VRA membership forms:

- **Chris Wilkinson, The Vines Real Estate** – email: chris@thevinesrealestate.com.au
- **Ryan Jaura, First National** – email: sales1@swansresidential.com.au
- **Penny Schouten, HK** – email: pschouten@hky.com.au

They have agreed to give a membership form to each purchaser of a home in The Vines as part of the settlement pack provided to all home buyers.

This was initiated by Vicky Spiller one of our VRA members. She made the initial contact with these agents and committee member Mark Church visited to hand over the forms and provide an introduction regarding the current activity of the VRA. Thank you Vicky and Mark

History of The Vines

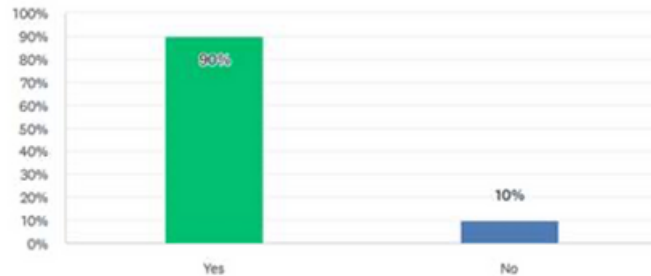
The 50-page booklet developed by the VRA detailing the history of The Vines from the 1980's when a Japanese consortium took interest in privately owned land in the northern extremity of the Swan Valley until today is currently being printed. A copy of this booklet will be distributed to all VRA members on completion of this process.

VRA Survey

You as VRA members were invited to input into an in-house survey regarding Phase 2 of The Vines WA development proposal. Thank you for your contributions to this survey, the results of which are outlined below:

Q1 Did you view the phase two proposal?

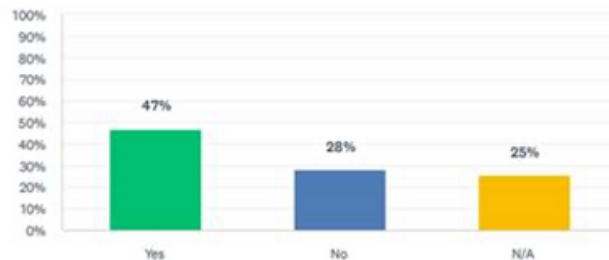
Answered: 167 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	90%	150
No	10%	17
Total Respondents: 167		

Q2 Did you encounter any issues / problems when trying to submit your feedback?

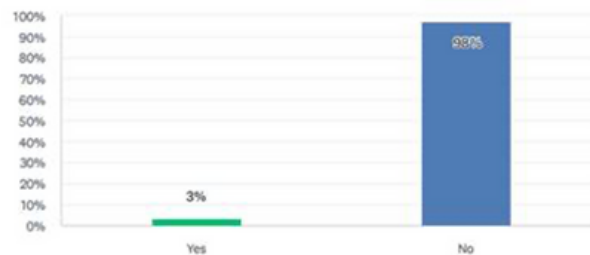
Answered: 167 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	47%	78
No	28%	47
N/A	25%	42
Total Respondents: 167		

Q3 In viewing the phase two proposal, do you feel The Vines (WA) management have listened to the community concerns?

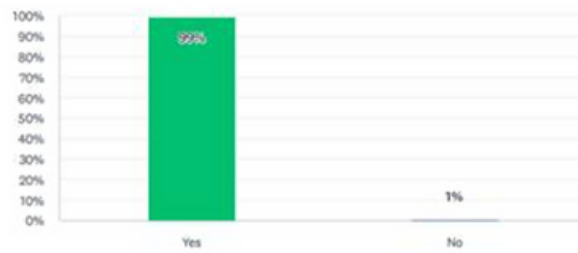
Answered: 161 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	3%	5
No	96%	157
Total Respondents: 161		

Q4 The VRA continues to represent residents that are opposed to the current redevelopment proposal of The Vines. Does the VRA have your support to continue?

Answered: 165 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	99%	164
No	1%	1
Total Respondents: 165		

Environment



In this edition, we are sharing some information about our two local blue-tongue species – the Bobtail (*Tiliqua rugosa rugosa*) and the less common Western Bluetongue (*Tiliqua occipitalis*).

The Bobtail grows to around 30cm, and has a 'heavily armoured' rough-scaled appearance. The Western Bluetongue grows up to 45 cm in length. The smooth scales have a brown, banded pattern across the body and tail, with distinctive black 'bandit' markings across each eye. Other than that, they have quite a few similarities. Both are active during the day, both have similar diets of insects, snails, flowers and fruit. (Although the Bobtail leans more towards the vegetarian fare, the Bluetongue towards the meat, or even carrion). Both give birth to live young at this time of year (the Bobtail has 1 or 2 babies, the Blue has up to 5 babies at a time).

Most famously, they have similar defences – a bright blue tongue! When disturbed or threatened, they will open their mouths widely, hiss and stick out that spectacular tongue. This is not entirely a bluff – although neither is venomous, both have a powerful bite and should be treated with respect. If they are in a risky spot (especially close to a road), then gloves are recommended if you haven't handled one before.

These skinks need their defences, as they have plenty of predators. In The Vines, it is mostly hawks and ravens, plus the introduced kookaburras, dogs, foxes and cats. If we want to give them a hand, they rely on low cover for protection, so the more bushes and shrubs in your garden the better!

Safety

In March the police attended The Vines for:

- 1 Stealing
- 2 Assaults
- 2 Disturbances
- 2 Burglaries
- 1 Traffic Accident
- 1 Traffic Drink Driver
- 1 Suspicious Person



As stated above two (2) burglaries were reported this month. This provides a timely reminder for you to ensure your houses are secure if there is no one at home. A few friendly tips:

- Ensure you have some lamps on timers so if you are away or working at night, there are lights turning on and off inside your house;
- If possible have talk back radio playing inside the house. This gives the impression of people talking and provides a deterrent should someone approach the front door with the intention of identifying if anyone is inside;
- If you are a female living alone it helps if you purchase a second-hand pair of work boots from the Salvo's or similar organisation, and place these outside the front door. This gives the impression to people approaching your door that a male is inside; and,
- Another handy trick is to achieve the same result is to have large "High Vis" shirts hanging on the clothes line.

Don't forget, if you require police in an emergency situation, call 000, or if it's not urgent 131444. Don't forget to also call Braven Security on 1800 272 836 (24hrs) if you notice anything suspicious. Braven will always take note of any vehicles and registration plates which is helpful if police are unable to attend straight away. That's why we pay the extra in our rates!

Wine Talk

SWAN VALLEY RED WINE VARIETIES

Now that the cooler weather has finally started, the focus for the next few weeks will be on some of the red wine varieties that grow so well in the Swan Valley.

This newsletter, the focus will be on Shiraz, a variety that helped to put Australia on the world wine map.

Shiraz originates from South East France and is generally used in red wine production - in many countries Shiraz is also known as Syrah.

The Swan Valley produces warm climate Shiraz to rival some of the best known regions in Australia. The Valley's gravelly soil naturally controls the vine's vigour, while warm summer days tempered by cool ocean breezes allow the grapes to always ripen to perfection. The resulting fruit produces plush, medium to full-bodied wines full of delicious dark fruit flavours.

Swan Valley Shiraz is renowned for its softness and length. This provides wines with a suppleness and drinkability while young. The quality of the fruit however, also allows winemakers to test their long game; to create wines that are great now but have the ability to become even greater with time.



ALL YOU NEED
IS *love*
and a *bottle of Wine*