

NATURE RESERVES PRESERVATION GROUP INC



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Summer 2014/2015 Edition

From the President

Dear Members and Friends,

A Happy New Year to you all. Another year gone, during which the executive committee has been busy on behalf of almost 100 members. My thanks to committee members for their work during the past year and to NRPG members who continue a 'watching brief' on environmental threats within the Shire. I stress again the need for members to be vigilant.

Areas of remnant bushland are under increasing threat from clearing for development projects. Current areas include Lot 59 Wilkins Rd and Lot 608 Dixon Rd. NRPG continues to make submissions on behalf of the members, in defence of remnant bushland areas and has had some success, where clearing has taken place, in minimising the damage caused by clearing.

We continue to work closely with Shire environmental staff who continue their environmental work, despite the looming forced 'amalgamation', and thank them for their efforts in support of the many Friends groups within the Shire. We remain represented on several environmental committees and conservation bodies.

The 2015 Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday March 10 at 7.30pm in the RSL Hall Canning Road, Kalamunda. This year, the guest speaker will be June Butcher, AM, Founder and Chairman of Kanyana Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre. This presentation will be an opportunity to learn more about the work of the Centre and its relevance to the future of the natural environment.

In November June accepted, on behalf of staff and volunteers at Kanyana, two Kalamunda Chamber of Commerce awards - the Staff Training and Development Award and the President's award. We congratulate June, her staff and the volunteers on their achievement.

Tony Fowler
President

NRPG 2015 AGM

The 2015 NRPG AGM will be held on

Tuesday March 10
RSL Hall, Canning Road, Kalamunda
7.30pm sharp

Guest Speaker
June Butcher, AM,
Founder and Chairman of Kanyana Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre.

JOIN NRPG!

2015 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Yes, I wish to support the NRPG's work through becoming a member/renewing my membership.

Here is my \$10 individual membership fee or \$20 family membership fee (inclusive of GST; to the AGM on March 2016).

Name: _____

Postal Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

My nearest bushland is (rough location):

Please make cheques payable to NRPG Inc and send to:

Treasurer
NRPG

PO Box 656
Kalamunda 6926

Or contact the Treasurer (9293 2283) to arrange on-line payment.

Please note membership is only available to residents in the Shire of Kalamunda.

COMMUNITY FIGHTS PINK GLADIOLI

extract from *Bushland News Summer 2014-2015*

'Grab a Gladdie' day, held at Maida Vale Reserve in October, was hugely successful with about 30 residents collecting more than 30 bags, or about 5000 plants of pink gladioli.

Pink gladioli (*Gladiolus caryophyllaceus*) is a bulbous garden escapee originally from South Africa, which has taken hold in bushland across the Shire of Kalamunda, including Maida Vale Reserve. Pulling up these bulbs in October prevents seeds set and helps reduce the weed's impact. The removal of the 5000 gladioli plants is estimated to have stopped more than a million pink gladioli seeds dropping on the reserve this summer.

Volunteers had their shoes treated with a fungicide to stop the spread of *Phytophthora dieback* within the reserve.

Maida Vale Reserve is a unique and threatened habitat for rare and threatened plants and animals making control of pink gladioli an important action to prevent their critical habitat. The **Friends of Maida Vale** received funding from Parks and Wildlife through the Banksia Woodlands Community Restoration Grants to undertake weed control and planting at Maida Vale Reserve, with the support of the Shire of Kalamunda.



FOOD CROPS AS ENVIRONMENTAL WEEDS

extract from *Bushland News Summer 2014-2015*

Native to the Mediterranean the fig (*Ficus carica*) and olive (*Olea europaea subsp. europaea*) are well suited to Perth's climate and have escaped from cultivation into natural areas, becoming environmental weeds. Birds and some mammals appreciate the abundant fruits and provide long distant dispersal via their droppings.

Figs tend to prefer moist soils and are most often found invading wetlands and wetland fringes. Figs can also invade low-light, low disturbance, intact bushlands. Olives grow on a wide range of soil types in areas with high winter rainfall and dry summers. They will not survive in waterlogged soil.

Figs and olives are capable of re-sprouting if cut or burnt and the roots can sucker, forming multi-stemmed thickets after a disturbance.

Management

During the warmer months (October - December, March - May) hand pull or dig out olive seedlings and small plants. For mature plants, cut to base and paint 50% glyphosate or apply 250ml Access in 15 litres diesel to base 50% of trunk.

Fig seedlings should be removed during December - February. Stem inject mature plants with 50% glyphosate and foliar spray regrowth with 10% glyphosate or apply 250ml Access in 15 litres diesel to base 50% of trunk.

More weed management information is available at (olive) florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/6503 and (fig) florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/1747.

