

# Narpulungup ews

February 2012

Number 1 2012

from the Friends of the Fitzgerald River National Park

[www.fitzgeraldfriends.org.au](http://www.fitzgeraldfriends.org.au)



## NOTICE OF AGM AND MEMBERS WEEKEND

This event will be held over the weekend of 18 & 19 March 2012 at the Boxwood Hills combined sports centre (see directions below). Field activities will be weather dependent but we will start as follows:

10.00 am Saturday. Morning tea and fellowship  
11.00 am Saturday. Guest speaker Dr Nic Dunlop  
1.30 pm Saturday. AGM

There may be an evening field activity involving Nic and his project on nearby 'Chingarup'. Nic is a consulting animal ecologist and conservationist, adjunct senior lecturer at Murdoch University where he conducts research on effect of ocean temperature on seabird distribution and movement. He is also the sustainable fisheries liaison officer for the Conservation Council of WA and involved in the 'Citizen Science' project.

On Sunday morning the very early option is to accompany Nic at 'Chingarup' where he will be mist netting and/or pit trapping. Later, Alison Lullfitz and Rob Wright have offered to guide us through their nearby property down to the Pallinup River. Those with canoes/kayaks may like to bring them for a paddle on the river. Those intending to camp at the sports centre overnight will need to bring their own everything in the way of food and bedding. Showers and cooking facilities are available for the bargain price of \$5 per person/night.

To locate the Boxwood Hills combined recreation centre find where the Borden to Bremer Bay Road crosses South Coast Highway, this is 60 km from Jerramungup and 120 km from Albany. Take the road to Borden, after 1.5 km you will see the centre on your right hand side. The nearest landmark is the Boxwood Hills Roadhouse just off the road on the Jerramungup side of the crossroad.

For further information contact Anne Gadsby 98374063 mob. 0427812106 or Alison Lullfitz 61025255 mob. 0447878784.

**A special call to all 'Friends'. Like to serve on our committee? see page 3. Like to help re-build Twertup? see pages 2 and 4.**

Next issue:  
May 2012

## AT LAST..TWERTUP MOVES

The New Year has seen a number of moves on Twertup. Four quotes were received for the steel framework and erection, and we're pleased that CPC Engineering (Ravensthorpe) has been given the contract for fabrication of the framework. This will be partly funded by our *2011 Environmental Community Grant*. CPC Engineering will also donate their time to assist with the erection of the framework – a fantastic contribution!

The campaign to raise \$12,000 for the concrete foundations has raised \$1,970 so far. Thank you to all those who have contributed to this fundraiser. A wheelbarrow load of concrete costs \$40 and we need 300 of them – if you haven't done so already, why not buy a barrow or three while you renew your membership. See back page.

There's no news regarding the *Royalties for Regions - 2011 Regional Development Council's Action Agenda Funding Scheme*, announcements were expected in mid-December (what's the hold-up?). Looks like we'll just have to keep applying for grants...

A working bee was held on 21-22<sup>nd</sup> January, the hottest days of the year, to survey the building site and dig 28 holes for the steel framework and verandah posts. Many thanks to Peter Masters and Grantly Morton for organising the Dingo, and to the hot diggers, Ric Pepper, Steve and Geraldine Janicke and Nathan McQuoid.

Another working bee will be held in mid-February to put steel plates and concrete in the bottom of the holes, and another in early March to put up the steel framework. Following that, there will be footings to dig (lots of workers needed for this one) and later fill! We don't want to be calling on the same people all the time - so, if you can volunteer to help out at any of these work-outs, please contact Ric Pepper or Gil Craig on 9838 1071 or [ripicasa@wn.com.au](mailto:ripicasa@wn.com.au)

## PLEASE NOTE

As indicated above it is time to renew your subscription. Please also consider a concrete or other donation to the Twertup re-building fund. See form on back page.



*Ric Pepper surveys levels for the new Twertup building.*



*Steve and Geraldine Janicke consider what to do next. Photos N. McQuoid.*

## WALK TRAIL UPDATE

On 22 December 2011 the Minister for Environment, Bill Marmion, rejected the proposed wilderness walk from Quoin Head to Fitzgerald Inlet but approved the two 'bookend' walks proposed by the EPA i.e. Hamersley Inlet to Quoin Head and Point Anne to Fitzgerald Inlet. The Minister further indicated any walk trail implementation be subject to the following conditions:

- Dieback risk assessment
- Dieback management plan
- Dieback response plan to protect uninfected areas

While most 'Friends' were greatly relieved by the Minister's courageous decision, there is some doubt whether the 'bookends' proposal is the best option for walk trail development in the park. This was discussed at a Parks Improvement Project Reference Group meeting in Jerramungup on 13 January 2012 attended by four 'Friends' members.

'Friends' at the meeting as well as some others expressed the view we should use this opportunity to review the situation. Accordingly we have now written to both the Minister and DEC requesting a forum to investigate all options for appropriate walk trail development in the park with advice from people with FRNP bush walking experience. Incredible as it may seem, this has not yet been done in any walk trail planning for the improvement project.

### **INTERESTED IN BEING ON THE 'FRIENDS' COMMITTEE?**

If so, and unable to attend the AGM, please copy and complete the form below and post it to the address provided, or contact the President by email. We hold at least 2 committee meetings a year at varied locations. Much of our day-to day work is conducted by phone and email.

We welcome new committee members.

Committee position.....

Name of nominee.....

Signature of nominee.....

Name of proposer.....

Signature of proposer.....

Name of seconder.....

Signature of seconder.....

Please return to the President by 11-03-2012.

Anne Gadsby,  
PO Bremer Bay  
WA 6338.

E-mail:- [anngad@wn.com.au](mailto:anngad@wn.com.au)

The present committee consists of:

President-Anne Gadsby  
Vice President-Vicky Bilney  
Secretary-vacant  
Treasurer-Robyn Cail  
Twertup coordinator-Gil Craig  
Newsletter editor-Andy Chapman  
Rodger Walker  
Alison Lullfitz  
Nathan McQuoid

*Photo opposite: Clean up at cottage ruin site*

### **RAVENSTHORPE AGRICULTURAL INITIATIVE NETWORK FIELD DAY AT DUNNS LAKE**

The above organisation, usually referred to by the delightful acronym RAIN, held a field day at Dunns Lake on Saturday 21 January 2012 which was the very hot day other members were crow barring post holes at Twertup. Eleven people attended the day at the lake which is three km north of Hopetoun. The day commenced with weeding and rubbish clean up at the site of the Dunn cottage ruin and an assessment of weed infestation around the lake. Boxthorn and fleabane were the most dominant weeds located.

Morning tea was followed by presentations of the history, waterfowl usage and hydrology of the lake by Anne Williams, John Tucker and Andy Chapman respectively. The lake was the site at which Dunn brothers who established Cocanarup near Ravensthorpe as a sheep station in 1868 shore their sheep prior to shipping the wool out at Hopetoun then known as Mary Anne Haven. The stone cottage was built in 1877.

John Tucker told us that approximately 70 species of birds have been recorded at the lake including 32 shore birds with nine of these being migratory species that breed in the northern hemisphere. Andy Chapman discussed changes to the lakes hydrology whereby road, airstrip, railway and fenceline construction and farming had all affected the lakes water inputs to the point where the lake is now holding too much water. Photos taken 30 years ago show that fringing paperbark trees have died in that time interval. The day concluded with discussion on management of appropriate water levels, signage and information panels.



**I would like to renew my membership/ join Friends of the Fitzgerald River National Park.**

- ☐ Family \$27.50 (inc GST)   ☐ Individual \$16.50 (inc GST)   ☐ Concession \$11 (inc GST)  
☐ Yes, I would like to receive my copy of *Narpulungup News* by email.

I am paying by ☐ cheque/ money order (*payable to Friends of the Fitzgerald River National Park Inc*)

☐ EFT

Account Name: Friends of the Fitzgerald River National Park

BSB: 306056   Account No: 0046027

Please advise Treasurer by email: [rcail@westnet.com.au](mailto:rcail@westnet.com.au)

☐ Please tick if a receipt is required.

**I would like to donate some concrete for the Twertup foundations.**

**Here is my gift for \_\_\_\_\_ wheelbarrows @ \$40 per barrow:**

- ☐ \$40   ☐ \$80   ☐ \$120   ☐ \$160   ☐ \$\_\_\_\_\_(my choice)

**I would like to make an in-kind contribution to the rebuilding of Twertup.**

- ☐ Please let me know when there are working bees (all hands welcome).  
☐ I have a special skill, eg builder, brick layer, stonemason, painter, carpenter,  
\_\_\_\_\_  
☐ I have equipment or materials, eg cement, zinalume, scaffolding, \_\_\_\_\_

Post to: The Treasurer, Friends of the Fitzgerald River National Park, PO Box 1325 Esperance, WA 6450

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