

## UNDERGROUND POWER SURVEY RESULTS

During December 2009, your committee undertook a survey of Wilson residents south of Leach Highway, to provide us with guidelines as to whether **WRRA** should support the Canning City Council's nominations for installation of underground power (UGP), throughout this area.

Unfortunately, whilst the number of residents who responded to the survey was disappointingly low, the results indicated strong support of 96% of respondents having a preference for the timely installation of underground power. 4% were not in favour of UGP due mainly on the grounds of an extra cost burden that these projects impose on the family budget.

Subsequent to our submission of the survey results to the City of Canning, the Mayor advised that the area of Wilson East which is that area of Wilson south of Leach Highway but excluding the Kent Street Precinct, has missed out in the current round of the States's Underground Power Programme, The Office of Energy had decided to offer UGP to the residents of Bentley East, The Mayor also advised that an information meeting was to be held in the Bentley Community Hall on 11 March 2010 at which representatives of Western Power and City of Canning would be present to discuss the proposed installation and anticipated costs to the residents of the area.

Whilst we did not get the guernsey this time around, a number of our committee attended the meeting and had placed on record an interest in having the area of Wilson south of Leach Highway placed on the reserve list in the event that residents of Bentley voted against the scheme, or alternatively be considered in the next review/allocation of urban areas for underground power which we believe is scheduled to take place in June/July 2010.

**WRRA** will continue in its efforts to support the nomination of the Kent Street Precinct for inclusion in the Underground Power Programme in the future.

## CANNING RIVER ECO EDUCATION CENTRE

by Canning City Council

The Canning River Eco Education Centre (CREEC) is now starring in the Latest Lotterywest 'Catch a falling star' advertising campaign. Local environmental groups, families and children are invited to participate in the filming of the advertisement that focuses on the dedicated work of the volunteers and the environmental education of young people.

The Centre received funding of \$23,000 from Lotterywest, when it first opened, to purchase display systems, furniture, audio visual and office equipment. This grant was given to support the community based educational activities.

Although CREEC has only been operating for two years, it now plays a major role in protecting the habitat of the wildlife that has found refuge in this suburban wilderness.

Funding for the Education Officer was provided for the first two years by the then Department of Education and Training, however this has not been renewed due to budget cuts. "It is disappointing that the funding is not being continued as the Centre plays a vital role in the environmental education of not only our young people but also across the wider community," Mayor Delle Donne said. "I will be pursuing every opportunity to have this position secured, including corporate sponsorship of programmes and educational activities."

"Lotterywest saw the value in the role the Centre plays in the future of our environment," the Mayor continued. "Of 1300 community grants given last year, only two were chosen to be part of this extensive campaign."

The Centre is situated on the banks of the Canning River and within the Canning River Regional Park. Officially opened in June 2008, the Eco Centre aims to increase the awareness and understanding of the Canning River and surrounding Regional Park through the establishment of environmental education programmes and activities.

"The Canning River Regional Park is the Kings Park of the south and thanks to the efforts of so many volunteers and City staff it is a place of great natural beauty," the Mayor said. "The Eco Centre will continue to play a major conservation and education role within this great park."

All enquiries can be directed to CREEC on 9461 7160.