

THE  
*Vines*  
RESIDENTS AND  
RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION (INC)  
**The Grapevine**  
NEWSLETTER  
20 JANUARY 2023



## UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to our first edition of The Grapevine for 2023. To say that it has been a busy start to the year would be an understatement. The Vines (WA) Pty Ltd, owners of the golf course, are determined to push ahead with their "vision". As we know, they intend to remove vast areas of green space, including the current driving range and at least 9 holes of the golf course. Despite widespread condemnation, the formal process has begun.

The City of Swan (CoS) have received a Development Application (DA) for the construction of a two-storey concrete driving range to be located near the resort buildings, on the 9th hole of the Lakes course. If you are not familiar with this location, please see page 2 and also go to our Facebook page where you can view an excellent video which clearly shows the area. The DA is currently being reviewed by CoS. Once they have completed their process, they will then open it up for public comment via their website. This may be very soon. We will let everyone know when it is 'live' via direct email to our members, posting on Facebook and our website, as well as a letterbox drop. We will also hold events where you can show your opposition to the plans.

At the end of the public consultation period, a report will be written by the CoS Planning department and given to the council for their consideration. When this is completed, the application will go to the Joint Development Assessment Body (JDAP) who will make the final decision.

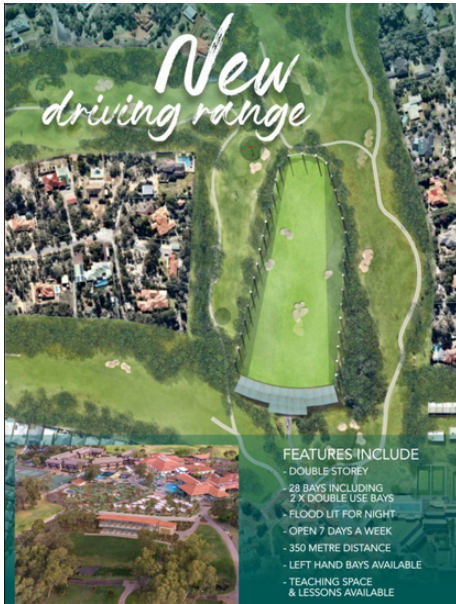
**Remember:** this DA is just the first stage in the redevelopment. If the DA gets approval, the owners will push on with the next stage of their plans which is to build over-55s housing on the existing grass driving range.

We launched our online petition on 13th January. One reason for doing a petition is to demonstrate to elected representatives that there is strong community sentiment against both this DA and also the redevelopment plan as a whole. This is where **we need you**. Every adult member of your household is able to sign this petition if they have an email address, and we ask that this is the first thing that you do. Secondly, make sure that at every opportunity you ask your friends, neighbours, and colleagues to sign it. (They do not have to live in The Vines to sign this petition.) It may only be a little thing, but it will make a big difference.

Please see page 3 for our new bin stickers so you can show your support for our cause. At only \$5 each we hope you will consider buying one or two, or more!

I read a quote this morning: "Keep trying because if the good people give up, the lazy dishonest people have a big win" (Anonymous).

# Concrete Driving Range



The concrete driving range is the first stage of the redevelopment plan for The Vines Golf Course.

If the Development Application for the two-storey driving range is approved, this building will mean definite changes to the golf course:

- Redundancy of the existing grass driving range and practice areas. This opens that area for residential rezoning and building the proposed over-55s housing
- The two-storey range building will block the view of the golf course from the resort, with destruction of mature trees and green space in that area
- The need to (at best) relocate the 9th hole of the Lakes course, thus impacting the course layout. However, we know they have plans to replace half the Lakes course with an 18-hole short course

The diagram above is taken from documents sent to golf members in October 2022, and shows the location of the proposed range in relation to the nearby houses. The range will be flood lit for night, with a 350m range distance.

The photograph to the right shows the view looking north from the green of the 9th hole of the Lakes course. The proposed driving range building will run directly across this area, approximately where the two bushes are.

The back of the driving range will be facing the resort buildings. Until we see the full plan, we do not know how tall the building will actually be, but it is likely to be similar to the resort.



The photograph to the left shows a large group of trees that will be lost when the range is built.

Despite numerous attempts by the golf members to get the owners to change their choice of location for this new driving range, there has been no amendment to the original plan.

When the DA is opened for comments by the City of Swan, you will be able to see the full details of the application, including all supporting documentation submitted by The Vines (WA) Pty Ltd. There will be an online form allowing you to state your opinion by clicking a box, as well as functionality to upload items that you wish to include to illustrate your opinion, such as a letter, photographs, etc.

**The DA will go live very soon and the consultation period will be short and strictly adhered to.** If you miss the response deadline, CoS will not include your comments in their process. Please don't miss this opportunity. Stopping the DA in its tracks will put a giant spanner in the works of the overall redevelopment plan. We must make every effort to do this. Do not rely on others. Let your voice be heard.

If the DA goes to the JDAP committee and gets approved, the next stage of the process will be for The Vines (WA) Pty Ltd to get the current grass driving range rezoned as residential land. They may start to build the driving range in the meantime in an attempt to force the hand of the state planning authority.

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# New! Bin Stickers

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Would you like to show your support for our campaign against the redevelopment? We now have bin stickers available which have been printed with our campaign logo.

These are a glossy vinyl sticker, measuring 340mm by 300mm. The photo to the right is an illustration of what the size looks like on a bin. **They are available for just \$5 each!**

Show your support for our campaign by buying one (or two) for each of your bins. Of course you could also stick them to anything you like, including making them into a sign if you prefer.

You can order by scanning the QR code here, or by using the link on our Facebook page. We will then deliver to your letterbox as soon as possible. The first batch is available immediately.



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# Petition Update

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The Vines Residents & Ratepayers Association started this petition to Owners and Board of Directors of The Vines (WA) Pty Ltd

Thanks to all who have already voiced their opposition to the redevelopment by signing the petition. In addition to the number of households who are members of The VRRRA, the number of signatures to this online petition will be evidence of the size of the outcry against the proposed changes to the golf course.

As mentioned on the front page, please ensure every adult in your household who has their own email address has signed the petition.

At the time of writing this newsletter, we have over 800 signatures. We would like to get above the thousand signature mark by this weekend. The faster we can get support, the louder our voice will be.

In order to share the petition, you can either share one of our recent Facebook posts that contains the link or, once you have signed, you can share directly from the petition website to Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp and via email. It does not matter whether the person lives in The Vines - anybody can sign this petition.

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# Committee News

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We are still looking for someone to join our committee as a non-executive member to assist with general tasks, including the campaign against the golf course re-development, helping us to run events, and participating in other activities.

You will need to be available to attend our committee meetings which are held regularly, usually on a Monday evening. If you would like to find out more, please feel free to email us with any questions. The email address is [vinesresidentsassociation@gmail.com](mailto:vinesresidentsassociation@gmail.com)



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# Upcoming General Event

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On Sunday 5th March we will take part in the **Clean Up Australia** event. This will involve coming together to pick up litter and, dependent upon how many people want to be involved, we are planning to have multiple groups throughout our suburb.

Please watch out for further details on our Facebook page and in The Grapevine.



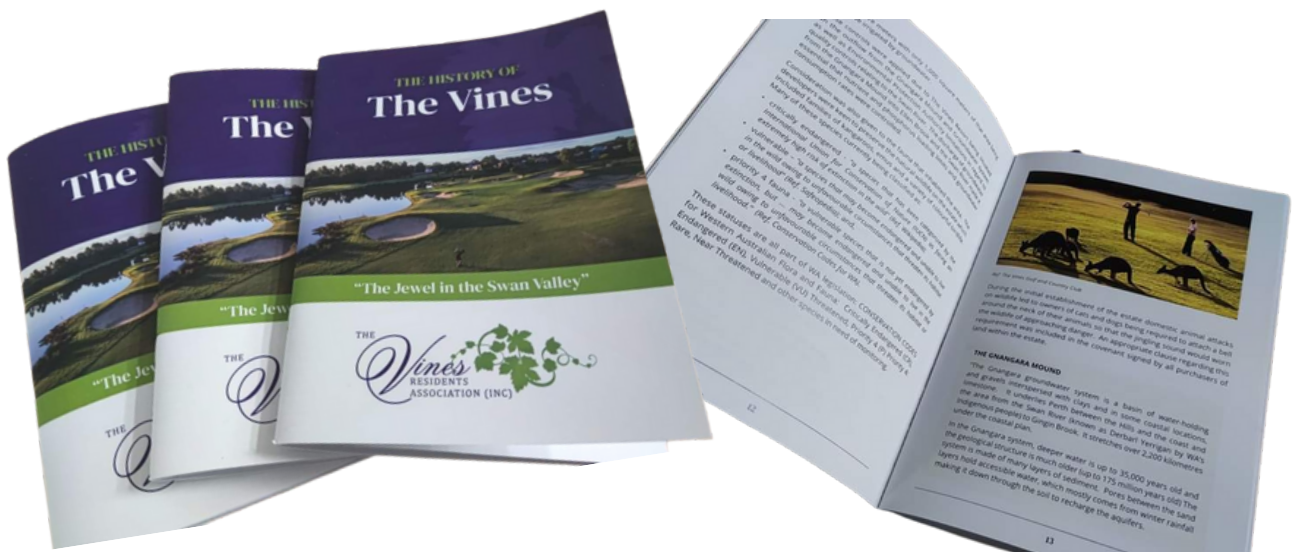
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# The History of The Vines

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We have a lot to lose if the redevelopment plans move ahead. Although we all have our own concerns and interests, we should also take into account how The Vines came about, including its benefits to the state from a tourism and economic perspective. **The History of The Vines** documents the initial development of The Vines Resort and Country Club. It tells how the government of the day supported this development to encourage Japanese tourism within Western Australia and enhance tourist opportunities within the beautiful Swan Valley. It documents the highs that were a key part of early life within The Vines; the challenges that residents faced when building their homes within the area; and, now what are seen as even greater challenges in maintaining the areas semi-rural lifestyle due to the threat of redevelopment.

**The books are available for purchase at \$10.00 each.** Please contact The VRRRA via email [vinesresidentsassociation@gmail.com](mailto:vinesresidentsassociation@gmail.com) if you are interested in purchasing these books.



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## Wine Talk

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### Vintage 2023 in the Swan Valley

Winemakers could not have asked for a better start to the winegrape harvest season.

Mild summer daytime temperatures, cool nights and no rainfall, result in a slow ripening period for the fruit and ensure exceptional flavours and deep colour development in red wine grapes.

Warm temperatures predicted for the coming weekend will hasten the ripening of some of the early white varieties.

Chardonnay and Chenin Blanc for sparkling wine base will be the first to be harvested, followed by other white varieties such as Verdelho, Semillon, Sauvignon Blanc and Vermentino.

Pinelli Estate Winemaker, Daniel Pinelli said:

*"I am really excited about the prospect of an exceptional vintage across both white and red varieties. Hopefully this mild summer pattern will continue for next few months and vintage 2023 will go down as one of the best Swan Valley vintages on record."*



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# Containers for Change

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The VRRRA Committee is a small team of volunteers with assistance from a few amazing helpers from within our community. We always need more residents on board helping by getting out in the community, meeting and talking with other residents about our efforts. We also appreciate hearing any fundraising ideas that you have.

Our participation in 'Containers for Change' arose from a suggestion by VRRRA members. Details are below.

The VRRRA are delighted to be a registered beneficiary of the Containers for Change recycling scheme in Western Australia.

## THE VRRRA Scheme ID is C10534672

For each eligible recycled container, The VRRRA will receive 10 cents. Most aluminium, glass, plastic, steel and liquid paperboard drink containers between 150ml and 3L are eligible. Please check for the 10c mark on drink containers to ensure they are recyclable. Please remove lids from bottles (lids are also recyclable)



Recyclable containers must be bagged up or taped up in cardboard boxes and placed in the trailer/compound area at the drop off point below:

### 19 Pinot Terrace, The Vines

As this is a Resident's home address, we ask that you follow the rules above and ensure the area is left clean and tidy. Alternatively, containers can be dropped at other Containers for Change locations, quoting The VRRRA ID number above

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## Renew or Donate: Payment Details

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### 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)

Or, renew via this QR code:



You can use your credit card via The VRRRA website:

<https://thevinesra.com.au/become-a-member/>

If you would like to donate towards our 'fighting fund', please use the following account:

### LEGAL 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)

Or, donate via this QR code:

