



Hills Bushland Inspires Dedication

The growing passion for bushland in the hills near Perth has created a dramatic increase in the number of local people involved in bushland groups, and an impressive and well organised community network.

Ecoplan Eastern Hills region co-ordinator Jenny Johnson said there were about 50 friends groups, each with a dozen members, attached to 70 bushland areas in the Mundaring Shire alone.

"Since DOLA announced earlier in the year that many of our bushland patches may be sold for development, the response from the community has been overwhelming," Jenny said.

"About 600 people interested in protecting bush areas have come forward, demonstrating how much this community values bushland and how keen people are to retain their lifestyle in the forest.

"There are about 700 reserves in Mundaring Shire, 400 of these are bushland reserves, and about two thirds now have interested friends. One group often looks after six or seven reserves that are linked together.

The dramatic increase in caring for Mundaring bushland is partly due to the awareness raising efforts of the local council.

"Liz Western has been appointed as catchment landcare officer," Jenny said. "And the Shire's catchment plan is being developed by a working group which includes community and government representatives with the task of looking at the impact of development on the health and water quality of the catchment."

A draft of the Council's friends group strategy is due for release in October. The development of this strategy became a priority as the number of bushland carers escalated.

The Shire's Environmental Advisory Committee has also been working on a friends group manual for community



Planting in Parkerville, Herbie Titelius and Jenny Safstrom brave the weather.

groups to understand responsibilities and key skills needed to take care of bushlands.

Shire consultant environmental officer Mick McCarthy said Mundaring's approach to friends groups was aimed at formulating mutually beneficial arrangements to improve bushland management.

"We are trying to formalise something that has been informal for sometime," Mick said. "It's quite a new and dynamic process and I think other councils should be looking at doing something similar. We hope to reinforce the good relationship between groups and the council."

Hovea and Parkerville are the most active areas in Mundaring with Brian Marshall as the West Parkerville area co-ordinator, Herbie Titelius as the Hovea area co-ordinator and Florence Watson as the East Parkerville area co-ordinator.

They collate information and activities from several bushland group leaders and pass them onto Mick on a regular basis. Florence, for instance, co-ordinates groups associated with the Clifton Quarry,

the Kintore Reserve and the Bridle Trail East.

"This process ensures the council knows what we are doing so activities can be co-ordinated," Florence said.


"It also makes information sharing easier as some groups have members who are botanists, historians or geologists and their expertise is fed into other groups."

Save our bushland seminar II

The Wildflower Society of WA is planning a follow-up to their successful seminar *Towards a Moratorium on Land Clearing* held in November 1996.

The second seminar which is titled *Retaining our Bushland: Save Our Bushland Seminar II* will be held on 15 November 1997 in the afternoon.


Issues such as rights and responsibilities in land management, the use of covenants, barriers to managing and retaining bushland and developing a vision will be discussed. Register your interest with campaign co-ordinator James Duggie on 9383 7979.

 The 1997 Ecoplan/AlintaGas and ATCV Bushland Care Days are drawing to a close.

There is only one more day scheduled for 1997 and will be held at Ellis Brook Valley on 19 October.

The 1997 program was a big success involving hundreds of volunteers across the metropolitan area working to look after urban bushland. We even had a Fremantle Docker turn up to remove *watsonia* at the Allen Park day.


Particular thanks to the host groups who helped make the days lots of fun and to the ATCV and AlintaGas teams for their efforts.

 Welcome back Margo O'Byrne from a well deserved and much travelled long service leave!

It should be a little easier to contact Ecoplan now as things return to their normal busy pace.


Ecoplan's telephone numbers have changed: Margo can be contacted

Wednesday to Friday on 9222 7052 and Jon Elder, Monday and Tuesday on 9222 7191.

 It is an exciting time to be involved in Ecoplan with steadily increasing interest, new groups forming and more individuals wishing to become involved in the urban bushland network.


The challenge ahead for Ecoplan is to tackle the increasing demand for information and training opportunities and to provide a link between new individuals and hard working existing volunteer groups.

Since Ecoplan has been back to full strength, we've been very busy, so see 'Upcoming Ecoplan Events' for details on what's new.

 Once again the increasing participation from individuals and groups interested in bushland care was demonstrated in the response to the Ecoplan/Wildflower Society 'Bushland Plant Survey Workshop' held at the end of August.

We received enough interest for more than three workshops and as a result, Ecoplan and the Wildflower Society are organising another two workshops. See 'Upcoming Ecoplan Events' for details.

From all accounts the first workshop was a big success and thanks goes to all attending, particularly Anne Gunness, Brian Moyle, Judy Fisher, Colma Keating and Bronwyn Keighery for their efforts.

 Finally, good luck to all those nominated in the Greening Western Australia John Tonkin Awards.

Note from Margo

I am pleased to be back in this fantastic part of the world just in time for the spring flowers.

My time in Europe gave me an opportunity to have a break and to return with renewed energy for the important work of caring for our unique and diverse bushland.

While away I did manage to find terrestrial orchids in "the bush" in Israel, Italy and Scotland and the wonder of the flowering boglands of Ireland completely enchanted me.

What I have realised (again) is the unique opportunity we have here to work with a natural environment that is still relatively intact. Let's value what we have and work to preserve it before it's too late!

Upcoming Ecoplan Events

"Ellis through the looking glass"

Margaret Robertson and Heather Bowler are guiding an amazing tour of the 'micro-cosmos' of Ellis Brook Valley on Sunday, 5 October. Participants need to bring a hat, good walking shoes and most importantly, a hand held magnifying glass. Numbers are strictly limited so call Margo 9222 7052 or Jon 9222 7191 to register or for more information.

The next Ecoplan introductory training sessions

To be held on the evening of Wednesday 29 October and the weekend of 1 & 2 November at Mundaring Council chambers. The training sessions are interesting and informative and cover topics such as flora and fauna of the area, how to set up and sustain a community group, how the planning process works and the principals and practises of bush regeneration. For further information or to register your interest please call Margo or Jon.

Ecoplan Xmas wind-up and 'Great Northern' bus tour

See what other bushland groups are doing in their local area on a bus tour in the north west region. But wait there's more! The tour ends at Kings Park for the Ecoplan Xmas wind-up. Look at present and planned restoration work followed by a picnic tea. To come to one or both! call Margo or Jon to register.

Ecoplan/Wildflower Society Bushland Plant Survey Workshops

Due to popular demand two more workshops have been scheduled for Mundaring Sunday, 28 September and Armadale Saturday, 25 October. Both workshops are designed for those who have little or no survey experience. Be quick to call the DEP reception on 9476 7400 to register as places are limited. For more information contact Jon on 9222 7191 or Bronwen Keighery on 9222 7028.

Insurance for community conservation groups

A discussion night on the issue of insurance coverage for volunteers working on bushland projects will be held at Greening Western Australia meeting room on Tuesday, 11 November at 7.30pm. Speakers from the insurance industry will give information about various schemes and we will discuss the possibility of setting up a collective coverage for a number of community conservation groups. For further details please phone Jon or Margo.

Summer Ecoplan

Forward your news, activities and Regional Reports for Summer *Ecoplan News* by 1 December. Please keep your regional reports under 250 words. Thanks to all contributors!

Write to:

Ecoplan
Department of Environmental Protection
4th Floor Westralia Square
141 St George's Tce
PERTH 6000
Telephone: Switchboard 9222 7000

Email: jon_elder@environ.wa.gov.au
Telephone: 9222 7191

Email: margo_o'byrne@environ.wa.gov.au
Telephone: 9222 7052
Fax: 9322 1598

PLEASE NOTE NEW TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Pollination observers needed

During the year an inventory of native plant pollinators was compiled by Liz Brown for the WA Naturalists Club (see the *Econotes* section for more information).

The next phase in this project, also funded by the Gordon Reid Foundation, will look at pollination in rehabilitated areas across the state with a particular focus on the Wheatbelt and mine rehabilitation areas.

Twenty to 30 community groups are needed to have regular input into the research. A project co-ordinator will manage community group and individual involvement for the next two years.

For further information write to the Pollination Project c/o Kings Park or call Liz on 9480 3640.

Help from community based work orders

Would you like help in your bushland project? Then the Community Work Order program may be able to assist.

Workers on the program range from people with unpaid fines to those on parole. Adult work groups comprise up to nine people, plus a work party supervisor. The work group is transported to the arranged venue and the supervisor given the requirements for the work day. Work days are currently on Mondays, Fridays and Sundays. Workers are insured for personal injuries. Information packages and assistance are available from the Mt Lawley Community Based Services Office, Ministry of Justice. Contact Jean Goodchild on 9227 2500.

Green Corps projects

The Green Corps program trains young people aged between 17-20 in conservation projects.

Each program runs for 26 weeks and a small wage is given to participants who work in groups of about 10 with a supervisor for each group.

Small urban projects are also included in work programs, but projects must include a practical training component.

Green Corps is a Commonwealth Government initiative and is co-ordinated by the ATCV. For further information regarding traineeships or to recommend areas for conservation projects call Penny or Dan on 9339 3902.

Projects begin every three months and the deadline for the next round is 31 November 1997.

Better management for regional parks

The WA government recently announced its intention to give legal status to regional parks, to vest them in the National Parks and Nature Conservation Authority and set aside funding for their management.


Regional parks are areas of bushland and wetlands linked together to form bushland corridors for conservation and recreation through the city.

The transfer will take place over the next three years. During 1997-98, the Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) will be given responsibility for managing land currently owned by the WA Planning Commission in four regional parks: Yellagonga, Beeliar, Canning River and Herdsman Lake.

A group will be set up in the Swan Region to co-ordinate the activities within regional parks and liaise closely with local government and community advisory committees.

From mid 1998, two more regional parks: Woodman Point and Rockingham Lakes will be managed by CALM, with Darling Range and Jandakot Botanic Park handed over in the following year.

During this time funds will be put into capital works and the preparation of management plans. Questions on regional park responsibility and policy should be directed to Alan Sands at CALM's Wanneroo office on 9405 1222.

 A wonderful colourful poster produced by CALM and the Western Australian Planning Commission entitled *Parks for the People, Western Australia* features maps, photos and text relating to eight regional parks. It is available by calling the WA Planning Commission at Albert Facey House on 9264 7777 or from CALM's Wanneroo Office.



Participants in the 1996 Plant Survey Workshops collecting specimens at the Dardanup Forest Block.



Central Region

Cockburn Wetlands Education Centre

This winter we have planted another 500 trees around Bibra Lake and several hundred reeds in the lake.

Most of the trees were donated by Alcoa or grown from local seed by volunteers and the centre's nursery is now full of young seedlings that are being grown for planting next year.

The friends of the centre are running a major regeneration project in the banksia woodland reserve east of Bibra Lake. Staff at Kings Park are providing professional guidance and the Murdoch Branch of the Wildflower Society is assisting with the project. (This group recently moved its home base to the centre and they are a very welcome addition to our community.)

The first stage of the rehabilitation project included a weed survey of 80 quadrats and bushland quality mapping. A rabbit control program will commence soon (see 5 October in *What's On* section).

Recently the friends erected a plaque beneath a young marri tree in memory of the late Dr Ian Miller who was foundation secretary of the group and leader of the centre's landcare project.

For further information about the centre call Rex Sallur or Denise Crosby on 9417 8460. To contact the friends group call Jim Connolly on 9417 7318.

South Perth Bushlands

by John Feldman

Members of the City of South Perth Environment Association (COSPEA) helped with seedling planting days in June and July at Signal Hill in Belmont and Hollywood Reserve in Karrakatta.

The draft management plan for the Goss Avenue and Koonawarra Primary School bushlands in Manning has been released for public comment by the City of South Perth's environmental officer Mark Taylor. The final report should be available later this year.

Mark has also organised contractor spraying with the herbicide Fusilade for grass weed control in several bushland reserves during July.

Many of the schools, both primary and secondary, within the City of South Perth have 'adopted' an area of bushland to manage and rehabilitate. The 'Green Teams' from these schools have been involved with extensive seedling plantings in these bushland areas this winter and most of these seedlings have been raised from locally collected seed.

At Milyu Nature Reserve, just north of the Como jetty, students from South Perth Primary and St Columba's Primary schools planted about 200 *Acacia saligna* seedling as colonising plant species in June.

This year extensive mechanical weed control was undertaken before the planting to ensure the seedling's survival.

Andrew Thomson has been busy removing weeds over the last three months from bushland at Goss Avenue, Koonawarra Primary School and Davilak Reserve in Manning and also Brixton Street in Kenwick. These weeds have included veldt grass and bulb species such as freesias, pink wild gladioli and black flag.

For further information about the group contact John Feldman on 9368 3739 (work), 9450 5661 (home after 6pm)

Friends of Shenton Bushland

A workshop/seminar is planned for 4 April 1998 to discuss many aspects of direct seeding with experts in the field.

It will also be an opportunity for members of friends groups to share experiences through short presentations and photographic displays.

If there are topics you would particularly like included or if you would like to make a presentation on the day please contact us.

We are still holding walks through the bushland from 8-9am on the third Saturday of the month. Thanks to the friends and the 18 extra helpers from ATCV who contributed to a very successful work day.

For further information call Janice on 9381 4051.

Friends of Blue Gum Lake

The group will soon plant jarrah, marri and hakea using 200 Carroll tree tubes.

The council will assist with weeding and mulching the bushland area, after which we will do some broadcast seeding. Rushes and reeds will be planted around the lake with the help of a Gordon Reid Foundation grant.

A third ATCV workday was held in August and these have made a dramatic impact on the long-term problem of gladiolus.

The City of Melville has appointed a bushland maintainer Colin Spencer, who will work with friends groups.

For further information call Marion Watson on 9316 1324 or Wilma Vincent on 9364 1896.

North West Region

Friends of Trigg Bushland

John Dell from the WA Museum gave a fascinating talk at the group's mid year AGM.

John's talk was on birds of the coastal dunes and it seems that Trigg Bushland Reserve is one of only two areas in the metropolitan region where three types of fairy wren are found: the variegated, splendid and white-winged fairy wren.

We have weeded an area which was burnt last New Year's Eve. Unfortunately the impressive stand of dryandras, which attracted many black cockatoos when it flowered last winter, was lost in the fire and there seems little or no signs of regeneration.

The group is trying to save an important stand of mature tuarts at the Sir Charles Riley Reserve on Williamson Way which is provisionally listed on the National Trust Register of Significant Trees. This area, more than four hectares of tuart bushland, forms part of an important corridor between Trigg Bushland and Star Swamp.

There are 60 species of native plants, including at least five orchids in this area and part of the bushland has already been cleared to make way for a rugby field. The council is considering plans to convert the bushland into a second rugby field.

For further information call Robyn Murphy on 9246 3954.

Friends of Yellagonga Regional Park

In addition to our regular work days in the Yellagonga Regional Park (YRP), the big day was Saturday, 2 August.

The bushland care day sponsored by Ecoplan/ATCV and AlintaGas was a great success.

Tasks for the day included weeding and exotic tree removal, the planting of several hundred trees propagated in our nursery, a huge amount of mixing and talking with all the new faces and of course a great barbecue lunch prepared by chef Bernie with complements of AlintaGas. This was a bonus appreciated by the hard workers with big appetites.

Our ongoing contact with the Ministry of Justice is achieving a lot of work both in the nursery and in the YRP, with another group helping on the bushcare day.

Yet again we are confronted with development works directly impacting on the YRP. This time it is a major sewer line planned through a large area of the park. We have made submissions to the Water Corporation in opposition to the sewer line.

The much talked about seminar/workshop is nearing final planning stages and will be held in late October/early November. It is aimed at developing Management Guidelines for the YRP.

Enquiries can be directed to Cate Tauss on 9309 5241.

Friends of Marmion Marine Park (FOMMP)

The friends celebrated Indian Ocean Week, 1-11 September, with an 'underwater visual evening' at their meeting rooms on Wednesday, 3 September.

Indian Ocean Week was the ideal time to send out the message that we have a very precious and fragile resource on our doorstep which must be nurtured. With the extreme weather patterns worldwide, there is a greater focus on the marine environment and the important role it plays in our lives.

For further information on Friends of Marmion Marine Park call Lynda Arnold on 9342 8684.

Friends of Hepburn Heights and Pinnaroo Bushland

by Tim Morald

This year's planting days were held over several weekends plus an Ecoplan/AlintaGas and ATCV work day concentrating on the removal of pelargonium and replanting with indigenous species.

The planting to date within the Hepburn Heights conservation area has focused on easily propagated large shrubs and trees in mainly bare areas. We now intend to plant smaller understory species at these sites.

We currently have a third year environmental management student doing a study of the seed bank within Hepburn Heights conservation area. More details of this study will be provided when it is completed.

We hope to organise some guided walks through the area this spring, dates still to be finalised.

For further information call Tim Morald on 9307 8371.

Hills Region

Winter activity in the hills

by Jenny Johnson

The arrival of the rains in May and June awoke all the bushland regenerators in the hills.

Thousands of local trees, understory plants and ground covers supplied by the Mundaring Shire, Greening WA, Alcoa and the WA Government have been planted in many projects.

Bushland care days in Hovea and Parkerville have resulted in trailer loads of watsonia and other exotics removed before planting local species and after the peak flow of Jane Brook, extensive reed, rush and sedge planting will help control erosion, provide habitat and improve water quality in the brook.

The Bugle Tree Creek Protection Society, Eastern Hills Wildflower Society and the Hovea Ratepayers Association recently held a popular living streams workshop presented by the Water and Rivers Commission's Dr Luke Pen. Luke examined sites on Jane Brook to illustrate his principles on how to recreate our living streams.

Swan-Mundaring community catchment officer Liz Weston keeps the locals informed with a regular newsletter. The latest edition features creek rehabilitation by Rocky Gully land owners in Mt Helena, their work will help all groups working downstream in Jane Brook.

Real spirit of co-operation is evident in the hills as many volunteers lend a hand to other groups to help at bushland care days.

For further information on the Eastern Hills region call Jenny Johnson on 9295 4467.

Friends of Quenda Creek

by Patsy Hill

It has been another successful winter for planting at Quenda Creek with help from the ATCV and year one children from Gooseberry Hill Primary School.

We planted 3 000 sedges, ground covers, shrubs and canopy trees which consisted of 36 local plant species. Thanks to all sponsors and volunteers.

The group is thrilled to be finalists in the *Living Streams* award and look forward to the judges' decision at the Landcare conference in early September.

For further information call Patsy on 9257 1379.

South East Region

Delightful bush brochures

Five very creative pamphlets have been produced on Bungendore Park in Armadale.

One focuses on the park history, general features and bushwalks. Another explores the birds that live in the various layers of forest.

Two pamphlets explore a plant or animal found in the park for every letter of the alphabet! (The only item they have in common is X for xanthorrhoea.)

The *Books and Balga* brochure explores the changing seasons from an Aboriginal perspective and this one is particularly delightful.

The pamphlets are available from the Armadale Tourist Centre and the City of Armadale libraries and administration centre on 9399 0111.

The Bungendore Park Management Committee just completed their 15th year of tree planting in disused gravel pits and degraded areas.

On 12 October (see 'What's On' section) a bushwalk will follow the launch of a natural history book on the park called *A Walk with Time: Bungendore Park Story*. The park is also celebrating its centenary.

For more information on the bushwalk and other park activities, call Kim Sari on 9390 5788.

Spring blossoms at Brixton Street

by Regina Drummond

Brixton Street wetlands look beautiful at the moment as there is lots of water and so many flowers.

It has been an extraordinarily early flowering this year.

Amongst the wildflowers that have been prolific since early August are many kinds of orchids, such as blue enamel, donkey, bunny and leek orchids, hakeas and many wattles. It is so rich with flowers it is difficult to know where to put your feet!

CALM have installed a notice panel which will include information on vegetation and landscape types, other points of interest and a site map with bushwalks.

There will be a section where the group can update what is flowering every month and information about group activities.

With the help of a State Government Community Conservation grant the group are producing a brochure on the wetlands.

An Ecoplan/AlintaGas and ATCV workday is planned for 27 September while regular work days at the wetlands are held every third Saturday of the month from 9am - 12pm.

We really appreciate the help of all who have assisted on the workdays. They have been very enjoyable, well attended and achieved a lot. In particular, we have made a big impact on lupins, South African lovegrass, watsonia and other assorted weeds.

After morning tea at the work day on 16 August, botanist Bronwen Keighery lead the group on a wonderful guided walk.

For further information contact Regina Drummond on 9459 2964.

South West Region

Rockingham Environment Centre

Saturday morning courses are being set up to facilitate members' participation in the centre.

We are pleased to have won a \$31 000 Coastwest - Coastcare grant for rehabilitation works around the centre, the nearby dune systems and Lake Richmond.

A small grant from The Worldwide Fund for Nature will enable research on the thrombolites at the lake and protective measures in the buffer zones.

In August a Green Corp group will assist in the erection of a security fence around the grounds.

A model of the new centre has been finished and railway carriages or wagons are needed for use as recycled buildings.

An old caravan is also needed so site work can proceed in comfort.

A sincere thank you to those who have already helped to prepare and plan the site.

For further information call Ann or Bob Goodale on 9527 4289.

Bunbury Region

Networking with Bunbury groups

by Carolyn Switzer, Co-ordinator of the Leschenault Catchment Co-ordinating Group

The competition to rename Bunbury's Big Swamp has been launched.

This is a much modified wetland, recently landscaped by the City of Bunbury.

Deep and shallow sections have been engineered and islands provide safe habitat for nesting and despite the altered environment, the area contains a reed and a bush that are now rare in the southwest.

Bunbury citizens, including myself, enjoy using the perimeter path and taking a board walk through a melaleuca glade to the bird hide and we will continue to enjoy this, whether we stroll, jog or roller blade at sunrise or sunset, whatever name is chosen!

The Clifton Park Community Reserve Committee have been planting seedlings on a foreshore reserve near the Collie River Bridge, a short distance from the Leschenault Estuary and they are very visible thanks to the green tree-guards.

This residents' group is fortunate to have Alan Crist, the Southwest Main Roads revegetation specialist as a member!

Bunbury Naturalists' Club have started a plant collection of coastal species, so that people visiting the Dolphin Centre will be able to access a coastal herbarium. A walk along the Leschenault Peninsula is the starting point for the collection.

The Naturalists' continue their flora survey of the Franklandia Nature Reserve, which is securely fenced against illegal dumping. (Now the dumping happens just outside the fence.) We are pleased to note that Harvey Shire plan to impose a hefty fine on people dumping on Crown Land (\$2 000 - \$5 000).

The Donnybrook River Improvement Program (DRIP) will publish its new management plan early in September. DRIP now meet at Donnybrook's latest business venture, the Apple Cyber Cafe at 7.30pm on the second Monday of the month.

The People and the Preston River, a report of a survey commissioned by the Leschenault Catchment Co-ordinating Group, is nearing completion.

It maps foreshore reserve condition as well as garnering local opinion on river management.

The river supports irrigated horticulture, mainly fruit, and so it is vitally important to local livelihoods. The river foreshore walks introduced many people to parts of their properties they rarely visit.

Bush corridors and roadside vegetation are the focus of attention by Landcare groups in this catchment and in the Geographe Bay catchment (Busselton area) at present. Workshops have been organised by the Landcare Development officers for each area.

For further information contact Carolyn on 097 806 268.

Group Profile

Friends of Blue Gum Lake



The 'Friends' at their 1997 Bushland Care Day.

The friends

Marion and Roger Watson spent many hours walking around Blue Gum lake when they moved into the area in 1987 and they became concerned about the deterioration of the reserve.

In 1991 they asked the Melville City Council for some trees and to their surprise they were given 400 to plant. An urgent letter box drop resulted in 50 helpers taking part in a planting day.

The group was officially founded in 1992 after the council completed a management plan of the reserve. Today a dozen core members do regular work at the lake and 40 are included on the mailing list.

Come and visit!

Blue Gum Lake Reserve, on the corner of Moolyeen Road and Canning Avenue, Brentwood/Mt Pleasant, is the northernmost wetland in the eastern chain of the Beeliiar Wetlands, in the Beeliiar Regional Park.

Walkers, painters, bird watchers, and recently small groups of patients on mobile beds, can be seen enjoying the spot.

The eight and a half hectare, National Estate listed, reserve includes some grassed areas and bushland rich in plant species.

Ever-changing bird visitors include ducks, swans, ibis, spoonbills and pelicans.

Working in the bushland

Because volunteers have vastly different lifestyles, some members only have time to come to particular activities, while others contribute on a regular basis.

As a result the Friends of Blue Gum Lake have devised a unique way for all members to play their part in caring for the reserve.

Rather than allocate regular work times that don't suit everyone's busy lifestyle, some members have been allocated a small area, about 50m x 70m, to take care of and weed. Fiona Houston often works on the reserve for an hour at a time while her two young children do tai chi classes at the adjoining recreation centre twice a week.

Fond memory

Wilma Vincent recalls a very successful and fun day a few years ago when a group, including some of the older members, waded into the lake up to their waist to cut down typha or bulrushes.

Much of the original jarrah and marri has been cut out and the group are watching the slow growth of newly planted seedlings. Hundreds of local trees and shrubs, including jarrah, marri, hakea, banksia, melaleuca, flooded gum and rushes have been planted. Read about the group's current activities in *Regional Reports* section.

Contact person(s):

Marion Watson 9316 1324 or Wilma Vincent 9364 1896.

Work mornings and meetings:

Arranged on a needs basis.

Ecoplan Econotes: A pollination database

During the year an inventory of native plant pollinators was compiled by Liz Brown for the WA Naturalists Club.

This project has been sponsored by the Gordon Reid Foundation as few records actually confirm pollination. The database shows flower visitors which are likely to effect pollination.

Some of the general trends Liz found while compiling the database were:

- The pollination of some members of the Proteaceae, Mytaceae and Orchidaceae families have been well studied, but few other plant families have good records. There is much we can learn about pollination in Western Australia;
- Most pollination studies have focused on the activity of birds while insects have received much less attention;
- Some plants have many pollinators. Eucalypts, for example, may attract birds, honey possums, native bees and wasps, jewel beetles, butterflies and introduced honey bees. Other plants seem to be dependent on only a few species of insects for pollination. Many south western terrestrial orchids have specific thynnid wasp pollinators for each orchid species;
- Although plant species may be visited by many different animals, one group of animals (birds, insects or mammals) is often more successful at pollinating a particular plant than others. For example, many insects can be seen on banksia flowers, but birds are responsible for the majority of successful seed set; and
- The most frequently recorded plants that birds visit include members of the genera Eucalyptus, Hakea, Banksia, Dryandra, Calothamnus and Anigozanthos, and the birds involved are mainly honeyeaters.

So far only 67 of the 211 plant families in Western Australia are included in the database which Liz will continue to update.

If you have any information you think would be useful, or you would like to become involved in collecting more data, contact Liz at the Kings Park Research Laboratory on 9480 3640 or email her on lizb@kpbg.wa.gov.au. The report on the project, *Pollination in Western Australia: A Database of Animals Visiting Flowers*, includes 4000 observations of native plants and their pollinators and is available from Kings Park on the above number.



What's On



September

- 27 Saturday Ecoplan/ATCV AlintaGas Bushland Care Day weeding with the Friends of Brixton Street Wetlands, Kenwick. If you can help call ATCV 9339 3902.
- 28 Sunday: 10am Weeding pink gladiolus at Bibra and North Lake reserves. Call Rex Sallur or Denise Crosby 9417 8460.
- 30 September - 3 October Kids Helping Kids - WA Children's Environmental Conference at the Perth Zoo and Rottmest Island. Call Catrina-Luz Aniere 9368 1219.
- 2 Thursday: 7.45pm Murdoch Branch of the Wildflower Society meeting and talk by Di Walker on seagrasses at the Cockburn Wetlands Centre, Hope Rd, Bibra Lake. Call Diane Matthews 9457 2896.
- 3 Friday: 7.30pm WA Naturalists' Club meeting and talk by John Dell on The Ridge Hill Shelf at the University Extension Lecture Theatre, Clifton St, Nedlands. Call Alan Notley 9306 1832 or Gordon Elliott 9272 1674.
- 4 Saturday Project morning at Lake Richmond with the Kwinana/Rockingham/Mandurah Branch of the Naturalists' Club. Call Val Davies 9592 1064.
- 5 Sunday: 10am Rabbit control program at Bibra Lake. Call Rex Sallur or Denise Crosby 9417 8460.
- 5 Sunday "Ellis through the looking glass". A tour of the micro-cosmos of Ellis Brook Valley. Bring a magnifying glass. Bookings essential. Phone DEP reception on 9476 7400
- 6 Monday - 10 Friday Coastal rehabilitation and fauna survey at Port Kennedy with ATCV. If you can help call 9339 3902.
- 9 Thursday: 7.45pm Armadale Branch of the Wildflower Society meeting and talk by Pat Hart on Integrated Catchment Management at History House, Jull St, Armadale. Contact Pauline Lewis 9399 2142.

October

- 11 Saturday: 5.30pm BBQ and spot lighting at Karnup Nature Reserve with the Kwinana/Rockingham/Mandurah Branch of the Naturalists' Club, part of the Rockingham Centenary Celebrations. Call Val Davies 9592 1064.
- 11 Saturday Meeting about local wildlife and unique features of the site for the Rockingham Environment Centre, discussion on permaculture project. Rockingham Environment Centre, Safety Bay Road, Rockingham. Call 9527 4289.
- 12 Sunday: 10.30am Launch of the Environmental Weeds Action Network. Cockburn Wetlands Centre, Hope Rd, Bibra Lake. Call Joanna Seabrook 9299 6816
- 12 Sunday: 8.30am - 12noon Launch of a natural history book, *A Walk with Time: Bungendore Park Story* followed by a bushwalk. Meet at the entrance on Admiral Rd, Bedfordale. Call the City of Armadale on 9399 0111.
- 12 Sunday - 19 Sunday National Weedbuster Week. This week aims to raise awareness about environmental weeds and the problems they cause. For information about activities planned for Weedbuster Week call John Holmes 08 96 226 100.
- 13 Monday - 15 Wednesday City of Canning urban bushland restoration with ATCV. If you can help call 9339 3902. Other help needed in country areas.
- 18 Saturday: 8 - 9am Regular bushwalk, third Saturday of every month, with the Friends of Shenton Bushland. Meet at the Lemnos St entrance. Call Janice 9381 4051.
- 18 Saturday: 7am Early morning bird walk at Herdsman Lake Wildlife Centre. Call 9387 6079.
- 18 Saturday Meeting on facilitating skills and other issues relating to the running of the Rockingham Environment Centre. Call 9527 4289.
- 19 Sunday Ecoplan / ATCV AlintaGas Bushland Care Day weeding with the Friends of Ellis Brook Valley, Martin. If you can help call ATCV 9339 3902.
- 25 Saturday: 2.30pm Gould League Excursion to Trigg Beach. Call 9387 6079 for details.
- 31 October - 2 November WA Naturalists' Club excursion to Rottmest Island. Call Alan Notley 9306 1832 or Gordon Elliott 9272 1674.

November

- 1 Saturday Project morning at Baldvis Nature Reserve with the Kwinana/Rockingham/Mandurah Branch of the Naturalists' Club. Call Val Davies 9592 1064.
- 7 Friday: 7.30pm WA Naturalists' Club meeting and symposium on Common Names in Biology at the University Extension Lecture Theatre, Clifton St, Nedlands. Call Alan Notley 9306 1832 or Gordon Elliott 9272 1674.
- 9 Sunday - 13 Thursday Dune restoration project near the mouth of the Moore River, Guilderton with ATCV. If you can help call 9339 3904.
- 11 Tuesday: 8pm Perth Branch of the Wildflower Society meeting and talk by David Pike on 'Involving the Community in Knowing and Caring for Urban Bushland' at the University Extension Centre, Cnr Hampden Rd and Stirling Hwy, Nedlands. Call Alison Hearn 9361 1360.
- 12 Wednesday: 7.30pm Meeting with Australian Association of Bush Regenerators (WA) and talk by Paul Lavery on Nutrient Stripping Basins at Greening WA, 1118 Hay St, West Perth. Gold coin cost for non-members. Call Janice 9381 4051.
- 15 Saturday afternoon Wildflower Society of WA Retaining our Bushland: Save Our Bushland Seminar II. Register interest with campaign co-ordinator, James Duggie 9383 7979.
- 29 Saturday: 8 - 10am Summer walk with the Friends of Trigg Bushland lead by David Pike. Meet at the entrance to Millington Reserve in Elliott Road, just south of St Mary's School. Call Robyn Murphy 9246 3954.
- 6 Saturday Project morning at Lake Richmond with the Kwinana/Rockingham/Mandurah Branch of the Naturalists' Club. Call Val Davies 9592 1064.

December

What's on in the Bunbury Region

- Bunbury Naturalists Club talks are held at the Dolphin Discovery Centre, 7.30pm every third Thursday of the month. Midweek walks arranged monthly. Call Gordon Paine 9797 0673, Olga Green 9726 3181 or Shirley Fisher 9795 7181.
- 18 October Talk by Penny Hussey from CALM on Managing Your Bushland.
- 31 October - 2 November Weekend trip to D'Entrecasteaux National Park and Lake Jasper.
- 20 November Talk by Gordon Paine on ticks and other little beasts.
- 22 November Field trip with guide on frogs at RGC wetlands.
- Please send us your activities in the metropolitan and Bunbury areas by 1 December 1997 for Summer Ecoplan News.

Ecoplan contacts

□ Contact numbers:

Ecoplan community involvement co-ordinators
 Margo O'Byrne ☎ 9222 7052
 Jon Elder ☎ 9222 7191

Conservation Council of WA
 Urban Bushland co-ordinator
 Joan Payne ☎ 9371 1670

WA Conservation Council
 79 Stirling Street
 PERTH ☎ 9220 0652

Environment Centre of WA
 PO Box 7375, Cloisters Square
 WA 6850 ☎ 9227 7881

Greening Western Australia
 1118 Hay Street
 WEST PERTH ☎ 9481 2144

APACE
 1 Johannah Street
 NORTH
 FREMANTLE ☎ 9336 1262

Volunteer Centre of WA
 79 Stirling Street
 PERTH ☎ 9220 0676

Urban Bushland Council
 PO Box 326
 WEST PERTH 6872
 Enquiries:
 Mary Gray ☎ 9221 3840 (wk)

□ **Ecoplan community contacts:**
South-East Region
 Brett Tizard ☎ 9497 4038

Bunbury Region
 Carolyn Switzer ☎ 097 806 268

South Region
 Denise Crosby and
 Rex Sallur ☎ 9417 8460

North-West Region
 Laurie Boyland ☎ 9409 1409

Central Region
 Anyone interested? ☎ 9222 7000

Eastern Hills Region
 Jenny Johnson ☎ 9295 4467

Resources

Swan-Avon network

Kerry Trayler has taken over from Carolyn Seal as the network co-ordinator for the Swan Catchment Centre. The centre is producing a fortnightly **information sheet** on issues and happenings relevant to community groups in the Swan-Avon catchment. If you would like to be on the mailing list or would like to add your events, such as work days, to the listing call Kerry on 9221 3840.

Bushland management conference planned

The Urban Bushland Council is planning to hold a conference on urban bushland management early next year. It will be a forum for sharing knowledge of bushland management, enhancing communication and boosting standards of good management. Community involvement in management and ways to better recognise the expertise within the community will be a particular focus. Further information in later editions of *Ecoplan News*.

Landcare Vision tours

Landcare Vision tours with some of Australia's leading demonstration catchment groups can be organised on request. The tours are led by farmers in the WA Wheatbelt who want to share their landcare experiences. They cost \$10 per person per catchment group visited. There are half day, full day or package tours and a minimum of 12 people is needed. For more information contact Fay Chatfield on (08) 9637 1060.

Community group awards

Community conservation groups are eligible to enter the National Bank Community Link Awards under the Environment, Conservation and Heritage category. Winning community groups in each category in each state will receive a trophy and \$2 000. National winners in each category will receive \$15 000. Nominations close 31 October 1997. For further information call 1800 807 121.

Coasts and Clean Seas Grants

These grants are a component of the Natural Heritage Trust designed to tackle coastal and marine pollution, threats to marine diversity, habitat degradation, and to promote the sustainable use of Australia's coastal and marine areas. Applications close 6 November 1997. For further information call 1800 803 772.

Edwina Davies-Ward is the new co-ordinator for the Marine and Coastal Community Network. She can give advice and assistance on coastal issues and can be contacted on 9220 0662.

Weedbuster Week and EWAN launch

Make sure you register your Weedbusters activity so that your project can be part of this national awareness week on 12-19 October 1997. Publicity will be co-ordinated nationally and promotional material will be available. Call John Holmes on 08 96 226 100 for more information.

Environmental Training Courses

Apac Green Skills in North Fremantle are offering short environmental training courses 3-25 November 1997 as follows.

- Aboriginal Land Management (40 hours) \$100;
- Site Assessment (20 hours) \$55;
- Hand and Power Tools (20 hours) \$55; and
- Introduction to Land Conservation and Restoration Industry Workplace Communications (40 hours) \$100.

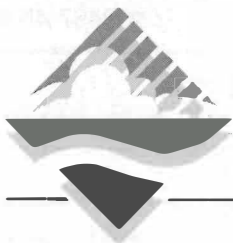
Direct queries and bookings to Biddy Myers on 9336 1033.

Bush Regeneration Course

APACE AID (Inc) have one more *Introduction to Bush Regeneration* course this year. The course runs on 1,8,15 and 22 October (8.30am-4.30pm) and costs \$200. To register call Susan on 9336 1262.

Alcoa Regional Landcare Grants 1998

Alcoa has announced its continued sponsorship in 1998 for the River, Wetlands and Habitats program. Grants are available in the local government areas of Cockburn, Armadale, Rockingham, Mandurah, Murray Waroona and Harvey. For more information call Ken Power, Alcoa Landcare on 9531 6926. Applications are due by 24 September 1997.



If not claimed within 7 days, please return to
Westralia Square, 141 St George's Terrace, Perth, Western Australia 6000
GPO Box S1400, Perth, Western Australia 6001

Department of Environmental Protection

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