

# Ecoplan News

Issue 3 Winter 1992

## Ecoplan update

— from EPA community involvement co-ordinator Margo O'Byrne

Ecoplan has entered its second year. The programme was launched in April 1991 and has established itself as a means of support and encouragement to those working in urban conservation.

Ecoplan is the coming together of the Environmental Protection Authority, conservation groups and the broader community to work towards protecting the environment.

We have focused on the spread of knowledge and information to interested individuals and groups as well as extending the network to enable groups to share information.

Training for Ecoplan volunteers took place last year at the Environmental Protection Authority offices and this year we have conducted training regionally in Armadale in February, Bayswater in May and Wanneroo in August.

Response to regional training has been very encouraging and I'd like to say a big thanks to Ecoplan volunteers Brett Tizard, Peter Ducie, John Robertson, Jenny Bradford and to James Mumme from Gosnells Senior High School, Greg Miller from City of Gosnells, DPUD's Andrew Moore, Mike Norman from Men of the Trees and Joan Payne for the WA Conservation Council who helped things run smoothly at Armadale and to Linda Taman, Lynley Hann, Jill Williams, members of Bayswater Greenwork, Mike Erith and Jan Steel from John Forrest Senior High School, Daniel Raja from City of Stirling, Graham Rundle from the Conservation Council and Verity Klem from the Swan River Trust for their support at Bayswater.

Thanks to Fay Mumme, Laurie Boyland, Kate Tauss, Kevin McAlpine, Gary Middle, Joan Payne, David Wake, David Saunders from City of Wanneroo, Neil Robinson and Julie Rowlands from

DPUD, CALM's Jenny Alford and to David Kaesehagen from APACE Aid for his presentations on bush regeneration at each of these training sessions.

Thanks also to all the new Ecoplan volunteers who gave so generously of their time to attend training sessions.

Since the training sessions, many people have become involved in caring for their local bushland.

If you would like to become more active but are not quite sure how to go about it, please give me a call and we can discuss some possible ways to put your time and talent to work for a better environment. There are always lots of things to be done, both at the local level and towards the promotion of Ecoplan.

I am always in need of helpers to produce the newsletter and we are in the process of updating the Ecopacks after the last council elections, so if you would like to become involved in this activity, just let me know.

Several Ecoplan volunteers have been down to Port Kennedy to take part in a vegetation survey and there is a lot of area still to be covered.

This is interesting "work" and is guaranteed to increase your knowledge of coastal vegetation and afford the opportunity to meet with other volunteers. Don't be discouraged if your knowledge is not great, it is a wonderful opportunity to learn.

Armadale Settlers Common group members have moved a step closer to their dream of an environment education centre on the reserve through the acquisition of a building from the Department of Planning and Urban Development.

*Continued on page 7*

## Farm tree help scheme

Men of the Trees has made an offer to help community groups in their efforts to regenerate urban bushland covered by the System 6 recommendations.

Men of the Trees already has a "Farm Tree Help Scheme" which aims to put country and city people in a working partnership to plant more trees on farms in WA during the Decade of Landcare (1990-2000). Under the existing scheme, participants nominate as either "farmers" or "growers".

Each grower raises 300 to 600 seedlings a year at his or her own home using a well designed growers kit.

In June or July, the grower delivers the seedlings to the farm and, if possible, helps the farmer plant them.

Men of the Trees has agreed to extend this scheme to community groups in urban areas.

Groups will need to collect seed from nearby reserves and after attending a propagation course run by Men of the Trees they will receive pots, metal frames to support the pots, sterilised soil (this soil is tested by the Agriculture Department as being phytophthora free), slow-release fertiliser and detailed propagation instructions.

Groups wanting to enter the scheme as a farmer would need to inform the Men of the Trees organisation by October 7, 1992.

Propagation courses will be held at the Men of the Trees nursery on November 8, 14 and 15, 1992.

Further information can be obtained from the scheme co-ordinator, Bill Smart, on (09) 368 1342 or PO Box 625, Applecross 6153.

# Co-ordinator's enthusiasm helps gets them going

The South-East Region's work is moving ahead with great speed, due in no small part to the enthusiasm of its co-ordinator, Brett Tizard.

Brett's involvement with local environment issues began in 1989 as secretary to the City of Armadale's advisory committee on regeneration and management of Armadale Settlers Common — System 6 recommendation M80, when he developed and wrote a management plan for the Common.

This practical side of environmental management holds more than a passing interest for Brett and he is keen to write plans.

The progression from very local involvement to a wider regional outlook began when Brett attended the Ecoplan training course for the South-East Region earlier this year.

Although many of the local conservation groups were already working together, the training course provided an opportunity to "network" proving that collective knowledge and experience was very important.

"Most of the work that is occurring is by trial and error so that what works or fails can be shared, saving volunteers time and the scarce money resources of each group," Brett said.

Brett is pulling together a powerful database of information to facilitate this exchange.



More recently he co-ordinated the Ecoplan display for the People's Convention, Advance WA Fair held in May.

Brett organises displays and community activities such as clean-up days and tree plantings.

His next task, along with local enthusiasts, is tackling M75, an area at risk along the Canning River, a job made more challenging as the land is both privately and publicly owned and is in two local authorities.

Brett was awarded the City of Armadale's Young Citizen of the Year for 1990 for his work in preserving the area's environment and community service.

# EarthCare gets a fair showing

Ecoplan's South-East Metro Group, Bayswater Greenwork and other environmental organisations took part in the Office of the Family's Advance Western Australia Fair in May.

More than 70,000 people took advantage of the autumn weather to visit the fair.

The display represented groups from across the metropolitan area, and included Quinns Rock Environmental Research Group, Bayswater Greenwork, Armadale Settlers Common, Friends of Forrestdale Lake, Ellis Brook, Port Kennedy Land Conservation District Committee, the Environment Centre,

Greening Western Australia and, of course, Ecoplan.

There was a combination of static and active displays, including a healthy and unhealthy wetland with real vegetation, plastic animals and lots of water.

The kids, big and small, got the opportunity to create wonders in the bush art activity area and there were some amazing creations formed out of nuts, leaves and recycled junk.

The Aussie Rotter competition was won by Natasha Hopkins from Lynwood and no doubt Natasha's dad will be making good use of the compost bin.

# Workshops and seminars planned

A series of one-day workshops to help teachers and community members increase their knowledge of our natural bushland heritage will be presented by Greening Western Australia, with support from Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service's *Save the Bush* programme.

There are 14 workshops planned during September at different metropolitan and country locations.

For more information on the programmes and different workshops contact Greening Western Australia on (09) 481 2144.

*"Urban Reserve Conservation"*.

Presented by Dr Bill Loneragan, Botany Department, UWA.

This course provides participants with an introduction to local wildflowers and introduced plants identification and how to make simple descriptions and maps of the plant communities in their local reserve.

The timetable is as follows:

**Lecture -**

Tuesday September 8, 6.30pm - 9.30pm

**Field Trip -**

Saturday September 12, 2pm - 5pm

**Lecture -**

Tuesday September 15, 6.30pm - 9.30pm

**Field Trip -**

Saturday September 19, 2pm - 5pm

**Lecture -**

Tuesday September 22, 6.30pm - 9.30pm

For further enquiries please contact UWA Extension on (09) 380 2433.

**Wetland seminars:**

A series of wetland seminars will be held in the EPA seminar room, 9th floor, Westralia Square, 38 Mounts Bay Road, Perth, in coming months.

Next seminar:

*"Filtering the Flood While Fixing the Farm — Case Studies in Managing Water"*.

Presented by Keith Bradby from the Community Catchment Centre, Pinjarra. Seminar at 3.30pm Friday, September 18.

For further information contact Leanne Harris at the EPA on (09) 222 7038.

# Regional reports

## Bayswater M51, Garratt Road wetland

Bayswater Greenwork reports that there was a letterbox drop among local streets which gave details of the work days for the year and called for volunteers. Six new people responded and gathered on the first work day for a brief explanation of the project and stayed to work.

Removing the pampas grass is high on the list of priorities for this year. We timed ourselves recently and found that it took approximately half an hour for two women to dig out one modest-sized pampas grass.

The seed heads have been cut off and sorted away. Heavy rains have resulted in lush growth of all unwanted vegetation.

Presently the City of Bayswater is having discussions about declaring pampas grass a prohibited plant in the city and removing it from all council reserves and encouraging residents to remove it from private property.

A proposal has been put forward to form a Garratt Road Management Committee consisting of representation from the Department of Planning and Urban Development, Swan River Trust, EPA, Bayswater Council, Bayswater Greenwork and local schools. It is proposed that this committee lease M51 from DPUD (at no cost) and to

implement a management plan. Some funds are available for the preparation of a basic vegetation management plan.

APACE Aid will be conducting a bush regeneration course in Bayswater using the Garratt Road wetland as a field site. Several members of Bayswater Greenwork are planning to attend the course.

Earlier this year the group collected seeds of various reeds including *shoenoplectus*, *juncus* and *bulboschianous*.

Some are being germinated for the group by the Kings Park Board.

The seeds have been raised to an early stage and willing volunteers are nurturing these plants until it is time to plant out in October.

A very successful quiz night was held in July and raised \$1100 for operating cost for the group in the next year.

Michelle Phillips was the compere for the evening and Lillian Deledies did a wonderful job of obtaining prizes from local business people.

Greenwork put in an application to sponsor a Youth Conservation Corps at Garratt Road but were not successful this time. Another application will be made in the next funding round.

and willing to participate in various programmes such as weeding and bush regeneration.

One of the group's first proposals was to lobby for acceleration of the political process to have the park formally legislated for and actively managed.

The group has since formulated its aims and objectives and developed a comprehensive plan and a submission has been made to the Gordon Reid Foundation for funding to undertake bush regeneration in the park.

Busy bees are being held once a fortnight on Saturday afternoons and anyone wanting further details should contact Fay Mumme.

For further information please contact Fay on (09) 401 2678 (all hours) or Laurie Boylan on (09) 409 1409 (nights).

## South-East Region

Members in the South-East region have been busy as usual and the list of the group's activities is long and varied.

In May, the group took on a major part in the organisation of EcoPlan's presence at the Advance Western Australia Fair and helped co-ordinate many other groups to set up displays and conduct children's activities.

### ■ Armadale

The Armadale Settlers Common group members were delighted to obtain a disused building from the Department of Planning and Urban Development and they are now working towards developing an environmental education centre on the reserve.

Tree planting took place at the Armadale Settlers Common in July, and the local scouts and guides helped out as did many other members of the local community.

The district venturers are interested in taking part in an ongoing project and helping to develop walk trails in the reserve.

Friends of Bungandoor Park received the prestigious national Banksia Award for their sustained effort of revegetation of the area.

Anyone interested in having some first hand experience of this beautiful area of the city may like to take part in the "Walk the Wungong" day which will be held on Sunday September 13, 1992. Contact Brett Tizard on (09) 497 3469 for further information.

### ■ Gosnells

The City of Gosnells was quick off the mark this year in obtaining funding from various sources, including the EPA, to sponsor a bush regeneration course in the South-East metropolitan region.

Many EcoPlan volunteers are attending the course on Saturday afternoons so the bush regeneration skills are all being developed.

John and Margaret Robertson together with others from the City of Gosnells have been active in setting up a Friends Group for the Ellis Brook Valley. Anyone interested in joining the group could contact John Robertson on 459 8852.

## North-West Region

People keen to develop Yellagonga Park as a conservation and recreation area have formed the Friends of Yellagonga Regional Park which held its inaugural meeting on April 4.

Nineteen people attended the first meeting organised by Fay Mumme and Laurie Boyland, including Cheryl Edwardes (MLA), Wayne Smith (Wanneroo Council), Raoul Cywicki (Wanneroo Tourism Council), Alan Briggs (CALM) and Peter McKenzie (Kingsley/Woodvale Recreation Association).

These people offered their full support for the group both personally and professionally.

Others who attended included people with expertise in environmental and recreational management, education, scientific and social research as well as people committed to preserving the quality of the area for future generations

# Letters

## Suburbia and its implications

Dear Editor,

As we establish our homes, are we aware of what we are doing with respect to the environment.

Since the Yanchep fire of January 1991 and my recent involvement with System 6 Ecoplan, I have become aware of the impact which urban sprawl is having on our environment.

The 1991 Yanchep fire was in fact the catalyst which woke me up to how serious environmental degeneration and abuse can be.

After the fire large expanses of bush, forest and sand dunes were laid bare making access into these areas easy, with unrestricted viewing.

Apart from the devastation, what was immediately obvious was the sins which the previous growth had hidden.

Man is a great collector, but an even greater distributor of his rubbish and cast offs from his developments and lifestyles.

There were many examples in all the areas which had been burned of rubbish dumping on a large scale.

Alongside access roads were the worst: beer bottles and cans, wire netting, oil drums, broken roof tiles, rusted door and window framework, discarded machine parts and burned out car bodies.

Other areas off the beaten track showed evidence of garden refuse and exotic plants, all of this a legacy to our disregard for the natural environment.

Having always had an interest in nature and amateur photography I felt that it might be an interesting exercise to do a photo survey of bush regeneration.

This I split into two periods, for three months from the actual fire, and the spring flowering season August - October.

The Australian bush, we are constantly told, is a great survivor and quick regenerator. That is true, but it has its limits.

Over the first three months after the fire, native banksias, grevilleas, eucalyptus, blackboys and cycad had made miraculous regrowth progress.

However, open ground areas had been taken over by introduced weeds and grasses, reducing space for native species.

Springtime showed similar results with flowers, in some areas introduced species were rampant and native varieties were fewer and harder to find. The first actual mass flowering in the area was in fact a fuchsia which spread in a heavily perfumed carpet along old Yanchep Road.

Although my own little project was not carried out in a scientific or large scale, the final observations pointed to the obvious.

Even in local rural areas native flora is now struggling against the spread of exotic species and the direct abuse by man of the environment with refuse disposal.

With further development into the northern corridor there is no doubt that without awareness and action the situation will escalate.

Seeing how environmental pressure starts and progresses is easy to observe in actual practice.

When a new suburb begins the first step is to clear large tracts of native bush, removing what was natural environment. Then with the building of houses new individual habitats in the form of gardens spring up.



Most of us have our own ideas about what kind of surroundings we like to live in and we shape our gardens to express our own ideas. That is great and as it should be by today's social standards, however it is not natural.

Exotic trees, shrubs, flowers and grasses dominate the landscaping of suburbia and it is how we control these species which determines their impact on the real environment.

Every year in thousands of homes lawns are cut, trees are trimmed and weeds are pulled out, then this refuse has to be disposed of.

Home alterations also create a disposal problem with the accumulation of broken bricks, excess concrete and other out of use building products.

Whilst the conscientious recycle, or hitch up the trailer for a trip to the tip, there are those who feel they have the right to dump where it is most convenient.

Consequently we have the problem of introducing exotic flora and the degrading of the natural habitat because of suburban sprawl.

Suburban sprawl and its effects on native environments is not unique to Australia, it is an international problem facing every major city around the world.

As a matter of interest, in 1800 there were approximately 50 million people living in urban areas around the world.

Today there are more than 2 billion, nearly 40% of the world population. With the current trends in population, migration from country to city dwelling, mankind will by the early 21st century have reversed his lifestyle to that of a predominantly urban species.

How well man will be able to cope with the stress that future exploding population will have on the environment depends on how he is prepared to tackle it today.

The recession which Australia is experiencing today has highlighted that necessary alternatives for employment are urgently needed.

Outside of commercial and industrial areas where technology is further reducing employment rates, the world's environments could be a viable source for new employment projects.

# Letters

Please keep letters short and address them to:

*The Editor, Ecoplan News, C/- Westralia Square, 38 Mounts Bay Road, Perth WA 6000.  
Fax 322 1598. Letters may be edited for legal reasons, space or clarity.*

Self esteem and personal satisfaction have proved to be major factors in better performance and productivity in the workforce, perhaps these attitudes could be the driving force in caring for and respecting the natural beauty beyond our urban walls.

Apart from the farming community, the majority of employees concerned with environmental issues are in the main located in cities or large towns with too few located in the field.

This leaves large areas unrecognised, unpoliced and viable information and records outdated and incorrect.

Should it be possible to curtail this particular growth by replacement, or alternative employment out with suburbia, then finances could be better spent directly on environmental management.

Whether or not we believe the forecast, the results of man's continuing effect on

the natural world – without efforts to redress the problems – will continue.

Each generation will inherit then add its own further compounding and enlarging these issues, with a continuing decline in lifestyle and resources whether they be for mans direct needs or relaxation.

We do not own the natural world, we are but a part of it, therefore we do not have the right to decide how it should be abused, and parcelled up to be passed on like a last will and testament.

Practising respect, caring for and redirecting our energies now towards better protection for the environment could result in the legacy which we then might pass on to further generations.

There can be no stops and starts for maintaining the world's natural life; unless we can pass on through our attitudes and examples a clear picture of continuity of caring then we can expect no less from our generations to come.

Already we live in unnatural habitats within our suburbia, perhaps the artificial habitats of science fiction could be more of a forthcoming reality than we realise, unless we act now.

System 6 Ecoplan is not an isolated project, but one of many international bodies aiming to draw attention to the ecological damage we are causing.

Such organisations depend upon volunteer input to function, expand and produce results.

Participation in System 6 requires only energy and interest although specific talents are also welcome.

Directed as it is to environmental rejuvenation and rehabilitation, perhaps it could develop into an example for alternative employment schemes in the ongoing effort to maintain the natural environment.

GEORGE BINGHAM,  
*Yanchep*

## Port Kennedy's Heritage Listing

Dear Editor,

The Australian Heritage Commission placed Port Kennedy (System 6 area M106) on the Interim List of the Register of the National Estate on February 13 1992.

This Interim Listing was finally made after considerable political pressure from Western Australian Government.

That the Heritage Commission has recognised the outstanding scientific and biological values of the Port Kennedy/Secret Harbour site, it will be more difficult for the Government and others to proceed with proposals which would totally destroy these values.

However, the community shouldn't be lulled into thinking that this ill-considered tourist resort proposal will now be reconsidered.

Unfortunately there is likely to be further attempts to misrepresent the values of this special area, and to stop the final listing of Port Kennedy on the National Estate.

The unwarranted attacks by the Premier on the Australian Heritage Commission, was a taste of what is likely to come!

What does stand out in the Australian Heritage Commission Report is the

indisputable significance of this site for Western Australians and Australians.

It offers us a unique opportunity to learn more about our recent history, dating back 7000 years—and about the coastal processes, the sea level changes on the shoreline, and the formation of wetlands under these unusual conditions.

There is no other site in Western Australia which contains a 7000 year transect across the full width of the Plain, and as such it must be recognised as a national scientific treasure.

The Heritage Commission report recognises, without qualifications, the immense importance of the Port Kennedy/Secret Harbour area and has consequently endorsed a substantial area for interim listing, the boundaries of which include a transect into the Lake Coo loongup and Walyungup area as well as Anstey Swamp.

There is a lack of publicly available information on the flora and fauna of this area. What is disappointing, is that the environment audit, which was to provide some of this important information, has never been released to the public.

The suppression of the environmental audit report by the Government is deplored by the Conservation Council. There are now fears that this report has, or will be, emasculated prior to any public release.

As the community becomes aware of the fanciful Government proposals for a marina, golf courses, tourist hotels, etc, at Port Kennedy, there will be outrage that this remarkable area is being sacrificed for a dubious development that will almost certainly be foreign-owned; destroy the sensitive environment in the immediate vicinity of Port Kennedy; and threaten the integrity of Warnbro Sound while providing few benefits to West Australians.

The Port Kennedy development agreement Bill (1992) is now before Parliament and strong action is needed to prevent its passage through.

Join the campaign to protect the Port Kennedy/Secret Harbour area by telephoning the Conservation Council of WA on 220 0652.

JOAN PAYNE  
*Conservation Council Of WA's  
Coordinator for Ecoplan*

# Involving local schools

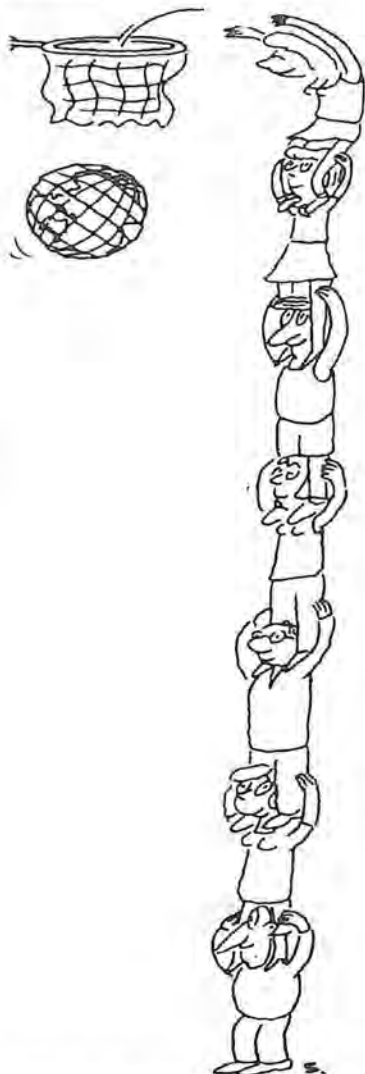
— by James Mumme, Gosnells Senior High School

Gosnells Senior High School environmental co-ordinator James Mumme has prepared this useful guide to help develop enthusiastic links with schools and get them involved in environmental projects.

## 1. Selecting the target school (shopping around)

- Primary or secondary — potentially any primary teacher could get involved and involve a whole class plus some parents. Although there is less scope, time and flexibility at secondary level, science departments, social studies and education support units are the best bets, but it all depends on individual teachers.

Private or state — state schools are usually more concerned and involved in their localities; they are less conservative but have more constraints on use of funds.



*Often the best work happens when people are also having a good time!*

## 2. Understanding the target (where they are coming from)

- Most schools are concerned with building their images as places where good educational things happen and are seen in the media to happen; but they are wary of "teacher bashing" in some quarters.
- Most teachers want their lessons to be interesting and "special" but they feel pressured already, as every social issue seems to produce a new subject for schools to be responsible for. Teachers like ready-made materials.
- Most primary teachers and secondary English teachers have their own area of interest or expertise and might see an opportunity in your project which won't necessarily be environmental.
- Excursions out of class are always exciting but they involve organisation and risk and good preparation in the classroom first.
- Teachers are concerned for the integrity of their curriculum — what you are offering must "fit".
- Schools and teachers tend to be conservative with good reason — it usually doesn't pay to go out on a limb, especially these days.
- What can you build on? Arbor Day, World Environment Day, foundation days, proximity to bushland, revegetating school grounds, school nursery (if they have one).
- Many teachers still see schools' involvement in environment in terms of litter and recycling; other things may appear too hard.
- What's on their school crest? What's their motto?
- What are the school's goals in its development plan?
- What has the school done already for the environment? Ribbons of Blue, terrarium, plant/animal studies, protection tree planting, litter, seed collection, some teacher who has already been active.

## 3. Approaching the target (etiquette)

- Person to address — you should address principals in all correspondence and in any case you must meet them early on to get approval to work in the school. However, before formally meeting the principal, try to get an informal contact with a teacher who can raise it with the principal her/himself first.
- The Parents & Citizens committee (through principal) might be worth contacting — offer to give a 10 minute (illustrated) talk.
- Legitimacy — you're backed and trained by the EPA in a System 6-wide project involving bushlands and you're supported by the local council/Rotary/Lions/Koalas; you have these skills and that knowledge and if you are stumped you can call on the EPA and others.
- When to do it — approach the school in the preceding term so that teachers can build your project into their teaching.

## 4. Appealing to self-interest (juicy carrots)

- What do you (or your group) have to offer? Time (even one hour a week is a carrot), energy, resources (the EI can help lots), vision, enthusiasm (but not too much).
- What does the project have to offer the school? The chance to make their studies more "real", more exciting, more "relevant" and more fun; chances for students to learn by doing; good media publicity; a good public image and its name on a board at the bushland; opportunity to develop a unique identity as xyz did.
- Build on all the things in 2. that are appropriate.
- What not to say: DON'T give the impression you are looking for free labour, or that the school isn't involved in the community, or that you have nothing to offer, or that you're saving the world, or that you're a raving "greenie".

### 5. What you may reasonably expect (crunch time)

- This will depend on the teacher and on the amount of incorporation into the curriculum the teacher has managed with your project; possibly only one period a term (or once off) at first until the teacher sees how it works out; the long haul will be worth it so make sure that continuity is maintained.
- A small group of specially selected students (usually the best behaved) might be given to you for a pilot project: later you might get the whole class; again the key is a long-term relationship (which might get wiped out if a teacher transfers or is transferred)
  - two co-operating teachers might be worth trying for.
- Few will know more than you about this specific topic after you have done a course. You are the cutting edge of environmental progress.

### 6. Scenarios (some dreams do come true)

- Building on what the school is doing already even if it doesn't fully fit your aims immediately.
- Adopt a bushland or a wasteland.
- Make a nursery.
- Raise awareness: art, music or theatre arts; teachers may get involved doing their own thing instead of weeding.
- Envirowatch: students can report on their bushland — birds, growth.
- Lobby for protection: letters to the editor, council, MPs (but the information must be fairly presented and the opinions must be the students' own).

### 7. What would help to begin with (essential gear)

- Introductory letter from EPA and council.
- A summary on one A4 side double space typed with lots of headings.
- Concern along with a neutral stance.
- A few photos.

### 8. Playing the politics (or Cambodia revisited)

- Once you get involved, you'll need to discover the networks of power. The official one is obvious enough but the unofficial one is more important. Once you've identified the most powerful, find what interests them, how they like to operate and who you should work with or avoid.

*Good luck! You'll find schools are wells of great optimism and good will.*

## Ecoplan update

*continued from page 1*

John Robertson has been involved in a lot of bush regeneration work in the Ellis Brook reserve and has started his own bush regeneration business.

The Friends of Yellagonga Regional Park have had their inaugural meeting and have now formed a group. Regular meetings are now held on the first Saturday of every month and there are regular busy bees in Yellagonga Regional Park. Further details of these efforts are in the North-West regional report. Well done to Fay Mumme, Laurie Boyland and Kate Tauss and their helpers for their hard work here.

Parkerville Primary School continued its work at the local System 6 area (M22) and has involved students and parents in the development of a treatment programme for dieback in the reserve, in conjunction with CALM.

One of the big events for EcoPlan has been the Advance Western Australia Fair.

This festival was organised by the Office of the Family to provide an opportunity for people to come together and explore the issues raised in the "Speaking Out, Taking Part" which is a report of findings of West Australians' concerns.

The issue of most concern to West Australians was "to have a clean and protected environment."

Initial reports say that the attendance at the festival was between 70,000 and 90,000 and with all those System 6—EcoPlan signs everywhere the general

message of EcoPlan should have spread a lot further.

At the request of volunteers, a seminar addressing the management issues for wetlands was held at the Herdsman Lake Wildlife Centre on Saturday June 13.

This was attended by 60 people who had the opportunity to listen to and discuss issues relating to wetland management.

Many thanks to Rod Giblett from Friends of Forrestdale Lake, Phillip Jennings and Ben Carr from Wetlands Conservation Society, Kevin McAlpine from the EPA, Eric McCrum from Herdsman Wildlife Centre, Kathy Meany from Kings Park and Paul Brown from CALM.

Following on from this seminar, we have held discussions with the Water Authority to provide a regular forum regarding wetland management.

These seminars will take place once a month at the EPA's offices in Westralia Square.

The seminars should provide an opportunity for information and discussion on the practical application of wetland research. All are welcome to attend.

"Linking the Community" — the national conference of Australian Association of Environmental Education — will be held here in Perth from September 28 to October 2, 1992.

Conference information and registration forms are available from Lyn Williamson, Convenor, PO Box 489, South Perth 6151. Telephone (09) 474 0365.

## Come along and gorge yourself!

The Armadale Recreation and Earth Discovery Scheme invites you to experience the beauty of the Wungong Gorge.

On Sunday September 13, you will be able to stroll the length of the Wungong Gorge from the South West Highway to the lower Wungong Lake which is just over 5km long.

Take along a picnic lunch to have on the way or finish the day with your own barbecue at the Wungong lower picnic area.

On the lower Wungong recreational Lake, canoes and "life" game equipment will be provided for free use by participating "Wungong Walkers".

Even if you're stuck for transport you don't have to miss out.

A bus will collect walkers without transportation from the City of Armadale Administration Centre, in Orchard Avenue at 10am, returning to the centre at around 1pm.

It should be an enjoyable day for all, so come along and "be in it!"

# National Threatened Species Network (WA)

Jean-Paul Orsini has been appointed co-ordinator of the National Threatened Species Network (WA) following Peta Davis' move to the South-West.

Jean-Paul describes the job as exciting and challenging and says he's looking forward to continuing the dynamic work of his predecessor.

The National Threatened Species Network is an initiative funded by the Federal Government to promote the conservation of endangered species in Australia.

Each state and territory has a co-ordinator.

Ongoing projects of the WA Network include distributing an education kit to

## A growing concern

On a recent piece of correspondence from Ku-ring-gai Council in New South Wales was this delightful note:

**"TREE PRESERVATION ORDER**  
To ensure the long term survival of Ku-ring-gai's forest-like landscape, a Tree Preservation Order applies to the whole Municipality.

This prohibits the ring-barking, cutting down, topping, lopping, removing, injuring or wilful destruction of any tree having a height greater than 5m (16.4 ft) or a branch spread exceeding 4m (13 ft) except with the written consent of Council or unless the tree is exempt from the Order.

Information in this respect may be obtained from Council.

Contravention of the Order can incur a penalty not exceeding \$20,000.

Your co-operation in the responsible management of our local environment is requested.

**THIS ENVELOPE IS MADE FROM 100% RECYCLED PAPER."**

WA schools; funding of research projects through the sale of t-shirts designed by four of WA's most talented artists; endangered species poster displays on city buses; and a "brainstorming" group on new endangered species legislation (both State and Commonwealth).

New projects may involve other means of fundraising, school and student projects, development of community action plans for endangered species, establishing links with various environmental groups and government organisations.

Jean-Paul wants to revive the *Threatened Species Network* newsletter and would welcome any information or short articles (one page double spaced maximum) for the next issue.

Please send your contribution, preferably typed and on floppy disk (3/4 inch, IBM or Macintosh, in Word or text format if possible).

The newsletter's contents will be as broad-ranging as possible and will include research news, additions/deletions of species on the state list, seminars/workshops/conferences, community projects, field observations of rare fauna or flora and progress of new legislation.

Jean-Paul hopes the WA Network will continue to be used as a means of exchanging information between its members.

If you have any spare time and wish to contribute to one of the projects or have suggestions or ideas to promote the conservation of endangered species in WA, please feel free to contact Jean-Paul any Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, preferably before 10am, on 384 3756 (home/office telephone number) or leave a message at the Conservation Council of WA on 220 0652 or fax 220 0653.

Volunteer support in particular would be of great assistance.

Jean-Paul looks forward to establishing a strong bond between all the members of the network, so we can all help conserve our beautiful and unique flora and fauna.

## Ecoplan contacts

### □ Contact numbers:

Ecoplan community involvement coordinator  
Margo O'Byrne ☎ 222 7054

Conservation Council of WA  
Ecoplan coordinator  
Joan Payne ☎ 397 6380  
WA Conservation Council  
79 Stirling Street  
PERTH ☎ 220 0652

Environment Centre of WA  
587 Wellington Street  
PERTH ☎ 321 5942

Greening Western Australia  
1118 Hay Street  
WEST PERTH ☎ 481 2144  
Education Officer, Annie Ilett

APACE  
1 Joanna Street  
NORTH FREMANTLE ☎ 336 1262

Volunteer Centre of WA  
79 Stirling Street  
PERTH ☎ 220 0676

Community Skills Training Centre  
227 Stubbs Terrace  
SHENTON PARK 6008

### □ Ecoplan community contacts:

**South-East Region**  
Brett Tizard ☎ 497 3469

**Central-South Region**  
Sharon Linton ☎ 337 8646  
Carina Calzoni ☎ 364 6443

**North-West Region**  
Fay Mumme ☎ 401 2678

**Central Region**  
Linda Taman ☎ 271 9832

**North-East Region**  
Fred Clausen ☎ 296 1451