



Wilson Residents and Ratepayers' Association

Website: <http://wrra.iinet.net.au>

E-Mail: wrra@iinet.net.au

Send all correspondence to: 170 Watts Road, Wilson, WA 6107

Winter Edition 2006

WRRRA represents you in Wilson by working co-operatively with:

- *City of Canning*
- *Mason Ward Councillors*
- *Canning River Regional Park Community Advisory Committee*
- *WA Government Depts.*
- *Neighbourhood Watch program & WA Police*
- *State & Federal Government Politicians*
- *Wilson Wetlands Action Group Inc. and other community groups*
- *Community Newspapers*

The WRRRA Committee currently meets at the Wilson Community Hall on Monday nights every 2nd Month.

The scheduled meeting dates for the remainder of the year are: 7th August, 2nd October & 4th December 2006.

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Editorial

Dear Wilson residents:

In what has been another busy year, we happy to report the following "wins" for the Wilson community:

- The reopening of the Old Riverton Bridge, including the widening of the pedestrian walkway;
- The City has allocated \$500K for the much-needed upgrade to the Riverton Bridge Kiosk. [Refer to Page 2 for further details];
- The \$1.5 million Canning River Eco-Education Centre, which will be built in 2007 at Wilson Park, near the Kent Street Weir.
- The West Wilson Precinct (approx. 1000 properties) recently made the shortlist of Round 4 of the State Government's Downground Power program (due to completed by 2010);

- The remaining unsewered areas within Wilson should (finally) get infill sewerage by 2008;
- Construction will start shortly on a shared path along Surrey Road and Watts Road (pending the completion of the Dual-Use Path network on the northern side of the Canning River Regional Park) [See Page 3]
- City of Canning opted to participate in the TravelSmart program.

As is customary at this time of the year, the WRRRA Executive Committee invites both existing (and prospective) members to attend our upcoming AGM to obtain information and ask questions about these (and other) local matters.

I'd also ask you to consider becoming a WRRRA Committee Member. We only meet every second month (so it's really not a huge undertaking).

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 5th July 2006 at 7:30pm

**Wilson Community Hall
Braibrise Road [Near Armstrong Rd]**

**Contact Max Zeller on 9258 9250
(or E-Mail wrra@iinet.net.au)
for further details**

Nominations of new Committee Members most welcome.

RIVERTON BRIDGE KIOSK

By Lester Durbin

As residents are no doubt aware, for some time now the City of Canning has been planning an upgrade of the kiosk and public amenities at the Riverton Jetty Park. At the Council Meeting of 28 March 2006, a Draft Business Plan with site plans and drawings was presented. Much emphasis has been placed upon consultation with interested organisations and the public generally. **WRRRA** representatives attended the first Public Information Session on 20 April.

The City is proposing to spend some \$500,000 to rebuild the old 1960's kiosk to include an enclosed café area, incorporating educational display facilities and an outlet for local arts and crafts. The playground will also be upgraded. A floating landing facility near to the bridge is also proposed from which tourist and educational river tours can be conducted to promote the environmental and historical heritage of the Canning River locally. The improved facilities will target both local residents and tourists, as well as, raising awareness and promoting the local wetlands and sanctuary walks within the Canning River Regional Park.



Foreshore Restoration urgently required

The public submission period closed on Monday 28 May after extensive local publicity. Following consideration of submissions received, the City plans to seek approval from the Swan River Trust and Dept. of Planning & Infrastructure by March 2007 with tenders for the works closing in June 2007. Construction is due to be completed by March 2008.

WRRRA made a submission on behalf of its members, based on feedback, we have received (to date) on the proposal, which was first presented at our last AGM.

In general, **WRRRA** is supportive of proposal to upgrade the Kiosk (as it will improve local amenities) and it should lead to extended opening hours, particularly over the Winter period.

WRRRA believes that the needs of current users, including pensioners, cyclists, canoeists and walkers needs to be given significantly more emphasis.



WRRRA, however, strongly objects to the proposal to establish a floating jetty as we believe it will place too much stress on the fragile local environment, as well as, adding to the social pressure to what is essentially a very small park. Presently the passage of motorised river traffic beyond Shelley Bridge is severely restricted and **WRRRA** does not support the lifting of restrictions to accommodate further commercial boating traffic as the risk is simply too great (in our view) given the fragile nature of the islands upstream from the Riverton Bridge. As part of our submission, we also suggested alternative locations for proposed boat landing facilities.

WRRRA also questioned the financial aspects of the business plan and we will be seeking assurances from the City to ensure affordable pricing is maintained (as this is the major concern for most local residents)

We also expressed concerns over the related traffic issues and will continue to lobby the City officials for a safer pedestrian crossing across Fern Road to link to the proposed CRRP dual-use path on the northern side of the Canning River Regional Park.

A copy of the **WRRRA's** submission is published on our website. City Officials will be attending our AGM (at our request) to answer any related questions.

TRAVEL SMART

By Paul Duncan

The Canning City Council, in association with the State Government, is urging residents and ratepayers to reduce vehicle use to overcome traffic noise problems and congestion, air pollution and increasing gas emissions.

TravelSmart is aimed especially at getting us citizens to walk more, to use bicycles and to patronise TransPerth Public Transport services.

You may have already received a letter on “**Reducing traffic levels in your neighbourhood**”. This is followed up by a telephone survey and further literature.

If you have any concerns regarding bus services in Wilson, please state them. For example, I complained

about the reduced night bus services into Perth and their ending at 10:20pm from the City along Albany Highway. A more frequent and later service would mean I would not need to drive my car into Perth for evening functions.

[On a related issue, at a recent meeting with Ben Wyatt (our new Local MP), WRRRA representatives asked for serious consideration to be given to providing City Worker buses for the Wilson area (as per Riverton) connecting to the future Train Stations at either Leach Highway or Canning Bridge][Editor]

This issue is not just a local one, it’s global. Sir Ghillean Prance, Scientific Director of the Eden Project in Cornwall, England, spoke

earlier this year at a public forum in England.

“Every small personal action also helps, and fortunately today the concerned carer for creation has much available information about environmentally sound behaviour. This should include, perhaps most importantly, an audit of our use of energy. Do you use public transport wherever possible, walk or cycle for short trips, use low energy light bulbs, or increase the insulation of your home ... ? Recycling of waste products and the purchase of things made from recycled materials is another way of being a good steward of creation” [From “Our Work”, CSC]

Paul Duncan
Public Transport Portfolio

WATTS ROAD FOOTPATH

By Max Zeller

Community Petition reaps results.

WRRRA is pleased to report that the City have agreed to construct a shared path along the entire length of Watts Road and the northern stretch of Surrey Road connecting to Fern Road to ensure the safety of local

residents walking to and from the Riverton Bridge kiosk / park and bus stops along Fern Road.

WRRRA has made it clear to officials from the City / CALM / State Government that we don’t see this path as an alternative route to a

Dual-Use Path along the northern boundary of the Canning River Regional Park, connecting Riverton Bridge to Castledare, hence we’ll continue to lobby for changes to the CRRP Management Plan for this end (with the City’s support).

WILSON WETLANDS UPDATE

By Russell Gorton

The Wilson Wetlands Action Group is holding an Arbor Day 2006 event between Monday the 12th and Friday 16th of June at Castledare in Wilson.

Planting will commence at 10.00am and continue until 2:00pm.

Work on this site has been supported by WWAG, Swan Alcoa Landcare Program, City of Canning, CALM, Conservation Volunteers Australia and the Two Rivers Catchment Group.

WWAG is seeking assistance from any interested residents and students.

This is a great opportunity for children to learn more about local projects, how they can look after our environment and what can cause harm to our river systems.

You are welcome to come for any length of time and at any time during the hours given.

Please bring a hat, raincoat and enclosed footwear.

Some tools will be provided, however, BYO trowels would be appreciated!

Please note: Children under 5 are not covered by indemnity insurance.

Contact Wilson Wetlands Action Group Inc. on 92587301 for further information.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

We need volunteers to help distribute this newsletter.

Ring Max on 9258 9250 or E-Mail Us at wrra@iinet.net.au if you can spare a few hours (twice a year), particularly if you live North of Leach Highway.

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NEW MEMBERS ARE MOST WELCOME !!!

Remember, the more members we have, the more power the Association has to lobby the City of Canning and State Government Departments to improve services within Wilson.

WRRRA Membership Subscription Form 2006 / 2007

To join the Association, simply complete the following details, enclose your Annual Membership Fee of \$5 per Household and return it to us (as per the instructions below). Receipts will be issued upon request.

NAME(S).....

ADDRESS.....

PHONE.....E-MAIL.....

Post form to WRRRA, 12 Foreshore Entrance Wilson 6107 OR drop it in the WRRRA Box at the Eureka One Stop Deli (on Eureka Road). Please do not enclose cash payments. Mark Cheques payable to the "Wilson Residents and Ratepayers' Association".

Payments will also be accepted at the WRRRA Annual General Meeting.