

GOODE NEWS

December 2021



FRENCHMAN BAY ASSOCIATION

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello to all,

As we near the end of 2021, reflecting back over the year has made me realise that we have all come through a challenging time on many levels.

Obviously, COVID 19 has dominated all our lives on this planet, whether we like it or not. The world is a different place and none of us know what lies ahead.

Tucked away in our little haven at Goode Beach has allowed us all to lead relatively normal lives. We have always known that we are blessed to live here and we can only hope that this will continue. So, to bring this back to our local matters, I will endeavour to give an overview of what has been happening this past year.

Vale Goode friends

Sadly, our community lost three wonderful people this year. Phil Roberts, John Myers and Eric Harley have passed away and our deepest sympathy is extended to their families and friends. Each person contributed in different ways, yet collectively gifted us with lasting memories to treasure. They are dearly missed.

What's been happening?

Another busy time again, with all the ongoing projects by FBA members having continued throughout the year.

The Bushfire Ready Group, weeding group, beach plastics, heritage trail and aquaculture zoning will be updated in more detail in this edition.

Additionally, we had another successful Goode Evening (our fifth), kindly hosted again by Eve and Tony Kinlay and organised by the wonderful Chris Hopper.

It was very special to have Kim Lofts and Rob Harley provide their childhood memories of living in Goode Beach, as well as Malcolm Traill giving us another history lesson of our region.

There has also been a follow up training on the use of defibrillators, a community bushfire exercise and public exposure of the heritage trail at a recent WA Trails and Recreation Forum.

Suffice to say, the commitment and desire to improve our community, build resilience and maintain the beautiful environment we live in is very strong.

Bouquets to many

Nothing ever happens in a vacuum, so it is important for me to acknowledge the people who make things happen.

Firstly, I am indebted to the fantastic people that form the committee for the FBA. Everyone brings something different to enable the FBA to maintain the effective functions and meet the challenges we set. The collective skills and commitment is awesome and that drives the FBA to achieve our goals. Thanks team!

To our community; the many people who continuously put themselves forward to organise projects, work hard physically and give such personal commitment we give our thanks. Rewards are essentially intrinsic, yet I believe that satisfaction in working for our local community does resonate for people on many levels. A collective thank you!

Best wishes

Steve Dale

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SOUTH COAST AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT ZONE

By Ian Herford

The WA government is proposing to expand the South Coast Aquaculture Development Zone (SCADZ) in King George Sound. Declared aquaculture zones already exist in the Albany area. The FBA has expressed concerns about one of the proposed extensions which is on the south side of Mistaken Island at the northern end of Goode Beach.

Following a number of inputs to the process by the FBA, including submissions and meetings with Fisheries Department representatives, it appears that this area is still likely to be included in the expansion.



To ensure that our concerns are known to the Hon. Don Punch, the Minister for Fisheries (who makes the final decision on the new boundaries), the FBA has written twice to him outlining 5 key concerns. These are:

1. Whales, dolphins and sea lions frequent King George Sound. There is the potential for these animals to become entangled in aquaculture equipment. In fact an injured whale became entangled in aquaculture gear on the north side of Mistaken Island in August this year.
2. Mistaken Island is a nature reserve. Although not declared to date, the waters of King George Sound have been identified for consideration for marine reservation for the purposes of conservation and recreation. Marine reserves, should they be further considered in this area, are generally considered particularly valuable where adjacent lands are managed for conservation.
3. The visual impact of large numbers of aquaculture floats and other infrastructure detracts significantly from the otherwise pristine waters off Goode Beach.
4. Aquaculture equipment has regularly broken free from its attachments in the past and pollutes the beach.
5. The area of water south of Mistaken Island is small compared to the total proposed expansion for the SCADZ and would create disproportionate impacts and risks for a relatively insignificant additional area of aquaculture.

The Frenchman Bay Association has requested that the Minister:

1. not approve the proposed expansion of the area of aquaculture development on the south side of Mistaken Island adjacent to Goode Beach; and
2. not renew the existing leases on either side of Mistaken Island area when they fall due.

A decision is expected soon, possibly this month.

Photos:

Top: Existing (green) and proposed (outlined in yellow) aquaculture developments adjacent to Mistaken Island

Bottom: Whales in close proximity to the south side of Mistaken Island by Ian Herford





MUNGUN (YELLOW-BELLIED SEA SNAKE)

By Steve Hopper

On 21 November, a live Mungun (Yellow-bellied Sea Snake, *Pelamis or Hydrophis platura*) was washed ashore at Goode Beach. This is one of the world’s most widespread reptiles, ranging across the tropical shorelines of the Indo Pacific. Albany is near the furthest south that Mungun has been recorded in Australia.

Rare strandings of the species were recorded recently at Fremantle, and in 2012 at Augusta. Mungun and other seas snakes evolved from the Australasian venomous

front-fanged snakes about 10 million years ago. Mungun is highly venomous too, so handling of stranded individuals is not advised. The individual at Goode Beach was an adult. Males grow to 720mm and females 880mm long.

Mungun is a Noongar word for sea snake recorded by Daisy Bates in 1906 when interviewing the Mirningar/Menang Elder Jackbam and her fifth husband Wobinyet near Denmark.



Photo: Jane Herford

AEDs SAVE LIVES

By Chris Hopper

In October, FBA members took up the invitation to have morning tea before learning how and when to use an automated external defibrillator (AED).

To begin, an experienced medical representative from St John Ambulance showed us how to use our phones to access an AED from any of the four locked cabinets located in Goode Beach. Then we were given a hands-on skills session on how to use an AED.

We learned that using an AED in the crucial minutes before an ambulance arrives can increase someone’s chance of surviving.

Anyone can use an AED. You don’t need to worry about getting it wrong or causing harm. The machine analyses the patient’s heart rhythm and then gives visual and voice prompts to guide you through each step.

Finally, we were all encouraged to download the St John First Responders App which is an invaluable tool in emergency situations (see page 5).

Reference: YouTube; How to use a Defibrillator [AED]- First Aid Training-St John Ambulance.



Photo: Steve Hopper



Goode Arvo Summer BBQ

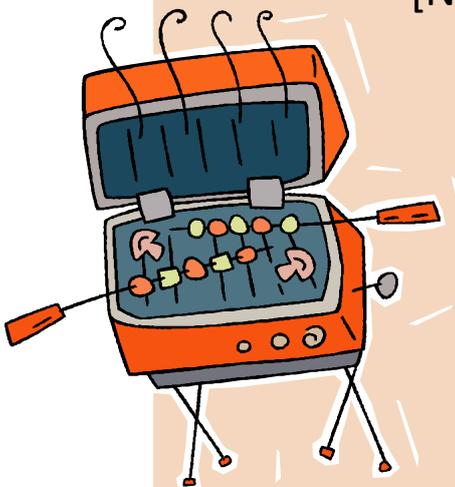
Join us for our annual party at Discovery Bay, Albany's Historic Whaling Station

Sunday, 16 January 2022

1.30 – 5.00 pm

**BYO drinks and a salad to share
BBQ Meat supplied by FBA**

[Non-members welcome \$5 each]



RSVP by 9/1/22:
cghopper@gmail.com



BUSHFIRE READY GROUP UPDATE

By Robin Budden

Things have been hotting up (pun intended) over the last couple of months with a flurry of activities.

The DFES / CoA RUI (Rural Urban Interface) exercise that was washed out in May was held in November, with a large number attending the very informative debrief from Nathan (DFES) and Stretch (CoA). The debrief clearly spelled out that while the emergency services will make every effort to respond to events, we should not expect an instant response or rely on outside assistance and that the onus is on each of us to be prepared and to act early to keep ourselves, our families, and our neighbours safe. If you haven't got a plan yet, check out the resources on the DFES website (<https://mybushfireplan.wa.gov.au/>). You can also download the My Bushfire Plan APP and contact your Street Coordinator or email robinbudden@y7mail.com for some help.

Something else to think about when getting ready is to be sure you are adequately insured. An article from Choice (link below) shows As this article from Choice shows definitions and exclusions vary across companies. A call or email to your insurance provider or broker is an easy way to avoid a nasty shock when you least need it.

<https://www.choice.com.au/money/insurance/home-and-contents/articles/bushfire-cover-update>

The washout at the end of the McBride Road – Shoal Bay Retreat Emergency Access Way (EAW) has been repaired. Please keep in mind that the decision to open sits with the Fire Incident Controller (the first responder on-site) in accordance with a protocol up and through their chain of command so don't assume that it will be open. Incident Management will look for viable options of egress for residents and advice will be provided on the Emergency WA website <https://www.emergency.wa.gov.au/> and ABC Local Radio (630AM).

A sign has been erected at the end of Austin Road making it very clear that there is no access to Quaranup Road. If you don't believe the sign, take a walk and check it out for yourself.

In November we had a very productive meeting with CoA CEO Andrew Sharpe and were able to raise our most pressing bushfire related concerns. We have since received a written response from the CoA and now have a point of contact to follow up on commitments made and to raise and discuss new issues as and when they arise.

Taken together they represent steady progress towards making Goode Beach a safer place for residents and visitors alike **but (and a big but)** the recent fires in Margaret River are a reminder that we must not become complacent – it doesn't take long for a wet winter to transform into a bushfire emergency. So please, listen to the experts when they say – **PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.**



Photos: Robin Budden (left) Street meeting; (centre) Austin Road signate; (right) McBride Road gate



ST JOHN FIRST RESPONDER APP

By Chris Hopper

In life threatening situations, pinpointing your exact location can be difficult and every second counts. The St John First Responder App sends your GPS coordinates to the operator when you call Triple 000 for an ambulance, speeding up the time it takes to confirm your location and dispatch an ambulance.

The St John First Responder App is an invaluable tool in an emergency situation. It offers users access to vital information, such as first aid instruction guides, location of the nearest medical centre and emergency department, as well as real time updates on emergency department waiting times and more.



The app also contains other resources, including:

- First aid instruction guides – helping you to treat a range of injuries and illnesses.
- Defibrillator (AED) locator - showing all the defibrillator locations near you.
- Upload the location of new defibrillator (AED) locations that aren't currently appearing on the app.
- Locate nearest medical centres and emergency departments - including live ED waiting time information.
- Patient transport services information.
- Your first aid course information and refresher reminder notices.
- First aid tips and special offers - keeping you up to date with handy first aid information.

For more info see: <https://stjohnwa.com.au>

INTRODUCING “FOR THE LOVE OF BIRDS”

By Steve Hopper

Local author and wildlife photographer Georgina Steytler has produced an outstanding book “For the Love of Birds”, published by Australian Geographic.

Georgina’s approach to bird photography is based on ethical principles – no enticements, no flash, no close proximity to nests, stay low so as not to pose a threat – aiming to ensure minimal disturbance and stress to the subjects. Natural behaviour is captured in exquisite images unlike few seen before in print.

Georgina entertained more than 70 guests at a book launch in the Museum of the Great Southern in October, explaining her approach and moments of challenge and mirth during the project.

If you’re looking for a special Christmas gift for friends or family, I highly recommend For the Love of Birds. Copies can be purchased from the author (Georgina Steytler by email at wildandendangered@gmail.com) or from Albany bookshops such as Paperbark.



GOODE BEACH CLEAN UP

By Clare Mitchell

On Sunday 28 November, 16 Goodees turned up to clean up the beach and surrounding roads of Goode Beach. Sporting gloves and clean up bags supplied by the Keep Australia Beautiful Council, approximately 10 kilograms of rubbish plus an old tire and scrap wood were collected. Nurdles were also collected.

If you’d like to read more about nurdles, see this article:

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/nov/29/nurdles-plastic-pellets-environmental-ocean-spills-toxic-waste-not-classified-hazardous>



Photos: (left) Steve Hopper; (right) Clare Mitchell



Fremantle Theatre Company presents

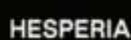
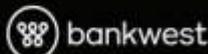
A Midsummer Night's Dream

Bankwest Shakespeare in the Park

Jan 7 - Jan 8

Albany's Historic Whaling Station at Discovery Bay

visit www.iwannaticket.com.au





What's on at the Station this Summer

Festive Night Watch Experience

Friday 17 December, 6pm

Step aboard the Cheynes IV for a night like no other. Joining one of our passionate guides you will discover stories from the whale chasers' historic past while exploring parts of the ship in a thrilling twilight experience. Included after your tour is a delicious 2-course Christmas dinner at Whaler's Galley Café. Bookings are essential.



Yoga Workshop & Breakfast

Saturday 15 January, 7.30am

Enjoy a relaxing 1.5 hour yoga session with experienced instructor Racquel Cavallaro. Set on the grass along the water's edge, this workshop will support your health and wellbeing for the New Year. After the workshop, enjoy a healthy and rejuvenating breakfast at Whalers Galley Café, overlooking the pristine King George Sound. Bookings are essential.

Summer School Holiday Program

Monday to Friday, 10 - 28 January

Wave hello to renewable energy with the team from Marine Energy Research Australia, sink your teeth into our shark sleuth and enjoy whaley great crafts. Plus, meet retired whalers, join a garden walk & talk and discover our friendly animals in our Wildlife Park. There is fun to be had for all ages this summer!



Give a Gift Card this Christmas

Looking for a gift for that hard to buy for person, or do you have family or friends visiting for Christmas?

Our entry tickets make a fun and easy gift, and are available to purchase through our website as a digital Gift Card. Buy a Gift Card online today, it's that easy!

Visit discoverybay.com.au to BOOK or find out more!



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