

CANNING RIVER REGIONAL PARK - LAND ACQUISITION**By Geoff Rees**

During a recent conversation with the Manager, Property Management Services from W.A.P.C., Mr. Tim Hilliard, **WRRRA** was advised that there had been no change in remaining five (5) privately owned holdings of Park lands since the date of the meeting in Parliament rooms of May 2008. This meeting was chaired by our MLA member of that time, Mr. Ben Wyatt, and attended by representatives from Christian Brothers, owners of the land at Castledare, DOLA, WAPC, and representatives from four Wilson Community groups.

The purpose of the meeting was to identify the long standing issues, which in the past have prevented the State from resumption / acquisition of the foreshore and wetlands abutting the Canning River at Castledare, and to encourage the owners to establish a proposal for which the relatively small section (2 to 3 hectares) of their useable land, can best be developed for the benefit of the Catholic Homes, the Church and local land users.

Bill Johnston, MLA Cannington and Mr. Vince Sinagra Christian Brothers Regional Coordinator, confirmed that further discussions will be held once concepts plans for development of a new age care facility has been received from Catholic Homes.

RIVERTON BRIDGE KIOSK UPDATE**By Susan Rogers**

No doubt many Wilson residents are anxious to know what is happening with the development of this very popular site, including myself, so I recently joined the **WRRRA** Committee to find out, and have been given the opportunity to report on the Riverton Bridge Kiosk building plan progress.

On Tuesday, 24 March, 2009, I attended the City of Canning Council Public Meeting and noted that Council had resolved to proceed with a revised scope and program to progress this development at a maximum cost of \$500,000.

The City of Canning, has since advised that an architect, Rob Anson, has been engaged and undertaken a review of the project. Mr. Anson's report confirms that a new kiosk building, situated on the current site imprint, could be undertaken within the revised budget costs for the project. It is understood that the Councillors will be presented with a report for review and consideration in the near future. At this stage it is unsure if a further public meeting will be held or whether the Council will proceed on the basis that total cost for the project falls within the \$500,000 limits set at the March 2009 Public meeting.

The anticipated timetable for the ongoing activities, which is subject to Council's decision for the project to proceed during June / July 2009, is for construction to commence January 2010 and be completed within 8-12 months.

Due to the spate of road accidents at this site in the past 12 months it is hoped that the scope of the final project will include the relocation of the kiosk car park entrance from Fern Road into Bridge Street and an upgrade to the bus parking facility.

SURREY ROAD SALT MARSH PATH**By Geoff Rees**

Further to **WRRRA's** Summer Edition 2008, where in it was reported that the Department of Conservation and Environment (DEC) and the Canning City Council, were to undertake an environmental, native flora and weed study, around the southern end of the Surrey Road houses, DEC have now decided not to commit to this project until a clear consensus is reached by all stakeholders, that is the Park's Advisory Committee, Canning City Council and the Community, on the need to extend this path.

This is despite the fact that in July 2006, following a Community census undertaken in September 2005, DEC were to instigate a briefing note to the Conservation Commission WA for a walk way trail within the Park as depicted in the Parks Management Plan. The path envisaged would involving large sections of elevated board walk, from Watts Road around the southern end of Surrey Road will most likely be subject further public consultation.

Disappointment that the delays this project has experienced since then has been expressed by many Wilson residents, including our members. An extension of this section of the path as a walk trail presents residents and visitors, including Riverton Bridge Kiosk patrons, with the opportunity to have contact with nature in the unique landscape existing at this location. Mason Ward Councillors have indicated their support for this project which provides Wilson residents with access to the park.

WILSON WEST UNDERGROUND POWER**By Lester Durbin**

WRRRA understands that the City of Canning has approved the installation of Underground Power on an area known as Wilson West, being an area of approximately 1,000 properties, bounded by Manning Road, Leach Highway and Wendouree Road. **WRRRA** has supported this project, from its inception, and has been active in attending meetings to gather information and lobbying for Pensioner Concessions on the costs, which has been agreed in principle by Council.

Our committee feels that when Underground Power is mooted for Wilson South and East (south of Leach Highway), it will receive a more favorable reception.