

PAIWALLA NEWS

September 2017



GRANTS

Remember the 'Stop Press' announcement in our last newsletter?

Paiwalla, in conjunction with Conservation Volunteers Australia (CVA), has received \$15,500 for the purpose of working with Community Volunteers to explore and restore Paiwalla and Sunnyside Wetlands. The grant has been confirmed and the details are now being finalised.



In essence we have eight days when volunteers will come to Paiwalla and carry out a range of works. There will be one day on track maintenance, one lifting tree guards, one day attacking the weeds at Sunnyside, three days planting 500 trees, 1 day watering the trees and a Discovery Day. (*see below*)

The days are spread over the next year, with the trees to be planted April/May/June depending on weather conditions.

DISCOVERY DAY

Thursday November 2nd

This day is for all volunteers involved in the CVA grant works, Paiwalla volunteers and members of the general public to assist in identification of the diverse population of water creatures at the wetland.

Staff from the Natural Resources Management Board (NRM) will be there to co-ordinate a "bio blitz" in the awareness and identification of the aquatic life in the big pond, at Sunnyside and at Paiwalla North. They will be using their fyke nets to harvest swimming beasties.

They will also be putting out bat monitors on the previous night to see if the "bats were out" and sharing the results with participants.

OUR 'PR' BOOKLET

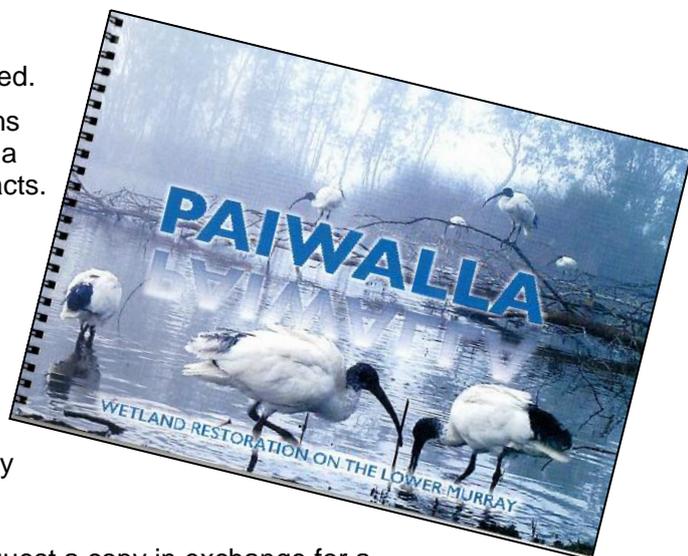
Our PR Booklet, long in the making, has now been published.

The booklet gives an overview of Paiwalla, its purpose, aims and objectives, its achievements, information on flora, fauna and vegetation together with general information and contacts. It is 14 pages of A4 size, spiral bound, and coloured with excellent photos and minimal but important text.

It has been produced for the purpose of promotion, to be attached to major grant applications, to offer to visiting dignitaries or organisations, distributed at Award occasions or any other appropriate purpose.

Paiwalla members should have received their two copies by now and can request more. (*Contact Steve*)

Friends of Paiwalla or others who have an interest may request a copy in exchange for a minimum donation of \$20 to our Environment Fund. (*Use our 'Contact Us' page on the website to arrange*)



CIVILIAN ENGINEERING

Next time you visit Paiwalla and enter from Lagoon Rd take note of the track down from the top gate. Vincent L and Greg C have spent many hours trying to replicate the road works done by council and we believe they are on a par. With recent rains there has been little to no erosion and it is now pleasant to drive down the track to the car park. Thanks Vincent and Greg.



The entrance road looking downhill from the Dairy towards the car park

ANNIE'S ISLANDS

Annie O has spent more time on the islands within Paiwalla than all the rest of us combined. On many Thursdays Annie paddles out in her canoe with her equipment to weed and vegetate the man-made islands.

Two factors make her job difficult. Water levels and ducks!

She is constantly experimenting with plantings to find the most suited varieties for the varying conditions. The ducks (we think) make her vegetation efforts harder, wreaking havoc by pulling up new plantings.

Names for the Islands?

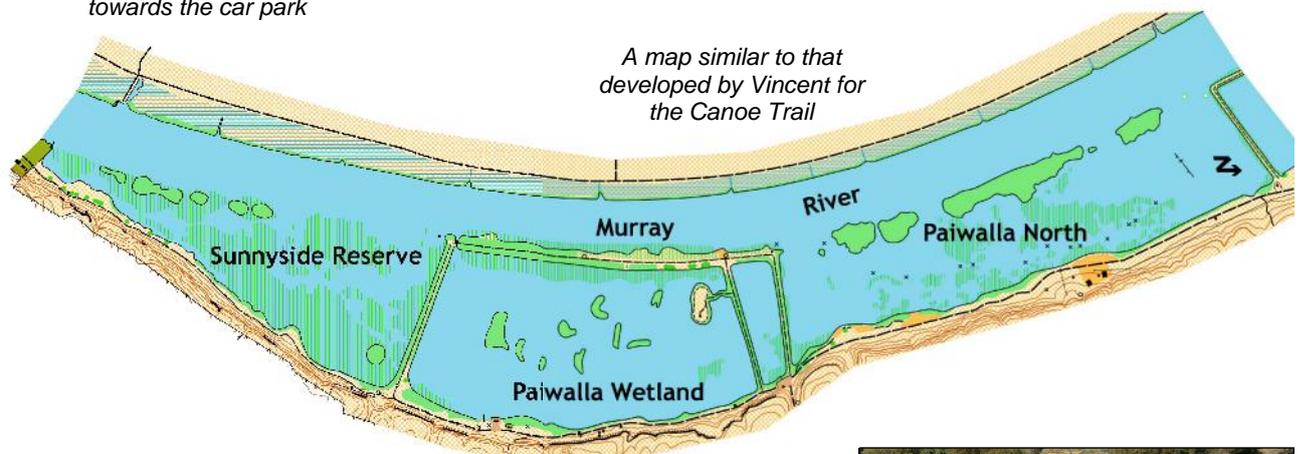
Annie is looking for some new names for the islands because they are currently only numbers. One possibility is to come up with aboriginal names.

Any thoughts? - speak with Annie or email us your suggestions.

MAPS

We have purchased a phone/GPS and software that allows us to map all nature of things at Paiwalla. Heather is plotting the various plants along the cliff face, Vince L is plotting the trails and tracks, and we have already plotted the Canoe Trail.

Watch this space.



A map similar to that developed by Vincent for the Canoe Trail

CVA Grant Days - Tree Guards



One of the activities for the CVA project is to spend time lifting the guards on trees/shrubs that were planted several years ago. Heather B started this practice last year and the results are impressive. One photo shows the trees were nipped off at the height of the guards, and so the trunk and branches grew within the guard. Once lifted to a height that is too high for vermin, the trees grow upwards again.

