

THE



The Grapevine

Newsletter No 54

19 January 2024



UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR

I trust that everyone had a wonderful Christmas and are now enjoying a Happy New Year.

Here is an update on what has happened since the last Grapevine Newsletter:

- LWP Group has entered into a service agreement with Satterley Property Group which will see them deliver services to complete their projects in Western Australia. You may have noticed that the LWP logo is being replaced with Satterley signage around the Ellenbrook suburb. This deal has nothing at all to do with the proposed Vines WA Pty Ltd "New Vision" redevelopment plan, to convert large areas of green space of The Vines golf course into housing;
- An application on behalf of The Vines (WA) Pty Ltd to rezone the current driving range was attempted in late 2023. An initial enquiry was sent to the City of Swan (CoS) from the Western Australian Planning Commission. The VVRA were able to meet with CoS staff to provide input to a report prepared by their planning officer that did not support the rezoning enquiry. The CoS informed us last week that this application has since been withdrawn;
- The VVRA have now activated some important parts of its campaign to stop the Vines (WA) Pty Ltd proposed development plan. These are proceeding well. The following is an update on a small part of that program:

MORE FROM THE CHAIR

- With the proposed closure of holes 3-11 on the Ellenbrook course in April 2024, the VRRRA through our legal partners, Hammond Legal, sent correspondence to the following stakeholders:

Tsuruya Shoji Co Ltd - the parent company of The Vines (WA) Pty Ltd ;
Mr T. Nishigaki - Director, The Vines (WA) Pty Ltd ;
Mr M. Hohnen - Executive Director, The Vines (WA) Pty Ltd and ;
Japanese Consulate - The consulate has acknowledged the letter and requested updates.

Whilst the two page letter went into some detail of the concerns of residents, the main message can be summed up with this statement:

"The VRRRA is committed to considering all legal options available should the redevelopment plan be enacted"

Within the context of the statement above it should be noted that The VRRRA were critical of two recent public statements that omitted important planning details.

Looking to the future, as you will read later in this newsletter, we are hosting a community evening event on Sunday 9th March - I hope you can join us.



"If you see something that doesn't add up, wake those around you to what's up".

Anon.

New for 2024 - Brain Teasers



What has cities, but no houses; forests but no trees; and water, but no fish?

(no cheating...) if you think you know the answer – post your answer on our Facebook Page. The answer will be provided in next month's edition!

Friends of The Vines

What's happening with Friends of The Vines?

The New Year period has been busy on the environmental front.

RAKALI!

We have some images and video that appear to show Rakali swimming in a lake in The Vines!

Rakalis are a native aquatic marsupial that looks like an otter, with a white tip to the tail. It's a very shy but attractive animal, with a body up to 35cm long and weighing up to 1.3 kilograms. Their diet includes fish, aquatic insects, crayfish, crabs and shellfish.

They also enjoy the same level of protection as Quenda (Priority 4).

We'd love to hear from you if you've spotted one as well!



COCKATOOS

We've been working closely with Carnaby's Crusaders to survey trees and habitat for Cockatoos throughout The Vines. Many large mature trees, particularly those with potential nesting hollows, have been mapped and the participating landowners notified. We have been working closely with both the City of Swan and the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) and are delighted to announce that we have been given permission to put in 6 artificial nesting hollows across The Vines. These will be actively monitored with cameras and the result shared. There is considerable cockatoo activity every day and the nesting range for both Carnaby's and Red-tailed Cockatoos is close to The Vines, so we are very hopeful of success and that we will be able to do our part to protect the long term survival of these iconic birds.

As mentioned elsewhere in The Grapevine, you can also meet some cockatoos in the park, along with enjoying a BBQ and watching an award-winning movie about our Cockatoos and the campaign to save them.



MORE ABOUT FRIENDS OF THE VINES

Roxburghe Foreshore

We've met with the City of Swan and they have confirmed that plants have been ordered to continue the revegetation of the Roxburghe foreshore area. There will be announcements in the autumn about when you can get involved with this.

Bordeaux Lane

We're also working with both the City of Swan and the DBCA to restore sections of the stream in the Bordeaux Lane Reserve.

The pictures show the stream at each end of the Reserve. As you can see, one end of the stream looks fantastic, whilst the other is in desperate need of revegetating. Exciting to think of the changes that we can bring about!



Black Cockatoo Crisis Movie Night

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE UPCOMING EVENT: BLACK COCKATOO CRISIS MOVIE NIGHT AND SAUSAGE SIZZLE

VRRA members please join us to view the Black Cockatoo Crisis movie. This award winning movie has been produced in Western Australia by Jane Hammond and highlights the threats to our endangered black cockatoos.

Dean Arthurell from Carnaby's Crusaders, will also be joining us to provide information about a recent cockatoo survey conducted in The Vines and an exciting upcoming pilot to install cockatoo nesting boxes in The Vines.



Venue: Chardonnay Park, Vines Avenue, The Vines

Time: 5.30 pm for sausage sizzle and meet the cockatoos.
6.45 pm Movie

Date: Saturday 9th March 2024

Supported by the City of Swan

Friends of The Park – Brut Park

Through the VRRA a local neighbourhood friends group has been established to assist with replanting, watering and maintaining Brut Park – in The Mews. The Friends of the Park through The VRRA are working closely with Brad from the City of Swan to ensure the park is restored to its natural state. If you live in the area surrounding Brut Park (Sauvignon, Classic, Brut and Cabernet) and would like to contribute your time to assist in whatever way you can – we would like to hear from you. We will be organising a small localised Breakfast BBQ in the coming weeks where Brad from City of Swan and our VRRA Team Leaders Rob and Ingrid will be able to brief you on further plans and to listen to your ideas and concerns. Watch your mailbox for details of the BBQ some time in February when it cools down a little.

Background information

Earlier in 2023 the City of Swan commenced a park clean-up of non-native plants and trees, as well as removing dead plants and fallen trees that could be a fire hazard. As part of this process they planted a number of trees, bushes and kangaroo paw etc. Unfortunately, even with some protection our original inhabitants (kangaroos) saw this as a fantastic food hall – offering a variety of options for a delicious meal. New plants are now being protected to let them get established!

MORE ABOUT FRIENDS OF THE PARK



Watering on a Saturday Morning



Success - Revival of Plants with better protection and watering

Since the original planting in early 2023 – there have been several attempts – the latest the most successful – to replant natives and regenerate the bush. However, as summer has proven to be rather harsh for plants with little to no water (especially during a heatwave), local residents are working with the VRRRA Friends of the Park group to provide a watering service throughout this summer period until the plants are established. There are plans in the future to assist with clearing some of the remaining dead plants to remove any potential for a fire hazard.

Containers for Change

The VRRRA is grateful to everyone who drops off their eligible containers so we can collect the 10c refund towards our 'fighting fund' - this has assisted us to engage experts in our fight against the redevelopment.

If you would like to help us, 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

Renew or Donate: Payment Details

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)

You can use your credit card via The VRRRA website:

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

Or, renew via this QR code:



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:

