



Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority

Annual Report 2012/13



Celebrating our visitors

Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority Annual Report 2012/13

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Front cover images (left to right): 1. Children enjoying The Tangle in Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park, photo courtesy of Lotterywest. 2. Young child enjoying activities during the 2012 Kings Park Festival, photo A Russell. 3. Families enjoy the natural environments of Bold Park and Kings Park and Botanic Garden, photo J D'Arcy. 4. More than 5.8 million people visited Kings Park and Botanic Garden during 2012/13, photo J D'Arcy.



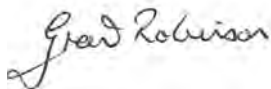
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Statement of Compliance

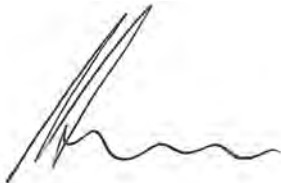
Hon Albert Jacob MLA
Minister for Environment

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 2013.

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



Grant Robinson
Deputy Chairman
Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority Board of Management
11 September 2013



Hamish Jolly
Member
Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority Board of Management
11 September 2013

Chairman's Report



This past year has been another period of substantial activity and outcomes by the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority (BGPA) that has provided significant benefits to the community and biodiversity outcomes locally and state-wide. The outstanding international reputation and quality activities of the BGPA also recognises the delivery of key outcomes disproportionate with the relative size of the organisation.

The BGPA has continued the delivery of high quality facilities, activities and services to the local community, and to national and international visitors and other stakeholders. Key initiatives that exemplify the excellence of the BGPA activities include the expanded public and school education program, bushland management, the year round presentation of the parklands and the Western Australian Botanic Garden, international consultancy activities and leadership in restoration.

Bookings for Kings Park Education programs have continued to grow, by 30% from 2009/10 to 2010/11, by 24% in 2011/12, and by 72% in 2012/13. This is an outstanding and sustained increase by any measure and reflects the focus by the BGPA on delivering vital environmental and cultural education programs.

The BGPA and the wider community continues to benefit from a number of sponsorships which provide medium to long term support for key projects. While each arrangement is unique, overall they are characterised by shared values with the BGPA, excellent communication and mutual benefit.

Rio Tinto continues its excellent long-term support as naming sponsor of Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park (2008 – 2020). Now in its second year of operation, this facility has proven to be an immensely popular community asset for families and schools. This active sponsorship has provided a range of leveraging opportunities for Rio Tinto and several in-kind benefits to the BGPA in addition to the funding component of the agreement.

The Water Corporation also continues its valued sponsorship (2009 – 2015) for Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park, with a focus on supporting environmental education.

The 2012/13 year has seen the renewal of three existing sponsorships for a second term, demonstrating their strength and success to date:

- Variety WA has agreed to support the planned Stage Two development of the Saw Avenue Picnic Area, due for completion in mid-2014;
- Santos has been confirmed as Major Partner of the Kings Park Festival for the period 2013 – 2015 in the second term of its sponsorship agreement; and
- Synergy has confirmed its sponsorship of the highly popular Synergy Parkland (2012 - 2017). This area attracts in excess of one million visitors each year, providing excellent exposure to Synergy's key market of local families.

I take this opportunity to formally acknowledge the contribution of the Friends of Kings Park (FOKP), in this 20th Anniversary year, with two decades of dedicated support since its establishment in 1993. The FOKP's advocacy and funding support for Kings Park and Botanic Garden, its practical contribution in a range of diverse activities ranging from the bushland, nursery, botanic garden, laboratory and community have been very significant and much appreciated. Its regular plant sales celebrate the wonder of Western Australia's amazing flora, and provide plants to the community that are unavailable from most nurseries.

Together, the Friends of Kings Park, with funding support from its partners, especially Lotterywest, have provided important grants for many facilities and activities over the years, including in the first decade; the Water Garden redevelopment and the Lotterywest Family Area in the 1990's, and in the last ten years, the Lotterywest Federation Walkway, the Kings Park Festival and Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park.

The ongoing dedication of the other four highly valued volunteer groups – the Friends of Bold Park Bushland Inc., the Kings Park Volunteer Guides, the Volunteer Master Gardeners, and the RSL's Honour Avenue Committee - all deliver a wide range of valuable services within Bold Park or Kings Park and Botanic Garden that is also acknowledged and greatly appreciated by the Board. The BGPA could not deliver the services it does with such efficiency and effectiveness without the many thousands of hours of work donated annually by hundreds of active volunteers.

I would also like to acknowledge the dedication of three long-serving Board members whose terms expired. Ms Corinne MacRae served for nine years and she remained passionate about bushland conservation in Bold Park and King Park and retained visitor focus throughout her term on the board. Professor John Considine served for over 18 years and provided knowledge and skills that added significant value to the deliberations of the Board especially in relation to bushland conservation and restoration, and plant development. Ms Clare Power served on the Board for 10 years and her knowledge and expertise in areas including legal matters, risk management and visitor experience also added great value to the Board. The Board warmly welcomed new members Ms Jacqui Purvis, Mr Brian Piesse and Professor Hans Lambers in 2012/13.

Finally, I would also like to acknowledge the awarding of the Public Sector Medal to CEO Mark Webb in this year's Australia Day Honours Awards. The Board appreciates the collaborative working relationship that it enjoys with the CEO and his Executive Team. I take this opportunity to sincerely thank all BGPA staff and volunteers, Hon Bill Marmion MLA, Minister for Environment; Water (until March 2013), Hon Albert Jacob MLA, Minister for Environment; Heritage (from April 2013), and staff from their office and my fellow Board members, past and present, for their invaluable contributions to the activities and outcomes of the BGPA.

This has been another excellent year and I am proud to be part of this outstanding team.

Richard Simpson
Chairman
Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority Board of Management

Contents

Statement of Compliance	i
Chairman's Report	ii
Overview	1
From the Chief Executive - The Year in Review	1
The Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority	5
Enabling and Administered Legislation	5
Legislation Impacting BGPA Activities	5
Responsible Minister.....	5
Organisational Structure	6
Outcome Based Management Framework.....	11
Changes to Outcome-Based Management Framework.....	11
Shared Responsibilities with Other Agencies	11
Performance	12
Performance Summary	12
Report on Operations.....	18
Major Projects and Achievements.....	18
Planning and Development.....	26
Visitor Services and Community Engagement.....	30
Education and Interpretation.....	43
Cultural Heritage.....	49
Biodiversity Conservation and Ecological Restoration.....	51
Risk Management.....	67
Significant Issues and Trends.....	72
Current and Emerging Issues and Trends	72
Likely Developments in the Year Ahead	74
Disclosures and Compliance	76
Independent Audit Opinion.....	76
Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013.....	79
Certification of the Financial Statements.....	79
Statement of Comprehensive Income.....	80
Statement of Financial Position	81
Statement of Changes in Equity	82
Statement of Cash Flows.....	83
Notes to the Financial Statements	84

Key Performance Indicators for the year ended 30 June 2013	125
Certification of the Key Performance Indicators	125
Key Performance Indicators.....	126
Other Financial Disclosures	137
Pricing Policy and Services.....	137
Capital Works	137
Employment and Development.....	138
Government and Legal Requirements	141
Ministerial Directives	141
Substantive Equality	141
Contracts with Senior Officers	141
Changes in Written Law.....	141
Compliance with Public Sector Standards and Ethical Codes	142
Occupational Safety, Health and Injury Management.....	142
Promotion, Public Relations and Marketing	145
Advertising.....	146
Disability Access and Inclusion Plan Outcomes	147
Recordkeeping Plans.....	150
Appendices	152
Appendix 1 – BGPA Stakeholders	152
Appendix 2 – Volunteer Group Reports	154
Friends of Bold Park Bushland	154
Friends of Kings Park.....	157
Kings Park Volunteer Guides.....	163
Kings Park Volunteer Master Gardeners	168
Honour Avenues Maintenance Group.....	172
Appendix 3 – Publications.....	174
BGPA Information and Publications.....	174
Scientific Journals and Publications.....	174
For People and Plants - Friends of Kings Park Magazine.....	178
Appendix 4 - Scientific Research Projects	180
Appendix 5 – Research Scientists and Students	183

From the Chief Executive - The Year in Review



The activities of the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority (BGPA) are defined by the enthusiasm, professionalism and dedication of its staff and volunteers. While Kings Park and Botanic Garden, and Bold Park provide a wonderful and diverse focus for our activities, the local, national and international standing of the organisation is a direct result of the commitment of its staff and volunteers and the synergy between them. To our staff and volunteers, I acknowledge the thanks and appreciation of the Executive and the Board.

Over the past 12 months, the BGPA has continued its delivery of high quality facilities, activities and services to the local community, and to national and international stakeholders. Key initiatives that exemplify the high quality and excellence of the BGPA activities include the expanded public and school education program, international fee-for-service activities, and bushland management and leadership in restoration.

There are many achievements detailed in this Annual Report that provide an overview of the varied activities of the BGPA. I commend the report to you. Some highlights from the past year include:

Awards and Recognition



The [Green Flag Award](#), was awarded to Kings Park and Botanic Garden for its leading practices; in particular it's outstanding volunteer program, high standard of safety, welcoming facilities, excellent management of the environment and historical features and sustainability practices, with places to play and relax.



The [Infinity Award](#) for a recycling program that has reduced the Kings Park's green waste to zero, acknowledging the BGPA as a leader in innovation and waste reduction.



Kings Park and Botanic Garden was voted [Perth's number one attraction](#) on the global travel website Tripadvisor.

Overview



[Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park](#) has earned BGPA landscape architects Plan E and construction contractors LD Total a series of awards for excellence in landscape design and construction.



The [Place of Reflection in Kings Park](#) received global recognition for its innovative design, featured on World Landscape Architecture website, and awards for excellence in design for landscape architects Plan E and Engineering Technology Consultants.



A Friends of Kings Park volunteer, [Dr Tony Scalzo](#), won a prestigious Members of Parliament 2012 Volunteer Award for the Environment and was honoured as Volunteer of the Year.



[Professor Kingsley Dixon](#), the BGPA Director Science was awarded the Linnean Medal in the field of Botany. He is only the second Australian to be awarded the medal, which is the premier annual award of the world's oldest learned Society devoted to biology.

Events



[Free and paid events](#) are another way to broaden the park's visitor demographic and continue to demonstrate the importance of Kings Park and Botanic Garden as an outdoor event space. There are frequent requests for new events that need to be balanced against a range of existing uses for the park, and not all requests can be accommodated.



The [2012/13 Summer Event series](#) provided a rich variety of concerts, theatre performances and outdoor cinema, attended by more than 86,000 visitors. The Perth International Arts Festival presented Scattered Light as part of the annual Perth Festival. The display attracted an estimated 200,000 visitors to Kings Park in February 2013.



[Community events](#) continued to attract visitors to Kings Park and Botanic Garden including an estimated 620,000 people who attended the Kings Park Festival in September 2012; over 9,000 attended Islamic Eid events in August and October 2012; and about 45,000 who attended the April 2013 ANZAC Dawn Service at the State War Memorial.

International partnerships



The BGPA continued its work on [international consultancy projects in the Middle East](#), especially in Saudi Arabia. A major feature of the work in Saudi Arabia is the development of plant establishment systems for arid environments that are low-cost and transferrable from the 16 hectare trial site to many tens and even hundreds of thousands of hectares across the Middle East.

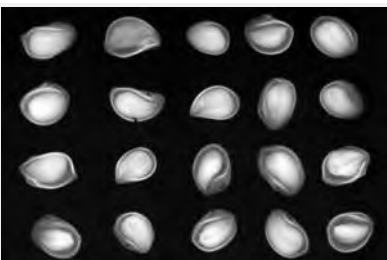


Working with AGWEST International, [the BGPA provide consultancy services](#) related to horticulture, natural resource management, restoration and scientific research on a fee-for-service basis. These activities raise the profile of the BGPA and the expertise of its staff internationally, allow development opportunities for staff, deliver important environmental outcomes in other countries, and provide funding to support the BGPA's vision and mission.

Bushland management and leadership in 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 regular input.



A key initiative in 2013/14 is the establishment of the [Restoration Seedbank](#) in Kings Park. With support and funding from the University of Western Australia and BHP Billiton, the Restoration Seedbank will directly benefit the bushland restoration programs in Bold Park and Kings Park, and provide practical and sustainable solutions for effective restoration of Western Australian landscapes.

Overview

From the Chief Executive – The Year in Review

Contents

I appreciate the continued support of the Board of Management and especially its Chairman, Mr Richard Simpson. The Board's governance and support has added significant value to the management of Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park, and to our overseas activities. The support of Ministers Hon Bill Marmion MLA (until March 2013) and Hon Albert Jacob (since April 2013) is also appreciated and acknowledged. I would like to also record my sincere thanks and appreciation to the BGPA Executive team especially Directors Marcelle Broderick, Lesley Hammersley and Kingsley Dixon, and Executive Officer Elizabeth Suttie.

Mark Webb
Chief Executive Officer
Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority

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 that 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.

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.

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.

Legislation Impacting BGPA Activities

In the performance of its functions and activities, the BGPA complies with all relevant legislation as required.

Responsible Minister

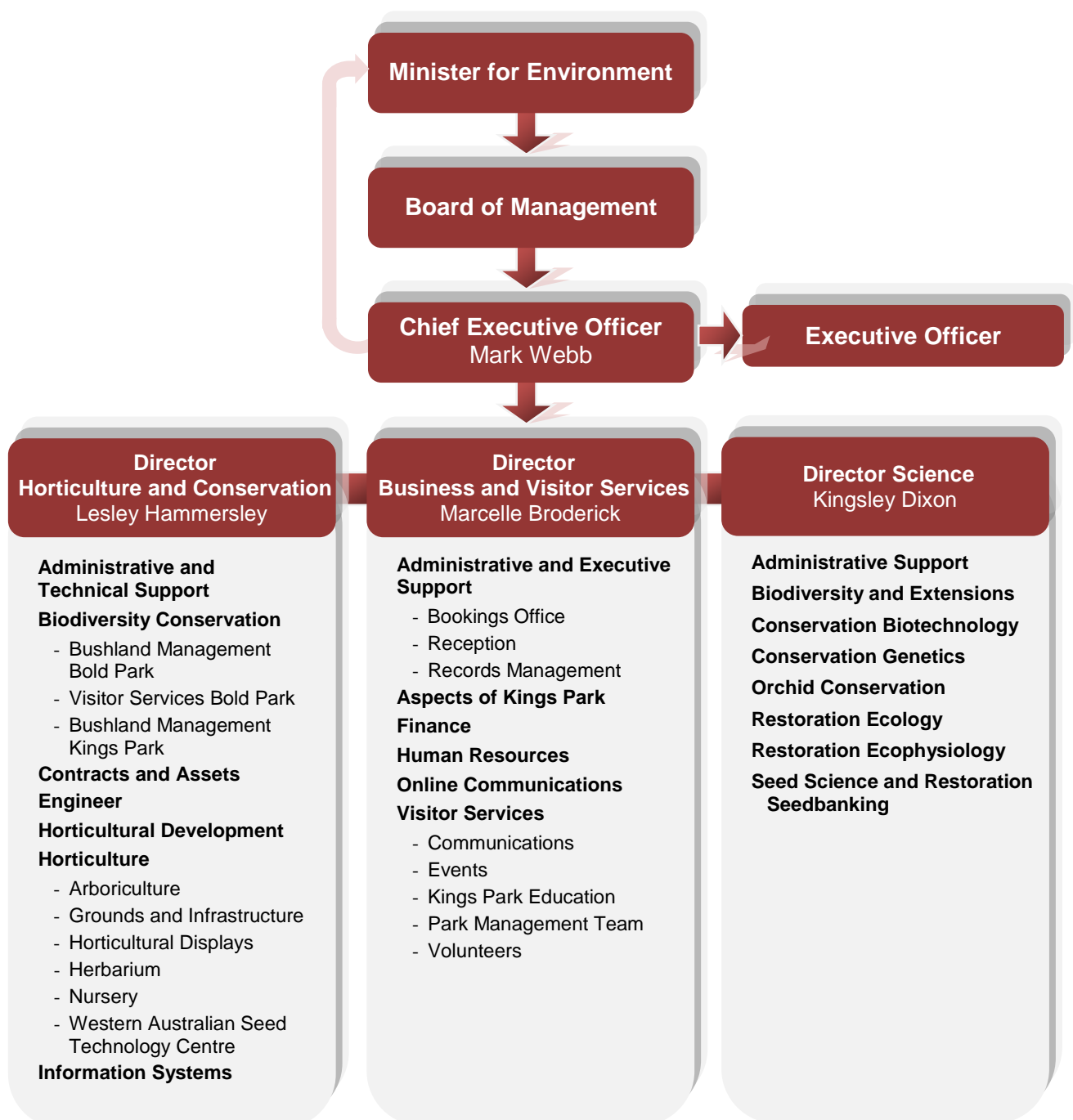
The statutory responsibility for the BGPA is vested with the Minister for Environment, currently the Hon Albert Jacob MLA.

Organisational Structure

Under the direction of the Chief Executive Officer, the vision, mission and services of the BGPA are delivered through three Directorates: Horticulture and Conservation, Business and Visitor Services, and Science.

Each Directorate has a set of objectives designed to deliver the key services to Government: Service 1 - Customer Services and Cultural Heritage; and Service 2 - Biodiversity Conservation and Scientific Research.

BGPA Structure as at 30 June 2013



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 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.

There were a number of changes in Board membership during the reporting year. Three new members were appointed when the terms of long-standing members Ms Corinne MacRae (term expired 30 June 2012), Professor John Considine (term expired 31 December 2012) and Ms Clare Power (term expired 31 December 2012) came to an end. Ms Jacqui Purvis commenced her appointment in July 2012; Professor Hans Lambers and Mr Brian Piesse commenced their terms in January 2013.

The Board meets formally on a bi-monthly basis, meeting on six occasions during this reporting period.

The 2013 Board of is made up of the following members:

Mr Richard Simpson Chairman

5 of 6 Meetings

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

6 of 6 Meetings

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. 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.



BGPA Board of Management

From Left to Right: Glen McLeod, Richard Simpson, Hamish Jolly, Tom Baddeley, Grant Robinson and Hans Lambers.
Absent: Brian Piesse and Jacqui Purvis.

Mr Tom Baddeley **5 of 6 Meetings**

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 **5 of 6 Meetings**

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

Professor Hans Lambers **3 of 3 Meetings**

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 Glen McLeod **6 of 6 Meetings**

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. Mr McLeod was appointed to the Board in June 2012 until June 2015.

Mr Brian Piesse **1 of 3 Meetings**

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 **5 of 6 Meetings**

Ms Purvis has extensive experience in environmental consultancy and is passionate about providing the community with conservation based initiatives through education and consultation. Ms Purvis was appointed for a three-year term from July 2012 to July 2015.

Professor John Considine

2 of 3 Meetings

Professor Considine was a BGPA Board member since 1994 and he was also a member of the BGPA's Audit Committee. Professor Considine's term expired 31 December 2012.

Ms Clare Power

3 of 3 Meetings

Ms Power was appointed to the BGPA Board in 2002 and held the role of Deputy Chair. Ms Power's term expired 31 December 2012.

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 joined the BGPA in January 1998 and is responsible for the visitor services functions, incorporating park management, volunteers, education, events, website 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 joining the BGPA, Ms Broderick worked for many years in a number of private and public sector organisations with varied responsibilities including corporate services, social research, community development, employee support and organisational change.

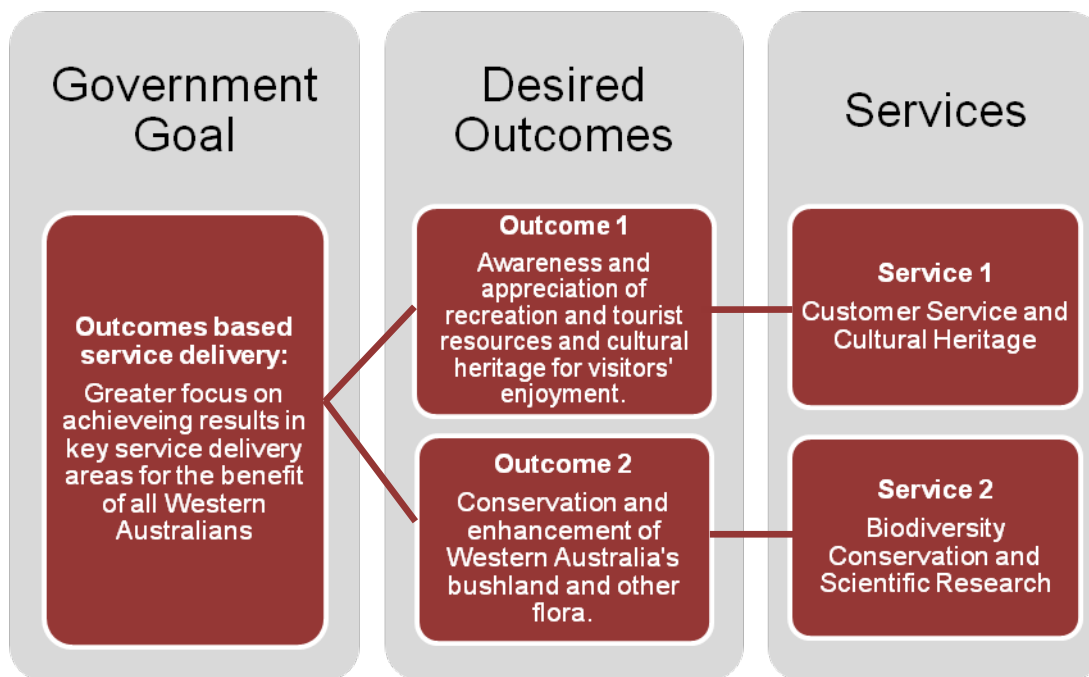
Professor Kingsley Dixon PhD
Director, Science

Kingsley Dixon has worked in public sector research for 30 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 Dr Dixon's direction, is responsible for undertaking research and investigation in Western Australian flora and biological diversity.

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.

The BGPA's Strategic Plan 2009-2014 identifies the functions, vision and mission statements, core business and guiding principles, which are the key elements in delivering its agency-level government desired outcomes.



Changes to Outcome-Based Management Framework

The BGPA's Outcome-Based Management Framework did not change during 2012/13.

Shared Responsibilities with Other Agencies

The BGPA did not formally share any responsibilities with other agencies in 2012/13.

Performance Summary

Financial Targets: Actual Performance Compared to Budget Targets

The total cost of services is higher than expected due to a number of programs being fully completed within the period that were not anticipated. The net cost of services is lower than target due to an increase in own source revenue. The decrease in cash held is due to the total cost of services being higher than forecast. The approved full time equivalent (FTE) staff level is lower due to a reduction in the FTE ceiling for 2012/13.

Financial Targets: Actual Performance Compared to Budget Targets

	Target \$000	Actual \$000	Variation \$000
Total cost of services	20,636	22,363	1,727
Net cost of services	15,547	14,678	(869)
Total equity	63,251	62,984	267
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	28	(796)	(824)
Approved full time equivalent staff level	137	130	(7)

Summary of Financial Performance

Income

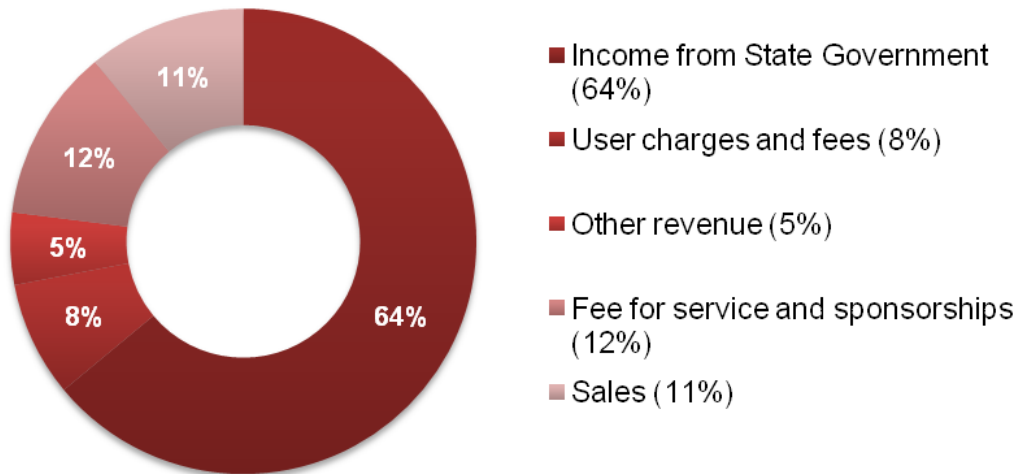
In 2012/13 the BGPA received 64% of operating income from the State Government by way of consolidated fund appropriation. The BGPA generated the balance of revenue (36%) through own source activities.

Own source revenue includes 12% 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 11% 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 49% of total expenditure, which includes salary and wage costs, together with superannuation and leave entitlements.

27% 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.

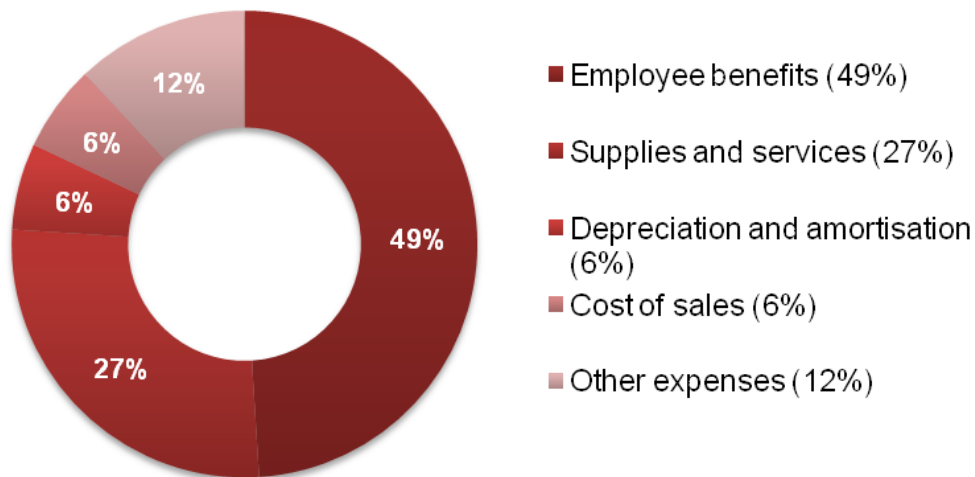
Depreciation and amortisation of 6% reflects the expense incurred by the land, building and equipment asset base under management by the BGPA. The BGPA has an asset replacement plan in place to identify the ongoing replacement of key assets.

Other expenses account for 12% 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.

While expenditure incurred in supplies and services was fully planned, end of year adjustments and savings measures have resulted in an 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%	97%	(2%)
The level of visitor satisfaction with Bold Park and facilities.	97%	100%	3%
The percentage change in the number of cultural events held at Kings Park and Botanic Garden compared to previous years.	(0%)	(1%)	(1%)
The percentage change in the number attending customer awareness and education forums held at Kings Park and Botanic Garden compared to previous years.	0%	21%	21%

The increase in attendees at customer awareness and education forums is a result of the development of new programs linked to the new national curriculum and the ability to present more programs following the completion of the Kings Park Education Centre.

Service 1: Customer Service and Cultural Heritage

	Target	Actual	Variation
Average cost per visitor to Kings Park and Botanic Garden.	\$1.50	\$1.71	\$0.21
Average cost per attendee at cultural events held in Kings Park and Botanic Garden.	\$0.17	\$0.12	(\$0.05)
Average cost per attendee at education forums held at Kings Park and Botanic Garden.	\$1.70	\$3.80	\$2.10
Response times for public information requests (within 28 days).	95%	95%	-
Percentage change in number of visitors to Reabold Hill compared to previous years.	3%	15.8%	12.8%

The number of people visiting Kings Park and Botanic Garden was on target however, expenses were higher than forecast.

The cost of holding education forums in Kings Park and Botanic Garden was significantly higher than forecast due to initial costs associated with the new Education Centre facility.

Bold Park experienced an increase in the percentage change in the number of visitors in 2012/13 compared to the previous year due to an unexpected increase in the number of vehicles entering. This may be attributed to higher levels of regular promotion of Bold Park in newspapers, websites and newsletters during the year.

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%	61%	(1%)
Percentage of accessions in botanical displays in Kings Park and Botanic Garden.	38%	33%	(5%)
Percentage of accessions lost in Kings Park and Botanic Garden.	5%	3%	(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.	0.45	0.46	0.01
Number of representative native plant taxa in Kings Park bushland.	324	325	1
Number of representative native plant taxa in Bold Park bushland.	310	310	-

There was an increase of 360 in the total number of accessions alive from the previous year. This resulted in a decrease of 2% in the percentage of accessions on botanical display to 33%. The increase in total accessions alive demonstrates the success of the field collection program in obtaining additional seed and other plant material from across Western Australia that are placed in storage for future propagation and display.

Service 2: Biodiversity Conservation and Scientific Research

	Target	Actual	Variation
Average cost of representative native plant taxa in Kings Park bushland.	\$4,348	\$3,179	(\$1,169)
Average cost of representative native plant taxa in Bold Park bushland.	\$5,232	\$5,039	(\$193)
Average cost per research grant project administered.	\$15,471	\$17,950	\$2,479
Percentage change in number of refereed scientific publications published per CF position compared to previous years.	0%	42%	42%

There was an increase of one species in the number of native plant taxa in Kings Park bushland. The variance compared with budget is due to expenses being lower than forecast.

The increase in the average cost per research grant project between the 2012/13 budget and the 2012/13 actual is a result of increased costs associated with the change in staffing of some of the projects.

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.

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

Report on Operations

Major Projects and Achievements

Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park

Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park (RTNKP) is proving to be a much-loved destination for families and school groups, with 100,000 visitors passing through its gates in the past twelve months. An average of 8,000 visitors per month, peaking at around 14,000 during school holiday periods, includes many first-time visitors as well as a growing number of 'regulars'.

The first formal visitor survey in RTNKP revealed 94% of respondents were either very satisfied or satisfied with their visit. The most common highlights of their visits included Paperbark Creek, the water bodies and the upside-down trees in The Tangle. The survey builds on the substantial ad hoc feedback received from families, teachers, grandparents and other visitors.

Now in its second year, RTNKP has continued to refine its operations and harness opportunities to engage further with visitors and the wider community to build on its early success.

The Nature Activity Officers in RTNKP actively engage with the visitors guiding them with nature related activities to enrich their visit and enhance their connection with the local environment. A range of planned activities were trialled during school holiday periods. Children took part in decorating trees in the Prickly Thicket in December 2012 and during the May 2013 school holiday period a series of activities were held in conjunction with the Threatened Species Network. Kanyana Wildlife and Birds of Prey WA were engaged to promote a 'Love your Local Wildlife' theme and these activities were in high demand from visitors.

A significant increase in visitation from school groups occurred in the first half of 2013, with at least three classes per day coming through the public area of RTNKP following participation in a Kings Park Education program in the outdoor bush classrooms in the Education zone. During these visits, the Nature Activity Officers run activities designed to complement the particular education program the group has undertaken. The mix of formal education programs and 'free time' for students is proving to be highly successful. Refer to the [Education and Interpretation](#) section for more information on the activities of Kings Park Education.

"I took my daughters to the Naturescape park this afternoon and told them to **get wet, dirty and have FUN!** At first they were slightly confused-they had never heard that from me before! ..."

Children and adults alike enjoy Naturescape. Creek beds, bird hides and natural springs are just some of its special elements.



Photo: J D Arcy



Photo: J D Arcy

Funding partners Rio Tinto and Water Corporation contribute to the annual operating funding for RTNKP which assists the BGPA to deliver education programs and site maintenance.

All RTNKP sponsors, including Friends of Kings Park, Lotterywest, Perth Solar Cities Program, Rio Tinto and Water Corporation work with BGPA staff to implement the communications strategy for the site. In 2012/13, communications activities included implementing a social media strategy, holding a stakeholder event to mark the first anniversary of the landscape opening (November 2012), ongoing proactive media and a family day for the employees of each corporate partner (June 2013). Refer to the Community Engagement section for more information on BGPA sponsorships.

The BGPA has implemented an intensive site maintenance program. Planned closure of the site on Mondays and throughout February allowed BGPA to identify issues and undertake necessary maintenance which included replacement of cubby building materials and soft-fall mulch and re-painting of timber structures and the toilet block.

Risk management continues to be a focus for this unique facility. Regular maintenance and frequent review of the site have identified areas for improvement and where active management is required. Specific risk management activity in 2012/13 included:

- Ongoing monitoring of water quality in each of the water bodies with weekly samples tested by an external laboratory. Paperbark Creek was excavated to remove surplus sand and maintain water depth, stocks of river rocks were replenished and advanced water plants were planted on the creek margins.
- Successful mosquito control through the introduction of native Western Pygmy Perch to the water bodies.
- Site access – improvements with a new limestone pathway installed in Paperbark Creek, existing limestone pathways re-graded and top-dressed.
- Replacement of all ropes in 'The Tangle'.
- Installation of an aerial harness system was installed on Illyarrie Shelter to allow safe access to the roof for maintenance.
- Yearly inspection of trees and structures.

Refer to the [Risk Management](#) section for more information on BGPA's risk management activity.

A total of 367 trees representing 64 species were planted throughout the Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park site, with 4,285 local native tube stock also planted to enhance existing conservation areas in this site. The initial plantings of 120 tree species the previous year proved to be very successful with these trees establishing well. Rewarding displays of the State's floral emblem, the Red and Green Kangaroo Paw, flourished during the spring of 2012.

“We went to Naturescape today and it was brilliant. The kids **loved climbing the ropes**, wading through the water and climbing trees...”



Photo: J D'Arcy



Flowering water lily in the Water Corporation Wetland.

A joint project with BGPA Science staff enabled Horticultural staff to trial the establishment of water lilies from the Kimberley region in the Water Corporation Wetland. The plants performed well once young plants were protected from predation by ducks, flowering and producing seed for collection and further propagation. The future objective is for these plants to be established and displayed in other water bodies within the site and elsewhere in Kings Park for visitor enjoyment and interpretation.

The success of the RTNKP site to date is highlighted by a series of notable awards in recognition of the landscape design and construction. More information is available in the [Achievements and Recognition](#) section.

2012 Kings Park Festival

The 2012 Kings Park Festival 'Wildflowers in Focus' was from 1 September to 7 October 2012. This Festival showcased the spectacular displays of spring wildflowers throughout Kings Park and especially in the Western Australian Botanic Garden with a particular focus on wildflower photography.

The financial support received from major partner Santos and from Lotterywest through the [Friends of Kings Park](#), was critical to the Festival's success. A media partnership with The West Australian newspaper assisted with targeting a family audience and increasing community awareness of the Festival.

Six of the popular Santos Live Sundays events were held during the 2012 Festival featuring an exciting array of local musical talent including swing bands, acoustic, folk, jazz, funk and blues bands. The live music performed during the month created the perfect atmosphere for visitors to enjoy the beautiful spring weather in the Western Australian Botanic Garden.

Kings Park's signature wildflower characters the Adorable Florables, once again featured at the Festival with a new stage performance 'Say Photo-synthesis'. The Adorable Florables also provided roving entertainment during the 'Santos Live Sundays'. The characters showcased Western Australia's magnificent flora and fauna through dance and narration, delivering important conservation messages.

"Seeing is believing...The six Adorable Florables are **stunningly creative works of art**. Close up view reveals the intricate details of **WA's beautiful wildflowers** and from a distance, when in motion, the visual impact is pure magic..."



Performance

The Connect with Kings Park series of public workshops have again proven to be successful. For the first time in 2012, the workshops were run in conjunction with UWA Extension. These events offered a variety of experiences to encourage visitors to develop their environmental skills and creative talents. The program comprised lectures, hands on workshops and interactive walks and talks.

As part of the 2012 Kings Park Festival, a number of special events were hosted by the [Kings Park Education](#) team. The Festival Poster Exhibition attracted entries from both primary and secondary schools and nineteen posters were selected and exhibited in the Western Australian Botanic Garden. Schools' Art Week saw students join artist-in-residence Dee Jaeger to create unconventional flower sculptures.

Quiz On Legs was held on 26 September 2012 with 1,150 primary school students participating in the event. Thirty leading environmental educators created interactive stations at this expo-style event, with a range of activities, performances and displays for the students to enjoy. Extremely positive feedback was received from the schools and organisations that participated.



Photo: A Russell

The annual Quiz on Legs special event is very popular with school groups being booked out every year.

“It was **wonderful...the wildflowers were amazing**, the Adorable Florables were great and it was so nice to see them moving around the gardens after the performance... The **music was great**, the people were **friendly...**”

More than 620,000 visitors participated in a variety of family days, educational and interpretive opportunities including workshops, outdoor exhibits, guided walks, live theatre and hands-on activities on offer during the 2012 Kings Park Festival. A visitor survey revealed that 81% of visitors rated their overall Festival experience as very good with scores of 4 or more out of 5. The entertainment program was one of the most popular (4.2 out of 5) highlights of the Festival, with the ground cleanliness being the highest rated service for the Festival (4.6 out of 5).

Planning has commenced for the 2013 Kings Park Festival celebrating 50 years of Wildflower Festivals in Kings Park and Botanic Garden.

Bold Park Car Park Upgrade

Two of the main carparks in Bold Park, Tuart and Camel Lake, were upgraded during the year to improve visitor access, clearly define the entry points and protect the mature remnant trees from the impacts of erosion and compaction.

After being deferred the previous year to enable higher priority activities to be completed, these works were completed in April 2013 for a total cost of \$350,000. Works included rationalisation of the layout, bituminised surface with over 50 marked bays, upgraded fencing, bicycle racks and other visitor facilities. Camel Lake Carpark also incorporates a dedicated bus drop off zone to improve access for schools and other groups. Local native trees were planted around the car parks to enhance the sites.

Kings Park Nursery and Depot Upgrade

Planning was progressed on an upgrade to the Kings Park Nursery and Depot area with the appointment of a design consultant team led by Armstrong Parkin Architects in December 2012. A concept design was prepared for a comprehensive scope of works but had to be revised to enable staging to match the \$2 million construction budget for stage one.

A revised scope and concept design was endorsed by the Board in June 2013, with proposed works including a new road to improve access and safety, separation of the nursery and depot functions, revised layout to improve functional relationships and access and replacement of some of the ageing sheds and other facilities. Construction is scheduled to be completed during 2013/14.

Saw Avenue Picnic Area Stage Two

Planning has commenced for the second stage of improvements to the Saw Avenue Picnic Area in Kings Park. A concept masterplan was endorsed by the Board of Management in June 2013, which includes an expansion of the existing adventure play elements and themed artworks, additional universal access paths through the area, upgraded barbecue and picnic facilities on both the western and eastern sides of Saw Avenue and a new link path from the bus stop on Thomas Street through to May Drive. Additional planting will also enhance the area and provide future shade.

This project is generously supported by Variety WA and is planned to be largely completed during 2013/14 and launched around August 2014.



Photo: BGPA

The Can you find me? board is just one of the interactive discovery elements installed during Stage 1 of the Saw Avenue Picnic Area works.

International Projects

The BGPA continued its international consultancy projects in the Middle East with the major focus on ecological restoration and landscape conservation in Saudi Arabia.

In what is the largest arid lands restoration trial of its kind in the Middle East, irrigation infrastructure was installed over a 16 hectare area, followed by planting of 45,000 seedlings native to Saudi Arabia and direct sowing of over 50,000 native seeds into the trial area. The trial was designed by BGPA staff based on leading principles of horticulture and restoration science developed by Kings Park with trial monitoring implemented using state-of-the-art physiological equipment. All works were overseen by BGPA staff who also conducted on site training for trial and nursery staff in Saudi Arabia.

In addition, the BGPA provided advice on the establishment and fit out of a seed centre for restoration purposes in Saudi Arabia and developed a concept plan for a new nursery.

In a parallel project, BGPA staff have completed a major report for the Riyadh Province government on management of native plant cover across its 412,000 square kilometres jurisdiction in central Arabia. This Scoping Study is Phase One 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. BGPA has since been invited to lead a second phase, strategic and implementation planning, for ultimate delivery of this ambitious and wide-ranging vision.

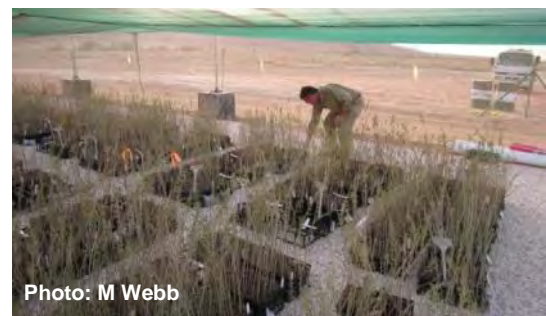


Photo: M Webb



Photo: B Miller



Photo: B Miller

BGPA's international consultancy projects in the Middle East are focusing on ecological restoration and landscape conservation.

Achievements and Recognition

The BGPA received recognition from several highly regarded sources in 2012/13. These achievements are attributed to the BGPA's commitment to delivering a high calibre visitor destination and long-term sustainability.

2012 Infinity Award – This was awarded for a Kings Park recycling program that has reduced the park's green waste to zero, acknowledging the BGPA as a leader in innovation and waste reduction.

The initiative produces high quality composted mulch from bulk green waste generated in Kings Park. The product is recycled as mulch throughout the park, eliminating the need for off-site disposal of green waste. More information about the green waste management program can be found in the [Biodiversity and Ecological Restoration](#) section.

Green Flag Award - The Green Flag Award is recognised internationally for the highest standard for parks and green spaces. The scheme has been recently introduced to Australia, and recognises well-managed, high quality green spaces that are managed in environmentally sustainable ways. Kings Park and Botanic Garden was commended for its leading practices; in particular the outstanding volunteer program, high standard of safety, welcoming facilities, excellent management of the environment and historical features and innovative sustainability practices.

2012 WA Tourism Awards – Kings Park and Botanic Garden received the Silver Award for Major Tourist Attraction. These awards are highly competitive amongst Western Australia's top tourist attractions and services and this award is a significant recognition.

TripAdvisor – For the second consecutive year Kings Park and Botanic Garden has been voted Perth's number one attraction on global travel website, TripAdvisor. TripAdvisor reviewers gave Kings Park an average rating of 4.5 out of 5, the highest of the 74 Perth attractions listed on the site.

Of the other 73 Perth attractions, a further five are also located within Kings Park. The State War Memorial ranked in second place and the views from Fraser Avenue were in fourth place. The Lotterywest Federation Walkway rated 21st, the Pioneer Women's Memorial 25th and new entrant Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park entered the top 50 Perth attractions this year at number 40.

Kings Park and Botanic Garden also ranked as the 12th best park world-wide and the State War Memorial in Kings Park and Botanic Garden ranked within the top 10 Australian Landmarks.

Recent Kings Park and Botanic Garden projects have also resulted in awards for design and sustainability, recognising the commitment of the BGPA and project collaborates to deliver world-class facilities.

Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park – Landscape architects Plan E received two awards from the Australian Institute of Landscape Architecture (AILA):

- AILA National 2012 Project Awards: Design Excellence – Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park.
- AILA (WA) 2012 Project Awards: Landscape Design - Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park AILA Western Australia, Landscape Architecture Award 2012.

Landscape architects Plan E and construction contractors LD Total jointly received an award from the Landscape Industries Association Western Australia (LIAWA):

- Landscape Industries Association Western Australian, 2012 Awards of Excellence: Winner Sustainable Landscapes – Commercial - Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park (LD Total and Plan E)

Construction contractors LD Total received an award from the Landscape Industries Association Western Australia (LIAWA):

- Landscape Industries Association Western Australian, 2012 Awards of Excellence: Winner Contractor – Commercial/Civic – More than \$1m (LD Total)

Place of Reflection – The Place of Reflection in the Botanic Garden has received global recognition for its innovative design, featured on World Landscape Architecture website, and awards for excellence in design including:

- AILA (WA) 2012 Project Awards: Design Excellence – Place of Reflection, Kings Park, Plan E.
- IES Lighting Awards 2012: Award of Commendation - Engineering Technology Consultants (ETC) and Plan E, for The Place of Reflection's unique lighting installation.

Friends of Kings Park – Friends of Kings Park volunteer Dr Tony Scalzo, won the prestigious Members of Parliament 2012 Volunteer Award for the Environment and was honoured as Volunteer of the Year.

The awards were presented by the Hon. Julie Bishop in a ceremony recognising and celebrating the remarkable dedication of volunteers in the Curtin Electorate.

Dr Scalzo has given eighteen years of volunteer service to Kings Park, a significant contribution to both community and environment. He is co-leader of the Kings Park Bushland Carers, editor of 'For People and Plants' magazine and an active member of the Growing Friends.

The Friends of Kings Park were recognised as one of ten finalists in the inaugural Orange Seed Project in 2012, which provides financial and marketing support to not-for-profit organisations in Western Australia.

More information about the activities of the [Friends of Kings Park](#) and other BGPA volunteer groups can be found in [Appendix 2](#).

BGPA Staff Achievements – Two senior BGPA staff received important acknowledgement for achievements in their respective fields:

- The BGPA's Chief Executive Officer Mark Webb, was a recipient of a Public Sector Medal in the [2013 Australia Day Honours](#) for "outstanding public service to the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority in Perth, Western Australia".
- BGPA's Director Science, Dr Kingsley Dixon, received the [Linnean Medal](#) from the Linnean Society of London (awarded for service to science).

"The Place [of Reflection] is **beautifully designed** and maintained and we recognise the careful design and landscape elements at work. And it was the sense of **tranquillity and healing** that pervaded."



Photo: Jason Thomas Photography
courtesy Lotterywest

Planning and Development

Management Plans

The BGPA continues to work toward implementation of the current five year management plans for Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park. Implementation of both current plans is on track within available resources.

With four years completed of the five year term of the Kings Park and Botanic Garden Management Plan 2009-2014, planning for the 2014-2019 period commenced in early 2013. A review of progress against the current plan was completed, which informed initial internal workshop discussion around the priorities for the next five year period.

The BGPA plans to follow its established process for management plan review and development through 2013/14, including an external stakeholder workshop, preparation of a draft plan and an advertised two-month public submission period for the draft. The final plan will be released in July 2014.

BGPA Strategic Plan

The BGPA's Strategic Plan 2009-2014 identifies the functions, vision and mission statements, core business and guiding principles, which are the key elements in delivering its agency-level government desired outcomes. Annual review of the Strategic Plan was undertaken in May 2013, and no material changes were required.

Significant review was commenced in 2013, aiming to better align the BGPA's Strategic Plan and Management Plans for both Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park. The Strategic Plan review will be finalised in early 2014 for the next five-year period 2014-2019.

Botanic Garden Review

In preparation for the 50th Anniversary of the Western Australian Botanic Garden in 2015, the BGPA commissioned an independent review of the Botanic Garden development and achievements since 1965.

This review was chaired by Mark Richardson, with the review panel comprising Mark Richardson, Professor Stephen Hopper and Dr Phillip Moors. Recommendations from this February 2013 review are being considered in the planning for the forthcoming Botanic Garden Masterplan (2013/14) and the celebration of 50 years as a Botanic Garden in 2015.

Sponsorships

The BGPA continues to benefit from a number of sponsorships which provide medium to long term support for key projects. While each sponsorship agreement is unique, overall they are characterised by shared business values and mutual benefits.

Rio Tinto continues its long term support as naming sponsor of Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park (2008 – 2020). Now in its second year of operation, this facility has proven to be an immensely popular community asset for families and schools. This active partnership has provided a range of leveraging opportunities for Rio Tinto and several in-kind benefits to the BGPA in addition to the funding component of the agreement.

The Water Corporation also continues its valued partnership (2009 – 2015) for Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park, with a focus on supporting environmental education.

The 2012/13 year has seen the renewal of three existing partnerships for a second term, demonstrating their strength and success to date:

- Variety WA has agreed to support a Phase 2 development at the Saw Avenue Picnic Area (due for completion in late 2014). With a strong theme of 'community', the upgrade will expand and enhance the play and picnic facilities in this area to appeal to visitors from all walks of life, including those with disabilities and other special needs. The second term of this agreement is from 2013 – 2017.
- Santos has been confirmed as Major Partner of the Kings Park Festival for the period 2013 – 2015 in the second term of its sponsorship. The Festival continues to build its reputation in the community and attracts more than half a million visitors over the month-long program.
- Synergy has renewed its sponsorship of the highly popular Synergy Parkland (2012 - 2017). This parkland play area attracts in excess of one million visitors each year, providing excellent exposure to Synergy's key market of local families.

Together, the Friends of Kings Park and Lotterywest have provided important grants for the Kings Park Festival from 2012 – 2014, and continue their support of Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park. These two organisations have been instrumental in delivering several important capital works projects in Kings Park and Botanic Garden in the past, and the BGPA looks forward to a continued strong connection with both organisations in future.

The Friends of Kings Park celebrate 20 years of service in 2013 and they continue to make a substantial contribution to Kings Park and Botanic Garden in a variety of ways, including volunteering, scholarships, advocacy and funding. In 2012/13, the Friends also provided a total of \$47,000 to fund a BGPA science project looking at Spinifex, a new soil trailer for the nursery and seven new drinking fountains for visitors.

The West Australian newspaper provided invaluable support to the 2012 Kings Park Festival, maximising public awareness of the Festival across Perth and regional Western Australia.

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 developed a collaborative approach to volunteering activities. A number of strategies have been implemented including maintaining effective communication between BGPA and each of the volunteer groups, recruitment strategies, training programs and continued planning for the future growth of volunteering in Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park.

The BGPA volunteer groups have shown continued growth this year with an increase in the number of volunteers participating in a variety of activities that directly support the goals of the BGPA in delivering essential visitor services and environmental conservation.

Membership of the [Friends of Kings Park](#) has grown steadily through the year. Both the [Kings Park Volunteer Guides](#) and [Kings Park Volunteer Master Gardeners](#) commenced training new recruits in 2013. Both courses offer a schedule of weekly half day lectures and practical demonstrations over several months, culminating in a formal assessment process.



Audrey and Harry Pearson with the Kings Park Guides President Glenda Prideaux celebrating the launch of their new book About Kings Park.

The Kings Park Volunteer Guides training course concluded in May 2013, with the newest Guides enjoying a special barbeque to celebrate their achievement and reward them for their efforts. This occasion gave new Guides the opportunity to meet experienced Guides Dr Harry Pearson and Mrs Audrey Pearson, who launched their new publication 'About Kings Park'. Created as an essential education tool for the Kings Park Guides, the Pearsons have created a valuable resource that has captured their years of knowledge and experience. The trainee Kings Park Guides also had an opportunity to tour with BGPA's Indigenous Cadet

Alton Walley to learn more about the traditional uses of plants, as well as gaining a deeper understanding of the Aboriginal people of the Swan River region.

The [Friends of Bold Park](#) Volunteer Guides continued to build their program with 30 free guided walks conducted throughout the year. BGPA continued to provide support with active promotion of guided walks including; monthly articles in the Post newspaper, monthly updates on the BGPA website and regular promotion in relevant external newsletters.

The Friends of Bold Park Open Day held in May 2013 proved to be a resounding success with more than 400 visitors. The day provided an opportunity to highlight Bold Park and volunteer opportunities with the Friends of Bold Park, and included a behind-the-scenes look at the Bold Park bushland reserve, free guided walks, family activities and hands-on displays of native wildlife.

Volunteer Information Sessions were held throughout the year. These sessions highlight the full range of volunteering opportunities that are available in both Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park. Participants are invited to join one or more of the volunteer groups according to their individual interests. These sessions are well attended and effective in increasing community engagement in volunteering.

"I really enjoyed the Open Day. The Volunteers are to congratulated"



Investigating fungi on a tree trunk during the Friends of Bold Park Open Day activities.

Special Volunteer Events

Each year, the BGPA acknowledges the support and contributions of the volunteer organisations. In August 2012, the Presidents of each of the groups attended a lunch hosted by the BGPA CEO, Mark Webb, to thank them for their dedication and commitment throughout the year. The annual Volunteer Christmas function was held in December 2012 in Kings Park's new Education facility. The Christmas function is an opportunity for volunteers from each organisation to meet and socialise, and for the BGPA, it is a special time to thank the volunteers for their valuable support during the year and acknowledge long-term volunteers with length of service awards.

The Friends of Kings Park celebrated their 20th Anniversary in 2013. The Friends celebrated their achievement with a special event on 9 May 2013 to commemorate their first meeting in 1993. The BGPA placed an advertisement in the West Australian on 13 May 2013 to publicly recognise its 20-year relationship with the Friends of Kings Park.

A significant event involving all BGPA volunteer groups was the celebration of National Volunteer Week on 19 May 2013. Coinciding with the quarterly Friends of Kings Park Native Plant Sale, all the groups had the opportunity to showcase their organisation. There were many requests from the public for the Volunteer Master Gardeners to identify plant species, and the Friends of Bold Park were able to hand out information in relation to their upcoming Open Day. Thanks to a grant given to the Friends of Kings Park from Volunteering WA and Lotterywest, the volunteers enjoyed morning tea.

BGPA volunteers pride themselves on the excellent services they provide throughout Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park. BGPA could not function as effectively without the valued help of the many generous and dedicated volunteers. Reports from each of the five volunteer groups are available in [Appendix 2](#) of this report.

Visitor Services and Community Engagement

Visitation



Photo: S Clegg

Visitors to Reabold Hill Lookout in Bold Park can take in 360 degree views of the west coast, perth city and surrounding suburbs.

Visitation to Bold Park is difficult to estimate due to the many entry points to the bushland and the limited opportunities available to collect accurate visitation data. During the year, a trial of battery powered pedestrian counters was initiated at the Reabold Hill Summit Boardwalk and at the start of the Zamia Trail. Data is not available for the full year but daily average pedestrian counts were 175 for Reabold Hill and 125 for Zamia Trail. The Reabold Hill Summit figures are most likely higher as it offers spectacular views over the city and coastline and is only a short walk from the carpark.

The vehicle counter on Scenic Drive that leads to Reabold Hill measured the number of vehicles at 65,733, an increase of almost 9,000 (15.8%) over the previous year with a daily average of around 200 vehicles.

Kings Park and Botanic Garden welcomed 5.8 million visitors in 2012/13 based on car count and pedestrian data collated at the park's entry points on Fraser Avenue, Saw Avenue, Pool Avenue and Park Avenue. Visitation to Kings Park and Botanic Garden has remained consistent over the past three years after a peak at 6.5 million in 2008/09.

The spring and summer months once again proved to have higher visitation, coinciding with peak flowering times for the gardens, the Kings Park Festival, school holidays and the Summer Events season. 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.



Photo: A Russell

The Kings Park Volunteer Guides operate the Visitor Information Centre for visitors to 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 assistance with any emergencies. 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.

In Bold Park, the Community Liaison Officer fulfils a similar role in delivering front-line customer service to visitors throughout the park. In addition, the Western Australian Ecology Centre is open during office hours and is attended daily by a Customer Service Officer to assist with face to face and telephone enquiries.

The BGPA continues to ensure that people with disabilities have access to events, services, facilities and information. For more information on the BGPA's approach refer to the report again disability access and inclusion in the Government and Legal Requirements section of this report.

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 Visitor Information Centre, 130 formal communications were recorded between 1 July 2012 and 30 June 2013, of this there were 79 complaints, 24 compliments and 27 comments and/or suggestions. With the total number of visitors to Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park estimated at 6 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.

"Superb, THANKS. your **beautiful flowers** have been the **highlight** of our trip."

(visitor feedback, Victoria)



"Unbelievable views, **beautiful** and **clean**."

(visitor feedback, Ireland)



"A **wonderful** and **lovely** place. It is surrounded with **beautiful scenery**."

(visitor feedback, Malaysia)



"Beautiful and **peaceful**."

(visitor feedback, USA)

Bold Park Visitor Survey

A survey of visitors to Bold Park in 2013 demonstrated a consistent high level of overall satisfaction with their visitor experience in the park with 100% of those surveyed indicating an overall very high to excellent rating. Bushland experience and cleanliness of the park were the highest ranked elements at 99% very good to excellent, followed by signage (77%) and condition of walking trails (74%) rated as very good to excellent. In addition, 67% were regular weekly visitors and 14% were visiting Bold Park for the first time.

King Park and Botanic Garden Visitor Survey

A general survey of 503 visitors was conducted in across Kings Park and Botanic Garden in 2013. Overall, respondents' impressions of their visit were very positive with 97.4% stating that they were either satisfied or very satisfied with their visit.

The most popular aspects for visitors were the views, time spent with friends and family and the park itself. Almost a quarter of respondents cited the views as the highlight of their visit, making it the most popular response. Other common responses in terms of highlights were spending time with family and friends, the peaceful/relaxed atmosphere and the gardens. 60% of visitors surveyed cited a family outing as the primary motivation for their visit.

The two highest rated elements about the service quality at Kings Park and Botanic Garden were 'a safe place to visit' and 'showcases a wide diversity of plants'. The services of 'toilets' and 'food' were both rated lower when compared to other characteristics and services of the park, although even the ratings on these were not poor. Parking was reported to be the least enjoyable aspect of their visit, noting that almost all respondents (85.6%) drove to Kings Park. This feedback is very similar to the survey results of the past three years.

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, 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 and a tender was undertaken in 2012/13 with a new contract awarded for this essential outsourced service. Where opportunities are available through capital works, new public toilet facilities have been installed and/or existing facilities renovated. Additional barbeque and picnic facilities are anticipated as part of the planned Stage Two works of the Saw Avenue Picnic Area in 2013/14.

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

Kings Park offers visitors a number of themed play and discovery learning places that cater for families with children of different ages, each one delivering a different experience through its landscaped setting and unique play elements. These play areas continued to be very popular with families, particularly during school holidays, weekends and public holidays. Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park has proved very popular with an estimated 100,000 visitors in the first year.



Photo: BGPA

Regular maintenance, minor upgrades and safety checks remain a high priority in all facilities to ensure high standards of public safety and asset protection. Activities included replacement of shade sails and some rubber softfall, regular oiling of timber furniture, artworks and play elements, quarterly cleaning of sand in the Lotterywest Family Area and decking repairs at Synergy Parkland.

In addition, three new picnic settings were installed near the toddler's play space near Stickybeaks Café and new bin enclosures. Planning for Stage Two of the Saw Avenue Picnic Area upgrade is underway and due for completion mid to late 2014. Refer to [Major Projects and Achievements](#) for additional information on Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park and the Saw Avenue Picnic Area Upgrade.

Parkland and Turf

The expansive lawns throughout the parkland and the Western Australian Botanic Garden continued to be the subject of highly positive feedback from the public with many visitors expressing admiration for the outstanding presentation standards of the turf, reflecting the skills and commitment of the turf curation team.

Turf development and maintenance activities included ongoing monitoring and adjustment of sprinklers and irrigation systems to ensure efficient water use balanced with high quality turf. Careful monitoring of fertiliser levels and their penetration into the soil ensured appropriate application without leaching to the water table.

The regular program of mowing, fertilising, weed and pest control and lawn renovation continued throughout the year, to maintain the lawns in peak condition for visitors. Parkland areas remained a popular location for fitness groups in addition to picnics, other social gatherings and larger events.

“I would like to express my appreciation of how **beautifully** Kings Park is presented...I was very much impressed with the overall presentation of the area with the **manicured lawns** and large trees offering many deep shaded areas.”

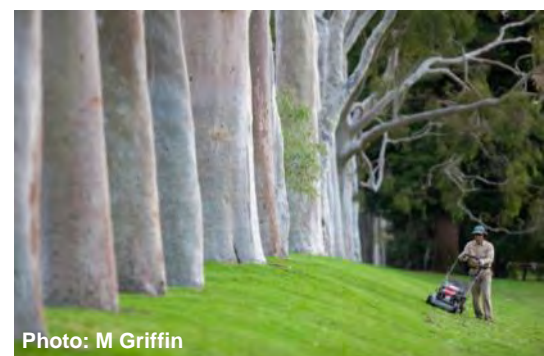


Photo: M Griffin

Treatments for the introduced lawn pest Sting Nematode continued to be trialled in the isolated affected areas, with the addition of a 100% organic compost mix to the soil at 125mm depth proving to be the most effective control mechanism to date. Other treatments will continue to be trialled and monitored by the BGPA.

Aspects of Kings Park Gallery Shop

[Aspects of Kings Park Gallery Shop](#) is owned and operated by the BGPA. 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. 11% of the BGPA's total revenue was generated through Aspects sales in 2012/13.

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 offers customers several evening events each year to celebrate new products, meet featured artists or launch new books. These events highlight the wide range of services provided by this high quality gallery shop. The Aspects of Kings Park business plan was reviewed and updated to guide the direction of the core business, including marketing, product selection and development.

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, and launched a new website with an online shopping facility this year. The new Aspects of Kings Park website has improved accessibility, images, artists' information and news. The online shop has a wide range of products, and is regularly updated to ensure it is accurate and relevant for the expanding online clientele.

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.

Aspects of Kings Park is BGPA's gallery and retail store. Aspects features art, jewellery, sculpture, homewares, books and more from Western Australian and Australian designers inspired by the natural environment.



Photo: Silvertone

Commercial Operations

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 the meet the various visitor demands.



Photo: J D'Arcy

Stickybeaks Playground Cafe in the Lotterywest Family Area.

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

2012 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. An estimated 620,000 people attended the Kings Park Festival in September 2012. More information about the Kings Park Festival can be found in the [Major Projects and Events](#) section.

Kings Park Summer Events Season

The Kings Park Summer Events series of concerts, theatre performances and outdoor cinema continue to be popular. The program of events attracted more than 86,000 visitors from November 2012 to April 2013. The Summer Events program is supported by horticultural and grounds staff with on site supervision of events contractors to protect park assets and ongoing maintenance and repair of turf areas to ensure high standards of presentation to all visitors. The 2012/13 Summer Events program included:



Photo: S Albers

- Seven concerts were presented by Mellen Events with artists including The Angels with Dave Gleeson, Simple Minds, Elvis Costello, Sarah Blasko with WASO, Glenn Frey with WASO and two Neil Finn and Paul Kelly shows.
- In January 2013, Shakespeare WA presented *Much Ado About Nothing* in the Western Australian Botanic Garden.
- Prompt Corner presented a children’s theatre performance of *Treasure Island* at the Saw Avenue Amphitheatre from 5 to 20 January 2013.
- From December 2012 to March 2013, Moonlight Cinema screened latest release, contemporary, cult and classic movies on the lawns of Synergy Parkland with record attendance figures for the season.

The Perth International Arts Festival, with support from the BGPA, this year presented ‘Scattered Light’ as part of the annual Perth Festival from 7 February to 4 March 2013. The display, designed by San Francisco artist Jim Campbell attracted an estimated 200,000 visitors to the Fraser Avenue lawn precinct over a three week period. The BGPA provided on-site support for this display including the installation of a new power supply.



Perth International Arts Festival Scattered Light installation. Photo T Wilkinson.

Estimated attendance at Kings Park Events in 2012/13

Event	Attendees	
	2011/2012	2012/2013
Kings Park Festival	530,000	620,000
Concerts ⁽¹⁾	28,335	36,086 ⁽¹⁾
Outdoor Theatre ⁽²⁾	9,542	6,573 ⁽²⁾
Outdoor Cinema	36,160	43,962
Scattered Light Exhibition ⁽³⁾	N/A	200,000 ⁽³⁾
Estimated Total Attendees	604,037	906,621

Notes:

1. Seven concerts were held during the 2012/13 events season compared with five concerts in 2011/12, and which reflects the increased attendance figures. This is a significantly reduced number of concerts compared to previous years (13 concerts in 2010/11) which is in part due to a decline in the entertainment industry and the availability of national and international acts.
2. Outdoor Theatre figures include Shakespeare in the Park and Prompt Corner productions. Shakespeare in the Park experienced significant decrease in attendance figures over the January 2013 season compared with previous years.
3. This figure was provided to BGPA from the Perth International Arts Festival.

Community, Cultural and Sporting Events

Local community, cultural and sporting events continue to attract visitors to Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park. Large attendance and spectator numbers have significant impact on access to parking and facilities and require support from BGPA, road closures and traffic management.

The annual Australia Day Skyworks over the Swan River draws large spectator crowds to Kings Park and Botanic Garden throughout the day. Kings Park is closed to all vehicle traffic and BGPA staff work closely with the City of Perth and WA Police every year to ensure the success of this event. Reabold Hill Lookout at Bold Park is also a popular viewing spot for this event.

The BGPA works closely with the Western Australian Returned and Services League (RSLWA) to present the annual ANZAC Day Dawn Service at the State War Memorial. This is a significant event to the Perth community and attendance is growing each year, estimated at 45,000 in 2013, requiring additional infrastructure and resources. In addition, a number of memorial services are held in the State War memorial precinct throughout the year.

The annual City to Surf running event, held in August 2012, attracts 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 traverse large areas of Kings Park and Botanic Garden, requiring BGPA event management during the day.

The Islamic community has held twice annual Eid events at the Saw Avenue Picnic Area in Kings Park and Botanic Garden for many years. Attendance at these events has significantly increased in recent years to the point where the site capacity has been regularly exceeded. Other locations in the park are being examined where smaller events can be held consistent with the capacity of those sites. Alternative locations external to Kings Park where large Eid events can be held in 2013/14 and beyond are being investigated by the Islamic community.



Photo: BGPA



Photo: T Kavanagh

Even these fireworks over the Swan River look like Pink Everlastings!

Kings Park and Botanic Garden plays host to thousands of visitors attending community events such as Australia Day and ANZAC Day.

Bookings

The BGPA manages bookings for private, corporate and community functions and events in Bold Park and 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](#).



Photo: C Carey

The Western Australian Ecology Centre, Bold Park

The Tamala Room in the Western Australian Ecology Centre at Bold Park offers a high quality venue for corporate, Government and community group bookings. Bookings this year are slightly reduced from the previous year. The number of fee-paying bookings was significantly less, possibly due to increased hire fees to enable appropriate recoup of operating costs. There was a slight increase in community group bookings demonstrating the value of the venue as a community facility for environmental and related group activities.

More than 2,600 participants attended booked events in the Bold Park bushland, which increased by more than 50% compared with the previous year. These bookings included talks to schools and other educational institutions, guided walks and low impact recreational 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 increased this year as the popular wedding venues have been notably impacted by works and events in recent years rendering some venues unavailable. The popular wedding venues along Fraser Avenue and in the Botanic Garden are not available in the afternoons during the summer events season due to the disruptions created by concert set-up, access to venues, parking and sound checks. The increasing popularity of the Place of Reflection has seen a significant growth in weddings and other special events in this stunning location.

Booking numbers are illustrated in the table on the following page.

Kings Park Bookings received and managed in 2012/13

Booked Function/Event	2011/12		2012/13	
	Bookings	Attendees	Bookings	Attendees
Weddings	231	14,861	284	18,033
Social Functions	461	20,532	452	21,989
Corporate Functions ⁽¹⁾	74	5,155	46 ⁽¹⁾	3,654 ⁽¹⁾
Community Group Events ⁽²⁾	91	10,662	93 ⁽²⁾	22,046 ⁽²⁾
Wedding and Commercial Filming and Photography	201	1,625	187	1,764
Sporting Events and Fitness Groups ⁽³⁾	29	5,263	85 ⁽³⁾	5,361 ⁽³⁾
Booked Guided Walks ⁽⁴⁾	56	1,266	28 ⁽⁴⁾	708 ⁽⁴⁾
Wreath Laying Ceremonies	53	4,540	55	6,195
Visits to the Park (non school-based visits)	168	5,646	132	5,109
Totals	1,364	69,550	1,360	75,362

Notes:

1. Corporate Functions – The reasons for the decrease in Corporate Functions this year is unknown.
2. Community Groups – These figures include two booked events for the Islamic community at 4,500 and 5,000 (9,500 in total) attendees at each event.
3. Sporting Events and Fitness Groups – There has been an increase in personal training/fitness groups with multiple bookings on a weekly basis, generally with low participation numbers per group.
4. Booked Guided Walks – Numbers of Booked Guided Walks decreased this year. School groups that previously booked Guided Walks are generally now accommodated through tailored programs by the Kings Park Education service.

Communications

Articulating the BGPA's contribution to education, community well-being, cultural heritage, scientific research, horticulture, indigenous culture and the conservation of Western Australia's unique plant life has been the focus of the BGPA Communications team in 2012/13.

Key projects this year have included promoting Kings Park Education (new facilities and programs), marketing the Kings Park Festival, managing communications for Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park and a proactive public relations strategy targeting industry and general media.

The BGPA Communications team has also maintained positive relationships with sponsors, supported volunteer recruitment activities and contributed to a range of publications. Communications with visitors also includes a range of brochures, maps and signage. Refer to the [Maps, Brochures and Publications](#) section of the Report.

Greater priority has been given to better understanding the community in which the BGPA operates in 2012/13 – motivations, demographics, behaviour trends and current issues – to help refine and better target communications activities. The changing media landscape (such as the growing use of mobile internet devices and social media platforms) has also influenced the communications strategy. New media and technologies have been embraced to improve reach and engagement with a range of audiences, encouraging community conversations wherever possible.

Online Communications

The BGPA's online presence continued to be developed during the year, in recognition of its important role in public communication. In addition to managing in-house communication, the BGPA has actively liaised with and provided information and images to external organisations that refer to BGPA activities.



The major focus was the redevelopment of the [Aspects of Kings Park website](#) to meet the State Government's Website Governance Framework objectives and Accessibility Guidelines. The website was redeveloped with this inclusion of an online shopping facility and launched in May 2013. Feedback from customers and suppliers has been positive. The Aspects of Kings Park website received 22,053 visits during the year (a 21% increase from 2011/12), including 16,772 unique visitors. A further 1,682 visitors subscribed to the Aspects e-newsletter.

Performance

The [BGPA website](#) received significant attention in preparation for its redevelopment in 2013/14. Based on the premise ‘How can we help you?’ a number of improvements occurred including a notices and alert module, visitor checklist, better search facility and content review. A business plan and redevelopment project brief were finalised to facilitate the bulk of the technical redevelopment between July-December 2013. The redevelopment aims to improve site functionality, increase support for front-line staff enquiries and ensure compliance with Government requirements.

The website continued to communicate to an impressive public base with 418,085 visits during the year (a 16% increase from 2011/12 and including 289,016 unique visitors). The website was recognised as the key entry for a number of important BGPA activities including visitor services, volunteer recruitment and education program bookings. Key messages were communicated to the 2,934 visitors who subscribed to the BGPA e-newsletter and the 665 subscribers to the Kings Park Education e-newsletter.

The BGPA’s first social media strategy has been implemented, along with changes to the BGPA website and more proactive management of the online presence on key external websites (e.g. for tourism, event listings, news sites). These new tools have been integrated into the traditional suite of visitor publications, billboards, park signage, the BGPA website and media liaison.

The BGPA managed Facebook pages grew significantly in the 2012/13 year, with the Kings Park and Botanic Garden page and Western Australian Botanic Garden page growing by 517% and 327% respectively. The Kings Park Festival Facebook page continued to receive significant interest, with visitation growing by 240% since the 2011 event.

Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park and Kings Park Education Facebook pages were introduced to cater for specific audiences as a part of the developing social media strategy. These Facebook pages are proving to be a valuable tool to engage more effectively with target groups and provide timely and targeted visitor information and responses to enquiries and comments. A social media plan is in development to address the significant growth of BGPA social media and to adequately manage visitor use and expectations of these mediums.

The overall aim of the communication’s strategy is to build positive and productive relationships with the community to promote Bold Park and Kings Park and Botanic Garden.



Stakeholder Liaison

The BGPA engaged with the local and regional community to ensure an appropriate level of communication and information exchange and to promote mutual cooperation. A key component of this involves regular, two-way communication with the volunteer groups that are linked to Kings Park and Bold Park, as their diverse membership provides key representation of the wider community.

BGPA staff work closely with key stakeholders such as the City of Perth, RSLWA, WA Police and event organisers to ensure the success of important Western Australian community events such as Australia Day, ANZAC Day and the City to Surf event. The BGPA ensures surrounding neighbours are aware of upcoming events in Kings Park through annual notices distributed prior to the summer events season. In addition, regular communication occurs with lessees to notify them of significant events, works or changes that may impact on their business operations

BGPA staff liaise regularly with the City of Perth, City of Subiaco, City of Nedlands and other neighbours on activities that impact on the boundaries of Kings Park and Botanic Garden. This included liaison with neighbouring land managers to ensure that BGPA interests were represented in planning processes for new developments or changes to neighbouring properties around Kings Park.

In Bold Park, feedback was sought from the Town of Cambridge regarding the upgrade of the Bold Park car parks and the BGPA provided input to the Town of Cambridge regarding ongoing boundary management issues and a formal submission on the proposed Quarry Amphitheatre redevelopment plans. Feedback was also provided to Wollaston Theological College near Bold Park on their draft Fire Management Plan.

The Bush to Beach Regional Trail, which includes a section through Bold Park, was officially opened in November 2012. BGPA contributed to this project through ongoing liaison with WESROC, including the development of trail markers, promotional and interpretive material and a mobile phone application.

Other consultation included liaison with Water Corporation, the Japanese School and with Western Power regarding vegetation management during an upgrade to power poles in Bold Park.

In a joint initiative with the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, letters were again sent to all property owners surrounding Kings Park and Bold Park to engage with them regarding fire management and preparedness in the parks and on their own properties, offering further information if required. Advice regarding appropriate notification procedures in the event of fire was also distributed.

The BGPA recognises that support and contributions from the community, government and private organisations is essential in achieving the BGPA's outcomes. The BGPA is privileged to work with many individuals and groups who provide resources to Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park for major projects, events and research. A comprehensive list of these stakeholders is included in [Appendix 1](#).

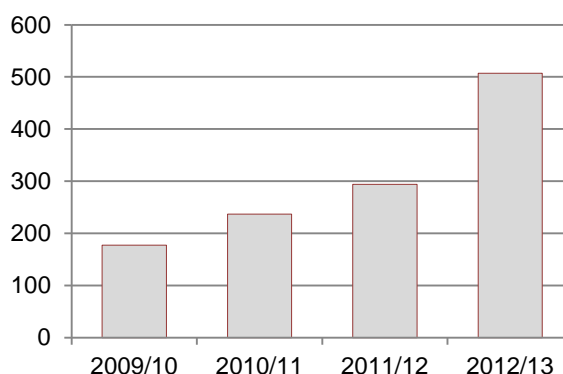
Education and Interpretation

Kings Park Education

2012/13 has been a busy and rewarding year for Kings Park Education with a focus on consolidation of the Education programs and planning for future growth.

Bookings for Education programs have grown considerably in recent years. From 177 bookings in 2009/10 bookings increased in 2010/11 by 30% to 237 followed by a further 24% rise to 294 bookings in 2011/12. In 2012/13 there were 507 bookings for curriculum based education programs, an increase of 72%.

Increase in Education Bookings



The opening of the [Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park](#) (2011), the new Kings Park Education facility (2012) and the launch of a range of newly developed programs in June 2012, has created a niche for environmental and cultural education in Kings Park and Botanic Garden.

A further 302 bookings (an increase of 70%) for professional development, self-guided and school holiday programs have involved more than 30,000 participants in education programs this year, almost twice the participation compared with the previous year.

Education based bookings 2012/13

Program	2011/12		2012/13	
	Bookings	Attendance	Bookings	Attendance
Tailored lessons for school students K –12 (including parents and teachers attending lessons)	294	10,668	507	16,365
Teacher Professional Development	9	216	10	186
School visits to the Park (self guided)	168	5,646	141	5,303
School Holiday programs	0	0	62	5,480
University , TAFE and community Groups	34	1,318	89	3,022
Totals	505	17,848	809	30,356

Performance

Programs were delivered by qualified and experienced educators, with two new casual Education Officers joining the team in 2012/13 to meet increasing demand. The Nature Activity Officers also assisted with programs and provided help and assistance to schools using the venue. Additional support was provided by a new team of volunteers who assisted the Education Officers with the running of programs, administration and preparation tasks. There are currently 12 active Kings Park Education volunteers.

Opportunities for an excursion with combination of a formal curriculum-based education program delivered by a Kings Park Education Officer and the opportunity for self-guided exploration of Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park have been enthusiastically received by both teachers and students.

During the 2012 school calendar year Kings Park Education delivered 15 core Australian curriculum-based programs, five self-guided programs and 16 special programs and events. In 2013, 16 curriculum-based programs are on offer with 6 self-guided programs and 11 special programs and events scheduled through the year.

Education Programs

2012/13 has been a period of review and development of the new Kings Park Education programs and service operation. Programs were improved and amended in line with changes to the Australian curriculum as required. Changes have also taken place in response to teacher feedback, for example the Bushland Carers special program is now a core program available throughout the year to meet demand by Department of Environment and Conservation Bush Ranger groups and secondary science teachers. Other programs, such as Bizarre Botanicals, have been separated into two different programs to better meet the specific science outcomes of the curriculum for different year levels.

The 2013 education program focuses on more curriculum relevant programs that better meet the demand and learning requirements of schools.

One of the new programs, named It's a Plant's Life, allows Year 3-4 students to observe, record and investigate the characteristics of plants as they grow, and their importance in providing habitats and producing oxygen for other living things. The new program for Years 5-7 named Bizarre Botanicals, is focused on how plants have adapted to environmental conditions and climate. Both programs use the Kings Park Education facilities and specially planted garden beds provided at the new Education Centre.



Photo: J D'Arcy

“Just a **big thank you** to all the staff who helped organise and run our excursion... Everyone was really helpful... **the kids loved it** and wanted to go back. We have let other teachers know how great it was too.”



Photo: J D'Arcy



Photo: J D'Arcy

Kings Park Education programs focus on teaching future generations about conserving and protecting the precious natural environment.

Another new program, Chunyart and the Cheeky Parrot, has undergone a trial period and focuses on local Aboriginal culture for students Pre-Primary to Year 2. It is based on the story of a young Nyoongar boy who learns how plants are used for food, medicine and tools in the traditional Aboriginal culture. This program and its published children's book will be officially launched in September 2013.

The lesson plan for the pre-kindergarten program Bushland Stories was designed to improve learning outcomes and incorporates the Kings Park storybook Homes and Hideways, with valuable sensory learning experiences.

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. Three new teacher resource packs were developed for the new programs and existing packs were reviewed as part of changes being made to programs. All core program packs have been updated with new curriculum links and include more post excursion activities designed to extend learning from a visit to Kings Park back in the classroom.

Special Programs and Events



Photo: M Griffin

Aboriginal presenters deliver a range of activities to students attending the Nyoongar Boodja festivals.

New in 2012 were the Nyoongar Boodja – Six Seasons Indigenous Festivals. Three of these events were held during the 2012/13 period, 30 October – 2 November 2012, 4 – 7 December 2012 and 2 – 5 April 2013 with 1,038 students participating. Aboriginal presenters delivered a range of activities linked to History in the Australian curriculum and the cross-curriculum priority of Aboriginal History and Culture.

Interactive experiences delivered collaboratively with the Department of Conservation and Environment included tool making, boomerang

and spear throwing and building mia mias. External Aboriginal presenters engaged students in oral history through storytelling, while the didgeridoo and dance performances highlighted the significance of dance for important ceremonies. Students learned about the traditional uses of plants for food, bush medicine, tool and shelter making and sampled some delicious bush tucker.

The annual 'Quiz on Legs' event was held on 26 September 2012 in the Western Australian Botanic Garden. The 1,500 students who attended this environmental education program had a fun-filled day learning about the natural environment, traditional Aboriginal Culture and sustainability.

During Terms 3 and 4 of 2012, students participated in other special Kings Park Education events including National Science Week 13-17 August, the Kings Park Festival Poster Exhibition 1-30 September, Festival Art Week 10-14 September and the Great Aussie Garden Theatre Show 20-23 November.

The new Child versus Wild bush survival program held on World Environment Day in June 2013 proved to be very popular.

Teacher Professional Learning Sessions

Teachers are required to attend an introductory session prior to their first excursion to Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park. A tour of the site provides familiarisation, and the opportunity to discuss health and safety and best use of the site. Sessions are free and held on the first Thursday of the month during the school year. The introduction outlines the philosophy of Kings Park Education and the logistics of the day; from drop-off points, bag storage, lunch locations and toilets. The teachers who attended an introduction session reported that they were better organised and more confident on the day of their excursion.

Kings Park Education delivered a conference workshop on Meeting Curriculum Outcomes in the Outdoor Classroom at the annual Science Teachers' Association WA Conference in March 2013.

Scientific and Horticultural Training Programs

The BGPA is a leader in providing training for the next generation of biologists, horticulturists, environmental scientists and land managers.

The BGPA trainee program for students in Horticulture, Turf Management, Arboriculture and Conservation and Land Management incorporates on the job training by skilled and experienced staff in the many and varied work areas within Kings Park and Bold Park as well as one day per week of formal education in a tertiary institution.

At the end of 2012, four trainees achieved their Certificate III in Horticulture, one achieved Certificate III in Arboriculture, one achieved Certificate II in Horticulture and one achieved Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management. In 2013, eight new trainees were recruited to bring the total number of students in this area to twelve. All trainees performed well in both their chosen area of study and in their everyday working environment, with one being successfully appointed to a permanent nursery position in Kings Park.

The coordination 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. 2013 was the tenth year BGPA has co-ordinated this course and it is attracting 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, nine projects from various disciplines were offered to the eleven students.

Twenty-four 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.

Eight three-month Summer Scholarships were offered in 2012/13 for post-graduate research in native plant conservation biology or restoration ecology.

Maps, Brochures and Publications

The BGPA continues to maintain an extensive suite of maps, signs and both printed and online information to inform the community of the many activities and attractions within Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park.

A new book titled “Australian Native Plants – The Kings Park Experience” was written in a collaborative effort from a number of BGPA and Department of Agriculture staff and published by CSIRO Publishing. Drawing on a wealth of experience in Kings Park over 50 years, this publication is a comprehensive guide to growing native plants, particularly Western Australian species, and covers some of the technical areas that will be of interest to industry practitioners as well as advanced home gardeners. An official launch is scheduled for August 2013.

In response to visitor feedback, various Kings Park visitor maps and brochures were updated this year including:

- Parking Map
- Picnic and BBQ Areas Map
- Education Map
- Sport and Fitness brochure
- Bushland Nature Trail brochure

New brochures were developed quarterly for Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park each with a suite of new things to do, to ensure repeat visitors were offered stimulating suggestions in their explorations of this nature based facility.

A comprehensive new Kings Park Education brochure was developed to complement and promote the range of programs on offer for the 2013 school year.

The development of a new publication began this year for a children’s picture story book called Chunyart and the Cheeky Parrot – the story of a young Nyoongar boy setting out on his first hunting journey with his father and uncles in the area now known as Kings Park. This book will be published for sale and as support to the new Kings Park Education program of the same name. The book will be launched in September 2013.

The Swan River Trust approached BGPA to modify key signs in Kings Park to incorporate the name Swan Canning Riverpark, in place of the Swan River, on all the signage maps in the park and on printed collateral. This was completed in 2012/13.

The Bold Park Birds brochure was revised during the year in conjunction with members of BirdLife WA.

BGPA staff contributed research papers and articles for publication in a range of scientific and other journals. In addition, 26 news articles were written by BGPA staff for the quarterly For People and Plants magazine produced by the Friends of Kings Park. These publications provide information about activities in Kings Park and Botanic Garden including projects, events, BGPA research and other activities. Details of research papers, articles and BGPA publications can be found in [Appendix 3](#) of this Report.

Signage

Visitor signage continues to be a focus for the BGPA to assist in visitor directions, enhance understanding and ensuring the safety of visitors and assets. New signage was installed for the Kings Park Education building to assist visitors in locating and understanding this new facility. All signs around the park have been updated with the current government logo.

New major entry signs were developed for Bold Park and installed at Reabold Hill, Tuart Carpark and Camel Lake Carpark. They include a map of Bold Park, a welcome statement, key regulations and information on self-guided walking trails and guided walks. These signs have drawn positive feedback from visitors and will be further enhanced with the addition of an interpretive panel in the coming year.

Other signs under review at Bold Park include the Camel Lake Heritage Trail interpretive signs, the panorama panels at Reabold Hill Lookout and upgraded directional signs to incorporate emergency exit information.



Photo: J D'Arcy

Interpretive signage is used throughout Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park to tell the parks' stories.

Cultural Heritage

Aboriginal Heritage



The BGPA has a long standing commitment to 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 activities. In 2012/13, over 110 staff participated in one of six half day Aboriginal cultural awareness sessions with hands on activities and training provided by a local Nyoongar family.

A meeting was held with the BGPA Indigenous Reference Group in September 2012 to update the Elders on current BGPA activities and create an opportunity for members to provide their feedback. Also in September, a Boodja Gnarning Family Fun Day was held as part of the 2012 Kings Park Festival to celebrate Aboriginal culture. The day included Aboriginal dance, art and music performances and was extremely popular.

Kings Park Education also promotes Aboriginal culture through education programs developed around the six Nyoongar seasons, delivered by Aboriginal presenters. A new children's story book written by an Aboriginal employee as part of his cadetship with the BGPA was well advanced during the year and a new education program based around this story was developed for young children.

Other initiatives included a presentation on the Boodja Gnarning interpretive walk trail in Kings Park to an international Botanic Garden education congress and the naming of the access road to Kings Park Education as Kattidj Road, the Nyoongar word meaning to know or to understand.

The BGPA continued to implement strategies identified in the Reconciliation Action Plan 2010-2012. A revised plan for the next five-year period 2013-18 is underway and will be available early in 2013/14.

Preservation Works

A Heritage Architect was commissioned to undertake a review of the Kings Park Conservation Plan for the Developed Areas, 2000, to document development works and other changes since the original plan was prepared, update the horticultural planting information and make recommendations for future management. Progress was made on the review with a new plan drafted by June 2013. The Conservation Plan is an important reference document for BGPA staff to ensure elements of cultural heritage significance in the park are appropriately managed for their ongoing preservation.



Photo: C Carey

The South African War Memorial is just one of more than 50 memorials located in Kings Park and Botanic Garden.

The BGPA continued to maintain the memorials throughout Kings Park for their long term conservation and to ensure a high standard of presentation for the many memorial ceremonies held throughout the year. Heritage advice was sought on the John Forrest statue in Forrest Roundabout with a short report produced recommending minor preservation works. In addition, the BGPA consulted with representatives from the National Boer War Association regarding a minor upgrade to the South African War Memorial near Fraser Avenue entry. Heritage advice was also sought for this project and a proposed scope of works developed. Timing of this upgrade will depend on the availability of funding.

Biodiversity Conservation and Ecological Restoration

Kings Park Bushland

The BGPA continued programs to conserve native biodiversity within the Kings Park bushland including ecological restoration of disturbed ecosystems on the plateau and the Mt Eliza Escarpment. Surveys of flora, fauna and fungi provided important information for the biodiversity inventory which contributes to the development of management programs, and control of environmental weeds and introduced pests assisted with conservation of local native species.

Fungi surveys undertaken in July 2012 identified 123 species, 29 of which were new records for Kings Park. This brings the total number of fungi species recorded for Kings Park bushland to 215. A reptile survey conducted in Spring 2012 and Autumn 2013 resulted in 18 species captured and identified in the spring survey compared with nine species in the autumn survey, which included juvenile turtle frogs captured following autumn rain. Data collected from this survey is being collated over a five year period and will be analysed in a report on reptile population responses to fire in Kings Park.

Bat species monitoring was conducted during April 2013 using Anabat sound equipment with sponsorship support from Umwelt, an environmental consultancy company. This passive monitoring system records the ultrasonic calls of bats enabling analysis of recordings using a software package to identify species' 'vocal finger prints'. Recordings are yet to be assessed to identify species present.



Banksia ilicifolia is a priority species and the focus of a BGPA conservation program.

Monitoring of vulnerable species is a valuable measure of species retention or loss based on the premise that the most vulnerable flora are the most likely to be lost from a disturbed ecosystem. All 15 identified vulnerable flora species were recorded as present and three species were incorporated into restoration plantings to enhance their conservation in Kings Park. Five plants of *Banksia ilicifolia*, a priority species and documented vulnerable flora species, were planted within the Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park site as part of a conservation program. Drafting of individual species management plans commenced for the highest priority vulnerable species to guide their future management and conservation.

Seed collection of native bushland species occurred between October 2012 and March 2013, resulting in collections from 75 species, including eight of the vulnerable species. Seed was cleaned, processed and recorded in the horticultural database, with samples of all seed x-rayed to determine percentage viability. Spores from *Cheilanthes sieberi* and *Astroloma ciliatum* cuttings, both vulnerable species, were notable additions to the germplasm collections. The *Cheilanthes* was successfully propagated in the Kings Park nursery.



Photo: D Blumer

A scented sun orchid found along one of the bushland walk trails.

A new flora species record for Kings Park, *Poranthera moorokatta*, was formally documented and a plan drafted for its future management. Seed was successfully collected during November 2012 with germination trials yet to occur. This record brings the total number of native species recorded in Kings Park bushland to 325.

Planting of over 21,800 local native plants occurred across 26 restoration sites in the bushland. Key sites included the Kings Park Nature Trail, Thomas Street boundary area and the escarpment restoration sites impacted by the January 2009 bushfire.

The occurrence of feral rabbits in some areas of Kings Park was apparent during the year, resulting in the initiation of fumigation of all identified warrens from December 2012. Anecdotal evidence suggested a reduction in rabbit numbers since fumigation began but this has not yet been quantified. Other control methods trialled included the use of Pindone baits within secure bait stations designed to minimise off target species access, and the release of *Calici* virus in November 2012, but this was not successful in controlling rabbit numbers.

Bold Park

BGPA staff continued to implement a range of management strategies to conserve native biodiversity in Bold Park bushland and restore degraded areas in ecological restoration focus sites, using an adaptive management approach.



Photo: BGPA



Photo: BGPA

Many Western Australian native species respond to fire with regeneration.

Two fires that occurred in March 2012 prompted the initiation of a restoration and monitoring plan for each site of approximately 12 hectares. Although these sites were not previously priorities for restoration, the fires provided an opportunity to implement weed control in the first winter with a high degree of effectiveness to reduce competition for regenerating native species. Each site has been divided into priority areas for future restoration activity depending on a set of criteria, and the monitoring plan will enable recording of vegetation recovery over time and further identification of future restoration priorities. The fire sites restoration and monitoring plan was incorporated into the five year restoration plan for Bold Park which was finalised during the year.

Restoration activities continued in priority sites including the Oceanic Precinct, the Eastern Gateway, Reabold Hill, Ecology Centre, Mt Claremont and a central area linking the Eastern Gateway and Oceanic precincts referred to as Middle Earth. Over 40,500 plants with 51 local native species represented were planted to cover approximately one hectare combined. Some infill planting on track edges were also implemented.

Greenstock survival rates continued to be monitored for three years post planting. The average survival rates for 2012 planting sites varied from 30-60% in the first year depending on the site. Bold Park recorded its hottest summer on record during the 2012/2013 season.

The weed control program was also implemented in priority sites including veld grass control over 50 hectares in the Oceanic, Eastern Gateway and 2012 fire sites and Pelargonium control over 21.5 hectares in the same priority areas. Bridal creeper control was implemented in the worst infestations over 13 hectares with Black Flag, African Lovegrass and Freesia also targeted for control. The program of Geraldton wax and hybrid plant removal continued to help conserve the local Wembley wax population.

The seed collection program yielded seed for a total of 90 species which included seed of eight of the fifteen most vulnerable species. All vulnerable flora were recorded as present and generally the populations remained stable, with a small reduction in population size for *Pimelea argentea* and *Eryngium pinnatifida*, most likely due to the extended dry periods experienced.

The 2012 fires impacted some vulnerable flora populations, reducing some mature plants of *Luzula meridionalis* but prompting an increase in population size though the regeneration of new individuals. A new population of *Anigozanthos humilis*, a fire responsive species and one of the vulnerable flora species in Bold Park, was recorded at the Balga fire site. The populations within the Zamia West fire site flowered very well with 95% of the population producing flowers.

A number of external research projects were advanced at Bold Park on topics including long term monitoring of vertebrate species, a long term population study of an introduced snail, a long term bird banding study at Mt Claremont, dispersal and persistence of *Macrozamia* and pollination success and population decline in native orchids. Reports from each of these research projects will be provided when complete as a resource for future management reference.

Western Australian Botanic Garden

The implementation of a revised structure for horticultural staff into two Horticultural Displays teams with Assistant Curators leading them proved to be highly successful in motivating staff, producing consistent horticultural standards throughout the park and developing an overall team approach to all horticultural operations.

An upgrade and expansion of the *Verticordia* display garden was completed during the year including installation of contoured sand ridges and new sand, new sub-surface trickle irrigation and planting of 813 new plants of *Verticordia* species. Many of these plants were grafted onto hardy rootstocks in the Kings Park nursery to improve their performance as display plants in the Botanic Garden and promote the conservation and cultivation of this little known genus to visitors.

“In [Perth in] the 1950s ... it was not uncommon to see large clumps of **native orchids** and other native flowers... to be able to see much of our **unique native flora** so close to Perth is a credit to you all. Congratulations. Well done!

Additional focus areas for the annual planting program included the rejuvenation of the bushland transition gardens that interface with the bushland on the Mt Eliza Escarpment, and infill planting around the reservoir surrounds with iconic Western Australian native trees and shrubs. Planting of 16,500 Western Australian native annuals throughout the main display beds of the Botanic Garden and 2,000 in parkland areas was completed to enhance displays for the Kings Park Festival and

“I write to congratulate you on the **fine labelling** in the botanical gardens... It is just wonderful and you and your staff are **doing a very important job**, not only for the present generation, but also to future generations.”

generally throughout the gardens. A total of 20,900 native plants (excluding the annuals) were planted throughout the Botanic Garden and parkland gardens to enhance the living collection displays and maintain the thematic integrity of the plant collections.

In addition to the planting program, further strategies to improve the botanical plant labeling through the Botanic Garden were implemented, with regular accuracy checks conducted by the Herbarium Botanist.

Nursery

The Kings Park nursery continued to produce quality native plants for restoration, display and conservation programs despite a reduction in staff numbers working within the nursery. Almost 23,000 local native plants were propagated and grown on in the nursery for use in restoration plantings in Kings Park bushland and Bold Park, with a focus on the more difficult to grow species. This production was supplemented by contract grown plants from external commercial nurseries.

Approximately 19,000 plants were produced for horticultural displays, planted throughout the Botanic Garden and parkland areas of Kings Park. In addition, over 2,000 plants were grown for incorporation into Kings Park Festival displays and over 18,000 annual plants were grown to enhance wildflower displays for the festival. These included a range of *Rhodanthe*, *Schoenia*, *Brachyscome*, *Leucochrysum*, *Podolepis* and *Waitzia* amongst many others.

Production of approximately 450 advanced trees in large rocket pots for tree replacement and enhancement programs throughout Kings Park was another key outcome for the nursery. These trees were planted in the memorial drives to replace dead or damaged specimens and in other parkland areas to replace trees removed for public safety or lost through extended dry periods.



Photo: D Blumer

The Kings Park Nursery produces thousands of plants each year for planting in the Botanic Gardens and for bushland restoration programs in Bold Park and Kings Park bushland.

The nursery also continued its role in the production of plants declared as threatened flora for Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) translocation programs. Approximately 700 plants were produced under this program for translocation into the wild to enhance threatened species conservation in the field. DEC staff continued to supply germinants from their threatened flora seed germination trials to Kings Park nursery to be grown on for ultimate incorporation into displays in the Conservation Garden.

The nursery made good progress with the plant grafting program during the year and improved propagation techniques for some of the more difficult species such as *Physopsis chrysophylla* and *Verticordia grandis*. Some of the new species successfully propagated included *Astrotricha hamptonii*, *Solanum lachnophyllum*, *Solanum ashbyae*, *Solanum tudununggae*, *Nymphaea lukei* and *Nymphaea violacea*.

Plant Development

The BGPA Plant Development team continued to expand its operations through commercial agreements and sub-licence contracts with external partners. This included a new contract with a Western Australian, nationwide distribution wholesale propagation nursery to test and release BGPA hybrid plant selections from a range of plant families. The program aims to develop Australian plants, and particularly Western Australian native plants, as hardy plants for reliable display and superior performance as garden specimens, to expand their use in public and domestic landscapes and gardens. Over 20,000 crosses were made across selected genera during the reporting period.

Under commercial agreements, 52 hybrid *Corymbia* lines and 17 *Anigozanthos* lines were dispatched from Kings Park for local and inter-state evaluation, and 75 hybrid *Grevillea*, including three tissue culture lines were sent overseas for commercial testing. Three of the hybrid *Grevillea* selections were short-listed for world-wide commercial release. Other genera from which selected lines have been developed and dispatched for testing include *Boronia*, *Chamelaucium*, *Hypocalymma* and *Actinodium*.

The BGPA Team also selected a low growing, compact form of the native hibiscus that was released onto the Australian market by a commercial partner as *Alyogyne wrayae* 'Blue Heeler', with the BGPA logo displayed on the label.

Significant progress was made with the somatic fusion project, an RIDC funded project with a focus on the *Chamelaucium* alliance. A protocol for *Chamelaucium* hybrid plant regeneration from protoplasts via somatic embryogenesis was optimised and pre-fusion treatment protocols for somatic fusion techniques were established. Various somatic embryogenic lines for somatic fusion with allied genera were established.

Western Australian Seed Technology Centre (WASTC)

A successful field collection program was completed during the year by the Curator of the WASTC with assistance from various horticultural staff. Major trips were undertaken to remote areas such as the east Pilbara, the Great Victoria Desert and the Nullabor Plain to expand conservation collections and extend the range of Western Australian plant species available for cultivation in the Botanic Garden.

A range of new forms of *Eucalyptus kingsmillii* and *Eucalyptus youngiana* were collected for display, with collections made from mountains in the Pilbara ranges and across the Great Victoria Desert to the Western Australia/South Australia border. A number of species were collected and cultivated for the first time including *Eucalyptus kingsmillii* ssp *alatissima* and *Brachyscome tatei* from the Great Australian Bight.

A total of 173 collections were made during the year and processed and stored in accordance with international protocols in the WASTC. Seed collected from unusual and difficult species included collections of *Banksia elegans* and *Ptilotus obovatus*.

A successful funding application to the Australian Seedbank Partnership as part of the 1,000 species project provided funding support for two of the remote field trips and enabled conservation collections to be duplicated and sent to the Millennium Seed Bank (MSB) at Kew in the United Kingdom. A total of 13 species not previously collected for this worldwide seed conservation project were collected and sent to the MSB.

2013 marks 50 years of the Kings Park field collection program, which was initiated in 1963 with the development of the Western Australian Botanic Garden at that time to collect material for botanical display.

Herbarium

The BGPA Reference Herbarium Botanist continued to curate the herbarium collections including mounting, labelling, repair and processing of voucher specimens. Most plants collected for use within Kings Park and Botanic Garden have a herbarium voucher specimen lodged with this reference herbarium, a duplicate of which is also sent to the State Herbarium.

The Herbarium Botanist played a key role in plant identification throughout the BGPA including checking the accuracy of botanical labels on public display and identification of plants collected from the wild. The Botanist also checked all botanical information produced for public distribution for the Friends of Kings Park plant sales prior to release. Staff training sessions in plant identification continued through the year with herbarium and Nursery staff providing expert tuition.

Botanical names were updated in the BGPA horticultural database, BGBase, to ensure name currency and accuracy for all BGPA plant collections, and data entry was completed for all new herbarium specimens. In addition, plant identification enquiries from local, interstate and international plant enthusiasts and researchers were answered in a timely manner via email.

Arboriculture

The Arbor Team continued to address all matters related to tree management within Kings Park and Bold Park throughout the year, striving to implement industry best practice for tree development, protection and management. This small team had several changes in personnel during the year with two staff leaving to pursue alternative careers, the graduation and departure of one trainee Arborist and replacement with a new trainee, and the recruitment of an experienced climber to assist with tree remedial work. Staff training was a high priority to maintain currency of information and practices.

Some substantial tree surgery works were completed during the year including servicing of the significant Plane Trees at Mounts Bay Gardens, removal of woody weeds from this area and servicing of established trees from the Kennedy Fountain site through to the Mounts Bay Road overpass. In addition, the Fraser Avenue Lemon Scented gums had remedial works implemented following formal inspections as did many of the trees in the Botanic Garden and throughout parkland areas.



Photo: J Thomas

The flower of the 'Gija Jumulu' boab tree. The BGPA continues intensive management of this ancient tree.

The giant Gija Jumulu Boab tree in the Botanic Garden remained a focus for intensive monitoring and remedial works as required. A scan of the tree's interior using sonic tomography equipment was undertaken in December 2012 to help determine the extent of healthy and/or decayed material, and careful excavation around root sections enabled root inspections for new growth. The spread of internal decay continued to stabilise and new root and canopy growth indicated favourable growth. This tree flowered during autumn but has not set any fruit since its relocation to the Botanic Garden in 2008. The Boab

continued to be one of the most popular topics for talks to external community groups, highlighting the work done by the BGPA for its ongoing conservation.

Over 300 trees were planted throughout the parkland with the main focus areas being May and Lovekin Drives, Fraser Lawns, and Forrest Drive. Students from Challenger Institute assisted with Honour Avenue tree planting as part of their training, consistent with the Memorandum of Understanding endorsed by the BGPA. A further 200 trees comprising primarily local native species were planted near the Saw Avenue Picnic Area by the Horticultural Displays Team, following the earlier removal of the senescent pine plantation from this site. Irrigation was installed to assist with the establishment of these new trees.

Green Waste Recycling

The BGPA won the State Government category of the [Infinity Awards 2012](#), announced by the Minister for Environment in August 2012, for its achievements in composting green waste and recycling the end product for use as mulch in Kings Park. The awards are administered by the WA Waste Authority to recognise excellence in waste management towards achieving a zero waste outcome.

The BGPA continued its green waste composting and recycling program throughout the year with approximately 1,000 cubic metres of composted mulch produced and distributed through garden areas in the park and a zero green waste outcome for the BGPA.



Photo: BGPA

Turning the mulch during composting.

Rare and Threatened Species

Research continues into the conservation biology of the State's rare and threatened flora which now number over 400 gazetted taxa. 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 third year on *Androcalva perlaria* (see case study below), a critically endangered species from the south coast of Western Australia, through sponsorship from a local resources company.

A new project commenced in early 2013 on the threatened *Ricinocarpus brevis* which is found mainly on Banded Ironstone formations approximately 130km north of Southern Cross. Only three populations of this species are presently known with the main population (~15,000) found in the Windarling Range, currently being 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.

Case Study - Integrated conservation of *Androcalva perlaria*

Prior to 1993 *Androcalva perlaria* was completely unknown and after extensive surveying has now been recorded from just four bushland fragments on the Southern Coast of Western Australia. Across all known populations less than 100 plants remain.

As part of an integrated conservation project for this species a five-year research program has focussed on initially establishing an extensive container plant collection which has been used to generate large numbers of seeds (~90,000) and for the production of plants (via cuttings) for the establishment of a new translocated population at Mettlers Lake Nature Reserve, Wellstead in July 2012.

In addition, other parts of the program have worked on understanding the seed biology of this species, creating a genetically diverse tissue culture collection, profiling the genetic diversity of all remaining plants and developing a way to freeze plant material in liquid nitrogen that can be used many years later to revive this species in the event that it becomes extinct in the wild. Outcomes so far have established that *A. perlaria* seeds are highly dormant and form a persistent soil seed that germinates readily in response to fire, a reasonable amount of genetic diversity is still retained within this species and that different plant tissues can be successfully stored in liquid nitrogen and revived again.

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 national and international research leader and provider in the science of restoration including leading developments in:

- Seedling recruitment and plant survival patterns.
- Seedling and plant responses to environmental changes.
- Delivering proven, cost-effective and scalable solutions in restoration.
- Arid land restoration excellence both in Western Australia and overseas.

Program funding for restoration research is drawn from a broad section of the national competitive grant system (Australian Research Council, Rural and Industries Research and Development Corporation) as well as industry and government.

Collaborative research programs extend from the Great Sandy Desert (restoring degraded and 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 declared rare flora, predominantly focusing on the use of meta-soils as new growth medium in restoration) to single species restoration programs on the south coast.

Overall, the programs cover seed science, seed banking, provenance, micro-hydrology, pedology and enabling technologies. The integration of scientific disciplines and the ability to work across various landscapes has provided international opportunities, with BGPA science now assisting in desert restoration programs in the Middle East.

Restoration Ecophysiology

The Restoration Ecophysiology team continues to research interactions of Australian native plants with altered environments, including those disturbed by humans as well as those altered 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 is currently addressing key questions within (1) the Western Australian mining sector (Mid-west, Pilbara and Swan Coastal Plain); (2) the agricultural sector (Western Australia, New South Wales, Victoria); and (3) internationally across the general restoration sector (Saudi Arabia).

Collaborative research continues in several key areas in 2012/13 including:

- Banksia woodland restoration – Understanding plant-soil-water dynamics to optimise Banksia woodland restoration (supported by Rocla Quarry Products).
- Understanding the impacts of a changing climate on Banksia woodland functioning and sustainability.



Photo: D Newcombe

BGPA scientists are working towards long term sustainability of Banksia woodland species throughout Australia.

- Image analysis to understand long term impacts of restoration techniques on restoration outcomes.
- Banded Ironstone restoration – using plant performance to understand declared rare flora (DRF) and threatened ecological community (TEC) restoration success.
- Agricultural land restoration and sustainable production – optimising seed enhancement technologies to optimise seedling establishment.
- Arid zone restoration - Understanding plant-soil-water dynamics to optimise seedling establishment in the Middle East (Saudi Arabia).

Conservation Biotechnology

The [Conservation Biotechnology](#) team undertakes research into micro propagation, tissue culture, and cryogenics of endangered native plants. Research is also undertaken on non-endangered plant species important for restoration but recalcitrant to conventional propagation methods. Collaborative programs are undertaken with other researchers seeking to use in-vitro technology as part of their programs in other restoration disciplines as well.

Key achievements this year include:

- Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage project ‘Development of cryopreservation for high value provenance collections of recalcitrant plant species used in post-mining restoration’ was completed. This project has resulted in new directions for improving cryogenic storage of rare and restoration-priority species.
- In-vitro propagation of *Philotheca basistyla* (Rutaceae) has resulted in successful cloning of a number of plants which have now been established in tissue culture. Root induction work has seen several plants established back into soil which are now growing well. Cryogenic work has seen the establishment of a successful method of storing vegetative tissues in liquid nitrogen. Genetics work is advanced and is due for completion by the end of 2013.
- Ex-situ conservation strategies for *Androvanda vesiculosa* has found that this species is readily propagated through tissue culture means and initial results investigating the applicability of cryogenic storage of vegetative tissues in liquid nitrogen have been encouraging with some survival noted but as yet plants have not been successfully established from tissues stored in liquid nitrogen (see case study below).
- A PhD research program on the declared rare flora species *Leucopogon* sp. ciliate was completed. The focus of this research was on developing biotechnology approaches for the enhanced propagation of *Leucopogon* sp. ciliate for future translocation programs.
- Micro propagation research continues with other endangered and priority plant species in the in-vitro collection.

Case Study - Ex situ conservation of *Aldrovanda vesiculosa*

The waterwheel plant (*A. vesiculosa*) is a threatened species that is closely related to the venus flytrap but unlike that species, *A. vesiculosa* is completely aquatic. The species was once found across the world, but only 50 populations are still known to exist world-wide. Recently this species was red listed by the IUCN and within Western Australia only two populations are recorded, one located in the Kimberley and the other near Esperance though neither has been sighted in recent years. Fortunately a living collection derived from the Esperance population was established in Kings Park and Botanic Garden in 2009.

Research has found that seeds produced by the species are considered unreliable for propagation purposes, however, *A. vesiculosa* is highly efficient at vegetative reproduction, regularly breaking off growing segments which rapidly establish themselves as new growing plants. Indeed, this efficient mode of reproduction lends the plant to sterile in-vitro culture which has been developed and optimised by Kings Park scientists to establish this species in tissue culture.

Preliminary work has also been completed in the development of techniques for freezing plant tissues in liquid nitrogen to establish a long-term tissue bank. Early results have been encouraging with initial survival highlighting the potential of storing *A. vesiculosa* and other aquatic species in liquid nitrogen as an insurance policy against extinction.

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 addressing key research areas.

Five nationally competitive ARC (Australian Research Council) grants were held by the Conservation Genetics Team through the Discovery and Linkage Grants Schemes with researchers at the University of Western Australia, Curtin University, Murdoch University and the Australian National University.

Three major industry funded projects included a four-year research program funded by Rio Tinto to characterise genetic variation within and among populations of the three Pilbara riparian tree species affected by water extraction, a three year program funded by Karara Mining Ltd on the conservation genetics of the DRF *Acacia karina*, and a 1-year research project identifying the impacts on genetic diversity in the DRF *Ricinocapros brevis* of proposed expansion to mining, with funding from Cliffs Natural Resources Pty Ltd.

In 2012/13 these projects have resulted in the following outcomes:

- Significant progress has been made towards a genetic provenance atlas for native plant community restoration in urban bushland remnants in south Western Australia, with genetic provenance information for more than 50 local species now achieved. This information helps identify local provenance seed collection zones, makes restoration activities more efficient and conserves biodiversity within species.

- A molecular ecophysiological approach assessed the importance of using local provenance seed in native plant community restoration. Outcomes include an assessment of population genomic and phylogeographic variation in *Gompholobium* spp. and *Eucalyptus gomphocephala* (tuart), the development and utilization of non-neutral genetic marker techniques such as expressed sequence tags (ESTs) and microarrays, assessment of genetic provenance variation in Jarrah forest populations of the snottygobble *Persoonia longifolia*, a major field-based experiment to assess the potential for out-breeding depression following mixing of genetic provenances of triggerplants (*Stylidium* spp), and large-scale reciprocal transplant experiments in *E. gomphocephala* (tuart) and *Gompholobium marginatum* and *G. polymorphum* to assess home-site advantage.



Photo: S Krauss

Establishing reciprocal transplant trials to assess the importance of local provenance seed sourcing for ecological restoration.

- Population genetic assessments and large-scale reciprocal field trials are being conducted on keystone *Banksia* species to underpin *Banksia* woodland restoration that will be resilient to global climate change. A genetic assessment of variation and mating of restored and natural populations of *B. attenuata* and *Banksia menziesii* has highlighted the successful genetic management of restoration with this species, and the successful restoration of critical pollinator services for reproductive functionality within restored populations.
- Genetic variation and spatial genetic structure has been assessed with microsatellites in the sea-grass *Posidonia australis* at multiple spatial scales, from meters to nationally, with a focus on Cockburn Sound. Through assignment approaches, genetic markers have also identified the scale and direction of the movement of pollen and seed. Genetic results have been interpreted to generate genetic guidelines for seed and propagule sourcing, underpinning improved seagrass restoration efforts.
- Key outcomes from a three-year research program on the conservation genetics of the priority listed narrowly endemic *Acacia karina* include the quantification and characterisation of spatial genetic structure and variation, the assessment of key population genetic processes such as mating and dispersal, molecular resolution of the phylogeny of *A. karina* and related species, the application of DNA barcoding for the rapid identification of *Acacia* species in the region, and the development of whole genome DNA barcoding for acacias. This research underpins the conservation and management of threatened acacia species.

- Microsatellite markers have been developed and used to characterise genetic variation within and among populations of the Pilbara species *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*, *E. victrix* and *Melaleuca argentea*, associated with impacts from mining on Weeli Wolli springs. This research underpins seed sourcing decisions for future ecological restoration.
- DNA sequencing and microsatellites are being applied to resolve biologically significant units at multiple scales in spinifex. Research outcomes will underpin improved ecological restoration outcomes in the Pilbara.
- Ecological genetic research has focused on the role of emus as vectors for the long-distance dispersal of seed of the Jarrah forest species *Leucopogon nutans*, *Persoonia elliptica*, *Macrozamia riedlei*, and *Podocarpus drouynianus*. Key outcomes include the characterization of realized dispersal of seed and pollen at many kilometres, underpinning an understanding of the impact of a loss of these vectors on key population genetic processes, and the implications of this for plants to respond to a changing environment.
- Molecular markers have definitely identified that the proposed genetic pollution threat of hybridization with indigenous Tuart plants from introduced eucalypts, is not realized.



Photo: S Krauss

Sampling of Eucalypts in the Pilbara for population genetic studies requires helicopters for remote site access.



Photo: S Krauss

Genetic research is uncovering the role and consequences of emus as long distance dispersers of seeds.

Seed Science and Restoration Seed Banking

The BGPA Seed Science team undertakes research into seed biology and ecology, seed physiology, and seed biotechnology. This research is used to improve the use of seeds in plant propagation, conservation, and landscape restoration.

A five-year \$5 Million research partnership between BGPA, BHP Billiton Iron Ore, and The University of Western Australia (UWA) for The Restoration Seedbank Initiative (RSB) has commenced. The RSB will develop the science, knowledge, and technical skills required to achieve environmental restoration in the Pilbara. The RSB comprises four research programs encompassing seedbank science and curation, seed enablement technology, and soil science, to develop smart approaches for the collection, storage, and use of seed in landscape-scale restoration.

In a project aligned to the Restoration Seedbank Initiative, a three year program sponsored by BHP Billiton Iron Ore to develop the governance model, business plan, and operational plan for the Pilbara Restoration Initiative (PRI) has commenced. The PRI is envisaged to be a multi-disciplinary, strategic partnership between industry, government, and NGO's to develop multiple science-based knowledge hubs (e.g. in disciplines such as hydrology and landform engineering, along with the RSB) to address landscape restoration issues in the Pilbara.

The completion of a multi-year collaborative project with other Botanic Gardens in Australia has modelled the longevity of seeds from across Australia, identifying species that produce long- and short-lived seeds. This study will contribute to the development of seed testing schedules for BGPA's seed bank, and an improved ability to predict the longevity of new seed collections based on seed, plant, and environmental traits.

Two PhD research programs focused on aquatic plants of the Kimberley have identified dormancy and germination traits, and gathered data on the ecology of seedling emergence from soil seed banks, for a range of species that occur in ephemeral pools. One important finding is that seeds of the charismatic water lilies are sensitive to storage at freezing temperatures, and now require the development of specialised storage procedures to ensure ex-situ collections remain viable.

Australian Research Council funded research with The University of Western Australia's School of Biomedical, Biomolecular and Chemical Sciences continues to investigate the mechanisms of action, and applications to conservation, of chemical agents in smoke that stimulate seed germination. New findings have demonstrated that synthesised karrikins behave differently in the soil environment, as compared with karrikins contained in plant-derived smoke. Further research will focus on engineering synthesised karrikins to improve their stability and mobility through the soil profile to further enhance their ability to stimulate the soil seed bank in restoration and agricultural applications.

This resulted in the following outcomes in 2012/13:

- New industry partnerships have commenced for seed and restoration sciences, and a concept design for new BGPA seed banking and laboratory facilities associated with the expanding research programs has been approved.
- Seed longevity has been modelled for more than 230 species from across Australia. This has identified short-lived seeds requiring specialised storage procedures, including cryostorage.
- Seed dormancy and germination traits have been identified for more than 30 aquatic species from the Kimberley. This provides new insights into the ecology of wetland species.
- Compared with karrikins deposited in the soil during wildfires, synthetic karrikins are leached more rapidly through the soil profile and are less stable under UV light. Research is now directed towards improving the soil-binding properties of synthetic karrikins to increase their utility in promoting seedling emergence for restoration and weed control.

Orchid Conservation and Biology

The BGPA Orchid Research team has been actively involved in diverse research areas working towards integrated orchid conservation. This research emphasis has facilitated:

- Strong collaborative links with local and international institutions, the most prominent being with the Orchid Research scientists at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, United Kingdom and The Australian National University, Canberra.

- Significant collaborations with industry stakeholders, community groups, volunteers and students from other education institutions.

Three major long-term orchid conservation projects continued this year:

While the industry supported part of the *Drakaea elastica* program has concluded, research related to this fascinating genus continues. Ongoing work with collaborators at The Australian National University is focusing on the role of floral scent in attracting and sexually deceiving the male pollinators. This work is important for understanding speciation and species delimitation in this genus. The research program has been expanded with the commencement of a PhD student investigating the development of micro propagation and cryopreservation techniques for *Drakaea* conservation.

The *Caladenia lodgeana* research program focuses on the integrated conservation and recovery of the Collie Spider Orchid. Research has shown that this orchid also has a habitat preference for deep litter, an open understorey and it may be influenced by slope and altitudinal gradients. Further research in 2013 and 2014 will be undertaken to resolve the microhabitat preferences of the plant and its mycorrhizal fungi. Pollination studies suggest the existence of both food and sexual deception pollination syndromes. Further pollinator baiting, pollen marking and insect trapping will be undertaken to confirm the ecological consequences of these two different strategies and the ecological requirements of the two pollinator groups.

The *Caladenia huegelii* research program continues as one of the longest running programs in the Orchid Research Team and is focused on understanding the pollination ecology of this highly endangered species. Habitat loss and fragmentation of urban reserves have heavily impacted this species. Capture of the pollinator, *Macrothynnus insignis*, and subsequent pollinator baiting has revealed that the pollinator is presently rare across the Swan Coastal Plain. Studies of the ecology of the pollinator began in 2012 and will continue in 2013/2014. Preliminary work revealed that while *M. insignis* appears to be specialised by foraging on flowers of Myrtaceae, they are capable of moving distances up to half a kilometre. The *Caladenia huegelii* program has also been expanded with the commencement of a PhD focused on understanding the ecophysiology of the trophic transition of micro propagated orchids.

All programs are expected to benefit from a recently commenced PhD program investigating the roles mycorrhizal fungi play in the carbon and mineral acquisition systems of green Western Australian orchids.

Biodiversity and Extensions

Promoting sound horticultural practices for species restoration and recovery operations and promotion and use of native Western Australian species for gardening and landscaping represents the core business for Biodiversity and Extensions.

Outcomes of environmental weed control herbicide experiments in glass house and field trials, in natural and degraded ecosystems, continues to be part of BGPA's commitment to assist bushland managers with promotion to other agencies and the restoration sector in Western Australia.

The translocation of rare flora using the latest scientific research results and sound horticultural practices, continues to be part of core operations working in cooperation

with other agencies such as the Department of Environment and Conservation, Non-Government Organisations, industry and volunteers.

Programs underway in 2012/13 include:

- The translocation of *Eremophila resinosa* funded by Evolution Mining, extension of sites is ongoing (presently 5 sites), with continuing support from the Shire of Westonia.
- Translocation of the critically endangered *Grevillea scapigera* (Corrigin Grevillea). This successful program includes long term seed storage of over 50,000 seed.
- Translocation of the critically endangered *Symonanthus bancroftii*. Monitoring, weed control and scientific experiments such as seed burial trials and 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 has resulted in about 60 seedlings being naturally established.



Photo: B Dixon

Eremophila resinosa translocation site 4 performing very well, biodiversity increasing and Eucalyptus species beginning to screen the adjacent industrial site.

Extension activities include representing the BGPA on several committees, presentations to professional organisations, conferences, seminars and the general public and serving on advisory groups with local organizations such as the Environmental Weeds Action Network.

The [Kings Park Volunteer Master Gardeners](#) continue to provide gardening advice to the general public promoting the use of water efficient and low nutrient-requiring native plants. They also manage a large bush garden open to public viewing. This group also plays a major role promoting these plants with BGPA staff through Dig it with Coffee sessions, where the general public are introduced to gardening with native plants. More information about the activities of the Kings Park Volunteer Master Gardeners can be found in [Appendix 2](#).

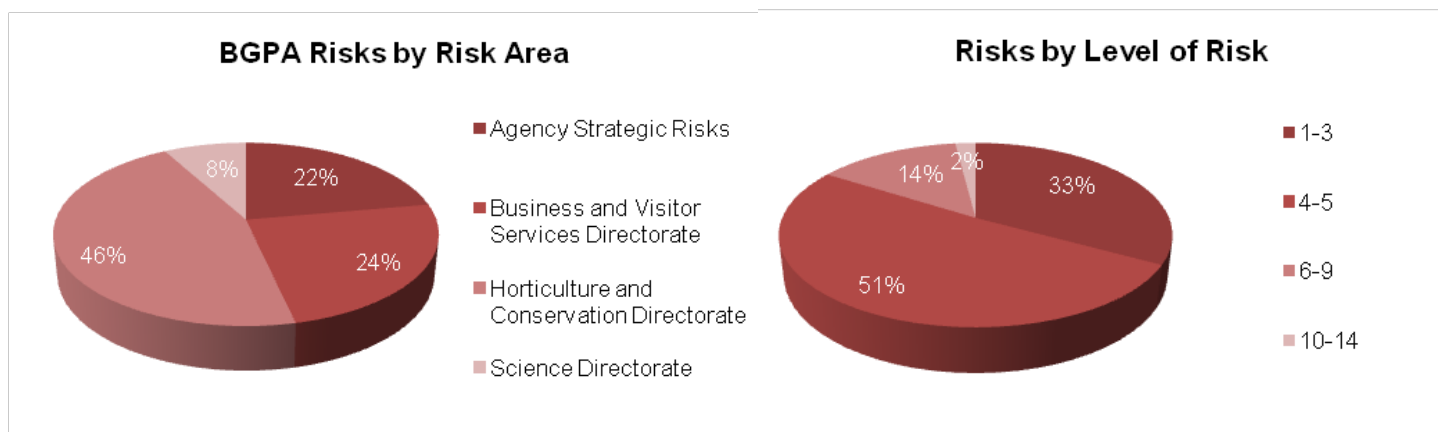
Risk Management

Ongoing Risk Management

A comprehensive review of the BGPA Business Continuity Plan was endorsed by the BGPA Board of Management in August 2012. The plan was updated to resolve issues identified through an internal audit process and to reflect changes in the operating structure of the agency. All staff with a role in the Business Continuity Team attended refresher training on the plan and the processes to be implemented in the event of a disaster. A testing program was implemented to test the operational efficiency of the call tree, maintain the plan's currency and practice separate elements of planned emergency procedures.

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 commenced to review the stated requirement for treatment action plans for some risks when all feasible controls were already in place.

A summary of BGPA's 143 risks currently evaluated through Riskbase is shown below:



In February 2013 BGPA's internal auditors completed an audit on its Risk Management Systems. The BGPA received an 'A' rating for this audit with auditors noting "Whilst there are some small compliance issues noted, they do not detract from the otherwise excellent result."

A major system upgrade of Riskbase (by Riskcover) in September 2012, has provided significant improvements in functionality and general ease of use, reporting and the overall risk assessment process. Work has commenced towards implementing a number of these improvements to the BGPA Risk Register.

Fire Management

Following the completion of the Comprehensive Bushfire Risk Analysis in December 2011, the BGPA continued to implement recommendations from the report to further improve fire risk management in Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park. The BGPA Fire Management and Response Plan was revised with a new structure and additional content based on the recommendations from an external review of BGPA fire management practices.

A final Park Closure Plan was endorsed by the Board in February 2013, following a 12 month trial of the interim plan. This plan provides for the partial or full closure of Kings Park and Bold Park with increased staff patrols according to official Fire Danger Ratings (FDR). During 2012/13 there were 13 very high FDR and two severe FDR that resulted in closure of Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park on nine days, the balance occurring on scheduled closures during February. In addition, the Kings Park and Bold Park bushlands were closed on the two severe FDR days. There were no extreme or catastrophic FDR or Total Fire Bans declared during the period.

The Memorandum of Understanding between the BGPA and the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) was revised and renewed for a further three years. This document sets out how BGPA and DFES will cooperate during a bushfire emergency in Kings Park or Bold Park. The DFES Urban Bushland pre plans for the two parks were also revised in consultation with BGPA, and further liaison occurred to discuss an accessible water supply for the Helitacs in Kings Park, Australia Day, and the development of specifications for a new medium tanker for BGPA. Staff also sought advice from DFES regarding implementation of Building Protection Zones in accordance with the Premier's Circular and the options available to BGPA to avoid unacceptable vegetation clearing.

Liaison also occurred with the City of Perth regarding a geotechnical and fire risk assessment on the section of the escarpment near Jacob's Ladder, and with QEII and Mount Hospital regarding fire notifications.

There were two recorded fires in Kings Park that turned out to be illegal campfires and there was one vehicle ignition fire in Bold Park.

Tree Risk Management

The management of trees and their associated risks to public safety remained an ongoing high priority for the BGPA and a regular program of tree inspections was implemented as part of the risk management process, followed up with remedial pruning works as required.

Precinct inspections were undertaken in all major visitor precincts with the timing planned to occur prior to major events such as concerts, Australia Day and ANZAC Day where appropriate. The annual individual avenue tree inspections were completed for the Fraser Avenue Centennial trees with an additional inspection in November 2012 following a severe storm. A comprehensive inspection was also completed within the Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park site, with remedial works to both living and retained dead (habitat) trees implemented to improve safety. Inspections of trees along tracks in Kings Park and Bold Park bushlands were also completed prior to the fire season to ensure appropriate access for emergency vehicles and to check for any hazards for visitors.



Photo: D Newcombe

The tree-lined Fraser Avenue entrance to Kings Park and Botanic Garden undergoes regular inspections to ensure visitor safety and maintain structural integrity of these iconic trees.

A small number of memorial Sugar Gum trees in Lovekin Drive that have developed a substantial lean continued to be monitored with no significant changes recorded. Four new stem fall arrest systems were installed in significant specimen trees in Kings Park, one previous system was replaced and another four existing systems were monitored for safety.

The BGPA continued to record all stem failures with a total of 290 stems over 50mm diameter recorded across both Kings Park and Bold Park, most of which occurred as a result of adverse weather conditions such as storms and high winds or in extended hot, dry periods. In addition, there were 39 complete tree failures at ground level, which was an increase from the previous year, primarily (90%) resulting from storms. There was one incident of significant vehicle damage recorded as a result of a branch failure.

Approximately 40 trees were removed from Kings Park during the year, the majority of which had died, while others were in severe decline or had suffered structural damage from storms and required removal for public safety. The exact cause of death is not known but extended dry periods are believed to be major contributing factors for many of the tree deaths. A tree planting program has been implemented to replace the dead trees and increase tree cover in some areas.

The BGPA hosted a training course in March 2013 for 30 Arbor industry personnel for training in the United Kingdom system of Quantified Tree Risk Assessment (QTRA). This included training one new BGPA staff member as a licensed user of this system and refresher training for other Arbor team members. Other training during the year included aerial rescue for Arbor staff and training in chainsaw operation for horticultural staff.

A proposal for the implementation of QTRA in BGPA managed lands was drafted for future consideration of its adoption as a formal system of tree risk assessment and management.

Mt Eliza Escarpment

The BGPA continued its ongoing program of slope inspection and remediation works on the Mt Eliza Escarpment throughout the year to manage the risk of rockfall and landslip from this inherently unstable limestone escarpment. Three formal inspections were undertaken by a geotechnical consultant in August and November 2012 and June 2013 with some remedial works initiated as a result. These included minor trimming of identified rocks and removal of small limestone boulders from the slopes for public safety. In addition, a seven cubic metre boulder found to have detached from its location on the escarpment and embedded lower down the slope was trimmed into smaller pieces and removed from the escarpment to reduce the risk of further movement.

A total of nine inspections incorporating path closures and pedestrian detours were completed by BGPA staff following significant rainfall events. No major issues were recorded from these inspections. Structural inspections of high and low capacity rock catch fencing systems were completed as well as an inspection of drape mesh systems in place to retain significant limestone boulders, with no major faults or issues noted.

A sink hole of approximately 12 cubic metres in volume was discovered on the steep slopes below the Bali Memorial during an inspection in April 2013, which was thought to be associated with a Water Corporation water main beneath the site. Both BGPA and the Water Corporation are continuing to monitor the site for any additional movement.

In Bold Park, the limestone slopes near Oceanic Drive and West Coast Highway were regularly monitored and remained stable.

Water Management

Water conservation strategies continued to be implemented to achieve water use efficiencies, which resulted in further reduction in overall groundwater use for the year. The total groundwater use was 420.8 megalitres, which represented a decrease of 41.6 megalitres or 9% less groundwater used than for the previous year. Strategies included consistent monitoring of water application and soil moisture levels, careful management of water storage pond levels to minimise wastage during essential cleaning operations, installation of new algae control units at the main storage pond and the lining of the spillway at System One pond to reduce water leakage.

A storm water harvesting system was installed as part of the Kings Park Education building development to collect and divert storm water from the Education carpark into the park irrigation storage system. This is the first time a storm water harvesting system has been initiated in Kings Park. The same system also has the capacity to collect and divert waste water from the Mount Eliza Reservoir during cleaning operations, which is then stored and filtered for use as park irrigation water. Some initial issues with the establishment of the system reduced its operational efficiency in the first year but these issues have now been rectified.

A consultant was engaged to review BGPA's groundwater monitoring, revise the water operating strategy and develop a reporting system consistent with Department of Water requirements. This will assist BGPA with groundwater reporting in future years. A program of close monitoring of scheme water use through water meters was established to identify inefficiencies, leaks and unintended use, all of which were resolved during the year.

Asset Management

The restructured Grounds and Infrastructure team was restored to its full staff numbers during the year, which enabled routine maintenance of assets and infrastructure to get back on track and previously deferred maintenance tasks were able to be completed.

Asset maintenance included internal painting of public amenities blocks, cleaning and sealing of floors, replacement of pole-top external lighting, installation of new fluorescent lights throughout the Administration building, and the installation of new LED lighting at the Fraser Lawn toilets, which are open 24 hours daily. All major electrical infrastructure underwent thermo-graphic and integrity testing during the year.

In addition, new barbeques were installed at the Pines Picnic area, seven new universal access drinking fountains were installed in parkland areas and stormwater issues were resolved on Forrest Drive, behind the Botanical Café and at the Botanic Gardens staff depot. The bitumen along Forrest Drive was re-sheeted by Main Roads in liaison with BGPA and the Roe, Balga and Swan carparks were also resurfaced.

A building condition audit was completed for all BGPA buildings which will help establish upcoming maintenance priorities and modifications to the previous public toilets adjoining Aspects of Kings Park were completed to create much needed improved storage space for the gallery shop.

The asset replacement program continued to ensure a high level of efficiency and safety in equipment operation through the replacement of ageing equipment before excessive downtime occurred. A total of 25 formal request for quotation processes were undertaken for the purchase of equipment and other works, including three all terrain vehicles, five electric vehicles, two front end loaders, a ride-on lawn mower and a new wood chipper for recycling tree material as mulch. New scientific equipment was also purchased to support scientific research programs.

Information Services

The Information Services team remained busy with a focus on ensuring the computer and communications hardware and operating environment was brought up to date with current operating systems and application software release levels. Following these recent upgrades, the BGPA is now in a position of having the majority of its infrastructure using current systems with several years of ongoing external support in place.

The upgrades included migration of operating systems from obsolete to current releases, upgrades to hardware and core network switches to provide improved redundancy for risk management purposes, and upgrading and migrating key applications such as the electronic record keeping system (TRIM) and horticultural database (BGBASE) onto new server environments. In addition, a new high capacity server was commissioned with the ability to run most BGPA server environments as virtual machines in the event of major disaster in the server room.

An expansion of the fibre optic service in Kings Park incorporated new services for irrigation control, replaced aged, damaged and degraded infrastructure, connected the new Kings Park Education building and created a complete fibre optic loop through the park. This has reduced the risk of downtime through damage or faults by providing redundancy in the fibre network, which has now also been more accurately mapped for future reference.

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 more than 5.8 million visitors in 2012/13. Visitation has remained consistent despite interruptions to access and services from construction works in Kings Park. The BGPA has not recorded less than five million annual visitors since the 2005/06 reporting year.

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.

The cost of cleaning public facilities (toilets, barbecues, roads and pavilions) has increased by more than 200% in the seven years, with increased frequency and intensity of cleaning required to maintain presentation standards. Operating cost increases also include significant rises in costs of electricity (additional 12.5%) despite ongoing power conservation measures.

Waste management (including litter pick up, rubbish disposal and recycling) costs have increased by 100% over the past seven years and traffic management past requirements have likewise increased with pressures on parking availability especially on weekends and public holidays.



Photo: S Albers

The BGPA ensures that it cleans and maintains facilities to the highest possible standards for all visitors.

Biodiversity Conservation

A key focus remains on the conservation and enhancement of bushland in Bold Park and Kings Park to achieve environmental targets, provide appropriate visitor access and interpretation and manage risks. Given the urban interface of these significant bushland reserves, fire risk management is a key consideration that is integrated into ongoing biodiversity conservation activities such as ecological restoration and monitoring, weed control and tree management.

The occurrence of lower than average rainfall and extended dry periods has placed greater stress on bushland vegetation and reduced tree canopy cover in some areas of Kings Park and Bold Park bushlands. Consistent ecological restoration activities underpinned by ongoing research and monitoring are key requirements and long term commitment to conserve the native biological diversity of these significant A Class reserves located within a highly urbanised environment, for the benefit of future generations. Restoration activities aim to reduce threats to native biodiversity, improve bushland condition and establish resilient ecological communities in the longer term.

Significant Issues and Trends

Ongoing strategies to conserve water resources have become more challenging in dry conditions in maintaining high standards of presentation and conserving the scientific living plant collections in the State's Botanic Garden. Maintaining a highly efficient irrigation system with appropriate upgrades to incorporate improved water use efficiencies are key considerations in the BGPA's internal resource allocation in order to meet community expectations of park presentation and responsible water use.

Research and Development

Kings Park 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.

Leading research by the BGPA in collaboration with the University of Western Australia has resulted in the discovery of a new mode of action for endogenous cyanide as a new class of germination stimulant. This has cemented the Authority's position as a leading seed science and technology research group.

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 and restoration ecophysiology.

Likely Developments in the Year Ahead

Kings Park Nursery and Depot Upgrade

This capital works project will result in the replacement of ageing infrastructure and facilities in the depot and plant nursery and reconfiguration of the layout of key components to improve functionality, access and appropriate separation of the nursery. A new access road, key buildings and associated services and nursery facilities will be constructed to meet current and future operational requirements in accordance with the site Masterplan.

Biodiversity Conservation Centre Stage Two

The Biodiversity Conservation Centre Stage Two will provide new laboratories, related infrastructure and facilities for a restoration seedbank and associated science 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.



Photo: R Barrett

Saw Avenue Picnic Area Stage Two Works

Variety WA have committed to sponsorship funding the Stage Two development of the popular Saw Avenue Picnic Area. Works are due to commence in 2014 with planned completion mid to late 2014. A concept design has been developed to include expanded adventure play elements, new picnic and barbeque facilities, access paths and a pedestrian pathway link from Thomas Street to May Drive.

Relocation of the Kings Park Floral Clock



Photo: C Carey

This iconic Kings Park landmark was removed in March 2011 to make way for a new alfresco dining area at the Botanical Cafe, associated with the development of the State Reception Centre at Fraser's Restaurant for the CHOGM Leader's Retreat in October 2011. The clock infrastructure has been stored and will be serviced before being installed in a new location opposite the Botanic Garden entry. Works will be implemented in late 2013, followed by planting.

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.

Significant Issues and Trends

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.

Biodiversity Conservation



Ecological restoration of Bold Park and Kings Park bushland is a long term commitment requiring ongoing 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 restoration, rehabilitation and adaptive management work undertaken to conserve and enhance the bushland areas of Bold Park and Kings Park will continue. In particular the restoration, monitoring and weed management activities in the bushland areas, including the areas damaged by recent fires in Kings Park and Bold Park bushland and other disturbed or degraded sites.

Research and Development

The commencement of the research programs for the Restoration Seedbank Initiative is a major focus for the coming year. The Restoration Seedbank facility is the next step for more effective restoration of damaged landscapes in Western Australia. A key plank of this support is targeted research by the BGPA's internationally recognised seed scientists that will underpin the Seedbank's operations and practical outcomes. Recruitment for the Initiative has commenced, with up to six new staff expected to be involved in the research programs. It is intended that this facility will develop into the largest research and development activity of its type in the world.

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.

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 2013, 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 2013 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 459 Wellington Street Perth MAIL TO: Perth BC PO Box 8489 Perth WA 6849 TEL: 08 6557 7500 FAX: 08 6557 7500

Report on Controls

I have audited the controls exercised by the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority during the year ended 30 June 2013.

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 2013.

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 2013.

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 2013.

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 2013 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.



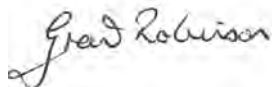
DON CUNNINGHAME
ASSISTANT AUDITOR GENERAL, ASSURANCE SERVICES
Delegate of the Auditor General for Western Australia
Perth, Western Australia
13 September 2013

Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

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 2013 and the financial position as at 30 June 2013.

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 Chairman
Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority Board of Management
11 September 2013



Hamish Jolly
Member
Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority Board of Management
11 September 2013



Ian Biddle
Chief Financial Officer
Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority
11 September

Disclosures and Compliance

Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Statement of Comprehensive Income

For the year ended 30 June 2013

	Note	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
COST OF SERVICES			
Expenses			
Employee benefits expense	5	10,976	10,482
Supplies and services	6	6,001	7,563
Depreciation expense	7	1,460	1,367
Cost of sales	10	1,329	1,226
Loss on disposal of non current assets	14	36	25
Other expenses	8	2,561	2,465
Total cost of Services		22,363	23,128
Income			
<i>Revenue</i>			
User charges and fees	9	1,739	1,631
Sales	10	2,406	2,474
Commonwealth grants and contributions	11	52	47
Interest revenue	12	394	544
Fee for service, subsidies and sponsorships	13	2,577	2,940
Other revenue	13	517	1,083
TOTAL REVENUE		7,685	8,719
Total income other than income from State Government		7,685	8,719
NET COST OF SERVICES		14,678	14,409
Income from State Government	15		
Service appropriation		13,769	13,249
Services received free of charge		27	3
Total income from State Government		13,796	13,252
Surplus (Deficit) for the period		(882)	(1,157)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME			
Items not reclassified subsequently to profit or loss			
Changes in asset revaluation surplus		5,524	(643)
Total other comprehensive income		5,524	(643)
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD		4,642	(1,800)

See also note 38 'Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service'.

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

Disclosures and Compliance

Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Statement of Financial Position

As at the year ended 30 June 2013

	Note	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	28	10,374	8,605
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	16,28	1,505	4,071
Inventories	17	649	664
Receivables and other assets	18	1,359	1,154
Amounts receivable for services	19	975	975
Total Current Assets		14,862	15,469
Non-Current Assets			
Amounts receivable for services	19	4,612	4,149
Property, plant and equipment	20	49,102	43,695
Infrastructure	22	867	890
Total Non-Current assets		54,581	48,734
TOTAL ASSETS		69,443	64,203
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Payables	24	1,037	988
Provisions	25	2,019	1,706
Other current liabilities	26	2,465	2,541
Total Current Liabilities		5,521	5,235
Non-Current Liabilities			
Provisions	25	671	702
Total Non-Current Liabilities		671	702
TOTAL LIABILITIES		6,192	5,937
NET ASSETS		63,251	58,266
EQUITY			
Contributed equity	27	30,365	30,022
Reserves		20,342	14,818
Accumulated surplus/(deficit)		12,544	13,426
TOTAL EQUITY		63,251	58,266

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

Disclosures and Compliance

Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the year ended 30 June 2013

	Note	Contributed Equity \$000	Reserves \$000	Accumulated surplus/ (deficit) \$000	Total equity \$000
Balance at 1 July 2011		19,186	15,461	14,583	49,230
Surplus/(Deficit) for the period		-	(643)	(1,157)	(1,800)
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:					
Capital appropriations		10,836	-	-	10,836
Other contributions by owners		-	-	-	-
Distributions to owners		-	-	-	-
Total		10,836	-	-	10,836
Balance at 30 June 2012	27	30,022	14,818	13,426	58,266

	Note	Contributed Equity \$000	Reserves \$000	Accumulated surplus/ (deficit) \$000	Total equity \$000
Balance at 1 July 2012		30,022	14,818	13,426	58,266
Surplus/(Deficit) for the period		-	5,524	(882)	4,642
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:					
Capital appropriations		343	-	-	343
Other contributions by owners		-	-	-	-
Distributions to owners		-	-	-	-
Total		343	-	-	343
Balance at 30 June 2013	27	30,365	20,342	12,544	63,251

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

Disclosures and Compliance

Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 30 June 2013

	Note	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
CASH FLOWS FROM STATE GOVERNMENT			
Service appropriation		12,118	11,924
Salary and Allowances Act 1975		213	205
Capital appropriation		4,612	10,836
Holding account drawdown		975	975
Net cash provided by State Government		17,918	23,940
Utilised as follows:			
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Payments			
Employees benefits		(10,708)	(10,236)
Supplies and services		(7,026)	(16,350)
GST payments on purchases		(1,113)	(2,244)
GST payments to taxation authority		(43)	-
Other payments		(2,996)	(2,372)
Receipts			
Sale of goods and services		2,529	2,356
User charges and fees		1,820	1,533
Commonwealth grants and contributions		52	47
Fee for service, subsidies and sponsorships		2,723	5,767
Interest received		402	547
GST receipts on sales		752	711
GST receipts from taxation authority		421	1,715
Other receipts		179	2,003
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	28	(13,008)	(16,523)
CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Payments			
Purchase of non-current physical assets		(1,504)	(5,004)
Receipts			
Proceeds from sale of non-current physical assets		147	50
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		(1,357)	(4,954)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(797)	2,463
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		12,676	10,213
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE PERIOD	28	11,879	12,676

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 2013

Note 1. Australian Accounting Standards

General

The BGPA's financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2013 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 2013.

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 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 thousand dollars (\$'000).

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 1038 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 to 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 27 'Equity'.

(e) Income

Revenue recognition

Revenue is recognised and measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable.

The following specific recognition criteria must also be met before 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.

Note 2 continued

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.

Gains

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

Property, plant and equipment and infrastructure are initially recognised at cost.

For items of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure 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 buying 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 of existing use. This normally applies where buildings are specialised or where land use is restricted. Fair value for existing use 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. Where the fair value of buildings is determined on using the depreciated replacement cost basis, the gross carrying amount and the accumulated depreciation are restated proportionately.

Note 2 continued

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.

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 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 22 'Infrastructure' for further information on revaluations.

Derecognition

Upon disposal or derecognition of an item of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure, any revaluation reserve 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.

Note 2 continued

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.

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. or 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.

Note 2 continued

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, to the extent that they represent probable future economic benefits that can be reliably measured, are capitalised.

(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 an 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.

Note 2 continued

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 30 'Commitments'.

The BGPA does not hold any finance leases.

(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.

Note 2 continued

(m) Accrued salaries

Accrued salaries (see note 24 '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 accrued amount appropriated 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'.

(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 24 '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 25 'Provisions'.

Note 2 continued

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

The liability for annual leave expected to be settled within 12 months after the end of the reporting period is recognised and measured at the undiscounted amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Annual leave that is not expected to be settled 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.

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.

Long service leave

The liability for long service leave that is expected to be settled within 12 months after the end of the reporting period is recognised and measured at the undiscounted amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Long service leave that is not expected to be settled 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 25 'Provisions.'

Note 2 continued

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 25 '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. 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'.

Note 2 continued

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 25 '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) Services received free of charge or for nominal cost

Services received free of charge or for nominal cost are recognised as income at the fair value of those services that can be reliably measured and the BGPA would otherwise pay for. A corresponding expense is recognised for services received.

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.

Price Waterhouse Coopers 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 2012.

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 2012 that impacted on the BGPA:

AASB 2011-9 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Presentation of Items of other Comprehensive Income [AASB 1, 5, 7, 101, 112, 120, 121, 132, 133, 134 1039 & 1049]

This Standard requires to group items presented in other comprehensive income on the basis of whether they are potentially reclassifiable to profit or loss subsequently (reclassification adjustments). There is no financial impact.

Voluntary changes in Accounting Policy

There have been no voluntary changes in accounting policy.

Future impact of Australian Accounting Standards not yet operative

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

		Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after:
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>AASB 2012-6 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Mandatory Effective Date of AASB 9 and Transition Disclosures 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

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 4 continued

		Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after:
AASB 12	<p>Disclosure of Interests in Other Entities</p> <p>This Standard supersedes disclosure requirements under AASB 127 Consolidated and Separate Financial Statements and AASB 131 Interests in Joint Ventures.</p> <p>Mandatory application of this standard was deferred by one year for not-for profit entities by AASB 2012-10. The BGPA has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the Standard.</p>	1 Jan 2014
AASB 13	<p>Fair Value Measurement</p> <p>This Standard defines fair value, sets out a framework for measuring fair value and requires additional disclosures about fair value measurements. There is no financial impact.</p>	1 Jan 2013
AASB 119	<p>Employee Benefits</p> <p>This Standard supersedes AASB 119 (October 2010), making changes to the recognition, presentation and disclosure requirements.</p> <p>The Authority does not have any defined benefit plans, and therefore the financial impact will be limited to the effect of discounting annual leave and long service leave liabilities that were previously measured at the undiscounted amounts.</p>	1 Jan 2013
AASB 1053	<p>Application of Tiers of Australian Accounting Standards</p> <p>This Standard establishes a differential financial reporting framework consisting of two tiers of reporting requirements for preparing general purpose financial statements. There is no financial impact.</p>	1 Jul 2013

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 4 continued

		Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after:
AASB 2010-2	<p>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from Reduced Disclosure Requirements [AASB 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 101, 102, 107, 108, 110, 111, 112, 116, 117, 119, 121, 123, 124, 127, 128, 131, 133, 134, 136, 137, 138, 140, 141, 1050 & 1052 and Int 2, 4, 5, 15, 17, 127, 129 & 1052]</p> <p>This Standard makes amendments to Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations to introduce reduced disclosure requirements for certain types of entities. There is no financial impact.</p>	1 Jul 2013
AASB 2010-7	<p>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 & 1038 and Int 2, 5, 10, 12, 19 & 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
AASB 2011-2	<p>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from the Trans-Tasman Convergence Project - Reduced Disclosure Requirements [AASB 101 & 1054]</p> <p>This Standard removes disclosure requirements from other Standards and incorporates them in a single Standard to achieve convergence between Australian and New Zealand Accounting Standards for reduced disclosure reporting. There is no financial impact.</p>	1 Jul 2013

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 4 continued

		Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after:
AASB 2011-7	<p>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 & 1038 and Int 5, 9, 16 & 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
AASB 2011-8	<p>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 13 [AASB 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 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 & 132]</p> <p>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.</p>	1 Jan 2013
AASB 2011-10	<p>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 119 (September 2011) [AASB 1, 8, 101, 124, 134, 1049 & 2011-8 and Int 14]</p> <p>This Standard makes amendments to other Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations as a result of issuing AASB 119 in September 2011. There is no financial impact.</p>	1 Jan 2013
AASB 2011-11	<p>Amendments to AASB 119 (September 2011) arising from Reduced Disclosure Requirements.</p> <p>This Standard gives effect to Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements for AASB 119 (September 2011). There is no financial impact.</p>	1 Jul 2013

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 4 continued

		Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after:
AASB 2012-1	<p>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Fair Value Measurement – Reduced Disclosure Requirements [AASB 3, 7, 13, 140 & 141]</p> <p>This Standard establishes and amends reduced disclosure requirements for additional and amended disclosures arising from AASB 13 and the consequential amendments implemented through AASB 2011-8. There is no financial impact.</p>	1 Jul 2013
AASB 2012-2	<p>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Disclosures – Offsetting Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities [AASB 7 & 132]</p> <p>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.</p>	1 Jan 2013
AASB 2012-3	<p>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
AASB 2012-5	<p>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from Annual Improvements 2009-11 Cycle [AASB 1, 101, 116, 132 & 134 and Int 2].</p> <p>This standard makes amendments to the Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations as a consequence of the annual improvements process. There is no financial impact.</p>	1 Jan 2013

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 4 continued

		Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after:
AASB 2012-6	<p>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Mandatory Effective Date of AASB 9 and Transition Disclosures [AASB 9, 2009-11, 2010-7, 2011-7 & 2011-8].</p> <p>This Standard amends the mandatory effective date of AASB 9 Financial Instruments to 1 January 2015. Further amendments are also made to consequential amendments arising from AASB 9 that will now apply from 1 January 2015 and to consequential amendments arising out of the Standards that will still apply from 1 January 2013. There is no financial impact.</p>	1 Jan 2013
AASB 2012-7	<p>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from Reduced Disclosure Requirements [AASB 7, 12, 101 & 127].</p> <p>This Standard adds to or amends the Australian Accounting Standards to provide further information regarding the differential reporting framework and the two tiers of reporting requirements for preparing general financial statement. There is no financial impact.</p>	1 Jul 2013
AASB 2012-10	<p>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Transitional 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, & 2011-7 and Int 12].</p> <p>This Standard makes amendments to AASB 10 and related Standards to revise the transition guidance relevant to the initial application of those Standards, and to clarify the circumstances in which adjustments to an entity's previous accounting for its involvement with other entities are required and the timing of such adjustments.</p> <p>The Standard was issued in December 2012. The BGPA has not yet determined the application or the potential impact of the standard.</p>	1 Jan 2013

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 4 continued

		Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after:
AASB 2012-11	<p>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced disclosure requirements and Other Amendments [AASB 1, 2, 8, 10, 107, 128, 133, 134 & 2011-4].</p> <p>This Standard makes various editorial corrections to Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements (Tier 2). These corrections ensure that the Standards reflect decisions of the AASB regarding the Tier 2 requirements.</p> <p>This Standard also extends the relief from consolidation and the equity method (in the new Consolidation and Joint Arrangements Standards) to entities complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements. There is no financial impact.</p>	1 Jul 2013

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 5. Employee benefits expense

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
Wages and salaries ^(a)	10,068	9,600
Superannuation - defined contribution plans ^(b)	706	674
Superannuation - defined benefit plans ^(c)	202	208
	10,976	10,482

(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 (contributions paid).

(c) Includes a superannuation contribution component (note 25 'Provisions').

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

Employment on-costs liability is included at note 25 'Provisions'.

Note 6. Supplies and services

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
Communications	149	156
Consultants and contractors	3,087	4,475
Consumables	1,368	1,832
Travel	132	165
Other	1,265	935
	6,001	7,563

Note 7. Depreciation expense

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
Depreciation	1,064	1,056
Plant, equipment and vehicles (includes monuments)	373	287
Buildings	23	24
Infrastructure	1,460	1,367

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 8. Other expenses

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	238	440
Building and infrastructure maintenance	1,245	1,208
Equipment repairs and maintenance	545	422
Write-offs and inventory adjustments ^(c)	16	4
Employment on-costs ^(a)	532	454
Fee for service ^(b)	(191)	(174)
Other ^(d)	176	111
	2,561	2,465

- (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 25 '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 26 'Other current liabilities'.
- (c) Write-offs and inventory adjustments for damaged stock. See also note 37 'Supplementary financial information'.
- (d) Audit fees. See also note 36 'Remuneration of auditor'.

Note 9. User charges and fees

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
Rent and licence fees	784	782
Functions and events	889	775
Fines and infringements	66	74
	1,739	1,631

Note 10. Trading profit

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
Sales	2,406	2,474
Cost of Sales:		
Opening inventory	(664)	(730)
Purchases	(1,314)	(1,160)
	(1,978)	(1,890)
Closing inventory	649	664
Cost of Goods Sold	(1,329)	(1,226)
Trading Profit	1,077	1,248

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

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 11. Commonwealth grants and contributions

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
Recurrent	52	47
	52	47

Note 12. Interest revenue

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
Interest revenue ^(a)	394	544
	394	544

(a) Commonwealth Bank of Australia

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

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
Fee for service, subsidies and sponsorships		
Fee for service and subsidies	1,969	1,829
Sponsorships	608	1,111
	2,577	2,940
Other Revenue		
Recoups	395	1,015
Other	122	68
	517	1,083
	3,094	4,023

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

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
Proceeds from disposal of non-current assets		
Plant, equipment and vehicles	147	50
Costs of disposal of non-current assets		
Plant, equipment and vehicles	(183)	(75)
Net gain/(loss)	(36)	(25)

See also note 2(i) 'Non-current Assets (or Disposal Groups) classified as Held for Sale' and note 20 'Property, plant and equipment'.

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 15. Income from State Government

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
Appropriation received during the period:		
Service appropriation ^(a)	13,769	13,249
	<u>13,769</u>	<u>13,249</u>
Services received free of charge from other State government agencies during the period: ^(b)		
Department of Health	15	-
State Solicitor's Office	12	3
	<u>27</u>	<u>3</u>
	<u>13,796</u>	<u>13,252</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

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
Current		
Fee for service ^(a)	1,477	1,837
Sponsorship	28	2,234
	<u>1,505</u>	<u>4,071</u>

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

Note 17. Inventories

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
Current		
Inventories held for resale	649	664
	<u>649</u>	<u>664</u>

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

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 18. Receivables and other assets

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
Current		
Receivables	1012	904
Infringements	38	55
Allowance for impairment of receivables	-	-
Accrued revenue	219	92
Prepayments	12	6
GST receivable	78	97
Total current	1,359	1,154
Reconciliation of changes in the allowance for impairment of receivables:		
Balance at start of period	-	-
Doubtful debts expense recognised in the statement of comprehensive income	-	-
Amounts written off during the period	-	-
Amount recovered during the period	-	-
Balance at end of period	-	-

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

See also note 2(p) 'Receivables', note 34 'Financial instruments'.

Note 19. Amounts receivable for services (Holding Account)

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
Current	975	975
Non-current	4,612	4,149
	5,587	5,124

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 liability.

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

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 20. Property, plant and equipment

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
Land		
At fair value ^(a)	15,351	15,304
Accumulated impairment losses	-	-
	15,351	15,304
Buildings and residences		
At fair value ^(a)	18,890	18,935
Accumulated depreciation	(2,021)	(1,682)
Accumulated impairment losses	-	-
	16,869	17,253
Assets under construction		
Construction costs	144	67
Plant, equipment and vehicles		
At cost	9,301	8,651
Accumulated depreciation	(6,370)	(5,862)
Accumulated impairment losses	-	-
	2,931	2,789
Special items		
At cost ^(b)	3,945	3,946
Accumulated depreciation	(932)	(833)
Accumulated impairment losses	-	-
	3,013	3,113
Monuments and specified items		
At fair value ^(c)	17,938	6,506
Accumulated depreciation	(7,144)	(1,337)
Accumulated impairment losses	-	-
	10,794	5,169
	49,102	43,695

- (a) Land and buildings were revalued as at 1 July 2012 by the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Valuation Services). The valuations were performed during the year ended 30 June 2013 and recognised at 30 June 2013. 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.
- (b) Special Items were previously categorised as monuments and special items in the 30 June 2012 annual report. As monuments and specified items were revalued during the year to fair value (refer note 20(c) below), these items treated at cost have now been separated out from Monuments and specified items which are at fair value.
- (c) Monuments and Specified Items were carried at cost in the 30 June 2012 annual report. During the year the monuments and specified items were valued as at 1 July 2012 by the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Valuation Services). As these valuations were performed during the year ended 30 June 2013, monuments and specified items have been recognised at 30 June 2013 at their fair value. In undertaking the revaluation, fair value was determined on the basis of existing use.

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 20 continued

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

2013	Land	Buildings	Assets	Plant,	Special	Monuments	Total
	\$000	\$000	under construction	equipment and vehicles	items	and specified items	
Carrying amount at start of period	15,304	17,253	67	2,789	3,113	5,169	43,695
Additions	-	-	372	1,115	-	-	1,487
Other disposals	-	-	-	(481)	-	-	(481)
Transfers	-	295	(295)	-	-	-	-
Revaluation Increments / (decrements)	47	(306)	-	-	-	5,783	5,524
Deposits on Assets	-	-	-	16	-	-	16
Depreciation expense	-	(373)	-	(508)	(100)	(158)	(1,139)
Carrying amount at end of period	15,351	16,869	144	2,931	3,013	10,794	49,102

2012	Land	Buildings	Assets	Plant,	Special	Monument	Total
	\$000	\$000	under construction	equipment and vehicles	items	s and specified items	
Carrying amount at start of period	15,304	14,530	770	3,284	2,566	5,213	41,667
Additions	-	3,652	3,573	380	642	113	8,360
Other disposals	-	-	-	(179)	-	-	(179)
Transfers	-	-	(4,276)	-	-	-	(4,276)
Revaluation Increments / (decrements)	-	(643)	-	-	-	-	(643)
Depreciation expense	-	(286)	-	(696)	(95)	(157)	(1,234)
Carrying amount at end of period	15,304	17,253	67	2,789	3,113	5,169	43,695

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 21. Operating lease receivable

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
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years
Later than 5 years

2013 \$000	2012 \$000
757	805
3,417	3,114
30,400	10,381
34,574	14,300

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

These commitments are all exclusive of GST.

Note 22. Infrastructure

At cost (initial)
At cost
Accumulated depreciation

2013 \$000	2012 \$000
937	937
-	-
(70)	(47)
867	890

Reconciliation:

Carrying amount at start of period
Additions
Impairment losses
Depreciation expense
Carrying amount at end of period

890	914
-	-
-	-
(23)	(24)
867	890

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

Note 23. Impairment of assets

There were no indications of impairment to property and plant and equipment, or infrastructure at 30 June 2013.

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 2013 have either been classified as assets held for sale or written-off.

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 24. Payables

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
Current		
Accounts payable	431	451
Accrued expenses	406	341
Accrued salaries	200	196
GST payable	-	-
Total current	1,037	988

See also note 2(q) 'Payables' and note 34 'Financial instruments'

Note 25. Provisions

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
Current		
Employee benefits provision		
Annual leave ^(a)		
Long service leave ^(b)	1,020	864
Purchased leave ^{(a)(b)}	876	736
	69	58
Other provisions	1,965	1,658
Employment on-costs ^(c)	54	48
	54	48
Non-current	2,019	1,706
Employee benefits provision		
Long service leave ^(b)	629	667
Purchased leave ^(b)	24	16
	653	683
Other provisions		
Employment on-costs ^(c)	18	19
	18	19
	671	702

(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:

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
Within 12 months of the end of the reporting period	685	584
More than 12 months after the reporting period	357	284
	1,042	868

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 25 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:

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
Within 12 months of the end of the reporting period	395	384
More than 12 months after the reporting period	1,181	1,090
	1,576	1,474

- (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:

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
Employment on-cost provision		
Carrying amount at start of period	67	63
Additional provisions recognised	5	4
	72	67

Note 26. Other Liabilities

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
Current		
Unearned revenue	322	141
Fee for service	2,108	2,299
Other (bonds/retentions/suspense)	35	101
Total current	2,465	2,541

See also note 2(q) 'Payables' and note 34 'Financial instruments'.

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 27. 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	2013	2012
	\$000	\$000
Balance at start of period	30,022	19,186
<u>Contributions by owners</u>		
Capital appropriation ^(a)	343	10,836
Total contributions by owners	343	10,836
Balance at end of period	30,365	30,022

(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	2013	2012
	\$000	\$000
<u>Asset revaluation surplus</u>		
Balance at start of period	14,818	15,461
Net revaluation increments/(decrements):		
Land	47	-
Buildings & Residences	(306)	(643)
Infrastructure	-	-
Monuments and specified items	5,783	-
Balance at end of period	20,342	14,818

Accumulated surplus/(deficit)	2013	2012
	\$000	\$000
Balance at start of period	13,426	14,583
Result for the period	(882)	(1,157)
Income and expense recognised directly in equity	-	-
Balance at end of period	12,544	13,426
Total Equity at end of period	63,251	58,266

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 28. 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:

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
Cash and cash equivalents	10,374	8,605
Restricted cash and cash equivalents (note 16 'Restricted cash and cash equivalents')	1,505	4,071
	11,879	12,676

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

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
Net cost of services	(14,678)	(14,409)
Non-cash items:		
Depreciation and amortisation expense (note 7 'Depreciation and amortisation expense')	1,460	1,367
Services received free of charge (note 15 'Income from State Government')	27	3
Net (gain)/loss on sale of property plant and equipment (note 14 'Net gain/(loss) on sale of non-current assets')	36	25
Write offs and inventory adjustments	21	-
(Increase)/decrease in assets:		
Current receivables ^(a)	(193)	3,440
Current inventories	16	75
Increase/(decrease) in liabilities		
Current payables ^(a)	49	(7,169)
Current provisions	313	21
Other current liabilities	(75)	(211)
Non-current provisions	(31)	134
Net GST receipts/(payments) ^(b)	15	183
Change in GST in receivables/payables ^(c)	32	18
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	(13,008)	(16,523)

(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

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 29. 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 30. Commitments

Capital expenditure commitments

The commitments below are inclusive of GST.

Capital expenditure commitments, being contracted capital expenditure additional to the amounts reported in the financial statements, are payable as follows:

Within 1 year

Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years

Later than 5 years

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
	1,000	975
	3,000	3,000
	-	-
	4,000	3,975
	4,000	3,975
	4,000	3,975

The capital commitments include amounts for:

Asset replacement

Vehicle lease commitments

The commitments below are inclusive of GST.

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

Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years

Later than 5 years

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
	76	95
	57	26
	-	-
	133	121
	133	121
	133	121

Representing:

Non-cancellable operating leases

Note 31. Contingent liabilities and contingent assets

The BGPA has no contingent liabilities or contingent assets.

Note 32. Events occurring after the end of the reporting period

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

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 33. Explanatory statement

Significant variation between estimates and actual results for 2013 and between the actual results for 2012 and 2013 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 2013

	2013 Estimate \$000	2013 Actual \$000	Variation \$000
Supplies and services	7,289	6,001	(1,288)
Other expenses	1,917	2,561	644
User charges and fees	1,322	1,739	417
Interest revenue	300	394	94
Other revenue	3,445	3,094	(351)

Supplies and services

The variance is mainly due to a delay in the commencement of landscaping works at Saw Avenue and Bold Park. It is also due to less than forecast expenditure for communication and consumables expenses

Other expenses

Expenditure was greater than forecast on building maintenance and repairs.

User charges and fees

The revenue received for Rents, Functions, Fines and Licence Fees was greater than forecast due to additional income received from the re-negotiation of existing contracts.

Interest revenue

Interest Income was greater than forecast for the year due to delays in expenditure on major projects.

Other revenue

The variance is due to less revenue being received from recoups.

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 33 continued

Significant variances between estimated and actual result for 2013

	2013 Estimate \$000	2013 Actual \$000	Variation \$000
Income			
Interest	394	544	(150)
Other revenue	3,094	4,022	(928)
Expenses			
Employee benefits expense	10,976	10,482	494
Supplies and Services	6,001	7,564	(1,563)

Interest revenue

Interest revenue was greater than forecast due to unavoidable delays in the commencement of major projects, which resulted in higher cash balances being held on hand accruing interest during the period.

Other revenue

The variance is due to less sponsorship and recoup revenue.

Employee benefits expense

The variance is due to an award increase for both salaries and wages in 2013.

Supplies and services

The variance is due to greater expenditure incurred in 2012 on major projects which included the completion of the Kings Park Education building.

Note 34. 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 34(c) 'Financial instrument disclosures' and note 18 'Receivables and other assets'.

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 34 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:

	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
Financial Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	10,374	8,605
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	1,505	4,071
Receivables ^(a)	1,281	1,057
Amounts receivable for services	5,587	5,124
Financial Liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost		
Payables ^(a)	1,037	988

(a) The amount of receivables and payable excludes GST recoverable from or payable to the ATO (statutory receivable).

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 34 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.

Aged analysis of financial assets

	Carrying Amount \$000	Not past due and not impaired \$000	Past due not impaired					Impaired financial assets \$000
			Up to 1 month \$000	1-3 months \$000	3 months to 1 year \$000	1-5 years \$000	More than 5 years \$000	
2013								
Cash and cash equivalents	10,374	10,374	-	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	1,505	1,505	-	-	-	-	-	-
Receivables ^(a)	1,281	997	26	63	175	17	3	-
Amounts receivable for services	5,587	5,587	-	-	-	-	-	-
	18,747	18,463	26	63	175	17	3	-
2012								
Cash and cash equivalents	8,605	8,605	-	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	4,071	4,071	-	-	-	-	-	-
Receivables ^(a)	1,057	618	27	243	125	42	2	-
Amounts receivable for services	5,124	5,124	-	-	-	-	-	-
	18,857	18,418	27	243	125	42	2	-

(a) The amount of payables excludes GST payable to the ATO (statutory payable)

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 34 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

	Weighted average effective interest rate %	Interest rate exposure				Maturity dates					
		Carrying amount \$000	Fixed interest rate \$000	Variable interest rate \$000	Non-interest bearing \$000	Nominal Amount \$000	Up to 1 month \$000	1-3 months to 1 year \$000	3 months to 1 year \$000	1-5 years \$000	More than 5 years \$000
2013											
Financial assets											
Cash and cash equivalents	3.16	10,374	-	10,374	-	10,374	10,374	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	3.16	1,505	-	1,505	-	1,505	1,505	-	-	-	-
Receivables ^(a)	-	1,281	-	-	1,281	1,281	1,281	-	-	-	-
Amounts receivable for services	-	5,587	-	-	5,587	5,587	50	250	675	4,612	-
		18,747	-	11,879	6,868	18,747	13,210	250	675	4,612	-
Financial Liabilities											
Payables	-	1,037	-	-	1,037	1,037	1,037	-	-	-	-
		1,037	-	-	1,037	1,037	1,037	-	-	-	-

(a) The amount of payables excludes GST payable to the ATO (statutory payable)

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 34 continued

Liquidity risk and interest rate exposure continued

Interest rate exposure and maturity analysis of financial assets and liabilities

	Weighted average effective interest rate %	Interest rate exposure				Maturity dates					
		Carrying amount \$000	Fixed interest rate \$000	Variable interest rate \$000	Non-interest bearing \$000	Nominal Amount \$000	Up to 1 month \$000	1-3 months \$000	3 months to 1 year \$000	1-5 years \$000	More than 5 years \$000
2012											
Financial assets											
Cash and cash equivalents	3.41	8,605	-	8,605	-	8,605	8,605	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	3.41	4,071	-	4,071	-	4,071	4,071	-	-	-	-
Receivables ^(a)	-	1,057	-	-	1,057	1,057	1,057	-	-	-	-
Amounts receivable for services	-	5,124	-	-	5,124	5,124	50	242	683	4,149	-
		18,857	-	12,676	6,181	18,857	13,783	242	683	4,149	-
Financial Liabilities											
Payables	-	988	-	-	988	988	988	-	-	-	-
		988	-	-	988	988	988	-	-	-	-

(a) The amount of payables excludes GST payable to the ATO (statutory payable)

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 34 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.

2013	Carrying amount \$000	-50 basis points		+50 basis points	
		Surplus \$000	Equity \$000	Surplus \$000	Equity \$000
Financial assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	10,374	(52)	(52)	52	52
Restricted Cash and cash equivalents	1,505	(8)	(8)	8	8
Total Increase/Decrease		(60)	(60)	60	60

2012	Carrying amount \$000	-50 basis points		+50 basis points	
		Surplus \$000	Equity \$000	Surplus \$000	Equity \$000
Financial assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	8,605	(43)	(43)	43	43
Restricted Cash and cash equivalents	4,071	(21)	(21)	21	21
Total Increase/Decrease		(64)	(64)	64	64

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.

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 35. 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:

	2013	2012
\$		
0 - 10,000	7	7
10,000 - 20,000	1	1

	\$000	\$000
Base remuneration and superannuation	49	47
The total remuneration of members of the BGPA is:	49	47

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:

	2013	2012
\$		
180,001 - 190,000	-	1
190,001 - 200,000	-	1
200,001 - 210,000	2	1
210,001 - 220,000	1	-
240,001 - 250,000	-	1
270,001 - 280,000	1	-

	\$000	\$000
Base remuneration and superannuation	654	614
Annual leave and long service leave accruals	119	110
Other benefits	126	126
The total remuneration of senior officers is:	899	850

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 36. Remuneration of auditor

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.

Auditing the accounts, financial statements and performance indicators

2013 \$000	2012 \$000
29	29

The expense is included in note 8 'Other expenses'.

Note 37. Supplementary financial information

Write-Offs

Write –offs and inventory adjustment

Recovery from insurance claims on inventory damages

2013 \$000	2012 \$000
16	14
(7)	(4)
9	10

Disclosures and Compliance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Note 38. Supplementary financial information

	Service 1		Service 2		Total	
	Customer Service and Cultural Heritage		Biodiversity Conservation and Scientific Research			
	2013 \$000	2012 \$000	2013 \$000	2012 \$000	2013 \$000	2012 \$000
COST OF SERVICES						
Expenses						
Employee benefits expense	4,648	4,377	6,328	6,105	10,976	10,482
Supplies and services	3,149	4,889	2,852	2,674	6,001	7,563
Depreciation and amortisation expense	730	682	730	685	1,460	1,367
Cost of Goods Sold	1,329	1,226	-	-	1,329	1,226
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	24	42	12	(17)	36	25
Other Expenses	1,418	1,192	1,143	1,273	2,561	2,465
Total cost of services	11,298	12,408	11,065	10,720	22,363	23,128
Income						
User Charges and Fees	1,674	1,562	65	69	1,739	1,631
Sales	2,384	2,296	22	178	2,406	2,474
Commonwealth grants and contributions	-	-	52	47	52	47
Interest Revenue	256	354	138	190	394	544
Fee for service, subsidies and sponsorships	369	627	2,208	2,313	2,577	2,940
Other Revenue	157	726	360	357	517	1,083
Total income other than income from State Government	4,840	5,565	2,845	3,154	7,685	8,719
NET COST OF SERVICES	6,454	6,843	8,220	7,566	14,678	14,409
INCOME FROM STATE GOVERNMENT						
Service Appropriation	5,959	5,473	7,810	7,776	13,769	13,249
Services received free of charge	12	1	15	2	27	3
Total income from State Government	5,971	5,474	7,825	7,778	13,796	13,252
Surplus/(deficit) for the period	(483)	(1,369)	(400)	212	(882)	(1,157)

The Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

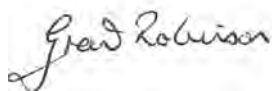
Refer to the Key Performance Indicators for more detailed analysis.

Key Performance Indicators

for the year ended 30 June 2013

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 2013.



Grant Robinson
Deputy Chairman
Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority Board of Management
11 September 2013

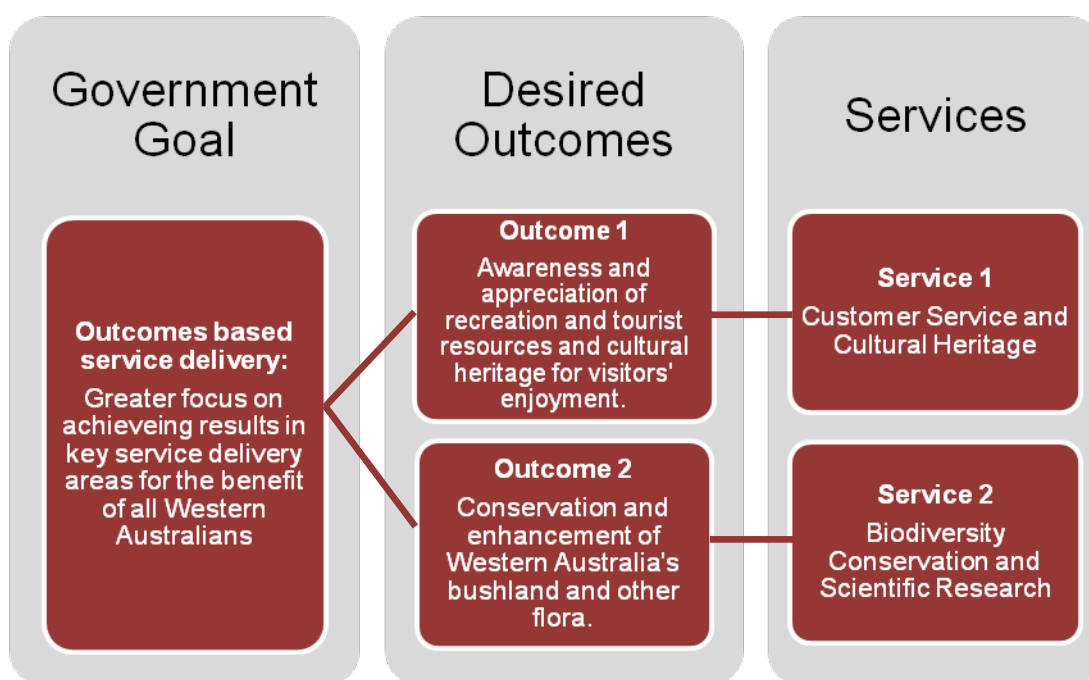


Hamish Jolly
Member
Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority Board of Management
11 September 2013

Key Performance Indicators for the Year ended 30 June 2013

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.



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.

Disclosures and Compliance

Key Performance Indicators for the year ended 30 June 2013

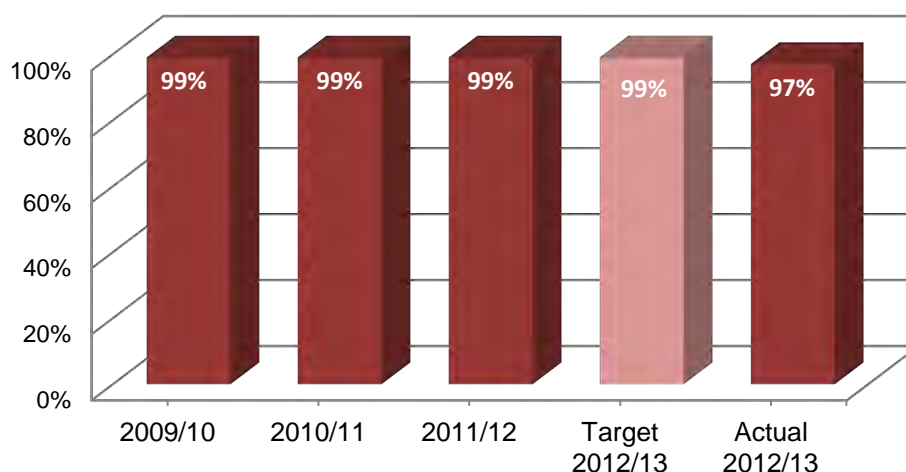
Contents

Total annual visitation for 2012/13 to Kings Park and Botanic Garden is based on vehicle counts at various entrances and is estimated to be 5,808,000 visitors. Total annual visitation to Bold Park is difficult to estimate due to multiple entrances for pedestrians and vehicles with only one vehicle entry suited to monitoring for vehicle counts. Changes in level of visitation are therefore based on vehicle counts at Reabold Hill.

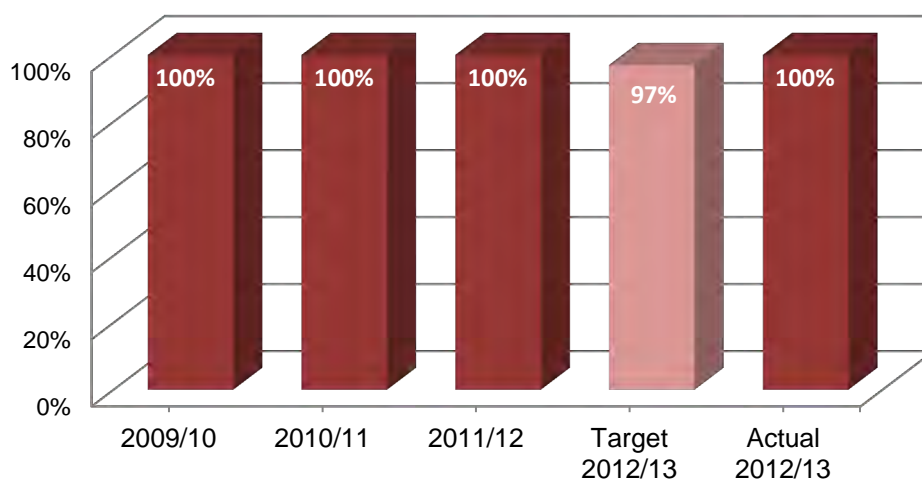
Visitor surveys were conducted during May and June 2013 in both Kings Park and Botanic Garden and in Bold Park. A total of 603 responses were received, providing a margin of error of 4% at a 95% level of confidence.

The percentage of overall visitor satisfaction in Kings Park and Botanic Garden was 97%. The percentage of overall visitor satisfaction in Bold Park was 100%.

Overall satisfaction with Kings Park and Botanic Garden



Overall satisfaction with Bold Park



Disclosures and Compliance

Key Performance Indicators for the year ended 30 June 2013

Contents

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
2012/13	276	0	-1.4	1
2011/12	280	-7	-10	
2010/11	312	+2	+26.8	
2009/10	246	+1	+6.5	
2008/09	231	+1	-3.8	

Note:

1. The small decrease in the number of cultural events for 2012/13 is due to a reduction in the number of events held during the Kings Park Festival.

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
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	
2008/09	799,130	+1	+4.4	

Disclosures and Compliance

Key Performance Indicators for the year ended 30 June 2013

Contents

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 2011/12	Target 2012/13	Actual 2012/13	Notes
Average cost per visitor to Kings Park and Botanic Garden	\$1.81	\$1.50	\$1.71	1
Average cost per attendee at cultural events held in Kings Park and Botanic Garden	\$0.15	\$0.17	\$0.12	
Average cost per attendee at education forums held in Kings Park and Botanic Garden	\$3.83	\$1.70	\$3.80	2
Response times for public information requests	98% Within 28 days	95% Within 28 days	95% Within 28 days	
Percentage change in number of visitors to Reabold Hill compared to previous year	4%	3%	15.8%	3

Notes:

1. The number of people visiting Kings Park and Botanic Garden was as per target however, expenses were higher than forecast.
2. The cost of holding education forums in Kings Park and Botanic Garden was significantly higher than forecast due to initial costs associated with the new Education Centre facility.
3. The increase in the percentage change in the number of visitors in 2012/13 compared to the previous year was substantially higher (11.8%) than anticipated due to an unexpected increase in the number of vehicles entering. This may be attributed to higher levels of regular promotion of Bold Park in newspapers, websites and newsletters during the year, attracting more visitors.

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 2012(2) published in the Government Gazette on 6 November 2012 by the Minister for Environment; Water under section 23F(2) of the Wildlife Conservation Act 1950.

The total number of DRF held in the BGPA's conservation collection increased by four species to 252. The number of DRF in the BGPA's living collections represents 61% of the total DRF listed for the State, which is 1% below the target. This is due to an increase in the total number of DRF species listed from the previous year by 10 species to 413. The DRF listings are the responsibility of the Department of Parks and Wildlife (DPAW) and are outside the control of the 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 %
2012/13	252	413	62	61
2011/12	248	403	63	62
2010/11	247	402	62	61
2009/10	249	393	62	63
2008/09	243	389	62	62

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 over the total number of accessions alive in living collections. There was a decrease of 154 in the actual number of accessions on display compared with the previous year, due to delays in the 2013 winter planting program and associated entry into the horticultural database. Planting was later in 2013 due to reduced staff numbers in the Horticultural displays team and unusually dry weather in June.

In addition, there was an increase of 360 in the total number of accessions alive from the previous year. This resulted in a decrease of 2% in the percentage of accessions on botanical display to 33%, which was 5% below the target set.

The increase in total accessions alive demonstrates the success of the field collection program in obtaining additional seed and other plant material from across Western Australia that are placed in storage for future propagation and display.

Percentage of Accessions in Botanical Displays

Reporting Year	No. of Accessions in Botanical Display	Total No. of Accessions Alive	Target %	Actual %
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
2008/09	6,783	18,372	40	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 decreased from the previous year and was better than anticipated, with losses representing 3% of the total collections rather than the target 5%.

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 %
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
2008/09	666	18,372	5	4

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 2012/13 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 quadrats 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 2012/13. This is a good result.

Disclosures and Compliance

Key Performance Indicators for the year ended 30 June 2013

Contents

Average Numbers of Common Species Present

	Actual 2009/10	Actual 2010/11	Actual 2011/12	Target 2012/13	Actual 2012/13
Average number of common species present in high management zones	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.6
Average number of common species present in low management zones	3.9	3.9	4.1	4.1	4.0
Indicator value	1.5	1.5	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 remained fairly stable with a marginal increase in weed cover in both high and low management plots. The indicator value showed a slight decrease by 0.01 from the previous year, which was 0.01 below target.

Average Percentage of Weed Cover

	Actual 2009/10	Actual 2010/11	Actual 2011/12	Target 2012/13	Actual 2012/13
Average percentage weed cover in high management zones	28.7%	11.4%	15.0%	15.0%	16.3%
Average percentage weed cover in low management zones	48.1%	37.4%	32.1%	33.0%	34.8%
Indicator value	0.59	0.30	0.47	0.45	0.46

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.

There was one new species recorded for Kings Park bushland discovered during research to support a new publication. It was confirmed as a new species record for the park in 2012. As the presence of all 15 of the most vulnerable species was confirmed and one new native species was recorded, the total number of native plant taxa in Kings Park bushland increased by one species to 325.

Number of Representative Native Plant Taxa in Kings Park Bushland

Reporting Year	Target	No. of Native Plant Taxa Recorded
2012/13	324	325
2011/12	324	324
2010/11	324	324
2009/10	324	324
2008/09	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
2012/13	310	310
2011/12	310	310
2010/11	310	310
2009/10	310	310
2008/09	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 2011/12	Target 2012/13	Actual 2012/13	Notes
Average cost of representative native plant taxa in Kings Park bushland.	\$3,151	\$4,348	\$3,179	1
Average cost of representative native plant taxa in Bold Park bushland.	\$4,668	\$5,232	\$5,039	
Average cost per research fee for service project administered.	\$15,325	\$15,471	\$17,950	2
Percentage change in number of refereed scientific publications published per Consolidated Fund position compared to previous year.	(20%)	0%	42%	3

Notes:

1. There was an increase of one species in the number of native plant taxa in Kings Park Bushland. The variance compared with budget is due to expenses being lower than forecast.
2. The increase in the Average Cost per Research Grant Project indicator between the 2012-13 Budget and the 2012/13 Estimated Actual is a result of increased costs associated with the change in staffing of some of the projects.
3. The large fluctuation in the Number of Refereed Scientific Publications Published per Government Funded Position indicator is a reflection of the stage and complexity of research projects in any given year.

Other Financial Disclosures

Pricing Policy and Services

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 program and the Connect with Kings Park workshops held during the annual Kings Park Festival, 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.

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 2012/13.

Capital Works

Capital Projects Completed

No capital projects were completed during 2012/13.

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 2013 was \$0.2m.

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 2013 was \$0.1m.

Employment and Development

Employment Profile

As of 30 June 2013, the BGPA employed 166 people equating to 130 full time equivalents (FTE). In 2012/13 the BGPA engaged 12 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 2013 is presented below:

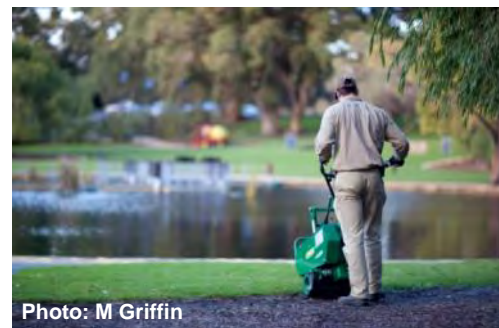


Photo: M Griffin

Staff Profile as at 30 June 2013

Employment Type	2011/12	2012/13
Permanent Full-time	81	84
Permanent Part-time	12	15
Fixed Term Full-time	32	19
Fixed Term Part-time	10	12
Casual	38	23
Indigenous Cadet	1	1
Trainees	11	12

2012/13 Figures derived from June 2013 Quarterly MOIR report

The BGPA continued to receive a strong response to job advertisements from a wide pool of applicants. BGPA completed 34 recruitment processes and engaged 32 new employees in 2012/13. Ten employees (6% of the workforce) resigned from the BGPA in 2012/13 compared to 15 resignations in 2011/12.

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	2011/12 %	2012/13 %
Women in SES	N/A ⁽¹⁾	50
Women in Management Tier 1	50	0
Women in Management Tier 2	50	40
Women in Management Tier 3	37.5	53.8
Indigenous Australians	2.3	1.2
Employees from Culturally Diverse Background	14.9	9.6
Employees with Disabilities	0.6	0
Youth (under 25 years)	12.5	7.8

2012/13 Figures derived from Preliminary Equity Diversity Report June 2013

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)

The Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority (Operations) General Agreement 2010 expired on 31 December 2012. A replacement general agreement was registered in the Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission in May 2013. Employees covered by this general agreement received wage increases in line with the Public Sector Wages Policy.

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 to 2017, with annual reviews to ensure continued currency and relevance of the plan.

The first year of the plan has resulted in improvements implemented including:

- Broadened advertising scope for job advertisements and improved quality of job advertisements for better marketing of vacancies to a broader set of prospective job applicants.
- Streamlined recruitment, selection and appointment processes through the implementation of tailored guidelines and promotion of 'best practice' techniques.
- Ongoing commitment to flexible work practices within operational requirements including flexible rosters, job share and flexi-time arrangements.
- Improved use of BGPA's intranet to disseminate human resource related material to all staff.
- Updated the performance management process with guidelines for more effective employee performance, planning, review, development and management.
- Coordinated Aboriginal Cultural Awareness training for increased awareness of and appreciation for cultural diversity amongst staff.
- Updated Occupational Health and Safety reporting processes.

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 Aboriginal cultural awareness sessions, first aid, fire safety, manual and chemical handling, vehicle and equipment use, dealing with difficult conduct, leadership, performance management 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.

Disclosures and Compliance

Formal training for 2012/13

Training Focus	Number of attendees	Outcomes for the BGPA
Aboriginal Cultural Awareness	118	Enhanced employee awareness of Indigenous cultural characteristics in the context of BGPA's overarching values and outcomes
Occupational Health and Safety	127	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 Health and Safety section.
Dealing with difficult behaviour and conduct	27	Improved ability to handle difficult workplace behaviours and to alleviate the pressures of stressful situations at work
Performance management	5	Enhanced managerial and leadership effectiveness to promote productive performance feedback conversations

Staff Scholarships

Two scholarship opportunities were offered to employees in 2012/13; 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 development.

The 2013 BGPA Chairman's Scholarship was awarded to Andre Carvalho to travel to the Royal Botanic Gardens in Mount Annan to gain experience in the largest Seed Bank facility in the Southern Hemisphere.

The 2013 Friends of Kings Park Vic Galea Scholarship was shared between Lisa Collyer and Benjamin Anderson, to visit the Royal Botanic Garden in Cranbourne to gain insight into potential Australian bedding plant options to apply in Kings Park and Botanic Garden and to attend a workshop on phylogenetic analysis at the University of Sydney, respectively.

Government and Legal Requirements

Ministerial Directives

The BGPA was not subject to any Ministerial Directives in 2012/13.

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 enforcing 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.

Contracts with Senior Officers

During the 2012/13 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 audit services to the BGPA throughout 2012/13, noting the member was not involved directly or indirectly in the provision on these services.

Appropriate formal disclosures are made within the Board of Management meetings to address this type of issue.

Changes in Written Law

There have been no changes to the Act or Regulations administered by the BGPA. Where changes have occurred to an Act that impacts on the BGPA's operations, the BGPA has taken appropriate actions to ensure compliance with this legislation.

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 (Human Resource Management) 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 workforce initiatives outlined in 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 2012/13.

The BGPA Code of Conduct was reviewed in 2012/13. It is based on the principles of the BGPA and promotes behaviours that reflect a strong commitment to maintaining integrity, accountability and ethical decision making. This has resulted in a more comprehensive Code of Conduct that is better aligned with the WA Code of Ethics. The Code of Conduct applies to all 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.

One suspected breach of the BGPA's Code of Conduct was reported during the year. Following an internal investigation, the breach was substantiated and appropriate remedial action taken.

Breaches of codes or standards 2012/13

Standards or Code of Conduct	No. of Breaches
Public Sector Standards	0
WA Code of Ethics	0
BGPA Code of Conduct	1

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 Employee Services 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 2012/13 year the activities of the BGPA and OHS Committee have included:

- Advice on support services available through the Employee Assistance Program with presentations from Worklink.
- Free flu 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.
- Assessed chemical handling and storage procedures.
- Updated the Workplace Accident/Incident Report and Workplace Hazard Report forms.



- Updated the Terms of Reference outlining the responsibilities of the OHS Committee and the elected representatives.
- Provided various OHS training for improved awareness of correct operating procedures and workplace safety:

Safety Training	No of Employees
First aid	26
Vehicle and equipment use	20
Fire safety	16
Manual handling	62
OH&S representative training	3
Total	127

An audit of the BGPA's Occupational Health and Safety controls and processes was conducted in 2011. This audit found that the BGPA was mostly compliant with only two recommendations to improve hazard reporting mechanisms and workplace inspections. All recommendations of this audit have been implemented.

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 seven Workers' Compensation claims against the BGPA originating in 2012/13. As at 30 June 2013, five employees had returned to full duties and two were participating in return to work programs.

Disclosures and Compliance

Occupational Safety and Health and Injury Management Targets

Indicator	Actual 2011/12	Target 2012/13	Actual 2012/13
Number of fatalities	0	0	0
Lost time injury/diseases (LTI/D) incidence rate ⁽¹⁾	4.5%	0%	2.4% ⁽¹⁾
Lost time injury severity rate ⁽²⁾	0%	0%	0% ⁽²⁾
Percentage of injured workers returned to work within 13 weeks	100%	100%	100%
Percentage of injured workers returned to work within 26 weeks	100%	100%	100%
Percentage of managers trained in occupational safety, health and injury management responsibilities. ⁽³⁾	85.2%	80%	0% ⁽³⁾

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.

Promotion, Public Relations and Marketing

Marketing and public relations strategies have played an integral role in key events and projects over the past year.



A major campaign to promote the 2012 Kings Park Festival to a broad cross-section of the Western Australian community. Media support with The West Australian newspaper was invaluable to the campaign, by maximising public awareness and encouraging participation in the Festival from a range of demographic groups. This campaign included online and social media strategies, as well as press advertising, promotional publications, public relations and direct mail.

Aspects of Kings Park gallery shop continued to implement its comprehensive marketing plan to drive sales and visitation. Press and magazine advertising, an active customer database, exhibitions and special customer events all feature in the plan. These strategies continue to be monitored and refined for this iconic store that provides critical financial support to Kings Park and Botanic Garden.

Disclosures and Compliance

Some non-campaign marketing and advertising is also undertaken to promote Kings Park Education programs, volunteering and Kings Park in general.

Promotion expenditure is represented under Advertising below, in accordance with requirements of the *Electoral Act 1907*.

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 2013:

Advertising expenditure by category

Advertising Medium	Expenditure	Total
Advertising Agencies		127,218.13
Adcorp	10,576.79	
Liquid Public Relations	22,777.50	
Sports Turf Association	68.18	
Rosalie Okely Design	7,555.00	
Optimum Media	65,194.26	
Professional Public Relations	21,046.40	
Market Research Organisations		13,393.17
Media Monitoring	1,268.17	
Alex Stuckey	12,125.00	
Polling Organisations		Nil
Direct Mail Organisations		Nil
Media Advertising Organisations		34,779.32
Countrywide Publications	24,321.82	
Department of Education (School Matters Magazine)	6,500.00	
Tourism Western Australia	450.00	
Scoop Publishing	3,007.50	
Post Newspapers	500.00	
Total Expenditure		\$175,390.62



Australian designed art and gifts

Discover gorgeous handcrafted jewellery at Aspects of Kings Park. Our stunning range is sourced from all over Australia, showcasing over 70 jewellery designers. Craftspeople, such as local jewellery artist Marcus Synnot, pride themselves on individual and unique design.

Take advantage of our free parking, complimentary gift wrapping and friendly service.

ceramics | glass | homewares | jewellery | prints | textiles | wood
All Gallery profits directly support Kings Park.

Open 7 days | Ph (08) 9480 3900
Fraser Ave in Kings Park
www.aspectsofkingspark.com.au



Product images are indicative only and may vary in stock. Available while stocks last.



Disability Access and Inclusion Plan

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.

Following a public consultation period mid 2012, the 2012-2017 DAIP was finalised in August 2012. In 2012/13 the BGPA achieved the following initiatives in relation to disability access and inclusion:

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 (RSLWA), provided and informed attendees of set-down and parking for people with disabilities in the Wadjuk Carpark.
- 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 annual 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 telephone enquiries are given appropriate training opportunities.
- The BGPA worked cooperatively with Transperth to have the bus stop on Fraser Avenue relocated closer to the State War memorial precinct to reduce the walking distance from public transport.

People with disabilities have the same opportunities as other people to access the buildings and other facilities of the BGPA.

- Kulbardi Toilets at Saw Avenue Picnic Area were upgraded to incorporate two universal access facilities with independent access from the male and female facilities.
- Six new universal access drinking fountains were installed throughout the parkland areas, providing modern drinking facilities with clear access for all visitors.
- Internal LED lighting was installed within the 24 hour Fraser Lawn amenities block to improve night time visibility within this facility, which was poorly lit from the outside previously.
- Planning commenced for the second stage upgrade to the Saw Avenue Picnic Area, which incorporates new universal access paths and visitor facilities, and an extension to the adventure play area that also provides for people with disabilities. This development is sponsored by Variety WA, the Children's Charity.
- Installed new limestone pathway within Bushbase in RTNKP to improve access.



This universal swing was installed during Stage 1 of the Saw Avenue Picnic Area upgrade.

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.
- 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.

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.
- The BGPA provides employment and some work experience placements and volunteering opportunities for people with disabilities, which increases employee awareness and understanding of people with disabilities.
- Volunteer groups' newsletters regularly remind members of existing and new toilets, paths and facilities that have been built for people with limited mobility.
- 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.

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 and people with disabilities have the same opportunities to provide visitor feedback.

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). Submissions can be made online via the BGPA's website, by email, by mail or in person.

People with disabilities have the same opportunities for employment.

- The BGPA provides employment and some work experience placements and volunteering opportunities for people with disabilities.

Recordkeeping Plans

The BGPA's Recordkeeping Plan 2010 to 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 disposed 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:

The efficiency and effectiveness of the organisation's recordkeeping systems has been evaluated or alternatively when such an evaluation is proposed.

Implementation of the BGPA's retention and disposal schedule regime was carried out in October 2012. This is in accordance with established practice of an annual disposal as per Recordkeeping Plan of the BGPA, as required under section 16(3) (a-C) of the State Records Act 2000.

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 June 2013.

Also in June 2013, the risks associated with Records Management were reviewed and updated.

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 are delivered at quarterly general staff meetings.

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 April 2013 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.

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. Personal 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 and remind existing employees of their recordkeeping responsibilities.

Appendix 1 – BGPA Stakeholders

The BGPA recognises that support and contributions from the community, government and private organisations is essential in achieving the BGPA's outcomes. The BGPA is greatly appreciative of the support and involvement of these various organisations that contribute resources to Kings Park and Botanic Garden and Bold Park for major projects, events and research.

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

Lotterywest
Friends of Kings Park
Rio Tinto Iron Ore
Santos
Synergy
Variety WA
West Australian Newspapers

BGPA Commercial Operators

Aboriginal Art Gallery
Fraser's Restaurant Complex (inc
Botanical Cafe and Fraser's Kiosk)
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
BGPA Indigenous Reference Group
Cambridge Coastcare
Vietnam Veterans Association WA Branch
Vietnam Veterans Memorial Trustees
Wardens of the State War Memorial
Wildflower Society of Western Australia

Local, State and Federal Government

AGWEST
Building Management and Works
City of Perth
City of Nedlands
City of Subiaco
Department of Agriculture and Food
Department of Commerce
Department of Environment and
Conservation
Department of Finance
Department of Fire and Emergency
Services
Department of Indigenous Affairs
Department of Planning
Department of Premier and Cabinet
Department of State Development
Department of Transport
Department of Treasury
Department of Veterans' Affairs
Horizon Power
Main Roads WA
Office of the Auditor General
Perth Zoo
Public Sector Commission
Public Transport Authority
Shire of Bruce Rock
Shire of Corrigin
Shire of Westonia
State Solicitors Office
Swan River Trust
Synergy
Tourism WA
Town of Cambridge
Water Corporation
WA Planning Commission
WA Police
Western Power

Private Organisations

Alcoa World Alumina
Alinta Gas
Australian Orchid Foundation
BHP Billiton Iron Ore
Birla Nifty Pty Ltd
Catalpa Resources (Westonia Mines Ltd)
Cliffs Asia Pacific Iron Ore Pty Ltd
Cockburn Cement
Gindalbie Metals Limited
Grange Resources Limited
Griffin Coal Mining Company Pty Ltd
Iluka Resources Limited
Lotterywest
Newcrest Mining (Telfer)
OZWEST Pty Ltd
Rio Tinto Iron Ore
Rocla Quarry Products
Shark Bay Resources Pty Ltd
Trawalla Foundation
Umwelt
Worsley Alumina

Schools and Universities

Australian National University
Curtin University
Kasetsart University, Thailand
Murdoch University
Sheffield University, UK
St Louis University, USA
The University of Western Australia
University of Madrid, Spain
University of Noumea
University of Pavia, Italy
University of Regensburg, Germany

Natural History Institutions

Adelaide Botanic Garden
Australian National Botanic Garden
Korean National Arboretum
Millennium Seed Bank, Royal Botanic
Gardens, Kew UK
Arriyadh Development Authority

Appendix 2 – Volunteer Group Reports

Friends of Bold Park Bushland

The Friends of Bold Park Bushland was founded in 1987, making 2012 our 25th anniversary. Norma Calcutt and I were happy to receive badges and certificates from the BGPA, recognising 25 years of active service. Norma has recently retired from the Committee due to family commitments and we are grateful for her huge efforts in setting up the office and establishing the guided walks program, which were long-term goal of hers.

The Executive Committee

In the past year the Executive Committee has: produced two newsletters and an events bulletin; 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; maintained an office located at Perry House; and lobbied on planning and other matters, such as the continued existence of the Stephenson Highway road reserve that bisects the northern part of the park.

The Committee's specific activities included:

- Completing our office fit-out with the installation of a printer-copier and purchase of a laptop.
- Working with other local community groups and local government agencies to establish the Bush to Beach Trail that passes through Bold Park en route between Kings Park and Cottesloe (The trail was officially opened last November).
- In the March State election, canvassing the views of Churchlands candidates on the continued existence of Stephenson Highway through the northern part of the park, and letting our members know their opinions.
- Providing a submission on the Town of Cambridge's proposals to expand the quarry amphitheatre.
- Organising our inaugural Open Day.

Open Day

In May 2013 we held our inaugural Open Day, which aimed to generate an increased interest in Bold Park, and to encourage people to get involved with the Friends and other local conservation groups. The focus was on families, with a variety of hands on nature-based activities of interest to children, and a series of walks in the park and around the grounds of the WA Ecology Centre where the event was held.



Photo: J Crandell

A range of nature based activities were arranged for the Friends of Bold Park inaugural Open Day.

Displays, activities and walks were presented by Friends' subgroups, as well as by the WA Wildflower Society, BirdLife Australia WA, the WA Naturalists Club, the Town of Cambridge and the BGPA. In addition, we hired animal handlers to appear with WA reptiles, and a Carnaby's Black Cockatoo. These live creatures were of immense interest to children in particular. Free morning tea was provided by the Friends.

Thanks mainly to a combination of fine weather and excellent publicity in the local and state newspapers, a very large number of people from both local suburbs and the wider Perth area attended – around 380. About 200 people joined one of the four walks. We are confident that the Open Day will have achieved its purpose, and it is likely that similar events will be held again.

Guided Walks Program

Our guided walks program has now been running for around two and half years. We have a team of 15 trained guides who led three walks a month, with more in spring, and last summer we held two very popular sunset walks each month. Thirty walks were conducted during the year.

Walks generally started at the Tuart Car Park, with most guides taking their group by Reabold Hill, although guides sometimes led a less strenuous walk via Camel Lake. Last August walks were taken from near Wollaston, on Rochdale Road, to view regrowth in the sites of the previous summer's fires.



Photo: S Clegg

A group attending one of the Friends of Bold Park guided walks, with a stop at the Reabold Hill lookout.

Attendance on guided walks almost doubled from 245 (for 2011/12), to 405 attending during the same period in 2012/13. The sunset walks attracted a maximum of 41 walkers for a March walk. The marked increase in attendance was thanks to the arrangement whereby our local newspaper, the 'Post', published a story and photo for the coming month's walks. These were prepared by the BGPA. The excellent quality of the walks provided by our very friendly guides was also a factor, as word-of-mouth brought new people, while others returned for subsequent walks.

The guides met as a group most months to discuss business, hold workshops and hear from an invited presenter, who have included: Vanda Longman, on trees and insects in the park; Bryce Wells and Sue Mather, from Birdlife Australia, on birds of Bold Park (this included a separate early morning field trip); and Dr Neville Marchant, on our flora's resilience to climate and regeneration after fire. These monthly sessions helped to keep the guides together as a cohesive group, and have provided them with new information to share with walkers. The guides' Continuing Education Program will now be open to the whole membership as we feel that the speakers are of a very high calibre and warrant a bigger audience.

Bushland Regeneration Activities

The Friends' bushcare work site is known as the Eastern Gateway, and is located just inside the Tuart Carpark entrance on Perry Lakes Drive. It comprises a small fraction of the whole park, but it has been a helpful strategy for us to have focused our efforts on a single, highly visible and highly accessible site for the past 20 years or so, beginning before the BGPA was established. Our volunteers work very closely with BGPA staff based in Bold Park.

Throughout last winter, a team of seven volunteers worked two mornings per month, concentrating on removing *Euphorbia* and gladioli from the Eastern Gateway site. In June 1,420 seedlings were planted in the Eastern Gateway restoration site, with tree guards around 340 of these. Planters comprised four BGPA staff members and ten members of the Friends. At the end of the season we recorded the survival rates for the plantings. In summer, seeds were collected from *Anigozanthos manglesii*, *Melaleuca systema*, *Calothamnus quadrifidus*,

Allocasuarina humilis, *Eucalyptus petrensis* and *Eucalyptus foecunda*. These will be grown to provide plants for future planting in the park.



Photo: S Clegg

One of the Friends of Bold Park planting days in the Eastern Gateway site.

Adopt-a-Highway Program

We continued our involvement in the Adopt-a-Highway program, with a small group meeting quarterly to collect rubbish from the 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 very visible edge of the park looking cared for and respectable.

Thanks

Thanks to all the BGPA staff who have assisted us in the past year, especially to Melissa Mykytiuk and Veronica Newbury, and to Jacqui Kennedy, who held a very useful workshop with our guides. We have also welcomed Madeleine Kelly, as new front counter person at Bold Park.

Thanks are also due to all our active members – those on the Executive Committee, our bushcare team, our highway rubbish pickup team, and our guides.

This year particular thanks go to the very large number of members who assisted with our inaugural Open Day, helping to make it an enormous success.

Stephanie Clegg
President, Friends of Bold Park Bushland (Inc)

Friends of Kings Park

The [Friends of Kings Park](#) has continued to partner with BGPA during the 2012/13 financial year to ensure the experience for all visitors to the Park is improved.

As we celebrated our 20th anniversary in May this year we reflected on the vast achievements resulting from this partnership over this time. With our community partner Lotterywest we have attracted over \$8.5million in grants for Kings Park projects. These projects include the development of the Water Garden, the Lotterywest Family area, the Lotterywest Federation Walkway, the Place of Reflection, the Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park facility and numerous Kings Park Festivals. Over the same period we have also provided over \$535,000 to Kings Park from our own fundraising activities for projects and research a truly wonderful achievement.

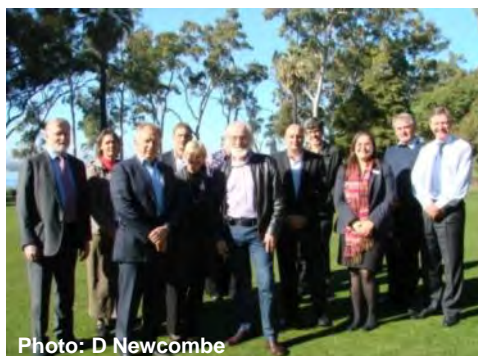


Photo: D Newcombe

The Friends of Kings Park committee were invited to attend the June meeting of the BGPA Board of Management to outline 20 years of support from the Friends and current funding projects.

On 20 June 2013 the Friends committee and staff were invited to a meeting of the Board of Management for BGPA. As the current President, I had the privilege of addressing the Board to highlight our involvement in Kings Park over 20 years. I spoke of the role we have played, the funding we have contributed, as well as the many thousands of hours given by our members to ensure the Park remains one of Australia's foremost Botanic Gardens. In response, the Chairman Richard Simpson on behalf of the Board, gave the Friends a vote thanks for 20 years of partnership and support. The Board regarded the involvement of the Friends as "awesome" and believed Kings Park a far better place due to volunteering and involvement of the Friends.

Management Committee

At the 2012 Annual General Meeting in October we were unable to complete the election of committee office bearers, and it was deferred until the November general meeting. The new committee elected to manage the Friends over the next 12 months is as follows:

President	Martin Revell
Vice President	Chris Day (resigned April 2013)
Treasurer	Liz Millward
Committee member/Magazine Editor	Tony Scalzo
Committee member	Pippa Moodie
Committee member	Val Gough
Committee member	Darren Harrop
Committee member	Kim Smith
Committee member	Alex Hew
Immediate Past President	Bob Bunney - Leave of Absence from December 2012 to October 2013
BGPA representative	Kirsten Marwick / Larr Rose

The Friends' membership has continued grow and totals 1,288, comprising 1,152 community members and 136 BGPA staff members. The challenge we have is to reduce the attrition rate of members not renewing following their initial membership. The Committee will continue to look at ways of addressing this problem.

Members continue to commit themselves to the long term goals of the Friends. This is shown by the presentation at the Christmas party of **15 Year Volunteer Badges and Certificates** to Phyllis Bentley, Elizabeth Forbes and Darren Harrop and **10 Year Volunteer Badges and Certificates** to Susan Dolgoy, Rosemary Markham, Pippa Moodie, Val Preston, Anne Read, Margaret Wood and Lynda Woodhams.

At our Anniversary meeting in May Certificates of Merit were presented to Megan Lloyd and Glenn Cook. Both Megan and Glenn have been stalwarts of the Weekend Bushland Carers since the group started in the mid –1990s. I understand some members of the group attend just to sample Megan's cakes for morning tea. Joanne Dumaresq was presented with a gift voucher for managing the office while we were appointing our new staff members Liz Laurie and Tammy Pinkerton last year and for the support she has given to them while they settled into the job.

In November 2012 we entered Tony Scalzo, our Magazine editor and coordinator of the Growing Friends, Weekend Bushland carer and Committee member, in the Members of Parliament 2012 National Volunteer Award for the Environment in the Curtin Electorate. We attended the office of the Hon Julie Bishop on 13 December for the presentation where it was announced [Tony had not only won the Environment Award but also the Volunteer of the Year Award.](#) This was a wonderful recognition of all the work Tony does with the Friends and also the role of the Friends in the broader community

The quarterly plant sales continue to attract a large group of buyers, with gross sales exceeding \$152,325, representing a small increase on last year. The 2012 Festival Plant sale took place during extreme weather conditions which was not ideal for the queues of people seeking access to the sale on the Saturday morning. Despite these difficulties, we were sold out by Monday afternoon and closed the sale early. Those in the queue were in good humour though it is something we will ensure does not happen again. In future the Festival Plant sale will be moving to the Exhibition Ground where we hold our quarterly sales to allow us more room to accommodate the crowds attending the sale.

The tremendous work undertaken by the Growing Friends is the basis for 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. 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 days, making it a successful team effort. It is with members like this we are able to promote the Friends as an volunteer organisation of choice to join and support, and raise considerable funds for Kings Park.

Appendices

The Skyshow on Australia Day was a great success and the Friends collected \$8,007, which was more than collected last year. The money was used to provide new water fountains as part of our funding to Kings Park this year. Visitors who walked over the Lotterywest Federation Walkway donated \$8,620.90 to the Friends of Kings Park.

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
12 July 2012	Professor Jonathan Majer Department of Environmental Biology Curtin University	Dead standing trees contribute to the conservation of arthropods in burnt woodland of Kings Park
9 August 2012	Jim Baker Bibbulmun track end to ender	Bibbulmun track
8 September 2012	Adam Cross PhD student BGPA/UWA	Kimberley Research part funded by Friends of Kings Park
11 October 2012 (Annual General Meeting)	Digby Grows Senior Plant Breeder BGPA	BGPA plant breeding program.
8 November 2012	Michael Forte Peth City Farm	Perth City Farm Climate Reality Project
9 February 2013	Jan Bant Chairperson Friends of the Western Swamp Tortoise	<i>"How can we help the Western Swamp Tortoise"</i>
14 March 2013	Norm Manners President Honour Avenue Kings Park Group	The Remembrance Plaques of Kings Park
14 April 2013	Kings Park Master Gardeners	<i>"Restoring the most extra-ordinary thing in the world"</i> - report from the inaugural Mary-Rose Paterson Scholarship winners
10 May 2013 (20 th Anniversary meeting)	Emma Dalziel PhD student BGPA/UWA	<i>"The Waterlilies from Nature to Naturescape"</i> Kimberley Research project part funded by Friends of Kings Park
14 June 2013	Chris Swarts, BGPA, Bold Park, Vic Galea Scholarship winner 2012	His visit to Kirstenboch Botanic Gardens at Capetown South Africa working with the Custodians of Rare and Endangered Wildflowers (CREW) and the Millennium Seed Bank

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 to develop their skills by visiting other Botanic Gardens and promoting Kings Park while at the same time increasing their knowledge of their work interest. This year it was awarded to Lisa Collyer and Ben Anderson. Lisa will visit the Royal Botanic Gardens in Cranbourne to gain an insight into potential Australian bedding plant options for Kings Park. Ben will be travelling to the University of Sydney to attend a workshop on phylogenetic analysis. We look forward Lisa and Ben addressing a future Friends' General Meeting with the results of their visits.

The Tom Alford Scholarship is the formerly named Friends of Kings Park Scholarship, it has been renamed in recognition of years of dedication and leadership Tom has given to the Friends. This scholarship was awarded for the first time in 2013 year under its new name. As no applications had been received for this scholarship in 2012, the money was carried over and four awards each of \$1000 were presented. The recipients were volunteers Jane Tucker, Glenda Prideaux, Tony Lightman and Caroline Carlton.

The Mary-Rose Paterson Scholarship was awarded for the first time in 2012 and this year the recipients were volunteers Jeanine Russell and John Gardner.

The recipients of both the Tom Alford and the Mary-Rose Scholarships will be attending the 13th Australasian Conference of Volunteer Guides in Botanic Gardens Conference in Christchurch New Zealand later in the year. We look forward to them returning from Christchurch and briefing us on the outcomes of the conference.

Support and funding for Other Projects

The Friends continued its partnership with Lotterywest to support the 2012 Wildflower Festival.

The Friends also had great pleasure in providing funding from our own sources to support a science project looking at Spinifex managed by BGPA, a new soil trolley for the nursery and the seven new drinking fountains. The total funding provided for these projects was \$47,000. For the second year we won a grant from Volunteering WA to promote all BGPA volunteer organisations during Volunteer Week which happily coincided with our May 2013 Plant sale. A marquee was erected and the Volunteer Guides, Master Gardeners, Honour Avenue Group and the Friends of Bold Park were all present to promote their organisation to the visitors and attendees to the Plant Sale. To complement this, a grant was won from Lotterywest to provide refreshments for all the volunteers, which included a muffin, piece of fruit and a coffee from the coffee van, which was a nice way to celebrate volunteering in Kings Park.

In September 2012 we entered the [Orange Seed Project](#), a joint initiative between Jack in the Box and the West Australian newspaper which was open to not for profit organisations to assist them in promoting themselves to the wider community. We were shortlisted from the original 60 applicants to the final ten. Once selected in the final ten, we were asked to produce a 90 second video on what we do and how we do it. Tammy Pinkerton and Liz Laurie organised with local media people to produce the video. The result was a unique video that was submitted for a public vote via the internet. We attended a presentation evening at the Perth Belltower in which we were shortlisted in the final five. The Friends was one of the four runners up, with the winner being the Perth Bone and Tissue Bank. To be in the final five shortlist of winners was beyond our expectations and meant we received a \$1,000 cheque plus a \$20,000 in-kind media package from the West Australian.

Friends' Groups Activities

The Growing Friends as mentioned earlier continue to produce broad 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 continues to assist the BGPA's science staff with repotting of the orchid collection and the plants are multiplying and growing strongly in the glasshouse. 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 is 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.

Magazine/Calendar

Once again, this year, our Magazine Editor, Tony Scalzo and Graphic Designers, Rosalie Okely and Ji Min 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 for his dedication and 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 years.

Staff and support to the Friends

I would like to acknowledge and say thank you for the support provided to me, the Committee, and to members by the Friends Office Administrator, Liz Laurie and Membership and Events Officer Tammy Pinkerton.

I would like to acknowledge the assistance, accounting advice and hard work from the Friends' Auditor, Bruce Donald and thank him for 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.

Martin Revell
President, Friends of Kings Park



Photo: M Revell

The BGPA organised new billboard signage near Mounts Bay Road in recognition of the Friends' 20th Anniversary.

Kings Park Volunteer Guides

The Kings Park Volunteer Guides have been providing a service to Kings Park and Botanic Garden and the community for 28 years. At the end of this financial year there were 122 Guides available for duty. In addition, three have 12 months leave of absence, and one is on extended sick leave.

During the last twelve months the Guides in the Visitor Information Centre (VIC) have addressed 47,267 over the counter enquiries. They have carried out 6,687 hours of regular duties in the Visitor Information Centre and on guided walks. In addition to this, some 35 Guides have given over 4,298 hours to extra duties, making a total of 10,985 hours. These included:

- Committee meetings and the accompanying work involved.
- Organising and implementing Guide assessment (TEG – Team for Evaluating Guides).
- Compiling rosters for general duties and those during the Kings Park Festival.
- Publishing the Guides' Newsletter.
- Organising ongoing education for Guides
- Conducting refresher walks for Guides.
- Coordinating the Guides' Lending Library and reference books.
- Flower arranging for displays in the VIC.
- Organising the Guides Social Calendar.
- Preparing and conducting the 2013 Guide Training Course.
- Speaking on invitation at local community group meetings.

In addition, the writing and illustration of the book 'About Kings Park' by one of our most experienced Guides, in collaboration with her fellow Guide and husband, involved many hundreds of hours. In general, the Guides have contributed in a most dedicated and committed manner to the benefit of the BGPA and the community at large.

Visitor Information Centre

The Kings Park Visitor Information Centre has opened daily (except Christmas Day) from 9.30am to 4pm. Two Guides are on duty on each of the two shifts covering the opening hours.

The Guides and the BGPA have continued to carry out improvements to the Information Centre to make it more attractive to visitors and to facilitate its use by the Guides. The Public Information Computer terminal (PIE) has been removed to allow for more space as it was under utilised, a Duress Alarm System installed and a trolley for general use has been provided by the BGPA.



Photo: A Russell

The Kings Park Guides see thousands of visitors every year though the visitor information centre.

The Guides' Procedure book is in the process of being revised. The display areas are fully utilised to allow visitors to view large posters of features of the park, to browse a range of pamphlets and brochures about the park and selected tourist attractions in the city, and to watch a video showing park scenes. Many of the park brochures have been developed in conjunction with or at the request of Guides. The lending library continues to be well utilised. A monthly update report of important notifications regarding the park is provided by a BGPA Park Management Officer and is well received.

This year, an 'Observation' book has been reinstated in the VIC to allow for Guides to note the appearance of seasonal changes and flowerings. This will facilitate, in particular, learning for the new Guides and will benefit all Guides in general.

A daily record has been kept of the number of visitor contacts. The statistics for the year show a total of 47,267 contacts in the Visitor Information Centre by visitors from every continent (down from 54,521 in 2011/12, which may be a reflection of the high Australian dollar discouraging overseas tourists). There were also many phone enquiries.

The lightweight folding wheelchair purchased by the Guides for (free) use by visitors to the park continues to be a great help to visitors.

Free Guided Walks

Our program of two free guided walks every day at 10.00am and 2.00pm, with a noon walk running every month except July and August, has continued. The regular walks take visitors into the bushland, in the appropriate seasons, and into the Botanic Garden and the formal part of the park all the year round. Again this year, the suspension of the usual walk pattern during the annual Kings Park Festival allows the provision of three free walks each day, two in the Nature Trail in the bushland, and one at midday into the Botanic Garden; a timetable that has proved very popular.

When requested, the Guides also undertook Walks by Request for groups larger than 10 in number, or people with special interests. The BGPA has a small per capita charge for these walks. This year Walks by Request excluded school groups which are now catered for by Kings Park Education. There was an increase in the demand during the Kings Park Festival.

“Had a lovely morning, what a **top journey**. Walking through the bush on a lovely Perth day was **just glorious**. Two of the **best guides** ever.”



“Scott was an **excellent guide** volunteer for our 10am walk around Kings Park and Botanic Garden.”

During this financial year the Guides undertook 1,076 guided walks with more than 7,600 participants.

Number of Walkers	2011/12	2012/13
Free Guided Walks	6,356	7,133
Special Walks	1,236	561
Total Walkers	7,592	7,694

Numbers of walkers vary according to the weather – fewer walkers if it is wet or windy or very hot and a significant increase during the wildflower season. The September 2012 walks were very well attended with 2,545 walkers noted.

Effect of the Climate on the Bushland Areas

Guides do not take visitors into the bushland during the summer but as winter approaches, bush walks begin again. The walks take visitors into areas which have been affected by the recent, ongoing hot, dry summers and winters which are struggling to reach previous rainfall averages. The bushland has been stressed and some trees look quite dead, in parts giving the bushland a dry appearance. Guides showing visitors the bushland are able to discuss climate and the environment, and its effect on native flora. Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park continues to be a great drawcard and gives the Guides another opportunity to direct visitors, especially those with children to a rewarding environmental experience.

Health and Safety

The Guides co-operate very closely with the BGPA staff who have the statutory duty of ensuring that health and safety requirements are met. Guides are mindful of visitors' safety when in walking groups and advise them of possible risks during the introduction before the start of the walk.

An amendment to the Kings Park Guides By-laws in November 2012 included the prerogative of the BGPA to cancel walks according to weather conditions. With the extremely hot weather conditions in January 2013, guided walks were cancelled on several days.

Further Education

All Guides are expected to update their knowledge and skills and to know the latest relevant information about the park and the flora. To this end we have a group email notification process so that important news can be circulated rapidly.

We also have ten meetings a year which all Guides are strongly encouraged to attend. Talks by guest speakers are of high quality and are much appreciated by Guides. We are grateful to the speakers both from BGPA staff and from beyond Kings Park who give freely of their time and expertise.

Following each meeting there is usually a walk in the park that follows up and enlarges upon the talk at the General Meeting. A summary of the talk and the follow-up activity is published in the monthly newsletter which is posted to all Guides, Associate Guides and relevant BGPA staff. Other articles with further educational content are also included.

A 14 week Guide Training Course was conducted in 2013, from March to May, with 22 new Guides being graduated. This training course involved dedicated Guides, who as educators, mentors, assessors and support people, prepared for and conducted a program of history, botany, skills training in guiding, and practical assessment. It was extremely well received. The Guides are very grateful for the encouragement and support from the BGPA staff.

Evaluation

The compulsory program for evaluating the quality of the services Guides provide to visitors has continued and now seems to be accepted as necessary to ensure that the standards of our performance match the expectations of visitors.

Elections to form the Team Evaluating Guides (TEG) are conducted periodically. TEG is a body of ten experienced Guides elected by the whole group who give extra voluntary time to observe and assess the quality of service given by each individual Guide. The TEG member quietly evaluates a Guide on duty and then provides confidential feedback, usually over a cup of coffee, and may also offer guidance and support and listen to any guiding problems that the Guide may want to put forward.

The TEG process aims to ensure all Guides meet the highest standards in keeping with our quality assurance. On the whole, Guides find being assessed a very positive, though sometimes stressful, experience and the standard of guiding remains very high. The Comments Book entries written by visitors generally reflect their reactions to the beauty of Kings Park and Botanic Garden, and also often compliment the Guides who lead the walks and offer assistance in the Visitor Information Centre.

Uniforms

As much of our time is spent out of doors, our uniform shirts have long sleeves, we have wide brimmed hats and are encouraged to wear sunscreen, all of which offer protection against ultra-violet radiation in the course of our duties. This provides an important example to the public. The BGPA has also made sunscreen freely available to visitors at the Information Centre. This year the Guides have each been provided free of charge with a new uniform shirt that has the BGPA logo plainly visible. Each Guide is also provided with a hat and bag (with the BGPA logo) from the Guide funds. This uniform gives conformity to the professional appearance of the Guides and allows them to be easily recognisable when on duty.

Social

An excursion or tour to a place of social or historical interest is organised on at least nine occasions for the Guides during the year. This gives them an opportunity to develop their knowledge base and socialise with their colleagues.

The Lodge

The Main Lodge, at the Fraser Avenue entry to Kings Park, continues to be used by the volunteer groups who work in Kings Park and Botanic Garden. Each group has its own room. There is a main room for meetings and a large central area. The BGPA has generously provided the Guides with a computer and printer and there is a photocopier provided also in the central area which is very well used. The bookshelves in the main room have been refurbished to house a large number of books that have been transferred from the library in the Biodiversity Conservation Centre. This year the Guides' room has been reorganised utilising second-hand bookshelves that were available from elsewhere in the Lodge. Having all the volunteer groups with offices in the same building encourages friendly interaction which engenders a co-operative working spirit.

Acknowledgements

We sincerely thank Chief Executive Officer, Mr Mark Webb, for his continued support and encouragement of the Volunteer Guides. Thank you also to the Directors, Ms Marcelle Broderick, Dr Kingsley Dixon and Ms Lesley Hammersley for their ongoing interest and support of our Guiding activities. Sincere thanks to Grady Brand, and his colleagues, for readily available advice and knowledge, and for keeping us current with the horticultural activities of the BGPA.

We are grateful to all members of the Visitor Services team led by Jacqui Kennedy who have provided effective liaison between BGPA management and the Guides. We express our gratitude to the BGPA's Administrative Assistants and Park Management Officers who have assisted in our guiding work. Thank you also to the Volunteer Co-ordinators, Kirsten Marwick, and her successor, Larr Rose. Each of the co-ordinators has worked enthusiastically to ensure effective liaison and management within the Guide group, and encouraged and facilitated communication between the volunteer groups of BGPA.

Glenda Prideaux
President, Kings Park Volunteer Guides

Kings Park Volunteer Master Gardeners

A milestone in the history of the Volunteer Master Gardeners (VMGs) was celebrated in September 2012 when we marked the occasion of our 15th Anniversary. VMGs, past and present, and invited guests attended morning tea at Synergy Parkland. The event had a 'Waltzing Matilda' theme and it was an opportunity to thank all those staff members and others who support the work of the VMGs.

To mark the occasion a plaque has been positioned in Synergy Parkland near a grove of Coolibah trees, *Eucalyptus victrix*, which was designated on behalf of the BGPA for this purpose. During the year the VMGs contributed around 4,432 volunteer hours to Kings Park. The year concluded with the BGPA Christmas Party for Volunteers in December at which Ethel Lucas received the first VMG 15-year badge.



Photo: BGPA

Kings Park Volunteer Master Gardeners in the new grove dedicated to them to celebrate their 15th Anniversary.

Home gardening

Advice to home gardeners on the growing of native plants continues to be the main objective of the Volunteer Master Gardeners. Opportunities for home gardeners to ask questions are provided thrice weekly by telephoning or emailing 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. Additional training on the use of email was given to VMGs during the year. This year we dealt with more than 4,034 queries, a significant increase compared with 2,860 in 2011/12.

A Backyard Botanicals garden was formally opened in 2010 at Synergy Parkland and continues to grow and delight visitors. In this garden it is intended to show a range of native WA plants suitable for home gardens. We are assisting in the preparation of plant-care notes that provide information on growing the plants in home gardens. To date notes on twenty-one plants have been listed on the BGPA website (plus notes on the ten small eucalypts featured at the 2012 Festival) and additional plant-care notes are being processed ready for inclusion.

The Dig it with Coffee sessions held at Zamia Café have grown and matured this last year. Members of the public are invited to join a Kings Park horticulturalist and two VMGs to learn and talk about aspects of home gardening. During the year the sessions are held monthly and during the Festival in September they take place weekly. These sessions have continued to increase in popularity with several 'new' BGPA horticulturalists participating in the program.

Bush Garden

The Bush Garden, planted with species of plants local to Kings Park, is thriving—although it can appear otherwise in the hot summer months. More than two hundred seedlings propagated by VMGs have been planted this year. All the plants are growing without additional water. A dedicated group of Volunteer Master Gardeners works on Tuesdays throughout the year in the development and maintenance of the garden and as a result we are always rewarded with a magnificent, colourful display in spring. Data about the ninety species in the garden are being collected and monitoring includes growth of plants, flowering periods, survival rates and natural recruitment. The Bush Garden activities for 2012 ended with a morning tea attended by around twelve staff, including the CEO and two of the BGPA Directors.

Projects

The VMGs participated in a number of BGPA projects. We appreciate and value these opportunities to be included in the work of Kings Park in this way.

The Volunteer Master Gardeners are still very involved with Kings Park's Plant Development program with different groups working on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. We are helping BGPA plant breeders to work on several species—cleaning seeds, propagating, potting up, collecting pollen, cleaning labels and maintaining the area. This is a popular programme for Volunteer Master Gardeners so there is a waiting list for those who are interested in having an opportunity to participate.

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 seed and potting-up plants.

Involvement in translocation programmes for establishing rare and endangered species in their natural habitat remains a major aspect of our work. Members, under the supervision of Bob Dixon, have worked on cleaning seeds, preparing labels, germinating seedlings, planting out, harvesting seeds, monitoring and processing collected data. This work can entail long days working on country sites, many times with an overnight stay. The main project throughout the year has again been the translocation of rare *Eremophila resinosa* at Westonia. In addition, VMGs are still involved in monitoring new recruits of *Grevillea scapigera* on three different sites in Corrigin, although the project has finished.

On Sunday 19 May 2013, as part of National Volunteer Week, we shared a marquee with the other Kings Park volunteer groups including the Friends of Bold Park Bushland—each group promoting its merits. This event coincided with a Friends of Kings Park plant sale. The VMGs' offer of a guided walk in the Bush Garden elicited a good response and the technique of Xeriscape gardening was explained.

In July 2012 we had the opportunity to assist Ryan Glowacki and the Kings Park Bushland team with restoration planting in the area near the reticulation pond at the start of Marri Walk. Among the seedlings planted were Running Postman (*Kennedia prostrata*); Swan River Myrtle (*Hypocalymma robustum*); Slender Banksia (*Banksia attenuata*) and Jarrah (*Eucalyptus marginata*).

Working with other groups

The Volunteer Master Gardeners have continually sought opportunities to promote the beauty and diversity of Western Australian native flora, the work of the BGPA, the Volunteer Master Gardeners' Gardening Advisory Service and the work carried out by the other volunteer groups. In 2012/13 we continued to give talks to social and gardening groups speaking about Kings Park or about gardening with native plants.

Our regular collaboration with the Friends of Kings Park continues. Members attend all Friends' plant sales—both the regular sales throughout the year and those during the Festival. VMGs are there to assist buyers with their plant selections and to give planting and growing tips for the many species on offer.

For the last few years, the Friends of Kings Park have kindly included a regular Volunteer Master Gardeners' article in their quarterly magazine *For People and Plants*. The articles feature attractive garden plants together with details of their propagation and cultivation.

Participation in Festival activities



Photo: A Russell

The Kings Park Volunteer Master Gardeners help out at the Kings Park Festival each year.

In 2012 our involvement in the annual Kings Park Festival continued. Our Festival activities included providing a VMG Information Desk, assisting the Friends with their plant sale and helping with the Wild Fairyland Festival. We continued a roster of 'roaming' during the weekends throughout September. Again we were involved with the Science Directorate's plant specimen table, from setting-up to dismantling. This year we featured ten small eucalypts suitable for the home garden and the location of a specimen of each of these was shown in a 'handout' map of the Park.

Once again we were involved with Quiz-on-Legs, one of the educational activities for schools that are offered during the Kings Park Festival. The theme 'The mysterious world of fungi' was a great success. Students were shown examples and photographs of different fungi ranging from edible mushrooms to mildews and mould and their importance in

keeping the bushland in a state of good health was explained.

Further Education for VMGs

Our monthly General Meetings provide an opportunity to hear from guest speakers. During the year topics included 'Indigenous Kings Park'; 'Breeding Grevilleas'; 'Interaction of fire and climate change'; '21st Century Plant Hunter: looking for interesting species across WA'; 'Bush Food for the Garden' and 'Restoration of *Symonanthus bancroftii*: 10 years on'. In addition we had two excellent outings—one to the WA Herbarium and the other to Cottesloe to see the techniques used to achieve dune restoration undertaken by the Cottesloe Coastcare group.

Training

In May 2013 we welcomed 19 new Volunteer Master Gardener trainees. Training includes a twice-weekly programme of talks and demonstrations spanning a nine-week period. This is followed by a written examination of the content of the training course just completed. Then, for a year, as Interns, they become involved in the varied activities assigned to Volunteer Master Gardeners.

Acknowledgements

We sincerely thank Chief Executive Officer, Mr Mark Webb, for his continued interest and encouragement. His support for volunteers is reflected throughout the BGPA. We also thank the Directors, Ms Marcelle Broderick, Dr Kingsley Dixon and Ms Lesley Hammersley for their ongoing support and for the opportunities they have given us to participate in their work and the activities of the BGPA.

We are grateful to all members of the Visitor Services team led by Jacqui Kennedy who have not only given outstanding assistance to our group but also have facilitated closer co-operation between all volunteer groups. We express our gratitude to the BGPA's Administrative Assistants who facilitated our work and interface with the BGPA and to all staff and students who happily share their knowledge, skills and facilities with us.

Above all, we thank Bob Dixon, Biodiversity and Extensions Manager. Without his untiring assistance and confidence in our ability we could not have continued to contribute and to enjoy the many rewards of voluntary service in Kings Park and Botanic Gardens over the years. Last, but not least, thanks are extended to all Volunteer Master Gardeners who have worked enthusiastically at every opportunity, and to the Committee for their support and efforts throughout the year.

Liz Farquhar

President, Kings Park Volunteer Master Gardeners (Inc)

Honour Avenues Maintenance Group

REMEMBER THEM WITH PRIDE

The old coastal trader lurched and began to roll to one side and it was obvious to those survivors struggling to get away from her looming hull and superstructure that soon the *Vyner Brooke* would roll right over and plunge in to the depths of the Bangka Strait.

Built to carry only 12 passengers, the *Vyner Brooke* crammed in over 300 men, women and children in their desperate bid to escape the inevitable fall of Singapore.

Among the passengers were Australian Army Nursing Sisters of the 2/10, 2/13 Australian General Hospitals and the 2/4 Casualty Clearing Station who had been ordered out, against their wills, from Singapore on the 12th of February 1942.

Japanese aircraft found the ship on the 14th of February 1942 and bombed it.

After saving as many people as possible the Sisters were the last to leave the sinking ship on the command of the Senior Matron, O.D.Paschke. Sadly 11 were to drown.

The surviving Sisters drifted in to Radji Beach on nearby Bangka Island.

It was here that they were eventually discovered by a Japanese patrol who took all of the men further down the beach and around a headland where they were bayoneted.

Returning to the Australian Nursing Sisters they herded them in to a line facing out to sea and forced them to start wading. It was then that they shot them all in the back.

One Western Australian Sister lost her life in the sinking of the *Vyner Brooke* while a further four were among the twenty Sisters massacred on Radji Beach.

As their bodies were never found you will find their names on the plaques in the Honour Avenue of May Circle, May Drive, Kings Park.

8 Australian Division, Army Nursing Sisters

Louvinia Bates, 2/13 AGH	lost at sea
Alma Beard, 2/13 AGH	shot
Peggy Farmaner, 2/4 CC	shot
Minnie Hodgson, 2/13 AGH	shot
Bessie Wilmott, 2/4 CCS	shot

This is only one collective story of Western Australians who gave their lives in time of war, one from 1,536 plaques that currently line the three Honour Avenues in Kings Park.



Photo: N Coleman

Appendices

The Highgate RSL Honour Avenues Group, based in Kings Park, processes all requests for plaques and if the RSL's criteria are met will carry out the work to the high standard required prior to a dedication. The dedication service involves an Army Padre, bugler, the CEO of the BGPA and an honour guard from the Honour Avenues Group. Approximately 10 plaques are dedicated at any one service and at each service the serviceman or woman's civilian and military background is read out to the assembled relatives and gathering. A total of 340 plaques have been manufactured and dedicated since 2003.



Photo: A Russell

All plaques in the Honour Avenues are cared for by the eighteen members of the Honour Avenues Group, whose average age is 73.8. This includes the placement of new posts and plaques, straightening posts knocked by parking vehicles, refurbishing, or the replacing of older plaques. The total hours worked from June 2012 to April 2013 was 1,758 hours over 73 days and does not include that which was carried out within the homes of members.

Additional services include the placement of an Australian flag on all plaques for ANZAC and Remembrance Days, school tours for local and overseas students and speaking at outside service and community clubs and organisations.

During our weekly inspections of all Honour Avenues it is always pleasing to see bunches of flowers, or a small posy, laying at the foot of a plaque for this means the family has not forgotten a birthday, or the date of death, of a loved one.

As we work amongst these plaques we see them as crosses, their spiritual grave at home and although we feel a great sadness at their sacrifice we have a great pride in serving our fellow service men and women wherever they may lay.

“...just wanted to say how much the family appreciated the **Dedication Day** recently... The first time our family has had a get together in 20 years and what a way to do it – with a dedication of our **great great uncle**. We wouldn't all be here today enjoying life without the **soldiers** who **fought** for us...”

LEST WE FORGET

Norman G Manners
Chairman, Highgate RSL Honour Avenues Sub-Committee



Photo: M Griffin

Appendix 3 – Publications

The BGPA creates and contributes to, many publications throughout the year.

BGPA Information and Publications

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 2012/13.

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 (September 2013)
- 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 Publications

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Barrett R.L. and Wilson K.L. (2012) A review of the genus *Lepidosperma* (Cyperaceae: Schoeneae). *Australian Systematic Botany* 25: 225–294. doi: 10.1071/SB11037

[No. 1 most-read paper in ASB within 4 months of publication. Occupies entire journal issue.]

Barrett R.L. and Wilson K.L. (2012) *Gahnia halmaturina* (Cyperaceae: Schoeneae), a new species from Kangaroo Island, South Australia. *Journal of the Adelaide Botanic Gardens* 25: 1–4.

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Appendix 4 - 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 Fire and Emergency Services Authority: Impact of fire suppressing agents on native vegetation in Western Australia (2005-2009). (PhD project to 2013)
- 3 Millennium Seedbank Project: Seed conservation science for Western Australian orchids (2005-2009, 2012, PhD project 2013).
- 4 Department of Environment and Conservation, Great Southern District: Rare Plant Translocations program for *Grevillea scapigera*
- 5 Department of Environment and Conservation, Yilgarn District, Wheatbelt Region Rare Plant Translocations program for *Symonanthus bancroftii*
- 6 Catalpa Resources (was Westonia Mines Ltd) funding for two new translocation sites for *Eremophila resinosa* continues.
- 7 Rocla Quarry Products: Understanding the ecophysiological reasons that underpin Banksia species establishment (2006 -2013).
- 8 Department of Environment and Conservation: Clonal propagation through tissue culture of the critically endangered *Dryandra montana* (Proteaceae) (2007-ongoing).
- 9 Main Roads Department: Glossy Leaved Hammer Orchid conservation (2008-2012).
- 10 BHP Billiton Iron Ore "Seed Atlas for the Pilbara" (2008-2013).
- 11 Iluka Resources: Conservation of the rare species *Leucopogon 'ciliate'* (2008-2010). (PhD project to 2013)
- 12 Gindalbie Metals Ltd: Conservation genetics of *Acacia karina* (2009-2013).
- 13 Grange Resources Limited: An integrated research program focused on practical outcomes for the *ex situ* and *in situ* conservation, restoration and translocation of the DRF *Androcalva perlaria* (previously *Commersonia* sp Mt Groper) (Sterculiaceae) – a five year research and development program (2010-2015).
- 14 Griffin Coal Mining Co: Integrated conservation and translocation of *Caladenia lodgeana* project (2009-2015).
- 15 BHP Billiton: Investigation into the effect of topsoil stockpile age and depth on topsoil seed-bank and seedling recruitment (2010-ongoing).
- 16 Rio Tinto: Genetic composition of key tree species at Weeli Wolli Creek (2010-2014).
- 17 Shark Bay Resources: An integrated research program focused on approaches for scaling-up rehabilitation of two seagrass species, *Posidonia australis* and *Amphibolis Antarctica* impacted by bitterns discharge from crystallizing ponds (2010-2012).

- 18 Shark Bay Resources: Research of seedling recruitment dynamics of transition zone flora in natural and restored systems (2011-2014).
- 19 Sinosteel Mid-West Corporation Ltd.: research plan underpinning ecosystem restoration (2012-2017).
- 20 Birla Nifty Copper Pty. Ltd.: Vegetation restoration project in the Great Sandy Desert (2012-2015).
- 21 BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty. Ltd.: Pilbara Restoration Initiative executive support project (2012-2015).
- 22 Cliffs Asia Pacific Iron Ore Pty. Ltd.: *Ricinocarpos brevis* restoration research program (2013-2017).
- 23 Arriyadh Development Authority: Nature conservation strategy plan for the Riyadh region (2012-2013).

Nationally Competitive Projects

1. Development of cryopreservation for high value provenance collections of recalcitrant species used in post mining restoration. ARC Linkage grant LP0884027 (2009-2012: total funds \$3,041,181). Administering organisation: Curtin University of Technology. Collaborative partners: Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, The University of Queensland, The University of Western Australia and Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority.
2. A multidisciplinary research program to assess limiting factors and predict impacts of climate change for endangered Australian orchids. ARC Linkage grant LP0989338 (2009-2012: total funds \$980,000). Administering organisation: Australian National University. Collaborative partners: Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority and The University of Western Australia.
3. Mechanisms and manipulation of seed dormancy maintenance in annual ryegrass and other weed species. ARC Linkage grant LP0990923 (2009-2012: total funds \$296,476). Administering organisation: The University of Western Australia. Collaborative partner: Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority.
4. Broad scale implementation of native grass germination enhancement technologies. RIRDC research grant PRJ-003853 (2008-2014: total funds \$447,009).
5. Discovery of the molecular mode of action of karrikins in plants. ARC Discovery Project DP1096717 (2010-2012: ARC funds \$300,000). Administering Organisation: The University of Western Australia. Collaborative partner: Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority.
6. 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.

7. 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.
8. 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.
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. High resolution X-ray micro computed tomography supporting West Australian geo-, physical and biological science. ARC Linkage Infrastructure Equipment and Facilities (LIEF) LE 120100095 (2012 ARC funds \$620,000). Administering organisation: The University of Western Australia. Collaborative Partners: CSIRO, Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority, Curtin University of Technology, Edith Cowan University.
12. 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.
13. 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.
14. 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.

Appendix 5 – Research Scientists and Students

Research Scientists

Information regarding the BGPA's research scientists and students can be found by going to the Science 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 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 updated the 'Perth Plants' book.

Dr Lucy Commander continues research into seed enablement techniques of species in threatened ecological communities at Sinosteel Mid-West's mine sites.

Dr Carole Elliott commenced an 18 month contract to investigate the impacts on native plant populations of 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.

Peter Golos continues research into experimental designs for restoration of a mine site in the Great Sandy Desert.

Dr Anne Mathews commenced in January 2013 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 continues 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 Authority's expertise.

Dr Ben Miller assisted with ongoing review of fire policies/guidelines in Kings Park, and concluded a scoping study of restoration requirements in Saudi Arabia.

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 variation in three Pilbara riparian tree species.

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 ANUproject).

Dr Liz Sinclair is involved in establishing genetic guidelines for the effective ecological restoration of seagrass meadows (joint UWA project).

Dr John Statton concluded his research of seedling recruitment dynamics for the seagrass flora in the transition zone in natural and restored ecosystems, in partnership with Shark Bay Resources.

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.

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 has also commenced research of the declared rare flora *Ricinocarpos brevis*.

Students

Arwa Al-Hanbali (ECU) continues a Masters research project using molecular tools for the assessment of genetic mutation following cryopreservation in the Corrigin Grevillea (*Grevila scapigera*).

Benjamin Anderson (UWA) commenced 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.

Christine Best (UWA) completed her part-time Honours research investigating the reproductive biology of the threatened species *Androcalva perlaria* (previously *Commersonia* sp Mt Groper).

Mark Bundock (UWA) submitted his PhD thesis investigating the effects of commonly used herbicides and adjuvants on native vegetation in Western Australia.

Betty Mauliya (Liya) Bustram (UWA) continues her PhD researching methods and impacts of tissue culture and cryostorage for the rare *Drakaea* orchid species

Alea Faber-Castell (UWA) is continuing her PhD research part-time into the conservation and biology of Australian duck orchids (*Paracaleana*).

Kerryn Chia (UWA) is in her fourth year of her part time PhD project researching the ecology, seed dormancy and germination biology of *Persoonia longifolia*. MERIWA awarded Kerryn Chia a scholarship for her second year of study of *Persoonia longifolia* for mine site restoration.

Adam Cross (UWA) continues his PhD research into recruitment, dispersal and disjunction in Kimberley hydrophytes.

Clare Courtland (Murdoch University) commenced 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).

Todd Erickson (UWA) continues his PhD research investigating seed restoration science for the Pilbara flora.

Laura Folan (UWA) commenced her Honours project investigating the role of seeds in weed management.

Michalíe Foley (UWA) submitted her PhD thesis on her research of the molecular ecology assessment of habitat fragmentation of *Banksia ilicifolia*.

Arielle Fontaine (UWA) continues her Honours research project investigating the ecology of seeds with underdeveloped embryos (i.e. morphological and morphophysiological dormancy).

Karen Frick (UWA) completed her Honours project investigating how pollination events impact on the genetic diversity of a restored, isolated habitat.

Bryn Funnekotter (Curtin University) continues his PhD research project investigating cryopreservation of native plant species for conservation and minesite restoration.

Ilena Gecan (UWA) completed her Honours project undertaking molecular ecology assessment of seagrass meadows.

Lydia Guja (Curtin University) continues her PhD project investigating the relationship between seed dispersal mechanisms, seed germination traits and plant distribution in the coastal zone.

Samuel Gustin-Craig (UWA) completed his Honours project entitled “Grazing on *Posidonia australis* transplants - is this part of the halo effect?” with supervisors John Statton, Gary Kendrick (UWA), Kingsley Dixon.

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 (Curtin University) continues her PhD researching a conservation genetics and molecular phylogenetic study of the *Grevillea thelemanniana* complex.

Joe Krawiec (ECU) commenced his PhD research into the conservation genetics of *Ctenotus fallens* in urban bushland remnants.

David Leach (UWA) had his PhD thesis assessing the impacts of fire-suppressing agents on native vegetation in Western Australia, accepted.

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) commenced his Honours project investigating Banksia seedling survival in restoration.

Myles Menz (UWA) completed his PhD research project investigating habitat and pollination traits in the genus *Drakaea*.

Cameron Mounsey (UWA) continues his PhD 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) continues his PhD research into understanding the ecophysiology of trophic transition with micropropagated terrestrial orchids of the South-West Australian Floristic Region (SWAFR) for improving restoration success.

Rachel Ord (UWA) continues a PhD research program that will explore the potential to rehabilitate the Gnangara Mound pine plantation to native *Banksia* woodlands.

Caitlin Pascov (UWA) commenced her Honours project investigating genetic connectivity in the BIF declared rare flora *Acacia karina*.

Christopher Poulten (Murdoch University) completed his Honours project on assessing the genetic consequences of a removal of emus as vectors for the long distance dispersal of seeds in *Leucopogons*.

Alison Ritchie (UWA) continues her PhD project investigating the pollination biology and gene flow in an ecological restoration context.

Sacha Ruoss (UWA) submitted his PhD thesis investigating ecological adaptations of banded ironstone endemics to develop rehabilitation methods.

Anamika Sortey (UWA) commenced her Honours project researching the cryogenics of plants of relevance to post-mining restoration.

Jessica Stingemore (UWA) continues her PhD project investigating the landscape genetics and dispersal ecology of co-occurring *Persoonia* species (*Persoonia longifolia* and *Persoonia ellipticala*).

Ryan Tangney (Murdoch University) commenced an honours study focussing on *Leucopogon* seed dispersal within the broader project, "Dispersal and persistence of large-seeded forest species under global environmental change".

Kate Valencia (UWA) commenced 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).

Rachael Wheeler (UWA) completed her Honours project undertaking the genetic assessment of hybridisation in Tuarts.

Susan Whiteley (UWA) completed her Honours project on cryopreservation of *Aldrovanda vesiculosa* – a rare carnivorous hydrophyte.

Susan Whiteley (UWA) has commenced her PhD project investigating the use of biotechnology for the conservation of selected threatened Western Australian flora.

Anna Williams (UWA) continues her honours project examining geographic patterns of chloroplast variation in mid-west *Acacia* species.

Visiting Scientists

Dr Björn Bohman of Germany visited the UWA and Kings Park Science Laboratories for 8 weeks from September as part of the final year of an ARC funded collaborative research project with The Australian National University, UWA and the BGPA, researching the limiting factors and impacts of climate change for endangered Australian orchids.

Professor Sir David Read is a visiting scientist collaborating on the orchid mycorrhizal program as well as a working with BGPA science staff on developing a major ARC grant opportunity. He is one of the world's foremost mycorrhizal biologists.

Simon Rüger of ZIM Plant Technology in Germany, visited to assist with a collaborative project on Banksia tree decline.



Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority 2012!13 Annual Report

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