



CRREPA NEWS

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

Editor: Ken Keesing

Congratulations Grecian Sandwell

It was with great pleasure that CRREPA members conferred Honorary Life Membership on Grecian Sandwell at their AGM in May this year. It was a long deserved recognition of her significant and sustained contribution to both CRREPA and the improvement of the Shelley-Rossmoyne foreshore. Grecian moved to Shelley in 1991 and was doing hands on foreshore care by herself for three years before CRREPA was formed. She attended the community meeting that led to the formation of CRREPA and although not a founding member, she became active on the committee. She has served in an official capacity as President, City Council Liaison representative and Foreshore Group Coordinator. Grecian has been the overall Foreshore Coordinator since we divided the foreshore into sub-sections in 2002, as well as being the Fifth Ave-Beatrice Ave Sub-section coordinator.

Grecian's comprehensive contribution included committee work, coordinating the hands-on activities and annual foreshore rehabilitation planning. This involved the ordering and the receiving of plants, contributing articles to CRREPA News, working with students from local primary and high schools, organising 'corporate days', representing CRREPA at workshops and events, welcoming people to the foreshore care groups and the persistent personal hard slog of tending to the foreshore.

For many years Grecian has:

- ★ been CRREPA's key liaison with the City of Canning environmental officers and Bushcrew
- organised the Rossmoyne CALM/DEC Bushrangers working sessions on the foreshore
- done summer watering on at least a weekly basis by herself, with the Bushcrew or with other members
- joined the Bushcrew for many of their weekly sessions
- organised some of the annual rehabilitation projects, ordered plants, picked them up and babysat them
- applied for grants (including Swan Avon Landcare Program 2004 and SGIO 2009)
- established the CRREPA Bird List ... which she has just added to again in the past 6 months
- assisted with our nomination for Environment Award 2005 - we were finalists
- been the person at end of phone for public calls - from the adverts in newspapers
- looked after the Yagan Park plantings
- provided support to enable another active member, Colma Keating, to do other things for CRREPA.



Vice President's Snippets

Ken Keesing

The past six months have seen many changes to our foreshore. The City of Canning has been busy remediating the severe damage caused by the storm in March. This has resulted in realignment of the dual use paths and the planting of trees in Rossmoyne and into Shelley. Some severe erosion of the river bank is still to be corrected. Swan River Trust Riverbank funding has been approved for the work required at Halophila Bay, opposite 135 Riverton Drive. (*Halophila ovalis* is a seagrass commonly known as paddle weed. It provides stability to the river bed and is a habitat for marine life. It is one of the treasures of our foreshore and must be protected.)

CRREPA members have done great work in weeding and planting during the winter around the foreshore and I wish to congratulate all those who were involved. We are especially grateful for the contribution made by the Lions Club of Booragoon members. We were fortunate this year to receive a large number of plants from the City of Canning and continue to receive assistance from the Bushcrew in the spraying of weeds and grass to prepare areas for planting.

Members of our Association have also assisted in the replanting of Rossmoyne Park and at the Science Week Fair held at the Canning River Eco Education Centre near Kent Street Weir. Our Committee has made a submission to the Swan River Trust regarding the proposed control of dinghy storage on beaches. We support the City of Canning which requires boat owners to remove dinghies after use.

Our Association has made enquiries from the Swan River Trust about the possible detrimental impact on the river from the proposed Cygnus housing estate next to Clontarf. The area has been a rubbish tip and was gazetted as a contaminated site. We have been advised that the site must be rehabilitated and a wetlands area is to be restored as a black swan nesting site. Public access to the buffer area along the river will be possible (as at Waterford).

Our AGM held in May at the Eco Education Centre was very successful with a large attendance of members. Our Guest speaker, Dr Hugh Finn, made a very interesting presentation on the river dolphins. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of Honorary Life Membership to Grecian Sandwell in recognition of her outstanding achievements in restoration of the foreshore; a well deserved honour. Congratulations Grecian.

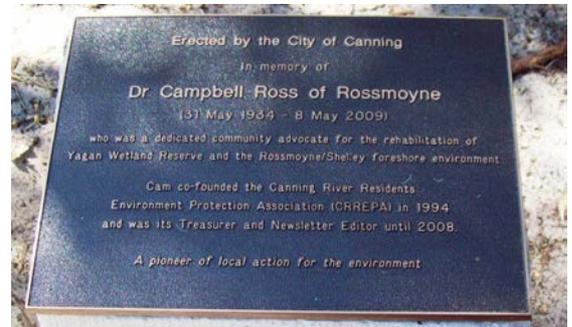
Earlier this month a memorial plaque, provided by the City of Canning, in honour of Cam Ross was dedicated at the lookout at Bullcreek. It is a beautiful location and in close proximity to where Cam devoted years of his life to protecting and improving the river and foreshore (See CRREPA NEWS page 3, October 2009). Thirty members of CRREPA, other volunteer groups and local residents witnessed the moving occasion. Cam's wife Rita, his sister Nona and daughters Jenny and Vicki and three grandchildren participated in the unveiling ceremony.



[G Matthews]



[G Matthews]



CRREPA Committee 2010/11

President: Vacant
Vice President: **Ken Keesing**
Secretary: **Liz Moore**
Treasurer: **Colma Keating**

Members: **Sallie Bryant**
Bill Lambe
Brian Munro
Joan Munro
Grecian Sandwell

We have an excellent, very capable committee, however we were unable to elect a President. If you know a member who would enjoy taking on this leadership role please let us know.



The United Nations declared 2010 to be the International Year of Biodiversity. It is a celebration of life on earth and of the value of biodiversity for our lives.

The world is invited to take action in 2010 to safeguard the variety of life on earth: biodiversity.

Canning River Eco Education Centre— A Dance of Science Community Fair

Ken Keesing



Kanyana Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre
Jane Steward & Cocky

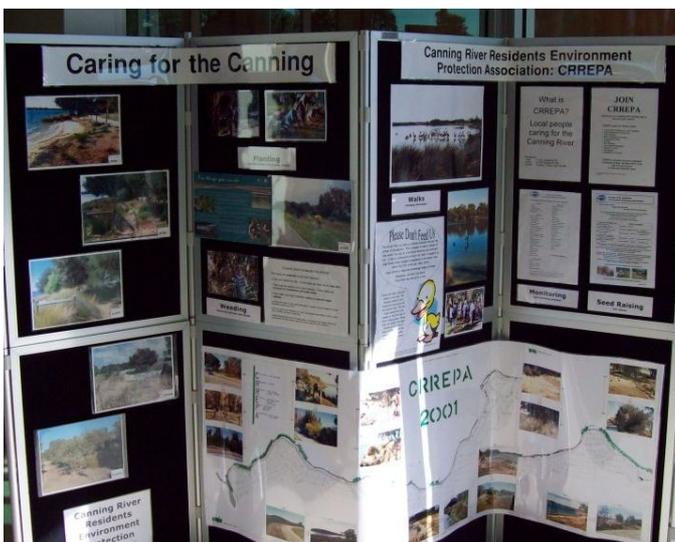
This event which was conducted in National Science Week by the City of Canning and SERCUL was officially opened by the Deputy Mayor. It was a wonderful celebration of the beauty of movement in science. This theme was the subject of an art competition with prizes for all age groups participating and supported by 180 entries, mostly from surrounding high and primary schools. The Eco Centre and the Kent Street Weir surroundings were crammed with displays and interactive opportunities to explore and observe science, culture and biodiversity.

The Fair opened with the Madjiti! Moorna choir singing catchy Aboriginal songs led by George Walley on the guitar and the audience joining in the chorus. A breath taking dance routine performed by Salmiyah in flowing red costume marvellously brought to life the theme of movement. She concluded by enticing the audience to follow her out onto the fair grounds where she later gave ballet lessons in a marquee.

During the day presentations included talks on plants and gardens, bird watching, story telling and a didgeridoo performance. A science lab was set up with microscopes to enable personal observation of river life.

Young children were treated to lessons in Aboriginal stone painting, some very beautiful face painting and badge making. These activities were supported by outside walks and some demonstrations in the grounds near the weir. The live birds and animals being exhibited by the wildlife rehabilitation and rescue groups were a great attraction. They featured a large red tailed black cockatoo (which had earlier joined in the singing), an echidna and some reptiles.

Advice was given on recycling, phosphorous awareness, local environmental volunteer groups and careers in science.



Free native plants were on offer with pamphlets and tips on those most suitable for different soil types. All the recipients were surprised by this generous service and will hopefully return next year and report on the progress of their plants.

The sunny autumn day was no doubt responsible for the excellent attendance which was estimated to be around 1000 over the day. The City of Canning provided support in the preparation of the venue and Steve Atwell and volunteers supplied non-stop hotdogs and drinks for the hungry throng. CREEC Coordinator, Tanya Porter, hosted the planning sessions and organised the publicity and liaison with schools. Congratulations to all who contributed to such an outstanding celebration of National Science Week.

STOP PRESS Tanya Porter is delighted to announce that funding for an Environmental Officer (Teacher) has been approved for the next 3 years. Applications are currently being sought for a teacher to be appointed in 2011. This will mean that the full potential of CREEC will be realised. Tanya is to be congratulated for her successful effort in keeping the Eco Education Centre and its equipment in use by teachers, volunteers and community groups since the previous funding ceased earlier this year.

Not been there yet! Tanya would be delighted to see you and give you some very informative pamphlets; maps of the canoe trails, details of local bush and water birds. There are also activities for school children during holidays run by qualified volunteers. Activities include bush walks, cycle trails, night stalks and exploring in canoes.

Lions Club of Booragoon active on foreshore Colma Keating

CRREPA Members joined the Lions Club of Booragoon for a late winter planting session at Second Avenue, Rossmoyne.



A precision orchestrated session saw the City of Canning prepare the site and provide the plants. Then the jobs were divided up across our volunteers on the day. These included weeding, digging holes or furrows, releasing plants from pots, planting and watering.



We finished with morning tea – an enjoyable session in good company and in fabulous surrounds.



**Please check your mailing label on the front page.
If the word "Expired" appears, your subscription is DUE NOW.
PLEASE RENEW TODAY!**

CRREPA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Please detach and return this form (with your subscription) either:

by POST
CRREPA Treasurer
PO Box 3079 Shelley 6148

OR

by HAND
CRREPA Treasurer
187b Riverton Drive Shelley

I/we _____ & _____
(Family name) (First names of members)

wish to renew our membership for: **1 year (to 31 March 2011) \$5.50 (Student \$2.20)**
(Circle appropriate section) **5 years (to 31 March 2015) \$20.00 (Student \$10.00)**

_____ 2010 \$ _____
(Signature) (Date) (Amount enclosed)

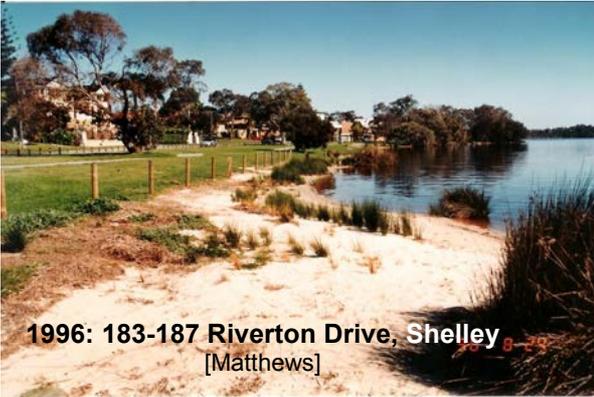
(E-mail) _____

Please circle if you are interested in RECORDING, SEED COLLECTION, REVEGETATION, BIRD SURVEY or COMMITTEE activities. About 1-2 hours per month. ANY HELP IS APPRECIATED.

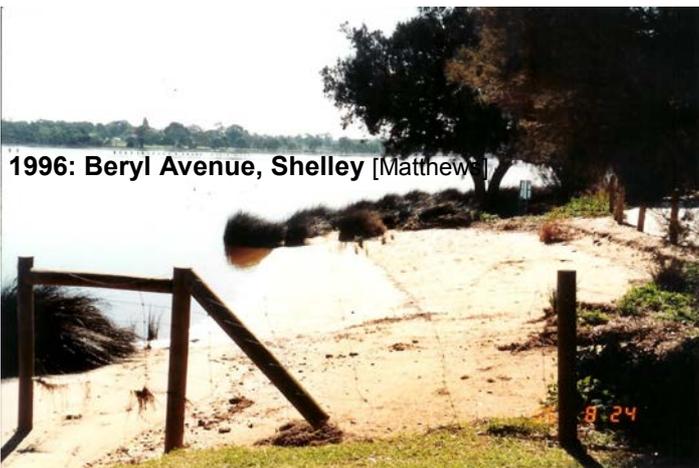
Many people, both members and non-members have raised concerns about the fencing of areas of the foreshore. CRREPA supports the use of temporary fencing that allows areas to regenerate free from the added pressures of people, pets and watercraft.

Sites where fences have now been removed (see photos below) after fulfilling their important role in stabilisation and rehabilitation include:

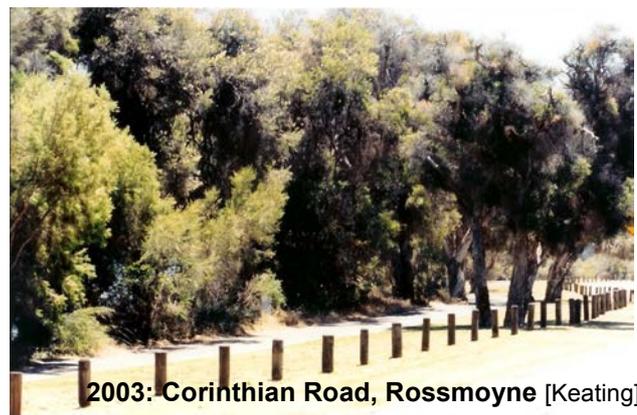
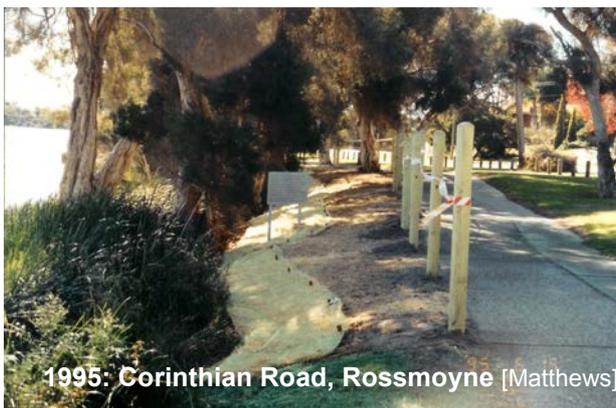
- ✦ Opposite 183-187 Riverton Drive, Shelley (refer also CRREPA News No. 31)
- ✦ Opposite Beryl Avenue, Shelley
- ✦ Opposite Corinthian Road, Rossmoyne.



2009: 183-187 Riverton Drive, Shelley [Keating]
The value of temporary fencing is evident



2009: Beryl Avenue, Shelley [Keating]. Wire has been removed. The posts are being retained as a way to mark the beach area



2003: Corinthian Road, Rossmoyne [Keating]

CRREPA also requested the 'guiding' fencing along Bullcreek and Second Avenue because of the increasing damage caused by boat users accessing their moorings and people fishing. This low, ranch style fencing has been designed to be less intrusive, whilst guiding foreshore users to access points. It is more costly and the City is monitoring its effectiveness and durability.

More recently CRREPA requested temporary fencing opposite 131-137 and 153-163 Riverton Drive because of ongoing damage to the steep embankment. These sites are the focus of significant and ongoing rehabilitation work by CRREPA, the Lions Club of Booragoon and the City of Canning. Whilst the bulky fencing was not what we hoped for, once it does its job, it will also be removed.

Revegetation Report Winter 2010

Grecian Sandwell

Thanks to SGIO for granting CRREPA \$2,750 in 2009 to purchase 1,000 *Baumea juncea* (Bare Twig Rush) seedlings. Twenty-one volunteers planted these opposite Rob Bruce Park over three sessions in winter. Although the area had been well prepared in advance by the City of Canning it proved to have a prolific weed seed bank, requiring intensive weed removal prior to planting. Since then, we have followed up with another two weeding sessions and much needed watering. We have trialled the use of a 'weeding wand' in this plot and if successful will use it extensively along the foreshore. The wand reduces soil disturbance, which appears to favour weed growth, reduces the impact of hand weeding on established root systems of native flora and has no overspray.



Planting and weeding at the SGIO site 27/6/10



Getting ready for planting session 4/7/10 [Keating]

Proudly Supported by 



Weeding at SGIO site opposite Rob Bruce Park 30/7/10 [Keating]



Weeding and planting session 4/7/10

A great team effort. Congratulations and thanks to all those who were involved

Care for the Canning Foreshore Groups

Grecian Sandwell

The aim of our 'Care for the Canning' Foreshore Groups is to replace areas of grassy, sandy-weeds with native flora. Ultimately this will encourage the return of native fauna and reduce the flow of nutrients into the Canning River. This cannot be achieved without the help of those volunteers who regularly join weeding and planting sessions. It also cannot be achieved without the assistance readily given by the City of Canning Bushcrew and their Manager who are always there to assist with watering, collecting bags of weeds, supplying and delivering our plant orders, site preparation and weed control.

These 'Care for the Canning' Groups have been busy with regular 60 minute monthly sessions and at times up to four 'take-your-pick' 60 minute sessions per week. It is wonderful to see members from all four groups volunteer at an event. Max Risbey, Anne Good (Lions Club of Booragoon), Grecian Sandwell and Colma Keating lead these groups.

We are gradually building on the diversity of native flora along the foreshore as we reduce areas of weed infestation. This year's plantings have included *Hakea prostrata*, *Astartea scoparia*, *Stirlingia latifolia*, *Gahnia trifida*, *Conostylis aculeata*, *C. candicans*, *Pattersonia occidentalis*, *Hypocalyma angustifolium* and of course the already mentioned *Baumea juncea*.

A total of 2,320 plants went in this season. Our great challenge is to get them through their first year. With such a low winter rainfall we will not only need the weekly watering provided by the City of Canning but a second one by CRREPA to get any root systems established.

Please contact Grecian on 9354 9734 or grecian@inet.net.au if you are able to help in any way.



Local birds to look for on your foreshore

The Little Grassbird is a secretive little bird found in the foreshore fringing vegetation at Rossmoyne. Grecian knows where to look if you go with her. You will be very lucky to see one but they do sneak to the top of the sedge to lookout. It has a melancholy, three-note call.

Photographs by Graeme Chapman



Join

FREE

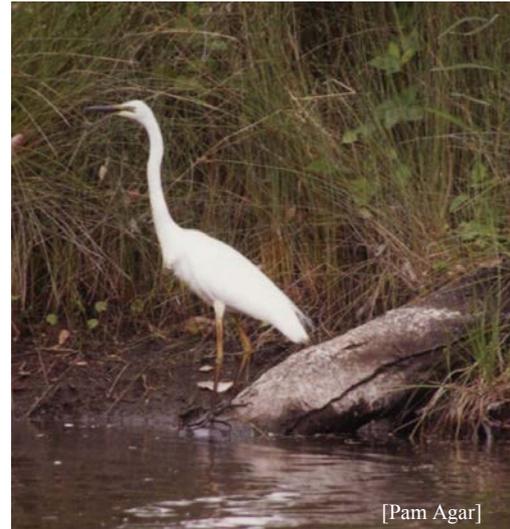
Bird Walks on Canning Foreshore**

hosted by
CRREPA

**64 species recorded, including
28 waterbirds, 5 raptors

Book with Grecian: 9354 9734

The Eastern Great Egret is a large stately bird usually found singly, such as the one which frequents Bullcreek. It waits motionless before making a lightning thrust at prey. You will have no trouble seeing this one.



[Pam Agar]

Information and picture from "Waterbirds of the Canning River Regional Park" a brochure prepared by Birds Australia and funded by SERCUL. Get your free copy from CREEC at Kent Street Weir, Wilson.

Photograph by Pam Agar



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO CRREPAS ANNUAL END-OF-YEAR GET TOGETHER



- WHEN:** Sunday December 5th @ 5.30 for 6.00 pm
- WHERE:** Shelley Reserve (Beatrice Avenue end parking is best)
A shady spot with grass, barbecues, playground, toilets and view of the river
- WE SUPPLY:** Champers, orange juice and chicken
- YOU BRING:** Whatever else you need to relax and enjoy the company
(Chairs, rug, salad, bread and BYO)
- RSVP:** Sallie Bryant 9354 2949 or kenneth.keesing@bigpond.com
(To ensure sufficient catering is provided)

Please come and catch up with the Committee and other CRREPA members, whilst enjoying some champagne and chicken in our beautiful river setting!

CRREPA NEWS

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Environment Protection Association (Inc)**

**CRREPA
PO Box 3079
Shelley 6148**

For just an hour a month...in your favourite spot... 'Care for the Canning'

'Care for the Canning' areas	Volunteer Coordinators
Bullcreek to Tuscan Street Last Sunday of the month	Max Risbey - 9457 1347
Tuscan Street to Fifth Avenue Date to be decided each month	Anne Good & Lions Club of Booragoon - 9330 6338 anne.good@optusnet.com.au
Fifth Avenue to Beatrice Avenue First Sunday of the month	Grecian Sandwell - 9354 9734 grecian@iinet.net.au
Watersby Crescent to Wadjup Point Second Saturday of the month	Colma Keating - 9354 9734 dinkum.results@iinet.net.au
Wadjup Point to Shelley Bridge As need basis	Grecian Sandwell - 9354 9734 grecian@iinet.net.au

Looking forward to working alongside you on the foreshore!!

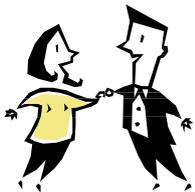
Weeding, planting, seed collection and propagation, rubbish removal, bird watching, monitoring and planning are some of the activities we hope to continue within these sections.

We encourage individual, family and group (e.g. schools, scouts, guides, social, corporate) involvement and welcome your suggestions for other interesting ideas/activities as well as the best times for your participation.

To ensure these will continue to be regular, enjoyable social events whilst benefiting our environment, the program for each 'foreshore care section' will be determined by that group. We also believe that this format of hands-on involvement will keep us all better informed about our foreshore, its management and CRREPA's contributions.

To join a working group near you and/or along your favourite part of the foreshore, please contact the respective volunteer coordinator.

Having a party?
CRREPA's 30 wine glasses are available for \$10 hire



From 9354 9734

Special thanks to the **Kagi Family** and the **City of Canning** for assistance with printing of the CRREPA Newsletter.

Your local Canning River Residents Environment Protection Association