



CRREPA NEWS

Newsletter of the Canning River Residents Environment Protection Association (Inc)

Editors: Ken Keesing & Colma Keating

20th Anniversary Edition #2

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

CRREPA members can look back with well deserved pride at the remarkable change they have brought about during the past 20 years to the Rossmoyne-Shelley foreshore. It has been through members' photos and recollections that we are able to fully realise the fantastic changes on the ground. Below are just two of the 39 sites that CRREPA has volunteered at over the past two decades alongside the City of Canning environment officers and Bushcrew, Lions Club of Booragoon, SERCUL, Swan River Trust, and corporates as well as local schools, scouts and community members.

SITE 04a: YAGAN PARK In 1996 a bushfire which started in Yagan Park devastated the bushland near Bull Creek. Residents' property in the Lodge was threatened but emergency services eventually brought the fire under control. The destruction of the area was heartbreaking and challenging.



SITE 16: BEATRICE AVENUE SPIT In 1995 a Swan Alcoa Landcare Program (SALP) grant with the City of Canning's assistance helped us to protect an unusual bird resting and feeding site. It is the only area along the southern bank of the Canning River between Bull Creek and Shelley Bridge that at low tide provides an extensive, exposed area attractive to birds at some distance from the disturbance of the pedestrian thoroughfare. It is now a registered site for the National Shorebird Count.





1995
Margot
Ross

President's 20th Anniversary Notes

Grecian Sandwell



Achieving more: On December 12th 1994, founding member Margot Ross was quoted in the West Australian newspaper. She said with regards to the formation of CRREPA “We won’t see a great improvement in our lifetime”. Whilst it gives me much pleasure to say how wrong her prophecy was, sadly she isn’t here today to celebrate her and our achievements.

Early meeting: I recall the 1994 meeting in the library at All Saints College that was the catalyst for the formation of CRREPA. We were all concerned about the impact a boardwalk through Yagan Wetland would have on that area. Since then CRREPA has established its credentials which is testament to the dedication of its membership. This is achieved by making a measurable difference on the ground and by participating in the broader catchment, involving other groups and organisations, mentoring, seeking out information and sharing information.

Acknowledgement: The 2006 City of Canning Watercourse Reserves Management Strategies publication said “All these groups and bodies make a major contribution to the preservation and restoration of bush and riparian habitats. Without them the City’s watercourse reserves would be

significantly more degraded than they are today”. This statement refers to the Canning River Regional Park Volunteers, Wilson Wetland Action Group, Friends of Queens Park Bushland, SERCUL, the Phosphorous Action Group and CRREPA.

Committee volunteers: This is our second newsletter celebrating our 20 years of volunteer conservation along the Shelley-Rossmoyne Foreshore. Over this time: 52 members have held positions on our committee (Refer page 3). 26 for 3 or more years, 17 of these for 5 or more years and 6 with 10 or more years on the committee. Thank you for offering your time, energy and expertise to the committee.

Foreshore Sites: We have worked at 39 separate sites along the foreshore. The photos on the cover demonstrate what we have achieved at two of these sites with many locals not aware that areas were bare 7-10 years ago.

CRREPA News: We have produced 41 newsletters, with 3 editors Cam Ross (29 editions), Ken Keesing (10 editions) and Colma Keating (2 editions). The copy has transitioned from four pages on green paper (1994-2003) to full colour, to now being available electronically on the SERCUL website. Special thanks to the editors, all the contributors and to the City of Canning and Noel and Michelle Kagi for assistance with printing and to the volunteers who have folded and distributed.

Group Report: With such welcome early rains we have been very fortunate to have 500 seedlings ready to go in at the start of the season. All are in and many were planted into the horticulture soil recently delivered to three sites by the City of Canning. The following rains are the best start we have had to a planting season for a long time. This is the first time we have planted native marine couch, *Sporobolus virginicus*. We will follow its growth with interest as it provides good foreshore stability.



1979
Shelley Foreshore [Clark]



1996
Vera on bike [Clark]

SPOT THE DIFFERENCES: Photos taken of the same place on the Shelley foreshore (opposite 241 Riverton Drive near the Beatrice Ave Spit — refer cover story). Only the historic ‘convict fence’ remains unchanged after 45 Years. Congratulations to past committee members Rosetta Clark and Vera Colley for their part in the transformation of this now very popular foreshore area for bird watching at the end of Beatrice Avenue. Vera’s ‘watering vehicle’ is typical of our members’ ingenuity solving problems encountered in weeding, planting and watering at our 39 different sites along the foreshore.

Acknowledging 20 Years of Committee Volunteering

Very special thanks to the following 52 members
who have volunteered their time and expertise on our CRREPA Committee over the past 20 years.

Alan MILLER (dec) (6)
André MALAN (dec) (1)
Bill LAMBE (2)
Brett ENSOR (7)
Brian MUNRO (5)
Cam ROSS (dec) (14)
Carolyn DUNN (2)
Chris BADDELEY (2)
Chris MALAN (1)
Christy GRIFFIN (4)
Colma KEATING (10)
Dave MALIK (2)
Davina JOHN (2)
Deidre WILLS (1)
Diane MATTHEWS (15)
Eleanor KAPELLE (2)
Elna QUINLAN (1)

Eric WINTERBURN (dec) (3)
Grecian SANDWELL (15)
Helen CARTER (7)
Ian DUNN (1)
Janine WOOD (1)
Joan MUNRO (5)
John COOKE (dec) (11)
Ken HOPKINS (1)
Ken KEESING (7)
Libby FITZPATRICK (3)
Lili BREWSTER (3)
Liz MOORE (8)
Lorna COLPITTS (4)
Margot ROSS (dec) (5)
Maureen HOPKINS (4)
Max RISBEY (1)
Michelle KAGI (13)
Michelle RIGO (2)

Noel KAGI (2)
Pat HARTLEY (1)
Roslyn BARTHOLOMAEUS (3)
Ray COLPITTS (2)
Richard HARTLEY (2)
Rona CHAMBERLAIN (dec) (1)
Rosetta CLARK (6)
Ross EDMUND (1)
Sallie BRYANT (7)
Sandra SWAIN (2)
Sandy POTTER (3)
Simon MITCHELL (1)
Susan HARRIS (1)
Terry POTTER (3)
Tony STOKES (1)
Vera COLLEY (9)
Yoka THWAITES (1)

** Members in bold have volunteered 10 or more years.

Whilst **Max Risbey** has served only one year on the Committee we would like to remind our members that he has been a propagator of plants and been a group leader for many years (Refer CRREPA News No. 40).

We welcome **Chris Galvin** and **Faye Morgan** who have joined the Committee in this our 21st year.

THANK YOU TO RETIRING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Grecian Sandwell

Special thanks to **Joan and Brian Munro** and to **Ken Keesing** who retired from your committee in 2014.

Thank you for all you have invested in CRREPA over the years and continue to do so.

We look forward to your company at many more working and social events along the foreshore.



[Keating]

Ken had been on the committee for seven years, including two years as vice-president and two years as president and has edited your newsletter for the past ten issues. He has also attended many, many a hands-on session along the foreshore and represented CRREPA on the SRT's Bull Creek Water Quality Improvement Plan.

2010: Ken planting at Halophila Bay



2012: Joan with grandson Angus weeding at Rob Bruce

In addition to five years on the committee, **Joan and Brian** have been extremely active members since joining CRREPA. Always there at regular hands-on sessions with the Fifth to Beatrice group and all other working bees as well as assisting with many end-of-year picnics, AGMs and special working sessions with the local Scout Group.



2012 Brian spreading storm debris



CRREPA COMMITTEE 2014 - 2015

President
Secretary

Grecian Sandwell
Faye Morgan

Vice President
Treasurer

Sallie Bryant
Colma Keating

Roslyn Bartholomaeus
André Malan (dec)

Christine Galvin
Chris Malan

Susan Harris
Diane Matthews

Members please contact us by phone (9354 9734)
or use our new email (CRREPA@gmail.com) or postal address (PO Box 3079 Shelley 6148)

CRREPA's 20th Anniversary Celebration

Grecian Sandwell

At the celebrations following our 20th AGM we had very informative, insightful and amusing presentations from many speakers.

Diane Matthews (past president CRREPA), **Pat Hart** (Chair of SERCUL), **Steve Atwell** (Director of Infrastructure and Environment, City of Canning (CCC)), **Max Box**, (Natural Areas Team Leader, CCC) **Merise Blackburn** (Parks Conservation Officer, CCC) and **Rod Hughes** (General Manager of the Swan River Trust) all told wonderful CRREPA stories.

Diane complemented her presentation with an amazing historical record of newspaper clippings spanning more than 20 years.



Colma Keating's **slide show** and Sallie Bryant and Roslyn Bartholomaeus' **photo displays** encapsulated 20 years of change on the foreshore featuring many before and after site records, birds, floods, drains, aftermath of storms and many photos of our volunteers.

Partners in our efforts, including the City of Canning, Lions Club of Booragoon, Rossmoyne Primary School River Rangers, Rossmoyne Senior High School Bushrangers, Swan River Trust, SERCUL, Scouts and corporate organisations were also acknowledged.

Sallie and Roslyn's wall of photos added the 'WOW factor' and **Max Risbey's planting inventions** displayed by Susan Harris gave him the opportunity to explain how they helped us.

It was a great celebration which resulted from lots of hard work by an enthusiastic group of volunteers.

Another highlight of our celebration was catching up with our **neighbouring community conservation groups**. It is very special to socialise with so many like-minded people whom have volunteered much time and energy into our natural environment and local communities over many, many decades.



Editor's Note:
The WOW photos and slide show later went to the Riverton Library and then back to CREEC.



Recognition and Awards



South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare

Certificate of Recognition

presented to

Canning River Residents Environment Protection Association (CRREPA)

for

20 years of outstanding commitment to the environment

Pat Hart
Chairperson

May 2014

Julie Robert
CEO

The **South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare (SERCUL)** presented CRREPA with a 'Certificate of Recognition' for 20 years of outstanding commitment to the environment. In presenting the certificate, SERCUL's Chairperson, Part Hart congratulated CRREPA members for their longstanding efforts.



[Swan River Trust]

Joan Munro was presented with the Swan River Trust Dolphin Watcher Award by Minister Jacob for her regular reports of sightings of dolphins in the Canning River. Congratulations Joan.

Members Memories — Moira and David Long

My standout memory... is of one very hot day when I was watering opposite Rob Bruce Park. A veterans running race came past. One runner who was about to expire from the heat begged me to turn the hose on her! I soaked her and she ran off very happy!

The most amazing sight in my time with CRREPA was... the three huge, grey chicks in their untidy nest at the bottom of Fifth Avenue.

I really admire... Grecian and Colma who are always full of so much knowledge and information and never fail to be smiling and friendly and supportive! Gold medals to you both!

The most frustrating times were... when we had to fill loads of water bottles and water in Shelley before the City of Canning finally and kindly installed a watering connection! Thank you!



VALE André Malan 1947-2014



We are very saddened and shocked at the sudden death of the very special André. Many of you will know André and his wife Chris from their volunteering alongside you on the foreshore as well from the CRREPA Committee. Others of you will know André as the investigative journalist and columnist. Our thoughts are with Chris and family, as well as friends and colleagues.



Your Sundowner Invitation

WHEN: Sunday, December 7th at 5.30pm

WHERE: Shelley Reserve (Beatrice Avenue)
A shady spot with a beautiful view

CRREPA PROVIDES: Roast chickens

BYO: Salad or nibbles to share
As well as your drinks, picnic utensils and chairs

RSVP for catering by 27 November: Roslyn 9457 4590
CRREPA@gmail.com

Bull Creek Treasures

Beneath its scenic surface, Bull Creek is one of the most heavily polluted parts of the Canning catchment. This is an unfortunate legacy of the agricultural and light industrial history of the area. The waste from piggeries, poultry farms, market gardens and septic sewerage systems has drained into it. Added to this are toxic wastes of oil, paint, chemicals and industrial pollutants. The heavy metals are embedded in the mud and best left there undisturbed. However, in the water, on the water and on the banks are the natural treasures that we appreciate and must protect. The inlet is also a boat anchorage which poses some problems. We regret that Cam and Woody, 'CRREPA's eyes on Bull Creek' are only with us now in our fond thoughts. The fishing jetty built in 2005 was partly funded by your Association. The area is also of great heritage value with colonial history connections to Aboriginal warrior Yagan, early settlers Bull and Bateman and convict workers. The 'Mayflower' has its final resting place here. Bull Creek — a place to cherish.

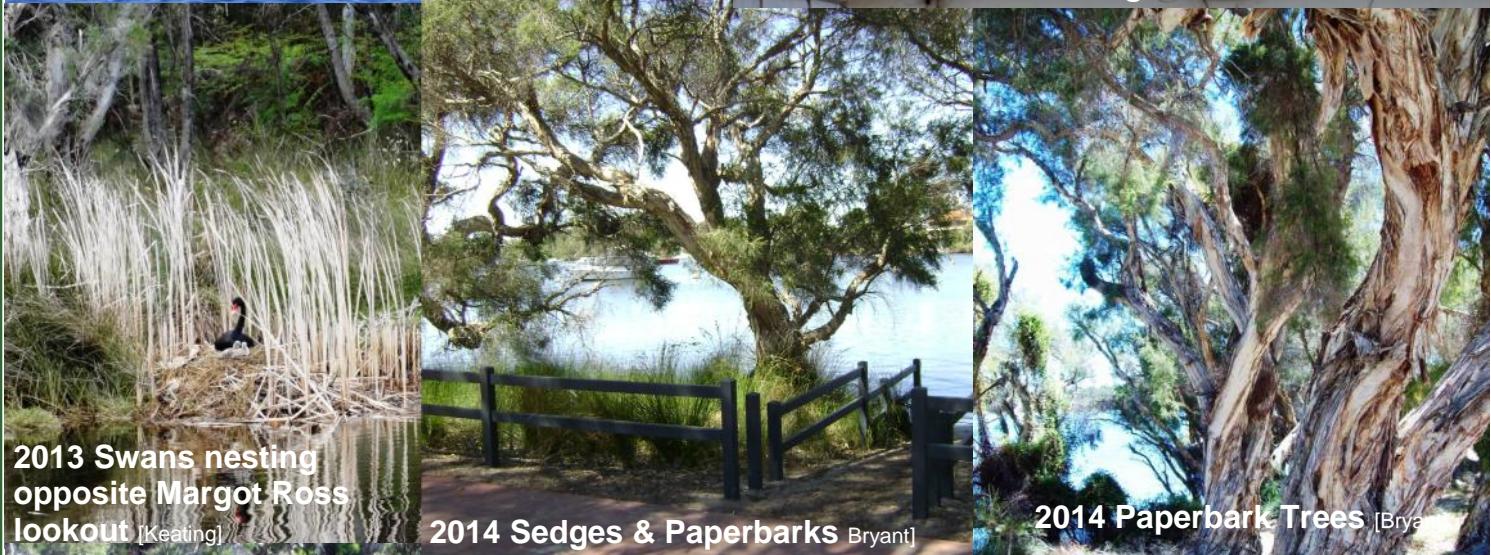


2013 Swans and Cygnets [Keating]



2014 Bull Creek Bird Haven [Bryant]

Pelican 'kindergarten house boat' [Potter]



2013 Swans nesting
opposite Margot Ross
lookout [Keating]

2014 Sedges & Paperbarks [Bryant]

2014 Paperbark Trees [Bryant]



2014 Historic wreck of 'Mayflower' [Bryant]

2008 Snake Bush [Sandwell]

CRREPA Members at Work

Some glimpses of our members and community who have worked on 39 sites over the past 20 years.



Thanks to Ken, Diane,
Gary, Susan, Sallie, Grecian and Colma for photos.

Your local Canning River Residents Environment Protection Association

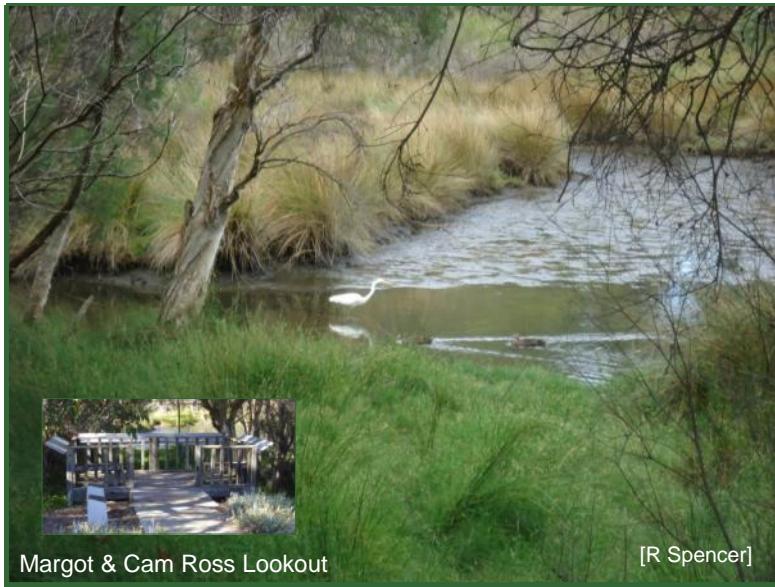
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PO Box 3079
Shelley 6148



Margot & Cam Ross Lookout

[R Spencer]

Bull Creek WQIP

Rosalie Spencer's beautiful photograph of Bull Creek and Yagan Park taken from the memorial lookout reminds us of how fortunate we are to be the custodians of such a precious place (See also p6).

Members will be pleased to know that the Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP) for the Bull Creek Catchment (in which CRREPA is a participant) has a project which will reduce the sediment and pollution coming from the main drain in Bateman Park which is feeding into this area. The work will replace a broken pipe with a series of living streams and pools.

When next you visit the lookout, pause to enjoy the scene and also read the plaques which honour valued founding members Margot and Cam Ross.



2013

[Keating]



2009

[Keating]

Planting around the new overflow pipe outlet at **Wadjup Point**, an ongoing project.

The **Lions Club of Booragoon** has supported CRREPA over many years. Their site opp. 137 Riverton Drive is well cared for.

Our special thanks to the City of Canning for their assistance with the cost of the printing of our 20th Anniversary Newsletter.

We are very grateful for the support provided by SERCUL including hosting our web page. www.sercul.org.au/crrepa.html

Your local Canning River Residents Environment Protection Association