



GOLDEN VALLEY TREE PARK

— B A L I N G U P —

July 2018 NEWSLETTER

Dear Friends of the Tree Park and Volunteers,

During the past year the Committee has been very busy with completing projects and developing and initiating new projects at your Tree Park.

Gazebo:

The refurbishment of the Gazebo in the World Collection has been completed. Many thanks to Royalties for Regions for the grant, and to our local builder **Terry Leseberg**, for all his work in completing this much needed upgrade.

Magic Oak Woods:

The committee was fortunate to receive a WA Government *Local Projects, Local Jobs* grant to develop a conceptual Plan and preliminary works in the **Magic Oak Woods**. This Plan was developed by the Committee with **Nature Based Play**, & in conjunction with a “kids consultation day” led by **Cat Aniere** of **Millennium Kids**. What fun that was!

The Plan has informed us, as a Committee, to how to progressively develop a play plan and a schedule of volunteer “busy bees” and site improvements have already started.

Arbor works on the declining flooded gum (*Euc. rudis*), below the “Mother and Child”, has been done recently to reduce the ‘dead top’ hazard. In turn this has allowed us to use the dead wood at “Busy Bees” to highlight and delineate areas in the Oak Grove and to stabilise erosion in the winter creek. Wood chip from the flooded gum is also being used to discourage “meat ants” from nesting on walk tracks. Many thanks to **Wy Allen**, and to all those from the community who came to fill sandbags and move rocks for these improvements.

Global Tree Research

Some of GVTP's rare species are being sampled as part of a global research program into tree health. Plant pathologist Dr Duccio Migliorini from the University of Pretoria has sampled *Podocarpus elata*, *P. totara* & *Pinus halepensis* and will make a research presentation about global tree health. **All are welcome to attend at Golden Valley Homestead on 2/8/18 at 2pm.**

Thinning in the Australian Collection:

Part of the Australian Collection has been closed, due to the biomass harvesting by WAPRES of the Oil Mallee, removal of woody weeds and tree management thinning.

This process is vital for the long-term health of the Oil Mallees and to demonstrate the amazing productivity of WA's select mallee species that are the most bio-energy intensive plants in the world – so much so that Virgin airlines has demonstrated that it is possible to fly jets planes on Oil mallee fuel! Thanks to **Wayne O'Sullivan** for his help.

Peter Hicks: Peter has resigned from the committee after many years of volunteering his time and energy into the Park. The committee thanks Peter for all your efforts and your continued work with the volunteer group, the "Merry Men", and the wonderful work they do supporting the Park.

Brian Martin: Brian has this year had to resign from the committee due to work and location. The committee thanks Brian for all your time and the wonderful tree pruning.

Tree Sponsorships:

This year more trees were sponsored at the Park. A tree dedication is a unique way to show your love or respect for someone, or to provide a treasured memory. There are many fine trees as well as wooden park benches available. Check out the new list at

www.goldenvalleytreepark.org.au/sponsorships

Want to hold an event at Golden Valley? Reservations for weddings and parties are growing popular: especially now power is included! Details are on our website. Or want to contact us?

info@goldenvalleytreepark.org.au

Committee members and Volunteers welcome: If you are passionate about the Tree Park and feel you have time and/or energy to help invigorate the Park. Please contact us, so we can continue the good work by this volunteer organization.

Current Committee Members: Bob Hingston (Chairman), Andrew Sandri (Vice Chairman and PaWS Rep), Wendy Kurz (Secretary), Tom Benson (Treasurer) Chrissy Sharp (Local Coordinator), Andrew Thamo (Curator, World Collection), Wendy Ayers, Jan Helsham, & Gary Hodge. Wayne O'Sullivan is Curator (Australian Collection).

Mr Brian de Garis is our Patron.