

May 2018 – Newsletter

From the President's Pen

My Fellow Residents,

It is less than 6 months since being elected President of the Association and this is my first formal publication for the Newsletter.

The past months have been occupied with getting to know the fundamental activities of the Association and develop a working relationship with the other members of the management Committee, most of whom are long serving.

As a new member of the Committee and the management structure, it has been a reasonably steep learning curve to quickly appreciate where the Association has come from, been and where it should head in the future.

My major concerns since joining the management group has been the falling numbers of membership. The majority of our membership are long-term, and many have been loyal members of the Association from the date of inception.

We are presently actively engaged in a membership drive and are particularly targeting the Riverton area where we are poorly represented. This is a matter of concern when you consider that the name of our Association is lead by the suburb of Riverton. A letter-box drop has been partially completed for this area and will be finished over the coming weeks.

We are very sad to record the forthcoming retirement of our long-standing Committee Member and current Secretary, Caroline Dunsire. She shall complete her services at the June 2018 Committee Meeting. This leaves our management group with an enormous hole as we already have three unfilled vacancies from last AGM. I appeal to any member who may have some spare time and a passion to promote our great suburbs to come forward and assist with filling these vacancies. We thank Caroline sincerely for her sterling service and wish her well for a speedy return to good health.

Looking forward to more robust debate on the many issues, a flood of new membership and importantly volunteers from our current membership to fill the vacancies on the Committee.

Kind regards,

Peter Clayton

Use of Street Verge

With the rapid increase in new housing construction arising from the revision to our town planning regulations, euphemistically referred to as densification, many streets are experiencing severe encroachment by building works onto street verges. Whilst the City has a policy in place for the management of this matter, there has been some blatant disregard and breaches of this policy at some sites over recent times.

Your Association has been reviewing this matter for some time and is currently considering the best approach to reviewing the matter with Council and resolving the ongoing conflicts which shall surely increase.

Residents are encouraged to report poorly managed sites to Council and an efficient manner is using the City of Canning '**Report It**' gateway on their website. There is then a clear record of the complaint and a process of tracking action by the relevant Department within the City Administration.

If you do not have Internet access, you can lodge a complaint by phone with the Council. Call 1300 422 664.

Keep an eye out for further progress on this matter. Feel free to let the Association know of any difficulties with verge encroachment and we can reinforce your complaints through Association action.

Did You Know

That George Lazenby was a carpenter with links to the Riverton, Rossmoyne and Shelley area? Now before you all start remembering James Bond, it was not that George Lazenby!

One of George's apprentices was Benjamin Mason who, went on to establish Mason's Mill in Bickley and cart the timber by bullock dray to the Canning River area we now know as Mason's Landing. From there barges would take the timber to just beyond Salters Point where they would be towed by steamer to Fremantle for export. Tides and mud flat in the upper reaches caused major difficulties including loss of orders.

A solution was found and a request to dredge a channel was made. In 1865 this was approved and convicts arrived to begin building a fence as part of the dredging process. The remains of this fence can be seen at Shelley Beach but that is a story for another newsletter.

Benjamin Mason went on to be a highly respected community member. He served as a Councillor, Board Director and began a business partnership with Francis Bird. The original roof on the Perth Town Hall was made with shingles from the Mason and Bird Mill.

Could this be where 'M' came from ???? Actually, it wasn't but life is full of unusual stories!

Membership Drive

Our current membership has begun to fall away as many of our long-term members move into senior years and find active membership an additional and unnecessary burden. We commend these members and thank them for their commitment and support over many years.

It is now up to the younger members to invigorate the Association and they are best placed to market membership from their immediate neighbourhood. As a member, you can nominate your friends and neighbours who live in the Riverton, Rossmoyne and Shelley suburbs for membership.

To assist in the promotion of our Association, we have prepared a composite brochure, **Who are We**, that explains who we are and what we do and includes a membership application form. This brochure may be downloaded from the membership page of our website or you may request copies from our Secretary. We urge all members to become active in supporting our membership drive.

Committee Vacancies

Our Committee currently has three vacancies that were not filled at the last Annual General Meeting.

We also note with great regret that our long serving Committee Member and current Secretary, Caroline Dunsire, will be retiring in June due to personal health issues. We sincerely thank her for her outstanding work and wish her well in her treatment and recovery.

We now require a replacement Secretary to carry us through to the next AGM and hopefully longer.

Please give this matter your **URGENT** consideration.



R
E
S
I
D
E
N
T
S

The Bannister e-Bulletin

Keep abreast of what your Ward Councillors are doing on your behalf. For Residents who are not already subscribers, we recommend that you subscribe to their e-Bulletin. Go to the following address and complete the application form.

<http://canning.us14.list-manage2.com/subscribe?u=c9b545c174f5d8c0e659c0028&id=6080f6257f>

Enjoy the reading.

Rossmoyne Park—situated next to the Rossmoyne Bowling Club

Autumn is upon us again. The recent weekend rains (20mm) have allowed us to temporarily stop watering the new plants and we will monitor this situation which will depend on the rains and heat.

Of course with the rains come the weeds and our efforts of eradicating the Velt Grass over many years has paid off; however this is an ongoing weeding chore. Other grasses like the Bridal weed have almost been eliminated due to taking the weed out before it seeds.

During June we will be planting around 120 plants, provided by the Canning City Council. The plants we have selected will allow some plants to come out in flower 12 months of the year which will make the park more attractive for the numerous residents who use it on a regular basis. Some new Banksia plants have been in flower for the first time and the flowers have been exceptional. We look forward over the next few years to see these mature and have more flowers.



Our bird bath has been used constantly by birds large and small. It is not uncommon to see up to 10 birds waiting in the nearby trees to have a bath or drink during the summer period. The bath has constant fresh water which is cleaned out regularly. This has resulted in a large increase of bird activity in the park.



Dulcie Barber a long term volunteer of the park, was one of the first Community Volunteers to be nominated as a Community Volunteer and her achievement was recognised by having her name installed on the City of Canning Environmental Honour Board situated at the entrance of the Canning River Eco Education Centre, Kent Street, Wilson in 2013. The three other park volunteers have been accepted as well and their achievements will be recognised at an event later this year when their names will

added on a plaque and installed on the Honour Board.

Congratulations to the small band of enthusiastic Friends of Rossmoyne Park, they have done a wonderful job over many years.

Review of foreshore management plan underway

The City of Canning has appointed Urbaqua environmental consultants to conduct a review of the 2001 management plan for the Shelley-Rossmoyne foreshore.

The review was agreed to on 16 May last year when council unanimously supported a motion by Bannister ward Councillors Kunze and Hall, after strong lobbying by the Canning River Residents Environment Protection Association (CRREPA). The review is quite separate to the preparation of a master plan for the Shelley Beach Park.

Urbaqua were facing a tight timeline of only about six months to complete the review when they were appointed in late December but community stakeholder engagement for the review has been delayed to allow for completion of consultations on Shelley Beach Park which will extend from 15 May to 7 July.

Advice from the City is that Urbaqua will engage with community stakeholders before preparation of the draft new foreshore management plan and that there will also be opportunity for commenting on the draft once it has been prepared. Two community workshops are proposed, one to identify values and opportunities and the second for developing concepts.

If Council votes to support the draft Local Biodiversity Strategy before the foreshore management plan review is completed, the Strategy will set some very firm environmental foundations for the new management plan. The principal one is recognition of the criticality of "ecological linkages" which include the Shelley-Rossmoyne foreshore corridor between the Canning Regional Park and the Bull Creek reserves, starting with the Yagan Wetland Reserve. The draft Biodiversity Strategy provides another level of support for enhancing this corridor through a program of continuing revegetation that both broadens and fills gaps in the canopy cover. It also takes a wider view that the principal foreshore ecological linkage needs to be complemented by interconnected areas of local native vegetation on all categories of Council and State Government (eg Water Corporation)-managed land in Shelley and Rossmoyne: parks, street verges, compensation basins and drainage reserves.

The draft Strategy also recommends improving the protection status of native vegetation in the City and formalizing recognition of its conservation significance by changing the purpose of some reserves to conservation or, as with the Shelley-Rossmoyne foreshore, adding conservation to their current purpose of Parks and Recreation.