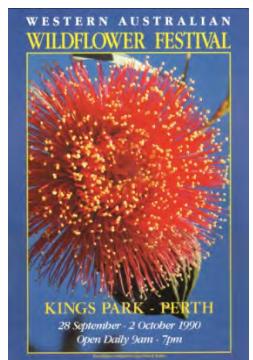
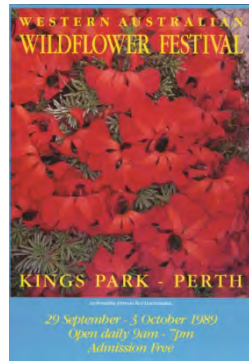
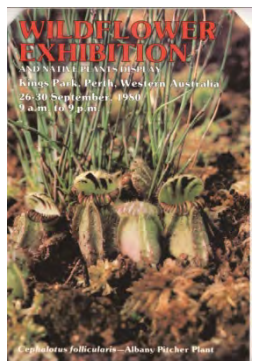




Annual Report

2013-2014



Celebrating 50 Years of the Kings Park Festival

Front cover: A selection of poster images showing the evolution of Kings Park's annual wildflower displays from the early days as the King's Park Wildflower Exhibition in the 1960s and 70s, to the Wildflower Festival of the 80s and 90s and the Kings Park Festival as it is today.

Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority 2013-14 Annual Report

The Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority Annual Report 2013-14 has been produced in accordance with the Public Sector Annual Report Framework.

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Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority

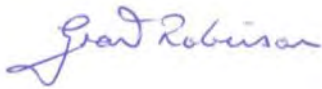
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Statement of Compliance

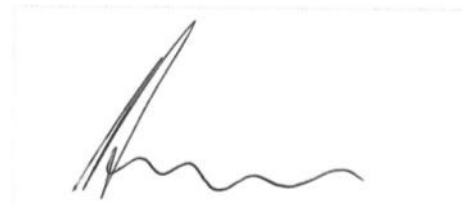
Hon Albert Jacob MLA
Minister for Environment; Heritage

In accordance with Section 63 of the Financial Management Act 2006, we hereby submit for your information and presentation to Parliament, the Annual Report of the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority for the financial year ended 30 June 2014.

The Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Financial Management Act 2006.



Grant Robinson
Deputy Chair
Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority
Board of Management
10 September 2014



Hamish Jolly
Member
Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority
Board of Management
10 September 2014

Foreword – From the Chairman



This year was another great year of celebration and achievement by the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority (BGPA). The Kings Park Festival celebrated its 50th birthday with the theme '50 years of Flower Power'; linking an enduring symbol of the 1960s, when the Festival was first held, through to today. It provided an excellent opportunity to acknowledge that Western Australia has one of the world's most spectacular flora with about 3,000 species being displayed in the State's Botanic Garden in Kings Park.

State and national recognition of the Festival and its place as the largest native plant festival in Australia was achieved when it won a gold medal at the State Tourism Awards in November, followed by a gold medal at the National Tourism Awards in Sydney in February. The staff, volunteers and sponsors, Santos, the Friends of Kings Park with Lotterywest, and the West Australian Newspaper must all be congratulated for delivering such a high quality event and ensuring that visitors to Kings Park in September each year are rewarded with a truly spectacular display of Western Australian flora.

The awards didn't stop with the Festival, with Kings Park and Botanic Garden also receiving the highest award – the Sir David Brand Award for Tourism – at the State Tourism Awards, and bronze at the National Tourism Awards. This important recognition further underlines the national and international recognition of Kings Park as a leader in recreation and tourism services, alongside its already established international reputation as a leader in horticulture and restoration research.

On behalf of the Board, I want to acknowledge the professionalism and dedication of the BGPA's staff, in particular the CEO Mark Webb and his executive team, and its many volunteers. The relationship between the BGPA and its volunteers is remarkable and means that the many services and activities provided in Kings Park and Bold Park are well in excess of what available funds could achieve, and delivered with passion and at a consistently high level.

The Board continues to focus on ensuring that the BGPA is well managed, that Board governance is continuously monitored and improved if necessary, and that new funding sources are investigated to complement the core operating funding provided by Government. Development of new funding sources has been particularly challenging in the current economic climate. The BGPA has been successful in using its expertise in horticulture and restoration science to develop new projects overseas, especially in the Middle East. These activities provide a challenge for staff and further extend relevant knowledge and expertise that can be used locally and nationally, deliver a reputational and financial benefit to the State, and are financially profitable. The Board and Executive must continually assess these projects to ensure that the net benefit to the BGPA is maintained and that there is no negative impact on key outcomes in Kings Park and Bold Park.

I also acknowledge the commitment and dedication of my fellow Board members to ensure that our role in providing oversight and governance to the business and activities of the BGPA are conducted to the highest standard and to the benefit of all West Australians. During the year Mr Glen McLeod resigned from the Board and his passion and commitment to the Board were very much appreciated.

The Board also appreciates the high level of service provided to visitors to Kings Park and Bold Park by its many lessees, contractors, and other operators, and the support of our sponsors, who are listed elsewhere in this Annual Report.

Finally I would like to acknowledge the active support and interest shown by the Minister for Environment, Albert Jacob MLA and his staff. It is very much appreciated and has been a critical factor in the many outcomes achieved by the BGPA over this past year.

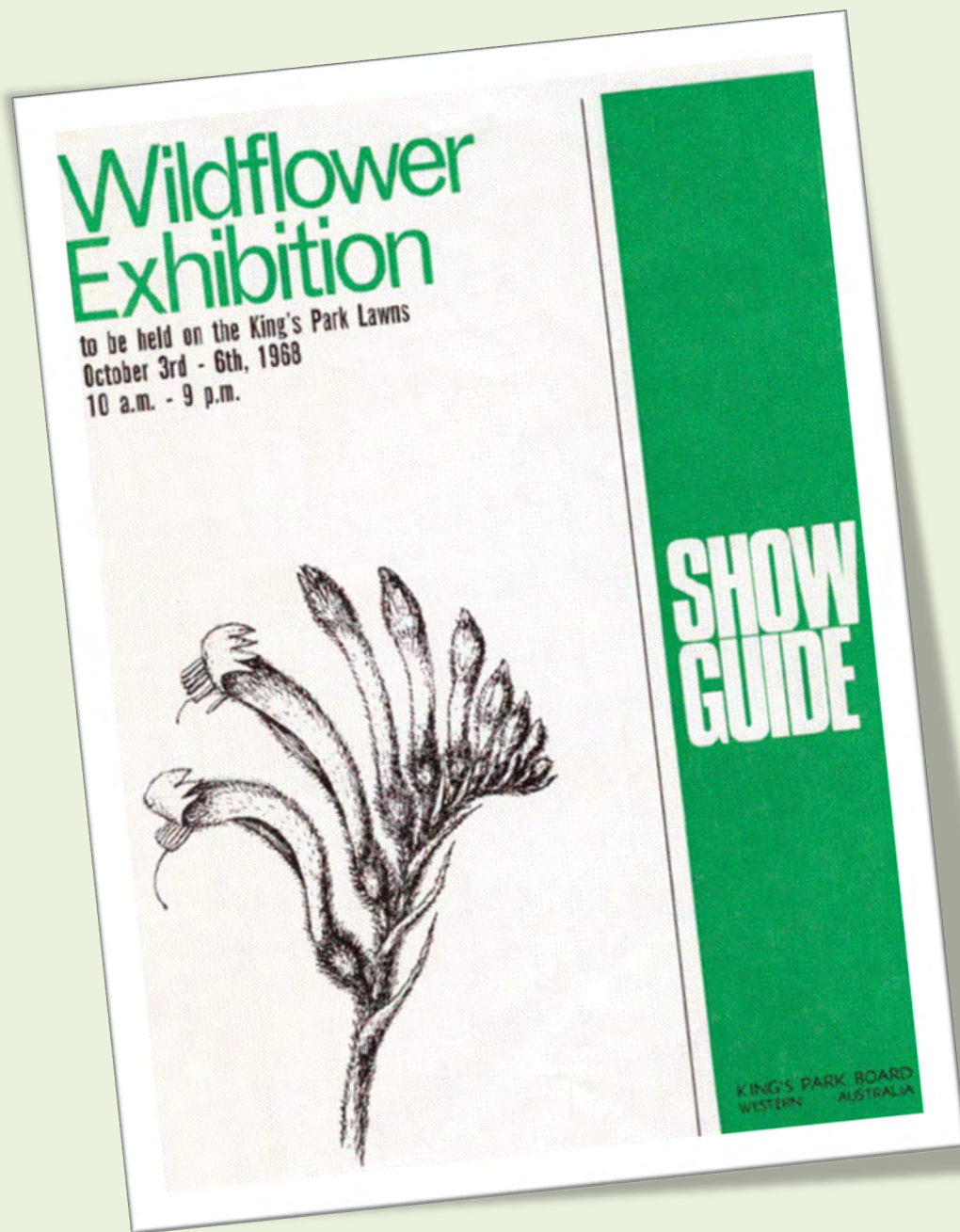
Richard Simpson
Chairman
BGPA Board of Management

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Overview



The first Kings Park Wildflower Exhibition

In the 1960s annual Wildflower Exhibitions were held at the Perth Town Hall, with specimens of native wildflowers displayed in glass jars on trestle tables. Kings Park Superintendant Arthur Fairall instigated moving the exhibition to Kings Park and the first of these was held in September 1964 on the Mt Eliza Tablelands.

The event was held in conjunction with the Western Australian Wildflower Society and the Country Women's Association with specimens, mostly cut from farming properties, on display in hessian walled structures.

From the Chief Executive – The Year in Review



This year has seen the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority (BGPA) deliver a range of services and activities that underline its position as an important cultural and scientific institution in Western Australia.

An example of an important cultural activity was the annual ANZAC Day dawn service, which was held at the State War Memorial in Kings Park and attracted about 40,000 people. For the first time, the RSL held a service each afternoon in the week leading up to 25 April. These afternoon services were well attended and provided the opportunity for people who were unable to attend on ANZAC Day to pay their respects. It is anticipated the dawn service event will be much larger in 2015 when the 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli landing will be remembered.

In addition to the achievements noted by the Chairman in his report, the BGPA also received its second Parks Forum Green Flag award, which acknowledges excellence in parks and green spaces internationally. Kings Park was the only botanic garden in Australia, and only park in Western Australia to receive this. In addition, Kings Park was named the top park in Australia and one of the world's top ten in the TripAdvisor Traveller's Choice Awards. Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park and the BGPA's education program were also recognised as national leaders in Environmental Education at the Banksia Sustainability Awards.

An important undertaking this year was a review of the current and development of a new Kings Park and Botanic Garden Management Plan. This plan will guide strategies and operations for Kings Park over the next five years. The review process included workshops, meetings and consultation with stakeholders and analysis by the Executive and Board, before being considered by the public. The new plan for 2014-2019 will be submitted to the Minister in September 2014.

The BGPA's research and delivery of practical information that can be immediately used in restoration and horticultural activities continues to receive national and international recognition. An important focus in activity over the past year has been on seed science and related activities to improve our ability to restore WA's biodiverse ecosystems. Research projects were commenced on the Restoration Seedbank Initiative, a five-year partnership funded by BHP Billiton. With input and support from the University of Western Australia (UWA), the BGPA will develop new technologies to improve the delivery of seed-based restoration outcomes in the Pilbara and elsewhere in WA. A multi-disciplinary team from the BGPA, UWA and the US Department of Agriculture will also investigate the application of engineering techniques successful in broadacre agriculture to native seeds.

Another key delivery was the adoption of the Quantified Tree Risk Assessment (QTRA) system as the BGPA's formal approach to risk assessment of trees in Kings Park and Bold Park. The BGPA takes its risk management responsibilities very seriously, and acknowledges that risks associated with trees, rock falls and fires present the greatest challenges for assessment and management.

The QTRA system applies established and accepted risk management principles to tree safety management in accordance with ISO 31000:2009, Risk management – Principles and Guidelines. It is an industry recognised formal assessment system that operates under a registered-user approach; enabling trained assessors to quantify the components of tree failure risk and calculate the risk of significant harm as a probability. This enables the management of risks from tree failure within widely accepted risk thresholds, ensuring duty of care is met and appropriate tree risk management is implemented in the park environment, where trees are highly valued and deliver significant benefits. QTRA was conducted by external contractors in two major precincts of Kings Park with recommended works promptly implemented and further assessments planned for the remaining precincts.

Bushland conservation continues to be a major priority of the BGPA. Normally, management plans deliver operational goals in rolling five year timeframes. Work is advanced on developing a 100 year plan for Kings Park bushland that will define very long term conservation goals. An adaptive management framework will evaluate short and long term success against measurable targets over a 100 year timeframe. Once developed for Kings Park, a similar plan will be developed for Bold Park bushland.

Restoration plantings in Bold Park and Kings Park bushland has continued with sites damaged by fire over the past 14 years receiving priority, together with targeted weed control especially in more recent fire sites. In total, over 54 hectares in Bold Park and 96 hectares in Kings Park bushland were targeted for veld grass (*Ehrharta calycina*) control. In Bold Park, native plant cover in a 2012 fire site increased from 7% in the spring of 2012 to an impressive 33% in 2013, with continued significant improvements expected over the next few years. A greenstock review done at Bold Park showed that over the past 12 years, targeted planting of local flora gave 81% survival in the first spring after planting and then a final average of 37% survival three years after planting. Continued assessment of the survival of individual species and of native plant cover generally will help improve pre-planting techniques to further increase plant survival for future restoration activities.

The 50th anniversary of the Kings Park Festival was celebrated by a month -long celebration of 'Flower Power' in the State's Botanic Garden. Wonderful displays of local flowers were enjoyed by the many visitors to the park, together with free concerts, events and activities, including the very successful 'Kulunga Katijin Festival', which celebrated Aboriginal heritage and culture.

With the BGPA relying on external sources for about one-third of its funding, a tightening in the local economy has made sourcing these funds more challenging. The BGPA appreciates the support of the Minister and State Government for its core funding, and acknowledges the excellent support received from its many sponsors including BHP Billiton, the Friends of Kings Park, Rio Tinto, Santos, Synergy, Variety WA, the Water Corporation and the West Australian Newspaper.

I appreciate the guidance and support provided by Board Chairman Richard Simpson and the other Board members, members of the Executive especially Directors Marcelle Broderick, Kingsley Dixon and Lesley Hammersley, the BGPA's staff, and our many volunteers. The BGPA has a special relationship with its volunteers which means a range of services and support activities are provided in Kings Park and Bold Park that just would not be done without their passion and commitment. I also acknowledge the valued input and support provided by the Minister for Environment, Albert Jacob MLA and his staff.

Mark Webb
Chief Executive Officer

Highlights 2013-14

The Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority (BGPA) is committed to delivering world-class parks, botanic gardens, horticulture, bushland management, scientific research and environmental education. This commitment and the dedication of the BGPA's staff and volunteers has been realised in 2013-14 through a variety of achievements and outcomes presented in the highlights below.

Leaders in Western Australian tourism



Kings Park and Botanic Garden won gold at the [WA Tourism Awards](#) in November 2013, acknowledging its place as one of WA's most loved and iconic visitor destinations. Winning the Major Tourist Attraction category; the Festivals and Events category (for the annual Kings Park Festival); and the prestigious Sir David Brand Award for Tourism.

With success at the WA Tourism Awards, Kings Park took its place in the highly competitive [National Tourism Awards in February 2014 winning more accolades](#).

The Kings Park Festival won gold in the Festival and Events category and Kings Park and Botanic Garden was awarded bronze in the Major Tourist Attraction category, amongst some of Australia's well-known destinations.



The Kings Park Festival celebrated its [50th anniversary in September 2013](#). More than 600,000 visitors attending the variety of events and activities held throughout the month and seeing Kings Park and the Western Australian Botanic Garden at its best and brightest.

The success of the Festival at the Western Australian and National Tourism Awards has proven the event to be an important feature on Kings Park's events calendar.

Travel website Trip Advisor, has again named Kings Park and Botanic Garden in its annual Traveller's Choice Awards. [For the third year running, Kings Park is Perth's top attraction and has again been voted as one of the world's best parks](#), this year ranking 6th of 25 of the world's most well known parks such as Stanley Park, Vancouver (1st) Central Park (3rd), Luxembourg Gardens (10th) and Singapore Botanic Gardens (11th).





The [2013-14 summer event series](#) provided a variety of concerts, theatre performances and outdoor cinema, attended by an estimated 90,000 visitors.

[Community events](#) such as Australia Day Skyworks, ANZAC Dawn Service and City to Surf Fun Run continued to attract thousands of visitors to Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park.

The [BGPA website underwent a major redevelopment](#) in 2013 to meet Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG 2.0) and was launched in December 2013, achieving an AA rating across most of the site.

As a key portal to visitor, education, horticultural and scientific information, the site offers visitors an enhanced visitor experience with user-friendly navigation and is responsive to a variety of devices.



Leaders in environmental and cultural education



[Kings Park and Botanic Garden was recognised as a national leader in environmental education at the Banksia Sustainability Awards in October 2013](#)

Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park and the Kings Park Education facility won the 'Education - Raising the Bar' award for innovation with the judges finding the mix of structured program and unstructured play the key to its success.

The continued growth of [Kings Park Education](#) reinforces the quality of the range of environmental and cultural education programs on offer.

In the last four years bookings for education programs have increased from 237 in 2010-11 to 603 in 2013-14 (60% increase) with an increase from 10,000 students to more than 18,000 students. (an increase of 44%).



[A new children's storybook, Chunyart and the Cheeky Parrot](#), was launched in September 2013 by Minister for Environment; Heritage Hon. Albert Jacob MLA.

The book, which tells an ancient story of a young boy's first hunting trip and the mischief he finds on his journey to Moora Katta (Kings Park), was written by Kings Park staff and has now been converted into Kings Park Education's most popular lower primary program.

Leaders in park management



Kings Park and Botanic Garden received its second [Green Flag Award](#) this year which acknowledges excellence in parks and green spaces in Australia and New Zealand. In particular the judges commented on the strong partnership between the BGPA and its volunteers and noted the BGPA's on-site green waste management program.

The BGPA's five volunteer groups continued to grow, with a total of 200 new volunteers joining volunteer groups in Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park.

Volunteers are vital to the success of the BGPA and are invaluable in delivering important visitor services, assisting staff in horticulture, bushland and science areas and maintaining the Honour Avenues.



Originally installed in 1962, the [Wittenoom Floral Clock](#) is a well-known feature of Kings Park and Botanic Garden. Removed from its location in front of Fraser's Restaurant in 2011 to allow for the development of the State Reception Centre (for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in October 2011) and associated works. The floral clock has now been relocated to the Botanic Garden entry.

The [Firefighters' Memorial](#) was upgraded and officially opened by the Premier of Western Australia, the Hon Colin Barnett, at a memorial service on 2 May 2014. Supported by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, the enhanced memorial includes the inscription "In memory of all Western Australian firefighters who have served and given their lives in protecting our communities."



Several [path and track upgrades](#) were completed in Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park providing enhanced accessibility and visitor safety.

Planning has commenced for major carpark upgrades in the Lotterywest Family Area and near the Royal Kings Park Tennis Club. These works will improve parking in this very busy precinct.

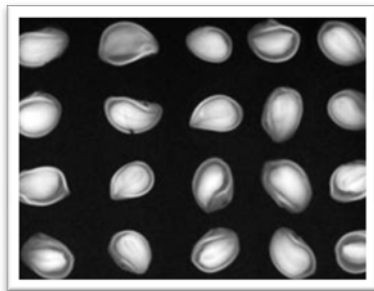


Planning is key to the management of Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park and is an ongoing process. In 2013-14, three plans were reviewed, each for a further five-year period:

- Reconciliation Action Plan 2013-2018
- Strategic Plan 2014-2019
- Kings Park Management Plan 2014-2019

Leaders in conservation and restoration

Conservation and restoration programs in **Kings Park** and **Bold Park** bushland are incremental, with each year's activities building on activities of previous years. Continued improvements in bushland condition can be seen on-ground and as measured by key performance indicators contained in this report. Restoration of urban remnants is long term and needs ongoing attention and resources.



The **Restoration Seedbank Initiative** commenced this year, with funding and support from BHP Billiton and UWA. This five-year program will undertake research and develop technology that will directly benefit the bushland restoration programs in Bold Park and Kings Park, and provide practical and sustainable solutions for restoration of Western Australian landscapes.

A collaboration with UWA's School of Chemical and Mechanical Engineering and the US Department of Agriculture has been formed. This research will explore the application of agricultural engineering techniques and their possible application for native seeds including pre-treatments, coating and pelleting and mechanised delivery for broad-acre restoration.



The BGPA continued its international consultancy projects in Saudi Arabia working with the Arriyadh Development Authority (ADA). The final phase of a large-scale arid landscape restoration program was implemented and BGPA staff completed a major report for the ADA on management of native plant cover in central Arabia.

The Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority

The Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority (BGPA) is responsible for the care, control and management of Bold Park and Kings Park, including the Western Australian Botanic Garden.

The functions that underpin the management of these parks include the provision of recreational and tourism services and facilities; conservation of natural landscapes and cultural heritage; plant management and display; biodiversity management; and research and educational programs.

The BGPA recognises that Bold Park and Kings Park and Botanic Garden are very special places highly valued by the community and that it has a vital role in ensuring the care, control and management of these lands. The BGPA strives to ensure the conservation of native biological diversity and cultural heritage icons of Bold Park and Kings Park and Botanic Garden, while providing for the diverse range of visitor interests. In doing so, the BGPA is committed to the following vision, mission and values.

Vision

To create and provide world-recognised botanic gardens and parks and to inspire the conservation of biological diversity.

Mission

To conserve and enhance Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park with the community, and to conserve biological diversity generally.



Anigozanthus manglesii, or red and green kangaroo paws as they are commonly known, provide a majestic sight when in full bloom. They can be found in the Western Australian Botanic Garden and throughout the Kings Park and Bold Park bushland. Photo D Blumer

Values

Respect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with people, visitors, lands and our diverse heritage with respect. • Respecting Aboriginal cultural heritage.
Inclusiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing a safe and equitable work and visitor environment. • Building and retaining an effective community of staff, volunteers, supporters and stakeholders. • Welcoming and facilitating effective communication. • Foster existing strategic alliances for mutual benefit.
Excellence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieving excellence through continuous innovation and improvement.
Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieving balance between business activities, cultural and natural heritage values. • Recognising the importance of biological diversity and its conservation. • Committed to sound responsible environmental practices. • Achieving value for money through sound management and seeking funding improvements.
Accountability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring transparent and responsible governance. • Ensuring sound decision making for the care, control and management of the designated lands in alignment with endorsed Management Plans and these values.

Operational Structure

Enabling and Administered Legislation

The BGPA is constituted under the [Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority Act 1998](#) (the Act) for the care, control and management of Kings Park and Botanic Garden (Reserve A1720 except Perth Lots 64 and 65) and Bold Park (Reserve A45409).

The BGPA was established under Part 2, Section 4 of the *Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority Act 1998*, and is responsible for administering the *Botanic Gardens and Parks Regulations 1999*, created under the provisions of Part 8 of the Act.

Responsible Minister

The statutory responsibility for the BGPA is vested with the [Minister for Environment, currently the Hon Albert Jacob MLA](#).

Board of Management

The Board of Management is the governing body of the BGPA. Appointed by the Minister for Environment, members meet on a regular basis to consider issues of a strategic and policy nature. The Board meets formally on a bi-monthly basis and met on six occasions this period.

The BGPA Audit Committee is a sub-committee of the Board established to assist the Board in the discharge of its responsibilities. The Committee provides a forum to deal with issues relating to the financial and performance reporting obligations of the Board.

The Board is comprised of the following members:

Mr Richard Simpson Chairman

Mr Simpson was appointed to the BGPA Board of Management as the Chairman in 2002 and is also Chair of the BGPA Audit Committee. Mr Simpson has significant commercial and management experience in the financial services sector and over 20 years experience in providing investment banking advice to a range of corporate and government clients in Australia and internationally. He has worked in investment banks in London, Sydney, Melbourne and Perth. Mr Simpson was Chairman and Managing Director of Hartleys Limited from 2003 to 2008 and Head of Corporate Finance from 2002 to 2009. He remains a Director of Hartleys Limited. Mr Simpson was formally re-appointed to the Board in December 2011 until 31 December 2014.

Mr Grant Robinson Deputy Chairman

Mr Robinson has been a BGPA Board member since 2006 and is a partner at KPMG, with a focus on audit and assurance services. He has experience in a broad range of industry sectors, both listed and non-listed entities including not-for-profit and Government agencies. Mr Robinson also assists the BGPA as a member of the BGPA Audit Committee. Mr Robinson was re-appointed to the Board in July 2012 until June 2015 and was appointed Deputy Chairman in January 2013.

Mr Tom Baddeley

Mr Baddeley was appointed to the BGPA Board in 2010 and is Manager, Government and Community Relations, WA and NT, at Australian energy company, Santos. He was previously Director WA of the Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association. Mr Baddeley was previously WA Director of the Committee for Economic Development of Australia and was a solicitor before moving into journalism. Mr Baddeley was re-appointed to the Board in April 2013 until 31 March 2015.

Mr Hamish Jolly

Mr Jolly was appointed to the Board in 2010. He is a Chartered Accountant with a diverse career in commerce, finance innovation and environment. He is currently a Director of Dunbar Harper Pty Ltd, Biogas Renewables Pty Ltd and Shark Mitigation Systems Pty Ltd and has more than 20 years experience in executive leadership of diverse corporate, banking, international development and consulting businesses. Mr Jolly also assists the BGPA as a member of the BGPA Audit Committee. Mr Jolly was re-appointed to the Board in April 2013 until April 2015.

Professor Hans Lambers

Professor Lambers became the inaugural Head of School of Plant Biology at The University of Western Australia in 2002 and remains in the post today. In 2012, he was elected Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science. He is nationally and internationally renowned for his environment and conservation research. Professor Lambers was appointed for a three-year term from January 2013 to December 2015.

Mr Brian Piesse

Mr Piesse has over 20 years experience in executive management and market and business development within agricultural and other industries. He is currently the Managing Director and owner of a private company and holds positions on advisory boards, including the South West Development Commission and Edith Cowan University Advisory Board. Mr Piesse was appointed for a three-year term from January 2013 to December 2015.

Ms Jacqui Purvis

Ms Purvis has extensive experience in environmental consultancy and has worked and volunteered within the community in bushcare and environmental education for over 20 years. She is currently managing the Parks and Reserves teams within the City of Albany and also assists with promoting bushcare within the Albany Community. Ms Purvis was appointed for a three-year term from July 2012 to July 2015.

Mr Glen McLeod

Mr McLeod was appointed to the Board in June 2012 and resigned from the Board effective 2 May 2014. Mr McLeod is an internationally recognised lawyer with a 35 year practice in environmental, planning and government law. His skills include project management, litigation and strategic planning in approval processes and he has expertise in climate change and renewable energy sectors, ports, international trade, probity and procurement.

Senior Officers

Mark Webb

BSc. Agric (Hons), Post Grad. Cert. Cross-Sector Partnerships

Chief Executive Officer

Mark Webb was appointed Chief Executive Officer of the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority on 23 November 2004. Mr Webb joined the BGPA in October 1998 as Director, Living Collections. He has extensive experience in horticultural research, public and private sector management and business. He is a member of the International Society for Horticultural Science and sits on a number of local, national and international committees and boards.

Lesley Hammersley B (App. Sci) Env. Hort.

Director, Horticulture and Conservation

Lesley Hammersley joined the BGPA in December 2000 as Manager Biodiversity Conservation and was formally appointed as Director Horticulture and Conservation in October 2010, after fulfilling the role in an acting capacity for the previous 14 months. Ms Hammersley is responsible for all on-ground activities in Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park including bushland conservation and management, all horticultural activities, cultural heritage, asset and infrastructure management and the management of capital works projects and other developments. Prior to joining the BGPA, Ms Hammersley had many years experience managing a botanic garden and involvement with plant nurseries and landscape development in private enterprise.

Marcelle Broderick BSw, MSW (Policy and Administration), Grad. Cert. Public Sector Management

Director, Business and Visitor Services

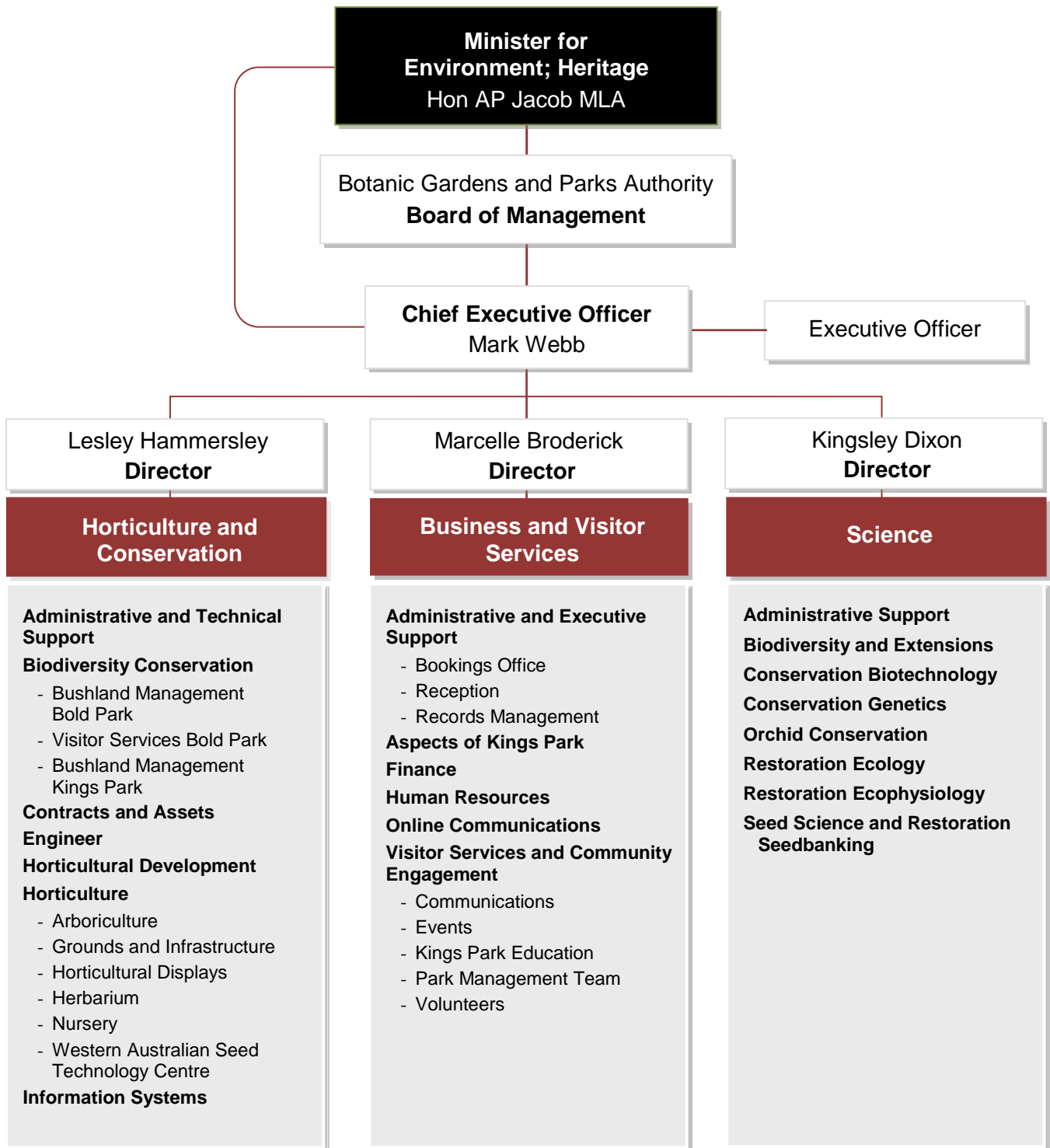
Marcelle Broderick has been with the BGPA since 1998 and is responsible for the visitor services functions, volunteers, education, events, online and corporate communications and Aspects of Kings Park gallery shop. The Directorate led by Ms Broderick is also responsible for all internal business and corporate services, governance, planning and reporting, and external business development, including partnerships, agreements, leases and licences. Prior to 1998, Ms Broderick worked in a number of private and public sector organisations with varied responsibilities including corporate services, social research, community development, employee support and organisational change.

Professor Kingsley Dixon PhD

Director, Science

Kingsley Dixon has worked in public sector research for 31 years and leads a team of scientists in leading edge scientific research that underpins the conservation and restoration of Western Australian biodiversity. The Science Directorate, under Prof Dixon's direction, is responsible for undertaking research and investigation in Western Australian flora and biological diversity.

BGPA Operational Structure as at 30 June 2014



Performance Management Framework

Outcome-based Management Framework

The BGPA has aligned its activities and outcomes with the relevant goal and strategic outcomes of the State, ensuring collaboration and co-ordination of service delivery. This is achieved through the delivery of key services with desired outcomes for the benefit of the BGPA and Western Australians in general.

The BGPA Strategic Plan 2014-2019 is a comprehensive five-year plan which underlies all of our operational planning to ensure that BGPA is working towards the desired outcomes which support the functions as described by *the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority Act 1998* and the State Government's goals.

These are divided into the two key services which are the foundation of the BGPA's core business. Service delivery is measured through the BGPA's Key Performance Indicators.

WA State Government Goal - Results based Service Delivery Greater focus on achieving results in key service delivery areas for the benefit of all Western Australians.	
Service 1: Customer service and cultural heritage	Outcome: Awareness and appreciation of recreation and tourist resources, and cultural heritage for visitors' enjoyment.
Service 2 :Biodiversity conservation and scientific research	Outcome: Conservation and enhancement of Western Australia's bushland and other flora.

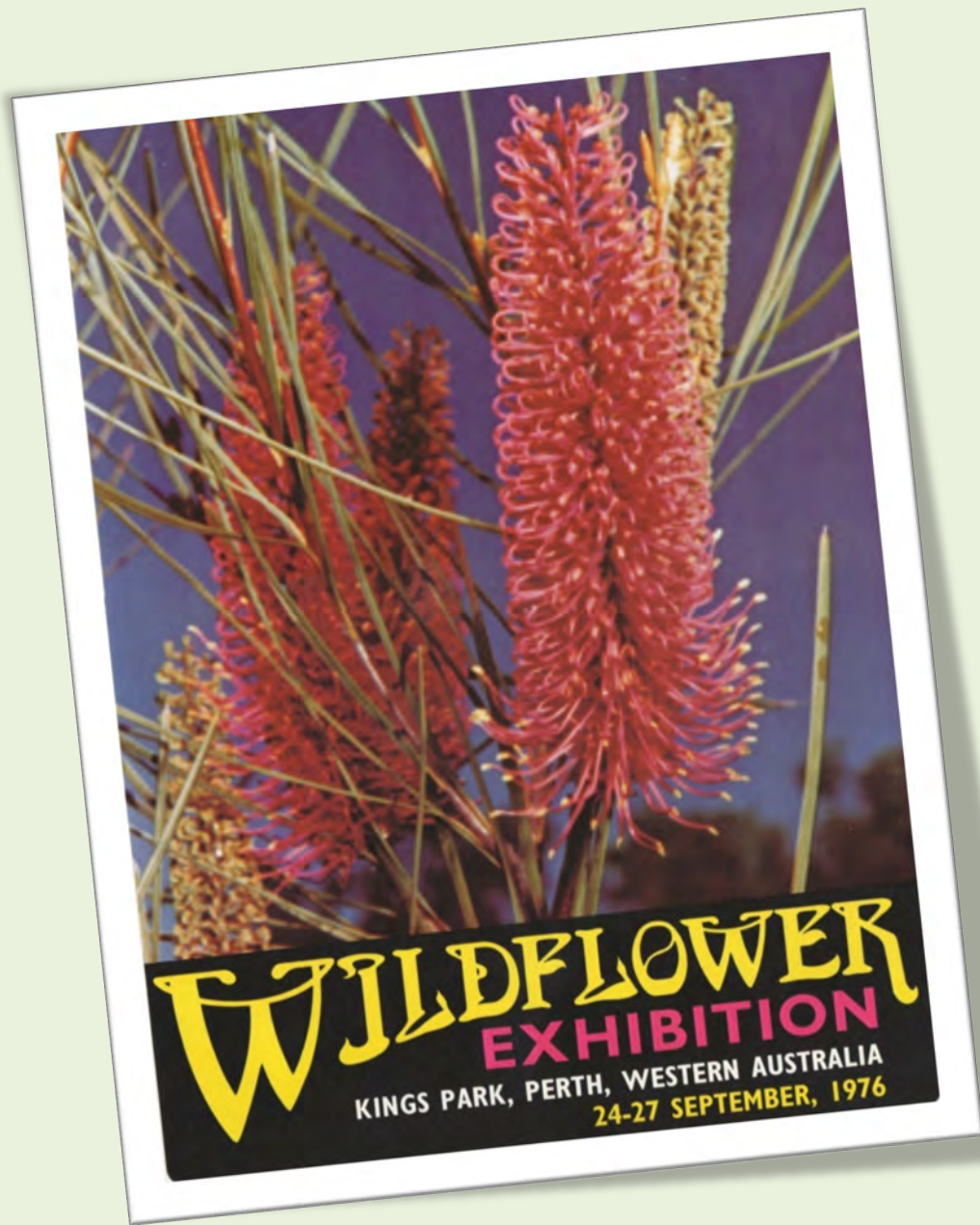
Changes to Outcome-based Management Framework

The BGPA's Outcome-Based Management Framework did not change during 2013-14.

Shared Responsibility with Other Agencies

The BGPA did not formally share any responsibilities with other agencies in 2013-14.

Performance



The growth of the Kings Park Wildflower Exhibition

The annual exhibition became a four-day event during the 1970s, held over the long weekend at the end of September or early October each year.

Cut wildflowers were sent from all corners of Western Australia for the 1976 Wildflower Exhibition and it was opened by the Governor of Western Australia. The event attracted 65,000 visitors that year.

Performance Summary

Financial Targets: Actual Performance Compared to Budget Targets

Total cost of services and net cost of services had only minor variances. Total equity was higher than expected due to higher than forecast movement in revaluation reserves and accumulated surplus deficit. The increase in cash held is due to less than forecast expenditure on projects which commenced in 2013-14 that will now be completed in 2014-15.

2013-14 Financial Targets: Actual Performance Compared to Budget Targets

	Target \$	Actual \$	Variation \$
Total cost of services	23,292,000	23,504,682	(212,682)
Net cost of services	15,058,000	14,951,386	106,614
Total equity	62,339,000	63,172,022	(833,022)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	(3,940,000)	(1,565,707)	2,374,293
Approved full time equivalent staff level	135	135	-

Summary of Financial Performance

Income

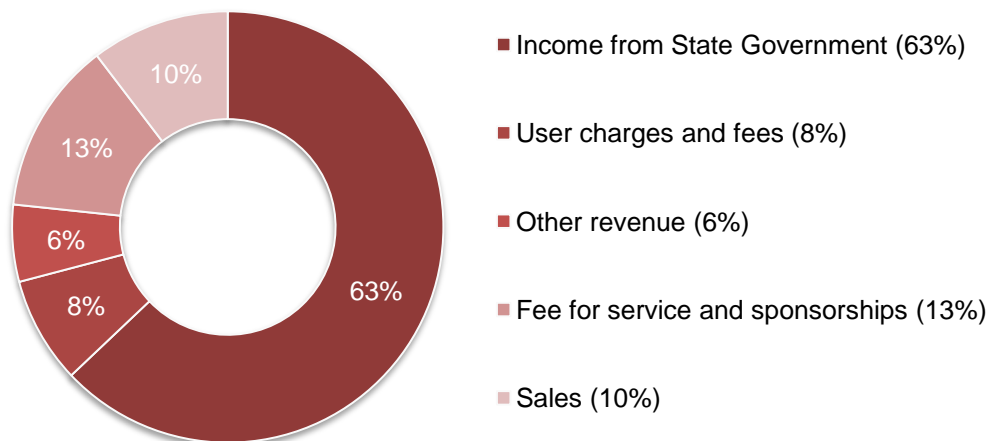
In 2013-14 the BGPA received 63% of operating income from the State Government by way of consolidated fund appropriation. The BGPA generated the balance of revenue (37%) through own source activities.

Own source revenue includes 13% through sponsorship, primarily for the Rio Tinto Naturescape in Kings Park project, and fee-for-service revenue received to deliver scientific research and conservation outcomes.

A further 8% of revenue was raised through user fees and charges for events such as concerts held over the Summer Event season, venue hire, and licences with various leaseholders within the park.

Aspects of Kings Park, the BGPA's retail outlet, contributed 10% of total operating revenue, continuing a consistent growth trend since operations commenced in 2005.

Summary of BGPA Income



Expenditure

The BGPA's expenditure is summarised into broad categories.

Employee benefits comprise 44% of total expenditure, which includes salary and wage costs, together with superannuation and leave entitlements.

29% of expenditure was incurred on supplies and services. The most significant expenses are in relation to professional fees and repairs and maintenance. The balance includes expenses for consumables, insurance, contract and leasing costs.

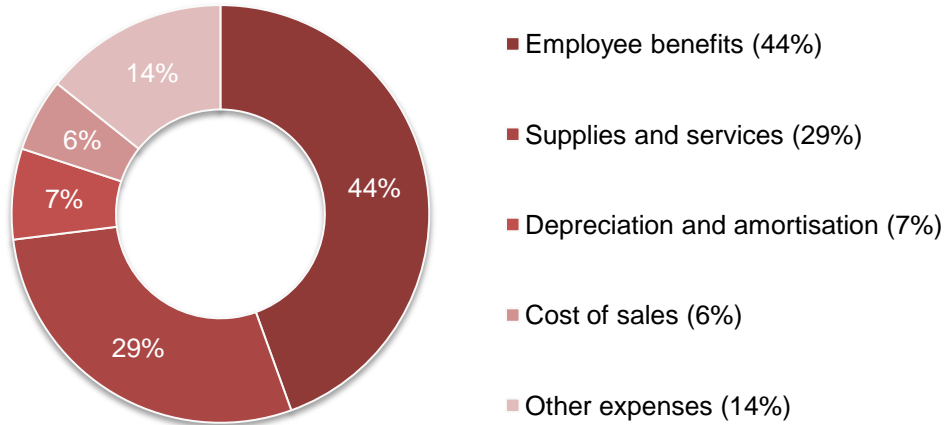
Depreciation and amortisation of 7% reflects the expense incurred by the land, building and equipment asset base under management by the BGPA. The BGPA has an asset replacement plan in place to identify the ongoing replacement of key assets.

Other expenses account for 14% of total expenditure, including costs associated with repairs to buildings and equipment, tree management, and landscape, ground and bushland maintenance. This category also includes employment on-costs such as workers' compensation and staff development costs.

Commitments for the year resulted in the forecasted operating deficit. The core recurrent operations of the BGPA performed within budget.

For detailed information on the BGPA's financial performance, refer to the [Financial Statements section of this report](#).

Summary of BGPA Expenditure



The BGPA’s Audit Committee, established under *the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority Act 1998*, met quarterly to assist the BGPA to discharge its responsibilities in financial management, compliance and corporate governance. The BGPA continues to work with internal auditors, 2020 Global and external auditors, through the Office of the Auditor General, to ensure compliance and ‘best practice’ in all areas and actively aims for full implementation of any audit findings.

Key Performance Indicators: Actual Performance Compared to Budget Targets

Outcome 1: Awareness and appreciation of recreation and tourist resources and cultural heritage for visitors' enjoyment.

	Target	Actual	Variation
The level of visitor satisfaction with Kings Park and Botanic Garden facilities and the Western Australian Botanic Garden.	99%	99%	0%
The level of visitor satisfaction with Bold Park and facilities.	98%	100%	2%
The percentage change in the number of cultural events held at Kings Park and Botanic Garden compared to previous years.	0%	0.4%	0.4%
The percentage change in the number attending customer awareness and education forums held at Kings Park and Botanic Garden compared to previous years.	4%	(3.4)%	(7.4)%

There was little change to the number of cultural events in 2013-14 compared to 2012-13. An approximate decrease in visitation to the Kings Park Festival of 20,000 due to poor weather resulted in less than forecast attendance at customer awareness and education forums.

Service 1: Customer Service and Cultural Heritage

	Target	Actual	Variation
Average cost per visitor to Kings Park and Botanic Garden.	\$1.64	\$2.02	\$0.38
Average cost per attendee at cultural events held in Kings Park and Botanic Garden.	\$0.15	\$0.12	(\$0.03)
Average cost per attendee at education forums held at Kings Park and Botanic Garden.	\$1.78	\$4.18	\$2.40
Response times for public information requests (within 28 days).	95%	95%	0%
Percentage change in number of visitors to Reabold Hill compared to previous years.	5%	9.25%	4.25%

Higher than forecast expenses and a reduction of 2.7% in the number of people visiting Kings Park and Botanic Garden has resulted in an higher than forecast cost per visitor of \$0.38. The average cost per attendee at education forums rose by \$2.40 due to higher than forecast expenses.

Outcome 2: Conservation and enhancement of Western Australian bushland and other flora.

	Target	Actual	Variation
Percentage of Declared Rare Flora (DRF) species in living collections in Kings Park and Botanic Garden, compared to the known number of DRF species in Western Australia.	62%	59%	(3%)
Percentage of accessions in botanical displays in Kings Park and Botanic Garden.	37%	34%	(3%)
Percentage of accessions lost in Kings Park and Botanic Garden.	4%	6%	(2%)
The presence of 15 nominated perennially evident native plant species, which are the most vulnerable taxa within each Kings Park and Bold Park bushland.	100%	100%	-
Number of common native plant species in Bold Park in areas with high levels of management compared to areas with low levels of management.	1.4	1.4	-
Weed cover in high intensity management areas compared to low intensity management areas in Bold Park.	0.46	0.49	0.03
Number of representative native plant taxa in Kings Park bushland.	325	325	-
Number of representative native plant taxa in Bold Park bushland.	310	310	-

There was a decrease of eight in the total number of DRF from the previous year. The total number of 244 represents 59% of the total DRF listed for the State, which is 3% lower below target. This is due to the combined effect of an increase in the total number of DRF species listed from the previous year by two species to 415 and the reduced number of DRF species in living collections.

There was a small increase of 30 accessions in the actual number of accessions on display compared with the previous year and a decrease of 328 in the total number of accessions alive. This resulted in a minor increase in the percentage of accessions on display of 1%, however this was 3% below the target set.

The loss of accessions in 2013-14 represented 6% of the total collection. This was 2% higher than the target figure of 4% and may have occurred partially due to delays in entering plant losses from the previous year.

Service 2: Biodiversity Conservation and Scientific Research

	Target	Actual	Variation
Average cost of representative native plant taxa in Kings Park bushland.	\$4,411	\$3,882	(\$529)
Average cost of representative native plant taxa in Bold Park bushland.	\$5,325	\$4,684	(\$641)
Average cost per research grant project administered.	\$18,500	\$14,400	(\$4,100)
Percentage change in number of refereed scientific publications published per CF position compared to previous years.	(42%)	(15%)	27%

The reduction in the average cost of representative native plant taxa in Kings Park and Bold Park bushland is due to lower than forecast expenses.

The decrease in the average cost per research grant project between the 2012-13 target and the 2013-14 actual is a result of a large number of grants commencing towards the end of the financial year.

The fluctuation in the number of refereed scientific publications published per government funded position is a reflection of the stage and complexity of research projects in any given year.

For more detailed information refer to the [Key Performance Indicators](#) section in this report.

Report on Operations

This report on operations provides a summary of the many activities of the BGPA during the 2013-14 year.

Major Projects and Achievements

Kings Park Festival

The 50th year of the annual Kings Park Festival has established it as an enduring and much anticipated event on Kings Park's events calendar. At the 2013 Western Australian Tourism Awards in November 2013 the Festival won gold in the Festivals and Events Category. This was followed by gold at the National Tourism Awards held in February 2014.

The Kings Park Festival celebrated its 50th event in September 2013 with the theme '50 Years of Flower Power'. The month-long Festival, which runs throughout September each year, showcased wildflower displays in the Western Australian Botanic Garden and featured themed events, seminars, exhibitions and activities.



James Morrison and with Kings Park's own Adorable Florables at the 2013 Kings Park Festival Santos Live Sundays Launch on 8 September 2013. Photo by J D'Arcy.

The Kings Park Festival is made possible each year through the commitment and vision of BGPA staff. Financial support received from major partner Santos and Lotterywest, through the Friends of Kings Park, ensured that the BGPA deliver a world-class event to Festival visitors. A media partnership with The West Australian newspaper assisted increasing awareness of the Festival to the community.

Four 'Santos Live Sundays' events were planned for the 2013 Festival however one event was cancelled due to severe weather conditions. The live music performed each Sunday in September created an energetic atmosphere for visitors to the Western Australian Botanic Garden. The launch concert on Sunday 8 September featured well known trumpeter James Morrison and each of the 'Santos Live Sundays' featured popular Western Australian swing, jazz and Aboriginal musicians.

Kings Park Education hosted the 'Kulunga Katitjin Festival' on Wednesday 18 September with 2,144 primary students participating in the event and around 500 adults assisting with supervision and logistics. Leading Aboriginal and environmental educators created interactive stations including a range of hands-on activities, performances and displays. Feedback received from students, teachers and parents and organisations who participated was very positive.

'Boodja Gnarning Day' was held on Sunday 15 September and featured activities to celebrate Nyoongar culture and traditions, including Aboriginal art and crafts, traditional dance performances and workshops, storytelling, tool making and bush tucker tastings.

In 2013 the 'Fantastic Faraway Festival' (formerly known as the 'Wild Fairyland Festival') was held on Saturday 21 September and was a terrific success. The event catered for children aged two to 12 years old and included over 30 different themed activities for children including live performances, magic shows, pony and camel rides, face painting, craft activities and games.

Popular characters the Kings Park 'Adorable Florables' roved and entertained visitors during 'Santos Live Sundays', the 'Kulunga Katitijin Festival' and at the 'Fantastic Faraway Festival'.

A number of new exhibitions were featured including a Turf Tattoo, '50 Years of Flower Power' historical poster exhibition, a yarn-bombed Foundation Stone and planted up EH Holden display.

More than 600,000 people visited Kings Park and Botanic Garden in September 2013, with many of them participating in the variety of family and educational events, outdoor exhibits, guided walks, seminars and activities on offer. A visitor survey revealed that 91.43% of respondents gave the Festival an overall rating of 4 or higher out of 5. Similar to previous years, the entertainment (4.43 out of 5) and ground cleanliness (4.65 out of 5) were the most highly rated services.

Planning for the 2014 Kings Park Festival themed 'The Magic of Nature', is well underway.

Website Redevelopment

A major focus during the year was phase one of the [BGPA website](#) redevelopment to meet requirements with the State Government Website Governance Framework's Common Website Elements and improve the accessibility of all information on the website across browsers and devices, consistent with the World Wide Web Consortium's (W3C) Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 Level AA, as per the Public Sector Commissioner's Premier's Circular 2011-03.

The website was launched in December 2013, introducing a fresh new look with user-friendly navigation and providing an enhanced visitor experience.

The website has been carefully designed to perform well on any browser and any device including desktops, tablets and mobiles. Mobile users receive the same level of information as desktop users. The BGPA considers this a novel and useful alternative to that used by other providers who opt to maintain scaled-down versions for mobile use. It has been a carefully considered business decision, following the continual review of website statistics which have indicated ever-increasing mobile traffic to the site (currently 45%).



The 2013 Festival featured the Fantastic Faraway Festival, a turf tattoo and the EH Holden plant display. Photos D Blumer

Accessibility has improved across the site, achieving an impressive AA against the World Consortium Accessibility Guidelines in most areas. This is to better assist all our visitors and their individual needs. Feedback from visitors has been positive and ongoing improvements are planned.

A number of new features to improve visitor services were introduced along with the new website, most notably the addition of availability calendars and interactive maps for the Kings Park hire venues. Over 100 documents were improved during this year for accessibility and layout while others will be updated and improved over time. The quality of images was improved across the site and the number of pages greatly reduced. The use of tables of contents inside lengthy pages has improved navigation and readability, considerably reducing the number of clicks users have to make to reach their goal.

Phase two of the project will occur during the 2014-15 financial year. It entails finer scale review of content and architecture; the redevelopment of the Festival section of the website, the increased use of modules and add-ons to improve workflow and efficiency; the use of webmaster toolsets to deliver improved visitor services; and the clear documentation of work procedures and system specifics.

Saw Avenue Picnic Area Stage Two

A significant extension to adventure play and visitor facilities at the Saw Avenue Picnic Area and surrounds was well advanced during the year, the second stage of an upgrade to this area designed by Plan E Landscape Architects and generously supported by Variety WA, the Children's Charity. The works included a substantial expansion of the adventure play facilities to incorporate extensive earth mounding, limestone rockwork and a large lookout structure that has universal access and provides commanding views over the site. Other nature play elements include a timber faced tunnel, a climbing net, timber balance beams and timber ladders. Original artworks by wood carving artist, Nic Compton, were also incorporated and continued the theme of local invertebrate biodiversity using a range of recycled timbers from Kings Park.

The upgrade also included additional visitor facilities such as barbeques, picnic settings, drinking fountains and paths. A new footpath extending the full length of Saw Avenue provides visitor access from the intersection with Thomas Street to the picnic area and links to the pedestrian circulation along May Drive. The upgrade is expected to be completed by late July 2014 and an official launch with Variety WA is planned for late August 2014.

Nursery and Depot Upgrade and Biodiversity Conservation Centre Extension

Following an extensive planning, consultation and detailed documentation process led by Armstrong Parkin Architects and their team of sub-consultants, a construction tender was awarded in June 2014 to Firm Construction Pty Ltd, to upgrade the Kings Park nursery and depot facilities and extend the Biodiversity Conservation Centre within the depot compound to incorporate new restoration seedbank and seed research facilities. Although funding was originally allocated for these works as two separate projects, they were combined into one tender to enhance practical construction logistics and achieve savings in construction costs.

The nursery and depot works will include a new road to improve access and safety, a replacement potting shed and nursery storage, new facilities for the Arboriculture, Turf and Bushland teams, upgraded chemical, fertiliser and fuel storage and vehicle wash down facilities, and a revised layout to provide safer access, improved functional relationships and improved nursery hygiene for accreditation purposes.

The Biodiversity Conservation Centre upgrade will include a first floor extension to accommodate restoration seed research laboratories and a dedicated incubator room, and refurbishment of the existing ground floor seed storage facilities to include walk-in freezer room storage and an adjacent environment controlled drying room.

In addition to the contract works, BGPA staff completed an internal refurbishment of several retained buildings to provide improved archive and other storage, upgrade office facilities for operational staff and improve staff amenities. Temporary facilities for some work groups were established outside the construction zone to enable site handover to the contractor and minimise disruption to park operations during the construction period. Construction of the nursery and depot upgrade and Biodiversity Conservation Centre extension is scheduled to take approximately 12 months, with completion mid 2015.

Firefighters' Memorial Upgrade

Additions to the Firefighters' Memorial located near the DNA tower in Kings Park were completed in April 2014 and officially opened by the Premier of Western Australia, the Hon Colin Barnett, at a memorial service on International Firefighters' Day on 4 May 2014.

Designed by local artist Jon Tarry in association with Plan E Landscape Architects, the enhancement works included the addition of two life-sized bronze statues modelled on Western Australian firefighters, one standing and the other kneeling and holding the helmet of a deceased colleague. The statues, crafted by Jon Tarry, are positioned on a low, curved granite wall with a stone plinth that bears the inscription:

“In memory of all Western Australian firefighters who have served and given their lives in protecting our communities.”

These works were initiated by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, who committed to upgrading the memorial in 2013 and provided funding support. The original memorial was developed to commemorate the Centenary of the Fire and Rescue Service Western Australia in 1999, and was dedicated in July 2000.

A new pedestrian path linking the DNA Tower and the Botanic Garden Water Garden precinct via the Firefighters' Memorial was included with the works to provide universal access to the memorial site.



Life-sized firemen now stand at the Firefighters' Memorial following the refurbishment this year. Photo D Blumer

Floral Clock Reinstatement



Then and now, the floral clock is an icon of Kings Park and Botanic Garden. Photos D Blumer

The Wittenoom Floral Clock, temporarily removed from display in 2011 to enable development of the State Reception Centre and an extension to the Botanical Cafe, was reinstated in Kings Park and Botanic Garden in January 2014. Situated in a new location on the primary pedestrian access to the Botanic Garden entry from the Wadjuk Carpark and main visitor hub, the clock has been immersed in a landscaped garden setting and integrated with its new surroundings.

Many elements of the previous display were reused at the new site including the circle of brick paving on the clock face, the bronze handrail, the clock mechanism and the hands. It was replanted with Australian plants to demonstrate their use in a more formal garden setting, some of which have been topiarised as Roman numerals, upholding a tradition from the original installation more than 50 years ago.

The Swiss style chalet and its resident Rufous Whistler that once emerged on the hours and half hours were not reinstated, as it was considered that the structure no longer suited the design of the display and was inconsistent with the Australian planting theme for the clock.

Interpretive signage was installed to relate the history of the floral clock over time and a grove of mature grass trees was planted in the adjacent gardens to add further interest to the display.

Kings Park Path and Carpark Upgrades

Several pedestrian and shared paths in Kings Park and Botanic Garden were upgraded, resurfaced or extended during the year to improve visitor safety and access. The shared use bitumen path through the Kings Park Road parkland area between the depot access road and the Royal Kings Park Tennis Club was removed and replaced with a new exposed aggregate concrete path, with works completed in June 2014.

A new pedestrian path was installed between the existing path from Kings Park Education, running alongside the Arboretum management vehicle track to the Marri toilets. Constructed from exposed aggregate concrete, this path will provide safer access for pedestrians between Kings Park Education, the Exhibition Lawn and the Marri Toilets, particularly for visiting school children attending education programs.

Upgrades to a substantial section of Goanna Path that travels through the Kings Park bushland from the Roe Toilets on Forrest Drive through to the Broadwalk Vista were commenced in June 2014. This pathway was impacted by heavy use by fire response vehicles during a bushfire in January 2009 and required complete replacement of the existing concrete slabs with a new exposed aggregate concrete path.

The new path is 2.4 metres wide and is reinforced to enable future vehicle traffic for fire and maintenance access if required. Works to this 650 metre length of pathway are expected to be completed in July 2014.

Planning for an upgrade to the car parks at the Lotterywest Family Area precinct was progressed during the year. This upgrade will include regrading and resurfacing of the existing bitumen car park close to Stickybeaks Café and a new bituminised surface for the small limestone carpark to the west of the northern tennis courts at Next Generation Club. In addition, plans are under way for the larger limestone carpark further south at the entry to Marri Walk to be regraded, reconfigured and surfaced with bitumen as funding resources permit during 2014-2015. Detailed design included all roadworks and associated drainage to improve access, formalise parking, improve drainage and reduce erosion.

Bold Park Tracks Upgrade

An upgrade to sections of the cement stabilised limestone tracks in Bold Park has provided a significant improvement and enhanced visitor safety and access. Works contractors overcame the constraints of restricted access and the requirement for minimal disturbance to the bushland vegetation to successfully complete the track upgrades between April and June 2014. Works were implemented over a total track length of 780 metres and included improvements to Tuart Walk South, Yoorn Walk and Balga Walk.



Before and after - the recent track upgrades in Bold Park. The new tracks provide better access to visitors and BGPA.

International Projects

The BGPA continued its fee-for-service projects in the Middle East, primarily in Saudi Arabia working with the Arriyadh Development Authority (ADA). These projects are consistent with the BGPA's guiding legislation, enhance the BGPA's international reputation, provide staff development opportunities, and generate revenue to support various initiatives that benefit Kings Park and Bold Park.

In Saudi Arabia, additional treatments were applied to a restoration trial that aims to develop low cost and scalable solutions for landscape-scale desert restoration in the region. It involved a team of 10 Western Australians, including three BGPA staff, working in Saudi Arabia for a month in November 2013 to implement the final phase of the trial using a total of 103,000 greenstock seedlings and over 150,000 seeds of local native plants. The trial was implemented using restoration techniques developed by Kings Park and included significant plant, water and soil monitoring. This trial is believed to be the largest ever arid lands restoration trial in the Middle East.

Activities commenced in previous years to build Middle East capacity in the areas of nursery and seed centre development, nursery practice, seed collection and storage and training in best practice mass production of Saudi Arabian native plants were completed in 2013-14.

In another project, BGPA staff completed a major report for ADA on management of native plant cover in central Arabia. This Scoping Study is the first phase of a plan to develop an integrated strategic program to deliver: a biodiversity conservation reserve network, sustainable rangeland management, ecosystem restoration, urban conservation planning, and environment awareness, training and education. In 2014-15 and in partnership with ADA, the BGPA will develop the second phase of this ambitious project.

Achievements and Recognition

State Tourism Awards

Kings Park and Botanic Garden won gold in three competitive categories at the 2013 Perth Airport WA Tourism Awards.

Kings Park was announced as the winner of the prestigious Sir David Brand Award for Tourism, Major Tourist Attraction category and the Festivals and Events category for the Kings Park Festival.

National Tourism Awards

The Kings Park Festival won an Australian Tourism Award in 7 February 2014. The Festival overcame an impressive field to win gold in the Festival and Events category for its positive impact on promoting WA, acting as tourism drawcard and adding economic benefit.

Kings Park was also awarded bronze in the Major Tourist Attraction category, which is open to hallmark destinations across Australia.

National Sustainability Award for Education

Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park and the Kings Park Education program were recognised as national leaders in environmental education at the 25th Banksia Sustainability Awards, announced in October 2013.

The program was announced the national winner of the highly competitive category, with judges citing the high level of innovation and sustainability as major strengths of the program and its facilities.

Kings Park one of the World's Best Parks

Kings Park has again been named one of the world's top ten parks in the 2014 TripAdvisor Traveller's Choice Awards, based on thousands of traveller reviews. Kings Park ranked sixth in the world and the best park in Australia. Kings Park has been voted Perth's top attraction for the past three years.

Kings Park crowned Perth's Mayfair

Kings Park and Botanic Garden landed the blue-ribbon Mayfair position on Perth's first-ever Monopoly board.

Twenty-two Perth landmarks were selected to replace the famous London sites for the Perth edition of the board game, which was released in time for Christmas 2013.



Top: The Sir David Brand Award for Tourism. Middle : The National Tourism Award for the Kings Park Festival. Bottom: The National Sustainability Award for Education.

Green Flag Award

Kings Park has received its second Green Flag Award, acknowledging excellence in parks and green spaces internationally. The Awards are managed by the Parks Forum, international peak body for park management in Australia, NZ, the UK and parts of Europe.



BGPA staff, volunteers and students with the awards won at the WA Tourism Awards in November 2013. Photo D Blumer

Planning and Development

Strategic Plan Review

A major review of the BGPA Strategic Plan 2009-2014 was undertaken during the year to improve its alignment with Management Plans for Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park and confirm strategic direction for the next five year period. A draft plan for the period 2014-2019 was prepared with input from senior staff.

The new BGPA Strategic Plan addresses the whole of organisation issues as per the Act, identifies the functions, vision and mission of the agency, and documents its services, outcomes and key performance indicators as key elements required by government.

In developing the revised Strategic Plan for 2014-2019, an additional section was incorporated to provide an overview of strategic direction related to each of the twelve key activity areas considered as core business for the BGPA. Some of this information was previously documented separately from the Strategic Plan in a set of strategic guidelines directly related to the functions under the BGPA Act; and some information was previously included as ongoing agency wide strategies in the five-year management plans for Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park. This change in approach has resulted in an extended Strategic Plan and a more streamlined Kings Park and Botanic Garden Management Plan 2014-2019.

The [BGPA Strategic Plan 2014-2019](#) was endorsed by the BGPA Board of Management at its April 2014 meeting and came into effect on 1 July 2014.

Kings Park and Botanic Garden Management Plan

A review of the [Kings Park and Botanic Garden Management Plan](#) 2009-2014 was conducted during the year and a new plan for the next five year period was drafted in accordance with the requirements of the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority Act 1998. The review process included evaluation of progress against priority strategies in the existing plan, internal workshops, and initial consultation with and input from key community stakeholders through a workshop and a mail-out survey.

A new structure was introduced in the draft plan to include only management priorities relating specifically to the land of Kings Park and Botanic Garden rather than overall agency activities. The draft plan was divided into four physical management sections: the Western Australian Botanic Garden precinct, parkland precinct, bushland precinct and park-wide. Each management section contains a description, progress on the priorities in the 2009-2014 management plan, and strategic direction including key objectives and priorities for 2014-2019.



The Draft Kings Park and Botanic Garden Management Plan 2014-2019 was released for a public consultation period in late February 2014, which closed on 16 May 2014. An audit of public submissions was undertaken during May and June that showed a total of 23 submissions were received comprising 80 individual comments. Most submissions were from individuals (44%) followed by state government departments/agencies (35%), community organisations (17%) and local government (4%). The majority of submissions indicated overall support for the plan. There were no objections to any of the proposed strategic directions and priorities outlined in the plan and the majority of comments were assessed by the BGPA as not requiring an amendment to the plan. Two comments resulted in minor amendments to the draft plan to clarify information and correct a minor inaccuracy.

The final Kings Park and Botanic Garden Management Plan 2014-2019 will be submitted with the Audit of Public Submissions for BGPA Board endorsement at its August 2014 meeting, and is expected to be released in September 2014 following formal approval by the Minister for Environment; Heritage.

Bold Park Management Plan

Significant progress was made against priorities in the third year of the [Bold Park Management Plan 2011-2016](#), highlights of which are presented in the relevant sections of this Annual Report. Of the 39 priorities in the plan, 32 are considered to be ongoing rather than finite strategies and good progress has occurred in all but five of these, which were planned but not implemented due to higher priorities in other areas. Of the remaining seven priorities, five have been completed, one partially completed and one not commenced due to resources being allocated to higher priorities.

50th Anniversary of the Western Australian Botanic Garden

Preparations were made for the upcoming 50th anniversary of the Western Australian Botanic Garden in 2015. The Friends of Kings Park and Lotterywest have confirmed they will make a major gift to the community to mark the 50th anniversary in the form of a botanical staircase and new pavilion to be located near the entry to the WA Botanic Garden. The staircase will interpret the impressive history of botanical discoveries in WA.

A scientific research expedition to the Kimberley has been confirmed, thanks to funding support from the Friends of Kings Park. The expedition planned for May 2015, hopes to unlock the mystery of the mighty Kimberley Boab tree (*Adansonia gregorii*). The expedition will investigate how an isolated population of this famous species began in the Kimberley region of Western Australia roughly 1,000 years ago.

The Western Australian Botanic Garden is home to a collection of Kimberley Boabs, including the 37-tonne Gija Jumulu which captured the public's imagination when it was transported by truck from Warmun in the East Kimberley to Kings Park in 2008.

A revival of the Kings Park at Heart social history project is also being planned to enhance community engagement during the 50th anniversary celebrations.

The 2015 Kings Park Festival will be the focal point of community celebrations for the anniversary. An event for invited guests will be held on the anniversary date in October 2015.

Proposed Banksia Farm Land Transfer Bold Park

BGPA representatives liaised with the Town of Cambridge and LandCorp regarding a transfer of degraded bushland at Mount Claremont (Lot 87 'Banksia Farm') to the BGPA for incorporation into Bold Park and the associated residential development proposed for the adjacent lot. Input was provided to a preliminary rehabilitation plan for this 2.85 hectare site, which was commissioned by LandCorp to document works to be completed and performance criteria to be met prior to the land being transferred to the BGPA.

Proposed Link Bridge Perth Children's Hospital to Kings Park

BGPA representatives provided considerable input into a proposed bridge over Winthrop Avenue to link the new Perth Children's Hospital to Kings Park. This proposal, initiated and funded by the Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation, aims to provide opportunities for future hospital patients and their families to visit the quality open space of Synergy Parkland in Kings Park as a relief from the hospital environment. BGPA input has focused primarily on minimising the potential impact of the landing on Kings Park bushland as well as providing feedback relating to visitor amenity and safety. The proposal is awaiting approval as part of the Kings Park Management Plan.

Stakeholder Liaison

Liaison with the broader community provides valuable communication and information exchange opportunities for mutual benefit. It is important to ensure that the BGPA interests are appropriately represented in external planning processes, particularly for developments on adjoining properties, to promote the BGPA conservation and other values to neighbouring land managers. Equally important is engagement with community groups, volunteers and other stakeholders to keep them informed on new initiatives and seek their feedback and input on these.

In relation to Bold Park, the BGPA liaised with the Town of Cambridge on several proposals during the year. These included the redevelopment of the Bold Park Aquatic Centre, the Quarry Amphitheatre Masterplan for a major upgrade of that site and an Emergency Management Plan for the Quarry Amphitheatre.

The BGPA continued to provide advice to Wollaston College regarding native plant selection and fire mitigation and planning, as well as providing feedback on a development proposal to redevelop the College residences.

A working group was formed to progress a proposal from the WA Naturalist Club to investigate the development of a combined community group accommodation facility located at Bold Park near Perry House. Membership included the Friends of Bold Park, the Wildflower Society WA, BirdLife WA, the WA Naturalist Club and the BGPA. A grant application to Lotterywest seeking funding support for a professional feasibility study was submitted by the WA Naturalist Club in early June 2014.

The BGPA has continued to contribute to the Whadjuk Trail Network, specifically the Yange Yep Bidi Trail which will link local wetlands including Lake Monger and Herdsman Lake with Perry Lakes, via Kulbardi Trail in the northern section of Bold Park. This project includes the development of promotional and interpretive material for brochures, signage, websites and phone applications and will raise awareness of the importance of local wetlands and the corridors between them as well as promoting cultural heritage and physical activity.

Other liaison included the City of Perth in relation to developments proposed at the park boundary at Saw Avenue and preliminary discussions with the Metropolitan Redevelopment Authority in relation to potential connections with the Elizabeth Quay development.

Sponsorships

The BGPA benefits from a number of sponsorships and partnerships in Kings Park and Botanic Garden. While each sponsorship arrangement is different, overall they are characterised by shared values and good working relationships.

Rio Tinto is in its sixth year as naming partner of Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park (current sponsorship period 2008 – 2020). This facility continues to draw national and international attention for its innovative design and philosophy, and attracts around 80,000 visitors annually. Rio Tinto and the BGPA work collaboratively to keep adding value to the project through community awareness and education. Phase two of the facility will be planned in 2015, with improvements on site from 2016-17.

Variety WA (current sponsorship period 2013 – 2017) has made possible the significant expansion of adventure play area and picnic facilities at the Saw Avenue Picnic Area, which is due for completion in August 2015. These Stage Two developments will greatly enhance this park asset by improving accessibility and enjoyment for children of all abilities and their families.

Santos supported the Kings Park Festival as Major Festival Partner for a fourth year (current sponsorship period 2013 -2015). This valuable sponsorship has delivered a rich program of live music and entertainment, which resulted in State and National Tourism Awards in 2013.

The Water Corporation continues to support environmental education programs in Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park (current sponsorship period 2009 – 2015). The Water Corporation is the naming partner of the Water Corporation Wetland in this facility.

Synergy maintains its sponsorship of Synergy Parkland (current sponsorship period 2012 – 2017). This large, popular parkland attracts in excess of one million visitors each year.

The Friends of Kings Park continue to make important contributions to Kings Park and Botanic Garden in several areas. With the support of Lotterywest, the Friends once again supported the Kings Park Festival in 2013. The Friends also provided their regular scholarships to BGPA staff, advocacy, volunteering and funding for several projects including support for a BGPA scientific expedition which hopes to unlock the mysteries of the mighty Kimberley Boab tree (*Adansonia gregorii*) in May 2015.

BHP Billiton have provided \$5 million for a five-year program (2013-2017) to investigate the science of creating effective restoration in the Pilbara region. The Restoration Seed Bank project will run for five years with three senior scientists and research associates working on key aspects of seed banking, native seed farming, effective broadcast seeding technologies and approaches to optimise native soils for regeneration of bushland habitats. The outcomes of this program will provide benefits to native plant restoration Australia wide.

West Australian Newspapers supported the 2013 Kings Park Festival as its media partner for a fourth year, providing valuable promotion and coverage of the festival.

Visitor Services and Community Engagement

Visitation

Visitation to Bold Park is estimated to have increased by 9.25% based on the results from the vehicle counter on Scenic Drive that leads to Reabold Hill. There were a total of 71,816 vehicles recorded during the year compared to 65,733 vehicles recorded the previous year.

It is difficult to estimate total visitation to the whole of Bold Park as there is currently a counter at only one of the five vehicle entries and battery operated people counters at two pedestrian trails leading from the Reabold Hill car park. Further vehicle counters are being investigated for other entries.

A trial of pedestrian counters continued in Bold Park throughout the year with some inconsistent results due to technical difficulties with their battery operation; however, the results showed annual visitation to Reabold Hill summit at just under 59,000 visitors and just over 40,000 visitors accessed Zamia Trail from the Reabold Hill car park. The absence of a permanent power supply precludes the installation of more reliable mains powered counters.



Visitors at Reabold Hill Lookout at Bold Park and picnicking with family in Kings Park. Photos M Griffin and D Blumer

Kings Park and Botanic Garden welcomed 5.6 million visitors in 2013-14 based on car count and pedestrian data collated at the park's entry points on Fraser Avenue, Saw Avenue, Pool Avenue and Park Avenue. Annual visitation to Kings Park and Botanic Garden has not dropped below 5 million since the 4.8 million recorded in the 2005-06 year.

The spring and summer months are the most highly visited times in Kings Park, commencing with the Kings Park Festival in September and the peak flowering season in the gardens from August to December. The Summer Events program continues to be well attended; school holidays and the traditionally busy days such as New Year's Day, Australia Day, Valentine's Day, Anzac Day, Mother's Day, Father's Day and Christmas and Boxing Days also remained popular.

Visitor Liaison

Staff at both Bold Park and Kings Park and Botanic Garden respond to a consistent stream of daily enquiries from the general community on a diverse range of subjects including plant identification and plant information, comments and questions about activities and a host of general enquiries. The majority of these came from visitors from the wider Perth area with others coming from further afield including country areas, interstate and overseas.

The Visitor Information Centre in Kings Park and Botanic Garden, operated by the Kings Park Volunteer Guides, is open daily and provides visitor information on park activities, what to see and do and how to get there. All the BGPA's maps and brochures are available from the Centre, which is often the first port of call for first time park visitors. The Kings Park Guides are highly trained and share information on a variety of native plants as well as their extensive knowledge of the history and cultural heritage of Kings Park and Botanic Garden.

The BGPA's Park Management Officers play an essential role in all visitor liaison, providing front-line customer service to visitors in relation to their bookings, lost property, parking and traffic management, general park information and emergency assistance. The Park Management Officers maintain daily contact with the Kings Park Volunteer Guides through the Visitor Information Centre and have regular interactions with all lessees.

The Community Liaison Officer in Bold Park continued to provide front-line customer service to visitors in the park, including assisting with directions and information about Bold Park, visitor education regarding park Regulations and providing support for booked activities and guided walks.

In addition, the Western Australian Ecology Centre provided opportunities during office hours for face to face communication with a Customer Service Officer who offered similar assistance for park visitors. From 3 June 2014, a change was introduced with the Ecology Centre open by appointment only due to low daily visitation, enabling a redirection of resources. This change was implemented on a trial basis and will be evaluated at the end of 2014.

Visitor Feedback

Annual visitor surveys are conducted in both Bold Park and Kings Park and Botanic Garden to assess visitor satisfaction with services, facilities and the overall visitor experience. This visitor feedback plays an important role in general management and planning for both parks. Results of these surveys are also used to provide data for the BGPA's Key Performance Indicators.

In addition to visitor surveys, visitors have the opportunity to provide comments directly. As with results from formal visitor surveys, the BGPA's procedures ensure that complaints as well as comments/suggestions from visitors and stakeholders are recorded and considered in the monitoring, management and improvement of visitor service and park management. All communications that require a reply are responded to promptly and directly.

Excluding the many telephone and email enquiries received daily and the hundreds of positive comments written in the visitor book in the Kings Park Visitor Information Centre, 129 formal communications were recorded between 1 July 2013 and 30 June 2014, of this there were 88 complaints, 20 compliments and 21 comments and/or suggestions. With the total number of visitors to Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park estimated at 5.7 million for the same period, the complaints received represent less than 0.002% of all visitors.

In response to visitor feedback the BGPA has undertaken more active traffic management with additional visitor information provided on-site and online regarding parking and access by public transport. The BGPA reviews visitor demand and feedback in planning new facilities and in adding to facilities, such as provision of bins, drinking fountains, seating and barbeque facilities. Access to information is also enhanced through improving information available online and the development of frequently asked questions and answers.

Kings Park and Botanic Garden Visitor Survey

A survey of 488 visitors to Kings Park and Botanic Garden was conducted over the period 22 February to 18 May 2014. The focus of the annual survey is to gauge visitors' impressions of the grounds, facilities and services and also to measure visitors' understanding of sponsors of Kings Park and Botanic Garden.

Overall, respondents' impressions of their visit were very positive with 98.56% of respondents stating that they were either satisfied or very satisfied with their visit to Kings Park. This rating is consistent with recent years.

The most popular aspects for visitors were the views, time spent with friends and family and the park itself. Toilets and parking were the most common concerns of visitors and a diverse range of improvements were suggested including the provision of toilets, parking and barbeques.

The sponsorships of Synergy, Lotterywest and Rio Tinto were each recognised by well over half of respondents.

Kings Park Bushland Visitor Survey

A survey of 101 visitors to Kings Park bushland was undertaken in October and November 2013, with 99% of those visitors surveyed indicating their overall satisfaction with the bushland as being very good to excellent. The highest ranked element was the cleanliness of the bushland (92%), followed by the general bushland experience (89%) and then condition of the tracks (87%). Directional signage was the lowest ranked element with 49% rating it very good to excellent, and a further 31% rating it as average. Worthy of noting was that 31% indicated they would visit more often if there was additional directional signage in the bushland.

Of those surveyed, 69% visit the Kings Park bushland weekly or more frequently and 8% were first time visitors. In addition, 79% of visitors live in the Perth metropolitan area, 8% were from interstate and 7% were international visitors.

Following feedback from visitors regarding shared use of Scenic Walk in Bold Park by both cyclists and pedestrians presenting a safety issue, a six month trial of one-way cycling on Scenic Walk was implemented in which uphill cycling only is permitted with cyclists exiting downhill on Scenic Drive. This initiative aims to ensure that both cyclists and pedestrians have a safe and enjoyable experience during their visit. Park staff will continue to engage with both visitor groups during the trial period to monitor compliance and effectiveness. New permanent and temporary signage and line marking has been installed to reinforce the message. The response so far has been encouraging with cyclist compliance and the majority of cyclists and pedestrians providing positive feedback about the initiative.

Bold Park Visitor Survey

In Bold Park, 100 visitors were surveyed during May and June 2014 with all those surveyed (100%) rating their overall satisfaction with Bold Park as being very good to excellent. This result was the same as the previous year with 6% more visitors indicating an excellent rating than in the 2013 survey, demonstrating consistently high standards of park presentation to visitors. As for the previous year, bushland experience and cleanliness of the park were the highest ranked elements (98% very good to excellent), followed by the condition of trails (84% very good to excellent). This was an increase of 10% over the previous year and reflects the impact of recent track upgrade works through the park.

Signage was rated as very good to excellent by 73% of those surveyed, with 18% noting a need for further improvements, including maps to indicate visitor location once in the park. Of those surveyed, 64% visit Bold Park weekly or more often and 10% were visiting for the first time, similar results to Kings Park bushland.

Communications

The role of strategic communications continues to develop and grow in the BGPA. A workshop with the Corporate Executive in March 2013 identified key audiences, messages and priorities to be addressed. This led to the development and endorsement of a two year BGPA Communications Plan which is closely aligned to the priorities of the new BGPA Strategic Plan (2014 – 2019).

Over the past 12 months, the BGPA found success with a number of honours in recognition of outstanding visitor services. The Communications team co-ordinated submissions that won awards at the Western Australian and National Tourism Awards.

The Communications team contributed to the submissions for the 2013 Banksia Award for environmental education programs and a Green Flag award which recognises well-managed, high quality green spaces that are managed in environmentally sustainable ways.

Key projects during the year included the Kings Park Festival '50 Years of Flower Power' advertising campaign; communications related to Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park and Kings Park Education; and a strategic public relations strategy.

The team oversaw the publication of a new children's storybook 'Chunyart and the Cheeky Parrot' and produced new resources for Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park visitors and Kings Park Education.

Stakeholder events held during the year included a family day for sponsors of Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park. A breakfast presentation titled 'The Risk-Taker's Advantage' by Canadian Professor of Social Work, Dr Michael Ungar was held in Kings Park made possible by the Commissioner for Children and Young People and Rio Tinto.

Much effort was given to maintaining open and effective working relationships with Kings Park sponsors and other stakeholder groups.

Online Communications

Our e-newsletters for the BGPA, Kings Park Education and Aspects of Kings Park are an important tool for communicating with stakeholders, regular visitors and others in the community. These publications enable us to promote the wide range of activities occurring across the directorates. Over the year, the number of subscribers grew to 3,743 (2,934 2012-13) for the BGPA e-newsletter and to 1,057 (665 2012-13) for Kings Park Education.

The BGPA's social media presence continued to grow during this period with considerable interest in the Kings Park Festival and Naturescape Facebook pages. Social media is continually integrated with the new BGPA website and further improvements targeted. The amalgamation of Facebook pages will provide key entry points to Kings Park and Bold Park. The use of other social media platforms such as YouTube, Twitter and Instagram will also be further developed in the next financial year.

The BGPA website provides a window into each park to allow virtual visitors to view the beautiful surrounds, venues, biodiversity, attractions and events. The website is recognised as a dynamic interface that requires constant upgrade and review to ensure current, accurate and reliable information, which is presented in a manner consistent with other State Government websites.

The major focus in online communications during the year was phase one of the website redevelopment (refer to Major Projects and Achievements). The former website was eight years old and provided information to approximately 270,000 unique visitors per year. Updated on a daily basis, the site contained approximately 2,500 pages, 4,000 links, 700 menus, 250 documents and 4,000 images.

The new website was launched in December 2013 with a simplified menu structure to divide information into three main sections: About BGPA, Kings Park and Bold Park. Visitors navigate the site via the search facility in the header, the menu line, tile window entries, quicklinks footer bar or the frequently accessed module menu.

For the first six month period following the launch, there has been a reduction in unique visitors to the website with 120,584 compared to 152,505 for the same period in 2013. This was anticipated following the redevelopment due to:

- System updates to Google Analytics trackers on the new site are providing more accurate visitation data than was previously available. They have been exaggerated previously with the inclusion of administration and system hits.
- The new site has a significantly revised menu structure to make surfing more efficient and there are less 'clicks' to reach information.
- The amount of text on the new website has been considerably condensed allowing faster review and absorption of information. There should be fewer hits (page views) since visitors now read the same information on fewer pages.

Volunteer Development

The volunteer groups of both Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park provide essential visitor services and support to a variety of BGPA programs. To ensure the long-term sustainability of the volunteer organisations, the BGPA has established a collaborative approach to volunteering activities developing and implementing recruitment strategies, training programs and continued planning for the future growth of volunteering in Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park.

More than 200 new volunteers commenced this year, joining one of the five BGPA volunteer groups. The BGPA now has 728 active volunteers across the five volunteer groups.

Volunteers are vital to the success of the BGPA for special events throughout the year. More than 200 volunteers helped at events such as the 'Kulunga Katitjin Festival' and the 'Fantastic Faraway Festival' events during the 2013 Kings Park Festival; Australia Day (gold coin collection) and the Kings Park Native Plant Sales.

Communication between each of the volunteer groups and the BGPA is essential. The Presidents of each of the groups attend quarterly Presidents meetings as well as regular meetings with senior BGPA staff. Each year the CEO, Mark Webb hosts a lunch for the group Presidents to acknowledge the work the Presidents do during their term.

In 2014, the Presidents were also invited to a special VIP movie night to see 'The Book Thief' at the Moonlight Cinema.

As a thank you to the wonderful volunteers, the BGPA hosted the 2013 Volunteers' Christmas Party at Mt Eliza House, with many of the groups committees and their volunteers in attendance.

Our volunteers were recognised at the International Volunteer Day on 5 December 2013, which was hosted by His Excellency the Governor of Western Australia Malcolm McCusker AC CVO QC, Mrs Tonya McCusker and the Minister for Volunteering the Hon Tony Simpson MLA. Kings Park Volunteer Guides' President Barbara Pelly and Immediate Past President Glenda Prideaux, reported that it was an honour to be in attendance, particularly to see many of the volunteers' signatures on the Red Ribbon wrapped around Government House that were collected from volunteers at BGPA events throughout the year.

With support from the BGPA, the volunteer groups continue to grow. They are committed to enhancing Bold Park and Kings Park and Botanic Garden visitor experience, the lands and assets and upholding the BGPA's vision and mission. Highlights for each of the volunteer groups are provided below. More information about the activities of each group can be found in [Appendix 2](#).



BGPA Volunteer Group Presidents with CEO Mark Webb. Photo D Nicholson

Friends of Bold Park Bushland

Promotion for new volunteers was a priority from December 2013 to February 2014 resulting in 20 new volunteers for Bold Park Bushland Carers volunteering group ranging from university graduates to retirees, and all having a passion and enthusiasm for making a contribution to the park and gaining valuable skills and knowledge.

The small, committed team of Friends of Bold Park Volunteer Guides conducted 36 walks during the year that were promoted through monthly articles in the local community paper and relevant environmental newsletters. The Guides continued to build their knowledge of the park through regular talks and information sessions from relevant experts. These walks continued to raise the profile of the park and its conservation values. The Bold Park Guides completed a guiding skills refresher workshop in May 2014.

Friends of Kings Park

The Friends celebrated their 20th Anniversary in 2013. A billboard on Mounts Bay Road highlighted the '20 year Friendship' with Kings Park and on 24 September 2013 the occasion was formalised with celebrations at Fraser's Restaurant.

Friends' subgroups the Bushland Carers and the Garden Carers were the fastest growing groups. From April 2014 both groups were at waiting list status along with the Growing Friends and Orchid Growers.

The increased volunteer attendance at the Kings Park Bushland Carer working days resulted in almost 900 volunteer hours contributed over 44 sessions, providing essential assistance with bushland restoration activities such as weed management and planting.

The Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park volunteer group commenced 2014 with an amalgamation of the two previous Naturescaper groups into one. The Naturescapers are an integral part of the Kings Park Education team assisting school students and other visitors throughout the site.

Kings Park Volunteer Guides

The Kings Park Guides enjoyed workshops in May 2014 in the Biodiversity Conservation Centre. Three senior BGPA researchers gave presentations on aspects of their work on conservation genetics and seed science, followed by a bus tour of Kings Park and Botanic Garden with stops at key locations. These types of opportunities ensure the Guides have first-hand knowledge from senior BGPA staff.

In October 2013, 18 Kings Park Guides attended the 13th Australasian Conference of Volunteer Guides in the Botanic Gardens in Christchurch, New Zealand. This is a valuable learning opportunity for the Guides who were able to share their experiences with the wider guiding community.

Kings Park Volunteer Master Gardeners

The new Volunteer Master Gardeners finalised their training course in July 2013.

The Kings Park Volunteer Master Gardeners continue to provide gardening advice to the general public promoting the use of moisture efficient and low nutrient native plants. This group also plays a major role promoting these plants, together with BGPA staff through 'Dig it with Coffee' free events where the general public are introduced to gardening with native plants. They also attend the quarterly Friends of Kings Park plant sales to give advice to the public about native gardens.

In addition to their duties in the Gardening Advice Service, the Master Gardeners provide essential support to a variety of activities across the BGPA including weeding and planting in the bushland, assisting with the plant breeding programs, working on translocation of rare flora projects in regional areas, and assisting staff and students with a variety of tasks in the Science Directorate.

Honour Avenues Maintenance Group

The members of the Honour Avenue Maintenance Group volunteer on a weekly basis to assist with the maintenance of the current Honour Avenue plaques and attend the quarterly Dedication Services presenting new plaques to family members. This year the group have focused on updating and inputting physical location information into the Honour Avenues plaque database.

Facilities and Infrastructure

With consistently very high annual visitation rates, there is continued pressure to maintain visitor facilities and amenities. During busy periods, parking is at a premium and BGPA staff continue to monitor parking and provide active management of traffic for busy days and special events. The BGPA is actively promoting public transport services, particularly during the very busy summer events season.

Cleaning schedules are regularly reviewed and tested for quality control to ensure that the facilities are appropriately maintained. Additional barbeque, picnic facilities, drinking fountains and new pathways have been installed as part of the Stage Two works of the [Saw Avenue Picnic Area \(refer to Major Projects section\)](#).

Through planned upgrades, the BGPA works toward ensuring access and facilities are suitable for people with disabilities. More information is available in the [Disability Access and Inclusion Plan report in the Government and Legal Compliance Section](#).

Play and Discovery Spaces

The BGPA strives to maintain very high standards of themed play facilities in four main locations through Kings Park to cater for a range of interests and age groups. These areas continued to be popular with visitors, particularly on weekends, public holidays and during school holiday periods. Various minor upgrades to these facilities were undertaken throughout the year as well as routine maintenance to ensure the highest standards of public safety and asset protection.

At Synergy Parkland, all rubber impact matting was replaced on Lycopod Island and around the Volcano to improve the softfall surface where it had degraded over time, with limited interruption to visitors. A structural failure in one of the Calamite artwork poles on Lycopod Island prompted an engineering inspection of all these structures

on the island and all were strengthened and repaired. Other maintenance and repairs included a pole intensity assessment, timber oiling, termite treatments on timber poles, inspection and maintenance on the Lycopod leaf artworks, and repairs to the island bridge decking and the Windy Walk treads.

At Lotterywest Family Area, rubber impact matting was replaced around popular play items including the castle, the boat and the tunnel slides and three of the shade sails were also replaced. Regular sand cleaning continued along with annual replenishment of the softfall mulch, and weekly play equipment inspections and minor repairs were ongoing as public safety measures.

The annual closure of Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park for the month of February and the regular Monday closures enabled important maintenance and improvement tasks to be completed without visitors being present. These included tree management works and modifications to the elevated towers to improve public safety, dredging the Paperbark Creek and renewing the supply of river stones throughout, the addition of Zeolite to improve water clarity, and an upgrade to the main irrigation filter assembly for the site.

New plantings of Western Australian tree species from arid regions were completed in June 2014 and around 3,500 local native plants were added to the conservation zones throughout the site. Preliminary planning for the second stage of development within this site was commenced with an internal review of site facilities and visitor feedback, with works expected to commence on site in the 2016-17 financial year.

Information on a significant upgrade to the Saw Avenue Picnic Area can be found in the [Major Projects](#) section of this report.

Parkland and Turf

The high quality and presentation of the lawns throughout the developed areas of Kings Park and Botanic Garden remained extremely popular and were a source of admiration for visitors, who continued to express their positive feedback and appreciation through emails, telephone calls and personal communication. The challenges of wear and tear from high general visitation and consistent use by fitness groups in some areas were addressed through the application of a range of turf curation activities throughout the year, maintaining the lawns in peak condition.

The new Grounds and Infrastructure branch incorporating the turf curation, irrigation and infrastructure teams, was established after a successful twelve month trial of a minor restructure in the Horticulture and Conservation Directorate. This facilitated improved synergies in infrastructure, turf and irrigation management, which is consistently monitored to achieve the right balance between efficient water use and appropriate turf condition.

Two new sites of the introduced lawn pest, Sting Nematode, were identified during the year and continued to be treated through trials of various organic media applied as a top dressing to isolated affected areas.

Aspects of Kings Park Gallery Shop

All proceeds from the sale of goods at Aspects of Kings Park are directly reinvested to support the BGPA's commitment to the unique Western Australian environment. 10% of the BGPA's total revenue was generated through Aspects sales in 2013-14.

Aspects of Kings Park's growing customer base has an opportunity to see and purchase an innovative collection of Australian art, design and botanically inspired products, friendly ambience, creative displays and outstanding customer service.

Aspects of Kings Park continues to earn its reputation as a destination shopping experience by retaining and expanding its solid following. It provides a tailored and high value service for corporate and wedding gifts.

Aspects works with local artists to showcase the unique beauty of Western Australia and, in particular, Kings Park and Botanic Garden. Aspects' reputation continues to be very positive and it is recognised as providing ongoing cross portfolio contributions to the tourism, art, resources and environmental sectors.

Commercial Operations



Zamia Cafe in the Synergy Parkland is extremely popular and has developed a large customer base in addition to visitors to the parkland area, Photo D Blumer

A range of private commercial businesses operate in Kings Park and Botanic Garden under formal agreements with the BGPA. These businesses provide both an important revenue stream for the BGPA's ongoing operations and highly valued services to meet the various visitor demands.

Three cafes operate within Kings Park and Botanic Garden; Stickybeaks Cafe (in the Lotterywest Family Area off Kings Park Road); Zamia Café (in Synergy Parkland on May Drive) and; The Botanical Cafe (as part of the Fraser's complex on Fraser Avenue). The Fraser's Complex also includes Fraser's Restaurant,

Fraser's Kiosk, Fraser's Function Room and the State Reception Centre Kings Park.

The Royal Kings Park Tennis Club, incorporating the Next Generation Kings Park continued operations including provision of fitness and tennis facilities for members.

Commercial operations providing events for visitors in the past year include Mellen Events (concerts), Shakespeare WA (theatre), Moonlight Cinema (outdoor films) and Prompt Corner (children's theatre). Further information on these events is available in the [Events](#) section.

The City Sightseeing service provides a regular ticketed bus tour of Kings Park and Botanic Garden. The Indigenous Heritage Tours and the Aboriginal Art Gallery continued to operate through the year, providing visitors with an insight into Aboriginal culture and in the case of the Gallery, the opportunity to purchase Aboriginal artworks.

Events

From Kings Park Festival and the Kings Park Summer Events program to community events such as the annual City to Surf fun run, Bold Park and Kings Park attract hundreds of thousands of visitors to events in the park every year.

During the 2013-14 year, more than 800,000 people attended the range of events held in and around Bold Park and Kings Park and Botanic Garden.

The events program was supported by horticultural and grounds staff with on site supervision of events contractors to protect assets, servicing of power supply infrastructure and ongoing maintenance and repair of turf areas.

2013 Kings Park Festival

The Kings Park Festival is Kings Park's premier event held annually in September. Each year thousands of visitors attend the month long event with a program of activities, workshops and seminars and incredible native plant displays in the gardens. More than 600,000 people attended the Kings Park Festival in September 2013. More information about the Kings Park Festival can be found in the [Major Projects and Achievements section](#).

Summer Events

The 2013-14 Summer Events series included concerts, outdoor theatre and outdoor cinema. The program of events attracted more than 86,000 visitors from November 2013 to March 2014.

The 2013-14 Summer Events program included:

- Mellen Events presented six concerts with artists including the Hoodoo Gurus, Bernard Fanning, Jack Johnson, Gurrumul with WASO and Hunters and Collectors shows.
- Shakespeare WA presented Twelfth Night in the Western Australian Botanic Garden, from 3 January to 1 February 2014.
- Prompt Corner presented the children's theatre with a performance of Winnie the Pooh and Friends at the Saw Avenue Amphitheatre from 10 January to 19 January 2014.
- From 11 December 2013 to 30 March 2014, Moonlight Cinema screened latest release, contemporary, cult and classic movies on the lawns of Synergy Parkland. There was very high attendance for the season with only one session being cancelled due to inclement weather.



The Gurrumul with WASO concert in the Botanic Garden. Photo D Chong

Estimated attendance at Kings Park Events in 2013-14

Event	Attendees	
	2012-13	2013-14
Kings Park Festival	620,000	600,000
Concerts ⁽¹⁾	36,086	31,013 ⁽¹⁾
Outdoor Theatre ⁽²⁾	6,573	6,919
Outdoor Cinema	43,962	48105
Scattered Light Exhibition ⁽³⁾	200,000	0 ⁽³⁾
Estimated Total Attendees	906,621	686,037

Notes:

1. Six concerts were held during the 2013-14 events season compared with seven concerts in 2012-13. The BGPA is working with event organisers to increase concerts however it appears that the Perth Arena may have impacted on the number of concerts held in Kings Park and Botanic Garden.
2. Outdoor Theatre figures include Shakespeare in the Park and Prompt Corner productions.
3. In February 2013 the Perth International Arts Festival held a one-off exhibition on Fraser Lawn called Scattered Light with thousand of globes suspended on a large frame. This USA exhibition was on site for the month and attracted an estimated 200,000 visitors.

Community, Cultural and Sporting Events

Local community, cultural and sporting events continue to attract visitors to Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park. These events require support from BGPA staff members to conduct road closures and traffic management, due to the large attendance and spectator numbers that have a significant impact on access to parking and facilities in the park.

The annual Australia Day Skyworks over the Swan River draws large spectator crowds to Kings Park and Botanic Garden throughout the day. In 2014, approximately 30,000 people attended. Kings Park is closed to all vehicle traffic and BGPA staff work closely with the City of Perth and WA Police to ensure the success of this event. Reabold Hill lookout at Bold Park is also a popular viewing spot.

The BGPA and the Western Australian Returned and Services League (RSLWA) work closely with the BGPA to present the annual ANZAC Day Dawn Service at the State War Memorial. This event is growing each year and is very significant to the Perth community. Attendance in 2014 was estimated at around 40,000 people. In addition to the Dawn Service a number of brief afternoon services were held in Kings Park during the week prior to the Dawn Service in 2014.



The annual City to Surf fun attracts thousands of people to Kings park and Bold Park.

The annual City to Surf running event, held in August 2013, attracted many thousands of participants and spectators across the entire route between Perth City and City Beach, including Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park. The marathon and half marathon courses pass through areas of Kings Park and Botanic Garden.

A range of high profile sporting events were conducted in and around Bold Park including the annual City to Surf, premier cycling event Velofest 2014 and the Ocean Bike Ride for MS.

These events involved thousands of competitors and spectators that mainly used the roads surrounding Bold Park and required close liaison with park staff leading up to and during the respective events. The events raise money for charities and corporate entities and attract significant media coverage, providing the opportunity to promote Bold Park and its importance as a conservation reserve and a valuable public resource.

A number of small, medium and large community, cultural and sporting events were held throughout the year at the Lotterywest Family Area, Synergy Parkland and Saw Avenue Picnic Area, attracting significant numbers of even-related visitors to the park.

Bookings

The BGPA manages bookings for private, corporate and community functions and events at the many venues throughout Bold Park and Kings Park and Botanic Garden.

The BGPA continues to review bookings processes to ensure the best possible service to customers. Information regarding venues and bookings is available on the BGPA website. The BGPA website redevelopment in 2013 saw the introduction of a bookings calendar making it easier for visitors to investigate availability of venues prior to contacting the Booking Officer. This new website facility has proven to be popular with visitors.

The Tamala Room in the Western Australian Ecology Centre at Bold Park continued to offer high quality venue facilities for corporate, government and community group bookings to conduct meetings, workshops and training sessions, and other activities generally related to appreciation of the environment. More than 2,260 participants attended events booked for the Tamala Room, with a total of 67 bookings for the year. With the changes implemented on a trial basis in June 2014 in which the Ecology Centre was restricted to opening by appointment only, corporate and government bookings ceased to be offered and the Tamala Room became available for regular community group bookings only. The impacts of this trial will be evaluated in late 2014.

There were fewer booked activities in Bold Park bushland for the year with 30 bookings compared with 38 the previous year. These bookings included special walks delivered by park staff as well as self guided walks and a range of sporting activities.

Kings Park and Botanic Garden remains a popular location for the many weddings, family, private and corporate functions, sporting events and fitness activities booked throughout the year.

Bookings figures have remained consistent with only minor variations. Wedding bookings have decreased this year as the popular wedding venues along Fraser Avenue and in the Botanic Garden are no longer available in the afternoons during the six-month events season due to the disruptions created by concert set-up, access to venues, parking and sound checks. The increasing awareness of the Place of Reflection in the Roe Garden precinct has seen a significant growth in weddings and other special commemorative events in this location.

Booking numbers are illustrated in the table below.

Kings Park Bookings received and managed in 2013-14

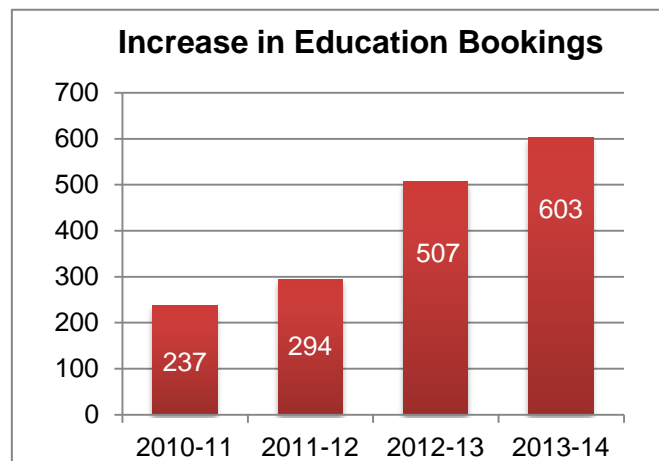
Booked Function/Event	2012-13		2013-14	
	Number of Bookings	Number of Attendees	Number of Bookings	Number of Attendees
Weddings	284	18,033	245	14,031
Social Functions	452	21,989	430	19,301
Corporate Functions	46	3,654	52	4,297
Community Group Events	93	22,046	107	14,824
Wedding and Commercial Filming and Photography	187	1,764	71	924
Sporting Events and Fitness Groups	85	5,361	50	6,255
Booked Guided Walks	28	708	28	573
Wreath Laying Ceremonies	55	6,195	68	7,920
Visits to the Park (non school-based visits)	132	5,109	92	3,614
Totals	1,360	75,362	1,143	71,739

Education and Interpretation

Kings Park Education

2013-14 has been a year of recognition and consolidation for Kings Park Education. As winner of the national Banksia Sustainability Award for Education in 2013, Kings Park Education is at the leading edge of innovative nature-based education.

An increase in participation was achieved, compared with the previous year, supported by on-going promotion, the production of quality teacher resources and development of new Australian Curriculum linked programs.



In 2013-14 there were 603 bookings processed for formal, curriculum focused Kings Park Education programs, servicing 18,242 school students, with continuing strong demand for hands-on, inquiry-based science programs and Aboriginal cultural heritage activities. This is a 22% increase in student numbers on 2012-13. An additional 7,174 people participated in the full range of programs and activities offered by Kings Park Education, making a total overall attendance and participation in the past year of 25,416 students and adults, a 29% increase on 2012-13. There were a further 4,517 attendees on self-guided school visits to the park and 7,635 people participated in Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park school holiday activities. Guided walks for the general public are delivered by the volunteer guides, with figures provided in the [Kings Park Guides](#) section of the report.

Programs were delivered by qualified and experienced educators, with an expanded team of six Education Officers to meet increasing demand.

Education based bookings 2013-14

Program	2012-13		2013-14	
	Number of Bookings	Total Attendance	Number of Bookings	Total Attendance
Tailored lessons for school students K –12 (including parents and teachers attending lessons)	507	16,365	603	21,423
Teacher Professional Development	10	186	13	379
School visits to the park (self guided)	141	5,303	62	4,517
School Holiday programs	62	5,480	144	7,635
University, TAFE and community Groups	89	3,022	92	3,614
Totals	809	30,356	908	37,568

Education Programs

During the year, the Kings Park Education team focused on improving program content, resources and also service operation. All programs are now aligned to the Australian Curriculum and the range of special events has been condensed to a more sustainable level. There were four new programs, 'Chunyard and the Cheeky Parrot' for years pre-primary to year two, 'Environmental Investigators' for years four to seven, 'Child Versus Wild' for years five to ten and 'Tawny and the Bushfire' for kindergarten to year one.

All teachers booked into an education program receive a Teacher Resource Pack to complement their specific program and enhance the education opportunities for their students. Teacher Resource Packs were developed for the new programs and existing packs are in the process of being updated to provide more extended learning activities for the classroom.

Teacher feedback on excursions is an important tool to improve service delivery and ensure programming meets the clients' requirements. At the start of the 2014 school year an improved evaluation process was implemented that enables a more robust analysis. Feedback to date from the new system indicates that 100% of respondents found the program content and teaching quality to be excellent or good.

Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park

Nature Activity Officers supported the Education program by providing assistance to schools visiting Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park for nature-play. Most school groups taking part in a Kings Park Education program or event visited the site as part of their planned excursion. Since March 2014, schools have been offered free nature-based activities to complement formal learning and increase engagement with the natural environment.

The Education program is supported by the Naturescaper volunteer group who assist with activities within Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park, education lessons, resource preparation and administration. In 2013-14, 807 volunteer hours were recorded.

Total visitation of Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park for 2013-14 was 77,500. Spring and autumn school holidays continue to be the busiest periods with double the average monthly visitation. An estimated 85% of public visitation occurred during weekends and school holidays. Nature Activity Officers delivered 380 activities with new activities such as Scavenger Hunts and 'What tree is that?' quest. Both of these activities have been very well received by visitors with high participation and completion of the tasks. External presenters, Birds of Prey WA and Roaming Reptiles, conducted presentations during the April 2014 school holidays which were well received by visitors.

Special Events

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage outcomes were delivered through a series of special programs and events. The 'Nyoongar Boodja' – seasonal Aboriginal workshops held in Makuru (2-5 July), Kambarang (5-8 November) and Djeran (1-4 April) saw Nyoongar presenters delivering a range of traditional Aboriginal activities to 2,023 students.

The 'Chunyard and the Cheeky Parrot' program, new for 2013, is based around the story of a young Nyoongar boy who goes on a journey with his father and along the way learns how plants were used for food, medicine and tools. This program, and accompanying storybook, were officially launched in September 2013 and has been the most popular program this year.

The 'Kulunga Katitjin Festival' (formerly known as 'Quiz on Legs') was held on 18 September in the Western Australian Botanic Garden. The festival involves 30 leading Aboriginal and environmental education providers, and the 2,144 students who attended the event had a fun-filled day learning about local Aboriginal Culture, science and sustainability.

During the year students participated in other Kings Park Education special events including Bushland Carers Week, (30 July - 2 August) National Water Week (22-25 October) Bushfire Awareness Week (12-16 November) and the King Park Theatre Week (10-13 December).

Teacher Professional Development

Teachers are required to attend an introductory session prior to their first excursion to Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park. Sessions are free and held on a monthly basis during the school year. Teachers who attended the induction reported that they were better organised and more confident on the day of their excursion.

Further professional development workshops were held on the subjects of Aboriginal cultural heritage and nature-based play and the curriculum.

A total 379 teachers participated in professional development activities through Kings Park Education during 2013-14.

Horticultural and Scientific Training Programs

The BGPA operates a long standing trainee program for students in Horticulture, Arboriculture, Turf Management and Conservation and Land Management, which incorporates substantial on the job training and one day per week of formal education in a tertiary institution. Trainees are usually appointed for a three-year contract period.

At the end of 2013, one trainee achieved Certificate IV, six achieved Certificate III and two achieved Certificate II, all of which were in Horticulture. In addition, one trainee achieved Certificate II in Arboriculture and another achieved Certificate II in Turf Management. It proved to be a very successful trainee year with much positive feedback expressed by BGPA staff as well as by the TAFE college staff and good results obtained in both the workplace and their chosen field of study.

A total of six trainees were recruited to commence in 2014, some of whom were replacing trainees who had been successfully employed in permanent positions in Kings Park the previous year. One of the four trainees who completed their Certificate III in Horticulture at the West Coast Institute of Training (WCIT), was awarded WCIT Trainee of the Year for 2013.

The co-ordination and teaching of the Conservation Biology and Restoration Ecology course by the BGPA's Science Directorate is part of the Masters stream at the University of Western Australia. 2014 was the eleventh year BGPA has co-ordinated this course and it has attracted both domestic and international students interested in experiencing the management of real-life research projects in an operational laboratory. Research students are paired with BGPA research scientists for the semester and undertake cutting edge research in conservation and restoration of Western Australian flora. This year, fourteen projects from various disciplines were offered to the sixteen students.

Twenty-one PhD students were directly supported and housed in the BGPA's laboratories, one of the largest cohorts outside the tertiary sector. This illustrates the BGPA's ongoing commitment to training and skilling scientists to address Western Australia's environmental issues.

Seven three-month Summer Scholarships were offered in 2013-14 for post-graduate research in native plant conservation biology or restoration ecology.

Maps, Brochures and Publications

An extensive suite of brochures, maps and other publications are produced by the BGPA to enhance visitor experience. These are generally available in print and digital formats. Several maps and brochures have been modified for the upgraded BGPA website to make them easier to use, meeting the new website accessibility guidelines. Some special interest brochures are now only available via the BGPA website, improving cost effectiveness in this area.

Survey data and general visitor feedback is used to ensure requirements for visitor information are met.



Alton Walley with his book *Chunyart and the Cheeky Parrot* at the launch in September 2013.
Photo R Swanborough

A new children's book 'Chunyart and the Cheeky Parrot' was published by Kings Park Education. Written by Alton Walley, the book tells the story of a young Nyoongar boy who goes hunting with his father for the first time on Moora Katta (the land we now call Kings Park). The book has enjoyed positive reviews and has been the catalyst for a popular new Kings Park Education program, based on the story and plant knowledge contained in the book.

The 2014 Kings Park Education Program Booklet was produced and distributed to all WA schools. The booklet includes all details of programs and special events available during the year.

Five new information sheets have been produced to assist schools and other groups who are interested in designing nature spaces for children. These have been created in response to number of enquiries and interest shown in the Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park facility. The information sheets cover planning and design, native garden design and teaching outdoors to meet the Australian curriculum.

Other resources for Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park included new 'What tree is that?' and 'Scavenger Hunt' activity leaflets for visitors.

Articles have been regularly submitted to 'For People and Plants', the magazine of the Friends of Kings Park, and other publications.

A revision of the Bold Park and Kings Park and Botanic Garden Birds brochures was completed during the year in consultation with BirdLife WA. The updated editions incorporate the most current information on the various species and their movements, using information on sightings by park staff and data from the BirdLife database. The brochures are a valuable resource for visitors as they raise awareness of the diversity of bird life found in each park.

More information about BGPA publications is in Appendix 2.

Signage

Visitor signage is used in Kings Park and Bold Park for directional and interpretive purposes. A significant number of existing signs were refreshed with new decals and consistent branding to restore weather beaten signs and to ensure compliance with WA government common-badging guidelines.

Interpretative signage was developed to add to the major entry signs developed the previous year for Bold Park. The new additions are based on the Aboriginal seasons and include information on key flora and fauna that can be seen in each section of the park in each of the six seasons. The new signs aim to promote and celebrate Aboriginal culture and the diversity of native plants and animals in Bold Park.

The Camel Lake Heritage trail interpretive signs in Bold Park were revised to update species names and incorporate improved images. These signs were originally developed to interpret the park's colonial history as well as the interactions between plants and animals in Bold Park.

The Reabold Hill panoramic signs were updated with new photographs and labelled landmarks, with some minor repositioning to better interpret the views towards Fremantle.



Cultural Heritage

Aboriginal Heritage

The BGPA has a long standing commitment to the recognition and celebration of Aboriginal cultural heritage and respect for Aboriginal people and their connections with Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park. Promotion of Aboriginal culture to visitors and staff forms part of the BGPA core business and includes a wide range of ongoing activities.

A new five year [BGPA Reconciliation Action Plan 2013-2018 \(RAP\)](#) was developed and approved by Reconciliation Australia in October 2013 and subsequently published on the BGPA website. This plan documents priority strategies and future targets in the key areas of building relationships, promoting respect and providing opportunities for Aboriginal people towards achieving the BGPA vision for reconciliation.



BGPA actively promotes its cultural heritage through a variety of activities and its Reconciliation Action Plan

During the year, three new road names using Aboriginal words were formally adopted by the BGPA within Kings Park, naming access roads that were previously unnamed. These were Kattidj Place, Kulunga Grove and Jorang Grove. In addition, a number of cultural celebrations occurred during the Kings Park Festival including the Boodja Gnarning Family Fun Day, the Kulunga Katitjin Festival for primary schools and the official launch of a new children's story book, 'Chunyart and the Cheeky Parrot', written by a BGPA Aboriginal cadet.

Kings Park Education also promoted Aboriginal culture through a range of programs for schools including a new early primary program to complement the publication of 'Chunyart and the Cheeky Parrot', the popular Nyoongar Boodja programs run over four weeks through the year and the production of a teacher resource called 'Exploring Aboriginal Culture in Kings Park,' in partnership with the West Australian newspaper. Further information on these and other activities promoting Aboriginal culture and heritage are available in the [Education and Interpretation](#) section of this report.

Other strategies from the RAP that were implemented during the year included the promotion of BGPA employment opportunities to relevant Indigenous workplace development and training organisations and ongoing consultation with appropriate Nyoongar Elders on upcoming activities in Kings Park and Bold Park. The former BGPA Indigenous Reference Group was discontinued as a formal consultation process and replaced with formal consultation with the Wadjuk Working Party of the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council (SWALSC). This was in keeping with new protocols being established for State Government organisations. The BGPA remained open to continued informal consultation with the former Indigenous Reference Group members on request.

Preservation Works

Good progress was made on a review of the Kings Park Conservation Plan 2000 but the finalisation of the revised document was placed on hold to enable other priority works to be completed. The final plan with all information updated and new developments incorporated will be completed in late 2014. The draft plan contains 123 recommendations to guide future conservation of cultural heritage values and elements, as well as future works and use of the site consistent with those values.

Preliminary advice was sought from a consultant Heritage Architect on the conservation of the South African War Memorial near the Fraser Avenue entry and on the 11th Battalion Memorial in the State War Memorial precinct, as part of the initial planning for upgrades to each of these memorials. Any future upgrades will aim to conserve the significant cultural heritage elements of these memorials.

Ongoing maintenance and upgrades to the many memorials throughout Kings Park is prioritised in accordance with structural and other assessments to maintain high standards of presentation and ensure their long term preservation. The Vietnam Veterans Pavilion at Synergy Parkland was repainted in June 2014 and cleaning and minor repairs implemented, feature lighting at the Bali Memorial was replaced, paving surrounding the Arnold Cook Memorial was upgraded, and re-pointing of the original stonework of the Firefighters' Memorial was completed during the year.

In the State War Memorial precinct, the pool at the Eternal Flame was refurbished with a new pond lining and re-pointed brickwork, and the BGPA worked closely with the RSL to update some of the marble tablets in the undercroft beneath the Cenotaph. These now include the names of those lost in recent service and in the Vietnam War, replacing the former bronze name plate.

In preparation for the Nursery upgrade and following consultation with a Heritage Architect, a section of the former Nursery Arbor that once framed the entry to the Nursery was removed to create space for critical nursery infrastructure. The remaining section has been retained for possible future interpretation.



The State War Memorial precinct including the Cenotaph, the Flame of Remembrance and Court of Contemplation. Photo D Blumer

Biodiversity Conservation and Ecological Restoration

Kings Park Bushland

Work commenced on the development of a 100 year plan for Kings Park bushland that will define a long term desired state for the bushland and provide an adaptive management framework for evaluating the success of bushland management against measurable targets, towards achieving that long term goal. The plan is being developed by staff from the Horticulture and Conservation Directorate and the Science Directorate and is anticipated to have expert external input prior to its finalisation and implementation in 2015. A similar plan will be developed for Bold Park in the future.

A draft Restoration Plan was developed for Kings Park bushland and is currently being implemented during the 2014 season. This will enable assessment of the plan's practicality and inform a revision at the end of the year. This plan seeks to categorise each restoration site depending on selective criteria, dictating restoration activities for each site and how each site then advances towards completion. Semi-permanent grids will be established in some restoration sites for monitoring. Following the end of year review, the plan will be finalised and operate on a rolling 5 year period, with annual review to enable adaptive management.

Restoration activities continued throughout the year towards ecological restoration of disturbed ecosystems on the plateau and the Mount Eliza Escarpment. This included an extensive weed control program to manage introduced weeds across the site. Veld grass control was implemented over 96 hectares and woody weeding activities extended over 60 hectares. In addition, over 20 highly invasive species were controlled at all known sites, including *Euphorbia terracina*, *Watsonia meriana* and some weeds of national significance such as *Lantana camara* and *Asparagus* species.

Restoration planting was undertaken at 31 specific sites with a total of 18,700 local native plants from a range of 50 species planted. Key sites were adjacent to Thomas Street, the Nature Trail, and various sites on the escarpment that were impacted by the 2009 bushfire. The seed collection program operated from October 2013 to April 2014, yielding collections from 80 species, including vulnerable species.

All 15 vulnerable species were recorded as present in the bushland with seed of seven species added to conservation collections and four species incorporated into restoration planting. Cuttings of two species, *Astroloma ciliatum* and *Exocarpos sparteus*, were collected for nursery propagation trials. A review of the vulnerable species list for the site was commenced to ensure relevant species are included for regular monitoring. It is anticipated the new list will be endorsed and adopted from August 2014 for minor annual review and major review on a five year basis.

A range of flora monitoring at permanent sites continued regularly to track changes in plant species composition and abundance over time to guide future management. In spring 2013, a subset of permanent sites were monitored in areas burnt during an unplanned fire in January 2009 and notably affected by a hail storm in April 2010, and a severe summer drought in 2010-11. These data contribute to an understanding of plant succession following disturbance events and help identify whether any management interventions are required to aid regeneration.

Analysis of existing permanent monitoring data sets was advanced, including the identification of key changes in plant species abundance in Kings Park bushland over a 21 year period, and an updated hierarchical description of plant communities present.

Further surveys and monitoring of fauna by staff and external researchers provided important information for the biodiversity inventory, which informs management activities. A survey of trapdoor spiders (mygalomorphs) in Kings Park has confirmed the presence of five species and possibly more, demonstrating high diversity within the bushland. In addition, the results from a bat survey undertaken in 2013 confirmed the presence of four species of bats at the time of survey, the most common being the Gould's Wattle bat and the White-striped Freetail bat.

Reptile trapping also continued by Edith Cowan University researchers who recorded capture of 39 bearded dragons, the largest number since surveying began in 2009, and nine dugites, compared with only three in the previous four years. Total reptile abundance and species richness was shown to be similar in burnt and unburnt areas surveyed, but further analysis will be completed as part of the annual report yet to be completed.

A study of native bees was initiated by an external researcher during the year, and attempted trapping of possums and bandicoots as part of another external project was unsuccessful.

The occurrence of feral rabbits prompted ongoing fumigation of warrens in accordance with Health Department requirements, with some success in reducing rabbit numbers. Only ten of the initial 120 warrens were found to have been reopened following the last fumigation in May 2014.

The Kings Park bushland continues to attract external researchers seeking to study a range of flora and fauna, which when coupled with the achievements of the Kings Park bushland team over time have increased knowledge and understanding of the site and its management. Work has commenced on a Bushland Conservation Plan that will use available inventory and other information to identify a range of management objectives and strategies for the short to medium term. This plan will build upon the previous Kings Park Bushland Management Plan 1996 and incorporate updated information relevant to ongoing bushland management activities.

Bold Park

Ecological restoration and other bushland management activities continued in Bold Park using an adaptive management approach to conserve native biodiversity and restore degraded areas targeting focus sites.

Restoration planting of 26,650 local native plants representing 40 bushland species, including some difficult to propagate species, was undertaken during the winter of 2013. By contrast, plant numbers were significantly reduced to 13,145 for the winter 2014 planting program, due to reduced available resources in peak periods. This however enabled increased concentration on weed control activities in the busy winter months.

Control of *Ehrharta calycina* (Veld grass) was undertaken across 54 hectares in five focus sites, including the 2012 fire sites and the Oceanic and Eastern Gateway precincts. In addition, control of *Pelargonium capitatum* occurred over 31 hectares by both staff and contractors in the fire sites and Oceanic precinct, and *Asparagus asparagoides* control (Bridal Creeper) was implemented across a total of 13 hectares. Other priority weed species continued to be controlled including *Euphorbia terracina* (Geraldton Carnation), *Ferraria crispa* (Black Flag) and *Eragrostis curvula* (African Lovegrass).

Seed collection activities yielded collections from a total of 89 species, seven of which were from vulnerable species in Bold Park and therefore retained in conservation collections for future use in reintroduction programs. Seed was also collected from a number of poorly represented species in the park as well as good collections of *Hybanthus calycinus* and *Lobelia tenuior* from the 2012 fire sites and of a red flowered form of *Anigozanthos manglesii*.

All 15 species of vulnerable flora were recorded as present on site with populations generally stable. Reduced flowering was observed in the *Anigozanthos humilis* population, which is to be expected with this fire responsive species. Two of the low management monitoring plots, established as part of a suite of 40 plots to measure the long term success of the restoration program as a key performance indicator, had to be re-established in new locations due to their occurrence within the 2012 fire site that has now become a high management zone. Sites were chosen in Banksia woodland with similar species composition.

The 2012 fire sites continued to be maintained as part of the adaptive management approach to conservation and restoration. Annual monitoring of cover, phenology and reproductive data for native plant species and weeds continued to inform on site recovery and management requirements. It will also enhance understanding of the fire ecology of Bold Park flora. The total native plant cover increased from 7% in spring of 2012 to 33% in 2013.

A significant achievement for Bold Park was the completion of a comprehensive review of greenstock monitoring in which data collected over the previous 12 years was evaluated. Over 24,000 plant records representing 66 species were analysed, with greenstock survival rates averaging 81% for the first spring monitoring, 58% during the first summer period and 49% during the first autumn post planting. Survival gradually declined annually with an average of 37% survival at the end of a three year period.

As part of this review an assessment of monitoring methodology was completed with changes made for future monitoring to increase scientific rigour and extend the monitoring period to five years post planting. Planning commenced for a 2014 spring vegetation survey in Bold Park including digitising historical data sets for analysis and development of an appropriate survey methodology.

Preliminary investigations were undertaken into the factors influencing canopy decline in Marri (*Corymbia calophylla*) and Flooded gum (*Eucalyptus rudis*) in the Camel Lake precinct with the Marri found to be heavily impacted by borer activity with some early but insignificant signs of canker. The Flooded gums showed evidence of leaf miner with additional contributing factors noted for both species including reduced ground water levels over time, recent drought conditions, nutrient deficiencies and potential exposure to *Phytophthora* species. Further testing will be conducted for nutrient levels and presence of *Phytophthora*.

A range of research projects were conducted by external researchers, covering herpetofauna monitoring, bird banding, trapdoor spiders and selected invertebrates to name a few, as well as a study of the use of aerial photographs to map the park's fire history. These short and long term studies contribute valuable information to the biodiversity inventory for the park and can be used to inform future management activities. One long term project of particular note is the bird banding project that commenced in 1989. This project is an excellent example of a study that has combined the efforts of external researchers, volunteers and Bold Park staff in the collection of valuable information on bird movement and habitat use over a long timeframe.

Case Study – Bird banding in Bold Park

Since 1989, dedicated ornithologists have been studying the bird populations of Bold Park including scientists, keen amateurs, Bold Park staff (intermittently over the past 15 years) and a range of volunteers. The project is currently conducted by volunteers, with links to the Friends of Bold Park, who collect information about the birds found in Bold Park as well as use of other remnant bushland and gardens by birds. Part of the project will help to determine if species are moving between Bold Park and Herdsman Lake, along the route of the Stephenson Highway road reserve.



A female White-Browed Scrub-Wren with tags. Photo B Knott

The original monitoring sites were within the Mount Claremont bushland in Bold Park and the Campbell Barracks land to the west, but these have expanded to include the former Skyline drive-in site in northern Bold Park. Other banding sites include Rottnest Island, Herdsman Lake, Pelican Point and Shenton Bushland. The project has included training and information sessions for volunteers in mist net capture, data collection, banding and release of birds.

The most commonly captured birds in the Mount Claremont site are the Silvereye, Brown Honeyeater, and Weebill, with other captures including the Western Gerygone, Variegated Fairy Wren and Tawny Crowned Honeyeater. In the 25 years since bird banding started in Bold Park, nearly 10,000 birds have been captured and processed, representing 398 species. Approximately 600 of the total birds captured were recaptures. Although the project focus has changed over time with different leaders, it continues to establish important data relating to birds in Bold Park over a very long term, with community education benefits as an added bonus.

Western Australian Botanic Garden



The garden beds in the Western Australian Botanic Garden provide stunning displays in spring. Photos D Blumer

The trial restructure of the horticultural teams implemented the previous year proved to be highly successful and was subsequently implemented as a permanent change to team composition, supervision and responsibilities.

Ongoing activity related to development and maintenance of the living collections continued throughout the year, consistent with the BGPA Living Collections and Displays Policy, which provides the framework for prioritising collections for conservation and display. Originally endorsed in 1996, a review of this policy was commenced to update its content and ensure its relevance to the BGPA mission for the next 10 to 15 year period. Plant collections on display in the Botanic Garden and elsewhere in Kings Park are closely aligned with and supported by the BGPA seed collection programs, along with plant production in the Kings Park Nursery and identification activities of the Herbarium Botanist.

Highlights in the Botanic Garden and parkland gardens included planting of over 15,000 Western Australian plants as infill planting throughout the beds to enhance displays and ensure plant collection themes were maintained. This included planting in the Place of Reflection at Roe Gardens, renovation planting near Kaarta Gar-up Lookout and an additional 1,100 plants incorporated into the reinstated Floral Clock and its surrounds.

Expansive displays of Western Australian annuals including everlasting daisies again proved to be very popular with visitors during late winter and spring, particularly during the Kings Park Festival in September 2013. A further 1,755 perennial plants were incorporated into high profile gardens in winter 2014, everlasting seed was sown direct into large garden areas and over 18,000 Western Australian annuals were planted to enhance displays for the 2014 festival.

A new garden area was established in the roundabout at the southern end of Fraser Avenue to include a transplanted Western Australian Christmas tree (*Nuytsia floribunda*) salvaged from a development site by a local nursery. This iconic tree specimen is destined to become a significant attraction in years to come, particularly when displaying its spectacular bright orange blooms.

Other achievements included the installation of sub-surface drip irrigation to almost one hectare of gardens, including the Wheatbelt and Goldfields flora beds and the Grevillea and Hakea gardens. The expansion of sub-surface irrigation in garden beds and reduced reliance on overhead sprinklers improves water use efficiency, reduces waste and enhances plant growth. The use of internally produced composted green waste in garden beds also contributed to water saving and reduced weed growth.

A program of woody weed removal in the Mounts Bay Gardens precinct off Mounts Bay Road continued with the aim of replanting the area once future competition from weeds has been significantly reduced.

Tree planting of species from arid areas to trial their success in Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park continued with new sub-surface irrigation extended to supply all recent plantings. Over 3,500 local native seedlings were planted to enhance the conservation zones within the site.

Kings Park Nursery

The Kings Park Nursery staff continued to play an important support role by growing high quality plants from known origins for various planting programs in Kings Park and Bold Park, in addition to expanding their knowledge and expertise in a range of plant propagation techniques and advancing conservation programs.

Almost 16,000 plants were grown for use in general displays along with an additional 1,755 plants and 18,500 winter annuals for incorporation into festival displays. Grafted plants have been a focus for the nursery team with this year seeing the largest number of established grafted plants included in festival plantings. Grafting techniques are used for those species that are either difficult to propagate by other means or have poor survival rates after planting when grown on their own rootstock. Promising results have been achieved in grafting various *Grevillea* species with further trials under way.

Plant production for Kings Park bushland and Bold Park restoration programs was significantly reduced compared with the previous year, largely due to reduced staff and therefore capacity for production. A total of 1,340 plants were grown for Kings Park bushland and 60 for Bold Park, with a focus on those species that are the most vulnerable and least common in the bushland. Approximately 150 advanced trees were grown for use in arboricultural plantings in Kings Park.

New cutting techniques have proven successful in the propagation of the critically endangered *Cyphanthera odgersii* subsp. *occidentalis*, which is one of the species grown as part of the Department of Parks and Wildlife (DPaW) translocation program. Over 1,000 plants of eleven different critically endangered species were grown in the Kings Park Nursery to support the DPaW conservation programs for eventual translocation back into the wild.

The Nursery has also achieved success in growing several species from seed in good numbers for display purposes for the first time including *Ricinocarpos velutinus*, *Sondottia glabrata*, *Frankenia fecunda*, *Murchisonia fragrans*, and *Tribonanthes australis*. New seed sourced of *Ficus lilliputiana* from the East Kimberley has resulted in the germination and growth of this unusual species in the nursery. Germination trials continued with some success for species not previously germinated, including two species from local bushland.

A selection process for new colour forms of two of the most popular everlasting daisies, *Rhodanthe chlorocephala* subsp. *rosea* and *Rhodanthe manglesii* began during the 2013 winter annual sowing period and continued to be fine-tuned throughout the 2014 season. This process aims to produce separate seed lines of selected forms.

Western Australian Seed Technology Centre (WASTC)

A total of 48 days was spent in the field collecting seed from throughout Western Australia for the conservation seedbank at Kings Park and ongoing support for botanical displays in the Western Australian Botanic Garden. Relatively dry conditions throughout the State prompted a focus on collecting from the northern sand plains, the Goldfields and South Coastal areas, with major trips conducted to those regions.

Populations of difficult target species were visited over several trips to collect flowering specimens and map locations, and then revisited later for seed collection. Significant collections of *Lechenaultia macrantha* (Wreath Leschenaultia), *Anigozanthos manglesii* subsp. *quadrans* and a number of *Conostylis* were noteworthy.

Funding through the Australian Seedbank Partnership, following a successful application as part of the national 1,000 species project, continued to provide support for the extensive annual collection program. A total of 32 species were collected and duplicated under this program then sent to the Millennium Seedbank in the United Kingdom as new species for their collection. Overall, a total of 133 collections were made during the season, and were processed and stored in the WASTC for conservation and future use in Kings Park.

The Friends of Kings Park confirmed funding support for a major expedition to the Kimberley to collect seed from *Adansonia gregorii* (Boab) from an extensive range of provenances. This expedition will form part of the celebrations for the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Western Australian Botanic Garden during 2015. The seed collection vehicle was fitted with a purpose built canopy to improve collecting facilities and field performance.

Further funding applications were submitted to the Australian Seedbank Partnership for future funding in 2014/15 under the 1,000 Species Project, the Dahl Trust Eucalypt project and a four year Global Trees project.

Herbarium

The Herbarium Botanist played a key role in providing plant identification services within the BGPA. This included mounting and identification of all specimens associated with the field seed collection program, which incorporates herbarium specimens with every collection for later botanical identification. In addition, duplicate specimens were prepared for all collections and lodged with the State Herbarium.

Several in-house staff training sessions were conducted to provide staff with ongoing plant identification skills to support their workplace roles, including assisting visitors with plant names. Botanical plant labels placed in the gardens were regularly checked for accuracy and support was provided in the development of new plant label requests.

The Herbarium Botanist continued to support the Friends of Kings Park by providing accurate plant information and checking labels developed for plants to be sold in their quarterly plant sales to the public.

Plant Development

The Plant Development team entered a new phase in its operations through increasing its focus on evaluating and releasing new elite ornamental plant varieties locally, nationally and internationally. The Plant Development program aims to develop Australian plants, and particularly Western Australian plants, as hardy ornamentals for reliable display and superior performance as garden specimens, and to expand their use in public and domestic landscapes and gardens. Over 15,000 crosses were made across selected genera during the reporting period and several new varieties were released into local and international markets.

Following the international release of the BGPA-bred hybrid *Scaevola aemula* 'Blue Print' in 2009, a new variety, *Scaevola aemula* 'White Sparkle' was released internationally, with nearly 100,000 plants sold to December 2013. A total of 1.3 million plants of 'Blue Print' have also been sold with all plants displaying the BGPA logo on the label.

A prostrate selection of native hibiscus *Alyogyne wrayae* 'Little Al' was released into the Australian market to complement the previously released compact *Alyogyne wrayae* 'Blue Heeler'. A white flowered form of *Pimelea ferruginea* named 'White Solitaire' was also released into the Australian market.

A total of 22 high value ornamental plant selections and hybrids developed were sent to commercial partners to begin testing to determine their suitability for commercial production and marketing.

Four *Grevillea* hybrids, two hybrid *Anigozanthos* and two hybrid *Boronia* sent for testing previously have been shortlisted for release in 2015 and a new *Scaevola aemula* hybrid has been shortlisted for release in 2016.

A new three year Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC) funded research project, 'Somatic Fusion within the Haemodoraceae' commenced, with the aim of producing wide hybrids between the black and green flowered kangaroo paw *Macropidia fuliginosa* and hardy varieties within the other kangaroo paw genus, *Anigozanthos*.

The first phase of the RIRDC funded 'Somatic Fusion within the *Chamelaucium* alliance' was completed, with the final report accepted by the RIRDC. This project successfully produced wide hybrids between red flowered *Verticordia* and waxflower. The second phase of this project will begin in 2015, with the aim of consolidating the gains made in the first phase, and evaluating the wide hybrids under nursery conditions.

Arboriculture

Management of trees in Kings Park and Bold Park continued under the professional leadership of the Curator Arboriculture with a small team of staff assisted by contractors as required. A significant achievement was the completion of tree surgery works to Honour Avenue trees in Lovekin and May Drives during December, which

had been progressively implemented over seven years. Other significant tree surgery works included servicing some of the Lemon Scented gums in Fraser Avenue, and pruning of defective trees and low hanging branches as well as dead tree removal on the Mt Eliza Escarpment.

There were also some significant tree removal works undertaken during the year. These included: a large Aleppo Pine (*Pinus halepensis*) and a Karri (*Eucalyptus diversicolor*) in the Botanic Garden that fell during separate storm events; a mature Tuart (*Eucalyptus gomphocephala*) that had died in the Botanic Garden; and three Lemon Scented gums (*Corymbia citriodora*) from Fraser Avenue that had continued to decline since a major storm impacted them in 2007.

In addition to these, a total of 18 Swamp Mahogany gums (*Eucalyptus botryoides*) lining May Drive at Synergy Parkland were removed as stage two of the scheduled removal of introduced Honour Avenue trees from the Synergy precinct. This formed part of the avenue renewal program and all trees removed were replaced with advanced specimens of Tuart grown in the Kings Park Nursery. A total of 45 advanced trees were planted throughout parkland areas and a further 50 trees planted in the Honour Avenues in addition to those at Synergy Parkland.

The Arbor team continued to assist with processing of green waste produced in Kings Park, consistent with the successful and award-winning composting process established the previous year to recycle all green waste as compost on site. Approximately 1,000 cubic meters of compost was produced in accordance with the Australian Standard for composting, with a further process commenced in June 2014.

Input was provided into a joint research project with Science Directorate staff to develop Chlorotic Decline nutrient treatments for Jarrah (*Eucalyptus marginata*) in parklands and a treatment trial for gall forming insects that have been significantly impacting parkland trees is also under consideration. Monitoring continued for the extremely popular giant Boab or Gija Jumulu in the Botanic Garden, with 2014 outcomes showing the most favourable condition to date. The Boab continued to be a popular subject for external speaking requests with seven presentations made during the year.

The BGPA hosted a training course in Quantified Tree Risk Assessment, which was attended by two Arbor staff. Other training included use of the newly acquired chipper and elevated work platform, and front end loader training for the two most recent staff recruits.

Rare and Threatened Species

Research continues into the conservation biology of the State's rare and threatened flora which now number 429 gazetted taxa (September 2013). This involves implementing various in-situ (translocations) and ex-situ (establishing nursery and tissue culture collections) conservation strategies as a way to reduce the chances of extinction.

Work continued into its fourth year on *Androcalva perlaria*, a critically endangered species from the south coast of Western Australia, through sponsorship from Grange Resources. Due to be completed by the end of 2014, this program has resulted in the discovery of new *A. perlaria* plants at several different sites.

The research program on the threatened *Ricinocarpos brevis* (which is found approximately 130km north of Southern Cross) also advanced and focused on the development of effective propagation techniques and investigations into the seed ecology of this species in preparation for the production of plants for translocation purposes in June 2014. Only three populations of this species are presently known with the main population (~11,000) found in the Windarling Range, which is currently mined for iron ore by Cliffs Asia Pacific Iron Ore Pty Ltd. As part of their environmental commitments Cliffs Asia Pacific is funding a three to five year research program on this species.



Rare and Threatened species
Ricinocarpos brevis plant in situ.
Photo S Turner

In 2013-14, this research program resulted in the following outcomes:

- Soil characteristics for natural *R. brevis* populations have been determined
- Basic seed attributes of *R. brevis* have been quantified.
- The seed ecology of *R. brevis* has been extensively investigated including responses to temperature, light and different moisture regimes.
- Optimal conditions for vegetative propagation have been determined for *R. brevis*.

In-vitro propagation and cryogenic research continues with other endangered, priority and recalcitrant plant species including *Philothea basistyla* (Rutaceae), *Cyphanthera odgersii ssp occidentalis* (Solanaceae), *Banksia montana*, *Cyphanthera odgersii ssp. occidentalis* and *Eucalyptus phylacis*; all micropropagation projects with DPaW. Cryobanking of threatened species continues with ten species assessed this year including *Grevillea scapigera* (new clonal material), *Drummondita ericoides*, *G. dryandroides ssp hirsute*, *Verticordia albida*, *Chordifex abortivus*, *Eucalyptus dolorosa*, *Androcalva adenothalia*, *Tetratea deltoidea*, *Synaphea quartzitica* and *Pityrodia scabra*.

Research on rare species of orchid, their pollinators, and the associated mycorrhizal fungi continues. Recent work on *Caladenia huegelii*, an endangered species of spider orchid, has focused on understanding the dietary requirements of the pollinator compared to other members of the pollinator community. Studies on the mycorrhizal ecology of *C. huegelii* are ongoing, and include investigations of the distribution of mycorrhizae and their physiological interaction with the orchid. Work is continuing to discover the chemical attractants of rare *Drakaea* to enable studies of the biology of the pollinator.

Restoration Ecology

Restoration ecology continues to be a global scientific activity providing underpinning knowledge to rebuild and replenish the natural capital of degraded landscapes. BGPA is a research leader and provider in the science of restoration including leading developments in:

- Seedling recruitment bottlenecks and plant survival patterns.
- Seedling and plant responses to environmental changes.
- Defining the use of meta-soils as new growth medium in restoration
- Delivering proven, cost-effective and scalable solutions in restoration.
- Providing integrated solutions for arid land restoration excellence both in Western Australia and overseas.

Overall, the research programs cover seed science, provenance, micro-hydrology, pedology and plant enabling technologies. The integration of these scientific disciplines and the ability to work across various landscapes has provided national and international opportunities, with BGPA science now establishing demonstration sites in South Australia and Victoria as well as assisting in desert restoration programs in the Middle East.

During 2013-14 funding for restoration research was drawn from the national competitive grant system (Rural and Industries Research and Development Corporation) as well as industry and state government partners.

Within Western Australia, collaborative research programs extend from the Great Sandy Desert (restoring contaminated soils), Pilbara region (restoration of post-mining environments with particular emphasis on framework species such as spinifex), mid-west (with major programs in restoration of threatened ecological communities and single species restoration programs focusing on declared rare flora). Key outcomes for 2013-14 include:

- Identifying mortality patterns and physiological responses of canopy tree species in relation to varying summer water availability in Kings Park.
- Understanding climatic effects on seedling mortality in post-mining restoration.
- Defining the development of vegetation pattern and hydrological function within post-mine restoration chronosequences.
- Understanding the trophic transition with micropropagated terrestrial orchids of the South-West Australian Floristic Region for improving restoration success.
- Development of germination solutions for Australian native grasses for use in broad-scale restoration programs (supported by RIRDC).
- Defining targets for restoration programs based on identifying appropriate reference systems.

Restoration Ecophysiology

The Restoration Ecophysiology team continues to research interactions of Australian native plants with their environments, particularly those altered by humans as well as by changing climates. By examining key physiological markers of native plants the team hopes to identify restoration and conservation management strategies to improve plant resilience.

The team continues to address key questions within the Western Australian conservation and mining sectors (Mid-west and Swan Coastal Plain); and internationally across the general restoration sector (Saudi Arabia).

Collaborative research continues in several key areas in 2013-14 including:

- Understanding the impacts of a drying and warming climate on Banksia woodland functioning and sustainability.
- Banksia woodland restoration – Understanding plant-soil-water dynamics to optimise Banksia woodland restoration (supported by Rocla Quarry Products).
- Identify impacts of the major abiotic drivers (temperature and drought) on Banksia woodland functioning, with particular reference to local or park scale impacts on soil moisture.
- Understanding the effects of park management systems on health and functioning of key native tree species (Chlorotic tree decline in Jarrah).
- Arid zone restoration - Understanding plant-soil-water dynamics to optimise seedling establishment in the Middle East (Saudi Arabia).
- Using plant ecophysiology approaches to identify niche specialisation in rare plant species.
- Using physiological markers to optimise plant production systems to increase seedling establishment rates in restoration.

Conservation Biotechnology

Conservation Biotechnology research continued in 2013-14 including micropropagation, tissue culture and cryopreservation on endangered native plants, and also on non-endangered plant species important for restoration but recalcitrant to conventional propagation methods.

Several new genotypes of *Philotheca basistyla* (Rutaceae) were established in-vitro (incl. new seedling clones) with 30 individual plants now in culture. Root induction trials are continuing as this species has so far proven very difficult to induce roots on in-vitro grown shoots and survival in soil has also been difficult to achieve. An initial genetic analysis study indicates genotypic differences in some plants within the two known populations but not between these populations. Further analysis is planned to provide more detail of relatedness between genotypes to provide better guidance for deciding which genotypes are the most important to retain in tissue culture/cryostorage for conservation purposes.

Cyphanthera odgersii ssp *occidentalis* (Solanaceae) is a threatened species inhabiting a few sites in south-west WA, one of which is near Cowcowing. Repairs to railway infrastructure required removal of some plants therefore the taking of material for tissue culture was undertaken to assist with propagation of these plants and

eventual replanting into field sites. This species is unusual in being densely hairy, rendering disinfestation for initiation into sterile culture very challenging. Currently several genotypes are established in culture with ongoing development of culture media and incubation conditions to stabilize growth and shoot production and eventually to produce plantlets with roots, capable of transfer to soil.

In-vitro propagation and cryogenic research continues with other endangered, priority and recalcitrant plant species including *Tetraria capillaris*, as part of a micropropagation study for mining restoration trial (BHP billiton-Worlesley Alumina). In-vitro propagation is also continuing for *Banksia montana*, *Cyphanthera ogdersii* ssp. *occidentalis* and *Eucalyptus phylacis*; all micropropagation projects with Department of Parks and Wildlife (DPaW). Cryobanking of threatened species continues with ten species assessed this year including *Grevillea spapigera* (new clonal material), *Drummondita ericoides*, *G. dryandroides* ssp. *hirsute*, *Verticordia albida*, *Chordifex abortivus*, *Eucalyptus dolorosa*, *Androcalva adenothalia*, *Tetratheca deltoidea*, *Synaphea quartzitica* and *Pityrodia scabra*.

In 2013-14 the programs have resulted in:

- The investigation of droplet vitrification cryopreservation for native Australian plants.
- The discovery that acclimation treatments induce changes to plant cell membrane composition that influence post-cryogenic survival of in-vitro shoot tips of Australian native spp.
- The investigation of novel in-vitro propagation protocols of native Australian spp (incl. orchid spp.) for mass propagation and conservation.

Conservation Genetics

The Conservation Genetics team undertakes innovative genetics research underpinning the conservation and restoration of Western Australia's unique biodiversity. This is achieved through the application of modern molecular techniques and field-based experiments to address the key research areas of conservation genetics, restoration genetics, molecular systematics, and the assessment of key population genetic processes such as mating and dispersal of pollen and seed.

In 2013-14 these research programs have resulted in:

- An assessment of the potential genetic impact of proposed mining activities on threatened species.
- A characterisation of the impact of non-local provenance seed source on germination and early seedling growth through large-scale provenance trials.
- An understanding of the extent and significance of negative genetic effects following the mixing of seed source provenances for ecological restoration, through an assessment of life-time fitness in provenance trials.



Conservation geneticists at Kings Park are measuring and managing genetic variation in the recovery of species such as the Corrigin Grevillea, *G. Scapigera*. Photo S Krauss

- Through the genetic assignment of parentage, the finding that realized dispersal of pollen (by bees) and seed (by vertebrates and ants) in multiple species is much greater than previously thought.
- A molecular resolution of the taxonomy and landscape genetics within the *Grevillea thelemanniana* complex.
- An ecological genetic assessment confirming restitution of reproductive functionality and delivery of pollinator services in restored populations of plants pollinated by vertebrates.
- An assessment of the potential genetic impact of mining activities on riparian tree species in the Pilbara.
- A characterisation of long distance dispersal of fleshy-fruited seeds of forest species to understand the consequences of the loss of dispersal vectors.
- The interaction of environment and genetic diversity within seagrass meadows, with implications for restoration.
- A redefinition of biologically significant units in spinifex (*Triodia* spp) for improved ecological restoration in arid Australia.
- An assessment of habitat fragmentation impacts on genetic connectivity among bushland remnants.
- An international review on the opportunities possibilities from the application of next generation sequencing methods for restoration genetics.
- The measuring and managing of genetic erosion in the recovery of the critically endangered species.

Seed Science and Restoration Seedbanking

The BGPA Seed Science team conducts research into seed ecology, physiology, and biotechnology. This research is used to enhance the use of seeds for the conservation of Western Australia's plants, and for the restoration of degraded landscapes.

Research projects for the Restoration Seedbank Initiative (RSB), a \$5 Million research partnership between BGPA, BHP Billiton Iron Ore, and The University of Western Australia (UWA), has commenced. This five-year program will conduct research and technology development to deliver science-based knowledge and practice for restoration of biodiverse native plant communities following mining in the Pilbara. Core research projects that have commenced include those centred on resolving issues surrounding seed dormancy and germination, developing and applying seed enablement technologies, and investigating the soil-seed interface to define and overcome limitations to seedling establishment and plant growth.

As part of the RSB, a new multi-disciplinary collaboration with UWA's School of Chemical and Mechanical Engineering and the United States Department of Agriculture has been formed to explore the application of agricultural engineering techniques to native seeds. This research will include the exploration of new methods for automated seed pre-treatments, development of seed coating and pelleting technologies, and development of mechanised seed delivery systems for broad-acre restoration.

A new five-year partnership with Western Australian Native Seeds (Inc) has commenced to investigate approaches for seed production farming of species required for restoration in the Pilbara. This partnership aims to address the growing need for sustainable seed supply for restoration and will research and evaluate high-intensity seed farming for a number of woody and herbaceous species and produce a feasibility study and business case that considers the cost-effectiveness and practicality of seed farming in the Pilbara.

Two PhD research projects were completed in 2014. The first project focused on vegetation patterns and germination ecology of aquatic plants of the Kimberley. Key findings of this project include demonstrating the importance of hydro-geological factors (total annual rainfall, number of rainfall events, and rock pool depth) as ecological drivers of vegetation patterns in freshwater rock pool communities, data on the seed dormancy and germination traits of more than 30 species, and an understanding of the ecology of seedling emergence from soil seed banks for the ephemeral plants of rock pools.

In the soil sediments of tropical rock pools, the production of ethylene following inundation by rainfall was proven to be an important cue for the seed germination of aquatic plants, providing new insights into the germination ecology of these species, and a tool for ex-situ propagation.

The second PhD research project examined how seeds of coastal plants disperse, survive, and germinate in saline conditions. Highlights include the development of a model to predict oceanic dispersal of seeds using seed morphological traits, characterisation of temperature and salinity thresholds for seed germination of coastal plants. A collaboration with Curtin University and the University of Western Sydney resulted in the development of a novel new technique of using full spectrum x-ray mapping to track the movement of salt (sodium and chloride) into seeds to understand how seeds can tolerate the uptake of these toxic ions.

Nationally collaborative research with members of the Australian Seed Bank Partnership has continued to focus on seed banking for the conservation of plant species. Analysis of data on the seed longevity of nearly 200 species from across Australia shows that seed longevity varies by at least four orders of magnitude, with orchid seeds the shortest-lived. A significant new finding of this research is that the seed dispersal mechanism of the parent plant is highly correlated with seed longevity.

Orchid Biology and Conservation

During 2013-14 orchid research has focused on both industry supported conservation projects and pure botanical research studying the pollination of sexually deceptive orchids. This work has led to several publications in high profile, international journals.

As part of our ongoing work focusing on *Drakaea* (originally supported by a grant from Main Roads Department and the Australian Research commission), we have demonstrated that these orchids attract their sexually deceived pollinators using a blend of pyrazines, a group of chemical compound with no known prior function in plants. Work is continuing to discover the chemical attractants of rare *Drakaea* to enable studies of the biology of the pollinator. Further, this work has uncovered cryptic species of orchid that may be highly endangered.

Work on the pollination biology of *Caladenia huegelii*, an endangered species of spider orchid, is nearing completion (grant from Jandakot airport). Recent work has focused on understanding the dietary requirements of the pollinator compared to other members of the pollinator community. Studies on the mycorrhizal ecology of *C. huegelii* are ongoing, and include investigations of the distribution of mycorrhizae and their physiological interaction with the orchid.

The first detailed study of the pollination biology of *Pterostylis* led to the discovery of pollination by sexual deception in this widespread and diverse genus.

Investigations of the functional significance of mycorrhizal fungi in the Orchidaceae are ongoing. This work aims to elucidate the roles of orchid mycorrhizal fungi in the capture, transport and exchange of carbon, phosphorus and nitrogen, known to have the potential to limit plant growth in the impoverished soils supporting the terrestrial orchids of Western Australia

Biodiversity and Extensions

Core business activities are represented by the promotion of sound horticultural practices when using Western Australian species for gardening and landscaping, restoration and species recovery operations.

Part of BGPA's commitment to the environment is promoting outcomes of herbicide experiments in glass house and field trials for environmental weed control in degraded and natural ecosystems. This commitment assists bushland managers, other agencies and fee paying businesses such as mining companies.

The translocation of rare flora using the latest scientific research results and best horticultural practices continues to be part of core operations working in cooperation with other agencies such as the Department of Parks and Wildlife, Non-Government Organisations, industry and volunteers.

Current programs underway include:

- The translocation of *Eremophila resinosa* funded by Evolution Mining, extension of sites is ongoing with continuing support from the Shire of Westonia.
- Translocation of the critically endangered Corrigin Grevillea. This successful program includes long term ex-situ seed storage, in-situ long term seed burial trials and site monitoring.
- Translocation of the critically endangered *Symonanthus bancroftii*. Monitoring, site maintenance and scientific experiments such as stimulation of the soil seedbank are continuing.

- Translocation of *Verticordia lindleyi* subsp. *lindleyi* funded by the Public Transport Authority and planted at Perth Airport on land managed by Westralia Airports Corporation. Recruitment of seedlings from the soil seedbank continues on an annual basis suggesting this population has the capacity for long term survival.

Extension activities representing the BGPA include presentations to professional organisations, conferences, seminars and the general public and serving committee's such as Brixton Street Wetlands and on advisory groups with local organisations such as the Environmental Weeds Action Network.

Risk Management

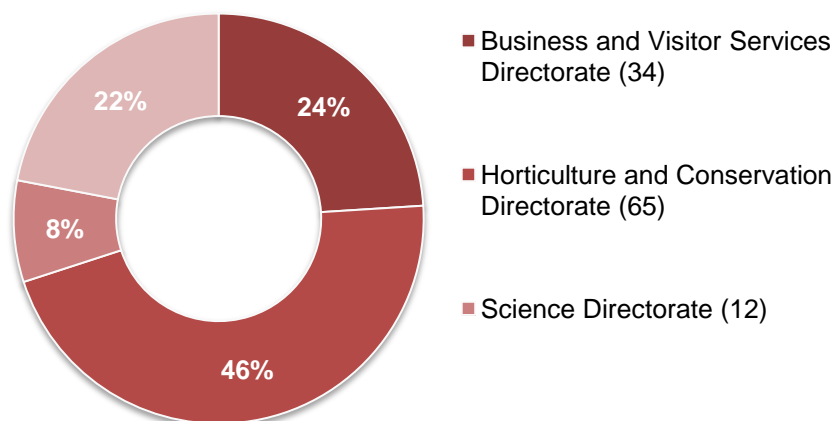
Ongoing Risk Management

The BGPA risk register, RiskBase, was regularly updated and controls for various risks were assessed at scheduled intervals. A minor review of the BGPA Risk Management Policy was completed and endorsed by the BGPA Board of Management in August 2013 to properly address high level risks and the requirement for treatment action plans for when all feasible controls were already in place.

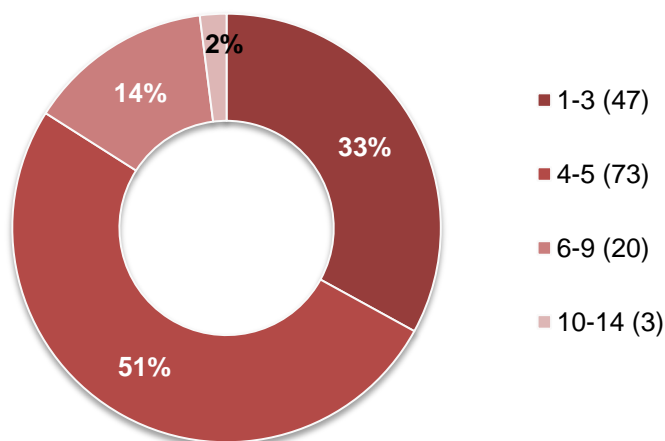
A thorough reporting schedule was implemented for the Corporate Executive to ensure the risk management responsibilities are being addressed at the executive level and that the Board of Management and the Audit Committee are kept abreast of BGPA’s risk management activity

The BGPA has 143 risks currently evaluated through Riskbase and is outlined in the table below. This remains unchanged from the 2012-13 year:

Number of Risks by Risk Area



Number of Risks by Level of Risk



Risk management is ongoing and the BGPA works to ensure that its risks are properly managed across all areas of the agency.

Fire Management

Activities related to fire preparedness, response and risk management continued to be assigned a high priority during the year, aiming to further reduce bushfire related risks impacting upon the bushlands and their immediate surrounds at Kings Park and Bold Park.

A range of planning documents were reviewed and updated internally including the BGPA Bushfire Management and Response Plan and the BGPA Evacuation Plan, as well as review of the relevant Urban Bushfire Pre-plans in association with the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) for both parks. Two community information sessions were held in conjunction with DFES to inform neighbouring property owners about fire preparedness strategies for their own properties and fire management activities within the BGPA. These sessions were well attended and productive.

There was one fire recorded in disturbed land at the former Turf Farm in Bold Park that occurred as a result of an explosion in February 2014 and resulted in only minor damage to native vegetation. No bushfires were recorded for Kings Park during the year.

As part of the BGPA Park Closure Plan introduced the previous year, fire danger ratings (FDR) were monitored during the fire season and appropriate actions taken consistent with the plan. There were 14 days of very high FDR and two days of severe FDR that resulted in 13 closures of Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park as a safety precaution, as on three occasions the site was already closed for maintenance.

The two severe days were also declared as Total Fire Ban days resulting in closure of bushland tracks and increased patrols throughout the day. The BGPA Total Fire Ban Exemption from DFES was renewed, giving permission to conduct patrols on bushland tracks on those days.

After a lengthy procurement period, the BGPA took delivery of a new Broad-Acre 2.4 fire truck, built to DFES specifications. This has duplicated the BGPA's four wheel drive medium tanker capacity and allows for one vehicle to be stationed in each park during severe or higher FDR days. A review was undertaken of two way communications cover in Kings Park and Bold Park by an external company, which verified the BGPA VHF repeater was functioning as designed, identified shortfalls in current radio hardware and recommended remedial actions to address the issues. Investigation of remedial activities is ongoing by the BGPA within available resources.

A new fire ecology program was commenced during the year with the appointment of a Fire Ecologist for an initial five year term. This followed recommendations in the 2010 external review of BGPA fire management practices and the 2011 Comprehensive Bushfire Risk Analysis, to investigate the impacts of bushfire and management practices on the biodiversity of Kings Park and Bold Park. The research program includes consultation and engagement with external agencies including DFES and the Department of Parks and Wildlife to promote a collaborative program.

The BGPA continued to participate as a member of the City of Perth and Kings Park Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC), providing input to the review of emergency management planning documents. The BGPA was also formally invited to participate on the Western Central LEMC, which incorporates Bold Park. Liaison with the City of Perth regarding the management of fire and erosion risks on private land on the escarpment within the City of Perth jurisdiction continued with advice and assistance provided as required.

Tree Risk Management

The management of risks associated with tree or branch failure for public safety is another area of risk management assigned a high priority by the BGPA and a range of activities were undertaken in this field throughout the year.

One of the most significant outcomes was the adoption of the Quantified Tree Risk Assessment system (QTRA) by the BGPA Board as the formal process by which trees in Kings Park and Bold Park will be assessed to guide risk management activities. QTRA is an industry recognised registered-user system of tree risk assessment that was developed in the United Kingdom and is currently used by land managers around the world. It applies established and accepted risk management principles to tree safety management in accordance with ISO 31000:2009, Risk management – Principles and guidelines.

QTRA enables trained Arboricultural professionals to quantify the components of tree failure risk and then calculate the risk of significant harm as a probability. The risk of harm will fall within one of three widely accepted risk thresholds, with management activities that follow being implemented proportionately to the level of risk. This method enables tree managers to balance safety with the values and benefits derived from trees and to operate within predetermined risk thresholds.

QTRA was conducted by external contractors in two major precincts of Kings Park with recommended works promptly implemented and further assessments planned for the remaining nine precincts. The QTRA system requires annual assessment and two BGPA Arbor staff attended training conducted in Kings Park during the year.

Other tree risk management activities included walk through inspections of precincts prior to large events, inspections in Kings Park and Bold Park bushland, and an annual inspection of trees in the Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park site with follow up remedial works to address public safety concerns.

Stem fall arrest systems were monitored twice annually for effectiveness in four trees in parkland areas, one was replaced in a large pine tree near a carpark and six new systems were installed in a range of trees during the year. Key specimens included significant *Agonis flexuosa* (Peppermint trees) and mature *Melaleuca lanceolata* located within popular visitation areas.

The BGPA continued to monitor stem failures with collation of reports into a database. There were 230 failures of stems greater than 50mm diameter in Kings Park and Bold Park, 69 of which were greater than 200mm diameter. In addition, there were approximately 30 complete tree failures at ground level, most of which related to storm damage or were subjected to high wind conditions from 35-85km/hr.

Monitoring of a small number of Sugar Gums along Lovekin Drive with a significant lean continued with no significant changes recorded.

Kings Park Escarpment

The regular program of ongoing geotechnical inspections continued by an external consultant contracted to provide these services, with inspections in November 2013 and May 2014 completed. These identified only minor remediation works which were promptly implemented.

A total of nine inspections were implemented by trained staff following rainfall events of 20mm or more during the preceding 24 hour period, with gate closures in higher risk areas also implemented at the time. No major issues of concern were identified from these inspections. Some rock trimming and scaling down of limestone boulders from the slope was completed in August and December 2013 to assist with risk management of the escarpment.

The BGPA continued to liaise with the City of Perth regarding risk management on the escarpment on privately owned land and also assisted managers from the old Swan Brewery site in developing appropriate slope remediation works and revegetation to manage erosion problems on the slope above the carpark on Mounts Bay Road.

Bold Park Risk Management

The limestone slopes on Oceanic Drive and West Coast Highway continued to be monitored and remained relatively stable during the year. One heavy rainfall event exceeding 25 mm in 24 hours prompted inspection of these slopes with some minor slumping of the Oceanic Drive slope recorded, but posing no immediate risk to public safety.

Water Management

Monitoring of ground water use throughout the year for irrigation continued to ensure use of ground water remained within the BGPA licensed limits. Total groundwater use was 458.7 megalitres for the year, which represented an increase from the previous year but remained well within the extraction licence. The increase was most likely due to a lack of rainfall at critical periods. An upgrade to bore metering within Kings Park incorporating replacement of the mechanical bypass meters with highly accurate and reliable mag-flo units improved monitoring of groundwater use.

A range of maintenance tasks were implemented during the year to further improve irrigation water quality and ground water use efficiency. A new filter media was introduced to filters at the System Two irrigation pond at the start of the financial year and was later installed at the System One pond filters. This Activated Glass filter media imported from the United Kingdom has assisted in the resolution of serious bio-fouling problems encountered early in the season. Both irrigation ponds were thoroughly cleaned out in the winter months, two algae control units were replaced at System Two and aeration controls at System One were also upgraded. Storage facilities for spare large irrigation mainline fittings were introduced at the System One pond to enable critical parts to be held on site for timely response in case of mainline breakage or failure.

Water quality in the Paperbark Creek at Rio Tinto Naturescape continued to be tested and monitored on a weekly basis to ensure appropriate standards of water quality were maintained. Continuous filtering of the water through the Kings Park irrigation system, delivery to the site via a UV filter, and weekly maintenance activities by staff all contribute to maintaining good water quality at this popular facility, that is regularly frequented by young who are encouraged to interact with the creek water bodies. There were no concerns with water quality with test results consistently demonstrating only very low levels of bacteria, all of which was also monitored by the Health Department.

Asset Management

The asset replacement and maintenance program continued to ensure a high level of safety, asset protection and presentation standards for equipment and infrastructure throughout Kings Park and Bold Park. A total of 29 formal requests for quotation or tender were processed during the year for the purchase of new equipment or contracted park maintenance activities. New equipment included a new medium tanker fire truck and two replacement trucks to support park operations, and a front end loader, two high performance ride-on mowers, and an elevated work platform for use by the Arbor team. New scientific equipment was also purchased to support tissue culture and plant development programs.

A building condition audit of all BGPA buildings was completed by an external contractor, with outcomes prioritised for implementation over a twelve month period. A new waterproofing system applied to the upper levels of the Kaarta Gar-up lookout structure resulted in improved internal appearance and functionality of the Aboriginal Art Gallery beneath the lookout, and improved roof drainage systems installed at Aspects of Kings Park have reduced the risk of internal flooding and damage to stock.

A large tree limb fell on the Wildflower Pavilion in the Botanic garden causing it to partially collapse. The roof and lining of this heritage pavilion has been painstakingly dismantled and is currently being assessed for the feasibility of rebuilding the structure. A structural inspection of the DNA Tower, the Lotterywest Federation Walkway and other steel structures in Kings Park was completed with no major issues identified.

A range of other maintenance activities were implemented including an upgrade to the facilities in the Marri and Kulbardi Toilets, repairs and painting of the Vietnam Memorial Pavilion at Synergy Parkland, painting within the State War Memorial, repairs to the Lodge following it being damaged by a bus incident, and partial replacement of the Vergola roof at Zamia Café. In addition, new Dyson V Air-blade dryers (27 in total) were installed to replace all existing electric hand dryers throughout the park as an energy efficiency measure. A conservation message is being developed to appear with each of these hand dryers.

A range of new light fittings were purchased and installed as part of the continuous improvement to visitor facilities and new feature lighting was installed at the Pioneer Women's Memorial Fountain. Pumps in this water feature were also serviced to improve fountain operation and a new transfer pump was installed to the waterfall feature in the Water Garden.

Forrest Drive in Kings Park was resurfaced by Main Roads Western Australia along with the Roe carpark, resulting in significant improvements to aesthetics and surface condition.

Information Services

The Information Services Team maintained their focus on the management of communications operating systems to ensure up to date, reliable and secure operational infrastructure to meet the BGPA current needs and future growth in this environment. An external audit of the BGPA's IT security during the year demonstrated good performance with no significant concerns raised.

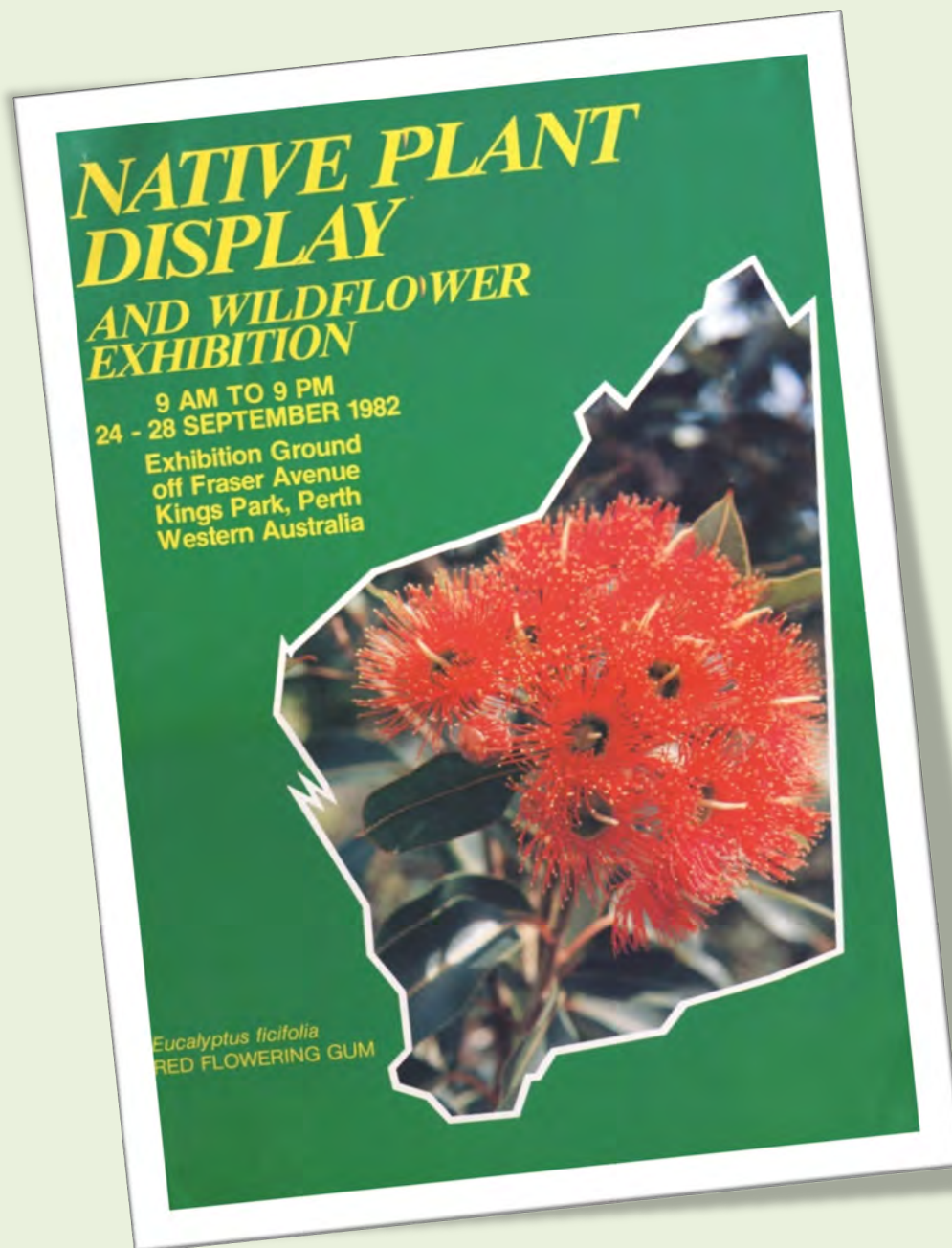
Equipment upgrades during the year included core networking switches, new infrastructure to support the needs of the revised BGPA website and social media site, and the implementation and testing of a replacement proxy server. In addition, a number of fibre upgrades were implemented. A new fibre was run between Aspects and the Administration Building, as part of a longer term strategy to migrate the BGPA fibre ring to a new standard with increased capacity.

New fibre was rolled out to the depot area to provide network expansion in readiness for the Depot Redevelopment. This has increased networking access throughout the depot, dramatically improved performance and improved network redundancy. This installation also extended network access to additional nursery areas and nursery irrigation controllers. Planning was also completed for the establishment of a new server room in the Biodiversity Conservation Centre (BCC) to address a critical need for expanded facilities. This room will be constructed as part of the depot upgrade project.

A new building security system to control access to the BCC and depot was implemented following ongoing issues with the original system. The latest software versions were installed on the central controller and new high security card readers were installed at all relevant access points. As the upgrade process involved changing all the access cards, a full audit and database clean-up was conducted at the same time.

Significant progress was made on the development of a revised intranet site to meet web content accessibility standards. This is expected to be completed in the 2014-15 year, providing content that is accessible to a wide range of people with disabilities.

Significant Issues and Trends



A new name and a new home

In 1981 Dr Paul Wycherly (then Director of Kings Park) moved the plant and wildflower display to the newly vacant Lawrence Pavilion and renamed it the Native Plant Display. It was moved again in 1982 when an exhibition area was cleared between the pine plantation and the Nursery area adjacent to the glass house displays creating an event that displayed cultivated native species instead of flowers cut from the bush.

Current and Emerging Issues and Trends

Services, Facilities and Infrastructure

Kings Park and Botanic Garden remains one of the State's single most visited tourist destinations with 5.6 million visitors in 2013-14. Visitation has remained consistent, and has not recorded less than five million annual visitors since the 2005-06 reporting year (4.8 million).

High levels of visitation continue to apply pressure on existing operations and infrastructure, requiring ongoing upgrades and review. Regular maintenance programs are undertaken and assets are refurbished as funding allows.

Costs for cleaning and maintenance of public facilities (toilets, barbecues, roads and pavilions) continue to rise with significant increases to cleaning costs alone of more than 200% over the past eight years. Waste management (including litter pick up, rubbish disposal and recycling) costs have increased by more than 100%.

Traffic management requirements have likewise increased with pressures on parking availability especially on weekends and public holidays.

Biodiversity Conservation

Conservation and enhancement of the significant areas of remnant bushland in Bold Park and Kings Park presents ongoing challenges for management given their locations within highly developed urban environments, consistently high levels of visitation and a history of past disturbances that have contributed to bushland degradation. A long term commitment to an adaptive management approach to ecological restoration activities that are underpinned by scientific research is a key requirement to minimise threats to native biodiversity, improve bushland condition and ensure the establishment of resilient ecological communities within these parks for the future.

Fire risk management is a key consideration that is integrated into ongoing biodiversity conservation activities to reduce bushfire related risks, as fire can potentially impact upon biodiversity values as well as public safety, life and property. Protecting all of these values is a legal requirement for the BGPA, which presents a significant challenge to achieve an appropriate balance between risks to life and property and risks to the conservation of native biodiversity in these A Class urban bushland reserves.

Substantial knowledge gaps related to the management of Banksia woodlands on the Swan Coastal Plain, particularly with regard to the impacts of fire and fire management practices in urban bushland, need to be addressed to ensure appropriate management of these reserves in the future. The BGPA's commitment to a long term fire ecology research program aims to improve knowledge in this area and inform future bushland management.

Tree risk management is another area that presents challenges for management, particularly in parkland areas with high levels of visitation and where trees form an integral component of the landscape. With an estimated 12,000 or more mature trees in Kings Park parkland areas alone, managing the risks associated with tree failure remains a key focus for the BGPA, to ensure duty of care to public safety is met while recognising that trees are highly valued and deliver significant benefits to the community.

Research and Development

The BGPA is one of the leading botanic garden institutions in terms of its internationally significant research programs. Scientific research underpins adaptive management of the BGPA's designated lands and assists in regional biodiversity and restoration projects. This is undertaken with government funding and through research grants and fee-for-service arrangements. Consolidated Appropriation allows the BGPA to leverage up to six times the research activities from external sources for conservation and restoration projects.

Restoration research will continue to develop new approaches and technologies applicable to the bushlands in Kings Park and Bold Park including the development of a new approach to measure tree health and anticipate when trees are likely to decline due to water stress.

The BGPA continues to lead in the use of innovative restoration technologies to improve rehabilitation outcomes for the WA resources section, rural industries and for improving urban bushland conservation that spans important areas such as taxonomy, restoration genetics, restoration ecophysiology and pollination biology. Leading research by BGPA, in collaboration with the Australian National University, is resulting in uncovering pollination syndromes in some of our native orchids. A recent finding is that *Pterostylis* (greenhood orchids) are pollinated by sexual deception of fungus gnats. Despite studies dating back to 1872, this is the first time a pollination strategy in any species of *Pterostylis* has been resolved.

Likely Developments in the Year Ahead

Revenue and Support

Bold Park and Kings Park and Botanic Garden are open to the community 24 hours a day, every day of the year and do not generate any revenue from entry or parking fees. The community's expectation that extremely high standards of presentation and service are maintained means the BGPA must continually review revenue opportunities, budget allocations and operational outcomes to support the high levels of visitation and subsequent maintenance and operations.

Through business and commercial arrangements, the BGPA actively seeks to increase its revenue and external support in order to improve or provide additional visitor facilities and maintain the world-class parklands, bushland and Botanic Garden as well as community events such as the annual Kings Park Festival. Volunteer engagement strategies continue to be implemented to strengthen and support the vital volunteer network which contributes significantly in the delivery of services and functions of the BGPA.

Kings Park Nursery and Depot Upgrade and Biodiversity Conservation Centre Stage Two

Works on this important capital works development will commence in July 2014 to replace ageing infrastructure and facilities in the depot and Kings Park nursery, and reconfigure the layout of key components to improve functionality, access and safety. A new access road, purpose built storage and operations buildings and associated services will be constructed to meet current standards and future operational requirements, with all works scheduled for completion by mid 2015.

Biodiversity Conservation Centre Stage Two

A substantial extension to the Biodiversity Conservation Centre in Kings Park will be constructed to provide new laboratories, related infrastructure and facilities to support the expanding and ground-breaking restoration seed science activities within the BGPA. The existing seed store will be upgraded to increase capacity with an adjacent, climate controlled seed drying room on the ground floor, and a purpose built laboratory, incubator room and analysis laboratory will be constructed on the first floor. These new research facilities will support the provision of cost-effective, proven and scalable restoration in Kings Park, Bold Park and throughout Western Australia generally.

50th Anniversary of the Western Australian Botanic Garden

In 2015, the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Western Australian Botanic Garden in October 1965 will be celebrated with a range of activities and events to commemorate this significant year. A key component to mark the occasion will be a gift to the community from the Friends of Kings Park and Lotterywest, of a landscaped botanic staircase and a community pavilion to be developed near the entry to the Botanic Garden. The staircase will celebrate and interpret key discoveries of the Western Australian flora over time, with artworks and new gardens providing interpretation for visitors. Other activities planned include a major expedition to collect seeds from the iconic Boab trees throughout the Kimberley, a social history exhibition, a bumper Kings Park Festival and a new plant release to commemorate the anniversary year.

Biodiversity Conservation

Ecological restoration of Bold Park and Kings Park bushland is a long term commitment requiring sustained on-ground activities and research programs to ensure that the native biological diversity of these significant 'A' Class reserves is conserved and enhanced in accordance with the *Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority Act 1998*.

The BGPA will continue its adaptive management approach to bushland management that is underpinned by scientific research outcomes to achieve its environmental targets and ensure the ongoing conservation and enhancement of Kings Park and Bold Park bushlands. Key components of this work are restoration activities, including weed control, seed collection, planting and monitoring of flora, fauna and fungi in the bushlands.

An extensive vegetation survey will be undertaken in Bold Park bushland to provide important data to inform ongoing management activities and enable changes in native and weed species abundance to be tracked over time.

Research and Development

The implementation of the research programs for the Restoration Seedbank Initiative is a major focus of the BGPA's internationally recognised seed scientists for the coming year. The Restoration Seedbank facility is the next step for more effective restoration of damaged landscapes in Western Australia and it is anticipated this facility will develop into the largest research and development activity of its type in the world. In the coming year, for the first time, research will develop and adapt seed technologies such as seed priming, coating, and pelleting to our native species to enhance seedling establishment in restoration programs.

In the year ahead, BGPA researchers in collaboration with The University of Western Australia will be focusing on the drivers of ecosystem change through the integration of above and below ground hydrological processes at relevant scales.

BGPA researchers, in collaboration with Curtin University, will also aim to advance cryobanking methods for the conservation of recalcitrant and critically endangered native plant species.

The BGPA orchid researchers, in collaboration with the Australian National University, are proposing the compilation of the first detailed paper on the pollination of sexually deceptive *Caladenia* (spider orchids).

Disclosures and Compliance



The Western Australian Wildflower Festival in Kings Park

During the 1990s the exhibition was renamed again and became known as the Western Australian Wildflower Festival.

In 1996, the Festival was moved again, this time to the Botanic Garden amid newly enhanced garden beds. In addition, temporary display beds were created and by 1999 13 marquees spread over five hectares attracting about 40,000 visitors over the long weekend.

Independent Audit Opinion



Auditor General

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Parliament of Western Australia

BOTANIC GARDENS AND PARKS AUTHORITY

Report on the Financial Statements

I have audited the accounts and financial statements of the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority.

The financial statements comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2014, the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Equity and Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended, and Notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Board's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The Board is responsible for keeping proper accounts, and the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Treasurer's Instructions, and for such internal control as the Board determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

As required by the Auditor General Act 2006, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on my audit. The audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those Standards require compliance with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and that the audit be planned and performed to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Authority's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Board, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements are based on proper accounts and present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority at 30 June 2014 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended. They are in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Treasurer's Instructions.

Page 1 of 3

7th Floor Albert Facey House 469 Wellington Street Perth | MAIL TO: Perth BC PO Box 8489 Perth WA 6849 | TEL: 08 6557 7500 | FAX: 08 6557 7600

Report on Controls

I have audited the controls exercised by the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority during the year ended 30 June 2014.

Controls exercised by the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority are those policies and procedures established by the Board to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property, and the incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with legislative provisions.

Board's Responsibility for Controls

The Board is responsible for maintaining an adequate system of internal control to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of public and other property, and the incurring of liabilities are in accordance with the Financial Management Act 2006 and the Treasurer's Instructions, and other relevant written law.

Auditor's Responsibility

As required by the Auditor General Act 2006, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the controls exercised by the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority based on my audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the adequacy of controls to ensure that the Authority complies with the legislative provisions. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement and include an evaluation of the design and implementation of relevant controls.

I believe that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

In my opinion, the controls exercised by the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority are sufficiently adequate to provide reasonable assurance that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property, and the incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with legislative provisions during the year ended 30 June 2014.

Report on the Key Performance Indicators

I have audited the key performance indicators of the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority for the year ended 30 June 2014.

The key performance indicators are the key effectiveness indicators and the key efficiency indicators that provide information on outcome achievement and service provision.

Board's Responsibility for the Key Performance Indicators

The Board is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the key performance indicators in accordance with the Financial Management Act 2006 and the Treasurer's Instructions and for such controls as the Board determines necessary to ensure that the key performance indicators fairly represent indicated performance.

Auditor's Responsibility

As required by the Auditor General Act 2006, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the key performance indicators based on my audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the key performance indicators. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the key performance indicators. In making these risk assessments the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Board's preparation and fair presentation of the key performance indicators in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. An audit also includes evaluating the relevance and appropriateness of the key performance indicators for measuring the extent of outcome achievement and service provision.

I believe that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

In my opinion, the key performance indicators of the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority are relevant and appropriate to assist users to assess the Authority's performance and fairly represent indicated performance for the year ended 30 June 2014.

Independence

In conducting this audit, I have complied with the independence requirements of the Auditor General Act 2006 and Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards, and other relevant ethical requirements.

Matters Relating to the Electronic Publication of the Audited Financial Statements and Key Performance Indicators

This auditor's report relates to the financial statements and key performance indicators of the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority for the year ended 30 June 2014 included on the Authority's website. The Authority's management is responsible for the integrity of the Authority's website. This audit does not provide assurance on the integrity of the Authority's website. The auditor's report refers only to the financial statements and key performance indicators described above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from these financial statements or key performance indicators. If users of the financial statements and key performance indicators are concerned with the inherent risks arising from publication on a website, they are advised to refer to the hard copy of the audited financial statements and key performance indicators to confirm the information contained in this website version of the financial statements and key performance indicators.



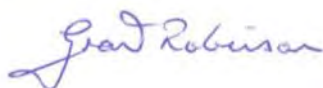
DON CUNNINGHAME
ASSISTANT AUDITOR GENERAL FINANCIAL AUDIT
Delegate of the Auditor General for Western Australia
Perth, Western Australia
10 September 2014

Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2014

Certification of the Financial Statements

The accompanying financial statements of the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority have been prepared in compliance with the provisions of the Financial Management Act 2006 from proper accounts and records to present fairly the financial transactions for the financial year ended 30 June 2014 and the financial position as at 30 June 2014.

At the date of signing we are not aware of any circumstances which would render the particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.



Grant Robinson
Deputy Chair
Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority
Board of Management
10 September 2014



Hamish Jolly
Member
Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority
Board of Management
10 September 2014



Ian Biddle
Chief Financial Officer
Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority
10 September 2014

Please note: The Financial Statements are provided in standard table format. Should you require a copy in an alternative format please contact the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority by telephone 08 9480 3600 or by email to enquiries@bgpa.wa.gov.au. Thank you.

Statement of Comprehensive Income
for the year ended 30 June 2014

	Note	2014 \$	2013 \$
COST OF SERVICES			
Expenses			
Employee benefits expense	5	10,455,926	10,976,085
Supplies and services	6	6,708,319	6,000,824
Depreciation expense	7	1,650,082	1,459,632
Cost of sales	10	1,332,707	1,329,221
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	14	-	35,816
Other expenses	8	3,357,648	2,561,432
Total cost of services		23,504,682	22,363,010
Income			
User charges and fees	9	1,840,626	1,738,628
Sales	10	2,393,746	2,406,392
Commonwealth grants and contributions	11	152,002	52,000
Interest revenue	12	300,087	393,680
Gain on disposal of non-current assets	14	2,249	-
Fee for service, subsidies and sponsorships	13	2,986,803	2,577,245
Other revenue	13	877,783	516,687
Total Revenue		8,553,296	7,684,632
Total income other than income from State Government		8,553,296	7,684,632
NET COST OF SERVICES		14,951,386	14,678,378
Income from State Government	15		
Service appropriation		14,489,000	13,769,000
Services received free of charge		22,756	27,162
Total income from State Government		14,511,756	13,796,162
DEFICIT FOR THE PERIOD		(439,630)	(882,216)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME			
Items not reclassified subsequently to profit or loss		-	-
Changes in asset revaluation surplus		361,368	5,523,714
Total other comprehensive income		361,368	5,523,714
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE (LOSS) FOR THE PERIOD		(78,262)	4,641,498

See also note 39 'Schedule of income and expenses by service'.

The Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Financial Position
 as at 30 June 2014

	Note	2014 \$	2013 \$
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	29	8,446,589	10,373,830
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	16,29	1,867,917	1,506,383
Inventories	17	662,451	648,535
Receivables and other assets	18	1,821,960	1,358,758
Amounts receivable for services	19	1,000,000	975,000
Total Current Assets		13,798,917	14,862,506
Non-Current Assets			
Amounts receivable for services	19	5,507,000	4,612,000
Property, plant and equipment	20	49,072,132	49,101,777
Infrastructure	23	843,300	866,725
Total Non-Current assets		54,972,432	54,580,502
TOTAL ASSETS		68,771,349	69,443,008
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Payables	25	910,844	1,036,916
Provisions	26	1,419,116	2,018,648
Other current liabilities	27	2,619,631	2,466,381
Total Current Liabilities		9,949,591	5,521,945
Non-Current Liabilities			
Provisions	26	649,736	670,779
Total Non-Current Liabilities		649,736	671,779
TOTAL LIABILITIES		5,599,327	6,192,724
NET ASSETS		63,172,022	63,250,284
EQUITY			
Contributed equity	28	30,365,000	30,365,000
Reserves		20,703,430	20,342,062
Accumulated surplus/(deficit)		12,103,592	12,543,222
TOTAL EQUITY		63,172,022	63,250,284

The Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 30 June 2014

	Note	Contributed Equity \$	Reserves \$	Accumulated surplus/ (deficit) \$	Total equity \$
Balance at 1 July 2012	28	30,022,000	14,818,348	13,425,438	58,265,786
Changes in accounting policy or correction of prior period errors		-	-	-	-
Restated balance at 1 July 2012		30,022,000	14,818,348	13,425,438	58,265,786
Surplus/(deficit)		-	-	(882,216)	(882,216)
Other Comprehensive Income		-	5,523,714	-	5,523,714
Total comprehensive income for the period			5,523,714	(882,216)	4,641,498
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:					
Capital appropriations		343,000	-	-	343,000
Other contributions by owners		-	-	-	-
Distributions to owners		-	-	-	-
Total		343,000	5,523,714	(882,216)	4,984,498
Balance at 30 June 2013		30,365,000	20,342,062	12,543,222	63,250,284
Balance at 1 July 2013		30,365,000	20,342,062	12,543,222	63,250,284
Surplus/(deficit)		-	-	(439,630)	(439,930)
Other Comprehensive Income		-	361,368	-	361,368
Total comprehensive income for the period		-	361,368	(439,630)	(78,262)
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:					
Capital appropriations		-	-	-	-
Other contributions by owners		-	-	-	-
Distributions to owners		-	-	-	-
Total					
Balance at 30 June 2014		30,365,000	20,703,430	12,103,592	63,172,022

The Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 30 June 2014

	2014	2013
Note	\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM STATE GOVERNMENT		
Service appropriation	12,782,000	12,461,000
Salary and Allowances Act 1975	237,000	213,000
Capital appropriation	-	-
Holding account drawdown	1,000,000	975,000
Net cash provided by State Government	14,019,000	13,649,000
Utilised as follows:		
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Payments		
Employees benefits	(10,213,421)	(10,707,815)
Supplies and services	(7,306,138)	(5,726,871)
Cost of sales	(1,346,623)	(1,299,247)
GST payments on purchases	(1,236,428)	(1,113,365)
GST payments to taxation authority	(13,025)	(43,411)
Other payments	(3,572,975)	(3,076,702)
Receipts		
Sale of goods and services	1,930,544	2,529,014
User charges and fees	1,840,626	1,820,384
Commonwealth grants and contributions	152,002	52,000
Fee for service, subsidies and sponsorships	2,986,803	2,722,652
Interest received	300,087	402,488
GST receipts on sales	806,934	751,664
GST receipts from taxation authority	442,519	420,627
Other receipts	877,783	179,169
Net cash used in operating activities	29 (14,351,312)	(13,089,412)
CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Payments		
Purchase of non-current physical assets	(1,254,317)	(1,502,363)
Receipts		
Proceeds from sale of non-current physical assets	20,922	147,473
Net cash used in investing activities	(1,233,395)	(1,354,890)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(1,565,707)	(795,302)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period	11,880,213	12,675,513
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE PERIOD	29 10,314,506	11,880,213

The Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2014

Note 1. Australian Accounting Standards

General

The BGPA's financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2014 have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards. The term 'Australian Accounting Standards' includes Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB).

The BGPA has adopted any applicable new and revised Australian Accounting Standards from their operative dates.

Early adoption of standards

The BGPA cannot early adopt an Australian Accounting Standard unless specifically permitted by TI 1101 Application of Australian Accounting Standards and Other Pronouncements. There has been no early adoption of Australian Accounting Standards that have been issued or amended (but are not operative) by the BGPA for the annual reporting period ended 30 June 2014.

Note 2. Summary of significant accounting policies

(a) General statement

The BGPA is a not-for-profit reporting entity that prepares general purpose financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the Framework, Statements of Accounting Concepts and other authoritative pronouncements of the AASB as applied by the Treasurer's Instructions. Several of these are modified by the Treasurer's Instructions to vary application, disclosure, format and wording.

The *Financial Management Act* and the Treasurer's Instructions impose legislative provisions that govern the preparation of the financial statements and take precedence over Australian Accounting Standards, the Framework, Statements of Accounting Concepts and other authoritative pronouncements of the AASB.

Where modification is required and has had a material or significant financial effect upon the reported results, details of that modification and the resulting financial effect are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

(b) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting using the historical cost convention, except for land, buildings and infrastructure which have been measured at fair value.

The accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements have been consistently applied throughout all periods presented unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and all values are rounded to the nearest dollar.

Note 2 continued

Note 3 'Key sources of estimation uncertainty' discloses key assumptions made concerning the future, and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the end of the reporting period, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

(c) Reporting entity

The reporting entity comprises the BGPA.

(d) Contributed equity

AASB Interpretation 1030 Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly-Owned Public Sector Entities requires transfers in the nature of equity contributions, other than a result of a restructure of administrative arrangements, to be designated by the Government (the owner) as contributions by owners (at the time of, or prior to transfer) before such transfers can be recognised as equity contributions. Capital appropriations have been designated as contributions by owners by TI 955 Contributions by Owners made Wholly - Owned Public Sector Entities and have been credited directly to Contributed equity.

The transfer of net assets to/from other agencies, other than as a result of a restructure of administrative arrangements, are designated as contributions by owners where the transfers are non-discretionary and non-reciprocal. See also note 28 'Equity'.

(e) Income

Revenue recognition

Revenue is recognised and measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable. Revenue is recognised for the major business activities as follows:

Sale of goods - Revenue is recognised from the sale of goods and disposal of other assets when the significant risks and rewards of ownership transfer to the purchaser and can be measured reliably.

Provision of services - Revenue is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the transaction.

Interest - Revenue is recognised as the interest accrues.

Service appropriations - Service appropriations are recognised as revenues at fair value in the period in which the BGPA gains control of the appropriated funds. The BGPA gains control of appropriated funds at the time those funds are deposited to the bank account or credited to the 'amounts receivable for services' (holding account) held at Treasury. See also note 15 'Income from State Government'.

Grants, donations, gifts and other non-reciprocal contributions - Revenue is recognised at fair value when the BGPA obtains control over the assets comprising the contributions, usually when cash is received.

Other non-reciprocal contributions that are not contributions by owners are recognised at their fair value. Contributions of services are only recognised when a fair value can be reliably determined and the services would be purchased if not donated.

Note 2 continued

Gains

Realised and unrealised gains are usually recognised on a net basis. These include gains arising on the disposal of non-current assets.

(f) Property, plant and equipment and infrastructure

Capitalisation/expensing of assets

Items of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure costing \$5,000 or more are recognised as assets and the cost of utilising assets is expensed (depreciated) over their useful lives. Items of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure costing less than \$5,000 are immediately expensed direct to the Statement of Comprehensive Income (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which are significant in total).

Initial recognition and measurement

Office equipment, computers and software are initially recognised at cost.

For items of plant and equipment acquired at no cost or for nominal cost, the cost is their fair value at the date of acquisition.

Subsequent measurement

Subsequent to initial recognition as an asset, the revaluation model is used for the measurement of land, buildings and infrastructure and historical cost for all other property, plant and equipment. Land, buildings and infrastructure are carried at fair value less accumulated depreciation (buildings and infrastructure only) and accumulated impairment losses. All other items of property, plant and equipment are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Where market-based evidence is available, the fair value of land and buildings is determined on the basis of current market values determined by reference to recent market transactions. When buildings are revalued by reference to recent market transactions, the accumulated depreciation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount restated to the revalued amount.

In the absence of market-based evidence, fair value of land and buildings is determined on the basis on existing use. This normally applies where buildings are specialised or where land use is restricted. Fair value for existing use buildings is determined by reference to the cost of replacing the remaining future economic benefits in the asset, i.e. the depreciated replacement cost. Where the fair value of buildings is determined on the depreciated replacement cost basis, the gross carrying amount and the accumulated depreciation are restated proportionately. Fair value for restricted use land is determined by comparison with market evidence for land with similar approximate utility (high restricted use land) or market value of comparable unrestricted land (low restricted use land).

Land and buildings are independently valued annually by the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Valuation Services) and recognised annually to ensure that the carrying amount does not differ materially from the asset's fair value at the end of the reporting period.

Note 2 continued

Fair value of monuments and specified items has been determined by reference to the depreciated replacement cost (existing use basis) as the assets are specialised and no market-based evidence of value is available. Independent valuations are obtained every 3 to 5 years.

Fair value of infrastructure has been determined by reference to the depreciated replacement cost (existing use basis) as the assets are specialised and no market-based evidence of value is available. Land under infrastructure is included in land reported under note 20 'Property, plant and equipment' at fair value. Independent valuations are obtained every 3 to 5 years for infrastructure.

When infrastructure is revalued, the accumulated depreciation is restated proportionately with the change in the gross carrying amount of the asset so that the carrying amount of the asset after revaluation equals its revalued amount.

The most significant assumptions and judgements in estimating fair value are made in assessing whether to apply the existing use basis to assets and in determining estimated useful life. Professional judgement by the valuer is required where the evidence does not provide a clear distinction between market type assets and existing use assets.

See also note 20 'Property, plant and equipment' and also note 23 'Infrastructure' for further information on revaluations.

Derecognition

Upon disposal or derecognition of an item of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure, any revaluation surplus relating to that asset is retained in the asset revaluation surplus.

Asset Revaluation Surplus

The asset revaluation surplus is used to record increments and decrements on the revaluation of non-current assets as described in note 20 'Property, plant and equipment'.

Depreciation

All non-current assets having a limited useful life are systematically depreciated over their estimated useful lives in a manner that reflects the consumption of their future economic benefits.

Depreciation is calculated using the straight line method, using rates which are reviewed annually. Estimated useful lives for each class of depreciable asset are:

Buildings	67 years
Plant and equipment	5 to 10 years
Software ^(a)	5 years
Motor vehicles	7 years
Special Items	40 years
Monuments and specified items	15 -125 years
Infrastructure	40 years

(a) Software that is integral to the operation of related hardware.

Note 2 continued

Works of art controlled by the BGPA are classified as property, plant and equipment. These are anticipated to have indefinite useful lives. Their service potential has not, in any material sense, been consumed during the reporting period and consequently no depreciation has been recognised.

Land is not depreciated.

(g) Intangible assets

Capitalisation/expensing of assets

Acquisitions of intangible assets costing \$5,000 or more and internally generated intangible assets costing \$50,000 or more are capitalised. The cost of utilising the assets is expensed (amortised) over their useful lives. Costs incurred below these thresholds are immediately expensed directly to the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost. For assets acquired at no cost or for nominal cost, the cost is their fair value at the date of acquisition.

The cost model is applied for subsequent measurement requiring the asset to be carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Amortisation for intangible assets with finite useful lives is calculated for the period of the expected benefit (estimated useful life which is reviewed annually) on the straight line basis. All intangible assets controlled by the BGPA have a finite useful life and zero residual value.

Licences

Licences have a finite useful life and are carried at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Development costs

Research costs are expensed as incurred. Development costs incurred for an individual project are carried forward when the future economic benefits can reasonably be regarded as assured and the total project costs are likely to exceed \$50,000. Other development costs are expensed as incurred.

Computer software

Software that is an integral part of the related hardware is recognised as property, plant and equipment. Software that is not an integral part of the related hardware is recognised as an intangible asset. Software costing less than \$5,000 is expensed in the year of acquisition.

Website costs

Website costs are charged as expenses when they are incurred unless they relate to the acquisition or development of an asset when they may be capitalised and amortised. Generally, costs in relation to feasibility studies during the planning phase of a website, and ongoing costs of maintenance during the operating phase are expensed. Costs incurred in building or enhancing a website that can be reliably measured, are capitalised to the extent that they represent probable future economic benefits.

Note 2 continued

(h) Impairment of assets

Property, plant and equipment, infrastructure and intangible assets are tested for any indication of impairment at the end of each reporting period. Where there is an indication of impairment, the recoverable amount is estimated. Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, the asset is considered impaired and is written down to the recoverable amount and an impairment loss is recognised. Where an asset measured at cost is written down to recoverable amount, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss. Where a previously revalued asset is written down to recoverable amount, the loss is recognised as a revaluation decrement in other comprehensive income. As the BGPA is a not-for-profit entity, unless a specialised asset has been identified as a surplus asset, the recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and depreciated replacement cost.

The risk of impairment is generally limited to circumstances where an asset's depreciation is materially understated, where the replacement cost is falling or where there is a significant change in useful life. Each relevant class of assets is reviewed annually to verify that the accumulated depreciation/amortisation reflects the level of consumption or expiration of the asset's future economic benefits and to evaluate any impairment risk from falling replacement costs.

Intangible assets with an indefinite useful life and intangible assets not yet available for use are tested for impairment at the end of each reporting period irrespective of whether there is any indication of impairment.

The recoverable amount of assets identified as surplus assets is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and the present value of future cash flows expected to be derived from the asset. Surplus assets carried at fair value have no risk of material impairment where fair value is determined by reference to market-based evidence. Where fair value is determined by reference to depreciated replacement cost, surplus assets are at risk of impairment and the recoverable amount is measured. Surplus assets at cost are tested for indications of impairment at the end of each reporting period. See also note 2(p) and note 18 'Receivables and other assets' for impairment of receivables.

(i) Non-current assets (or disposal groups) classified as held for sale

Non-current assets (or disposal groups) held for sale are recognised at the lower of carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell, and are disclosed separately from other assets in the Statement of Financial Position. Assets classified as held for sale are not depreciated or amortised.

(j) Leases

The BGPA enters into commercial operating leases for specified business premises located in Kings Park and Botanic Gardens and Bold Park. The BGPA acts as Lessor and revenue is recognised as income as per the terms and conditions of the lease agreement. See note 20 'Property, plant and equipment'.

The BGPA holds operating leases for motor vehicles. Lease payments are expensed on a straight line basis over the lease term as this represents the pattern of benefits derived from the leased motor vehicles. See also note 31 'Commitments'. The BGPA does not hold any finance leases.

Note 2 continued

(k) Financial instruments

In addition to cash, the BGPA has two categories of financial instrument:

- Loans and receivables; and
- Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost.

Financial instruments have been disaggregated into the following classes:

- Financial Assets
 - Cash and cash equivalents
 - Restricted cash and cash equivalents
 - Receivables
 - Amounts receivable for services
- Financial Liabilities
 - Payables

Initial recognition and measurement of financial instruments is at fair value which normally equates to the transaction cost or the face value. Subsequent measurement is at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

The fair value of short-term receivables and payables is the transaction cost or the face value because there is no interest rate applicable and subsequent measurement is not required as the effect of discounting is not material.

(l) Cash and cash equivalents

For the purpose of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalent (and restricted cash and cash equivalent) assets comprise cash on hand.

(m) Accrued salaries

Accrued salaries (see note 25 'Payables') represent the amount due to staff but unpaid at the end of the financial year. Accrued salaries are settled within a fortnight of the financial year end. The BGPA considers the carrying amount of accrued salaries to be equivalent to its fair value.

(n) Amounts receivable for services (holding account)

The BGPA receives income from the State Government partly in cash and partly as an asset (holding account receivable). The holding account receivable balance, resulting from service appropriation funding is accessible on the emergence of the cash funding requirement to cover leave entitlements and asset replacement. See also note 15 'Income from State Government' and note 19 'Amounts receivable for services'.

(o) Inventories

Inventories are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Costs are assigned by the method most appropriate to each particular class of inventory, with the majority being valued on a first in, first out basis.

Inventories not held for resale are valued at cost unless they are no longer required, in which case they are valued at net realisable value. See also note 17 'Inventories'.

Note 2 continued

(p) Receivables

Receivables are recognised at original invoice amount less an allowance for any uncollectible amounts (i.e. impairment). The collectability of receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis and any receivables identified as uncollectible are written off against the allowance account. The allowance for uncollectible amounts (doubtful debts) is raised when there is objective evidence that the BGPA will not be able to collect the debts. The carrying amount is equivalent to fair value as it is due for settlement within 30 days. See also note 2(k) 'Financial Instruments' and note 18 'Receivables and other assets'.

(q) Payables

Payables are recognised at the amounts payable when the BGPA becomes obliged to make future payments as a result of a purchase of assets or services. The carrying amount is equivalent to fair value, as settlement is generally within 30 days. See also note 2(k) 'Financial instruments' and note 25 'Payables'.

(r) Provisions

Provisions are liabilities of uncertain timing or amount and are recognised where there is a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event and when the outflow of resources embodying economic benefits is probable and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. Provisions are reviewed at the end of each reporting period. See also note 26 'Provisions'.

Provisions - employee benefits

All annual leave and long service leave provisions are in respect of employee service up to the end of the reporting period.

Annual leave

Annual leave is not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months after the end of the reporting period and is therefore considered to be 'other long term employee benefits'. The annual leave liability is recognised and measured at the present value of amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of the settlement.

When assessing expected future payments consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels including non salary components such as employer superannuation contributions, as well as the experience of employee departures and periods of service. The expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

The provision for annual leave is classified as a current liability as the BGPA does not have an unconditional right to the defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period.

Note 2 continued

Long service leave

Long service leave that is not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months after the end of the reporting period is recognised and measured at the present value of amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

When assessing expected future payments consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels including non salary components such as employer superannuation contributions, as well as the experience of employee departures and periods of service. The expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

Unconditional long service leave provisions are classified as current liabilities as the BGPA does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period. Pre-conditional and conditional long service leave provisions are classified as non-current liabilities because the BGPA has an unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability until the employee has completed the requisite years of service. See also note 5 'Employee benefits expense and note 26 'Provisions.'

Purchased leave

The provision for purchased leave relates to Public Service employees who have entered into an agreement to self-fund up to an additional 10 weeks leave per calendar year. The provision recognises the value of salary set aside for employees and is measured at the nominal amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled. This liability is measured on the same basis as annual leave. See also note 5 'Employee benefits expense' and note 26 'Provisions.'

Superannuation

The Government Employees Superannuation Board (GESB) and other fund providers administer public sector superannuation arrangements in Western Australia in accordance with legislative requirements. Eligibility criteria for membership in particular schemes for public sector employees vary according to commencement and implementation dates.

Eligible employees contribute to the Pension Scheme, a defined benefit pension scheme closed to new members since 1987, or the Gold State Superannuation Scheme (GSS), a defined benefit lump sum scheme closed to new members since 1995.

Employees commencing employment prior to 16 April 2007 who were not members of either the Pension Scheme or the GSS became non contributory members of the West State Superannuation Scheme (WSS). Employees commencing employment on or after 16 April 2007 became members of the GESB Super Scheme (GESBS). From 30 March 2012, existing members of the WSS or GESBS and new employees became able to choose their preferred superannuation fund. The BGPA makes concurrent contributions to GESB or other funds on behalf of employees in compliance with the Commonwealth Government's Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992.

Note 2 continued

Contributions to these accumulation schemes extinguish the BGPA's liability for superannuation charges in respect of employees who are not members of the Pension Scheme or GSS.

The GSS is a defined benefit scheme for the purposes of employees and whole of government reporting. However, it is a defined contribution plan for the BGPA purposes because the concurrent contributions (defined contributions) made by the BGPA to GESB extinguishes the BGPA's obligations to the related superannuation liability.

The BGPA has no liabilities under the Pension Scheme or the GSS. The liabilities for the unfunded Pension Scheme and the unfunded GSS transfer benefits attributable to members who transferred from the Pension Scheme, are assumed by the Treasurer. All other GSS obligations are funded by concurrent contributions made by the BGPA to the GESB.

The GESB makes all benefit payments in respect of the Pension Scheme and GSS, and is recouped from the Treasurer for the employer's share. See also note 2(s) 'Superannuation expense'.

Provisions – Other

Employment on-costs

Employment on-costs, including workers' compensation insurance, are not employee benefits and are recognised separately as liabilities and expenses when the employment to which they relate has occurred. Employment on-costs are included as part of 'Other expenses' and are not included as part of the BGPA's 'Employee benefits expense'. The related liability is included in 'Employment on-costs provision'. See also note 8 'Other expenses' and note 26 'Provisions'.

(s) Superannuation expense

The superannuation expense in the Statement of Comprehensive Income comprises employer contributions paid to the GSS (concurrent contributions), WSS, the GESBS, or other superannuation fund.

(t) Assets and services received free of charge or for nominal cost

Assets or services received free of charge or for nominal cost that the Authority would otherwise purchase if not donated, are recognised as income at the fair value of the assets or services where they can be reliably measured. A corresponding expense is recognised for services received. Receipts of assets are recognised in the Statement of Financial Position.

Services received from other State Government agencies are separately disclosed under Income from State Government in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

(u) Comparative figures

Comparative figures are, where appropriate, reclassified to be comparable with the figures presented in the current financial year.

Note 3. Key Sources of estimation uncertainty

Key estimates and assumptions concerning the future are based on historical experience and various other factors that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

Long service leave

Several estimations and assumptions used in calculating the BGPA's long service leave provision include expected future salary rates, salary inflation, discount rates, employee retention rates and expected future payments. Changes in these estimations and assumptions may impact on the carrying amount of the long service leave provision.

PricewaterhouseCoopers was engaged by the BGPA to calculate the Leave Provisions based on a shorthand method applying the Department of Treasury issued discount rates and other factors as published in the Accounting Policy Guideline 3 dated June 2013.

Note 4. Disclosure of changes in accounting policy and estimates**Initial application of an Australian Accounting Standard**

The BGPA has applied the following Australian Accounting Standards effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 July 2013 that impacted the BGPA:

AASB 13	Fair Value Measurement This Standard defines fair value, sets out a framework for measuring fair value and requires additional disclosures for assets and liabilities measured at fair value. There is no financial impact.
AASB 119	Employee Benefits This Standard supersedes AASB 119 (October 2010), making changes to the recognition, presentation and disclosure requirements. The Authority assessed employee leave patterns to determine whether annual leave is a short-term or other long-term employee benefit. The resultant discounting of annual leave liabilities that were previously measured at the undiscounted amounts is not material.
AASB 1048	Interpretation of Standards This Standard supersedes AASB 1048 (June 2012), enabling references to the Interpretations in all other Standards to be updated by reissuing the service Standard. There is no financial impact

Note 4 continued

- AASB 2011-8** Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 13 [AASB 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 2009-11, 2010-7, 101, 102, 108, 110, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 128, 131, 132, 133, 134, 136, 138, 139, 140, 141, 1004, 1023 & 1038 and Int 2, 4, 12, 13, 14, 17, 19, 131 and 132]
 This Standard replaces the existing definition and fair value guidance in other Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations as the result of issuing AASB 13 in September 2011. There is no financial impact.
- AASB 2011-10** Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 119 (September 2011)[AASB 1, 8, 101, 124, 134, 1049 and 2011-8 and Int 14]
 This Standard makes amendments to other Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations as a result of issuing AASB 119 in September 2011. The resultant discounting of annual leave liabilities that were previously measured at the undiscounted amounts is not material.
- AASB 2012-2** Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Disclosures – Offsetting Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities [AASB 7 and 132]
 This Standard amends the required disclosures in AASB 7 to include information that will enable users of an entity’s financial statements to evaluate the effect or potential effect of netting arrangements, including rights of set-off associated with the entity’s recognised financial assets and recognised financial liabilities, on the entity’s financial position. There is no financial impact.
- AASB 2012-5** Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from Annual Improvements 2009-11 Cycle [AASB 1, 101, 116, 132 and 134 and Int 2]
 This Standard makes amendments to the Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations as a consequence of the annual improvements process. There is no financial impact.
- AASB 2012-6** Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Mandatory Effective Date of AASB 9 and Transition Disclosures [AASB 9, 2009-11, 2010-7, 2011-7 and 2011-8]
 This Standard amends the mandatory effective date of AASB 9 Financial Instruments to 1 January 2015 (instead of 1 January 2013). Further amendments are also made to numerous consequential amendments arising from AASB 9 that will now apply from 1 January 2015. There is no financial impact.

Note 4 continued

AASB 2012-9 Amendment to AASB 1048 arising from the Withdrawal of Australian Int 1039

The withdrawal of Int 1039 Substantive Enactment of Major Tax Bills in Australia has no financial impact for the Authority during the reporting period and at balance date. Measurement of tax assets and liabilities continues to be measured in accordance with enacted or substantively enacted tax law pursuant to AASB 112.46-47.

AASB 2012-10 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Transition Guidance and Other Amendments [AASB 1, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 101, 102, 108, 112, 118, 119, 127, 128, 132, 133, 134, 137, 1023, 1038, 1039, 1049 and 2011-7 and Int 12]

The Standard introduces a number of editorial alterations and amends the mandatory application date of Standards for not-for-profit entities accounting for interests in other entities. There is no financial impact.

AASB 2013-9 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Conceptual Framework, Materiality and Financial Instruments.

Part A of this omnibus Standard makes amendments to other Standards arising from revisions to the Australian Accounting Conceptual Framework for periods ending on or after 20 December 2013. Other Parts of this Standard become operative in later periods. There is no financial impact for Part A of the Standard.

Voluntary changes in Accounting Policy

There have been no voluntary changes in accounting policy.

Note 4 continued

Future impact of Australian Accounting Standards not yet operative

The Authority cannot early adopt an Australian Accounting Standard unless specifically permitted by TI 1101 Application of Australian Accounting Standards and Other Pronouncements. Consequently, the Authority has not applied early any of the following Australian Accounting Standards that have been issued that may impact the Authority. Where applicable, the Board plans to apply these Australian Accounting Standards from their application date.

		Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after:
Int 21	<p>Levies</p> <p>This Interpretation clarifies the circumstances under which a liability to pay a government levy imposed should be recognised. There is no financial impact for the BGPA at reporting date.</p>	1 Jan 2014
AASB 9	<p>Financial Instruments</p> <p>This Standard supersedes AASB 139 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement, introducing a number of changes to accounting treatments.</p> <p>The mandatory application date of this Standard was amended to 1 January 2018 by AASB 2014-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards. The BGPA has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard.</p>	1 Jan 2018
AASB 10	<p>Consolidated Financial Statements</p> <p>This Standard, issued in August 2011, supersedes AASB 127 Consolidated and Separate Financial Statements and Int 112 Consolidation – Special Purpose Entities, introducing a number of changes to accounting treatments.</p> <p>Mandatory application of this Standard was deferred for not-for-profit entities by AASB 2012-10 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Transition Guidance and Other Amendments. The adoption of the new Standard has no financial impact for the Model BGPA as it does not impact accounting for related bodies and the BGPA has no interests in other entities.</p>	1 Jan 2014

Note 4 continued

		Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after:
AASB 11	<p>Joint Arrangements</p> <p>This Standard, issued in August 2011, supersedes AASB 131 Interests in Joint Ventures, introduces new principles for determining the type of joint arrangement that exists, which are more aligned to the actual rights and obligations of the parties to the arrangement.</p> <p>Mandatory application of this Standard was deferred for not-for-profit entities by AASB 2012-10. There is no financial impact for the Model BGPA as the new standard continues to require the recognition of the BGPA's share of assets and share of liabilities for the unincorporated joint operation.</p>	1 Jan 2014
AASB 12	<p>Disclosure of Interests in Other Entities</p> <p>This Standard, issued in August 2011, supersedes disclosure requirements in AASB 127 Consolidated and Separate Financial Statements, AASB 128 Investments in Associates and AASB 131 Interests in Joint Ventures.</p> <p>Mandatory application of this Standard was deferred for not-for-profit entities by AASB 2012-10. There is no financial impact.</p>	1 Jan 2014
AASB 14	<p>Regulatory Deferral Accounts</p> <p>The BGPA has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard.</p>	
AASB 127	<p>Separate Financial Statements</p> <p>This Standard, issued in August 2011, supersedes AASB 127 Consolidated and Separate Financial Statements removing the consolidation requirements of the earlier standard whilst retaining accounting and disclosure requirements for the preparation of separate financial statements. Mandatory application was deferred for not-for-profit entities by AASB 2012-10. There is no financial impact.</p>	1 Jan 2014

Note 4 continued

		Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after:
AASB 128	<p>Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures</p> <p>This Standard supersedes AASB 128 Investments in Associates, introducing a number of clarifications for the accounting treatments of changed ownership interest.</p> <p>Mandatory application of this Standard was deferred for not-for-profit entities by AASB 2012-10. The adoption of the new Standard has no financial impact for the BGPA as it does not hold investments in associates and the accounting treatments for joint operations is consistent with current practice.</p>	1 Jan 2014
AASB 1031	<p>Materiality</p> <p>This Standard supersedes AASB 1031 (February 2010), removing Australian guidance on materiality not available in IFRSs and refers to guidance on materiality in other Australian pronouncements. There is no financial impact.</p>	1 Jan 2014
AASB 1055	<p>Budgetary Reporting</p> <p>This Standard requires specific budgetary disclosures in the general purpose financial statements of not-for-profit entities within the General Government Sector. The BGPA will be required to disclose additional budgetary information and explanations of major variances between actual and budgeted amounts, though there is no financial impact.</p>	1 Jul 2014
AASB 2009-11	<p>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 [AASB 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 101, 102, 108, 112, 118, 121, 127, 128, 131, 132, 136, 139, 1023 and 1038 and Int 10 and 12] [modified by AASB 2010-7]</p>	1 Jan 2015

Note 4 continued

	Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after:
<p>AASB 2010-7 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 (December 2010) [AASB 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 101, 102, 108, 112, 118, 120, 121, 127, 128, 131, 132, 136, 137, 139, 1023 and 1038 and Int 2, 5, 10, 12, 19 and 127]</p> <p>This Standard makes consequential amendments to other Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations as a result of issuing AASB 9 in December 2010.</p> <p>AASB 2012-6 amended the mandatory application date of this Standard to 1 January 2015. The BGPA has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard.</p>	1 Jan 2015
<p>AASB 2011-7 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from the Consolidation and Joint Arrangements Standards [AASB 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 101, 107, 112, 118, 121, 124, 132, 133, 136, 138, 139, 1023 and 1038 and Int 5, 9, 16 and 17]</p> <p>This Standard gives effect to consequential changes arising from the issuance of AASB 10, AASB 11, AASB 127 Separate Financial Statements and AASB 128 Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures. For not-for-profit entities it applies to annual reporting period beginning on or after 1 January 2014. The BGPA has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard.</p>	1 Jan 2013
<p>AASB 2012-3 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Offsetting Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities [AASB 132]</p> <p>This Standard adds application guidance to AASB 132 to address inconsistencies identified in applying some of the offsetting criteria, including clarifying the meaning of “currently has a legally enforceable right of set-off” and that some gross settlement systems may be considered equivalent to net settlement. There is no financial impact.</p>	1 Jan 2014
<p>AASB 2013-3 Amendments to AASB 136 – Recoverable Amount Disclosures for Non-Financial Assets.</p> <p>This Standard introduces editorial and disclosure changes. There is no financial impact.</p>	1 Jan 2014

Note 4 continued

	Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after:
<p>AASB 2013-4 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Novation of Derivatives and Continuation of Hedge Accounting [AASB 139]</p> <p>This Standard permits the continuation of hedge accounting in circumstances where a derivative, which has been designated as a hedging instrument, is novated from one counterparty to a central counterparty as a consequence of laws or regulations. The BGPA does not routinely enter into derivatives or hedges, therefore there is no financial impact.</p>	1 Jan 2014
<p>AASB 2013-8 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards Australian Implementation Guidance for Not-for-Profit Entities – Control and Structured Entities [AASB 10, 12 and 1049].</p> <p>The amendments, issued in October 2013, provide significant guidance in determining whether a not-for-profit entity controls another entity when financial returns are not a key attribute of the investor’s relationship. The Standard has no financial impact in its own right, rather the impact results from the adoption of the amended AASB 10.</p>	1 Jan 2014
<p>AASB 2013-9 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards Conceptual Framework, Materiality and Financial Instruments.</p> <p>This omnibus Standard makes amendments to other Standards arising from the deletion of references to AASB 1031 in other Standards for periods beginning on or after 1 January 2014 (Part B), and, defers the application of AASB 9 to 1 January 2017 (Part C). The application date of AASB 9 was subsequently deferred to 1 January 2018 by AASB 2014-1. The BGPA has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of AASB 9, otherwise there is no financial impact for Part B.</p>	1 Jan 2014 1 Jan 2017
<p>AASB 2014-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards</p> <p>The BGPA has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard.</p>	1 Jul 2014 1 Jan 2015 1 Jan 2016 1 Jan 2018

Note 5. Employee benefits expense

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Wages and salaries ^(a)	9,517,196	10,068,166
Superannuation - defined contribution plans ^(b)	725,494	706,429
Superannuation - defined benefit plans ^(c)	213,236	201,490
	10,455,926	10,976,085

(a) Includes the value of the fringe benefit to the employee plus the fringe benefits tax component, leave entitlements including superannuation contribution component.

(b) Defined contribution plans include West State, GESBS and Gold State and other eligible funds.

(c) Includes a superannuation contribution component (note 26 'Provisions').

Employment on-costs such as workers' compensation insurance are included at note 8 'Other Expenses'.

Employment on-costs liability is included at note 26 'Provisions'.

Note 6. Supplies and services

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Communications	139,000	149,137
Consultants and contractors	4,274,530	3,086,533
Consumables	1,368,112	1,368,037
Travel	113,838	132,236
Other	812,829	1,264,881
	6,708,319	6,000,824

Note 7. Depreciation expense

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Plant, equipment and vehicles (includes monuments)	1,244,105	1,063,540
Buildings	382,552	372,667
Infrastructure	23,425	23,425
Total depreciation	1,650,082	1,459,632

Note 8. Other expenses

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	253,348	238,030
Building and infrastructure maintenance	1,394,510	1,244,685
Equipment repairs and maintenance	844,807	545,482
Write-offs and inventory adjustments ^(c)	189,687	15,818
Employment on-costs ^(a)	545,933	531,833
Fee for service ^(b)	13,377	(190,641)
Other ^(d)	115,986	176,225
	3,357,648	2,561,432

- (a) Includes workers' compensation insurance and other employment on-costs. The on-costs liability associated with the recognition of annual and long service leave liability is included at note 26 'Provisions'. Superannuation contributions accrued as part of the provision for leave are employee benefits and are not included in employment on-costs, See note 5 'Employee benefits expense'.
- (b) Fee for service recognised as a liability, See also note 27 'Other current liabilities'.
- (c) Write-offs and inventory adjustments for damaged stock. See also note 38 'Supplementary financial information'.
- (d) Included in other expenses above are audit fees. Refer to note 37 'Remuneration of auditor' for details on the remuneration of the auditor.

Note 9. User charges and fees

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Rent and licence fees	862,311	783,428
Functions and events	894,631	888,866
Fines and infringements	83,684	66,334
	1,840,626	1,738,628

Note 10. Trading profit

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Sales	2,393,746	2,406,392
Cost of Sales:		
Opening inventory	(648,535)	(664,211)
Purchases	(1,346,623)	(1,313,545)
	(1,995,158)	(1,977,756)
Closing inventory	662,451	648,535
Cost of Goods Sold	(1,332,707)	(1,329,221)
Trading Profit	1,061,039	1,077,171

See also note 2(o) 'Inventories' and note 17 'Inventories'.

Note 11. Commonwealth grants and contributions

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Recurrent	152,002	52,000
	152,002	52,000

Note 12. Interest revenue

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Interest revenue ^(a)	300,087	393,680
	300,087	393,680

(a) Commonwealth Bank of Australia

Note 13. Fee for service, subsidies, sponsorships and other revenue

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Fee for service, subsidies and sponsorships		
Fee for service and subsidies	2,029,860	1,969,547
Sponsorships	956,943	607,698
	2,986,803	2,577,245
Other Revenue		
Recoups	845,350	394,876
Other	32,433	121,811
	877,783	516,687

Note 14. Net gain/(loss) on disposal of non current assets

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Proceeds from disposal of non-current assets		
Plant, equipment and vehicles	20,922	147,473
Costs of disposal of non-current assets		
Plant, equipment and vehicles	(18,673)	(183,289)
Net gain/(loss)	2,249	(35,816)

See also note 2(i) 'Non-current assets (or disposal groups) classified as held for sale' and note 20 'Property, plant and equipment'.

Note 15. Income from State Government

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Appropriation received during the year:		
Service appropriation ^(a)	14,489,000	13,769,000
	<u>14,489,000</u>	<u>13,769,000</u>
Services received free of charge from other State government agencies during the financial period: ^(b)		
Department of Health	15,000	15,000
State Solicitor's Office	7,756	12,162
	<u>22,756</u>	<u>27,162</u>
	<u>14,511,756</u>	<u>13,796,162</u>

- (a) Service appropriations fund the net cost of services delivered. Appropriation revenue comprises a cash component and a receivable (asset). The receivable (holding account) comprises the budgeted depreciation expense for the year and any agreed increase in leave liability during the year.
- (b) Assets or services received free of charge or for nominal cost are recognised as revenue (and assets or expenses) equivalent to the fair value of the assets and/or the fair value of those services that can be reliably determined and which would have been purchased if not donated.

Note 16. Restricted cash and cash equivalents

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Current		
Fee for service ^(a)	1,442,158	1,476,928
Sponsorship	61,638	28,512
Paid Parental	3,284	943
27 th Pay	360,837	-
	<u>1,867,917</u>	<u>1,506,383</u>

- (a) Unspent funds are committed to scientific research projects.

Note 17. Inventories

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Current		
Inventories held for resale	662,451	648,535
	<u>662,451</u>	<u>648,535</u>

See also note 2(o) 'Inventories' and note 10 'Trading profit'.

Note 18. Receivables and other assets

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Current		
Receivables	1,348,023	1,011,906
Infringements	40,117	38,184
Allowance for impairment of receivables	(180,310)	-
Accrued revenue	297,902	218,814
Prepayments	53,507	11,629
GST receivable	262,721	78,225
	1,821,960	1,358,758
Reconciliation of changes in the allowance for impairment of receivables:		
Balance at start of period	-	-
Doubtful debts expense	180,310	-
Amounts written off during the period	-	-
Balance at end of period	180,310	-

The BGPA does not hold any collateral or other credit enhancements as security for receivables.

See also note 2(p) 'Receivables', note 35 'Financial instruments'.

Note 19. Amounts receivable for services (Holding Account)

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Current	1,000,000	975,000
Non-current	5,057,000	4,612,000
	6,057,000	5,587,000

Represents the non-cash component of service appropriations. It is restricted in that it can only be used for asset replacement or payment of leave liabilities

See also note 2(n) 'Amounts receivable for services (holding account)'.

Note 20. Property, plant and equipment

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Land		
At fair value ^(a)	15,571,000	15,351,000
Accumulated impairment losses	-	-
	<u>15,571,000</u>	<u>15,351,000</u>
Buildings and residences		
At fair value ^(a)	19,100,902	18,889,784
Accumulated depreciation	(2,432,202)	(2,020,462)
Accumulated impairment losses	-	-
	<u>16,668,700</u>	<u>16,869,322</u>
Assets under construction		
Construction costs	477,182	143,369
	<u>477,182</u>	<u>143,369</u>
Plant, equipment and vehicles		
At cost	9,907,211	9,301,042
Accumulated depreciation	(6,789,939)	(6,370,218)
Accumulated impairment losses	-	-
	<u>3,117,272</u>	<u>2,930,824</u>
Special items		
At cost	3,945,698	3,945,698
Accumulated depreciation	(1,031,996)	(932,330)
Accumulated impairment losses	-	-
	<u>2,913,702</u>	<u>3,013,368</u>
Monuments and specified items		
At fair value	17,938,060	17,938,060
Accumulated depreciation	(7,613,784)	(7,144,166)
Accumulated impairment losses	-	-
	<u>10,324,276</u>	<u>10,793,894</u>
	<u>49,072,132</u>	<u>49,101,777</u>

(a) Land and buildings were revalued as at 1 July 2013 by the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Valuation Services). The valuations were performed during the year ended 30 June 2014 and recognised at 30 June 2014. In undertaking the revaluation, fair value was determined on the basis of existing use. Please refer note 2(f) 'Property, plant and equipment and infrastructure' for basis of valuation.

Information on fair value measurements is provided in note 21.

Note 20 continued

Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of property, plant, equipment at the beginning and end of the reporting period are set out below:

	Land	Buildings and residences	Assets under construction	Plant, equipment and vehicles	Special items	Monuments and specified items	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
2014							
Carrying amount at start of year	15,351,000	16,869,322	143,369	2,930,824	3,013,368	10,793,894	49,101,777
Additions	-	25,526	348,849	970,853	-	-	1,345,228
Other disposals	-	-	-	(379,660)	-	-	(379,660)
Transfers	-	15,036	(15,036)	-	-	-	-
Revaluation increments/(decrements)	220,000	141,368	-	-	-	-	361,368
Deposits on assets	-	-	-	14,975	-	-	14,975
Depreciation expense	-	(382,552)	-	(419,720)	(99,666)	(469,618)	(1,371,556)
Carrying amount at end of period	15,571,000	16,668,700	477,182	3,117,272	2,913,702	10,324,276	49,072,132
2013							
Carrying amount at start of year	15,304,000	17,252,632	65,654	2,789,037	3,113,000	5,169,438	43,693,761
Additions	-	-	372,780	1,115,292	-	-	1,488,072
Other disposals	-	-	-	(480,994)	-	-	(480,994)
Transfers	-	295,065	(295,065)	-	-	-	-
Revaluation increments/(decrements)	47,000	(305,708)	-	-	-	5,782,422	5,523,714
Deposits on assets	-	-	-	15,682	-	-	15,682
Depreciation expense	-	(372,667)	-	(508,193)	(99,632)	(157,966)	(1,138,458)
Carrying amount at end of period	15,351,000	16,869,322	143,369	2,930,824	3,013,368	10,793,894	49,101,777

Note 21. Fair value measurements

Assets measured at fair value:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Fair value at end of period
2014	\$	\$	\$	\$
Land (note 20)	-	-	15,571,000	15,571,000
Buildings and residences (note 20)	-	-	16,668,700	16,668,700
Monuments and specified items (note 20)	-	-	10,324,276	10,324,276
Infrastructure (note 23)	-	-	843,300	843,300
	-	-	43,407,276	43,407,276

There were no transfers between Levels 1, 2 or 3 during the period.

Valuation techniques to derive Level 2 fair values

Level 2 fair values of Non-current assets held for sale, Land and Buildings (office Accommodation) are derived using the market approach. Market evidence of sales prices of comparable land and buildings (office accommodation) in close proximity is used to determine price per square metre.

Non-current assets held for sale have been written down to fair value less costs to sell. Fair value has been determined by reference to market evidence of sales prices of comparable assets.

Note 21 continued

Fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3)

2014	Land	Buildings and residences	Monuments and specified items	Fair value at end of period
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Fair Value at start of period	15,531,000	16,869,322	10,793,894	866,725
Additions	-	40,562	-	-
Revaluation increments/(decrements) recognised in Profit or Loss	-	-	-	-
Revaluation increments/(decrements) recognised in Other Comprehensive Income	220,000	141,368	-	-
Transfers (from/(to) Level 2)	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Depreciation Expense		(382,552)	(469,618)	(23,425)
Fair Value at end of period	15,751,000	16,668,700	10,324,276	843,300
Total gains or losses for the period included in profit or loss, under 'Other Gains'.	-	-	-	-
Change in unrealised gains or losses for the period included in profit or loss for assets held at the end of the reporting period.	-	-	-	-

Valuation processes

There were no changes in valuation techniques during the period.

Transfers in and out of a fair value level are recognised on the date of the event or change in circumstances that caused the transfer. Transfers are generally limited to assets newly classified as non-current assets held for sale as Treasurer's instructions require valuations of land, buildings and infrastructure to be categorised within Level 3 where the valuations will utilise significant Level 3 inputs on a recurring basis.

Note 21 continued

Fair value for existing use specialised buildings and infrastructure assets is determined by reference to the cost of replacing the remaining future economic benefits embodied in the asset, i.e. the depreciated replacement cost. Depreciated replacement cost is the current replacement cost of an asset less accumulated depreciation calculated on the basis of such cost to reflect the already consumed or expired economic benefit, or obsolescence, and optimisation (where applicable) of the asset. Current replacement cost is generally determined by reference to the market observable replacement cost of a substitute asset of comparable utility and the gross project size specifications.

Information about significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) in fair value measurements

Description	Fair value as at 30 June 2014 - \$	Valuation technique(s)	Unobservable inputs	Range of unobservable inputs (weighted average)	Relationship of unobservable inputs to fair value
Land	15,751,000	Current Use	Selection of land with similar approximate utility	\$0.39 - \$10.55 per m ² (\$1.86 per m ²)	Higher value of similar land increases estimated fair value
Buildings and residences	16,668,700	Depreciated Replacement Cost	Consumed economic benefit/obsolescence of asset	1.64% - 6.85% (2.56% per year)	Greater consumption of economic benefit or increased obsolescence lowers fair value
			Historical cost per square metre floor area (m ²)	\$0.60 - \$319.85 per m ² (\$7.76 per m ²)	Higher historical cost per square metre (m ²) increases fair value
Monuments and specified items	10,324,276	Depreciated Replacement Cost	Consumed economic benefit/obsolescence of asset	1.09% - 10% (2.62% per year)	Greater consumption of economic benefit or increased obsolescence lowers fair value
			Historical cost per item	\$4,422 - \$3,010,221 per item (\$68,414 per item)	Higher historical cost per item increases fair value
Infrastructure	843,300	Depreciated Replacement Cost	Consumed economic benefit/obsolescence of asset	2.7% (2.7% per year)	Greater consumption of economic benefit or increased obsolescence lowers fair value
			Historical cost per item	\$226,800 - \$616,500 per item (\$421,650 per item)	Higher historical cost item increases fair value

Note 21 continued

Reconciliations of the opening and closing balances are provided in notes 20 and 23.

Basis of Valuation

In the absence of market-based evidence, due to the specialised nature of some non financial assets, these assets are valued at Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy on an existing use basis. The existing use basis recognises that restrictions or limitations have been based on their use and disposal when they are not determined to be surplus to requirements. These restrictions are imposed by virtue of the assets being held to deliver a specific community service and the BGPA's enabling legislation.

Note 22. Operating lease receivable

2014	2013
\$	\$

The BGPA leases buildings to commercial tenants for retail purposes under operating leases of varying terms and duration. Details of the minimum lease payments receivable are detailed below.

Future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases in the aggregate:

Within 1 year	966,386	756,857
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	3,970,690	3,416,814
Later than 5 years	13,230,292	30,400,425
	18,167,368	34,574,096

Operating leases fall into two categories; those based on a percentage of gross turnover and fixed leases with either scheduled increases or decreases based on annual CPI increases. There is one significant operating lease which expires in 2036.

These commitments are all exclusive of GST.

Note 23. Infrastructure

2014	2013
\$	\$

At cost (initial)	937,000	937,000
At cost	-	-
Accumulated depreciation	(93,700)	(70,275)
	843,300	866,725
Reconciliation:		
Carrying amount at start of period	866,725	890,150
Additions	-	-
Impairment losses	-	-
Depreciation expense	(23,425)	(23,425)
Carrying amount at end of period	843,300	866,725

See also note 2(f) 'Property, plant and equipment and infrastructure'.

Information on fair value measurements is provided in note 21.

Note 24. Impairment of assets

There were no indications of impairment to property and plant and equipment, or infrastructure at 30 June 2014.

The BGPA held no goodwill or intangible assets with an indefinite useful life during the reporting period. At the end of the reporting period there were no intangible assets not yet available for use.

All surplus assets at 30 June 2014 have either been classified as assets held for sale or written-off.

Note 25. Payables

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Current		
Accounts payable	297,388	431,089
Accrued expenses	324,186	405,812
Accrued salaries	289,270	200,015
GST payable	-	-
Total current	910,844	1,036,916

See also note 2(q) 'Payables' and note 35 'Financial instruments'

Note 26. Provisions

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Current		
Employee benefits provision		
Annual leave ^(a)	670,335	1,020,021
Long service leave ^(b)	683,723	876,375
Purchased leave ^{(a)(b)}	40,637	68,545
	<u>1,394,695</u>	<u>1,964,941</u>
Other provisions		
Employment on-costs ^(c)	24,421	53,707
	<u>24,421</u>	<u>53,707</u>
	1,419,116	2,018,648
Non-current		
Employee benefits provision		
Long service leave ^(b)	603,645	628,515
Purchased leave ^(b)	35,007	23,988
	<u>638,652</u>	<u>652,503</u>
Other provisions		
Employment on-costs ^(c)	11,084	18,276
	<u>11,084</u>	<u>18,276</u>
	649,736	670,779

(a) Annual leave liabilities have been classified as current as there is no unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the reporting period. Assessments indicate that actual settlement of the liabilities will occur as follows:

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Within 12 months of the end of the reporting period	480,441	685,177
More than 12 months after the reporting period	197,098	356,733
	677,539	1,041,910

Note 26 continued

- (b) Long service leave liabilities have been classified as current where there is no unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the reporting period. Assessments indicate that actual settlement of the liabilities will occur as follows:

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Within 12 months of the end of the reporting period	352,267	394,306
More than 12 months after the reporting period	1,003,541	1,181,228
	1,355,808	1,575,534

- (c) The settlement of annual and long service leave liabilities gives rise to the payment of employment on-costs including workers' compensation insurance. The provision is the present value of expected future payments.

The associated expense, apart from the unwinding of the discount (finance cost), is disclosed in note 8 'Other expenses'.

Movements in other provisions

Movements in each class of provisions during the financial year, other than employee benefits, are set out below:

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Employment on-cost provision		
Carrying amount at start of year	71,983	67,000
Additional provisions recognised	-	4,983
Reduction in provision	(36,478)	-
Carrying amount at end of year	35,505	71,983

Note 27. Other liabilities

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Current		
Unearned revenue	377,664	321,691
Fee for service	2,121,507	2,108,130
Other (bonds/retentions/suspense)	120,460	36,560
Total current	2,619,631	2,466,381

See also note 2(q) 'Payables' and note 35 'Financial instruments'.

Note 28. Equity

The Government holds the equity interest in the BGPA on behalf of the community. Equity represents the residual interest in the net assets of the BGPA. The asset revaluation surplus represents that portion of equity resulting from the revaluation of non-current assets.

Contributed equity

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Balance at start of period	30,365,000	30,022,000
Contributions by owners		
Capital appropriation ^(a)	-	343,000
Total contributions by owners	-	343,000
Balance at end of period	30,365,000	30,365,000

(a) TI 955 Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly Owned Public Sector Entities designates capital appropriations as contributions by owners in accordance with AASB Interpretation 1038 Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly-Owned Public Sector Entities.

Reserves

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Asset revaluation surplus		
Balance at start of period	20,342,062	14,818,348
Net revaluation increments/(decrements):		
Land	220,000	47,000
Buildings & Residences	141,368	(305,708)
Infrastructure	-	-
Monuments and specified items	-	5,782,442
Balance at end of period	20,703,430	20,342,062

Accumulated surplus/(deficit)

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Balance at start of period	12,543,222	13,425,438
Result for the period	(439,630)	(882,216)
Income and expense recognised directly in equity	-	-
Balance at end of the year	12,103,592	12,543,222
Total Equity at end of period	63,172,022	63,250,284

Note 29. Notes to the Statement of Cash Flows**Reconciliation of cash**

Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the Statement of Financial Position as follows:

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Cash and cash equivalents	8,446,589	10,373,830
Restricted cash and cash equivalents (note 16 'Restricted cash and cash equivalents')	1,867,917	1,506,383
	10,314,506	11,880,213

Reconciliation of net cost of services to net cash flows provided by/(used in) operating activities

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Net cost of services	(14,951,386)	(14,678,378)
Non-cash items:		
Depreciation expense (note 7 'Depreciation and expense')	1,650,082	1,459,632
Services received free of charge (note 15 'Income from State Government')	22,756	27,162
Net (gain)/loss on sale of property plant and equipment (note 14 'Net gain/(loss) on sale of non-current assets')	(2,249)	35,816
Write offs and inventory adjustments	30,907	27,921
(Increase)/decrease in assets:		
Current receivables ^(a)	(536,335)	(253,511)
Current inventories	(19,054)	10,573
Increase/(decrease) in liabilities		
Current payables ^(a)	(187,022)	33,523
Current provisions	(599,532)	313,137
Other current liabilities	153,250	(74,495)
Non-current provisions	(21,043)	(31,255)
Net GST receipts/(payments) ^(b)	72,736	15,515
Change in GST in receivables/payables ^(c)	35,578	31,948
Net cash used in operating activities	(14,351,312)	(13,089,412)

(a) Note that the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) receivable/payable in respect of GST and the receivable/payable in respect of the sale/purchase of non-current assets are not included in these items as they do not form part of the reconciling items.

(b) This is the net GST paid/received, i.e. cash transactions.

(c) This reverses out the GST in receivables and payables.

Note 30. Services provided free of charge

During the year no services were provided to other agencies free of charge for functions outside the normal operations of the BGPA

Note 31. Commitments

The commitments below are exclusive of GST.

Capital expenditure commitments

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Capital expenditure commitments, being contracted capital expenditure additional to the amounts reported in the financial statements, are payable as follows:		
Within 1 year	4,889,000	1,000,000
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	4,000,000	3,000,000
Later than 5 years	-	-
	8,889,000	4,000,000
The capital commitments include amounts for:		
Asset replacement	4,000,000	4,000,000
	4,000,000	4,000,000

Vehicle lease commitments

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Commitments in relation to vehicle leases contracted for at the end of the reporting period but not recognised in the financial statements are payable as follows:		
Within 1 year	107,812	75,849
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	152,950	56,979
Later than 5 years	-	-
	260,762	132,828
Representing:		
Non-cancellable operating leases	260,762	132,828
	260,762	132,828

Note 32. Contingent liabilities and contingent assets

The BGPA has no contingent liabilities or contingent assets.

Note 33. Events occurring after the end of the reporting period

The BGPA has had no events occurring after the end of the reporting period.

Note 34. Explanatory statement

Significant variation between estimates and actual results for 2014 and between the actual results for 2013 and 2014 are shown below. Significant variations are considered to be those of a material nature greater than 10% or \$250,000.

Significant variances between estimated and actual result for 2014

	2014 Estimate \$	2014 Actual \$	Variance Fav/(Unfav) \$
Employee benefits expense	11,425,889	10,445,926	969,963
Supplies and services	6,258,217	6,708,319	(450,102)
Other expenses	2,889,761	3,357,648	(467,887)
Fee for service, subsidies and sponsorship	3,263,758	2,986,803	276,955
Other revenue	491,727	877,783	(389,056)

Employee benefits expense

The variance is due to the reduction in leave liability for the period and a greater number than expected of unfilled vacancies.

Supplies and services

The variance is due to a greater than forecast maintenance and landscaping works.

Other expenses

The variance is due to greater than expected legal and debt provision expenses being incurred.

Fee for service, subsidies and sponsorship

The variance is due to less than forecast sponsorship funding being received.

Other revenue

The variance is due to greater than forecast recoups of expenditure being made.

Note 34 continued

Significant variances between actual results for 2013 and 2014

	2014 Actual \$	2013 Actual \$	Variance Fav/(Unfav) \$
Income			
Fee for service, subsidies and sponsorship	2,986,803	2,577,245	409,558
Other revenue	877,783	516,687	361,096
Expenses			
Employee benefits expense	10,445,926	10,976,085	520,159
Supplies and services	6,708,319	6,000,824	(707,495)
Other expenses	3,357,648	2,561,432	(796,216)

Fee for service, subsidies and sponsorship

The variance is due to greater sponsorship funding and fee for service income due to increased delivery of services.

Other revenue

The variance is due to greater than forecast recoups of expenditure being made.

Employee benefits expense

The variance is due to the reduction in leave liability for the period and a greater number than expected of unfilled vacancies.

Supplies and services

The variance is due to greater than forecast maintenance and landscaping works.

Other expenses

The variance is due to greater than expected legal and debt provision expenses being incurred.

Note 35. Financial instruments

a) Financial risk management objectives and policies

Financial instruments held by the BGPA are cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash and cash equivalents, receivables, and payables. The BGPA has limited exposure to financial risks. The BGPA's overall risk management program focuses on managing the risks identified below.

Credit risk

Credit risk arises when there is the possibility of the BGPA's receivables defaulting on their contractual obligations resulting in financial loss to the BGPA.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the end of the reporting period in relation to each class of recognised financial assets is the gross carrying amount of those assets inclusive of any allowance for impairment as shown in the table at note 35 (c) 'Financial instrument disclosures' and note 18 'Receivables and other assets'.

Note 35 continued

Credit risk associated with the BGPA's financial assets is minimal because the main receivable is the amounts receivable for services (holding account). For receivables other than government, the BGPA trades only with recognised, creditworthy third parties. The BGPA has policies in place to ensure that sales of products and services are made to customers with an appropriate credit history. In addition, receivable balances are monitored on an ongoing basis with the result that the BGPA's exposure to bad debts is minimal. At the end of the reporting period there were no significant concentrations of credit risk.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk arises when the BGPA is unable to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The BGPA is exposed to liquidity risk through its trading in the normal course of business. The BGPA has appropriate procedures to manage cash flows including drawdowns of appropriations by monitoring forecast cash flows to ensure that sufficient funds are available to meet its commitments.

Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices such as foreign exchange rates and interest rates will affect the BGPA's income or the value of its holdings of financial instruments.

The BGPA does not trade in foreign currency and is not materially exposed to other price risks.

The BGPA has limited exposure to interest rate risk because it has no borrowings.

b) Categories of financial instruments

The carrying amounts of each of the following categories of financial assets and financial liabilities at the end of the reporting period are as follows:

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Financial assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	8,446,589	10,373,830
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	1,867,917	1,506,383
Receivables ^(a)	1,559,239	1,280,533
Amounts receivable for services	6,057,000	5,587,000
Financial liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost		
Payables ^(a)	910,844	1,036,916

(a) The amount of receivables and payables excludes GST recoverable from or payable to the ATO (statutory receivable).

Note 35 continued

c) Financial instrument disclosures

Credit risk

The following table discloses the BGPA’s maximum exposure to credit risk and the ageing analysis of financial assets. The BGPA’s maximum exposure to credit risk at the end of the reporting period is the carrying amount of financial assets as shown below. The table discloses the ageing of financial assets that are past due but not impaired and impaired financial assets. The table is based on information provided to senior management of the BGPA.

The BGPA does not hold any collateral as security or other credit enhancements relating to the financial assets it holds.

Ageing analysis of financial assets

	Carrying Amount	Not past Due and not Impaired	Past due not impaired					Impaired financial assets
			up to 1 month	1-3 months	3 months to 1 year	1-5 years	More than 5 years	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
2014								
Cash and cash equivalents	8,446,589	8,446,589	-	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	1,867,917	1,867,917	-	-	-	-	-	-
Receivables ^(a)	1,559,239	1,318,272	2,316	29,092	10,680	16,171	2,397	180,310
Amounts receivable for services	6,057,000	6,057,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
	17,930,745	17,689,778	2,316	29,092	10,680	16,171	2,397	180,310
2013								
Cash and cash equivalents	10,373,830	10,373,830	-	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	1,506,383	1,506,383	-	-	-	-	-	-
Receivables ^(a)	1,280,533	996,533	26,000	63,000	175,000	17,000	3,000	-
Amounts receivable for services	5,587,000	5,587,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
	18,747,746	18,463,746	26,000	63,000	175,000	17,000	3,000	-

(a) The amount of receivables excludes GST payable to the ATO (statutory receivable)

Note 35 continued

Liquidity risk and interest rate exposure

The following table details the BGPA's interest rate exposure and the contractual maturity analysis of financial assets and financial liabilities. The maturity analysis section includes interest and principal cash flows. The interest rate exposure section analyses only the carrying amounts of each item.

Interest rate exposure and maturity analysis of financial assets and liabilities

	Interest rate exposure						Maturity date				
	Weighted Average Effective Interest Rate %	Carrying Amount \$	Fixed Interest Rate \$	Variable interest rate \$	Non-interest bearing \$	Nominal Amount \$	Up to 1 month \$	1-3 months \$	3 months to 1 year \$	1-5 years \$	More than 5 years \$
2014											
Financial Assets											
Cash and cash equivalents	2.4	8,446,589	-	8,446,589	-	8,446,589	8,446,589	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	2.4	1,867,917	-	1,867,917	-	1,867,917	1,867,917	-	-	-	-
Receivables ^(a)	-	1,559,239	-	-	1,559,239	1,559,239	1,559,239	-	-	-	-
Amounts receivable for services	-	6,057,000	-	-	6,057,000	6,057,000	50,000	250,000	700,000	-	5,057,000
		17,930,745	-	10,314,506	7,616,239	17,930,745	11,923,745	250,000	700,000	-	5,057,000
Financial Liabilities											
Payables	-	910,844	-	-	910,844	910,844	910,844	-	-	-	-
		910,844	-	-	910,844	910,844	910,844	-	-	-	-

(a) The amounts disclosed are the contractual undiscounted cash flows of each class of financial liability at the end of the reporting period.

Note 35 continued

Interest rate exposure and maturity analysis of financial assets and liabilities

	Interest rate exposure					Maturity date					
	Weighted Average Effective Interest Rate %	Carrying Amount \$	Fixed Interest Rate \$	Variable interest rate \$	Non-interest bearing \$	Nominal Amount \$	Up to 1 month \$	1-3 months \$	3 months to 1 year \$	1-5 years \$	More than 5 years \$
2013											
Financial Assets											
Cash and cash equivalents	3.16	10,373,830	-	10,373,830	-	10,373,830	10,373,830	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	3.16	1,506,383	-	1,506,383	-	1,506,383	1,506,383	-	-	-	-
Receivables ^(a)		1,280,533	-	-	1,280,533	1,280,533	1,280,533	-	-	-	-
Amounts receivable for services		5,587,000	-	-	5,587,000	5,587,000	50,000	250,000	675,000	-	4,612,000
		18,747,746	-	11,880,213	6,867,533	18,747,746	13,210,746	250,000	675,000		4,612,000
Financial Liabilities											
Payables		1,036,916	-	-	1,036,916	1,036,916	1,036,916	-	-	-	-
		1,036,916	-	-	1,036,916	1,036,916	1,036,916	-	-	-	-

(a) The amounts disclosed are the contractual undiscounted cash flows of each class of financial liability at the end of the reporting period.

Note 35 continued

Interest rate sensitivity analysis

The following table represents a summary of the interest rate sensitivity of the BGPA's financial assets and liabilities at the end of the reporting period on the surplus for the period and equity for a 0.5% change in interest rates. It is assumed that the change in interest rates is held constant throughout the reporting period.

	Carrying Amount	-50 Basis Points		+ 50 Basis Points	
		Surplus	Equity	Surplus	Equity
2014	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial Assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	8,446,589	(42,233)	(42,233)	42,233	42,233
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	1,867,917	(9,340)	(9,340)	9,340	9,340
Total Increase/(Decrease)		(51,573)	(51,573)	51,573	51,573

	Carrying Amount	-50 Basis Points		+ 50 Basis Points	
		Surplus	Equity	Surplus	Equity
2013	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial Assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	10,373,830	(51,869)	(51,869)	51,869	51,869
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	1,506,383	(7,532)	(7,532)	7,532	7,532
Total Increase/(Decrease)		(59,401)	(59,401)	59,401	59,401

Fair values

All financial assets and liabilities recognised in the Statement of Financial Position, whether they are carried at cost or fair value, are recognised at amounts that represent a reasonable approximation of fair value unless otherwise stated in the applicable notes.

Note 36. Remuneration of members of the accountable authority and senior officers

Remuneration of members of the accountable authority

The number of members of the BGPA, whose total of fees, salaries, superannuation, non monetary benefits and other benefits for the financial year, fall within the following bands are:

\$	2014	2013
0 - 10,000	7	7
10,000 - 20,000	1	1
	\$	\$
Base remuneration and superannuation	43,947	49,000
The total remuneration of members of the BGPA is:	43,947	49,000

The total remuneration includes the superannuation expense incurred by the BGPA in respect of members of the BGPA.

No members of the BGPA are members of the Pension Scheme.

Where a member's remuneration is zero, the member has been included in a band labelled '\$0 - \$10,000'.

Remuneration of senior officers

The number of senior officers, other than senior officers reported as members of the accountable authority, whose total fees, salaries, superannuation, non monetary benefits and other benefits for the financial year, fall within the following bands are:

Remuneration Band \$	2014	2013
200,001 - 210,000	-	2
210,001 - 220,000	2	1
230,001 - 240,000	1	-
270,001 - 280,000	-	1
330,001 - 340,000	1	-
	\$	\$
Base remuneration and superannuation	739,862	654,271
Annual leave and long service leave accruals	121,096	119,111
Other benefits	133,924	125,364
The total remuneration of senior officers:	994,882	898,746

The total remuneration includes the superannuation expense incurred by the BGPA in respect of senior officers other than senior officers reported as members of the accountable authority.

Note 37. Remuneration of auditor

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Auditing the accounts, financial statements and performance indicators	29,400	28,650
	29,400	28,650

Note 38. Supplementary financial information

	2014 \$	2013 \$
Write-Offs		
Write –offs and inventory adjustment	25,769	15,818
Recovery from insurance claims on inventory damages	(7,144)	(7,159)
	18,625	8,659

Note 39. Schedule of income and expenses by service

	Service 1		Service 2		Total	
	Customer Service and Cultural Heritage		Biodiversity Conservation and Scientific Research			
	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
COST OF SERVICES						
Expenses						
Employee benefits expense	4,392,018	4,647,556	6,063,908	6,328,529	10,455,926	10,976,085
Supplies and services	3,716,925	3,154,964	2,991,394	2,845,860	6,708,319	6,000,824
Depreciation expense	825,041	729,816	825,041	729,816	1,650,082	1,459,632
Cost of Sales	1,330,332	1,329,034	2,375	187	1,332,707	1,329,221
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	-	23,432	-	12,384	-	35,816
Other expenses	1,665,735	1,418,174	1,691,913	1,143,258	3,357,648	2,561,432
Total cost of services	11,930,051	11,302,976	11,574,631	11,060,034	23,504,682	22,363,010
Income						
User charges and fees	1,773,119	1,673,555	67,507	65,073	1,840,626	1,738,628
Sales	2,386,782	2,385,364	6,964	21,028	2,393,746	2,406,392
Commonwealth grants and contributions	-	-	152,002	52,000	152,002	52,000
Interest revenue	195,057	255,892	105,030	137,788	300,087	393,680
Gain on disposal of non-current assets	6,590	-	(4,341)	-	2,249	-
Fee for service, subsidies and sponsorships	548,075	369,135	2,438,728	2,208,110	2,986,803	2,577,245
Other revenue	259,706	156,628	618,077	360,059	877,783	516,687
Total income other than income from State Government	5,169,329	4,840,574	3,383,967	2,844,058	8,553,296	7,684,632
NET COST OF SERVICES	6,760,722	6,462,402	8,190,664	8,215,976	14,951,386	14,678,378
Income from State Government						
Service Appropriation	6,267,641	5,958,971	8,221,359	7,810,029	14,489,000	13,769,000
Services received free of charge	10,240	12,223	12,616	14,939	22,756	27,162
Total income from State Government	6,277,881	5,971,194	8,233,875	7,824,968	14,511,756	13,796,162
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD	(482,841)	(491,208)	43,211	(391,008)	(439,630)	(882,216)

The Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes. Refer to the Key Performance Indicators for more detailed analysis.

Key Performance Indicators for the year ended 30 June 2014

Certification of the Key Performance Indicators

We hereby certify that the key performance indicators are based on proper records, are relevant and appropriate for assisting users to assess the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority's performance, and fairly represent the performance of the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority for the financial year ended 30 June 2014.



Grant Robinson
Deputy Chair
Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority
Board of Management
10 September 2014



Hamish Jolly
Member
Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority
Board of Management
10 September 2014

Key Performance Indicators

Relationship to Government Goals

Broad, high level Government goals are supported at agency level by more specific desired outcomes. The BGPA delivers services to achieve these desired outcomes, which ultimately contribute to meeting the higher level government goals. The following table illustrates the relationship between BGPA level desired outcomes and the most appropriate Government goal.

WA State Government Goal - Results based Service Delivery Greater focus on achieving results in key service delivery areas for the benefit of all Western Australians.	
Service 1: Customer service and cultural heritage	Outcome: Awareness and appreciation of recreation and tourist resources, and cultural heritage for visitors' enjoyment.
Service 2 :Biodiversity conservation and scientific research	Outcome: Conservation and enhancement of Western Australia's bushland and other flora.

Outcome 1

This outcome is achieved through improving and promoting education and recreation in the designated lands; providing safe, accessible and well maintained facilities; providing and promoting cultural experiences and events and by actively seeking to improve and provide additional visitor services and facilities.

Key Effectiveness Indicators

1.1 The level of visitor satisfaction with Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park.

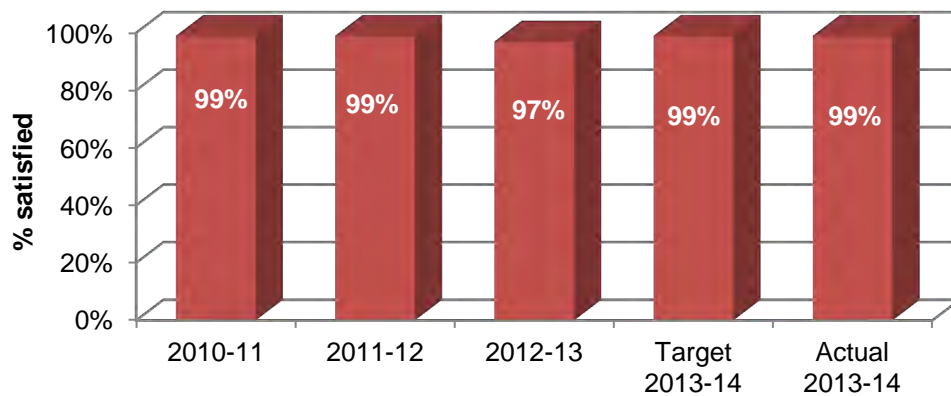
This key indicator measures the level of satisfaction visitors have with the extent to which recreational, tourist and bushland resources have been conserved, enhanced and promoted and the impact of these activities on visitor enjoyment.

Total annual visitation for 2013-14 to Kings Park and Botanic Garden is based on vehicle counts at various entrances and is estimated to be 5,564,000 visitors. Total annual visitation to Bold Park is difficult to estimate due to multiple entrances for pedestrians and vehicles. Changes in level of visitation to Bold Park are based on vehicle counts at Reabold Hill, where vehicle counters are in place.

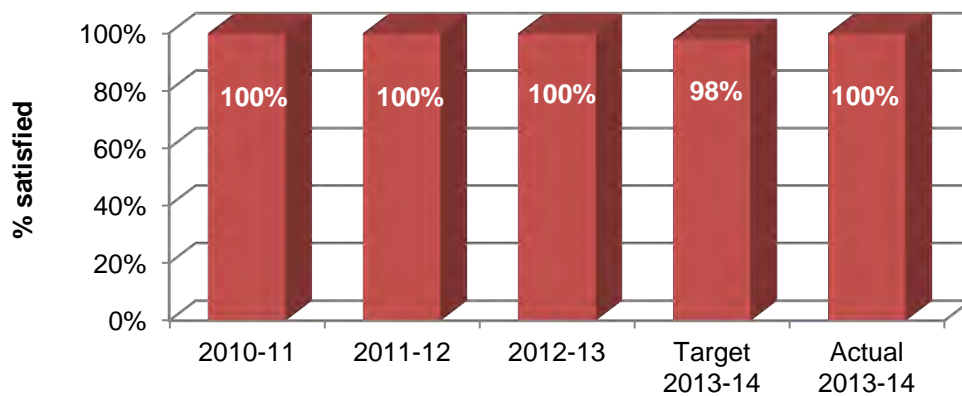
Visitor surveys were conducted during April and May 2014 in both Kings Park and Botanic Garden and in Bold Park. A total of 588 responses were received, providing a margin of error of 4% at a 95% level of confidence.

The percentage of overall visitor satisfaction in Kings Park and Botanic Garden was 99%. The percentage of overall visitor satisfaction in Bold Park was 100%, which is the same as the previous year and 2% above target figure for 2013-14.

Overall satisfaction with Kings Park and Botanic Garden



Overall satisfaction with Bold Park



1.2 The percentage change in the number of cultural events held at Kings Park and Botanic Garden compared to previous years.

Cultural events are defined as memorial, military commemorative ceremonies and other community organised events. These include the Anzac Day ceremony; Summer events such as classical and contemporary music concerts; Shakespeare theatre; and community events, such as the Kings Park Festival.

Reporting Year	No. of Cultural Events	Target Percentage (%) Change	Actual Percentage (%) Change	Notes
2013-14	277	0	0.4	1
2012-13	276	0	-1.4	
2011-12	280	-7	-10	
2010-11	312	+2	+26.8	
2009-10	246	+1	+6.5	

Note:

1. There was little change to the number of cultural events in 2013-14 compared to 2012-13.

1.3 The percentage change in the number of people attending cultural events, customer awareness and education forums held at Kings Park and Botanic Garden compared to previous years.

This indicator is derived from total numbers attending cultural events, education programs and free guided walks.

Reporting Year	No. Attending Cultural Events, Customer Awareness and Education Forums	Target Percentage (%) Change	Actual Percentage (%) Change	Notes
2013-14	901,575	4	-3.4	1
2012-13	933,641	0	19	
2011-12	785,309	2	-2	
2010-11	799,711	0	-13.7	
2009-10	927,026	+1	+16.0	

Note:

1. There was an approximate decrease in visitation to the Kings Park Festival of 20,000 due to poor weather. Decreases can also be attributed to variances on Valentine's Day, ANZAC Day and Australia Day and that one less concert was held in 2013-14

Service 1 – Customer Service and Cultural Heritage

To measure the success of Service 1, the BGPA uses the data collected from annual visitor surveys as demonstrated in Indicator 1.1 above; the overall number of visitors promoting and enhancing customer awareness by providing education forums; by conserving, promoting and developing cultural heritage including Indigenous, colonial and contemporary heritage; and by staging events and displays on designated lands.

Key Efficiency Indicators

	Actual 2012-13	Target 2013-14	Actual 2013-14	Notes
Average cost per visitor to Kings Park and Botanic Garden	\$1.71	\$1.64	\$2.02	1
Average cost per attendee at cultural events held in Kings Park and Botanic Garden	\$0.12	\$0.15	\$0.12	
Average cost per attendee at education forums held in Kings Park and Botanic Garden	\$3.80	\$1.78	\$4.18	2
Response times for public information requests	95% Within 28 days	95% Within 28 days	95% Within 28 days	
Percentage change in number of visitors to Reabold Hill compared to previous year	15.8%	5%	9.25%	

Notes:

1. Higher than forecast expenses and a reduction of 2.7% in the number of people visiting Kings Park and Botanic Garden has resulted in an increased cost of \$0.31 per visitor in 2013-14 compared with 2012-13.
2. Higher than forecast expenses has resulted in an increased cost of \$0.38 per visitor to education forums held in Kings Park and Botanic Garden in 2013-14 compared with 2012-13.

Outcome 2

This outcome is achieved through the development and management of the scientific collections, the display of Western Australian and other flora; promoting the use of Western Australian flora for horticulture, conservation and education; and continually undertaking and promoting scientific research into Western Australian flora for biodiversity conservation and restoration.

The effectiveness of ex-situ species conservation and botanic research is assessed through the success in collecting and maintaining living collections of indigenous plants for research, display, public education and restoration.

Key Effectiveness Indicators

2.1 Percentage of Declared Rare Flora (DRF) species in living collections in Kings Park and Botanic Garden, compared to the known number of DRF species in Western Australia.

This key indicator measures the effectiveness over time of the DRF collecting and collections maintenance program, bearing in mind that the number and range of plants gazetted as DRF varies from year to year, and species vary significantly in their ease of collection.

Total DRF species gazetted is a number derived from the list of species in the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice 2013* published in the Government Gazette on 17 September 2013 by the Minister for Environment; Heritage under section 23F(2) of the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*.

The total number of DRF held in the BGPA's conservation collection decreased by eight species to 244. The number of DRF in the BGPA's living collections represents 59% of the total DRF listed for the State, which is 3% below the target. This is due to the combined effect of an increase in the total number of DRF species listed from the previous year by two species to 415 and the reduced number of DRF species in living collections. This reduction is due to plants of some accessions being grown for translocation programs for DPaW have been transferred back to DPaW for planting in the wild and are therefore no longer recorded as being held by BGPA.

Collection of DRF species from the wild is the primary responsibility of the DPaW, with whom the BGPA liaises closely to assist with collections from remote areas as opportunities arise. The BGPA therefore has a limited capacity to increase its DRF collections unless plants from germination testing are provided by DPaW to be maintained in the Kings Park nursery or planted in the Western Australian Botanic Garden.

Percentage of DRF species in Living Collections

Reporting Year	No. of DRF Species in Living Collections	Total DRF Species Gazetted	Target %	Actual %
2013-14	244	415	62	59
2012-13	252	413	62	61
2011-12	248	403	63	62
2010-11	247	402	62	61
2009-10	249	393	62	63

2.2 Percentage of accessions in botanical displays in Kings Park and Botanic Garden.

This indicator is a measure of horticultural and management skills in maintaining the living collection of plants and increasing the diversity of plants on public display.

An accession is a collection of material that can be propagated from an individual plant - be it flowers, foliage, seeds, shoots, roots or the whole plant. The number of accessions on botanical display is the number growing in the Western Australian Botanic Garden, Synergy Parkland, Lotterywest Family Area and Fraser Avenue precinct garden beds.

This measure is calculated by the number of accessions in botanical displays in Kings Park and Botanic Garden divided by the total number of accessions alive in living collections. There was a small increase of 30 accessions in the actual number of accessions on display compared with the previous year and a decrease of 328 in the total number of accessions alive. This resulted in a minor increase in the percentage of accessions on display of 1%, however this was 3% below the target set.

Percentage of Accessions in Botanical Displays

Reporting Year	No. of Accessions in Botanical Display	Total No. of Accessions Alive	Target %	Actual %
2013-14	7,038	20,604	37	34
2012-13	7,008	20,932	38	33
2011-12	7,162	20,572	37	35
2010-11	7,255	19,861	38	37
2009-10	7,124	19,161	38	37

2.3 Percentage of accessions lost in Kings Park and Botanic Garden.

This is a measure of horticultural and management skills in maintaining the living collections of plants, where a lower percentage represents an improvement. The loss of accessions in 2013-14 represented 6% of the total collection. This was 2% higher than the target figure of 4% and may have occurred partially due to delays in entering plant losses from the previous year as staff numbers were reduced in the Horticultural Displays team. In addition, a substantial stocktake was undertaken in the Botanic Garden during the year, which captured losses not entered in the previous year.

It should be noted that there will always be losses of accessions caused by natural attrition; the replacement of ageing plants with new plantings to maintain optimum display; and loss of seed viability over time. The BGPA has procedures in place to ensure that, while specific accessions may be lost, the taxa are still retained in the living collections.

Percentage of Accessions Lost

Reporting Year	No. of Accessions Lost	Total No. of Accessions Alive	Target %	Actual %
2013-14	1,261	20,604	4	6
2012-13	699	20,932	5	3
2011-12	802	20,572	5	4
2010-11	497	19,861	5	3
2009-10	1,028	19,161	5	5

2.4 The presence of 15 nominated perennially evident native plant species, which are the most vulnerable taxa within each of Kings Park and Bold Park bushland.

This indicator measures the BGPA's effectiveness in conserving a range of native plants in Kings Park and Bold Park bushland that have been selected and documented as the most vulnerable taxa in each Park. The top 15 most vulnerable species are determined in each park through primary and secondary selection criteria. Primary criteria include species listed in the State Priority Flora list; or taxa that are rare, have limited distribution in the park or are known to be declining in the park. Secondary criteria include the species' reproductive method; occurrence in vulnerable habitats or sites at risk; or publicly important iconic species.

The indicator is measured by an annual survey of the presence or absence of 15 nominated perennially evident native plant species in each park, which are the most vulnerable taxa within each of Kings Park bushland and Bold Park. Results of the survey in Bold Park during 2013-14 recorded 100% presence of the nominated 15 species. The survey in Kings Park bushland also recorded all 15 species present.

2.5 Number of common native plant species in Bold Park in areas with high levels of management compared to areas with low levels of management.

This indicator measures the BGPA's effectiveness in restoring areas of degraded bushland in Bold Park. It is derived by annually surveying 15 nominated common native plant species within representative quadrats for two dominant community types, to compare their presence in both low management zones and high management zones.

High management zones are degraded areas that are prioritised for ecological restoration activities, some of which are in progress. Low management zones are areas in which there are no active restoration activities at this time.

The dominant community types in Bold Park are Banksia woodland and heath over sand. Ten quadrats for each community type in both high and low management zones have been established (total of 40 quadrats), and the number of common species present in each quadrat recorded annually with figures averaged to give a single figure for each management regime.

The indicator is calculated by dividing the average number of common species present in high management zones by the average number of common species present in low management zones, as determined through annual monitoring of representative quadrants within each zone. Where the indicator is a figure greater than one, this indicates a higher number of common species in the high management areas.

This indicator is expected to increase over time and then stabilise once the broad restoration objectives of ecological stability and resilience are attained. New plantings are not scored as present until they have been established for a minimum of 30 months, due to high mortality rates during the establishment period.

The indicator has remained the same as the previous year and is equal to the target set for 2013-14. The average number of common species decreased slightly in both high and low management plots, most likely due to the hottest Perth summer on record in 2012-13 causing plant losses throughout the whole site. It should be noted that recording for bushland indicators is done at the optimum time of late August each year, and therefore the results are impacted by seasonal conditions through the previous financial year.

Average Numbers of Common Species Present

	Actual 2010-11	Actual 2011-12	Actual 2012-13	Target 2013-14	Actual 2013-14
Average number of common species present in high management zones	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.5
Average number of common species present in low management zones	3.9	4.1	4.0	4.0	3.9
Indicator value	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4

2.6 Weed cover in high intensity management areas compared to low intensity management areas in Bold Park.

This indicator measures the BGPA's effectiveness in bushland restoration. It is derived by annually recording percentage weed cover within two dominant community types and comparing results for both low management zones and high management zones. High management zones are degraded areas prioritised for ecological restoration activities, some of which are in progress. Low management zones are those areas not being actively restored at this time.

The dominant community types in Bold Park are Banksia woodland and heath over sand. Forty quadrants for each community type in both high and low management zones have been established (total of 160) and percentage weed cover recorded in each.

The indicator is calculated by dividing the average percentage weed cover in high management zones by the average percentage weed cover in low management zones. A figure less than 1 indicates a lower average percentage weed cover in the high management areas. The indicator is expected to decrease over time and then stabilise once the broad restoration objectives of ecological stability and resilience are attained.

This year the indicator value once again remained fairly stable with a small increase in weed cover in both high and low management plots that was marginally higher in the low management plots. The indicator value showed a slight increase of 0.03 from the previous year, which was a 0.03 difference from the target.

Average Percentage of Weed Cover

	Actual 2010-11	Actual 2011-12	Actual 2012-13	Target 2013-14	Actual 2013-14
Average percentage weed cover in high management zones	11.4%	15.0%	16.3%	16.3%	18.2%
Average percentage weed cover in low management zones	37.4%	32.1%	34.8%	34.8%	36.9%
Indicator value	0.30	0.47	0.46	0.46	0.49

2.7 Number of representative native plant taxa in Kings Park bushland.

This indicator is measured by an annual survey of the presence or absence of 15 nominated perennially evident native plant species, which are the most vulnerable taxa within Kings Park bushland. The continued presence of these species in Kings Park bushland provides an appropriate scientific measure of overall taxa present. It is not practical or feasible to annually survey all native plant taxa in all lands managed.

A review of the most vulnerable flora list was undertaken in early 2014 to ensure the species listed continued to represent the most vulnerable species on the site. Some minor changes were agreed for monitoring in the 2014/15 year.

As the presence of all 15 of the most vulnerable species was confirmed, the total number of native plant taxa in Kings Park bushland remained at 325, equal to the target.

Number of Representative Native Plant Taxa in Kings Park Bushland

Reporting Year	Target	No. of Native Plant Taxa Recorded
2013-14	325	325
2012-13	324	325
2011-12	324	324
2010-11	324	324
2009-10	324	324

2.8 Number of representative native plant taxa in Bold Park bushland.

This indicator is measured by an annual survey of the presence or absence of 15 nominated perennially evident native plant species, which are the most vulnerable taxa within Bold Park. The continued presence of these species in Bold Park provides an appropriate scientific measure of overall taxa present. The total number may vary from time to time as a result of the discovery of new species, verification of plant records or as a result of genetic analysis of provenance, which may show that some species considered native were in fact early introductions to the park from nearby areas.

The number of native plant taxa recorded has remained the same as last year with a total of 310, as there were no new recorded plant species and all 15 of the nominated most vulnerable species were surveyed and recorded as present.

Number of Representative Native Plant Taxa in Bold Park Bushland

Reporting Year	Target	No. of Native Plant Taxa Recorded
2013-14	310	310
2012-13	310	310
2011-12	310	310
2010-11	310	310
2009-10	310	310

Service 2 – Biodiversity Conservation and Scientific Research

To measure the success of Service 2, the BGPA uses the data in indicators 2.1 to 2.8 above and through demonstrating leadership in urban bushland management, especially for Perth and regional communities; horticultural services including developing new plants; and undertaking and promoting leading-edge science and interpretation pertinent to integrated conservation of flora for present and future generations.

Key Efficiency Indicators

	Actual 2012-13	Target 2013-14	Actual 2013-14	Notes
Average cost of representative native plant taxa in Kings Park bushland.	\$3,179	\$4,411	\$3,882	1
Average cost of representative native plant taxa in Bold Park bushland.	\$5,039	\$5,325	\$4,684	
Average cost per research fee for service project administered.	\$17,950	\$18,500	\$14,400	2
Percentage change in number of refereed scientific publications published per Consolidated Fund position compared to previous year.	42%	-42%	-15%	3

Notes:

1. The variance compared with budget is due to expenses being lower than forecast.
2. The decrease in the average cost per research fee for service project between the 2013-14 target and the 2013-14 actual is a result of a large number of projects commencing towards the end of the financial year and an increase in the number of research students commencing on research projects which incur lower staffing costs.
3. The large fluctuation in the number of refereed scientific publications published per government funded position is a reflection of the stage and complexity of research projects in any given year.

Ministerial Directives

The BGPA was not subject to any Ministerial Directives in 2013-14.

Other Financial Disclosures

Pricing Policy and Services

The BGPA charges for goods and services on a full or partial cost recovery basis and in accordance with penalties applied under the *Botanic Gardens and Parks Regulations 1999*. The BGPA reviews its fees and charges annually as required by Treasurer's Instruction 810. No fee increases were sought in 2013-14.

A review of the BGPA's current fees and charges was commenced in June 2014 to address revised booking processes and costs related to Medium-sized events in Kings Park and Botanic Garden and to bring together fees and charges implemented across the agency in preparation for submission to the Department of Treasury in December 2014.

Entry to and parking in Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park is free of charge. Some services, such as the schools-oriented Kings Park Education programs and special education events, incur a cover charge to assist in cost recovery. Entry fees or ticket costs of events such as the outdoor cinema, concerts and theatre productions, are addressed by the event organiser.

Fees and charges for venue hire and for booked activities are applied according to the type of function and the location or venue requested and are approved by State Government. Fees and charges, application forms and conditions of use are available on the BGPA's website.

Capital Works

Capital Projects Completed

No capital projects were completed during 2013-14.

Capital Works in progress

Biodiversity and Conservation Centre Stage Two

The Biodiversity Conservation Centre Stage Two will provide new laboratories, related infrastructure and facilities associated with increased research. This increased capacity for research will support ground-breaking research for provision of cost-effective, proven and scalable restoration in Kings Park, Bold Park and throughout Western Australia generally. Total project funding is \$1.6m by way of State Government appropriation and expenditure to 30 June 2014 was \$0.3m.

Nursery Depot Redevelopment

The Nursery Depot Redevelopment will replace ageing infrastructure and facilities in the depot and plant nursery and reconfigure the layout of key components to improve functionality, safe vehicle and pedestrian access and a general separation of the nursery from the depot facilities. Total project funding is \$2.6m by way of State Government appropriation and expenditure to 30 June 2014 was \$0.4m.

Employment and Development

Employment Profile

As of 30 June 2014, the BGPA employed 156 people equating to 125 full time equivalents (FTE). In 2013-14 the BGPA engaged 11 trainees in its traineeship program. Trainees are included in the total headcount but not included in BGPA's FTE count. The BGPA supports flexible working arrangements that are suited to employees and that meet the operational needs of the workplace. This is reflected in a higher headcount to FTE ratio. The BGPA's staff profile as at 30 June 2014 is presented below:

Staff Profile as at 30 June 2014

Employment Type	2012-13	2013-14
Permanent Full-time	84	77
Permanent Part-time	15	19
Fixed Term Full-time	19	19
Fixed Term Part-time	12	11
Casual	23	22
Indigenous Cadet	1	0
Trainees	12	8

2013-14 Figures derived from June 2014 Quarterly MOIR report

The BGPA continued to receive a strong response to job advertisements from a wide pool of applicants. BGPA completed 17 recruitment processes and engaged 18 new employees in 2013-14. Sixteen employees (10.2% of the workforce) resigned from the BGPA in 2013-14 compared to 10 resignations in 2012-13.

Employee Diversity Profile

The BGPA strives to be an employer of choice and actively supports workplace diversity and equal employment opportunities. The BGPA's Diversity profile is presented below:

Diversity Group	2012-13 %	2013-14 %
Women in SES	50	50
Women in Management Tier 1	0	0
Women in Management Tier 2	40	66.7
Women in Management Tier 3	53.8	30.8
Indigenous Australians	1.2	1.3
Employees from Culturally Diverse Background	9.6	10
Employees with Disabilities	0	0
Youth (under 25 years)	7.8	7.3

2013-14 Figures derived from BGPA Quarterly entity profile March 2014

Industrial Relations

BGPA employees work under one of three awards according to their work area: The Government Officers Salaries, Allowances and Conditions Award 1984 (Salaried Staff); The Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority (Operations) General Agreement 2013 (Horticultural and Operations Staff); and the Shop and Warehouse (Wholesale and Retail Establishments) Award 1977 (Aspects of Kings Park retail employees).



Workforce Planning and Development

To assist in planning and recruitment for the future, the BGPA is guided by its five-year Workforce Plan incorporating Equity and Diversity initiatives for the period 2012-2017, with annual reviews to ensure continued currency and relevance of the plan.

The second year of the plan has resulted in improvements implemented including:

- Improvement to the approach to recruitment and selection processes through tailored selection panel member training and promotion of internal and 'best practice' recruitment and selection techniques.
- Ongoing commitment to flexible work practices within operational requirements including flexible rosters, job share and flexi-time arrangements.
- Improved employee access to personal payroll data through the introduction of Web Self Service, an electronic web based system designed to increase visibility of and control over selected payroll information.
- Increased leadership and management competencies amongst staff through the offering of internal acting opportunities in various leadership roles.

- Increased emphasis on BGPA Code of Conduct through its inclusion in the employee induction process ensuring that new staff understand the acceptable standards of behaviour at the onset of their employment.

The BGPA is committed to supporting its employees through the provision of training and development opportunities. Formal training and informal on-the-job learning undertaken during the financial year was designed to enhance skills, raise awareness and reduce risks for the BGPA. Training included fire safety, vehicle and equipment use, employee recruitment and selection, leadership and occupational health and safety training. This is in addition to training and development opportunities identified through individual performance enhancement and training discussions between employees and their line supervisors.

Formal training for 2013-14

Training Focus	Number of attendees	Outcomes for the BGPA
Occupational Health and Safety	66	Improved awareness of correct OH&S techniques to minimise workplace injuries, promote safety and comply with legislative requirements. For more details on this training refer to the Occupational Safety and Health section.
Employee Recruitment and Selection	24	Improved understanding of the BGPA employee recruitment and selection process and wider public sector standards and legislations applicable to this critical function.
Web Self Service	104	Delivered instructions in how to navigate and use the newly introduced employee payroll system designed to enhance employee visibility and control over payroll information.

Staff Scholarships

Two scholarship opportunities were offered to employees in 2013-14; the BGPA Chairman's Scholarship and the Friends of Kings Park Vic Galea Scholarship. The BGPA and the Friends of Kings Park value and support the outstanding work undertaken and these scholarships foster employees' personal development.

Applications are currently being reviewed and will be awarded to successful applicants in late 2014.

Occupational Safety, Health and Injury Management

The BGPA is committed to providing a safe work environment for its employees, students, volunteers, contractors and visitors. The Chief Executive Officer, the Executive team, supervisors and the Occupational Health and Safety Committee work together to ensure that BGPA facilities, equipment and practices do not knowingly present a hazard to safety or health. The BGPA provides support to staff who sustain a work related injury or illness with a focus on safe and early return to meaningful work.

Occupational Safety and Health

The BGPA's Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare Policy and a range of supporting policies have been developed to assist employees in understanding and performing their obligations. These policies, inspection checklists, Committee minutes and procedures are available on the Intranet and to new employees during the induction process.

Employees, students, volunteers and contractors are made aware of their rights and obligations in fulfilling the requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984 and to take care for their own safety and that of other persons who may be affected by their acts. Employees who are responsible for the supervision of others are made aware of their responsibilities to protect the health and safety of the employees, students and volunteers under their direction.

The Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Committee is directly supported by the Corporate Executive team. The Human Resource Officer and one of the members of the Corporate Executive attend the Committee's meetings to ensure any issues of concern have a direct and immediate response and to ensure a close link with all training and communication mechanisms within the BGPA. Minutes from OHS Committee meetings are provided for information to the various work teams and the Corporate Executive.

The OHS Committee is comprised of employee elected representatives. The Committee address concerns about safety, implement improvements to workplace practices and ensure that the BGPA complies with the WA State Government's Code of Practice: Occupational Safety and Health in the Western Australian Public Sector and meets all legislative obligations.

The Committee underwent some structural changes this year with the appointment of a new Chairperson and the training of three new representatives. The Committee meets on a monthly basis and reviews all OHS matters, monthly workplace safety inspections, Accident/Incident reporting procedures and Hazard identification and incident prevention strategies.

In addition, during the 2013-14 year the activities of the BGPA and OHS Committee have included:

- Improved monitoring of workplace accident and incidents to identify trends and to report to Corporate Executive and staff.
- Commencement of external safety review into fire control and evacuation procedures for all BGPA buildings.
- Free influenza vaccinations were made available to all BGPA employees.
- Safety awareness campaigns through posters and information placed in all buildings and highly visible areas.
- Monthly workplace safety inspections in each work area, currently 20 specific areas identified across Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park.
- Advice on support services available through the Employee Assistance Program through all staff meetings and Human Resources.

- Various OHS training for improved awareness of correct operating procedures and workplace safety:

Safety Training	No of Employees
Vehicle and equipment use	36
Fire safety	27
OH&S representative training	3
Total	66

An audit of the BGPA's Occupational Health and Safety controls and processes is scheduled for August 2014. Results and recommendations of audits are reported to and monitored through the BGPA's Audit Committee. The BGPA is required to report to the Committee on the status of implementation of audit recommendations at each quarterly meeting.

The BGPA's OHS policies and procedures are directly linked to the BGPA Risk Register as reporting and control mechanisms for reducing the risk of injury of employees, students, volunteers and visitors. All risks and controls are regularly reviewed and assessed.

Injury Management and Workers' Compensation

The BGPA is committed to providing injury management support to all workers who sustain a work related injury or illness, with a focus on safe and early return to meaningful work and in accordance with the Workers' Compensation and Injury Management Act 1981. The BGPA implements its injury management system to tailor return to work programs in consultation with treating medical practitioners for injured employees.

There were nine Workers' Compensation claims against the BGPA originating in 2013-14. As at 30 June 2014, eight employees had returned to full duties and one was participating in a return to work programs.

Occupational Safety and Health and Injury Management Targets

Indicator	Target 2013-14	Actual 2013-14
Number of fatalities	0	0
Lost time injury/diseases (LTI/D) incidence rate ⁽¹⁾	0%	4%
Lost time injury severity rate ⁽²⁾	0%	0%
Percentage of injured workers returned to work within 13 weeks	100%	100%
Percentage of injured workers returned to work within 26 weeks	100%	100%
Percentage of managers trained in occupational safety, health and injury management responsibilities. ⁽³⁾	100%	0% ⁽⁴⁾

Notes:

1. The lost time injuries or diseases (LTI/Ds) incident rate is the number of lost time injury/disease claims lodged where one day/shift or more was lost from work.
2. The lost time injury severity rate is the number of severe injuries where an actual or estimate 60 days or more was lost from work.
3. Over 85% of managers took part in OSH and injury management training in 2011-12, and with low turnover rates, no further training was necessary in 2012-13, hence a result of 0%. Refresher training is planned every three years.
4. Injury Management training for line managers is scheduled for July 2014.

Governance Disclosures

Contracts with Senior Officers

During the 2013-14 reporting year, two BGPA Board members declared interest in BGPA operational matters.

One member is employed with a company which has a sponsorship agreement with BGPA, providing funding support to the Kings Park Festival. This sponsorship agreement was finalised before the Board member was employed by the company.

Another member is employed with a company that has provided some forensic audit services to the BGPA throughout 2013-14, noting the member was not involved directly or indirectly in the provision of these services.

Appropriate formal disclosures are made within the Board of Management meetings to address this type of issue.

Board and Committee Remuneration

Position	Name	Type of remuneration	Period of membership	Gross/actual remuneration 2013-14
Chair	Richard Simpson	Sessional	December 2002 to December 2014. Current term commenced December 2011.	\$12,800
Member	Tom Baddeley	Sessional	April 2010 to March 2015. Current term commenced April 2013.	\$5,120
Member	Hamish Jolly	Sessional	April 2010 to March 2015. Current term commenced April 2013.	\$5,120
Member	Glen McLeod	Sessional	Current term June 2012 to May 2014.	\$4,267
Member	Brian Piesse	Sessional	Current term January 2013 to December 2015.	\$6,653
Member	Jacqui Purvis	Sessional	Current term July 2012 to July 2015.	\$3,683

Note: Two members do not to receive remuneration.

Other Legal Requirements

Advertising

In accordance with section 175ZE of the *Electoral Act 1907*, the BGPA reports that it incurred the following expenditures for the financial year ended 30 June 2014:

Advertising expenditure by category

Advertising Medium	Expenditure	Total
Advertising Agencies		83,075.74
Adcorp	5,293.10	
Liquid Public Relations	9,799.65	
BGANZ	90.91	
Rosalie Okely Design	8,340.00	
Optimum Media	55,177.03	
Professional Public Relations	4,405.05	
Market Research Organisations		9037.40
Isentia	997.40	
Alex Stuckey	8040.00	
Polling Organisations		Nil
Direct Mail Organisations		Nil
Media Advertising Organisations		17,787.79
Optimum Media	15,361.98	
Department of Education (School Matters Magazine)	1,500.00	
Tourism Western Australia	450.00	
Community Newspapers	193.05	
Post Newspapers	159.12	
State Law Publishing	123.64	
Total Expenditure		\$109,900.93



Promotion, Public Relations and Marketing

Marketing and public relations strategies continue to play a role in enhancing community awareness, understanding and advocacy for Kings Park and Bold Park.

The campaign to promote the 50th Kings Park Festival saw around 600,000 people visit the Festival. A media partnership with The West Australian newspaper added significant value to the campaign, by enabling the insertion of the festival program into a Saturday edition of the paper. The campaign also included press, radio and outdoor advertising, online and social media strategies, promotional publications and direct mail.

Media liaison and strategic public relations were used to promote awareness and understanding of key BGPA events, projects and activities.

Promotion expenditure is represented in the Advertising section (below/over), in accordance with the requirements of the Electoral Act 1907.

Compliance with Public Sector Standards and Ethical Codes

The BGPA Code of Conduct, the WA Public Sector Code of Ethics and the Public Sector Standards are available to all employees on the BGPA Intranet and form part of the BGPA induction program. Employees are reminded of their responsibilities under the Code of Conduct through quarterly staff meetings with the Chief Executive Officer and as part of BGPA's employee performance review process. The Code of Conduct is also incorporated into the new employee induction process as well as workforce initiatives outlined in the BGPA's Workforce Plan: Incorporating Equity and Diversity 2012-2017.

There were no breaches or claims made under the Public Sector Standards or the Western Australian Code of Ethics during 2013-14.

The BGPA Code of Conduct is based on the principles of the BGPA and promotes behaviours that reflect a strong commitment to maintaining integrity, accountability and ethical decision making. The Code of Conduct applies to all managers, employees and students engaging in any research or work experience under the auspices of the BGPA, contractors and consultants working on behalf of the BGPA.

No suspected breach of the BGPA's Code of Conduct was reported during the year.

Breaches of codes or standards 2013-14

Standards or Code of Conduct	No. of Breaches
Public Sector Standards	0
WA Public Sector Code of Ethics	0
BGPA Code of Conduct	0

Disability Access and Inclusion Plan Outcomes

The [BGPA's Disability Access and Inclusion Plan \(DAIP\)](#) outlines the ways in which the BGPA aims to ensure that people with disabilities have access to BGPA facilities, services, events and information.

The BGPA's DAIP 2012-2017 was finalised in August 2012. In 2013-14 the BGPA achieved the following initiatives in relation to disability access and inclusion:

1. People with disabilities have the same opportunities as other people to access the services of, and any events organised by the BGPA.

- On ANZAC Day the BGPA, in collaboration with the Returned and Serviceman's League (RSL), actively informed participants of set-down and parking for people with disabilities. ACROD parking is made available in the Wadjuk Carpark to all those who need it.
- Areas were set aside at major events for chairs, deck chairs, wheelchairs and space for people to assist those with disabilities, as well as additional ACROD parking bays on concert nights and during the Kings Park Festival.
- Volunteers are kept up to date with the BGPA's DAIP through their newsletters. Guides who deal with visitors face to face and via phone enquiries are given appropriate training opportunities.
- Procurement of new street lighting for Forrest Drive is in progress to ensure safer night access for ACROD holders to events in the Botanic Garden.
- AUSLAN Interpreters were present at selected guided walks during the 2013 Kings Park Festival to assist people who are hard of hearing.
- A wheelchair accessible shuttle bus was in operation on Saturdays and Sundays in September for the 2013 Kings Park Festival to transport patrons to events and activities at various locations around the park.
- On Australia Day, BGPA actively informed attendees of the Skyworks event that ACROD parking is made available to permit holders in Wadjuk Carpark.
- Extra ACROD car bays are reserved in Wadjuk Carpark on busy days during September for the annual Kings Park Festival.
- The Swan River Run, an event which will be part-held in Kings Park and Botanic Garden in July 2014, has a course planned through the park which is suitable for wheelchair participants.
- Education program 'Child versus Wild', facilitated for students from the Vision Education Service in June 2014 – all students vision impaired or blind.
- Multiple education programs run throughout the year for students with a range of disabilities (intellectual and physical) from education support centres – many of these are repeat visitors. Programs included both core, guided, programs (Bushland Carers, Wetlands in Kings Park, etc.) and special events ('Nyoongar Boodja', 'Kulunga Katitjin Festival').

2. People with disabilities have the same opportunities as other people to access the buildings and other facilities of the BGPA.

- Saw Avenue Picnic Area was upgraded to incorporate universal access to facilities such as new paths, new BBQs and picnic settings, water fountains and adventure play areas. This development was sponsored by Variety WA, the Children's Charity.
- With the relocation of the Floral Clock from the front of the Botanical Cafe to the entrance to the State's Botanic Garden, new pathways have been added from the main carpark, offering greater access to the Botanic Garden network of paths.
- Improvements to the acoustics in the education facility have made a vast difference to the quality of sound and improved accessibility for those with hearing difficulties.
- Improvements have been made to many of the toilet blocks in Kings Park to allow better access for all.
- Improvements to font size on some signs within the park has increased visibility and ease of reading.
- Resurfacing paths along Kings Park Road and through some popular bushland tracks has improved ease of access to these areas.
- Two new universal access paths have been built: one from Kings Park Education to the nearby amenities block, allowing safer access for all; the other from the Botanic Garden Carpark to the DNA Tower which has allowed for better access to the Firefighters' Memorial on Forrest Drive.

3. People with disabilities receive information from the BGPA in a format that will enable them to access the information, as readily as other people are able to access it.

- Ongoing improvements to the BGPA's website provide more opportunities for access to information and services. The new BGPA website was launched in December 2013, which was carefully designed to perform well on any browser and any device. Accessibility was improved across the site, achieving an impressive AA against the World Consortium Accessibility Guidelines in most areas to better assist all visitors and their individual needs.
- BGPA documents, such as maps, Annual Reports and the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan, are available electronically and in hard copy as well as alternative formats (such as large font) on request.
- Recorded event information is available on the BGPA's main telephone line. This is updated regularly in line with new events happening in the park.
- A monthly e-newsletter is produced and sent to all subscribers, advertising events and activities in Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park.
- Kings Park Education provides a range of learning opportunities to meet the needs of all students. It accommodates special needs students with suitable programs, such as the popular Child versus Wild program and works with teachers to assist with full integration of students.

4. People with disabilities receive the same level and quality of service from the staff of the BGPA as other people receive from the staff of the BGPA.

- The BGPA's Park Management Officers are provided with training to enable them to recognise and assist people with disabilities.
- Volunteer Guides who staff the Visitor Information Centre (VIC) are trained in providing outstanding customer service to the thousands of visitors who visit the VIC for assistance, join a free guided walk, or telephone to make an enquiry.
- In order to promote limited ability access initiatives, volunteer group newsletters regularly remind members of existing and new paths and facilities that have been built for people with limited mobility.

5. People with disabilities have the same opportunities as other people to make complaints to the BGPA.

- The BGPA's communications process is available to all members of the community and can be accessed via the website, the enquiries email address, through the Visitor Information Centre or by contacting the main reception of Kings Park and Botanic Garden or Bold Park.
- Feedback polls on the BGPA's website home page have been used to make targeted improvements as per user requests.
- Approximately 500 visitor surveys collected annually from areas all around Kings Park and 100 around Bold Park provide people with disabilities the same opportunities to provide visitor feedback.
- Kings Park's Draft Management Plan 2014-2019 was available on the website for a two-month public consultation period. Several submission options were available to ensure the public could readily provide comment in a manner to suit their individual needs.

6. People with disabilities have the same opportunities as other people to participate in any public consultation.

- Public consultation and decision-making opportunities are provided through public consultation processes for reviews of key management plans or changes proposed on BGPA lands (e.g. Bold Park Management Plan and Kings Park and Botanic Garden Management Plan).

7. People with disabilities have the same opportunities for employment.

- The BGPA is an equal opportunity employer, and it also provides opportunities for people of all abilities to volunteer.

Recordkeeping Plans

The BGPA's Recordkeeping Plan 2010 - 2015 highlights the BGPA's commitment to good records management practices. The Plan identifies the strategies and processes, by which the BGPA complies with the legislative requirements of the State Records Act 2000 to create, maintain, protect, control and dispose of records in an efficient and effective manner.

The BGPA addresses its compliance with the State Records Commission Standard 2 Recordkeeping Plans: Principal 6 – Compliance as follows:

1. The efficiency and effectiveness of the organisation's recordkeeping systems has been evaluated or alternatively when such an evaluation is proposed.

In November 2013, 2020 Global conducted an internal audit of BGPA Records Management. The principle objectives of the audit were to assess matters in relation to the efficiency and effectiveness of the Authority's record management systems, policies, procedures and operations. The report on BGPA Records Management received an 'A' rating.

In accordance with the Recordkeeping Plan of the BGPA, and as required under section 16(3) (a-c) of the State Records Act 2000, the established practice of annual disposal is carried out by the BGPA. However, this year's BGPA's retention and disposal schedule regime has been deferred until late 2014 to allow this to be carried out in conjunction with the relocation of the current archival area.

Evaluation of the BGPA's recordkeeping practices as documented in the Recordkeeping Plan is ongoing through an annual review of the Records Management Policy and Procedures Manual. The latest review was carried out in May 2014 and there were no material changes made since the 2013 review. Procedures relating to the storage of electronic documents (photos / images) are currently under development.

Also in June 2014, the risks associated with Records Management were reviewed and updated.

2. The nature and extent of the recordkeeping training program conducted by or for the organisation.

Training continues for new and existing BGPA employees as required with supporting information on recordkeeping practices and procedures available on the BGPA's intranet. Training is designed to help relevant employees manage BGPA records using TRIM and to establish a consistent Records Input Style Guide throughout the BGPA.

Regular reminders on recordkeeping responsibilities and the records management brochure available through the BGPA's intranet were delivered at quarterly staff meetings held December 2013 and June 2014.

Quarterly email reminders are sent to staff requesting the return of files to the records registry if no longer required, or confirmation that files are being retained. Staff are also asked to include file number or relevant title on documents to ensure it is indexed to the preferred file.

3. Whether the efficiency and effectiveness of the recordkeeping training program has been reviewed or alternatively when this is planned to be done.

An annual internal Customer Satisfaction Survey was conducted in March 2014 to establish the level of satisfaction and possible areas for improvement of the BGPA's record management practices. The outcome of the survey demonstrated that the majority of respondents were "very satisfied" or "satisfied" with recordkeeping practices within the BGPA.

The BGPA plans to include a review of the efficiency and effectiveness of the BGPA recordkeeping training program in the next Customer Satisfaction Survey that will be conducted early 2015.

4. Assurance that the organisation's induction program addresses employees' roles and responsibilities in regard to their compliance with the organisation's recordkeeping plan.

Employees' roles and responsibilities in relation to recordkeeping practices are included in the induction package provided to all new employees. Managers are responsible for identifying and implementing the required level of recordkeeping training. One-on-one records management training is provided for new employees when requested.

A records management induction brochure is located on the BGPA's intranet to assist new employees with and remind existing employees of their recordkeeping responsibilities.

Government Policy Requirements

Substantive Equality

The BGPA is not required to report on this issue as it is represented at portfolio level in the Strategic Management Council and does not have any obligations under the substantive equality framework.

However, the BGPA aims to promote the objectives of the framework by providing equal employment opportunities, promoting work environments that are free from discrimination and bullying and creating and maintaining an organisational culture that encourages workforce diversity.

The BGPA ensures that all human resource management practices adhere to the principles of merit and equity and are open, transparent and capable of review. These key principles underpin the BGPA's Workforce Plan 2012-2017 which includes workplace equity and diversity initiatives and other relevant organisational policies and procedures.

Appendices



Wildflower September

In 2007 the Wildflower Festival became a month long event known as the Kings Park Festival. Instead of spending months developing temporary displays, existing garden beds throughout the Botanic Garden are significantly enhanced throughout the year to showcase the native plants typically in full flower during September.

A month-long calendar of events was created offering a variety of environmental and cultural activities, guided walks and performances for visitors of all ages to enjoy. This format has continued through to 2013, when the Kings Park Festival celebrated its 50th year of operation.

BGPA Stakeholders

BGPA Volunteers

Friends of Bold Park Bushland Inc.
Friends of Kings Park Inc.
Honour Avenues Group

Kings Park Volunteer Guides Inc.
Kings Park Volunteer Master Gardeners

BGPA Sponsors

BHP Billiton Iron Ore
Friends of Kings Park
Lotterywest
Rio Tinto Iron Ore

Santos
Synergy
Variety WA
West Australian Newspapers

BGPA Commercial Operators

Aboriginal Art Gallery
Fraser's (including Botanical Cafe,
Fraser's Kiosk, Fraser's Restaurant and
Function Centre and the State Reception
Centre)
Indigenous Heritage Tours, Kings Park
Mellen Events
Moonlight Cinema
Next Generation Kings Park

Royal Kings Park Tennis Club
Perth City Sightseeing

Prompt Corner
Shakespeare WA
Stickybeaks Cafe
Zamia Café

Associated Volunteer and Community Organisations

Birdlife Australia Inc
Cambridge Coastcare
Vietnam Veterans Association WA Branch

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Trustees
Wardens of the State War Memorial
Wildflower Society of Western Australia

Natural History Institutions

Adelaide Botanic Garden

Arriyadh Development Authority
Australian National Botanic Gardens
Korean National Arboretum

Millennium Seed Bank, Royal Botanic
Gardens, Kew UK
Royal Botanic Garden, Sydney
Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne

Local, State and Federal Government

AGWEST	Horizon Power
Building Management and Works	Main Roads WA
City of Perth	Office of the Auditor General
City of Nedlands	Perth Zoo
City of Subiaco	Public Sector Commission
CSIRO	Public Transport Authority
Department of Aboriginal Affairs	Shire of Bruce Rock
Department of Agriculture and Food	Shire of Corrigin
Department of Commerce	Shire of Westonia
Department of Finance	State Solicitors Office
Department of Fire and Emergency Services	Swan River Trust
Department of Planning	Tourism WA
Department of Parks and Wildlife	Town of Cambridge
Department of Premier and Cabinet	Water Corporation
Department of State Development	WA Planning Commission
Department of Transport	WA Police
Department of Treasury	Western Power
Department of Veterans' Affairs	

Private Organisations

Alcoa World Alumina / Alcoa of Australia	Griffin Coal Mining Company Pty Ltd
Alinta Gas	Newcrest Mining (Telfer)
Australian Orchid Foundation	OZWEST Pty Ltd
Birla Nifty Pty Ltd	Rocla Quarry Products
Catalpa Resources (Westonia Mines Ltd)	Shark Bay Resources Pty Ltd
Cliffs Asia Pacific Iron Ore Pty Ltd	Trawalla Foundation
Cockburn Cement	Umwelt
Gindalbie Metals Limited	Worsley Alumina
Grange Resources Limited	

Schools and Universities

Australian National University	St Louis University, USA
Curtin University	University of Madrid, Spain
Kasetsart University, Thailand	University of Noumea
Max Planck Institute of Colloids & Interfaces, Germany	University of Pavia, Italy
Murdoch University	University of Regensburg, Germany
Oregon State University, USA	The University of Western Australia
Sheffield University, UK	

Volunteer Group Reports

Friends of Bold Park Bushland

In the past year the Friends of Bold Park Bushland has: produced three newsletters; communicated with members and the public via our office phone, email and website (we are part of the BGPA's site); liaised with other 'Friends of' groups and networks in our district, as well as the Conservation Council and the Urban Bushland Council; provided the BGPA with feedback on its planning and management activities in the park; and maintained an office located at Perry House. We also assisted with the Bush to Beach walk event that passed through Bold Park en route between Kings Park and Cottesloe.

Guided Walks Program

Our guided walks program has been running for 3 and a half years. Three morning walks were provided each month, with more in spring and none in December. In summer we held two sunset walks per month.

Our team of 14 trained volunteer guides generally started their walks from the Tuart Car Park, although for the walks with larger numbers, i.e. spring and summer, we found it was better to start at the Ecology Centre, which has a larger car park. Guides took their walkers up to Reabold Hill and back.

Thirty four walks were provided between May 2013 and April 2014, with a total of 329 walkers attending. The sunset walks were the most popular, with each of the two March walks attracting around 45 people. Overall, the number of attendees was down slightly from the previous year, with winter and the spring walks being quieter. Most people found out about the walks from monthly articles published by the local 'Post' newspaper, and from the BGPA's website, as well as by word-of-mouth, as our friendly and knowledgeable guides are getting a good reputation.

The guides opened their Continuing Education Program to the whole membership so that others could enjoy the very high calibre of the presentations provided. In the past year the guides had presentations from: Kim Fletcher, on Nyoongar uses of the local bush; Eric McCrum, on insects; Katinka Ruthrof, on her research on regrowing tuarts; from Mark Harvey, an invertebrate expert who led a night time walk attended by several very excited children with good eyesight; and from our own bird banders, who provided guides with hands-on experience of this fascinating activity.

These sessions helped to keep the guides together as a cohesive group, and provided them with new information to share with walkers.



Guide John Majewski with a group of walkers on Reabold Hill. Photo S Clegg

Bushcare Activities

Our Bushcare coordinator has worked closely with Bold Park staff. Our bushcare efforts were focused in the Eastern Gateway site, just inside the Tuart Car Park entrance on Perry Lakes Drive. We have been active in this highly-visible park entrance area for over 20 years.

Throughout last winter, a team of seven Friends worked two mornings per month, concentrating on removing *Euphorbia* and *Pelargonium* from our site.

Last June, 1,220 seedlings were planted, with tree guards placed around 406 of the seedlings.

Planters comprised four BGPA staff members and thirteen members of the Friends, six of them new. We recorded the survival rates for the plantings, meeting at the end of the season to scrutinise individual sites. Seed collecting sessions were held in summer. Seed was collected from *Calothamnus quadrifidus*, *Allocasuarina humilis*, *Eucalyptus petrensis* and *Eucalyptus foecunda*. These will be grown to provide plants for future planting in the park.

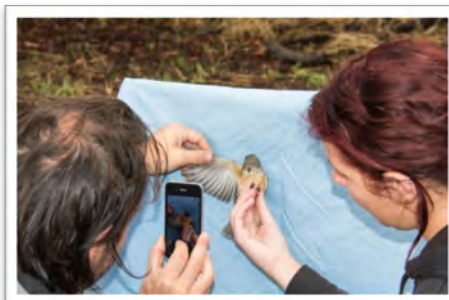


The Friends of Bold Park continue to take part in important restoration programs in Bold Park. Photo S Clegg

Adopt-a-Highway Program

We have continued with the Adopt-a-Highway program. A small but keen group met quarterly to collect rubbish from the highly-visible West Coast Highway frontage of the park. About 20 – 30 large bags of rubbish were collected each time and were later picked up by Town of Cambridge staff. This valuable activity helps to keep this prominent edge of the park looking cared for and respectable.

Bird-banding Program



Bird banders photographing a female Rufous Whistler. Photo B Knott

Since 1989 dedicated ornithologists have been studying the bird populations of Bold Park. This has involved capturing birds in mist nets, taking their measurements, applying leg bands, and then releasing them, a process which does not harm the birds.

Some species, such as white-cheeked honeyeaters and silvereyes, had red bands placed on their legs, making them easy to spot later without being captured. The project is currently run by volunteers who have training in this area, and who have permission to undertake the banding.

The project collected information about the birds that are found in Bold Park as well as birds' use of other remnant bushland and gardens. Banding also took place at Rottnest Island, Herdsman Lake, Pelican Point and Shenton Bushland. Part of the project will help to determine if species are moving between Bold Park and Herdsman Lake, along the route of the Stephenson Highway road reserve.

In the last year we have welcomed the small team of Bold Park bird banders as members of the Friends. We hope to assist by getting increased publicity for this work, and we have just been successful in gaining a \$9,000 grant from Lotterywest, to pay for equipment. Of course, the rest of us have benefitted by increasing our knowledge of birds in the park.

It is hoped that over the next few years the Friends can introduce more 'citizen science' activities that the public can be involved in, such as monitoring 'climate change marker plants species'.

Thanks

Thanks to all the BGPA staff who have assisted us in the past year, especially to Melissa Mykytiuk and Veronica Newbury. Thanks are also due to all our active members – those on the Executive Committee, our bushcare team, our highway rubbish pickup team, our guides and our new bird banding team. Thanks to all who have worked so hard over the past year to support the continued protection of Bold Park as a fantastic conservation and recreation resource.

Stephanie Clegg
President, Friends of Bold Park Bushland (Inc)

Friends of Kings Park

The 2013-14 year has been one of celebration and renewal as we continued to partner with BGPA to provide all visitors to the Park with an experience unequalled in any other park within Australia.

The Friends of Kings Park was established in 1993 to involve the community in its vision for Kings Park and Botanic Garden as a special place for people and plants.

Specifically, the Friends of Kings Park supports the work of the Botanic Gardens & Parks Authority (BGPA) by active participation in conservation, bushland management and horticulture; education and promotion, assisting research; and support for special projects in Kings Park.

As we continued to celebrate our 20th anniversary in the latter part of 2013, we commenced planning for a renewal of the organisation with the establishment of a new Strategic Plan for 2014-16 and a review of governance which will lead to a new Constitution at our Annual General Meeting in October 2014.

The culmination of our celebrations of the 20th Anniversary of the Friends of Kings Park, was a special dinner held at Frasers Restaurant on Tuesday 24th September 2013. This was a symbolic location for the Anniversary Dinner, as Frasers is not only in the heart of Kings Park, but the restaurant was being built in the same year that the Friends of Kings Park formed. Our guest speakers included Professor Stephen Hopper and BGPA CEO Mark Webb. Also in attendance were the four Presidents who have presided over the organisation during that 20 year period; Tom Alford, Tony Scalzo, Martin Revell and Bob Bunney.

A silent auction of a Jarrah Bowl with Pewter Gum Leaves by Chris Fryters, donated by Aspects of Kings Park, and a Philippa Nikulinsky artwork of *Eucalyptus Caesia* raised over \$2,000 for future projects in Kings Park. Our sponsors of the dinner were Aspects of Kings Park, Fraser's, and Kingston Harrop Business Consultants Taxation Advisors. Their support was instrumental in making the celebration possible and is greatly appreciated.

The Strategic Plan 2014-2016 continues the foundation ideals of our predecessors of 1993. Our Vision is that:

“Kings Park will continue to be a world-recognised botanic garden, an inspiration for the conservation of biological diversity and an exceptional place to visit.”

and we will strive to meet that Vision through achieving Our Core Purpose:

“To be a force for the conservation of Western Australia's unique flora by working with the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority to maintain and enhance Kings Park, creating a legacy for the future.”

The Strategic Plan will focus on four key result areas: Supporting Kings Park, Membership, Fundraising, and Governance and Administration.

Management Committee

While our financial year aligns with that of the Park, our AGM is held in October and this invariably leads to changes within the Management Committee. The committee members throughout the year were:

	Jul – Oct 2013	Nov 13 – Jun 14
President	Martin Revell	Bob Bunney
Vice President		Pippa Moodie
Treasurer	Liz Millward	Liz Millward
Committee Member and Magazine Editor	Tony Scalzo	Tony Scalzo
Committee Member	Darren Harrop	Darren Harrop (resigned Jan 14)
Committee Member	Val Gough	Val Gough
Committee Member	Alex Hew	Alex Hew
Committee Member	Kim Smith	Kim Smith
Committee Member		Andrea Hawkes
Immediate Past President	Bob Bunney	Martin Revell
BGPA Liaison	Larr Rose	Larr Rose



The Friends of Kings Park Management Committee (from left to right):

Tony Scalzo, Alex Hew, Martin Revell, Andrea Hawkes, Pippa Moodie, Valerie Gough, Liz Millward, Bob Bunney.

Absent: Kim Smith

Photo provided by Friends of Kings Park

The Friends' membership has remained strong and totals 1,245, comprising 1,169 community members and 115 BGPA staff members. The continual challenge is to reduce the attrition rate of members not renewing following their initial membership.

Members continue to commit themselves to the long term goals of the Friends. This was acknowledged at the Christmas party with the presentation of **Life Membership** to Martin Revell and Val Gough; **20 Year Volunteer Badges and Certificates** to Tom Alford, Bruce Craven, Rachel Craven, Ian Foster, Joanne Dumaresq, Cynthia Playford, and Jill Rule; and **10 Year Volunteer Badges and Certificates** to Ernest Lopez, Lyn Rowland, Val Preston, Kathleen Aitken; along with **Certificates of Appreciation** to Joanne Dumaresq, Glenn Cooke and Meagan Lloyd.

The quarterly plant sales have become a public institution and continue to attract a large group of buyers, with gross sales exceeding \$157,977, an increase on last year. While the dollars are important, what is more important is the promotion of our native plants and their use more widely in gardens throughout the metropolitan area.



The quarterly Friends of Kings Park plant sales are well attended and raise important funds towards Kings Park projects. Photo provided by Friends of Kings Park.

The continued success of our plant sales both in terms of the money raised and the excellent reputation enjoyed by the Friends in the high quality and wide range of plants species available, depends on the work undertaken by the Growing Friends. Under the leadership of Tony Scalzo, Val Gough and Pippa Moodie, the Growing Friends continue to enhance this reputation and uphold the high standards set by Kings Park. They are ably assisted by the

volunteers who support the sales with the setting up and breakdown of the marquee, tables and plants and by the sellers on the day, making it a successful team effort. It is only through the continued support of members like this, that we

are able to promote the Friends as a volunteer organisation of choice and through their support, continue to raise considerable funds for Kings Park.

The Skyshow on Australia Day continues to be a great success and this year, the Friends collected \$10,531, which was 25% more than collected last year. The money raised will form part of our funding for the Kimberley Boab Tree Expedition in 2015. Another source of donations is from visitors who walk over the Lotterywest Federation Walkway. Donations of \$10,600 were received from this source, by the Friends of Kings Park, this year.

General Meetings

As part of its commitment to provide members with interesting, up to date information on environmental issues and work in progress and achieved through Kings Park, members and guests are treated to a different speaker at the general meetings from February through to November. Although numbers are sometimes low, the quality of the speakers is first class. Many speakers are those who have received Friends' scholarships, talking about their experiences and what they have learned. On behalf of the Friends, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our guest speakers this year:

Meeting	Guest Speaker	Topic
July 2013	Viny Kapur, BGPA Turf Technician	Lawn Care at Kings Park Botanic Garden
August 2013	Chantelle Blight, BGPA Communications Officer Beth Baker, Photographer	2013 Kings Park Festival Photography of Native Plants
September 2013	Jenny and Neil Delmage, Authors of <i>12 Gardens- Creative Designs for the Australian Climate</i>	Maintaining a beautiful and water wise garden in the harsh Australian climate
October 2013 (Annual General Meeting)	Christine Groom, Research Officer WA Dept. Parks and Wildlife	Roost site fidelity and resource use by Carnaby's Cockatoo on the Swan Coastal Plain
November 2013	Adam Cross, PhD student UWA/BGPA	Carnivorous Plants & their unique adaptations
February 2014	Glenda Prideaux & Jeannine Russel, KP Guides and Tom Alford scholarship recipients	Guiding for the Future: 2013 Guides Conference Christchurch NZ
March 2014	Dr. Kerry Trayler, Principle Scientist Swan River Trust	Citizen Science and the Swan Canning
April 2014	Mark Webb, BGPA CEO	Kings Park Brings Desert to Life
May 2014	John Gardener, Mary-Rose Paterson Scholarship recipient & Jane Tucker, Tom Alford scholarship recipient	Gardens of the Bank's Peninsula & Quakes and Quests in and around Christchurch Botanic Gardens, 2013 Guides Conference Christchurch NZ
June 2014	Ben Anderson, PhD Candidate and Vic Galea Scholarship recipient	Sydney Phytogenetics Workshop & Spinifex Grasses Project

Scholarships

The Friends of Kings Park has three scholarships to award on an annual basis:

The Vic Galea Scholarship is awarded to a staff member of BGPA, including PhD students employed in Kings Park, for career development opportunities, i.e. studying and comparing work related methods in other relevant organisations.

The Tom Alford Scholarship recognises the years of dedication and leadership Tom has given to the Friends. The scholarship provides opportunities for members of the Friends of Kings Park by funding travel scholarships to enhance their involvement with the Park.

The Mary-Rose Paterson Scholarship is funded from an endowment fund set up in lasting memory of Mary- Rose Paterson, a long time Friend of Kings Park. The scholarship is available for award to any Kings Park volunteer for the promotion of Kings Park by carrying out study or research, or through attending conferences.

Applications for the 2014 scholarships have yet to be assessed.

Support and funding for Other Projects

The Friends have continued their long term community partnership with Lotterywest which over the past 20 years has attracted over \$8.5million in grants for Kings Park projects.

During the year, Lotterywest provided a grant in support of the 2013 Kings Park Festival and in addition provided funding for a 20th Anniversary Edition of the Friends of Kings Park magazine 'For People & Plants' with a feature article highlighting the unique friendship between Lotterywest and the Friends of Kings Park over the past twenty years. This included printing an additional 3500 copies that we were able to gift to the public in Kings Park during the Kings Park Festival.

Thanks also to the support from Lotterywest and the Swan River Trust we were able to run Horticultural Workshops for the public during the 2013 Kings Park Festival. Over three days of the September long weekend, we ran four workshops:

- Food Theatre Community Event, with the Great Gardens Team Chris Ferreira, Steve Wood and Hannah van Didden.
- From Little Seeds Great Gardens Grow, with Bob Dixon.
- Making Mini Gardens, with Keran Keys.
- Wildflower Masterpieces, with Alison Young.

Our thanks go to the sponsors and workshop presenters for making these workshops a success.

The Friends were also successful in obtaining a grant for \$550,000 in 2013-14 with approval in principle for an additional \$1,317,560 in 2014-15, to fund an exciting new project, the Botanic Staircase and Pavilion which will be the Friends gift to the community of Western Australia as part of the 50th Anniversary of the Botanic Garden celebrations in 2015. Expected to be completed by September 2015, the Botanic Staircase and Pavilion will be strategically located adjacent to the Botanic Garden entry and will sweep across the rolling hillside, enticing visitors on their own journey of discovery, culminating at the community pavilion perched on the crest of the Mt Eliza escarpment. The site offers expansive views over the Swan and Canning rivers and beyond to the darling scarp.

A further grant application has been made for the construction of a 'Volunteer Hub', which will be a building which is proposed to be used by the volunteer groups within the park, comprising volunteer amenities and a workshop to facilitate current and future volunteer activities throughout the park. We have dubbed the project 'Fixing Friends' and are hopeful of success with the application in 2014-15.

Friends' Groups Activities



Friends of Kings Park volunteers.
Photo Jason Thomas Photography

The Growing Friends continue to produce a diverse range of excellent quality plants in large numbers. It is an ongoing process for the group as they look at ways to improve the presentation of the plants at the sales with new photo labelling and descriptions. There is also a continuing need for the group to organise training sessions for new volunteers while them same time allowing the present members to improve their skills in different areas such as grafting.

The Orchid Growing Group assists the BGPA's science staff with repotting of the orchid collection and the plants are multiplying and growing strongly in the glasshouse. The group has widened its focus to include propagate *Drosera* plants to large enough numbers to be used as insect catchers (non-chemical) within the glasshouses. Any potted plants surplus to requirements would then be offered for sale at the Friends plant sales. The Group would like to thank Dr David Merritt, Dr Kingsley Dixon and Grady Brand for their dedication and guidance throughout the year.

The Bushland Carers Group is the quiet contributor to the bushland as all the hard work takes time to come to the attention of visitors. The members of this group have been involved over a long period of time and the committee thanks them for their dedication and effort. The Committee thanks Glenn Cook, Megan Lloyd and Alex Hew for their leadership roles and BGPA staff for their support of this group.

The Botanic Garden Carers assist in providing a major show of plants to visitors within Kings Park and Botanic Garden by assisting in replanting and weeding the gardens, to ensure the visitor experience to Kings Park is enhanced by the species on display.

The Naturescapers group was formed to be actively involved in the daily operations of Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park and we now have 32 Naturescapers, although this number is down from last year. There are plenty of opportunities for new members to volunteer in this area.

The Office Carers continue to ensure all members receive their newsletters and magazines on time. The group meet at the Main Lodge regularly to pack all the envelopes with the monthly information and new member packs. We have a growing number of members who receive their newsletters by email and this is reducing the costs of posting out on a monthly basis.

Work is currently underway to establish a new group, the Climatewatch Group. A recent initiative announced in the May 2014 Newsletter, saw 42 responses from interested FoKP members about Climatewatch. The response to starting this group was overwhelmingly positive as many felt this was an opportunity to either contribute as they hadn't been able to volunteer as yet, or it was seen as an added bonus to have a joyful task whilst visiting Kings Park. While still a work in progress, we have great hopes for this group.

National Volunteer Week was celebrated between the 12th to the 18th of May in Kings Park by collecting a range of photos of volunteer groups throughout the Park. These images captured the enormous variety of work that all the volunteer groups contribute in Kings Park, and the significant impact in our community. A selection of these images have been displayed in our newsletter, on our website, and in our magazine 'For People & Plants'.

We also celebrated International Day of the Volunteer on 5th December 2013 where, thanks to the financial support of the Orange Seed Project and the West Australian, we published an advertisement giving recognition and thanks to the volunteers and corporate members for their support.

Magazine/Calendar



The 2014 Friends of Kings Park Wildflower Calendar was again a great fundraising success and completely sold out. Aspects of Kings Park remains our principle outlet for the Calendar, however the Western Australian State Library, the Western Australian Visitor Centre and the Western Australian Museum are also now selling the calendar into the wider community. Once again, special thanks are owed to our Magazine Editor, Tony Scalzo and Graphic Designers, Rosalie Okely and Ji Min who have created a wonderful calendar and continue to produce the Friends of Kings Park quarterly magazine, For People and Plants. Our appreciation goes out to Tony and Chis Olney, the new editorial assistant, for their dedication and also to all the contributors to the magazine.

Botanic Gardens and Park Authority

On behalf of the Friends of Kings Park, I take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank Chief Executive Officer, Mark Webb, Director of Business and Visitor Services, Marcelle Broderick and all the BGPA staff for the support they provided to the Friends and Friends' Groups, throughout the year and over the past twenty-one years.

Staff and support to the Friends

To our Jarrah corporate members, Lotterywest, Water Corporation, and Rio Tinto; our Banksia corporate members, Picton Press, Fraser's Kings Park; and our Kangaroo Paw corporate members, Harris Organic Wines and ASA Cultural Tours, thank you for your ongoing contribution and support.

I would like to acknowledge and say thank you for the support provided to the Committee and myself by the Friends Office Administrator, Liz Laurie and Marketing and Events Officer, Tammy Pinkerton.

I would also like to acknowledge the outstanding work that the Management Committee carry out, without reward, on behalf of the membership and the Park.

I thank Bruce Donald, the Friends' Auditor for his assistance, accounting advice and hard work. We greatly appreciate his continued willingness to provide this assistance.

I would like to thank all our members, who contribute in so many ways and without whom we would not be able to support Kings Park to the extent we are able to do. It is a pleasure to represent our members and their involvement, energy, commitment and the enthusiasm and life they bring to the Friends is sincerely appreciated.

See you in the Park.

Bob Bunney
President, Friends of Kings Park

Kings Park Volunteer Guides

The Kings Park Volunteer Guides have been providing a service to Kings Park and the wider community for 29 years. Guides are planning a celebration in August for the 30th Anniversary of the founding of the Guides in 1984. At the end of the financial year there were 116 Guides with one on 12 months leave of absence. The number of Guides who have served for long periods is notable. Currently, we have 51 Guides who have served 10 years or more.

During the last twelve months, the Guides in the Visitor Information Centre (VIC) have carried out 7,345 hours of regular duties addressing visitor enquiries and on guided walks. In addition Guides have given over 3,680 hours on extra duties, making a total of 11,025 volunteer hours. These include Committee meetings and the accompanying work involved:

- Organising and implementing Guide Assessment (Team for Evaluating Guides).
- Compiling rosters for duties.
- Publishing the Guides newsletter.
- Organising ongoing education and refresher walks for Guides.
- Coordinating the Guides' lending library, reference books and files.
- Flower arranging for displays in the VIC.
- Arranging visits to places of historical, botanical or social importance.
- Preparing and conducting the 2014 Workshop which 82 Guides attended.
- Planning a suitable celebration and publicity for the 30th anniversary.

Committee

The committee meets 11 times a year, before the monthly general meeting. Each member has several areas of responsibility and some represent sub-committees. The 2014 committee is:



Photo L Rose

President - Barbara Pelly
 Vice President - Tony Lightman
 Secretary - Robyn Cooper
 Treasurer - Jan Garthwaite

Committee members; Roz Hood, Flora Kendall, Carol Newton-Smith, Chris Olney, Glenda Prideaux (ex officio) Chris Rowley, Ian Wildy

Visitor Information Centre

The Kings Park Visitor Information Centre opens daily (except Christmas Day) from 9.30 am to 4 pm. Two Guides are on duty for each of the two shifts covering the opening hours.

“The most **beautiful** park we have ever seen and **so well kept**. What a testament to WA and to Australia. **Thanks so much** for your help.”

The display areas are fully utilised to allow visitors to view large posters of features of the park, to browse a range of pamphlets, maps and brochures about the park and selected tourist attractions in the city. Many of the park brochures have been developed in conjunction with, or at the request of Guides. A regular update of important notifications regarding the park is provided by the Park Management Officer, who visits twice daily to liaise and collect lost property.

“We heard about Kings Park from afar – we don’t feel let down, **very beautiful** setting. The ladies in the visitor centre are extremely **helpful** and **well-informed**. They helped us get the **best** out of our visit.”

The lightweight folding wheelchair purchased by the Guides for free use by visitors continues to be a great help to visitors. There is a video display of park scenes, a display of botanical items of interest and at least two large flower arrangements displaying flowers currently blooming in the park, and arranged by a roster of Guides.

A daily record is kept of visitor contacts. The statistics for the year show a total of 50,063 contacts and phone calls compared with 47,267 in 2012-13.

Free Guided Walks

We offer free guided walks every day at 10am and 2 pm with a noon walk running every month except July and August. The regular walks offered are the Botanic Garden Walk and the Past and Present Walk, focusing on the historic Fraser Ave area. Other walks vary according to the time of year. Walks into the bushland start in winter and the Nature Trail is a focus during the annual Kings Park Festival.

The three free walks a day during the festival are extremely popular and extra Guides are rostered on. 1,807 visitors participated in the September Walks in 2013. The Guides have acquired a third portable voice amplification system, very valuable for the big groups at the popular times of the year. Guides also assist park horticulturalists when they deliver special walks as part of the festival.

When required, Guides also undertake Walks by Request for groups of larger than 10 in number or people with special interests. The BGPA has a small per capita charge for these walks. School Groups are now catered for by Kings Park Education.

During this year the Guides undertook 1,124 guided walks for almost 7,000 visitors.

“**Very beautiful** park and tour. Thank you so much Paula for the walk around in the park. **We want to come back.**”

“A **wonderful** place, Georgie was a **superb** guide, very **informative.**”

Health and Safety

The Guides cooperate closely with BGPA staff who have the statutory duty of ensuring that health and safety requirements are met. Guides are mindful of visitor safety when walking and advise them of possible risks at the start of walks. Guides carry a 2-way radio or mobile phone with them on walks.

Afternoon guided walks are cancelled by the BGPA on days which are rated Very High Fire Danger or on other adverse weather warnings issued by the Bureau of Meteorology. This information is posted on the BGPA website. On extremely hot days, Guides have the option to offer shorter walks restricted to shady areas.

Further Education

All Guides are expected to keep their knowledge and skills up to date, and know the latest relevant information about the park and the flora. To this end, we use a group email notification so that important information can be circulated rapidly. Every month the Park Management Officers produce briefing notes which Guides need to read at the start of each duty.

We also have 10 general meetings which Guides are strongly encouraged to attend. Talks by guest speakers or Guides who have particular expertise are of a high quality and much appreciated. Speakers this year include Roz Hart on fungi, Norm Manners on the RSL work in the park, Mark Brundett on orchids, Terry Houston on native bees, Hamish McGlashan on Kimberley exploration, Bill Kerns on the Kokoda Track, and Holly Story on her art in the park. We are grateful to BGPA staff, fellow Guides and experts from beyond the park who give freely of their time and knowledge.

A week after each meeting there is usually a walk that follows up the topic and improves knowledge of different areas. A summary of the walk and talk is then published in the monthly newsletter which is mailed to all Guides, Associate Guides and relevant BGPA staff. The newsletter also includes other information of interest to Guides.

A workshop was held in May this year, with an option of 2 dates for Guides, and a total of 82 attended. Three senior BCC researchers, Siegy Krauss, David Merritt and Shane Turner, gave presentations on aspects of their work on conservation genetics and seed science. This was followed by a bus tour of the park, with stops at various places.

The Guides greatly appreciate the support we were given by BGPA staff in the holding of a very successful workshop. The social element of the meetings and workshop promotes interaction between guides and reinforce the camaraderie and good spirit of the Guides.



The Guides have a variety of further education opportunities to learn about activities in Kings Park. Photos S Reid

Eighteen Guides attended the 13th Annual Australasian Conference of Volunteer Guides in the Botanic Gardens in Christchurch, NZ in October. Five Guides were awarded Tom Alford and Mary-Rose Paterson Scholarships by the Friends, and they reported back on their experiences. It was a valuable learning opportunity for all and several ideas that they encountered during the Conference are now being discussed and implemented.

Evaluation

The compulsory programme for the evaluation of Guides has continued to ensure that the standard of our performance matches the expectations of the BGPA and visitors.

After the completion of the 5th two-year cycle in November, a new committee of ten respected and experienced Guides was elected to the Team to Evaluate Guides (TEG). These people give voluntary time to observe and assess the work of each Guide, in the Information Centre and on walks. The assessor then gives confidential feedback, usually over a cup of coffee, and may also offer guidance and support and listen to any problems or suggestions the Guide may want to put forward.

A survey at the end of the cycle revealed that the great majority of Guides accept the value of assessment. A new assessment reporting form has been devised by the team to provide a more objective appraisal, with particular regard to visitor response.

The Comments Book entries written by visitors in the VIC reflect their reaction to the beauty of the park, and often compliment the Guides who lead the walks and offer assistance.

Uniforms

As much of our time is spent outdoors, our uniform shirts have long sleeves and we are encouraged to wear the wide-brimmed hats provided and wear sunscreen. This is an important example to the public. The BGPA provides sunscreen in the VIC for use of Guides and visitors.

Guides are provided with a green uniform shirt with the BGPA logo fully visible, a hat and a bag as well as a personal name badge. This uniform gives conformity to the professional appearance of the Guides and allows them to be easily recognisable on duty.

The Lodge

The main Lodge at the Fraser Ave entry to Kings Park continues to be used by all the volunteer groups. The Guides have their own office with computer and printer, and part of a storage area, as well as access to a central area with photocopier, library and a meeting room. The Guides have used some of their funds to arrange an upgrade of computer software to improve record-keeping, and the maintenance of list and Guides' details. Having all the volunteer groups in the same building encourages friendly interaction and a co-operation. Help from the Friends of Kings Park staff is freely given and much appreciated.

Community Involvement

A small group of Guides has been working in their own time on a countrywide science project, ClimateWatch, which involves making regular observations on particular trees in three walks in the Park. The BGPA has been supportive in providing signs for these trees. Guides also provide help to interested members of the public.

Acknowledgements

A number of Guides have achieved service milestones this year. At the annual Christmas Volunteers party, long service badges were awarded to Noelene Rowell (25 years) and Dorothy Arthur, Pam Bennett, Barbara Dickenson, Jeremy Hall and Terri Knuckey (all 15 years).

Three Guides were awarded Life Membership for their significant service: Cynthia Playford, Audrey Pearson and Harry Pearson. The Pearsons were also recognised by the BGPA Board for the production of their illustrated guidebook About Kings Park, an invaluable reference work which has been distributed to all Guides.

The Guides sincerely thank Mark Webb, CEO and the Directors, Marcelle Broderick, Kingsley Dixon and Lesley Hammersley for their ongoing support and encouragement. Grady Brand and his horticultural team are always readily available for advice and help.

We are grateful to all members of the Visitor Services Team led by Jacqui Kennedy, who have provided effective liaison between the BGPA Management and the Guides. We also thank the Administrative Assistants and the Park Management Officers who assist in our day to day guiding work. Special thanks are due to the Volunteer Coordinator, Larr Rose who has worked consistently to support us.

Barbara Pelly
President, Kings Park Volunteer Guides

Kings Park Volunteer Master Gardeners

Home Gardening and Public Contact

Advice to home gardeners about growing native plants continues to be the main objective of the Volunteer Master Gardeners. Opportunities for home gardeners to ask questions are provided three times a week by contacting the Gardening Advisory Service; monthly, by attending 'Dig it with Coffee' sessions; quarterly, at the Friends of Kings Park plant sales and annually during the Kings Park Festival. Talks are given to social and gardening groups speaking about Kings Park or about native plants. The Friends of Kings Park includes a regular Volunteer Master Gardeners' article in their quarterly magazine *For People and Plants*.



The Kings Park Volunteer Master Gardeners committee.

Projects in 2013-14

Training and Further Education

A training course involving a twice-a-week program of talks and demonstrations was held over a 9-week period. Following the successful completion of an examination the participants are completing twelve months of Internship.

Volunteer Science Garden

An initiative in 2013 was the development of the Volunteer Science Garden near the glasshouses. The area has been reticulated; native plants have been introduced and mulch has been applied.

Bush Garden

The Bush Garden continues to be planted and maintained without additional water. Growth of plants, flowering periods, survival rates and natural recruitment are monitored.

Translocation

A BGPA translocation project establishing *Eremophila resinosa* plants on a mine site at Westonia involves Volunteer Master Gardeners working with Bob Dixon (Manager, Biodiversity and Extensions)—planting, monitoring and data processing.

Assistance to Science staff and students

Members assist staff and post-graduate students working in the Science area. On request they respond to requests for help with activities such as determining seed viability using an x-ray machine, cleaning seeds and potting-up plants.

Plant development

The VMGs are involved with Kings Park plant development, helping BGPA plant breeders to work on several species—cleaning seeds, propagating, potting up, collecting pollen, cleaning labels and maintaining the area.

Bushland planting

VMGs and Interns had the opportunity to assist the BGPA Environmental team with restoration planting.

Further Education

Monthly talks at General Meetings were held during the year for all members.

We sincerely thank the BGPA for its ongoing support.

Liz Farquhar

President, Kings Park Volunteer Master Gardeners

Honour Avenues Group

A Place to Grieve - A Place to Honour

The beach at Gallipoli, Turkey, 25 April 1915

The Royal Navy pinnace suddenly cast off the ship's boat it had been towing, sending it swirling into the darkness.

Flares burst in the sky above revealing the craft was packed with Australian soldiers.

Some scrambled to pick up oars, which they frantically used to stop the gyrations and steer the boat toward the vague outline of a beach just ahead.

Gunfire erupted from the high ground above the shoreline - and the dying began.

In the wave of boats heading for the shore many men gave a low moan and collapsed against the soldier next to him.

The storm of bullets from multiple machine guns and flying shrapnel from exploding artillery shells intensified, carving a swathe of death and injury amongst the Australians, as the bottom of each boat scraped the sands of the shore. The surviving occupants left the dead and wounded to leap out and run for the shelter of a shallow overhang at the top of the beach.

Still more khaki figures fall, some to raise a hand for help others to lay still, unmoving.

Dawn breaks sending its peach coloured rays splashing over the bay unveiling a scene of frantic slaughter, horror and sadness.

Over Friedrichshafen Germany, 1944

The young Australian pilot struggles with the controls of the badly damaged Lancaster as he again told his crew to jump as he tries to keep the now burning aircraft steady.

"No Skip, we will stay with you." Says a voice that other pilots in the flight cannot recognize.

"Get out you twerps, I'll follow."

With that the others saw the tail of the big bomber break off, sending the fuselage into a tight spin toward the target below.

The others from the flight waited, but no parachutes came out of the stricken aircraft.

Off Timor, December 1942

HMAS *Armidale*, attacked and hit by Japanese aircraft, began to sink as the surviving crew abandoned ship.

Circling above, like vultures waiting to pounce upon their prey, the Japanese planes roared down to strafe the helpless sailors now floating in the water.

Ordinary Seaman Teddy Sheean, who was about to go over the side, stopped when he saw his shipmates being hit by the bullets of the attacking Japanese.

Crawling along the sloping deck he reached an Oerlikon gun.

Strapping himself to the weapon he took aim at the next diving aircraft, as it leveled out for its run, and commenced firing. This caused the startled pilot to swerve and so saved the lives of many of his shipmates.

He kept on firing at attacking enemy aircraft until the stricken *Armidale* slipped beneath the waves taking Teddy, still strapped to his gun and firing, with it.

Radji Beach, Bangka Island, 1942

The *Vyner Brooke* slipped silently out of Singapore Harbour in the darkness of the night headed for Fremantle, aboard were some 300 civilians and the Australian nurses of the 2/10 and 2/13 Australian General Hospitals.

Daylight brought the Japanese planes.

The old coastal trader could not take the punishment of several direct hits and she heeled over and went down with many casualties.

The Australian nurses lost 12 from their ranks while 21 managed to swim to a nearby island.

After being contacted, the Japanese sent a small patrol to the beach where all the survivors congregated. The women and children were sent to the nearest village and the men were taken around a headland and bayoneted.

Arriving back at the beach the 21 nurses were herded, in a line, into the water.

No one cried out and then the Japanese patrol opened up with automatic weapons.

The only survivor was Sister Vivian Bullwinkel who played dead after being hit in the side.

The memory of these valiant men and women is kept alive from one generation to another by grateful citizens of Australia.

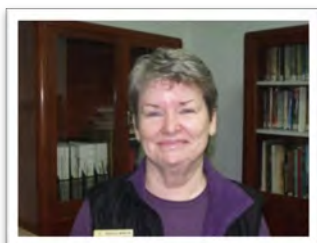
Some remember them on specific occasions, such as Anzac or Armistice Day, while others are involved on a more regular basis.

The first Honour Avenue of Kings Park, Perth, was dedicated and opened in 1919, then placed into the caring hands of the RSL in 1922, where they have remained to this day.

The 16 men and one woman who form the Honour Avenue's Group are all members of Highgate RSL Sub-Branch and are dedicated to ensuring the plaques within the Honour Avenues of today are maintained and presented at the highest level.

Located at 'The Lodge' the administration and planning section share facilities with the other volunteer groups of the park.

The Honour Avenues Group Members below undertake a variety of tasks.



Helen Birch



Barry Campbell



Chris Chapple



Norman Coleman



Barry Eather



Doug Farmer



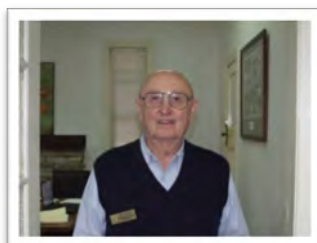
Rod Halcombe



Mike Harness



Arthur Hutchison



Ken Jones



Robin Slater

Secretary, Ken Jones, processes all plaque applications from the public and researches the service backgrounds of the names submitted. He writes the dialogue, for those applicants who meet the acceptance criteria, for the next Dedication of Plaques Service.

Chris Chapple, Treasurer, collects the fees for banking and maintains all the accounts and financial records of the group.

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Publications

The BGPA creates and contributes to, many publications throughout the year. All BGPA Annual Reports, Management Plans, strategic publications, legal statements, scientific papers and brochures are available to download from the [BGPA's website](#) or in hard copy from the front reception offices in Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park. Information brochures are also available from the Kings Park Visitor Information Centre. Refer to the [Maps, Brochures and Publications](#) section for more information on BGPA publications revised or created in 2013-14.

In addition, a range of botanical, gardening, historical, cultural and children's books are available for sale at Aspects of Kings Park including the following BGPA published books:

- A Joy Forever – The Story of Kings Park and Botanic Garden
- Australian Native Plants – The Kings Park Experience (August 2013)
- Australian Seeds (currently out of print)
- Avenues of Honour (Kings Park Honour Avenues Groups)
- Chunyart and the Cheeky Parrot
- For People and Plants (the monthly Friends of Kings Park Magazine)
- Friends of Kings Park Calendar (annually)
- Kings Park and Botanic Garden: Western Australia (Souvenir Book)
- Kings Park's Special Trees
- Memorials and Memories
- Perth Plants: a field guide to the bushland and coastal flora of Kings Park and Bold Park, Perth, Western Australia (currently out of print).

Scientific Journals and Papers

Book Chapter

Mucina, L., Daniel, G., Stephenson, G., Boonzaaier, I., van Niekerk, A., Barrett, M.D., Barrett, R.L., Tichý, L. & Valachovič, M. (2013). Floristic-ecological mapping in the Northern Kimberley: field survey methods and mapping protocols. *In*: Mucina, L. and Daniel, G. (eds) *Vegetation mapping in the Northern Kimberley, Western Australia*. Curtin University, Bentley pp. 26–87.

Refereed Articles

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Barrett, R.L. and Lowrie, A. (2013). Typification and application of names in *Drosera* section *Arachnopus* (Droseraceae). *Nuytsia* 23: 527–541.

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- Bradbury D, Smithson A, Krauss SL (2013) Development and testing of new gene-homologous EST-SSRs for *Eucalyptus gomphocephala* (Myrtaceae). Applications in Plant Sciences 1(8):1300004. DOI <http://dx.doi.org/10.3732/apps.1300004>.
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- Cross A.T., Cawthray G.R., Merritt D.J., Turner S.R., Renton M., Dixon, K.W. (2014). Biogenic ethylene promotes seedling emergence from the sediment seed bank in an ephemeral tropical rock pool habitat. *Plant and Soil*: DOI 10.1007/s11104-014-2083-z.
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- Davison, E.M., Davison, P.J.N., Barrett, M.D. & Barrett, R.L. (2013) *Licea xanthospora* E.M. Davison, P.J.N. Davison, M.D. Barrett & R.L. Barrett, sp. nov. *Fungal Planet* 206. *Persoonia* 31: 278–279.
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- Evans A.M., Sinclair E.A., Steinberg P.D., Verges A., Poore A.G.B., Kendrick G.A. (2014) Genetic diversity in threatened *Posidonia australis* seagrass meadows. *Conservation Genetics*. DOI 10.1007/s10592-014-0573-4.
- Funnekotter B, Kaczmarczyk A, Turner S.R., Bunn E, Zhou W, Smith S, Flematti G, Mancera R (2013) Acclimation-induced changes in cell membrane composition and influence on cryotolerance of in-vitro shoots of native plant species. *Plant Cell, Tissue and Organ Culture*, 1-14.
- Griffiths E and Jason Stevens. (2014) Managing nutrient regimes improves seedling root growth potential of framework *Banksia* woodland species. *Australian Journal of Botany* 61: 600-610.
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- Merritt D.J., Hay F.R., Swarts N.D., Sommerville K.D., Dixon K.W. (2014), Ex-situ conservation and cryopreservation of orchid germplasm. *International Journal of Plant Sciences*, 175: 46-58.
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- Stingemore J.A., Nevill PG, Gardner MG, Krauss SL (2013) Development of microsatellite markers for two Australian *Persoonia* (Proteaceae) species using two different techniques. *Applications in Plant Science* 1: 1300023.
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- Barrett, R (2013). Kings Park Poranthera: A newly named species. *For People and Plants, Friends of Kings Park Magazine*, Issue 82, p 24-25
- Barrett, R (2013). New names for plants in Kings Park bushland. *For People and Plants, Friends of Kings Park Magazine*, Issue 83, p 30-32.
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- Brand, G. (2014). The Elephant Ear Wattle – a blooming success. *For People and Plants, Friends of Kings Park Magazine*, Issue 85, p 22.
- Brand, G. (2014). 'Rare' find in Kings Park and Botanic Garden. *For People and Plants, Friends of Kings Park Magazine*, Issue 85, p 23.
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- Golos, P and Merino-Martin, L (2014). Science Without Borders: Students from Brazil experience research at Kings Park. *Friends of Kings Park Magazine*, Issue 85, p 30-31
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- Merritt, D. (2014). Longevity of seeds in the bank. *For People and Plants, Friends of Kings Park Magazine*, Issue 85, p 32-34.
- Phillips, R. (2013). Sex, Murder and Deception – the Private Lives of Thynnine Wasps. *For People and Plants, Friends of Kings Park Magazine*, Issue 83, p 26-29.

- Rose, L. (2013). About me ... *For People and Plants, Friends of Kings Park Magazine*, Issue 82, p 17.
- Rose, L. (2014). All the way from Uddington, Scotland, a new Volunteer Terry Taylor. *For People and Plants, Friends of Kings Park Magazine*, Issue 84, p 30.
- Scalzo, T. (2013). Great Garden Plants Staghorn Bush. *For People and Plants, Friends of Kings Park Magazine*, Issue 82, p 30.
- Scalzo, T. (2013). Kings Park's Director of Science, Professor Kingsley Dixon Awarded the Prestigious Linnean Medal. *For People and Plants, Friends of Kings Park Magazine*, Issue 83, p 33.
- Scalzo, T. (2013). Upcoming New Release *Lechenaultia formosa* cv. 'Kings Park Blush'. *For People and Plants, Friends of Kings Park Magazine*, Issue 83, p 34.
- Simpson, D. (2013). Scattered Light. *For People and Plants, Friends of Kings Park Magazine*, Issue 82, p 16.
- Sweedman, L. (2013). The Western Australian Seed Technology Centre Celebrating 50 Years of Field Collections. *For People and Plants, Friends of Kings Park Magazine*, Issue 82, p 5-11.
- Sweedman, L. (2014). Common and iconic – but does that mean they're truly secure? *For People and Plants, Friends of Kings Park Magazine*, Issue 85, p 10-12.
- Thomas, J. (2014). Kings Park's Living Collection *On the Move*. *For People and Plants, Friends of Kings Park Magazine*, Issue 84, p 3-9.
- Webb, M. (2013). The grass is greener on this side ... *For People and Plants, Friends of Kings Park Magazine*, Issue 82, p 20-21.

Scientific Research Projects

Externally Funded Research

- 1 Rocla Quarry Products: Developing sustainable restoration of Banksia woodland communities disturbed through sand quarrying activities (2000-ongoing).
- 2 Department of Parks and Wildlife, Great Southern District: Rare Plant Translocations program for *Grevillea scapigera*.
- 3 Department of Parks and Wildlife, Yilgarn District, Wheatbelt Region Rare Plant Translocations program for *Symonanthus bancroftii*.
- 4 Catalpa Resources (formerly Westonia Mines Ltd) funding for two new translocation sites for *Eremophila resinosa* continues.
- 5 Rocla Quarry Products: Understanding the ecophysiological reasons that underpin Banksia species establishment (2006 - ongoing).
- 6 Department of Parks and Wildlife: Clonal propagation through tissue culture of the critically endangered *Banksia montana* (Proteaceae) (2007-ongoing).
- 7 BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty Ltd: A major five year project developing a “Seed Atlas for the Pilbara” (2008-2014).
- 8 Gindalbie Metals Ltd: Conservation genetics of *Acacia karina* (2009-2014).
- 9 Grange Resources Limited: An integrated research program focused on practical outcomes for the ex-situ and in-situ conservation, restoration and translocation of the declared rare flora *Androcalva perlaria* (previously *Commersonia* sp *Mt Groper*) (Sterculiaceae) – a five-year research and development program (2010-2015).
- 10 Griffin Coal Mining Co: Integrated conservation and translocation of *Caladenia lodgeana* project (2009-2015).
- 11 BHP Billiton: Investigation into the effect of topsoil stockpile age and depth on topsoil seed-bank and seedling recruitment (2010-ongoing).
- 12 Rio Tinto: Genetic composition of key tree species at Weeli Wolli Creek (2010-2014).
- 13 Shark Bay Resources: Research of seedling recruitment dynamics of transition zone flora in natural and restored systems (2011-2014).
- 14 Sinosteel Mid-West Corporation Ltd: Developing a restoration research plan underpinning threatened ecological community (2012-2017).
- 15 Birla Nifty Copper Pty Ltd: Vegetation restoration project in the Great Sandy Desert (2012-2015).
- 16 BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty Ltd: Pilbara Restoration Initiative executive support project (2012-2015).
- 17 Arriyadh Development Authority: Nature conservation strategy plan for the Riyadh region (2012-2013).
- 18 Arriyadh Development Authority: Developing vegetation restoration principles for global arid zones using a major program in Saudi Arabia (2012-2015).

- 19 Cliffs Asia Pacific Iron Ore Pty Ltd: *Ricinocarpos brevis* restoration research program (2013-2017).
- 20 Cliffs Asia Pacific Iron Ore Pty Ltd: Population genetic variation and its spatial structure in *Tetralochea erubescens* (Elaeocarpaceae) (2013-2014).
- 21 Alcoa of Australia Limited: Residue rehabilitation research project (2014-2015).
- 22 Karara Mining Limited: Research plan of Karara-Mungada rehabilitation and rare species management (2014-2018).

Nationally Competitive Projects

1. Broad scale implementation of native grass germination enhancement technologies. Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation research grant PRJ-003853 (2008-2014: total funds \$447,009).
2. Establishing genetic guidelines for the effective ecological restoration of seagrass meadows. ARC Linkage Project LP100200429 (2010-2013 \$392,000). Administering organisation: The University of Western Australia. Collaborative partners: Cockburn Cement Ltd, Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority and Department of Environment and Conservation.
3. Above and below-ground specialisation in Australian orchids and its implications for diversification and vulnerability. ARC Linkage Project: LP110100408 (2011-2014 ARC funds \$460,000). Administering organisation: The Australian National University. Collaborative Partner: Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority.
4. The roles viruses play in the decline of terrestrial orchids in Australia's hotspot of global biodiversity. ARC Linkage Project: LP110200180 (2011-2014: ARC funds \$286,000). Administering organisation: Murdoch University. Collaborative Partners: The Australian Orchid Foundation, Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority.
5. The spatial energetic of pollination failure in habitat restoration. ARC Linkage Project LP110200304 (2011-2016: ARC funds \$629,084). Administering organisation: The University of Western Australia. Collaborative Partners: Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority.
6. Defining biologically significant units in Spinifex (*Triodia* spp.) for improved ecological restoration in arid Australia. ARC Linkage Project: LP120100350 (2012-2015: ARC funds \$549,000). Administering organisation: The University of Western Australia. Collaborative Partners: Chevron Australia Pty Ltd, Rio Tinto, Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority, and Department of Environment and Conservation.
7. The role of mycorrhizal fungi in the nutrition of temperate terrestrial orchids. ARC Linkage Project LP120200464 (2012-2016: ARC funds \$415,000) Administering organisation: The University of Western Australia. Collaborative Partners: University of Sheffield, and Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority.

8. Discovering the molecular mechanisms and origins of karrikin and strigolactone signalling in plants. ARC Discovery Project DP130103646 (2013-2016: ARC funds \$505,000). Administering organization: The University of Western Australia. Collaborative Partner: Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority.
9. A world-class, high resolution scanning electron microscopy facility for West Australian researchers. ARC Linkage Infrastructure Equipment and Facilities (LIEF) LE 130100011 (2013 ARC funds \$470,000). Administering organisation: The University of Western Australia. Collaborative Partners: Murdoch University, Edith Cowan University, and Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority.
10. Overcoming critical recruitment bottlenecks limiting seedling establishment in degraded seagrass ecosystems: a systems approach to restoration. ARC Linkage grant LP130100155 (2013-2016: total ARC funds \$335,772). Administering organisation: The University of Western Australia. Partner and other organisations: Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority; Cockburn Sound Management Council, BMTT Oceanica Pty Ltd; Mitsui Pty Ltd (trading as Shark Bay Resources Pty Ltd), and Virginia Institute of Marine Science.
11. The chemical, molecular and evolutionary basis of key pollination transitions in Australian orchids and their conservation consequences. ARC Linkage grant LP130100162 (2013-2016: total ARC funds \$398,961). Administering organisation: Australian National University. Collaborative and other partners: Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority, The University of Western Australia, University of Michigan.
12. Ecological and genetic connectivity in seagrasses: the role of sexual reproduction, dispersal and recruitment on meadow restoration. ARC Linkage grant LP130100918 (2013-2016: total ARC funds \$375,331). Administering organisation: The University of Western Australia. Partner Organisation: Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority.
13. The evolution and conservation consequences of promiscuity in plants pollinated by vertebrates. ARC Discovery Project DP140103357 (2014-2016: ARC funds \$935,000). Administering organisation: The University of Western Australia. Collaborative Partner: Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority.
14. Managing ecosystem change requires the integration of above and below ground hydrological processes at relevant scale. ARC Linkage Project LP140100736 (2014-2017: ARC funds \$300,000). Administering organisation: The University of Western Australia. Collaborative Partners: Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority, SpecTerra Services Pty Ltd.
15. Advancing cryobanking for propagation-recalcitrant and critically endangered plant species. ARC Linkage Project LP140100993 (2014-2017: total ARC funds \$450,000). Administering organisation: Curtin University of Technology. Collaborative Partners: Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority.

Research Scientists and Students

Research Scientists

Information regarding the BGPA's research scientists and students can be found by going to the [Research and Conservation](#) section of the BGPA's website.

Externally Funded Research Scientists

Dr Janet Anthony is the genetics laboratory manager. She also undertakes short-term projects and assists with projects such as the genetic guidelines for the effective ecological restoration of seagrass meadows project.

Dr Matt Barrett continues research on a four-year ARC funded project defining biologically significant units in spinifex (*Triodia* spp.) for improved ecological restoration in arid Australia (joint UWA project). He also undertook short-term projects in the Kimberley.

Russell Barrett undertook short-term projects in the Kimberley, and continued to prepare and design books on Western Australian native flora.

Christine Best joined the Restoration Seed Bank project as a research associate working on seed technologies for restoration.

Dr Lucy Commander continued research into seed enablement techniques of species in threatened ecological communities at Sinosteel Mid-West's mine sites.

Claire Courtauld joined the team researching soil-plant interaction at Sinosteel's banded ironstone mine sites. Clare is also working on the seed biology of native species required for mine site restoration including seed dormancy, seed ecology and seed enablement technologies.

Dr Carole Elliott concluded an 18 month contract to investigate the impacts on native plant populations on a removal of vectors of long distance dispersal (and in particular emus), and the consequences on the capacity of plant populations to respond to environmental impacts such as climate change and habitat fragmentation (joint Murdoch University project).

Todd Erickson continued research on a seed program to develop a Seed Atlas for the Pilbara to establish seed conservation and restoration methods following iron ore mining. Todd also commenced as a Project Manager with the Restoration Seed Bank Project, funded by BHP Billiton Iron Ore.

Arielle Fontaine commenced as a Research Associate assisting with two projects focused on the integrated conservation of two critically endangered species *Androcalva perlaria* and *Ricinocarpus brevis*. These projects are investigating different aspects of the ecology of both species with the aim of developing the technologies and knowledge to facilitate the establishment of translocated populations of both species in future to offset the loss of plants due to mining.

Peter Golos continues research into experimental designs for restoration of a mine site in the Great Sandy Desert. Peter also commenced research into improving the restoration of threatened species communities occurring on banded iron formations at Sinosteel Mid-West's mine sites, in particular relating to the plant-soil interaction.

Dr Anne Mathews is 18 months into a three year contract to develop the governance model, business plan, and operational plan for the Pilbara Restoration Initiative.

Dr Ellery Mayence continues to research seedling recruitment dynamics of transition zone flora in natural and restored systems at Shark Bay.

Dr Luis Merino Martin concluded his research on improving the restoration of threatened species communities occurring on banded iron formations as well as developing a new restoration soil science program to increase the BGPA's expertise.

Dylan Martini joined the Restoration Seed Bank project as a research associate, assisting the soil scientists.

Dr Ben Miller was appointed Fire Ecologist. Ben co-ordinates and implements fire ecological research relevant to species and ecosystems in Kings Park and Bold Park bushlands. Ben is also expanding on some of the areas listed in the scoping study of restoration requirements in Saudi Arabia.

Dr Miriam Munoz Rojas commenced as a Research Assistant Professor with the Restoration Seed Bank Project as a soil scientist.

Dr Paul Nevill is assessing the conservation genetics and phylogenetics of *Acacia karina*, a rare mid-west species impacted by mining, and also examining genetic provenance variation in three Pilbara riparian tree species. Ben is also developing a DNA barcode database for the Pilbara flora.

Dr Belinda Newman is undertaking research into the conservation and translocation of *Caladenia lodgeana* and also assisting with Millennium Seed Bank collections (joint UWA project).

Dr Ryan Phillips is undertaking research to assess limiting factors and predict impacts of climate change for endangered Australian orchids in collaboration with The Australian National University. Ryan also undertakes collections for the Millennium Seed Bank (joint ANU project).

Dr David Roberts commenced a three year ARC funded project to assess the conservation and evolution consequences of promiscuity in plants pollinated by vertebrates (joint UWA project).

Dr Liz Sinclair is undertaking an ARC funded project to develop genetic guidelines for the effective ecological restoration of seagrass meadows (joint UWA project).

Dr Jason Stevens is the BGPA/Rocla Quarry Products restoration ecophysiologicalist, and manages the restoration ecophysiology programs of the BGPA.

Dr Sean Tomlinson is undertaking research on a joint UWA/BGPA project entitled "The spatial energetics of pollination failure in habitat restoration".

David Symons concluded assisting with the Pilbara Seed Atlas project and commenced assisting the Restoration Seed Bank project working on seed technologies for restoration.

Dr Shane Turner is undertaking research into the conservation, restoration and translocation of the declared rare flora *Androcalva perlaria* (previously *Commersonia* sp Mt Groper) in partnership with Grange Resources and UWA. Shane also continues research of the declared rare flora *Ricinocarpos brevis*, funded by Cliffs Asia Pacific Iron Ore Pty Ltd.

Students

Benjamin Anderson (UWA) continues his PhD research investigating the diversity of *Triodia basedowii* E.Pritz species complexes and its implications for the evolution of the Australian arid zone biota.

Bronwyn Ayre (UWA) commenced her Honours project on managing the impacts of genetic erosion in the translocation of *Grevillea scapigera*.

Sasha Ayton (UWA) commenced her Honours project investigating ecophysiological adaptations to seasonal variation in climate in colonial stingless bees

Mallory Barnes (UWA) commenced his Honours project researching physiological thresholds in *Triodia* establishment.

Melanie Britton (UWA) commenced her Honours project researching impacts from de-watering on the mating system of the riparian *Eucalyptus camaldulensia* in the Pilbara.

Mark Bundock (UWA) had his PhD thesis “A study into the biophysical effects of herbicides and adjuvants used in bushland management activities, on plant species native and invasive to Western Australia”, accepted.

Betty Mauliya (Liya) Bustram (UWA) continues her PhD researching methods and impacts of tissue culture and cryostorage for the rare *Drakaea* orchid species

Nicole Bezemer (UWA) commenced her Honours project researching the consequences of bird pollination for mating in *Eucalyptus caesia*.

Sarah Boys (UWA) commenced her Honours project researching the development of seed enablement technologies for improving recruitment success for species required for mine site restoration.

Anthea Challis (UWA) concluded her Honours project researching mortality patterns and physiological responses of two framework tree species (*Banksia menziesii* and *Allocasuarina fraseriana*) to water stress in a natural woodland.

Jamie Chan (UWA) commenced her Honours project researching the implications of outbreeding depression for seed sourcing for ecological restoration.

Kerryn Chia (UWA) is continuing her part time PhD project researching the ecology, seed dormancy and germination biology of *Persoonia longifolia*.

Adam Cross (UWA) submitted his PhD thesis on research into recruitment, dispersal and disjunction in Kimberley hydrophytes.

Sophie Cross (UWA) commenced her Honours project researching bird and ant diversity in relation to vegetation condition in restored coastal dunes.

Clare Courtland (Murdoch University) concluded her Honours project researching the ecological restoration of a threatened ecological BIF community.

Emma Dalziell (UWA) continues her PhD research into seed biology, dispersal and functional ecology of Western Australian Nymphaeaceae (water lilies).

Erica David (UWA) commenced her PhD researching implications for wind management in restoration ecology, linking ecosystem aerodynamics to physiological drivers in arid and semi-arid systems.

Todd Erickson (UWA) continues his PhD research investigating seed restoration science for the Pilbara flora.

Alea Faber-Castell (UWA) is continuing her PhD research part-time into the conservation and biology of Australian duck orchids (*Paracaleana*).

Sharon Fletcher (Curtin University) commenced her Honours project researching the genetic consequences of cryogenic storage on plant germplasm derived from species of conservation and restoration significance.

Laura Folan (UWA) completed her Honours project investigating the role of seeds in weed management.

Michalie Foley (UWA) was awarded her PhD for her research on landscape structure and population size effects on genetic pattern and process in *Banksia illicifolia* R. Br.: consequences for conservation and ecological restoration.

Arielle Fontaine (UWA) completed her Honours research project investigating the ecology of seeds with underdeveloped embryos (i.e. morphological and morphophysiological dormancy).

Bryn Funnekotter (Curtin University) continues his PhD research project investigating cryopreservation of native plant species for conservation and minesite restoration.

Lydia Guja (Curtin University) submitted her PhD thesis on her research investigating the relationship between seed dispersal mechanisms, seed germination traits and plant distribution in the coastal zone.

Beorn Harris (UWA) submitted his PhD thesis on his research of biotechnology solutions for enhanced propagation of Western Australian Ericaceae for minesite restoration, while also developing an ex-situ conservation program for an endangered species *Leucopogon* sp. *ciliate*.

Tanya Hevroy (UWA) submitted her PhD thesis on the conservation genetics and molecular phylogenetics of the *Grevillea thelemanniana* complex.

Dimitri Ivanov (UWA) commenced his Honours project researching the soil seedbank interactions of mine site topsoil to improve our current understanding of recruitment bottlenecks in the restoration of post mining environments.

Majda Khalil (UWA) continued her PhD on restoration ecology of *Acacia pachyceras* in the state of Kuwait.

Wolfgang Lewandrowski (UWA) continues his PhD optimising seed germination and early seedling vigour to advantage direct seeding of *Triodia* (Spinifex) species – an interaction of seed physiology and seedling ecophysiology.

Wei-Han Lim (UWA) continues his PhD investigations on functional aspects of orchid mycorrhizal relationships that will improve our ability to grow and manage orchid species in bushland.

Dylan Martini (UWA) completed his Honours project investigating Banksia seedling survival in restoration.

Russell Miller (UWA) commenced his Honours project researching the impact of fire interval on the persistence of non-sprouting plant species.

Cameron Mounsey (UWA) submitted his PhD thesis on his research into mechanisms of early seedling establishment failures in restoration. The major focus of the project will be on understanding seedling – soil water relations in restoration sites.

Shahab Nikabadi (UWA) submitted his Masters thesis on research into understanding the ecophysiology of trophic transition with micropropagated terrestrial orchids of the South-West Australian Floristic Region (SWAFR) for improving restoration success.

Caitlin Pascov (UWA) completed her Honours project investigating seed and pollen dispersal in the BIF declared rare flora *Acacia karina*.

Alison Ritchie (UWA) continues her PhD project on the ecological genetic assessment of restored reproductive functionality in *Banksia* woodland.

Rob Sellers (UWA) commenced his Honours project researching dormancy germination and seed bank persistence in the seagrass *Halophila ovalis*.

Laura Skates (UWA) concluded her Honours project researching niche specialisation in the rare carnivorous hydrophyte *Aldrovanda vesiculosa* L. (Droseraceae) causes increased susceptibility to threatening processes.

Joshua Smith (UWA) commenced his Honours project researching the soil seed bank dynamics and dormancy of declared rare flora *Ricinocarpus brevis*.

Anamika Sortey (UWA) completed her Honours project researching the cryogenics of plants of relevance to post-mining restoration.

Jessica Stingemore (UWA) submitted her PhD thesis on her research investigating the landscape genetics and dispersal ecology of co-occurring *Persoonia* species (*Persoonia longifolia* and *Persoonia ellipticala*).

Ryan Tangney (Murdoch University) completed an honours study focusing on Leucopogon seed dispersal within the broader project, "Dispersal and persistence of large-seeded forest species under global environmental change".

Kate Valencia (UWA) completed her Honours project investigating optimum use of different species of native flora in creating innovative "green walls" (landscape student).

Mark Wallace (UWA) continues his PhD researching the role of chromosomal and genetic factors in the evolution of the genus *Lepidosperma* (Cyperaceae).

Alyssa Weinstein (UWA) completed her Honours project researching cryptic speciation in *Drakaea livida* and its implications for conservation.

Bryony Wilkinson (UWA) commenced her Honours project researching Jarrah tree decline in managed landscapes, including Kings Park.

Susan Whiteley (UWA) continues her PhD project investigating the use of biotechnology for the conservation of selected threatened Western Australian flora.

Anna Williams (UWA) continues her PhD project examining geographic patterns of whole chloroplast DNA sequence variation in mid-west *Acacia* species.

Visiting Scientists

Professor Juan Armesto of Universidad de Chile and **Professor Phillip Rundel** of the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), world leading Mediterranean ecosystem plant ecologists, visited BGPA during August 2013, providing scientists with opportunities to discuss new research collaborations in the fields of restoration ecology, fire ecology and urban ecology.

Dr Kelly Craven, Assistant Professor at the Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation in Ardmore, Oklahoma, visited in September 2013 to discuss orchid mycorrhizae. His quest is to utilize fungi to facilitate continuing advances in agricultural production under a low-input, sustainable strategy.

Dr Erin Espeland, USDA Northern Plains Agricultural Research Laboratory Montana, and **Dr Scott Abella**, USDA National Park Service Colorado visited Perth between 28 September to 8 October 2013 to present at a Seed Physiology Symposium and to meet with BGPA scientists to progress collaborative programs in seed and restoration research aligned to the Restoration Seedbank Initiative.

Professor María Pérez Fernandez from the University Pablo de Olavide, Seville, Spain, is undertaking a six-month sabbatical conducting research examining soil microbial biomass and diversity as it relates to soil health and the ability of seedlings to establish and grown in restoration.

Dr Hongyuan Ma of the Northeast Institute of Geography and Agroecology, Chinese Academy of Sciences visited for 12 months to research the germination ecophysiology of *Anigozanthos flavidus* in relation to smoke-derived karrikins and cyanohydrins.

Professor Sir David Read of the University of Sheffield, UK. visited BGPA in Spring. Sir David is one of the world's foremost mycorrhizal biologists and is collaborating on our orchid mycorrhizal program as well as an ARC Linkage grant project with BGPA and UWA scientists.

Daniela Scaccabarozzi, a biologist visiting from University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy, assisted Dr Ryan Phillips in a study of the pollination of *Pterostylis* (Orchidaceae) in urban remnants in the Perth metropolitan area. This was the first detailed study of the pollination biology of *Pterostylis* and led to the discovery of pollination by sexual deception in this widespread and diverse genus.

Professor Scott Tyler, Foundation Professor of Hydrogeology at the University of Nevada visited BGPA on 30 July to discuss his innovative fibre optic technology for environmental monitoring, including the unique sensor development and its ability to monitor soil moisture over large areas. He briefly explained recent research using this tool in aquatic ecosystem monitoring, solar ponds for desalination, cave air dynamics, soil moisture measurement, heat transport in snow, and ocean circulation beneath Antarctic ice shelves.

Professor Jeff Walck and Dr Siti Hidayati of Middle Tennessee State University, visited to continue collaborative research into seed dormancy, following their two year sabbatical research visit in 2008/09 at Kings Park.



**BOTANIC GARDENS
& PARKS AUTHORITY**

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