

FRIENDS OF PERRY LAKES

NEWSLETTER No: 1

December 2021

Next Meetings:

The 3rd meeting of The **Friends of Perry Lakes** is scheduled for

5.30- 7.00 pm Wednesday 15 December 2021

At **Tamala Room, WA Ecology Centre**, (Bold Park, 165 Perry Lakes Drive, City Beach)

Agenda

1. Introduction of committee- Greg
2. Review of Terms of Reference- John
3. Workplan- Paul
4. Web site -Helen
4. General business
 - a) Select monthly weekend to undertake works
 - b) Equipment
 - c) Finances
 - d) Development of Incorporation

Note from Chair

Hi fellow FoPLers !

We have really hit the ground running and had a very productive two months since the first meeting. We have established an interim Committee, commenced development of key documents and development of a web site.

We have developed drafts of Terms of Reference, Work Plan and HSE Plan for FoPL which will be issued for review prior to a meeting on the 15 December 2021.

We have also had our first group activity around the lakes and established contacts with several other groups such as Friends of Lake Claremont, Friends of Bold Park, Birdlife WA to name a few.

I've set up a new E-mail address for me to track the FOPL correspondence so can people now use the following address on FoPL matters. FOPLChair@gmail.com

Web Site Development.

Helen is developing web site and has requested members send any photos they have of the lakes / reserve she could use on the web site. Please forward to Helen.j.wilson@outlook.com.au

Terms of Reference

Don, Margrett, Erin, John and I have developed the draft ToR which will be circulated before the 15 December 2021 meeting for discussion and confirmation.

Objectives

- Provide support, advice and an independent voice to the ToC on matters relating to the conservation, restoration and enhancement of the Perry Lakes natural environment
- Provide resources (volunteer time, funding, equipment) to complement and assist the ToC in the monitoring, maintaining and improving the Perry Lakes natural environment
- Provide an opportunity for like-minded community members to enhance their health and wellbeing through participation and social interaction on activities relating to the management of Perry Lakes
- Raise awareness of the natural and cultural significance of the Perry Lakes site to residents and users so they can support its conservation

Work Plan

Paul (Works Coordinator), Linda and Olly have drafted the Friends of Perry Lakes Annual Work Plan for 2022.

They have collated three documents for our consideration prior to the broader members meeting on 15 December 2021.

1. Draft Annual Work Program (Word document)
2. Appendix 1 Work Schedule and Appendix 2 Annual Budget (Excel File)
3. Job Safety Analysis for manual weeding (Excel document) based on original draft by Philip Cave

Friends of Perry Lakes – first field walk

On Saturday 27 November 2021, Paul Brown (our Works Coordinator) led the Friends first field walk titled “Introduction to environmental weeds of Perry Lakes”.

A great turnout of 24 members attended the walk. Paul discussed a dozen of the 38 weed species listed in the Town of Cambridge’s 2019 Flora and Fauna Survey as we walked around East and West Lake. Weeds discussed included:

- **Kikuyu** (from East Africa), **Buffalo** (north America and Africa) and **Couch** (Tropics world wide). They are a number 1 priority to spray out by the Town of Cambridge from within the lakes and their immediate surrounds.
- **Woody Weeds** – limited numbers of weedy trees need chainsaw removal and stump poisoning by the Town of Cambridge. **Weeping Willow** (China), **Brazilian Pepper** (South America), **‘Date’ Palm** (Mediterranean), **Morton Bay Fig** and resprouting **Sheoak** (both from north-east Australia).
- **Nasturtiums** (Ecuador-Peru) in two large clumps washed in drain water from surrounding suburbs
- **Spear Thistle** (Europe and west Asia) starts as a flat weed but can grow to 2m tall with blue-purple flowers. Very spiny, hard to pull by hand, so use shovel. Common on East Lake.
- **Deadly Nightshade** (Europe) member of tomato family with poisonous sap and seeds

Our discussions suggested that it is very late in the growing season for annual grasses and broadleaf weeds that have/are going to seed already. May be better to start full on weed control busy bees in about Easter 2022.

Self-managed small groups still encouraged to do work over coming weeks. Look to “Adopt a SPOT” - some small area of the reserve for your special attention. Town will provide bags for weeds and Paul (0466 827 550) will provide advice to anyone interested to undertaking weed control this year.

Great Day and good start for the Perry Lakes Friends. Thanks Paul Brown.

Learning from Friends of Lake Claremont

As Work Coordinator Paul Brown attended a Busy Bee weeding event at Lake Claremont 7:00-9:00am Sunday 28 November which happened to be their final winter weed removal event for this season. It was great to meet Lake Claremont’s Work Coordinator Nick Cook who has been doing the job for 10 years. Their group has 150 active members and 20 years experience.

They were weeding the late germinating annual weeds before they drop their seed. Those that attended the 27th November walk saw same annual weeds on the East Lake bank and boardwalk areas.

- Prickly Sowthistle (Eurasia - North Africa) – is the plant John B asked me if it was a thistle during the walk. Yellow flowers, hollow stems and large, leathery leaves to 1m.
- Prickly Lettuce (Europe) - spiny stems, deeply lobed leaves to 70cm.
- Fleabane (America) – grey haired plant with rings of leaves at each node. Grows to 1m.
- Flatweed-Dandelion (Europe) rosette of leaves with yellow flowers on slender, leafless stalks
- All annual grasses up to 7 species (Annual Ryegrass seed-head flat blade; Wild Oats; Brome Grass weeping seed-heads that stick in your socks)
- Common Melilot (Europe) – Erect ‘clover-like’ plant to 50cm, clumps of small yellow flowers.
- Tree Mellow (Europe) - leaves have 5-7 lobes, flowers lilac to purple, fruit 6-8 sided, to 3m

Fauna

Don has been in contact with Viv Read of Birdlife WA who walked around the two lakes noting 34 species in an hour. He concluded that they provided very valuable wetland habitat for birds and a key deliverable of FOPL is to document the fauna.

Media

Ron Banks is a retired journalist and has penned an article on FoPL to be sent to the Subiaco Post in coming week. Keep a look out for our first media release towards the back of the paper.

SAVE THE DATE- First AGM Wednesday 16th February- Venue TBA