

December, 2014

Welcome to this newsletter. This will be a regular publication to keep you up to date with what is happening, or planned, or issues in and around the Parkwater Estate, including such things as notice of prescribed burning of the National Trust bushland, workshops and community events.

Your input on this will be most welcome, so if you hear of an upcoming local event, or some recent local 'story' or just want a platform to comment on any related matter, send your 'copy' to sherry.thomas@ntwa.com.au with subject line 'Newsletter'. This could also be if you plan to burn off your property, as a way of letting your neighbourhood know to expect it to occur on or around a certain date. However, by the time this newsletter gets to you, no doubt burn of season will be over and shire restrictions will apply – so keep in mind for next year.

I hope that by now you have received a letter from me in your post, advising you that I have been given the permanent (part time) job of overseeing the management of the National Trust (NT) land within Parkwater. Cowaramup Landscape Supplies (CLS) have the contract to do the physical management, like lawn mowing and removing dangerous trees from NT land, as well as the burn program and general maintenance of the NT bushland. While I acknowledge there have been some issues with the prescribed burning, which we will hopefully modify for future burns (as outlined in the abovementioned letter to residents), in general **Sean, Mandy and the team at CLS do a terrific job and I congratulate them on their dedication and hard work.**



If you need any urgent job done in the National Trust land (e.g. a tree has fallen across a road) then call CLS on 9755 5889.

For any other work required, please contact Sherry at the NT either by email to sherry.thomas@ntwa.com.au or call NT HQ on 9321 6088 and leave a message.

I've called the newsletter the Parkwater Pipeline for now, but all ideas for a better name are gratefully received. I'd prefer not 'Grapevine' as I already do the Yabberup Grapevine (where I live) and my head might explode if I had to deal with 2 grapevines! 😊

Simple fire prevention actions have the potential to protect your self, family and property from great harm; these actions are straight forward and do reduce the risk or impact of fires. These measures include actions such as clearing and maintaining fire breaks, cleaning out gutters regularly, ensuring that no trees directly overhang your house, keeping your property free of obstructions and combustibles, and learning how to use your fire extinguisher before there is an emergency.



Yellow Robins were once common in our forests but declined for many years. They suffered from loss of habitat, predation by cats, etc but fortunately they seem to be making a comeback now. I saw one near Tinglewood Ct/Honeysuckle Glen bushland a few weeks ago. Also a Grey Shrike Thrush which have the most delightful song (even if an awful name to say – try that 3 times quickly!).

Of course there are plenty of crows (ravens), kookaburras and magpies around too. If you have been



Western Yellow Robins- from the original by Sue Kalab, with kind permission.

www.suekalab.com

taking notes of the birdlife you see in Parkwater, please will you let me know? Bird identification is a great pastime to get kids into too. Some kids get right into it, recognising calls as well as the bird itself, and it can be terrific

knowledge to have. Golden Whistlers and Grey Shrike Thrushs can be 'called in'. Imitate their call and they will often come to check out the competition. If a kid hears a Golden Whistler, calls it in and points it out to someone (especially a grown up), that person is usually highly impressed!

If there is enough interest, I can make up a chart that you can print off, with names and photos of what birds can be expected to be seen in the area, which can be ticked off as sighted. Please send me an email if you would like me to do that.

Walk and Cycle Paths / Bushland Trails

Firebreak trails throughout Parkwater are Dual Use Paths for the use of foot and bicycle traffic only. As we approach the bushfire season, it is important that these tracks are kept clear of obstructions, including cars. Other than emergency and maintenance vehicles,



access by motor vehicles is only with permission of the NT or CLS. If you are about to start

building your home, please will you ensure your builders are aware of this? If you occasionally need access to the back of your property (e.g. to drop off materials) there will be no problem to get permission. *People pushing prams or walking dogs, as well as kids on bikes, etc can expect to have safe and exclusive use of these tracks, along with the local wildlife. Please respect this.*

Sign the bush creatures might like to see!

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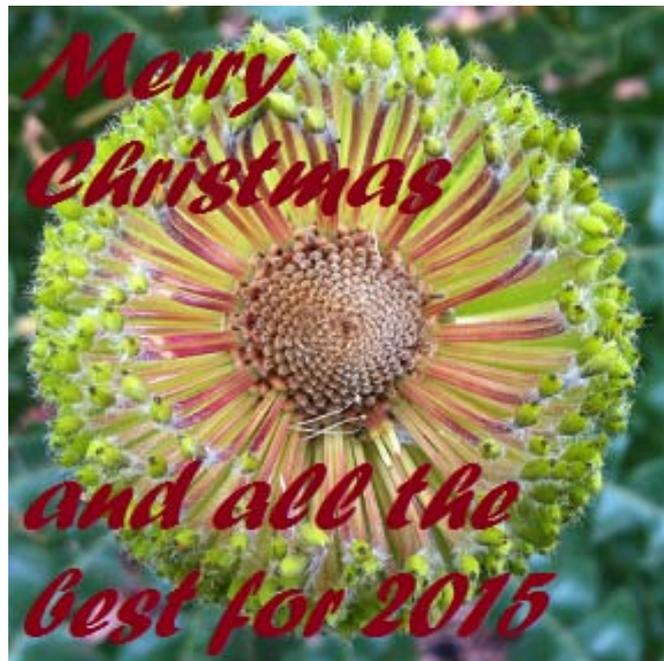


Parkwater Trails Network
Right of Way to Wildlife
and foot or bicycle traffic



David – Here's a bit of useless information! David is the most common first name amongst Parkwater landowners – there are 13 of you. Daniel is next. There are 11 of you – 4 are in Tinglewood Court! The next most common is Chris – also 11, but that covers Christine and Christopher.

If you have any questions on any of the information provided or would like further information, please contact sherry.thomas@ntwa.com.au



Banksia Grandis – or Bull Banksia (looking into the top of flower, above, and the tree in flower, below) are our very own native Christmas Candles. Named grandis because of its size, but I think it's because it really is nature being grand!



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