

OCT 88

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NARPULUNGUP NEWS

10 Oct 88

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION

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Department of Conservation
and Land Management
20 OCT 1988
COMO, W.A.

FITZGERALD RIVER NATIONAL PARK ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 1988

SPECIAL ISSUE

We've got it! It's ours! Now all we have to do is pay for it.

After numerous phone calls, much discussion and some lost sleep, we put in a bid for a 20 hectare block of land in the Quaalup enclave, and our bid was accepted.

Why are we buying it? Well, there are several reasons.

- 1. We only have permissive occupancy at the Twertup Field Study Centre and we feel we have placed too much dependancy on it. When the Twertup Track is closed we need an alternative.*
- 2. The block has a historical background being one of the early Crown grants for settlers.*
- 3. It's on a permanent pool on the Gairdner river and it's possible to get to the beach by boat making it an ideal spot for canoeing and summer camps.*
- 4. We wanted to save the land from being cleared for agriculture.*
- 5. We are looking to the future needs of members and also to reducing the pressure that human activities place on other areas of the Park.*

The country is completely different from Twertup and will be suitable for different activities. It shouldn't be so hot and dusty in summer and there are some lovely big trees. Also it is a wonderful place for painting and photographing reflections. Although there will be no toilets or water initially, members will be able to use it for camping. We will, of course use it for meetings and study courses, as well as Twertup. It's a great spot for one of those 'get-away-from-it-all' breaks for both city and country members alike.

We need to raise \$28,000 from our 150 members - some has already been promised - and the settlement date is December 2nd. If you know of anyone else you think might make a donation, please approach them too. To make donations tax deductible, they are being funnelled through WANPARA (W.A. National Parks and Reserves Assn.), so cheques must be made payable to "WANPARA - Fitzgerald block"

We would like all members to have a part in deciding how the area should be utilised, what it should be called and how to raise the funds needed.

Please send donations to:- WANPARA -Fitzgerald block.

PO Box 82

Jerramungup 6337

and send your ideas to Helen Taylor,

Post Office Hopetown, or ring her on 098 383183, or Bill Lullfitz on 098 355011

Thank you.

Please note - for the next month please direct enquiries regarding bookings for Twertup to Mary Hart, 098 355043 or P.O., Jerromungup 6337.

Allan Burbidge, from the Wildlife Research Centre at Woodvale wrote saying that he had received a World Wildlife Fund grant to study the ground parrot and will need volunteer help late October/early November, particularly the first week in November. Doug Watkins will be in charge and the idea is to mist-net a few birds and fit them with radio-transmitters so that their movements can be tracked and their habitat preference determined. This sounds a most interesting project so if you would like to join in, ring Allan on 09 4055100 or write to him at Box 51, Wanneroo 6065.

Our Assn. has received an invitation to meet with the Walpole/Normalup National Park Assn and the Friends of the Tuart over at Walpole early in December. The suggested date was December 10/11. For further information ring Bill Lullfitz 098 355011.

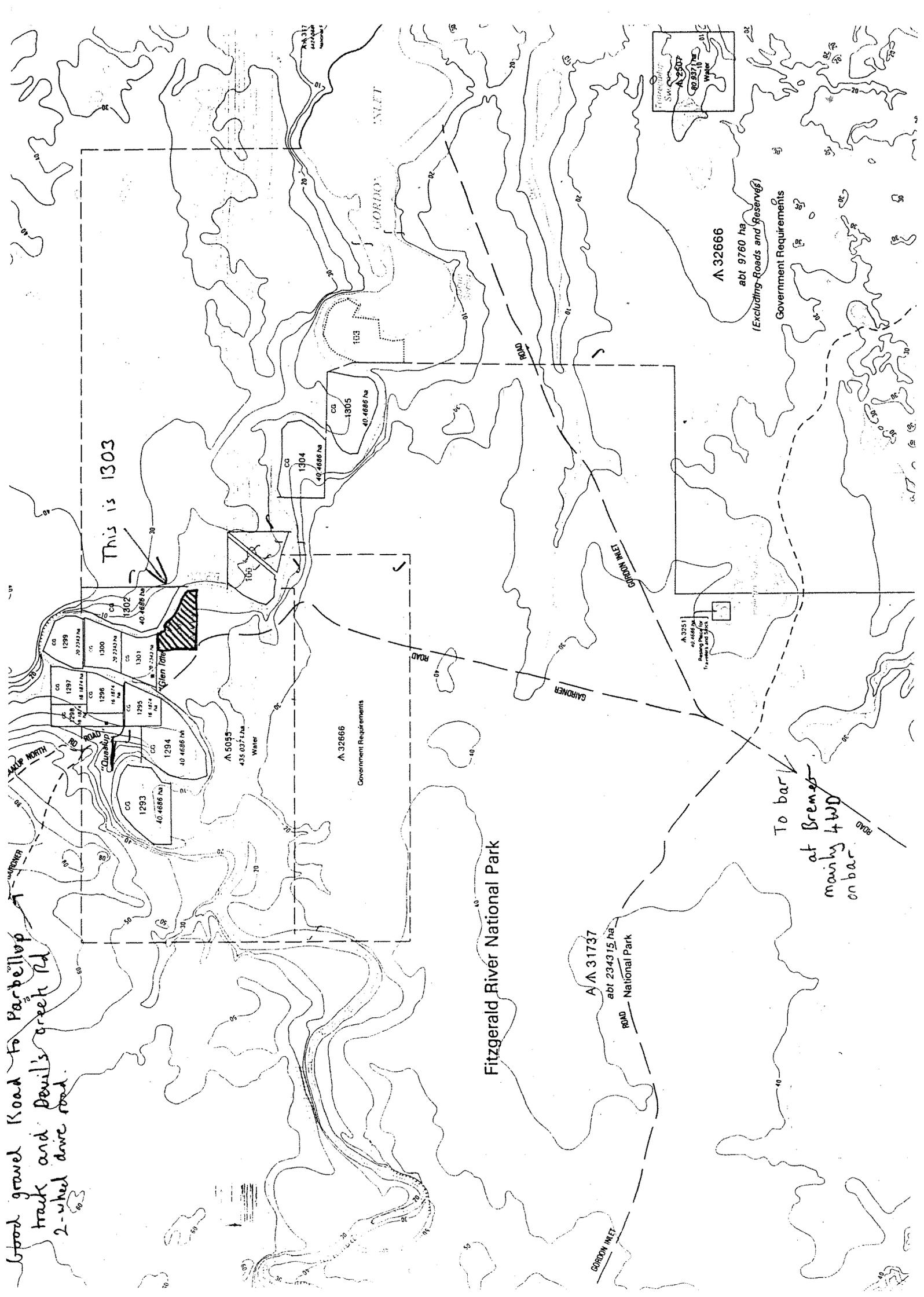
Many people have expressed a wish to be present when Ken Newbey's ashes are scattered in the Park. Arrangement for this are under way and people will be asked to gather at Twertup in the new year, possibly the weekend of the 10th and 11th February. We will, of course, confirm the date in a later newsletter.

A Field Study weekend on ants is planned for November 19/20 at Twertup. Dr Jonathan Majer from Curtin University will be the course leader. For more details ring Kaye Vaux 098 282037.

Good gravel Road to Parbellop
track and Devil's creek Rd
2-wheel drive road.

This is 1303

To bar
at Bremer
mainly 4WD
on bar



Fitzgerald River National Park

A 31737
abt 2343.5 ha
National Park

A 32666
abt 9760 ha
(Excluding Roads and Reserves)

Government Requirements



RANGERS' NOTES October 1988 from Christ Hart

Some flood repairs have been undertaken. Access is now possible to all bar the area between Culham Inlet and West Beach - water level in Culham Inlet has receded only* 25 cms. Bremer, Fitzgerald and Gairdner rivers are still open to the sea.

The extra rains have provided a superflowering season. Orchids have been spectacular: several new additions being made to the Park list.

Right whales have been entertaining people at Pt Anne for the last few months. One day I watched 14 very active whales within 400m of Pt Anne.

The brochure for Queelup has been updated and is now available.

Woodvale research teams are undertaking Chuditch (~~native~~ cat) and ground parrot research starting this month. (Chris is keen to hear about any sightings - old or new.)

Severe winds and wet soils have resulted in the loss of some of our larger yate trees this winter and winds damaged the East Mt Barren house and the Pt Anne hut.

The Park Management Plan appears to be progressing on schedule and should be available for public comment in late December/early January.

We understand that Hugh Chevis, District Manager with CALM in Albany is to be transferred to Karratha. We would like to wish him and his wife Mandy, all the very best for the future.

FITZGERALD RIVER NATIONAL PARK ASSOCIATION

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