

CHAIRPERSONS REPORT
FOR THE FOWPRC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held in the ISOLATION HOSPITAL
24th November 2015

Good evening all, and especially to our new members, I would like to give a warm welcome to each and every one of you to the Friends of Woodman Point's Annual General Meeting, and especially thank you all for not only taking the time to attend, but also for the interest taken in the Friends of Woodman Point Recreation Camp [Inc]. On behalf of our committee I would like to offer our sincere apologies for the postponed delay in holding the AGM.

If you could bear with me a few minutes, as I would like to give a background on the history of Friends. The suggestion of establishing the Friends of Woodman Point Recreation Camp dates back to 2000, and a lot of changes and adjustments have been made since the groups inception.

For information, this group became officially incorporated in 2001, and it was in that year that Friends applied for their first Lotteries Grant. We still have two of our original members with us tonight, namely life time members Howard and Betty Shepherd, and a round of applause would not be out of order I feel. Well done Howard and Betty.

Significant Items and events worth mentioning over the past five years have been the introduction of our Heritage & Historical Tours that commenced back in April 2010. I should mention that these have been exceptionally popular and well received, including our tour luncheons catered for by our own Accolade Caterers, and by December this year, Friends will have conducted in excess of 206 Heritage tours, and with that I would like to especially thank, the 'better half ' Evelyn, for her continued support in so many ways, and always keeps everything in motion and on track. Not forgetting the others who have also kindly assisted us, like Annelle Perotti, Howard and Betty, Gary Marsh, Karen Jardine and Ian Jamieson, and of course, Jenni Carder and the Poore family for assisting in the past , and Jenni on various tour days. I must not forget Frank Hutchins, for making himself available to drive our tour coach, Mr. Jack Edwards for his continued support, and to all at the City of Cockburn, namely, Ms Kathleen Koelen, Cassandra Cooper, Ada Wong, and not forgetting Siobhan Cummins, and Paul Gabbert. Special thanks to the Cockburn's Seniors' Centre, for not only allowing us to hire their coach, but also to the City of Cockburn itself, for their continued friendly support, and for continually keeping the FOWPRC advised of the latest information on all their volunteer activities and grant possibilities. Lastly, but not least, thank you to all our supporters and donors, It is always greatly appreciated.

Our Friends newsletter, the Pratique, has been in production since July 2011, it is very well received, by all the feedback, and keeps our members informed on Friends activities and projects.

I must also mention our close and friendly association with the staff at the Department of Parks and Wildlife, especially the Regional Park office, in various community based environmental projects that affect the Woodman Point Regional Park, and wish to thank them all for the never ending support and assistance whenever needed by Friends. Not forgetting the recently completed pathway to the crematorium that is now a special added bonus, and an incentive towards our Heritage Tours. for thos with 'special needs'. Their input towards Friends is always appreciated.

By way of our newsletters and website, we now have members in all states of Australia, including the Friends of Bruny Island Quarantine Station in Tasmania, and we now have overseas members In the United Kingdom, North Carolina and three members in California.

The website and the heritage tours have given Friends an avenue into all manner of historical material relating to the former Woodman Point Quarantine Station, and these unique artifacts and historical donations, can be seen on display in the interpretation rooms of the Isolation Hospital. At this time, I would like to thank Karen Jardine and Ian Jamieson for bringing another facet and another association with our quarantine past, and that is a Customs display that is currently being collated in a room of the Isolation Hospital.

It should be mentioned that the FOWPRC have acknowledgments and photographs in numerous historical reference publications, including those of the WA History Society, Monash University, The Freshwater Bay Museum, The WA Genealogy Society, The National Archives, the WWI Looking for Evidence website, and various Merchant Navy Publications.

In May this year, the FOWPRC conducted an Open day in conjunction with the Department of Sport and Recreation, but inclement weather wasn't on our side, and very few attended because of this, The event was in conjunction with Heritage Week, and was well publicized, and many thanks must go to those members, who spared their personal time to assist at the Isolation Hospital on the day.

I would also like to thank Ian Darroch for the continuous research and time into collating our current history project of the a History of the Woodman Point Quarantine Station that is progressing to plan.

I must mention the kind support and advice that Friends have received from the staff at Melissa Park's Office in Fremantle, and are always there to assist us in any way they can

Last but not least, thanks to the staff and management of the Department of Sport and Recreation for their assistance in the past, and allowing Friends access, and to promote this truly unique and historical site. The 'Jewel in the Crown' as I like to describe it.

Finally, I feel that in the past twelve months the Friends of Woodman Point Recreation Camp have risen to another level in prestige, through background research, by way of promoting the historical uniqueness, and the diversity of the former Woodman Point Quarantine Station and its surrounding areas. This is truly a unique section of Western Australian quarantine history, that has up till only recently, been completely unknown, by not only the public of Western Australia, but by Australia's public in general.

Woodman Point is now highlighted on the world map and the Friends of Woodman Point Recreation should be very proud of their endeavors, and we will continue to develop as a highly regarded and respected contributor in this heritage and historical area, and will continue to promote Woodman Point in the history of quarantine in Australia and especially in the state of Western Australia.

Our sincere gratitude to all our supporters and donors, and especially our committee, your help and assistance is always greatly appreciated. Thank you all for your continued support, and we look forward to another exciting and prosperous year.

Earle Seubert

Chairperson