



CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY

Coastal Awards for Excellence 2011

On Thursday the 10th of November the Western Australian Coastal Awards for Excellence were presented at a ceremony in Perth, attended by Planning Minister John Day.

The awards acknowledged the commitment to WA's vast coastline shown by community groups, individuals, organisations, government agencies and local governments.

Robyn Benken, of Cottesloe Coastcare, was recognised as a joint winner of the 'Individual Contribution' category, for her tireless dedication to coastal protection and rehabilitation within Cottesloe; as well as her leadership of the campaign to have the Weedy Seadragon declared a protected species within Western Australian waters.

Winners in other categories included the Geographe Catchment Council, the Parry Beach Voluntary Management Group, the Bardi Jawa Rangers in Broome, Albany Senior High School, and Blackwell and Associates for the Leighton Foreshore Project.

RIGHT WA Coastal Awards for Excellence 2011 winners.
TOP RIGHT Robyn and Kate, Coastal Awards 2011



Coastcare in the Kwinana Industries Area an award finalist

Coastcare in the Kwinana Industries Area (KIA), a partnership between the Kwinana Industries Council (KIC) and the South Metro Coastcare Program was delighted to be selected as a finalist in the recent Rockingham Kwinana Chamber of Commerce Regional Business Awards for 2011. Entered in the Corporate Community Award category the project provides support to community groups for the implementation of the Coastcare program, runs competitions to highlight the environmental values of the coast in the KIA and provides opportunities for industry groups in the KIA to participate in coastal rehabilitation activities. While the project did not win the category, being nominated was considered a great success and recognition that the project was making a substantial contribution to the local coastal environment. Kwinana Industries Council is a not-for-profit membership organization for industries in the KIA.



COASTCARE IN THE
KWINANA INDUSTRIAL AREA

Coastal Weeds Forum

On Friday November 25th over 80 participants attended 'Is the Coast Clear?' – a forum on managing weeds in coastal environments.

This event was the result of a partnership between Coastcare and the Environmental Weeds Action Network Inc, and was funded through Coastwest as part of a grant targeting coastal weed eradication and education within the north metropolitan region.

Speakers for the day covered a wide range of topics relating to coastal weeds, including eradication and herbicide use; fluctuating coastal ecosystems and adaptive management; mapping; characteristics and invasiveness of target species, a community group approach to weed control; and how to structure a coastal rehabilitation project.

Participants were also able to take part in a weed identification activity and attend a tour of current and planned coastal rehabilitation areas within the City of Stirling.



Coastal Weeds Workshop November 2011



Coastal Weeds Workshop November 2011

Green Jobs Corps fencing the beach

Trainees from the National Green Jobs Corps were on-site at Challenger Beach to install a beach access path fence. As a result of wind and wave action over the past 12 months the existing beach access path had become eroded and pedestrian access to Challenger Beach restricted. A new access path alignment was selected by the Coastcare Officer then the trainees pruned vegetation and installed the fence under the guidance of specialized contractors. The trainees learnt new skills in pine pole and wire fence installation, track orientation and design. To complete the project the old track was brushed and a suite of coastal plants and mulch was installed.

The activity was implemented through support from Alcoa's Challenger Beach Rehabilitation Program.



Green Jobs Corps trainees installing the access path fence.

'Caring for our coast – Community, Horticulture and Beachfront Restoration'

One of the committee members of Cambridge Coastcare, Adam Cross, has just had this fantastic article published in the November edition of *Hort Journal Australia*.

Adam Cross is a PhD student of Botany at the University of Western Australia, based at Kings Park and Botanic Garden, Perth, Western Australia. A passion for conservation and a love of adventure has led to treks in Norway, the United Kingdom and the Tepui region of Venezuela, as well as numerous research expeditions throughout the Kimberley region of northern Australia. Adam has been an active member of Cambridge Coastcare for several years, becoming involved in many coastal restoration and management initiatives, and currently holds a position on the committee as Membership and Community Liaison Officer.

You can access the article here: <http://www.hortjournal.com.au/currentissue.php>

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Scotch and Coke at Cottesloe

In the last couple of months Cottesloe Coastcare have been fortunate in attracting some extra volunteer assistance for their rehabilitation sites.

A group of Year 10 boys from Scotch College undertook a series of weeding sessions at Vlamingh and Dutch Inn Groyne as part of their community service program, and the WA grocery team from Coca Cola also came out to lend a hand with weeding at Mudurup Rocks.

It's great to see both school groups and corporate organisations getting involved in Coastcare activities and hopefully spreading the important message about protecting and restoring our precious coastal environments. We hope they'll all be back!



Coastcare at Mullaloo Beach



Planting at Mullaloo Beach 2011

The 'Mullaloo team' of Joondalup Community Coastcare Forum have been working tirelessly on this long stretch of sandy dunes for many years, and ongoing successful grant funding through Coastwest has meant that significant positive changes are happening in this area of coast.

The beach and surrounding parks at Mullaloo are extremely popular and this can lead to additional management problems such as uncontrolled pedestrian access causing dune erosion, rubbish dumping and fires in the dunes.

There is only a small group of volunteers doing a lot of work in this area, so any extra help is always welcome! For further information see: www.joondalupcoastcare.com

BHP Billiton assists the coastal program

A team of willing workers from BHP Billiton – Nickel West met at South Beach Fremantle to participate in a plant propagation activity to improve the areas coastal vegetation.

Under the guidance of the City of Fremantle the volunteers lifted excess Coastal Sword Sedge, a valuable coastal plant that binds sand dunes and reduces the effect of erosion. The plant material was then taken to APACE community nursery where the volunteers trimmed and potted up the plants for growing on in the shadehouse. The new plants will then be used in the 2012 winter planting season to stabilize the South Beach dunes and provide habitat for native animals.



BHP Billiton Nickel West workers potting up Coastal Sword Sedges at APACE.



Can you name these coastal plants?

Coastwest project transforming Kwinana Beach



Conservation Volunteers Australia planting at Kwinana Beach

Over the winter period a vast expanse of bare sand at Kwinana Beach has been transformed into the beginning of a rehabilitated dune area. Through funding support from Coastwest and Caring for Our Country, community volunteers, Conservation Volunteers and National Green Jobs Corps trainees have been planting coastal species and laying mulch to strengthen a degraded dune. A series of coastal species including Tuart (*Eucalyptus gomphocephala*), Dune Moses (*Acacia lassiocarpa*), Basket Bush (*Spyridium globulosum*) and Coastal Daisy Bush (*Olearia axillaris*) have been planted to reduce erosion of the dune and to build habitat for native fauna. With increasing demand from an expanding local population for coastal facilities the planned addition of a dual use path to link with the existing bush tucker trail will see members of the public enjoying the coast and experiencing the pleasures of an improved natural environment.