



THE GUILDFORD ASSOCIATION

HISTORIC GUILDFORD - FIRST SETTLED IN 1829

P.O. Box 115, Guildford 6935 Western Australia

GUILDFORD MATTERS

Newsletter No. 28: November 2012

New Executive Committee

At the Association's AGM held on 20 September 2012 the following members were elected to the Executive Committee:

Peter Stephenson – President

Christine Hughes – Vice President

Lindsay Baxter – Secretary

Raymond Leclizio – Treasurer

Other Committee members are Barbara Dundas, Wendy Dekkers and Libby Buttfield.

General Meeting

The Guildford Association will be holding its next General Meeting on Tuesday 20 November 2012 at 7.30 pm at the Mechanic's Institute in Meadow Street.

Fauntleroy Park

The City of Swan's second community consultation workshop about the redevelopment of Fauntleroy Park was held on 13 November 2012. It is not too late to make a submission on this matter and you are encouraged to contact the City in this regard.

Guildford Ward Boundary Changes

All local government councils are required to review their ward boundaries and representation on a regular basis. This is to ensure equitable representation of electors. The Guildford Association made a submission to the council regarding the possible changes. At a recent council meeting the City of Swan adopted some revisions to ward boundaries. As a result the Guildford ward has been increased and the Woodbridge area is now included in Guildford. We welcome residents in Woodbridge to the Guildford family.

Email: ga@guildford.asn.au

Web site: www.guildford.asn.au

Morton Bay Fig Tree on James Street

People driving into Guildford from Bassendean would have noticed that the Morton Bay Fig between James Street and the Railway line was removed after a large branch on the James Street side was brought down following the last winter storm. As this was the second large limb that had fallen from the tree, the City of Swan inspected it and found that as well as structural damage, it was also diseased. Unfortunately this meant that it could not be saved. The Guildford Association will be approaching the City to ensure that the replacement tree is a species suitable for the Guildford area.

Guildford Streetscapes

Our streetscapes are very important so before you put up a fence or solid wall at the front of your property, consider what impact this might have on the streetscape. Guildford is valued for its open vistas and views and the “olde world charm” of our houses. Please have a look at the Guildford Conservation Policy and check the Guildford Conservation Precinct Design and Development Guidelines before you make any changes to properties which could impact on the streetscape. The Association can source these documents for you and would be happy to assist with advice.

Manetti Roses

There was a recent re-planting of the historic Manetti Roses in Guildford. This is a copy of the speech given by Mr John Viska, Chairman of the WA Branch of the Australian Garden History Society at the re-planting ceremony.

“This project is an example of how important the landscape of Guildford is, in the state’s cultural history, by bringing aspects of history, civil engineering, botany and horticulture together.

Let me start with a brief history of the rose. Rosa manettii is an early hybrid raised by . Dr Manetti in 1837, while he was associated with the Milan Botanical Garden in Italy. It was the result of a cross between a Chinese rose newly introduced to horticulture in the early 1800s and a European rose. The resultant plant proved to be a robust hybrid inheriting the best features of the two rose parents and more importantly, admirably suited to warm climates.

The Manettii rose has been part of Guildford’s history since the 1850s when lieutenant Du Cane of the Royal Engineers noted in 1854, “I have planted roses all along the embankments approaching my bridge-they have all shot and flowered already and are splendid.” This suggests that the plant was very well established in the colony and able to provide sufficient propagating material for the project. The rose with its inherent suckering habit was an ideal choice to hold the embankment to arrest erosion.

Rose growing has been an essential element of the garden history of the State with some early nurseries located in Guildford area, the Harper and Price Nursery at Woodbridge House in the 1890s being a prime example.

The rose was successfully used as bud stock by Mr H.A. Bird of West Guildford and writing to the Swan Express in 1918, he stated, "I have been experimenting during the past 3 years with our Guildford Rambler, found growing on the riverbanks and on the Caversham Road, to use as stock upon which to graft and bud weaker varieties of roses, and have found it to be highly satisfactory."

Charles Rhodes, a nurseryman of Ethel Street (Guildford), also successfully experimented with the Guildford Rambler.

When I presented a paper on the History of Rose Growing in Western Australia, at the 1997 Heritage Rose national Conference, the Manettii roses were flourishing on the Caversham approach to Barker's Bridge, but over the succeeding years, have suffered a massive decline. Fortunately examples of this rose could still be found surviving in some of Guildford's old gardens.

Manettii has proven to be a hardy, water wise plant, able to survive without much care (except repeated sprayings of herbicide!) as many extant examples throughout the state show.

The best example today is the Drummond's Hedge, planted by James Drummond botanist at his historic Toodyay property, Hawthorndene, about 1850 and has survived the extremes of climate experienced in the Avon Valley.

One hundred and fifty years later it has become a major attraction on the tourist trail, with interpretive signage explaining its historical significance.

In an age where every exotic plant is now being treated as a foreign alien to be totally obliterated from the State's historic landscapes, it is gratifying to see a project instigated to restore an important element of Guildford's cultural history.

The best conservation practice have been followed by propagating the roses from original clonal material salvaged from the site.

This allows the genetic makeup of the hybrid to be maintained giving veracity to the project and with suitable interpretive signage will become an important addition to Guildford's heritage trail.

Finally, I highly commend the good conservation practice that has been evident in this project and look forward to the first flowering. Thank you. John Viska"

Residents' Information Package

Are you new to Guildford or has someone recently moved in next door to you? If so, please contact us and a Guildford Residents' Information Package will be delivered to you. It contains lots of useful information about Guildford.

Email: ga@guildford.asn.au

Web site: www.guildford.asn.au

Perth Airport

As Guildford is close to the Perth Airport it is an ever present influence on our lives. There has been considerable discussion in the press recently.

Residents may have noticed a discussion regarding a second parallel runway. This would be parallel to the current North-South runway some distance to the east. If built and operated this runway would take some traffic from the flight path over Guildford but would result in a new flight path over Midland and other suburbs to the east.

There have also been reports in the press about fewer departures on the cross (East-West) due to a recent incident. This has increased the traffic on the main runway and hence flights over Guildford. There is even talk of a second airport for Perth. We await further news on any of these proposals.

The Guildford Association participates on in a number of community groups concerning the Perth Airport. If any resident has queries or concerns regarding airport traffic or noise please contact us.

The Guildford Association Inc is your local resident and ratepayer Association. The Association's objectives as stated in the Constitution are to:

- **Preserve and promote the historic and rural nature of Guildford and its environs;**
- **Enhance and protect the quality of life of residents and ratepayers in the area.**

The Association is constituted under the *Associations Incorporations Act 1987* and operates under the requirements of that Act. Membership is **\$15** per person, per year and entitles you to full voting rights at the meetings. New members are always welcome.

Application for Membership

I hereby apply for membership of the Guildford Association Inc. I support the goals of the Association as stated in the Constitution.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number(s): _____

Email: _____

Signed _____

Renewing Member

New Member

Please forward **\$15 per person** to Guildford Association Inc PO Box 115, Guildford WA 6935.

Email: ga@guildford.asn.au

Web site: www.guildford.asn.au