



Wilson Residents and Ratepayers' Association

Summer 2015 Newsletter

Website: wrra.org.au

E-Mail: secretary@wrra.org.au

PO Box 1060 Cannington WA 6107

WRRRA represents you in Wilson by working co-operatively with:

- *City of Canning*
- *Canning River Regional Park Community Advisory Committee*
- *WA Government Departments*
- *Neighbourhood Watch & WA Police*
- *State & Federal Politicians*
- *Wilson Wetlands Action Group Inc. and other community groups*

The WRRRA committee meets on the first Monday night of every 2nd month at the Wilson Community Hall at 7:30 pm. See page 3 for details.

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DEMOCRACY RESTORED TO CANNING

Many local residents will remember when Council was sacked back in 1991, but when our Council was suspended in November 2012 no-one could foresee what the future had in store for our City.

In spite of going to State Government elections in February 2013 promising that there would be no forced local government amalgamations, by late 2013 the State Government had determined to push ahead with Local Government reform - pushing a proposal that would merge Gosnells and most of Canning, with the northern part of Wilson to go to the newly merged South Perth/Victoria Park (South Park).

Canning was left without a council to defend it during this critical period but, to his credit, Commissioner Linton Reynolds took up the challenge and mounted a strong local campaign to save Canning. It is widely believed that this led to his dismissal as sole Commissioner in September 2014 when the remaining councillors were formally sacked and replaced by a panel of three Commissioners - Stephen Cole, Stephanie (Steve) Smith and David Gray, who were to serve until July 2015 when the new boundaries and the demise of Canning were to take effect.

Fortunately the cities of South Perth, East Fremantle and Cockburn who were permitted a vote rejected the change - throwing all of the reforms into disarray. This was finally confirmed in February 2015 when the Premier conceded defeat and announced the reforms would not proceed.

This cleared the way for a return of an elected council to Canning at the October 2015 poll. It also triggered perhaps the most incredible local government campaign in the history of Western Australia.

It is not unusual in local government elections for councillors to be elected unopposed. It is certainly not unusual for a few candidates to battle it out for council seats. It is, however, entirely unprecedented that 56 people would run for council - including 11 for Mayor, and 10 for the newly created ward of Beeloo - which includes Wilson, Cannington, Ferndale and Lynwood.

The election period also saw a storm of political signage and advertising, with posters blanketing the suburbs, covering yards, benches, bins and bus stops. The level of interest and involvement speaks highly of how deeply people care about their local area, and their willingness to make a personal commitment to service.

When the polls closed and the ballots were all counted Canning finally had a new Mayor, and a new council.

Our new Mayor is Mr Paul Ng, formerly president of the Riverton, Rossmoyne, Shelley Ratepayers Association. An engineer by training Paul ran on a platform of only accepting half pay and cutting inefficiencies and waste at the City.

We also have two new councillors for Beeloo Ward:

Christine Cunningham was elected for a four year term. A Wilson resident, Christine is a senior lecturer at ECU in the School of Education and was, until a year ago, Co-Convenor of The Greens.

Centenary Park Update

The Wilson Residents and Ratepayers Association (WRRRA) is committed to working with the City of Canning to finalise the **Centenary Park Master Plan**.

As an immediate priority, we are canvassing the City to commit to building a new dual use path from Centenary Avenue via Centenary Park West, over the next 2 years. This path would connect with the planned pathway which has already been approved by the City of South Perth on the river side of Cygnia Cove.

Representatives from WRRRA recently met with Mr Troy Bozich from the City's Engineering Services, as well as representatives from the Christian Brothers, who are responsible for the development of Cygnia Cove. Both parties are keen to work together to complete this project as soon as possible, which is an encouraging development.

To avoid any further delays WRRRA urges the City to start planning for the above-mentioned dual use path connection, as a precursor to finalising the Centenary Park Master Plan.

The City of Canning has also invited WRRRA to comment on their new **Bike Network Plan**. WRRRA strongly supports the City's plans to complete the missing links to the dual use path network from Riverton Bridge to Nicholson Road Bridge, along the eastern boundary of the Canning River Regional Park.

In saying this, all of the missing sections, including the above-mentioned link to Waterford, via to Centenary Park West, were included in the City's last major revision of the Bike Network, published in June 2002, hence we're keen to see progress!

Wilson East Underground Power

It was unfortunate that, even though Wilson Residents and Ratepayers Association lobbied very hard on your behalf, the small remaining area of Wilson east (south of Fern Road) missed out on underground power in the previous rounds of installation.

However Western Power advise that if those residents who missed out, together with WRRRA, still wish to pursue being connected to underground power, we should contact our local Councilors to request that the Canning City Council make a new application for the area to be considered in the next round of funding.

For those whose homes missed out previously, WRRRA would welcome your feedback. If you would like this committee to pursue this important issue again on your behalf, please email us at secretary@wrra.org.au or drop us a line at PO Box 1060 Cannington 6107.

Kent Street Weir Concept Plan

The City of Canning engaged consultants to prepare a concept plan for the management and development of the Kent Street recreation area earlier in the year.

Public comments came from all sectors of the community and the opportunity for input closed in October. The City of Canning will now review submissions and move to the next stage.

The main goals of the project include developing a plan that respects the conservation and cultural values of the local area, provides improved opportunities for people to use the area and is respectful of local residents.

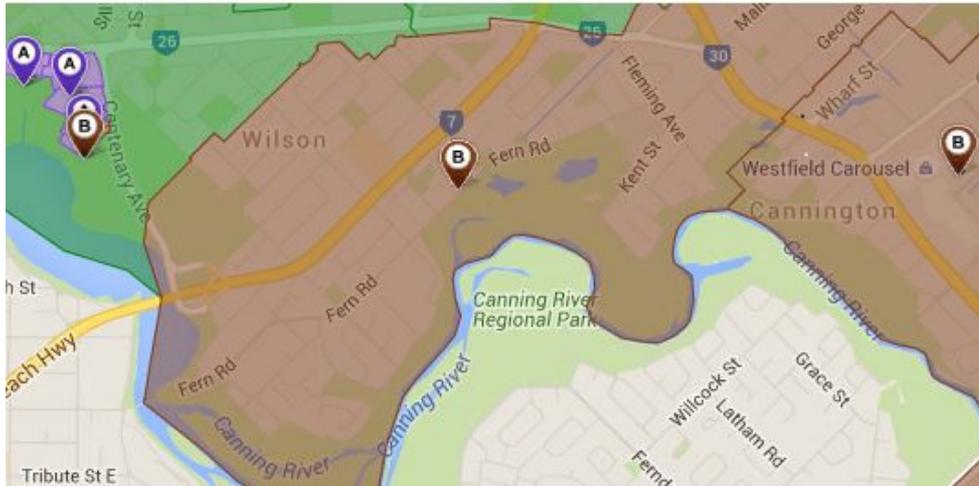
Facilities under consideration are:

- * a new playground,
- * a boardwalk from the CREEC building to the river,
- * a dog exercise area,
- * basketball courts.
- * extension of the CREEC education building,
- * extending the café,
- * an events area,

WRRRA have been closely involved in the consultation process and have provided input to the City of Canning to ensure that this unique area is managed responsibly and appropriately. You can see the plans on the City of Canning website. If you have any comments please email us at secretary@wrra.org.au or

National Broadband Network (NBN) Update

The build phase of the National Broadband Network (NBN) has finally commenced across vast sections of Wilson & East Cannington (as shown in the map below). The new service is due to be activated March 2016.



Planning has also commenced in the northern section of Wilson, however, no firm build dates have been published at this stage. WRRRA will continue to monitor this situation and provide further updates to members and the community as this information becomes available.

This is a major development, which has been a long time coming, as many Wilson residents have been unable to

get ADSL Broadband Services, or have had to tolerate slower than usual speeds, over many years, due to inadequacies with the existing telecommunications infrastructure within our suburb.

Unfortunately we still facing a similar issue getting mobile phone coverage in some areas. This is an issue that WRRRA will pursue in the future.

Refer to www.mynbn.info (and enter your address) for further details of the NBN Build Status.

Portfolio Positions

In order to keep abreast of local issues and ensure updates at committee meetings, WRRRA committee members are allocated the following portfolios;

- | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| * Aircraft Noise | * Kent Street Weir | * Wilson Depot Issues | * Centenary Park |
| * Brownlie Towers | * Underground Power | * City Centre Plan | * Wilson Wetlands |
| * Castledare | * Shelly Bridge Traffic | * NBN | * CRRP Committee |

Local School Citizenship Prizes

Wilson Residents and Ratepayers Association is proud to confirm its continued relationship with primary schools in the Wilson area.

In December 2015, Citizenship Prizes were presented to both Wilson Primary School and Rehoboth Christian College—Wilson Campus. These prizes are awarded to exceptional students

Meeting Dates 2016

- ◆ Monday Feb 1
- ◆ Monday April 6
- ◆ Monday June 6
- ◆ **AGM—Wednesday July 20**
- ◆ Monday August 3

Can you help?

Unfortunately a number of WRRRA key committee positions (President, Vice President and Secretary) were not filled at the October AGM.

While this does not stop us doing our important work it adds extra pressure for the existing committee members who cover these roles and look after their various portfolios (see above).

Without a strong and active committee, WRRRA will find it difficult to continue in its current form and after many successful years we are very keen to maintain our strong community voice. If you would like to be involved and possibly take on a larger role please contact us at secretary@wrra.org.au. Any offer of help,

**Riverton Bridge
Pharmacy**

Phone/Fax: 9457 2195
118c BARBICAN STREET, EAST SHELLEY

MONDAY TO FRIDAY 8.30am—6:00pm
SATURDAYS 8:30am—1.00pm

WE DELIVER

Steve Irons MP

Federal Member for Swan

“Supporting my Community”
Cnr Albany Hwy and Oswald Street
VICTORIA PARK WA

Phone 08 9355 0099

Email: Steve.Irons.MP@aph.gov.au

Web: www.steveirons.com.au



BILL JOHNSTON MLA

Member for Cannington

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Cannington WA 6107
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Email: Cannington@mp.wa.gov.au

WRRRA Membership Subscription Form 2016

Remember, the more active members we have, the more power the Association has to lobby the City of Canning on your behalf.

New members are most welcome!!

To join the Association, simply complete the following details, enclose your annual Membership Fee of \$5 per household and return it to us (as per the instructions below). To make things easier, we now accept payment directly in to our bank account (**Bank Transfer**).

NAME:

ADDRESS:

.....

EMAIL:..... **PHONE:**

Bank transfer (Reference: “WRRRA & your name, house number and street name in the payment details).

Please send a quick email to greg@mawcons.com.au following deposit to enable us to track payments)

For new members, please complete the above form and email a scanned copy to greg@mawcons.com.au”

Bank: Bendigo

Account Name: Wilson Residents and Ratepayers Association

BSB: 633000

Account Number: 135674174

Post form to PO Box 1060, Cannington WA 6107. Payment by cash (note only), cheque or bank transfer. Mark cheques payable to the “Wilson Residents and Ratepayers Association”.

Receipts will not normally be issued unless requested.