

## Quarterly Newsletter – Sept 2017

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In late June the Moore River Estuary was very full and looked like breaking any time. Left to itself, the bar would have broken towards the south of the mouth, as has become usual and hopefully no abnormal pressure on the beach near the stairs would have occurred.

On Sunday July 2<sup>nd</sup> a few young men, who said they were locals, decided it was time for them to breach the bar.

About 4pm some of them had dug a 60cm trench, and water was trickling through the channel they had made and they were waiting, one in a wetsuit and ready with a surf board, for the rush to begin.

### From the Committee. . . .

Hello Members

### **Sandbar vandals create erosion**



Another local reminded them this was illegal and filled the trench partly in, with no help at all from any onlookers. Two of the diggers became abusive and dug on.



A Ranger came down, no doubt summoned by another concerned observer and when he arrived the vandals fled, one in a bright blue utility and another in a white one.

Later that same night they returned and dug a trench even further north, out of site behind the headland. This time they were successful and the river roared out overnight, taking the corner of the beach headland (and sign), with it. Possibly for at least 30 years this part of the sandbar has never eroded before.



The resultant destruction has led to the stairs from the lookout and the boardwalk being closed until the Shire can find the resources to repair this needless damage.

Besides the cost, the inconvenience to everyone else is immense. We can only hope that the Shire at least

manages to fine these vandals the posted \$1000 each so they may think again before deciding that their 'fun' is most important.

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We would like to advise all our members and others interested in becoming members of the Guilderton Community Association that our Constitution is available on line.

Just visit our website: [www.guildertonwa.com.au](http://www.guildertonwa.com.au) and follow the prompts. If you have not visited our website, we encourage you to do so. Great information and much, much more.

Our AGM will be held 27<sup>th</sup> January and we would love to see you all there, with your comments and suggestions for the year ahead. Notices for this meeting will be sent out with our next newsletter in early December.

We have operated with a very small committee this year and need some of you to seriously consider volunteering next year. Some of our key committee roles are still vacant and require people with energy and enthusiasm and a little time to come on board.

Cathy Naussedat

The Gingin Shire uses its website and Facebook page to promote local sporting groups and community events for free.

Website: [www.gingin.wa.gov.au](http://www.gingin.wa.gov.au)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/ShireOfGingin/](https://www.facebook.com/ShireOfGingin/)

If your group is having a fundraiser or event that is open to members of our community, then you can phone The Shire on 9575 5138 so that they can help with its promotion.

The Shire covers from Gingin to the coast and from Lancelin to Woodridge.

## Guilderton Visitor Centre

The GVC sub-committee (of GCA) includes Sharon Staude, Linda and Les Buxton, Wendy Nottle, Kerry Jones and myself. We met this month and are happy to report that we are well solvent, despite receiving no Shire financial help.

The Centre is well stocked as we await Spring, with 'more Moro' and much more. Now West Coast honey is available again we will add it to our stock of produce and we are about to add a new local olive oil producer.

It has been decided to change the opening hours (from 9am to 12 noon) by half an hour. From September 1st we will advertise our opening as Weekends, Public and School Holidays, 9.30am to 12.30pm. As we are all volunteers this may need to vary a little at times.

The dog areas have been re-defined, and updated maps are now on our noticeboard and in the Centre. Our brochure remains correct but these maps are now clearer.

We will be having a thank you afternoon tea for our volunteers on Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> Dec and we encourage new ideas from our community for anything that you think might improve GVC.

Linda 0414 631 273

If you have an issue that you feel needs being attended to by our Shire it is best to log it on their website. This will ensure that it is attended to by the appropriate and responsible persons.

Visit the Shire website [www.gingin.wa.gov.au](http://www.gingin.wa.gov.au). Or their email address is mail@gingin.wa.gov.au

*We would like to thank Helen Sutherland for her time and much encouragement, over the past 12 months or so with the new Association regulations and registration online as required, by the new laws. Helen has been a great liaison person between ourselves and the Shire and we wish her well with her future plans.*

## Guilderton Community Association

A further 500 seedlings were planted on July 21st to finish the job for this year.



The above band of willing planters working up the track, made sure the seedlings were well distributed.

The winter rain has been just what they all seedlings needed to settle in and along with some Spring warmth and they should grow well.

Thanks to everyone who helped. A job well done!

Linda Johnson

## 4WDs in Guilderton

Lots of people love 4 wheel driving so our area is becoming more of a magnet for those forced out of the new development areas in the north of Perth.

**It is illegal to drive over private property without permission, to access the river estuary foreshore, and to take vehicles from south of the sandbar to the groyne.**

However, much of our bush and beach is uncontrolled. We are very grateful for the help of the WA 4WD enviro group with re-vegetation of the north dunes over the last 3 years, and these bush tracks are recovering well over the whole 22ha site.



Track Care is a group of keen 4WDers who work to create safe 4WD tracks and help to prevent damage in other areas.

GCA plans to work with these responsible 4WD enthusiasts both in the Wilbinga area and between the groyne and Seabird.

If you would like to be involved with Track Care please ask for further details.

Linda 0414 631 273

### **“I GOT SO MUCH OUT OF THIS WEEKEND”**

The Watercolour workshop given by Jude Scott at the Guilderton Hall on the weekend of 2/3 September was a resounding success. The group was fantastic, with ten people enrolled for the two days, some of whom were new to Guilderton and some were complete beginners while others had been to previous weekend workshops and were renewing friendships.



Saturday was spent honing our skills and Jude provided a wealth of information. She was generous about sharing tips and hints and provided immediate and helpful feedback on our paintings.

There were certainly many “lightbulb” moments when Jude showed us simple techniques, particularly when mixing colours from a very basic palette.



On Sunday, the star of the show was the river bank opposite the desert where a curious pelican became the focal point of a painting, as did the rowboat that moored at the boardwalk and the ducks that shot into the scene while the sun shone. It was a magical spot that was exposed only due to the low water level of the river.



Jude was very impressed with our facilities here in Guilderton and said it was the 'best' workshop she had taught at in so many ways: the best venue, the best locations to paint, the best catering and seamless coordination so that all went without a hitch.

We are looking forward to the next time!

Anne Gilkes

*Thank you so much Anne for organizing such a great event for the community*

## **GUILDERTON COMMUNITY LIBRARY**

Our Community Library continues to run smoothly during the quiet winter months. We have had several new members joining in the last month, which is great to see.

We are now collecting for our huge Trash n Treasure in January. Give me a call if you need more information about donating goods for this important fund raiser.

Open every Saturday from 10am to 12 noon.

*Madeline Henshaw 0415 902 038*

## **FOMRE**

Friends of Moore River Estuary conducted the latest water quality monitoring on August 25th.

The river level was as low as the bar has been for quite a while, but we were able to make it to all 5 sites for testing.

The river flow is at its greatest as the winter rains come down the river and the tannin level is high and the water is very brown.

Ryan from the Dept of Water was with us so the extra tests for heavy metals and phytoplankton were done as well as the usual turbidity, salinity, pH, dissolved oxygen, etc. Results so far are showing a healthy river with all surface levels 'fresh'.



In the photo, you can see Cooky, Hamish (from NACC), Gill (from Hill River learning from us), Ryan and Rodger doing the tests. I am photographer and scribe, recording wind, cloud, times, depths, etc to go with the monitor probe readings.

Our last testing for this year will be late November.

Linda Johnson  
Mobile: 0414 631 273

## **Coastcare Forum in Seabird**

Where Seabird Community Hall Chalon St

When 22<sup>nd</sup> September 9am – 3pm



Topics to be addressed include Mid West Coast science projects presented by Nic Dunlop, local marine policy presented by Asha McNeil from UWA, progress of the Seabird seawall and Ghost Crabs.

There is no cost for this event and lunch is provided. This is a NACC supported event and well worth your attendance.

This event is hosted by the Seabird Progress Assoc and if you would like to attend please email [seabirdprogress@gmail.com](mailto:seabirdprogress@gmail.com) prior to 20<sup>th</sup> September.

See you there

## GCA Membership Application / Renewal Form 2017

**\$15 per person with each paid up member over 18 years entitled to vote**

**Member Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Postal Address: :** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this form to the GCA and remit \$15 per person by:**

**Cash to the Visitor Centre or**

**Cheque posted to GCA, PO Box 1101 Guilderton WA 6041 or**

**Bank Deposit to GCA at Bendigo Bank**

**BSB: 633 000**

**Account: 145418018**

**Reference: your full name**

**[www.guildertonwa.com.au](http://www.guildertonwa.com.au)**

**GUILDERTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION PO Box 1101 GUILDERTON WA 6041**

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