



## GOODE NEWS

September 2018

### Message from the President

#### **Busy times**

A lot has happened in the six months since our last newsletter. Much of the activity has centred on dealing with the development proposals that are overwhelming our small community but there have also been quite a few positive community events to make all the work worthwhile. Prime among these have been the several weeding busy bees that are described later in this newsletter, plus a very successful history 'Goode Evening', also presented below.

#### **Heritage Trail**

On 30 April, Robin Budden, Richard Vogwill and I had a meeting with the City of Albany's Community Engagement and Reserves managers about moving the Heritage Trail proposal forward. You might recall that the Council decided in October 2017 that the proposal had to be sent out for further community consultation because it had received a couple of letters opposing it. At this stage, the City is planning to hold information sessions for people to comment on the proposal sometime in November. We will let you know the dates.

#### **Caravan Park**

The development proposal for the former caravan park site (Lots 1 & 2) was approved by the Southern Joint Development Assessment Panel on 11 June. The FBA spoke in favour of the proposal on the grounds that it had been substantially modified in response to community concerns and as long as the environmental safeguard conditions were strictly adhered to. This includes saving as many trees as possible, both for screening and for wildlife habitat and recommending landscape redesign and upgrading of facilities at Whalers Beach as part of the

redevelopment of the whole area. The proponents were granted four years to implement their proposal, so it may quite a while before anything substantial happens on the site. We will wait and see.

#### **Lot 660**

A large number of Goode Beach residents and other members of the Albany community spoke against the Lot 660 resort proposal at the City of Albany Development & Infrastructure Services Committee meeting on 11 July and at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 25 July. Although three Councillors (Moir, Shanahun and Sleeman) spoke and voted against it, the Council approved the proposal. You should have received an information flyer about our objections to the proposal in your letter box.

The proposal is going before the WA Planning Commission (WAPC) in the next couple of months and the FBA is preparing an updated and comprehensive submission opposing it. We will also be seeking to present our case before the Commission in person. Several FBA members are working very hard on this submission and on liaising with people who can advise and support us. We are hoping that the WAPC will reject the proposal on the basis that it is far too large for the site and requires the bending of so many rules that it should not be allowed. If it is approved, we may need to once again engage in more broad-based campaigning activities. We will keep you informed.

There is a lot more going on, such as working on bushfire readiness procedures and opportunities to comment on dog laws and community consultation, as explained later. We hope that this edition of *Goode News* helps keep you up to date.

*Catherine Macdonald*—Mob.: 0434 14 84 63.

## ***A Goode Evening: Dale's Panorama*** ***by Chris Hopper***

A sketch done from Mt Clarence by a young Ensign Robert Dale, published in 1834, was of great interest to just over forty guests of the FBA at the inaugural *A Goode Evening* on 17th August.



*Dale's Panorama or Panoramic View of King George's Sound*

Source: <http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-139546509/view>  
Hosts Eve and Tony Kinlay generously opened the doors of their home for our community to gather and enjoy fine food, wine and a presentation about Dale's Panorama by Malcolm Traill (Museum of the Great Southern) and Steve Hopper (UWA), pictured below.



*Photo: Catherine Vasiliu*

From all accounts, the reliable combination of friends, food, wine and good discussion worked, as many guests were asking for more. Watch this space for *Another Goode Evening!*

Herman Beckeringh has organised a digital version of the Panoramic View of King George's Sound ready to be printed (which took quite a bit of fiddling!). The picture size is 20cm by 18cm. People interested will have to bring a USB disc to copy the file. They will then have to print it themselves or have it printed. Contact Herman at 9 Fynd Street or [winkbul45@bigpond.com](mailto:winkbul45@bigpond.com).

There is no charge, but a bottle of wine would be gracefully accepted. 😊

## **Charlie Pierce MBE**

Earlier this year, FBA member Charlie Pierce was awarded the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (MBE) for his service in education in Vanuatu. Charlie and his wife Barbara lived in Vanuatu for 42 years before moving to Goode Beach in 2013.

On returning home from the UK after the investiture, Charlie commented that 'It was an amazing experience. I felt honoured and very humbled to be among a group of like-minded persons who were all receiving medals from the Queen. She only attends four of the 30-odd investitures during the year, so I was very fortunate.'



*Photo: supplied by Charles Pierce*

## **Congratulations Charlie from the Frenchman Bay Association!**

## **Plenty of cars have seen action in the theatre of war over the years**

***by Herman Beckeringh***

It is not widely known that the French car, the Citroën 2CV, was once the pride and joy of Her Majesty's Navy. It was actually 'adopted' as an honorary member of the Royal Navy Commandos in 1959 aboard the HMS *Bulwark*. The Navy was experimenting with the best way to quickly transfer troops from its aircraft carriers to the ground, aiming to shift commandos 95 miles or so inland as quickly as possible in Malaysia, to fight the

insurgents during the Malayan emergency in the late 1950s.



Source: Aviafora, a Royal Navy Whirlwind lifting a modified Citroën 2CV aboard HMS Albion c. late 1959

According to top brass, such an operation required a vehicle that was light, strong and easy to control. As a result, sixteen 2CVs were selected as the weapons of choice for the force. Lifted by helicopter with troops aboard and then dumped into enemy territory, the Navy was reportedly impressed with the dinky 'Frenchmobile's' hardiness.

### **Before and after shots**



Photos: Herman Beckeringh

The car Herman has is a replica, as all the original utes were thrown overboard after the mission.

Passing the test for military service and officially joining the ranks of some of the most elite corps of the British Navy, as odd as it was, the little 2CV became a 'four-wheeled soldier'!

### **Winter feeding by Carnaby's Cockatoo at Goode Beach**

*by Stephen Hopper*

The presence for more than a decade of a flock of white-tailed black cockatoos at Goode Beach is a well-known sight to residents. The size of the flock reduced dramatically from 60–100 birds following the November 2015 wildfire at Stony Hill. There, prior to the fire, I had observed that Carnaby's Cockatoos fed on substantial seeds produced each year by mature thickets of granite Hakea (*Hakea elliptica*). This plant was killed by the fire, with mass germination following after the burn. Only now are some seedlings beginning to reach reproductive maturity. It will take several years more for the abundance of fruits and seeds to approach numbers that existed before the wildfire. Presumably, in 2016–2017, the cockatoos found alternative food sources elsewhere to make up for the temporary loss of Hakea seed.

What I hadn't realised until this winter was that Carnaby's Cockatoos feed on a rarely reported food source at Goode Beach—the grubs or larvae of longicorn wood-boring beetles that burrow through the wood of branches of the common peppermint tree (*Agonis flexuosa*). I and others regularly see cockatoos perched in the top of peppermints on the northern edge of Goode Beach around Lake Vancouver and beyond. I noticed one day that the numbers atop the canopy in view declined without birds flying away. This suggested that the cockatoos were dropping downwards, doing something below the canopy for considerable periods.

Then I came across freshly shredded bark and outer wood on branches of stunted peppermints near the coast of King George

Sound, just north of Goode Beach houses. This shredding damage (see picture), when fresh, is dark red-brown in colour, easily seen against the grey of old bark. Moreover, in most cases, burrows through the wood of the peppermint are evident where the cockatoos have been stripping away outer layers of the bark and wood. These are burrows left by the beetle larvae. The grubs also leave circular holes on the outer bark where sawdust is ejected from their burrows as they eat the wood.

Carnaby's Cockatoos chewing through peppermint bark and wood for beetle larvae at Goode Beach 15<sup>th</sup> July 2018  
Photos S.D. Hopper



Photos: S.D. Hopper

I looked up on the internet to see if others had observed this food source and found only one record, from the original Great Cockie Count a decade ago on the Swan Coastal Plain. Then, in July, Chris and I were walking home from the beach one day and we first heard and then saw 20 or more Carnaby's Cockatoos munching through the outer wood of peppermints on the road verge of La Perouse Court. We approached slowly, to within about 10 metres of the birds. The sound of their crunching was memorable: like bolt cutters in action, wrenching and turning.

I have since observed cockatoos feeding in this way on several occasions around La Perouse Court and to the north, even in peppermints in our backyard and that of our neighbour. Much more could be learnt about this winter food resource for these iconic and endangered birds. I hope to get students at UWA involved in further studies, and encourage residents to start recording and let me know where, when and on what they have seen the cockatoos feeding.

Records of locations of the evident marks on peppermint branches cockatoos leave in searching for beetle grubs are of similar value and interest, as are observations where no such feeding damage is evident on peppermints. Slowly, as more observations are made, we will learn how widespread in Goode Beach and beyond this feeding behaviour occurs.

## The whale rescue

by Herman Beckeringh

It happened early one morning in June. I noticed something floating in Frenchman Bay, close to Goode Beach. After watching it for a while I saw that it stayed at the same spot. I thought it was a turned over dinghy.

I rang the Sea Rescue number and got in touch with an official in Canberra. He referred me to the Fremantle office and they referred me to Albany Police! I had to explain and they would send the cops.

The cops came and I had to give them my binos so they could see the 'floaty'. The cops agreed with my assessment and they contacted the volunteer Sea Rescue squad from Emu Point, who took an hour to get here. And it was then that I saw that it was actually a whale tangled in a fishing net. Fortunately it was pulled free and swam off.

I contacted the police, who had heard about it already and the people there were thrilled to bits, they told me. I also contacted the rescue service, for details and perhaps photos but they never replied. Probably they wanted to claim the rescue for themselves.

## Weeding Busy Bees



Photo: Linda Matthews

You may have seen a bit of activity in the bush near the beach and up in the forest

over the last couple of months. If you haven't been able to join in the fun don't despair, we aim to be around for a while yet.



Photo: Linda Matthews

The idea came out of a series of workshops organised late last year by Chris Hopper. We kicked off with a grant from South Coast NRM which helped us make up some Goode Beach Weed ID kits and to buy some tools and have held three well-attended, productive and fun events. Not to mention the mid-morning teas.



Photo: Robin Budden

The next busy bee is Saturday 8th September, so keep an eye out for the signs or check us out on the [FBA's Facebook page](#).



Photo: Robin Budden

## Bushfire readiness

The FBA committee had a meeting on 22 August with Brendan Gordon of the City's Emergency Management department, and Charlotte Powis of the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions and Goode Beach's Bushfire Ready facilitator, Sandy Wells to discuss what our community can do to minimise bushfire risk. One of the main things the FBA was interested in was establishing a community telephone network or 'tree' so that people could be contacted in case of emergency. The City has agreed that it will write to residents about this option.

One thing we learned was that there have been quite a few changes made in this year's fire management notice from the City. Conservation, special residential and rural residential zoned properties have different fire mitigation measures, so it's too complex to cover all the residents in Goode Beach in this newsletter. In residential areas there should be a clearance around dwellings for 20 metres and the whole property should be kept to below 2 tonnes per hectare of fuel load.

The City is hoping to run a community session for residents on the Torndirrup peninsula to explain the changes, although the date is not yet set. There will be a mail out to all residents in Goode Beach. The CoA has some good FAQ on the website: <http://www.albany.wa.gov.au/residents/emergency-management/fire/> or you can call the City on 6820 3000 and talk with someone from the planning department.

## COMING EVENTS

### Bushweeding Busy Bee

**Saturday 8 September 10.00–12.30**

**Cnr Narvik St and Caledonia Cres.**

Come along and help keep our bush beautiful and weed-free.

Dress for the occasion – long sleeved shirt, long pants, sturdy shoes and gloves.

***It should be fun!***

Keep an eye out for signs and stay up to date with the FBA Facebook page.

For further information call Robin on 0417 986 574 or Linda on 0401 348 845.

Discovery Bay Presents ...



## Life in the Great Southern



Paintings by Caitlin Goldsmith

Photographs by Arlo Goldsmith

Guest Photographer Emma Johnson

When: 16<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> September, 9am – 5pm Daily

Where: Albany's Historic Whaling Station

OPENING – Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2 – 4pm

<https://www.artsouthwest.com.au/southern-art-trail>

### Make your comment

There are opportunities for commenting on:

- ❖ City dog laws—by 28 September

Information available at:

<http://www.albany.wa.gov.au/council/council/public-notices/>

Comments to Carl Beck at:  
[carlb@albany.wa.gov.au](mailto:carlb@albany.wa.gov.au)

- ❖ Consultation methods—online survey to be completed by 23 September

The survey is available at

[www.painteddogresearch.com/AlbanySurvey](http://www.painteddogresearch.com/AlbanySurvey)

Contact Kristy at Painted Dog Research on 9227 6464 or [kristy@painteddogresearch.com](mailto:kristy@painteddogresearch.com) for further information.

### CALLING FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Got a story or want to advertise or place a community message on the *Goode News* or FBA website Noticeboard?

If you have news of interest to the Goode Beach community for inclusion in the *Goode News* or on the FBA website please contact FBA Secretary Chris Hopper ([cqhopper@gmail.com](mailto:cqhopper@gmail.com)).

FBA Website address:

<https://frenchmanbayassociation.com/>

FBA Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Frenchman-Bay-Association-FBA-137923590237725/>