

B0437



**TWO PEOPLES BAY  
NATURE RESERVE**

**SELF-GUIDING  
NATURE TRAIL**

DEPARTMENT OF  
FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE,  
108 ADELAIDE TERRACE,  
PERTH

2nd Edition

**1981**

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PUBLISHED BY

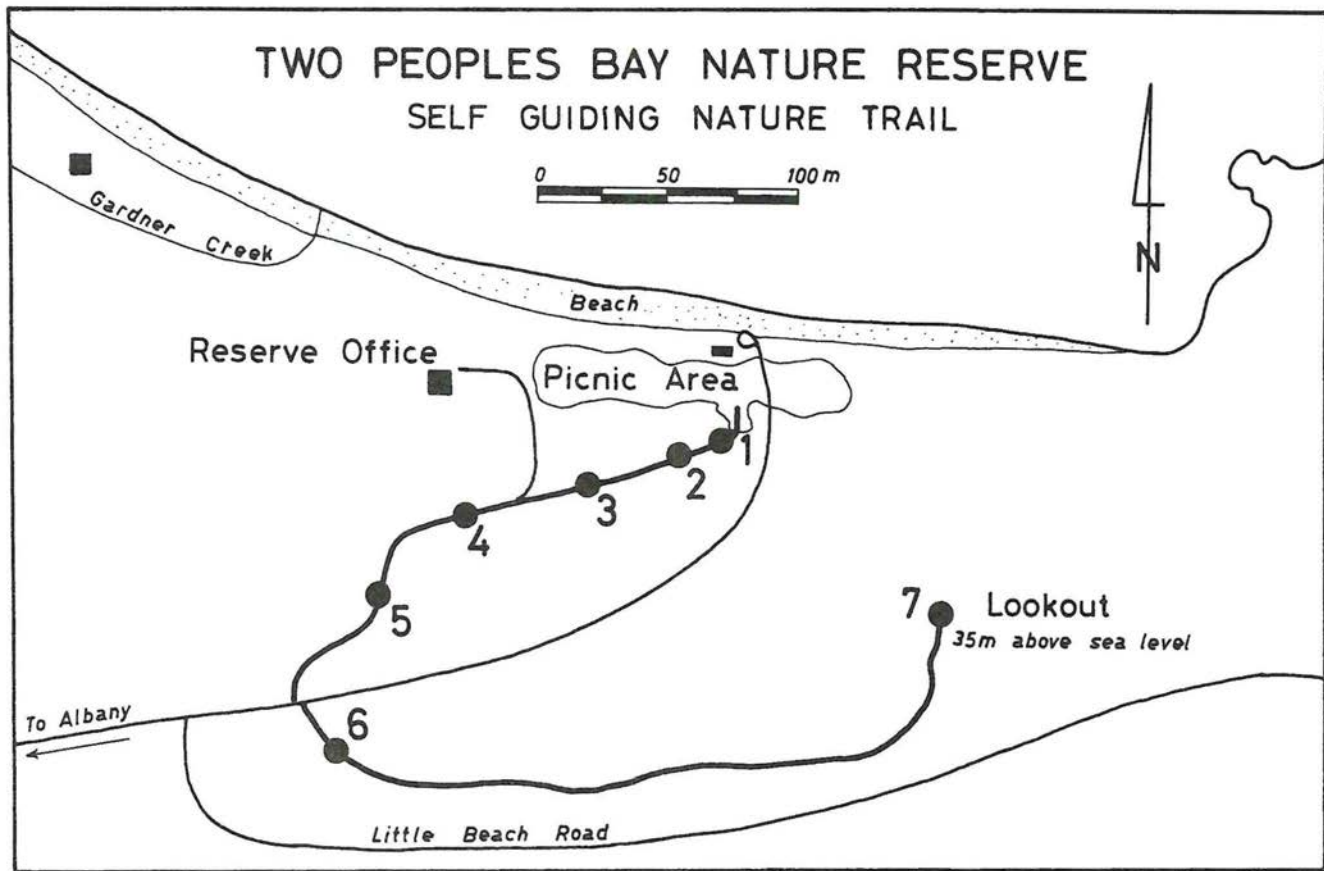
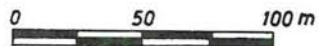
Extension and Publicity Service  
Department of Fisheries and Wildlife  
108 Adelaide Terrace  
PERTH, W.A. 6000.

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# TWO PEOPLES BAY NATURE RESERVE

## SELF GUIDING NATURE TRAIL



## NATURE TRAIL

Length 700m return.

Approximate time to complete: 30-50 minutes.

PLEASE BE CAREFUL WITH FIRE, You are asked to refrain from smoking while on the nature trail.

BUSH AREAS ARE FRAGILE, Please keep to the track.

BEWARE OF SNAKES, Dugites (*Pseudonaja affinis*) and Tiger Snakes (*Notechis scutatus*) are not uncommon. You will be in no danger if you keep to the track.

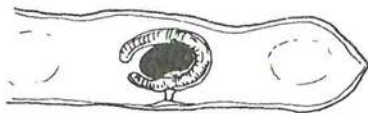
STATION 1 IS 20M FROM THE START.

## STATION 1.

The narrow-leaved tree with weeping branches is the W.A. Peppermint (*Agonis flexuosa*). Small white ti-tree like flowers occur in early to mid-summer. Ringtail Possums build their nests in Peppermints and feed at night on the young leaves. The nests provide refuge for the Ringtails while they sleep during the day.

The large shrubs near the base of the Peppermint are a wattle, (*Acacia cyclops*). It flowers in summer. Being legumes, wattles bear their seed in pods.

*Acacia cyclops* has long curled pods which are retained on the plant for some time. The specific name *cyclops* was given because of the eye-like appearance of the seeds and their surrounding red funicle (stalk) in the recently opened pod.



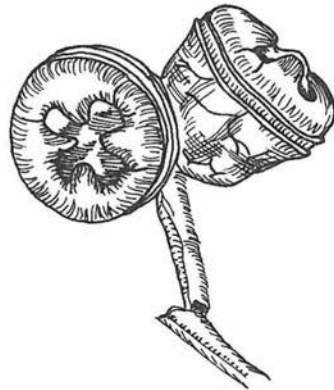


Another wattle, with pale yellow flowers and small triangular leaves, *Acacia littorea*, is visible on the other side of the track. This species does not retain its pods for long.

Another plant in this area is the Cut-leaf Hibbertia (*Hibbertia cuneiformis*). It is a shiny-leafed shrub with large yellow flowers in spring and summer.

## STATION 2.

The tree with the smooth bark (sometimes peeling off in strips) is Bullich (*Eucalyptus megacarpa*). "Megacarpa" means big-fruit and refers to the large gum nuts borne by this tree. White or yellow blossom may be seen in winter, spring or summer.



Some common birds seen or heard along the Nature Trail include:

- Australian Magpie : large black-and-white; melodious flute-like song.
- Red Wattle-bird : large speckled brown, yellow abdomen, red wattle below eye; voice : "cheock" or "chock a lock".
- Red-capped Parrot : large, red cap, purple breast, green wings.
- Grey Fantail : small, grey, long fan-like tail, very active.
- New Holland Honeyeater : medium size, black-and-white, yellow wings, loud chattering song.
- White-naped Honeyeater : small, black head and white line on back of neck, green wings, white underparts.
- Western Silvereye : small, green above, grey below, white ring around eye; pleasant warbling song.
- Grey Currawong (or Squeaker) : large dark grey, white patch in wings and white tip to tail; call a loud squeaking meow.

- Red-winged Wren : small, blue breast, pale blue head, red on upper wing; song a high pitched gushing reel.
- Spotted Scrub-wren : small, brown above, spotted pale lemon on underparts; high chattering tsi-tsi-tsi.

### STATION 3.

The tall silvery-green leaved plant is a Native Willow (*Oxylobium lanceolatum*). It grows in wet places and has a cluster of orange flowers at the tip of shoots during spring and summer.



The twining plant growing on shrubs in this area is the Australian Blue-bell *Sollya heterophylla*. Drooping clusters of small bell-like flowers occur through most of the year.



In the cooler months frogs can be heard in the nearby swamp.

Common ones are:

- Creaking-door Frog (*Crinia glauerti*) : grating call resembling the sound of a creaking door.
- Slender Tree-frog (*Litoria adelaidensis*) : strident chirruping.
- Western Banjo-frog (*Limnodynastes dorsalis*) : bonk-bonk.

#### STATION 4.

The tree with the dark, rough bark is a Yate (*Eucalyptus cornuta*). It has clusters of white or yellow flowers in summer. The common shrub here is *Bossiaea linophylla*. It has yellow and red pea-shaped flowers in spring and retains its pods through the summer.

Climbing over shrubs are two creepers:

- Old Man's Beard (*Clematis pubescens*) : large, hairy, creamy-white flowers in spring and large leaves (up to 15cm long) in groups of three.

- Sarsparilla (*Hardenbergia comptoniana*) :  
sprays of purple pea-shaped flowers in  
winter and spring with smaller leaves  
(approx. 6cm long) also in threes.

Some mammals of this area are:

- Quenda (or Short-nosed Bandicoot)  
(*Isoodon obesulus*)
- Mardo (or Yellow-footed Marsupial-mouse  
(*Antechinus flavipes*)
- Southern Bush-rat (*Rattus fuscipes*).

## STATION 5.

Here the track passes through a swamp. The tall Sword Sedge (*Lepidosperma gladiatum*) is common. As the name suggests the leaves are very sharp and can cut unwary hands. The Noisy Scrub-bird (*Atrichornis clamosus*) builds its nest from this and related sedges. A Scrub-bird can sometimes be heard calling from the swamp nearby.

Water-rats (*Hydromys chrysogaster*) live in this swamp.

Two species of harmless large lizards sometimes seen on the Nature Trail are:

- Bobtail Lizard (or Sleepy Lizard)  
(*Tiliqua rugosa*) : About 25cm long, short stumpy tail, small legs, blue tongue, rough scales.
- Bungarra (*Varanus rosenbergii*) : Usually 1 to 1.5m, long tail, yellow and black.

THE NEXT STATION IS ACROSS THE ROAD.

PLEASE WATCH OUT FOR CARS.

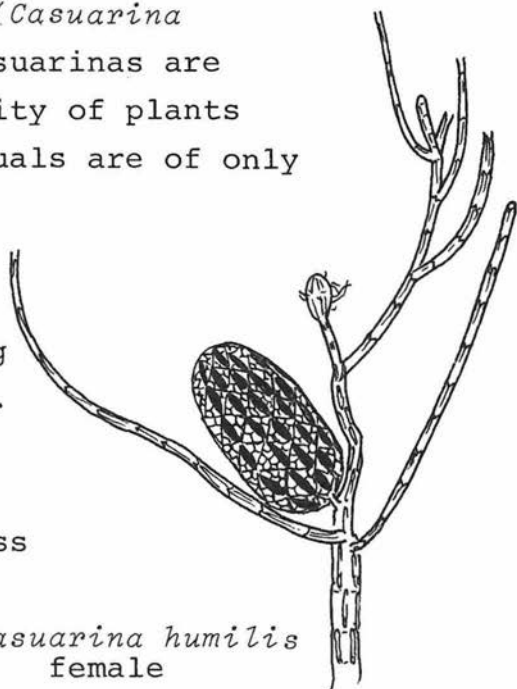
## STATION 6.

You have now left the thickly vegetated, wet, swampy area and have entered an area of dry sandy soil with a low, heath vegetation. Note the tops of dead trees above the canopy of the forested area you have just left. These trees were killed by a fire in 1964.

While walking from here to Station 7 look for the following plants. (It is a 275m walk uphill to the lookout at Station 7):

- Scrub Sheoak (*Casuarina humilis*). Casuarinas are among a minority of plants where individuals are of only one sex.

The female has the hard, woody fruiting spike ("nut"). Casuarinas have jointed, almost leafless stems.



*Casuarina humilis*  
female

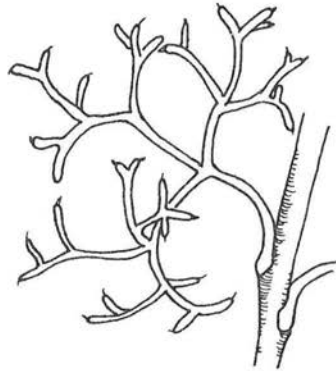


- A Jacksonia (*Jacksonia horrida*). Yellow pea-shaped flowers are evident during most of the year.

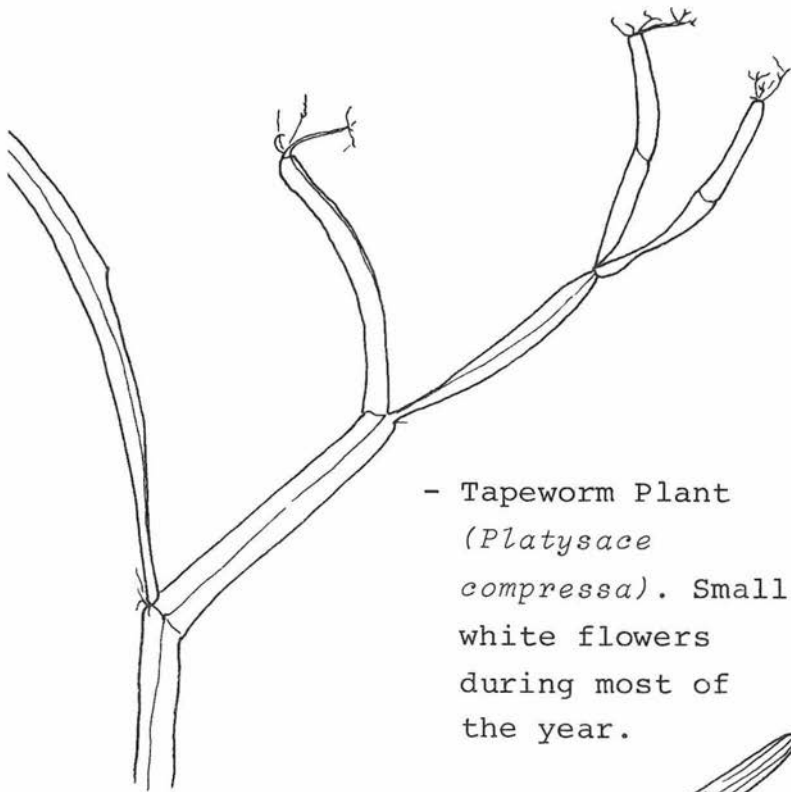


- A Honey Myrtle (*Melaleuca thymoides*). Small yellow bottlebrush-like flowers occur in spring and summer.

- Rigid-leaved Cone-flower (*Petrophile rigida*). Large pink flower heads occur at the tips of branches during spring. It has much divided narrow leaves.



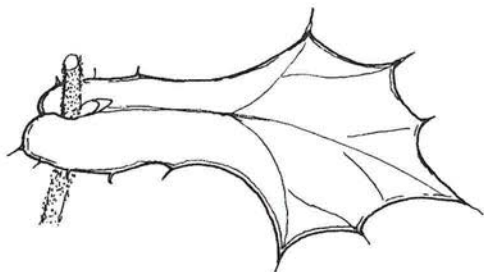
- The common large grass-like tussocks are *Cyathochaete clandestiana*. It is actually a type of sedge.



- Tapeworm Plant  
(*Platysace  
compressa*). Small  
white flowers  
during most of  
the year.

- A Wattle (*Acacia  
cochlearis*).  
Yellow pom-pom  
flowers occur in  
spring and summer.

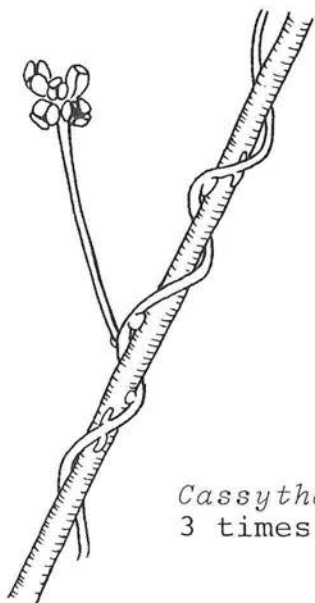




- A Hakea (*Hakea prostrata*).  
White flowers  
in spring.  
Hakeas have  
woody fruits

which are retained on the plant for a long time.

- Spike Hakea (*Hakea ruscifolia*).  
White flowers - summer and  
autumn.



- Dodder (*Cassytha* sp.).  
A vine with parasitic,  
twining stems which  
form dense masses on  
some shrubs. It has  
minute white flowers  
during much of the  
year.

*Cassytha* sp.  
3 times natural size.

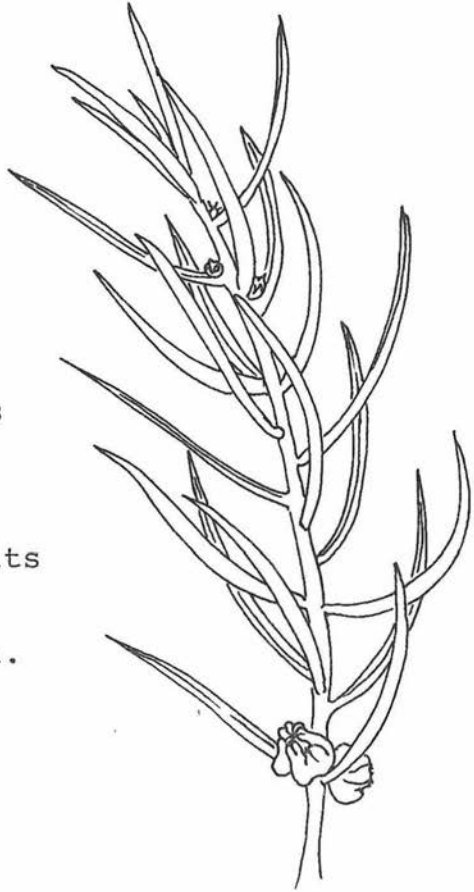
- Gyrostemon

(*Gyrostemon sheathii*).

Fleshy red-orange stems and green leaves.

Small insignificant unisexual flowers occur in spring and summer.

Round ribbed fruits may be seen in summer and autumn.



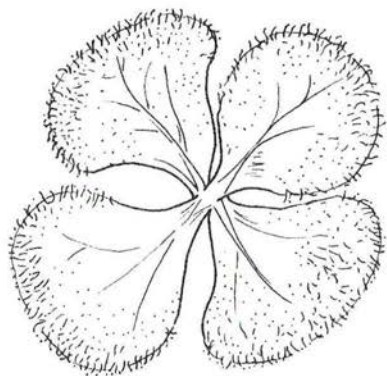
- Showy Flame Pea (*Chorizema reticulatum*).

Bright orange-red pea flowers in spring.



During the wetter months two species of sundews can be seen:

- The Pink Rainbow (*Drosera menziesii*) is a climber with pink flowers and numerous small leaves, each with sticky hairs.



- The red-ink Sundew (*Drosera erythrorhiza*) has a rosette of leaves covered with sticky insect-catching hairs.

Some mammals of the heath are:

- Western Grey Kangaroo (*Macropus fuliginosus*)
- Honey Possum (*Tarsipes spencerae*)
- Common Dunnart (*Sminthopsis murina*).

## STATION 7.

Note that the Peppermints in this area are stunted and shrub-like. This is probably due to the poor soil and strong winds. Two other plants which occur here in stunted form are:

- Sheoak (*Casuarina fraseriana*)
- Slender Banksia (*Banksia attenuata*).

A shrub more common in this area is a Jugflower (*Adenanthos cuneata*). The tips of the younger leaves have a red tinge. Small cerise terminal flowers occur in summer.



## FEATURES VISIBLE FROM THE LOOKOUT

- |                        |                                                                                                  |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| To the west            | - Moates Sand Dune                                                                               |
| To the west-north-west | - Gardner Lake                                                                                   |
|                        | - Salmon                                                                                         |
|                        | Fisherman's<br>Huts                                                                              |
|                        | - Gardner Creek                                                                                  |
| To the north-west      | - Reservoir Hill,<br>265m above sea<br>level, 5.5km<br>away.                                     |
|                        | - Porongorups,<br>530m, 40km.                                                                    |
| To the north           | - Two Peoples Bay                                                                                |
|                        | - South Sister,<br>240m, 18km.                                                                   |
|                        | - Toolbrunup Peak,<br>Stirling Range,<br>1052m, 67 km<br>away, visible<br>only on clear<br>days. |
| To the north-east      | - Mt Manypeaks, 559m,<br>11km.                                                                   |

PLEASE RETURN TO THE STARTING POINT  
ALONG THE SAME ROUTE.

IF YOU HAVE NO FURTHER USE FOR THIS  
PAMPHLET PLEASE RETURN IT TO THE BOX.

TEXT: Andrew Burbidge  
Graeme Folley

ILLUSTRATIONS: Merilyn Burbidge

MAP: Graeme Folley