



COTTESLOE COASTCARE ASSOCIATION
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Summer Newsletter 2007 – 2008



What a difference a year of hard voluntary work has made at our Envirofund project site! Do you remember how the **Bryan Way foredune** looked in April this year? The top photos show the weedy, eroded dune with Town of Cottesloe workers removing Victorian tea tree. Under these photos are two taken recently with the new plants growing well. At the bottom you will see the Year 4's from Cottesloe Primary who planted local seedlings during the winter. 54 adults and 78 children have joined CCA's work this year.



2000 new plants are now growing on the Bryan Way foredune, re-establishing the bio-diversity that used to be in our coastal areas 150 years ago. From now on our children and grandchildren will again be able to experience the enticing scent of the coastal daisy bush (*Olearia axillaris*), the glorious golden seedballs of the prickly lilies (*Acanthocarpus preissii*) and the slender knotted club-rush (*Ficinia nodosa*) as well as more than ten other species indigenous to our dunes.

Of course this could not have been achieved without the help of large groups of **volunteers** who prepared the site. They collected rubbish, removed weedy intruders, planted and watered the seedlings and freed them from vigorous weeds which invaded their space, competing for moisture and nourishment. Have a look at our blog: www.cottesloecoastcare.blogspot.com to appreciate the many different school and community groups who have made it happen. It is an ongoing effort and we are very lucky to have so many supporters: in the last six months the number of paid up **CCA members** has grown from 90 to 152! Individuals, families and two non-profit corporations, *Blue Water* and the *North Cottesloe SLSC* have joined us this year.

The **Cottesloe Council** and its Depot Staff have also been wonderfully supportive and the future for the natural areas in Cottesloe looks very promising. The Council has allocated substantial funds to commission a consultant to develop a comprehensive **Management Plan** for Cottesloe's natural areas and Cottesloe Coastcare has been involved right from the start in this process and will continue to participate in the development of the plan. Some hard working committee members have been **mapping vegetation and infrastructure** of a large section of the dunes from Mudurup to Vlamingh as part of the preparation for the consultant's brief. Our Coastcare Officer Kate Sputore, in co-operation with senior Council administrators as well as CCA members, has written that brief to ensure that the evolving Management Plan will be a useful and workable document.

Recently, two committee members participated in the **State Coastal Conference** in Denmark (WA). Robyn Benken did a well received presentation at the Community Forum on "*Cottesloe Coastcare Spreading the Word Via Cyberspace*". Our group is probably the only one who has a website and the people at the conference were very impressed! The Conference motto **Connecting Land, Shores and Oceans** emphasised co-operation and integration of the many agencies working on solutions to the huge challenges to our coastal environments. Important messages from the Conference were that a great variety of **community groups** have made a real difference in some key areas and have gained considerable official recognition and funding. At the heart of any solution is the raising of **people's awareness** and wide ranging **education**.

This is our future, too – and all of you can help us working towards it.
Frauke Chambers, 15th November 2007

Good wishes to everyone for a Happy Christmas and a peaceful 2008. We look forward to your continued support next year.
