

Vines
RESIDENTS
ASSOCIATION (INC)

The Grapevine

NEWSLETTER

10 APRIL 2022



UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR

As you are possibly aware we have published three videos on Facebook as part of our campaign against the Vines WA proposed re-development.

These focus on bushfire management, the story of The Vines as told by retired Minister, Gavin Troy and the Environment. A further two videos are underway and will be released on Facebook shortly. If you haven't seen these videos they are available on the VRA Facebook page. I am sure you will enjoy them and they will be beneficial in our fight to preserve The Vines.

Easter is just around the corner. Many of you will be planning to spend time with family whether at home or away. Some of you might even be planning some D.I.Y jobs over the Easter break. Whatever it is that you plan to do I hope you have a happy and safe Easter.



Treasurer's Report

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

A **HUGE** thank you to Residents who have donated to The Vines Residents Association (VRA) Fighting Fund. While no further donations have been made since the publication of the last Grapevine it is important that we 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>

vinesresidentsassociation@gmail.com 0493 361 674 www.thevinesra.com.au @TheVinesResidentsAssoc

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!

VRA membership remains at 327 households (over 650 individual members). While we are one of the biggest Residents Associations we are wanting to grow our membership numbers. 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**).

We are extending our membership drive until the end of May as we want more existing members in the draw for the dinner for two. So get out there and sign up a neighbour – make sure they nominate you on their form – and get as many entries into the draw as possible.

Community Liaison

The “meet your neighbours” BBQs are gaining momentum as the cooler weather provides some welcome relief from our hot summer. Our last BBQ in Dingle Park was another successful afternoon with approximately 20 or so “popping in and out” to catch up on the recent VRA news and have “a good old fashioned chin wag”. The day promised two new members within the next few weeks.

Joining the VRA is simple. Just complete the application form, nominate the existing member who encouraged you to join, submit your form via email vinesresidentsassociation@gmail.com and arrange a bank transfer for \$25. Make sure when transferring your funds, you state your family name and street name. Please note membership is \$25 per annum.

We are one of the strongest Residents Associations in the area, and want to continue building our strength in the community with strong neighbourhood connections. Unfortunately the “meet your neighbours” BBQ planned for Sunday, 10 April at Ailsa Park had to be cancelled due to bad weather. This will be rescheduled in coming weeks. We will also be targeting residents around Portmarnock Park and Chardonnay Park at a later date. So watch your mailbox for an invite, or keep an eye on this space for dates and more details.

If you have any ideas about how you would like us to improve the way we connect with you... please drop us a line... all ideas are welcome.

We look forward to meeting you all.

There is strength in numbers so get with the strength and unite against the proposed development...



Telecommunications Tower

Some of you may have input into the City of Swan consultations in March/April 2021 regarding the erection of a telecommunications tower on the property of The Vines Resort and Country Club. As a result of these consultations the City of Swan opposed this development. However, the Minister for Planning has now ordered the City of Swan under the provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2005, to initiate Proposed Amendment No 191 to Local Planning Scheme No 17. This order is occurring under the provision of State Planning Policy 5.2 – Telecommunications Infrastructure.

The order requires the insertion of an “Additional Use” clause over Lot 1003 Verdelho Drive, (ie The Vines Resort and Country Club). This will make this land able to be used to establish telecommunications infrastructure following assessment on its discretionary merits after advertising (the ‘A’ permissibility rating). In other words, the Minister is ordering the City of Swan to reverse their decision in regard to this matter and making it possible for telecommunications infrastructure to be placed anywhere on the golf course. Not a situation that many residents would welcome.



Computer Technician/Web Page Developer Required



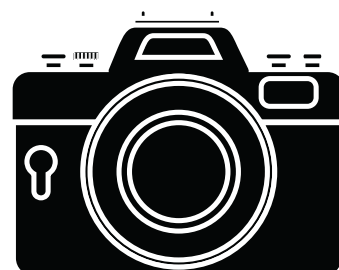
We are looking for someone who is “computer savvy” and able to manage the VRA Website. If you are able to help in this way please contact the VRA via email: vinesresidentsassociation@gmail.com.
Thank you

Photograph Needed - Can You Help ?

PHOTOGRAPH NEEDED

The City of Swan have agreed to retain the gate house at the entry to The Vines complete with its original signage. They have asked for a photograph of the gate house showing the original signage. If you have one of these can you please forward a copy to the VRA.

We are sure many of you would like to see the gate house returned to its original splendour



Safety - Home Security Checklist

Use the following guide to conduct your own Home Security Checklist. The more “yes” boxes you tick the harder you make it for burglars:

- Are your trees and shrubs trimmed so it's hard for burglars to hide behind?
- Do you have solid core doors?
- Do you have locks and deadbolts or deadlocks fitted?
- Do you have security screens on doors and windows?
- Does your door have a peephole?
- Do your windows have key-locks or security devices?
- Does your house have an automatic light timer or sensor lights?
- Are the entrances to your home well lit?
- Is your home fitted with an alarm?
- Are there fences and gates on your property to restrict access?
- Is the meter box locked?
- Are your contents and valuables engraved or marked for easy identification?
- Have you recorded the serial numbers?
- Do you have window stickers letting burglars know you have an alarm and your property is marked?
- Is there a phone or mobile in the bedroom with emergency numbers handy?
- Do you have a dog?
- Is your house number clearly visible from the street?
- Have you joined Neighbourhood Watch?

Police 131 444
Save 000 for emergencies

Carnaby's Black Cockatoo



This white-tailed, black cockatoo is a large bird, with a wingspan of over one (1) metre. They make themselves known with loud calls and are easily seen, as they flock together and frequently feed at low levels, occasionally on the ground. They also have a habit of flying very low, so keep an eye out when driving – if you see one, there are almost certainly more flying just behind!

They have been recorded to live over 35 years in the wild, taking 4 years to become breeding adults and laying 1-2 eggs per year. In The Vines, our cockatoos use the area for feeding, water and roosting, but have not been recorded as breeding. Their food sources are primarily the seeds of proteaceous plants such as Banksia, Hakea and Grevillea, along with seeds from Eucalyptus (Marri trees especially). Please plant these wherever you have space in your gardens.



Now for the part that's hard to read. These iconic birds are critically endangered. Their population has fallen by 50% on the Swan Coastal plain since 2010 and continues to fall by around 10% per year. Even worse, the Gngangara Pines are being cleared. If this occurs, it is forecast to cause a mass-starvation event that will decimate over half of the remaining population. Please go back and read what plants we can put in our garden to give these gorgeous birds a fighting chance.

Volunteers undertake an annual "Cockatoo Count" all around WA. The Vines currently has one site that has a record of roosting cockatoos going back many years. If you know of a roosting location, please let us know, so that we can highlight the importance of The Vines to their survival.

Wine Talk

Hello Wine Lovers,

Thank heavens Summer is behind us - any more heat and we would have all expired. Vintage is all but over.

So what about the vintage - are the wines any good??? Yes!!!

The best Petit Verdot we've seen in recent years - somehow this heat sensitive variety sailed through the summer untouched. Shiraz looks very attractive - particularly the barrels for Reserve. Chenin Blanc and Verdelho look bold and flavoursome. Grenache is again light bodied with plenty of distinctive Grenache flavour. Malbec and Cabernet to be advised...

It has been a unique season with the heat really impacting grape ripening. We had to adopt different strategies to our normal harvest decision making and we think it has paid off. Certainly this year's wines will be big and boldly flavoured without the finesse of the last few cooler seasons. But this should augur well for drinkability.

We hope to have a new Rose out in June to complement our range. We plan to blend Swan Valley Shiraz and Frankland Cabernet in a light fresh fruity style - sounds good. We plan to have all our whites blended, stabilised and bottled by late May. Right now we are finalising blends and running fining trials to make sure we get the wines spot on - and as always drinkability is our guiding light.

Hopefully we can all enjoy a COVID free Easter.

John Griffiths & Jane Micallef - Faber Vineyards

