

GOODE NEWS

February 2020



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope you have all had a very pleasant festive season and start to 2020. It was great to see so many of you at the Sundowner on 25 January—a classy and sociable event! I was very impressed with the way the FBA committee members managed to transform Whalers Galley into what looked like a festival long table affair! Look for photos and a write-up later in this *Goode News*. The best news is that Jen Leonard has generously agreed to take over editing the *Goode News*, taking a great weight off my shoulders. Thanks Jen—so much easier for me to just have the fun copyediting and proofreading tasks. You can already see Jen’s influence in the fabulous new layout!

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting is approaching—to be held at 7 pm on Tuesday 17 March at the Kelly’s place, 6 St Georges Crescent. Reminder and nomination forms will be sent out to all members. We’re always looking for energetic committee members, and it’s lots of fun to be involved (we’re a great group!), so please think about joining us. The new rules require members to have paid their fees a month before the AGM to vote, so please make sure you’re financial **immediately**. No more paying on the night and then being eligible to vote.

Other Matters

On 26 November, the City of Albany endorsed the proposed Frenchman Bay Heritage Trail, although not as part of its City Trails Hub strategy. As John Myers explained in the last *Goode News*, it is included in the GSCORE regional trails strategy, which may prove to be a better platform for the project. Richard Vogwill, Max Angus and John Myers are continuing to move the plan forward but it has a long way to go and will need help from others, so expect to hear more.

The Beach and Marine Plastics group is nearing the end of its very active program, which you will read about later in this

edition. Libby Sandiford and her willing volunteers have completed the first phase of the Albany Sundew survey project, as described by Steve Hopper in this newsletter.

Keep Friday 27 March free as Goode Evening IV is planned for that date (see more below). As always, this promises lively entertainment and delectable food and drinks, so don’t miss it. That’s it from me for now. See you at the AGM if not before.

Catherine Macdonald 0434 148 463

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LOCAL COMMUNITIES COORDINATION

by Steve Dale

The Local Communities Coordination (LCC) is a new state government initiative through the Department of Communities.

LCC works alongside people experiencing challenges in their life to be safe, strong and connected with their local communities. It is a free resource for people of all ages, all abilities and cultural backgrounds. There are no referral forms and anyone can connect with an LCC.

To make it even easier for our local community, our own Gabrielle Rose is one of the Local Communities Coordinators. Please feel free to get in touch with Gabrielle if you need assistance.

The flyer on the right contains more information on this initiative.

**Government of Western Australia
Department of Communities**

Albany and Mount Barker are Local Communities Coordination areas!

Your Local Communities Coordinator is just a phone call away. They are friendly people who will make the time to get to know you, listen to what is important to you and help you to address challenges in your life. It is a **free** service by the Department of Communities.

If you **live** in Albany or Mount Barker, your Local Communities Coordinator might be able to help you with...

- Finding information when you need it
- Strengthening connections with people who are important to you
- Thinking about how you would like your life to be
- Working out what you can do yourself and how others may help
- Having more choice and control in your life
- Connecting with the right local support at the right time
- Finding practical solutions in tough times

You can call or text:

Gabrielle Rose on 0427 061 071
For Albany, Goode Beach, Big Grove, Robinson, Little Grove, Lockyer, Yakamia, Lange, Mount Melville.

Nikolai Emery on 0478 301 725
For Centennial, Mount Clarence, Middleton Beach, Mira Mar, Spencer Park, Emu Point, Bayonet Head, Lower King

Michelle Lott on 0466 152 389
For Orana, McKail, Milpara, Warrenup, Narrikup, Redmond, Albany North and Mount Barker

Kim Daniel on 0429 154 524
Local Lead for all areas

LOT 660 UPDATE

by Catherine Macdonald

The Lot 660 proposal suddenly popped up on the agenda for the 21 January meeting of the Statutory Planning Committee of the WA Planning Commission. As anticipated, we had to scramble to prepare a five-minute presentation, which is all that is allowed for a deputation. We managed it, and the SPC commented that it was an excellent presentation, largely due to John Nurick’s superb graphics. Thanks to John Nurick, Max Angus and Steve Hopper for helping pull it all together.

The proponents have pulled a bit of a swifty and appealed directly to the State Administrative Tribunal for a ruling, on the grounds that the WAPC had taken too long considering the proposal. The two parties (the proponent and the WAPC) are currently in a mediation process under the SAT. If they do not reach agreement, the case will be considered by the full tribunal, which is effectively a court case. We don’t know how long this will take. As the FBA is a third-party, we have no standing and no right to be kept informed—rather frustrating. Our third-party request that the EPA should review the proposal before the WAPC does also failed. In the meantime, we have lodged a Freedom of Information request with DPLH in the hope that they will provide us with their reports and recommendations. We are also considering whether we should apply to SAT to be heard. This would be a long shot, as the FBA has no direct economic interests that will be harmed by the proposed project, but it is probably worth a try. We'll let you know if things change.

COMING SOON ... THE GOODE BEACH STREET LIBRARY

The FBA has plans underway to build a street library for Goode Beach. Located between the bus stop and the noticeboard on La Perouse Road, our street library will be a beautiful home for books and will enable us to share the joy of reading with each other. In the words of streetlibrary.org.au, we are hoping our street library will be 'a tiny vestibule of literary happiness'. More news on this to come. Special thanks to Chris Hopper for this wonderful idea.

SUNDOWNER 2020

by Chris Hopper

It was a beautiful evening on 25 January 2020 at Whalers Galley Café, for many reasons.

Fifty-five FBA members and friends gathered for the Annual Sundowner on one of those sublime evenings when The Sound was like a mill pond and the sunset lit up the sky.

Like a big family, our lovely community gathered around two long tables for a delightful BBQ meal. The friendship was palpable judging from the clatter, chatter and laughter.

How fortunate we are to live in such a stunning part of the world in the company of so many good people.



Photo: Jen Leonard



Photo: Jen Leonard



Photo: Jen Leonard

VALE GUNDER HEINIG

by Marguerite Flynn

We extend our loving thoughts to Trudi Heinig whose husband Gunder passed away on 30 January. As well as more recent interaction around the neighbourhood, many of us also knew Gunder as co-host of Trudy's Cabin, and enjoyed delicious Austrian meals and cakes created by Trudi, whilst sitting at the beautiful Bavarian style benches and tables, built by Gunder.

Trudi and Gunder met in Namibia, and after living in Perth for some time, came to Goode Beach to the house that Gunder built. Gunder also enjoyed photography and travelling with Trudi to various parts of Australia, as well as return visits to Europe.

SURVEY OF DROSERA PALEACEA PART 1 – KNOWN POPULATIONS

by Steve Hopper

Consultant Botanist Libby Sandiford of Little Grove led surveys of all known sites of the Albany Wetlands Sundew late last year as Part 1 of this FBA project. The Project was funded through a Community Stewardship Grant (CSGS19118) by Natural Resource Management Western Australia to assess current population sizes of known populations (Part 1) and to assess the distribution of this plant by surveying potential habitat in the greater Albany region (Part 2). The survey will assist in determining whether *Drosera paleacea* should be listed as a Threatened species under the Western Australian Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016.

Part 1 documents surveys of known populations as well as some surveys in potential habitat. Due to an early flowering season and very dry conditions in 2019 and difficulty in identifying *D. paleacea* when not flowering, assessment of other potential habitats further in the greater Albany region has been delayed until the 2020 flowering season in November.

On the 2019 surveys, Libby assisted FBA community members to assess population numbers with methods varying depending on the ease of counting, density of habitat, size of population, time available and number of surveyors. *D. paleacea* is tiny (2-3cm tall) and requires close inspection to make sure it is not confused with other similar-sized pygmy sundews such as *Drosera roseana*. *D. paleacea* has stems, buds and flowers that aren't hairy. *D. roseana* is hairy and has elongated floral parts with fine tips. FBA members soon got their eyes in for the species and quickly became adept at counting individual plants.

Field work was undertaken on 20 November and 8, 15, 16, 17, 19 and 20 December 2019. Up to 11 FBA members were involved in the surveys on any one day. *D. paleacea* was located at or in the vicinity of all known locations with additional populations located near Rushy Point, Little Grove and east of Quaranup Rd. Significantly, it was not found at Lake Seppings, where *D. roseana* was common, nor at Lake William in West Cape Howe National Park. Thus far, then, *D. paleacea* is only known from the greater Torndirrup peninsula. Moreover, only one population was found in Torndirrup National Park. The rest of the populations were on City of Albany reserves or private property near Lake Vancouver and in the Little Grove area.

D. paleacea populations were confined to naturally bare areas or margins of bare areas surrounded by vegetation, including firebreaks that have escaped disturbance in recent years. By far the largest populations were located at or near Lake Vancouver. Relatively few plants were in Torndirrup National Park.



Photo: Steve Hopper, *Drosera paleacea* at Lake Vancouver



Photo: Steve Hopper, *Drosera roseana* at Lake Seppings



Photo: Steve Hopper

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

Catherine Macdonald
Chris Hopper
Clare Mitchell
Daniel Lloyd
Frank Leonard
Ian Herford
Jane Herford
Jen Leonard

Linda Matthews
Maggie Myers
Marguerite Flynn
Michael McCaffery
Peter Dawson
Robin Budden
Steve Hopper
Warren Flynn

YOUNG ECO-WARRIORS AT GOODE BEACH

by Chris Hopper



Photo: Caitlin Goldsmith

There is worldwide concern about the enormous amount of rubbish accumulating in our oceans, killing wildlife and polluting our beaches. Local residents, Arlo and Henry Goldsmith, have joined the ranks of concerned citizens and have acted accordingly. After a recent storm, they hauled a whopping 50kg of rubbish from Goode Beach.

Thank you and well done, Henry and Arlo. Your collection list and the weights of individual items will be incorporated into the FBA/UWA/NRM Beach and Marine Plastic Debris Survey and Analysis.

We applaud your efforts!

SURVEY OF PLASTICS ON GOODE BEACH

The Great Southern Weekender on 23 January 2020

Marine debris concern

PRELIMINARY data from a year-long survey of waste collected along Albany's Goode Beach suggests a wide variety of litter has been making its way to shore.

Marine scientist Harriet Paterson, who will present a report on the survey findings next month, said the plastic profile at Goode Beach differed from that at Muttonbird Beach, where she has also completed research.

"There's a lot of the same stuff, the tiny, little fragments that you see everywhere, but there's more things like wrappers and litter at Goode Beach," she said.

"We've picked up all sorts of weird things including fish lures, baby dummies, toilet seats, circuit boards, widgets from Guinness cans. It's hugely varied."

Ms Paterson added the south coast of Western Australia could expect to become "as bad as the rest of the world" in terms of plastic pollution in coming years, despite having a small population.

This is because a lot of waste is brought to WA shores from the ocean.

"The message we're trying to send is for everyone to just consume less plastic, to choose more wisely," Ms Paterson said.

"It really has to be a global effort."

Volunteers have been weighing and removing refuse from the popular site, located a 20-minute drive from

Albany centre, since March and have found large amounts of plastic packaging, consumer items, polystyrene and other junk.

Frenchman Bay Association Committee Member Chris Hopper said the green initiative began due to widespread local concern about pollution.

"So far we've had six survey days and between those we've been doing community collections because most of us walk the beach regularly and pick up rubbish as we go," she said.

"Every two months on Wednesday evenings the rubbish is counted and sorted and we send that information to Keep Australia Beautiful, Tangaroa Blue and to the CSIRO.

"We've been overwhelmed by the community response and it's one of those events that really does pull people together."

According to the data, packaging items made up the highest proportion of what was found on the beach at cleans on March 16, May 18 and July 20.

This was coupled with a large number of consumer items, as well as foamed plastic or polystyrene, collected across the board, and a large number of metal items located during a clean up on November 23.

Wood items accounted for less than a third of the total waste counted throughout the year.

— David Kavanagh



Above: our volunteers hard at work sorting the plastic collected during one of our beach surveys. Below: data collection work. Photos by Chris Hopper.



BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT NEWS UPDATE

by Steve Dale

With all the horrendous fires that Australia has been enduring, it is timely for us to have some plans in place for our community. We have been fortunate to have not had any problems in our area, yet we all know how dangerously we are placed if such an event did occur.

Since the last Goode News in December, there has been a frustrating period of trying to engage with people who are tasked with developing bushfire resilience in the Great Southern. Obviously, our interest lies with bushfire management of Goode Beach, and we had indicated our willingness to work with this project and have input into strategy development for our community.

We have now had discussions with Melanie Haymont, the Bushfire Risk Planning Coordinator, who has stated that there has been the development of a bushfire resilience report for Goode Beach. They are now wanting to have public consultation of the options that this report has highlighted.

The meeting will be to give a brief overview of the project, run through the draft report and the associated treatment schedule, so the community can ask questions and have some input into the final mitigation plan, bearing in mind all treatments will be subject to the appropriate clearances and funding.

Consultants were also tasked with developing a 5km fire run map of our area, which will also be presented at the public consultation.

We are awaiting a date for this meeting, with a projected timeframe during the week beginning 30 March. It is likely to be held at the fire shed in Austin Road in the early evening. We will inform all FBA members as soon as details are confirmed.

We hope that all interested residents are able to contribute to this important issue. Please bring all your thoughts and ideas to enhance our safety and planning.



Photo: Creative commons

GOODE EVENING IV – SAVE THE DATE

The FBA is currently planning Goode Evening IV to be held on Friday 27 March at 6.30 pm. Hosted once again at the lovely home of Tony and Eve Kinlay, the evening will feature a presentation by Malcolm Traill called 'A Colonial Rivalry – Perth vs Albany over the years'.

We are looking forward to another Goode Evening. Save the date! More details and ticket information will be released soon.



IN THE MEDIA

by Jen Leonard

Who managed to tune into the ABC Great Southern on Tuesday 6 February? Tyne Logan interviewed Catherine Macdonald about Lot 660 and her presentation to the Statutory Planning Committee meeting on 21 January. Great job Catherine!

We also loved the article on local dog Hamish (right) that was in *The Great Southern Weekender* (p. 18, 30 January 2020). his parents, Noelene and Alistair, must be very proud!

CARING FOR OUR BUSHLAND

by Linda Matthews

A second year of weeding bees conducted by the Frenchman Bay Association has gone by and the results can be seen in the considerable reduction in weeds around our neighbourhood.

A request to clean up along the road leading to Discovery Bay prior to their open day led to our becoming aware of massive stands of Victorian Tea Tree and Sydney Gold Wattle in the bushland behind the site of the old caravan park. It took another three visits by our volunteers to rid that area of weeds. The caravan park site remains inundated with weeds, with the owners doing little to combat the problem. It will require annual visits from our weeding warriors to keep the bushland free of weeds.

The car park site is showing that our continued maintenance is paying off as weed infestations are smaller. Mulching along the edge of the footpath should help to prevent more weeds taking hold. There has been some replanting of native species along the dunes in front of the houses in La Perouse Court and the council reserve on the corner of Narvik Street and Karrakatta Road.

During the second half of the year we reduced our weeding bees to every second month to allow for the Marine Debris surveys. As the Marine Debris program nears completion, we will resume our monthly 'whack a weed' schedule commencing Saturday 14 March.

Attendance at the weeding bees remains high with an average of 14 to 15 participants each session. Our thanks go to Peter Stewart and his team from the City of Albany for their continuing support and assistance. And a special thank you to all those who brought delicious morning teas to sustain our weeding warriors.



Photo: Linda Matthews



Photo: Ian Herford

