



THE GOODE NEWS

WINTER 2023

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

It has been sometime since we have had a Goode News edition, so what has been happening in our part of the world?

Although the dark days of Covid lockdowns seem a long time ago, the dreaded lurgy is still creating havoc for people. It is easy to forget how different and difficult our lives have been during the past few years. Tucked away in our little village at the end of the planet has cocooned us from the vagaries of life.

So, what's been happening in Goode Beach?

The FBA members have been active in monitoring local environmental issues over the past year such as:

- Aquaculture development in King George Sound (Mistaken Island, Misery Beach)
- Grange Resources -Magnetite ore transferred by barge to large ships in the Sound
- Lot 1&2 Frenchman Bay Road development – active involvement in approval process
- Bushfire management – Liaison with DFES, City of Albany re McBride Rd emergency access way, safe refuge area development. Community education session on fire preparedness. More information in Robin Budden's bushfire ready group report in this edition.
- Beach clean-up – coincided with World Environment Day on 5 June
- Monthly Weeding Bees – Linda Matthews report in this edition

Other local matters that have involved the FBA members are:

- Dog bag dispenser removal from Goode Beach – ongoing consultation with City of Albany
- Cultural yarning session – report in this edition
- Cat management in Goode Beach – report in this edition
- Goode Arvo – January at Discovery Bay

My thanks to everyone who has offered their time, energy and ideas providing support to each other and our community in so many different ways over the past year.

Overall, people have been busy in Goode Beach, yet still enjoying the peace and tranquillity that living here affords us.

We are all blessed to share this beautiful place that we all call home.
Enjoy!

Best wishes
Steve Dale

SAVE THE DATE!

A GOODE EVENT: SUNDAY 8 OCTOBER.



The FBA are planning a Long Table Lunch amongst the Karri Trees at 12 noon, Sunday 8 October. The lunch will be catered and will feature music, fun and yummy food. Please BYO drinks.

Everyone is welcome.

To book your spot, please email frenchmanbayassociationinc@gmail.com

BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT GROUP



With winter well and truly upon us the unsettling events of last fire-season are rapidly becoming a distant memory. While small, the two events on Frenchman Bay Road in January and February were a reminder that we all need to stay aware and to be prepared.

We are continuing to push the City of Albany to act on the recommendations of the 2020 BRIGS report, making a four-minute presentation to the Council meeting in March which we have followed up with a letter to the CEO and a meeting with the Executive Director Corporate and Commercial Services (public health and safety, and with it emergency management sit within his portfolio). We followed up the meeting with a written submission of our ideas for BRIGS implementation. Unfortunately, the wheels of local government turn slowly and we are yet to see any action. If we don't see any movement by the end of August we'll look at ways to raise the profile and brainstorm how we might use our networks and contacts to escalate to various government departments.

Back in May you may have noticed a report in the Albany Advertiser regarding funding of a study to develop a Strategic Safer Places Plan for Torndirrup Peninsula. It wasn't clear at the time who was responsible for it but after some chasing, we've been able to establish that it is the City of Albany Planning team. We've shared our ideas, along with a request we have the opportunity to be involved and have received a commitment to keep us informed. As with BRIGS it will be a case of continuing to keep the pressure on and keep the fingers crossed.

A big piece of the Bushfire Ready program is clearly spelled out in the name – being **READY**. Here's three ways to get ready while staying warm and dry:

- Check your insurance coverage is adequate. Not all insurers use the same definition of fire and bushfire and they all have their own take on inclusions and exclusions. Getting on-line quotes isn't as time-consuming as it sounds. A number of the BFRG Street Coordinators have gone through the exercise and changed providers as a result.
- Get on-line with a new series of webinars from Bushfire Resilience Inc running from August to October <https://br.org.au/webinar>. Topics include pets & bushfires; getting ready for an El Nino summer; reducing risks for people and houses and, lastly, safety

actions for the fire season. You can participate live or watch the recordings later. Their website has recorded sessions going back a few years.

- If you haven't done it yet, install the My Bushfire Plan APP onto your phone or tablet and make your first plan. If you need a hand or prefer to use paper, contact your street coordinator for a Bushfire Preparation Toolkit.

If you are new to Goode Beach and you want to learn more about the Bushfire Ready Group or you are interested in becoming a street coordinator, give Robin Budden a call – 0417 986 574 or email at robinbudden@y7mail.com

DOG BAG DISPENSER



Dog owners and residents alike would have noticed the removal of the dog bag dispensers from both stairs at Goode Beach. The FBA wrote to the City of Albany regarding the issue as we initially thought they have been stolen. The City of Albany told the FBA that they were the ones that had removed the dispensers and that they would no longer be supplying them to Goode Beach. The FBA sent a letter to the City requesting an explanation for the removal of the dog bag dispensers from Goode Beach without communication or consultation with community. Response to letter from President received from the City stated that they have developed criteria for the provision of dispensers that Goode Beach did not meet and spoke of the need for local dog owners to be responsible for the disposal of their dog's waste. The FBA will continue to pursue this issue with the City from a public health perspective and would welcome any feedback from community members.

HAPPY HEALTHY CATS



Happy, Healthy Cats”, hosted by the Albany & Surrounds Feral Cat Working Group. Along with general community members, seven Goode Beach residents attended. The emphasis was on how to keep cats inside, both for their wellbeing and the safety of native wildlife. It is hoped that this will encourage people to be responsible for cat management, mindful of the devastating impact that cats have on native wildlife. People are encouraged to lobby government to make meaningful and necessary legislation when the Cat Act of WA is being reviewed. On 28 June, Reece Whitby, the Minister responsible for the environment, released a new five-year strategy to crackdown on feral cats in WA.

<https://www.wa.gov.au/government/media-statements/Cook-Labor-Government/WA's-new-strategy-to-crackdown-on-feral-cats-in-nation-first-20230628>. This certainly indicated that change is required and the FBA can assist this by keeping members informed and interested in this important issue.

Natalie Rudling provided this feedback on the session: As a cat owner, I thought that the ‘cat safe at home’ morning was a balanced talk from all presenters. Statistics highlighted the impact to native fauna and risk to their own lives that outside cats present. The cat safety and enrichment discussions supported keeping cats inside happy and healthy. I tried using YouTube as suggested to find cat entertainment videos, and the one of a mouse on a yellow background was particularly liked by our cats (I might need to get an iPad just for them to destroy!)

The practical examples of cat enclosures were an encouragement to provide them an opportunity to still enjoy some of the outside environment. I think the examples of toys to make and toys given away were appreciated. The offering of 20 free desexing vouchers per month from Albany Animal Welfare is further incentive to those wanting to have cats.

I’m not sure that I learnt anything new. Rather, I think that the discussions were aimed supporting the protection of our native fauna and cat owners, to ensure our cats have a happy and long life inside.

The FBA would love to hear from residents who would be interested in us arranging a local forum on protecting the livelihood of cats and our native fauna. Please email us on frenchmanbayassociationinc@gmail.com or send us a message on Facebook if you are interested.

DID YOU KNOW WE ARE ONLINE?



The Frenchman Bay Association has both a website and a Facebook page.

The link for the website is: <https://frenchmanbayassociation.com> We are currently updating the website but you will find a suite of information about Frenchman Bay, its history, flora and fauna, features and current goings on.

The link to our Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100069328962902> The page is a vehicle to provide information to the community and as an easy way for the community to contact us.

HOUSE/PET/GARDEN SITTER AVAILABLE



Erika Verhoeven is available to provide house sitting for the summer months in Goode Beach and surrounds. Erika does not charge for her services and is familiar with the area, having provided house sitting here previously.

Erika can be best contacted via postvoorerika@hotmail.com

WEEDING BEES



The weather gods have kindly given us a fine weather on the second Saturday of every month this year. Considering how much rain has fallen this autumn and winter it is a very heartening sign.

This year we have branched further afield and in February a lot of Sydney Golden Wattle (SGW) and Victorian Tea Tree (VTT) along with watsonia bulbs were cut down or dug out from a patch of council land along Salmon Holes Road. A recent visit to the site when the SGW is obviously flowering showed no hint of weeds. We will keep an eye on this area over the next few years but it shows what a dedicated group of volunteers can achieve. In March we ventured into the creek bed near the McBride Road Access Way ... well, some of us did! Waterproof boots were needed for those descending into the creek to dig out Arum Lilies which had proliferated along the watercourse. Other volunteers weeded the banks of the creek which were infested with SGW and Taylorina. After removing a lot of material, it became obvious that our weeding warriors would need to return and work our way further downstream.

So, back we came in both May and June in time for the Cape Tulips to flower which made it easy to find them and dig them out too. The site is looking more open and we will make this a spot to return to in summer (when the water level drops) and see what is emerging. In August we are meeting at the top carpark at Frenchman Bay. There are several SGWs that I know many of you have been eyeing off as they are in full bloom at present. There are also Polygala and VTT in the neighbourhood that warrant our attention. We have not been into this area for two years and it is surprising how large some of the VTTs have grown in that time.

This is our sixth year conducting the weeding bees and it is great to see the enthusiasm being maintained as we are averaging around 13-14 people each month. Just as importantly, the morning tea offerings are continuing their high standard and a big thanks to all who bring something to munch on whilst enjoying our tea and coffee. If you are new to the area and want to know more or see an area needing our attention then please contact Linda on 0401 348 845.

CULTURAL YARNING



On 20 May the Goode Beach community were honoured to participate in a Cultural Yarning session with Merningar Elder Lynette Knapp and her son Dion Cummings.

The session was kindly arranged by Steve Hopper and in attendance were members of the Goode Beach community and City of Albany and UWA staff. The Cultural Yarning session commenced within the Goode Beach townsite with morning tea and a yarning circle followed by a trip to Frenchman Bay where Dion took participants to Kep Mardjit (Vancouver Springs) while Lynette chatted with a smaller group at the car park.

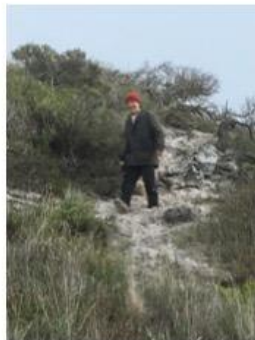
Lynette and Dion spoke of their family's connection to Goode Beach, and ancestral stories relating to the area and an insight into their connection to country, including flora, fauna and landmarks. Lynette and Dion shared the traditional names of landmarks and the area and the cultural and spiritual significance to these names.

Those present gained an understanding of the enduring spiritual connection and respect to country of the Merningar people.

BEACH CLEAN-UP

On 5 June, in recognition of World Environment Day, 18 volunteers braved the prospect of storms to come together for a beach clean-up. The weather gods looked kindly on us as we collected rubbish along the beach between Mistaken Island and Goode Beach. 38 kilograms of rubbish was collected over a 90-minute period after which we gathered to enjoy a scrumptious morning tea.

Thank you to all those who participated to maintain our beautiful environment.



LOCAL SPOTLIGHT

KIM JOHNSON



Goode Beach resident musician and singer songwriter, Kim Royce Johnson first started performing publicly some 20 years ago and has been gigging as a guitarist and singer-songwriter since then.

With a solid background of blues, and vocal styling influenced by Lou Reed and Tex Perkins, Kim delivers heartfelt expressions in his vocalising, blending easily with finger picking, blues influenced lead playing, and steady rhythms to provide a bed of soulful grooves.

Kim's music is influenced by a lifetime of surfing and he has written a new album of songs with a distinctly mellow surf style. Kim was heard with his band "One Fine Day" at the 2022 [Xmas](#) Street party held in Goode Beach. Muted sounds of his guitar playing can often be heard in the wind along Karrakatta Rd.

LOCAL FIND

A BEACHCOMBER'S TREASURE



Jenni Leonard's dawn walk along Goode Beach netted a rare find; a fragile and beautiful treasure, the Nautilus shell. Other residents have spoken of finding these exquisite shells along Goode Beach and Frenchman Bay. To say the Goode News editor is jealous, is something of an understatement.

CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOME

We welcome any contributions to the Goode News. If you have anything you would like to share please send an email to frenchmanbayassociationinc@gmail.com