

# CAMBRIDGE COASTCARE

[www.cambridgecoastcare.com.au](http://www.cambridgecoastcare.com.au)



## WINTER 2018 NEWSLETTER

Winter is the busiest period for Cambridge Coastcare (CCC) volunteers, as we take the opportunity of frequent rains to plant amongst the coastal dunes.

**Our objective is to help stabilize the dunes, with hardy, local native plant species, to provide a cost-effective, natural defence against coastal erosion.**

**Completed 2018 projects – 4,640 native plants in the ground since June gave us something to cheer about!**



i) Our winter planting commenced in brilliant sunshine on **17 June**, at car park end of Path 16 (Floreat):



ii) And again on **1 July** at the beach end of Path 16:



iii) The rain did not stop us planting +2,000 plants on **21-22 July** in an area **east of Challenger Parade**



resulting in a variety of local species, in place of woody Acacia weeds, that will attract local birds and showcase the beautiful plants indigenous to our coast.



### Media interest

We enjoyed several moments in the media spotlight highlighting the value of our coastal work in lessening the impact of damaging winter storms:

- **Western Suburbs Weekly, 15 May 2018**– “Group sees need to care for coast” commenting on our work to stabilize the dunes for years to come.
- **Today Tonight, 11 July 2018** – showcasing the work CCC does to “stop the dunes from collapsing further”. You can view it online at: <https://www.perthnow.com.au/news/today-tonight/wild-weather-and-above-average-rainfall-wreaking-havoc-on-wa-coastline-ng-b88892561z>
- **The Post, 7 July 2018** – “Can we protect our beaches” an article on the public seminar featuring coastal experts, hosted by CCC and Town of Cambridge.

## Cambridge Coastcare – summer newsletter - continued

### Seminar ‘Our dynamic coastal environment’

Hosted by CCC and Town of Cambridge at the Administration Centre, on 12 July, 50+ attendees listened intently to coastal and conservation experts. A key message from our Chairman Ivo Davies and Perth NRM Coast and Marine Program Manager Kate Sputore was the necessity of caring for our fragile coastal ecosystem and the cost-effectiveness of maintaining the natural barriers as the intensity of storms increase. There are examples elsewhere where expensive engineered solutions have had to be implemented to protect coastal infrastructure when coastal dunes have collapsed.

- Dr Jeff Hansen (UWA) spoke on factors affecting beach morphology, seasonal variability of wave heights, the delicate balance between beach erosive and accretive forces, sea level fluctuations and the challenges of coastal management.
- Prof Kingsley Dixon (Curtin Uni) demonstrated (with examples) the uniqueness of our west coast ecosystem and what we can learn from the plants that thrive despite the harsh conditions - high wind, salt loads, nutrient poor, alkaline, limited water holding.

### Future projects:

We have been successful in gaining WA Government Coastwest funding for 2 projects during 2018-19. In partnership with Town of Cambridge, both projects will commence in the Spring. More details will follow on our Facebook page and website.

Briefly the projects are:

#### i) Floreat dog-beach stage 2 (Floreat Path16)

We will be trialling a “hard” engineering solution to stop sand inundation with special fencing in front of the dunes planted 2017-2018, with additional infill planting in 2019.

#### ii) Improving coastal dune monitoring and management with new technology

Partnering with Scientific Aerospace we will use high precision aerial surveying technology (drones) and fine scale analysis to quantify the effect of dune stabilisation treatments at **Floreat Path 16**.

### Introducing our committee:

#### Lionel Johnston, Treasurer



You could not find a greater contrast from conservation of our local dunes to the “cut and thrust” of managing the accounts of large retailer, Myer, or property developer EDC and the Hegney Group. But this was Lionel’s career until together with Kingsley Dixon and others he founded Cambridge Coastcare. So you know Cambridge Coastcare funds are in safe hands with Lionel, a CPA, as our Treasurer for the past 20 years!

Lionel “enjoys making a difference to our surroundings while all the time learning about our extraordinary coastal environment.” He sees the challenges as “to get a better survival rate for bucks spent, and in trying to combat erosion from wind damage”. And Lionel gains satisfaction in seeing the change that CCC has achieved in the 20 years. “You can definitely see it”.

### AGM and 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations,

#### Monday 1 Oct 2018 from 7 pm at Floreat Surf Club

New members on our Committee are welcome and all Committee positions are open for Nomination, **by 14<sup>th</sup> Sept**, by forwarding your email to:

[cambridgecoastcare@gmail.com](mailto:cambridgecoastcare@gmail.com). We invite all members, and others who support our work, to join us on 1 Oct to celebrate 20 years of coastal care!

### Interested in Coastcare?

More information about Cambridge Coastcare, is on Facebook or website (see below). Email to [cambridgecoastcare@gmail.com](mailto:cambridgecoastcare@gmail.com) for membership.

