PORT GEOGRAPHE LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION INC. WRA & WBA NEWSLETTER **Spring 2025**



Hello all and welcome to the Spring PGLOA newsletter. I hope this finds you well, enjoying the warming weather, spring flowers and the approaching beach season.

Our 23rd AGM at the Deck was a great success, with about 60 members present as well as guests and affiliates. We heard from Rob Baird at Aigle Royal who updated us on future plans for the unfinished area along Layman Rd (see image at the end of this newsletter) and our City's Mayor Phill Cronin, who spoke favourably about PGLOA and the City's working relationship and promised to continue that going forward.

I welcome back most of the Committee members from last year with the addition of Steve O'Brien, who will head up our parks, gardens and landscapes portfolio. Just a reminder also, about the "Friends of the PG Foreshore Reserve" he has initiated and welcomes volunteers who would like to contribute to maintaining and improving that area (plus other places as the need and interest arises) Contact him direct or via the committee email. (Names and contacts at the end of this newsletter)

I think it's worth noting that the PGLOA's long term inputs into the coastal matters has contributed to what must be one of the best years since the Marina was built with:

The harbour stayed open to deep keel yachts and commercial boats all year, sand accumulation at Geographe Beach, Wonnerup Beach not washed away and both of them seeing less sea-wrack accumulation. We've also achieved a significant reduction in the noise emission from the Dredge, plus are now in the process of obtaining plans and costings through local govt. and Western Power for the electrification of the booster pump.

On the downside, it does look like mechanical intervention will be needed to shift the sea-wrack on Geographe Beach as the right combination of wind and tide has not occurred late in the season to clear it. This will likely involve burying some of it up the beach to further increase dune resilience, and pushing some out to sea when there is a following wind.

A question has been asked about water depth in the canals. The detailed answers can be found here on our website: PGLOA - Depth of Water in the Canals But the short version is: Main harbour entrance up to the Marina – DoT dredging; Marina itself – rest of the canals – City of Busselton; and lastly property owner's own jetty envelope – each individual property owner. We will discuss this with the City to find out how they intend to manage this going forward.

Another question was raised at the AGM about sewer infrastructure here, so I've written to Water Corp to get more details of their future infrastructure plans.

On another front Mike has been very busy in consultation with Aigle Royal organising and improving the Christmas Lights competition. More in his report below.

Geoff has also prepared a report on the parks and playgrounds in PG, in response to a question raised at the AGM that there is only one here. Aigle Royal have also committed to more in their future developments.

Happy days, here in the best place in the world to live!

Sincerely,

P.D. (Pete) Keynes,

PGLOA Chair

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CHILDREN'S PLAY AREAS IN PORT GEOGRAPHE.

If you have young children, or grandchildren, there are three parks in Port Geographe with play equipment suited to young children and one park with footy goalposts.

Portage Park located near the Western End of Port Geographe has a climbing "fort", a slide, a swing and a sandpit. There is shaded seating nearby.



Figure 1 Portage Park Playground

Seahorse Park is in Salamander Way and has climbing equipment, slides and a sandpit. There are seating and a table nearby.



Figure 2 Seahorse Park Playground

Pebble Park is suitable for older children wanting to play a bit of kick to kick football with some Australian Rules goalposts.



Figure 3 Pebble Park with Footy Goalposts.

Koolangka Park (West End of Spinnaker Blvd.) is an “all abilities” park and the only one with toilets and a parking area. There is a communication board to help non-verbal children (Initiated and part-funded by the PGLOA. Balance of funding was from 2 local developers) Shaded seating and barbeques are available and there is a wheelchair ramp to the water. Swimming experience is not great as there are lots of seabirds roosting on the seawall and defecating in the Lagoon water.



Figure 4 Koolangka Park Playground.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS CRUISE & COMPETITION RETURN

We're excited to announce that our beloved Christmas Lights Cruise and Competition will be returning this year with several exciting enhancements! Here's what's new for 2025:

Enhanced Prize Structure

We've been collaborating with Aigle Royal to make this year's competition bigger and better than ever. The total prize pool is an impressive $20,000! In an effort to make the competition more inclusive and fair, we've added two new prize categories alongside our traditional Best Display and New Entrant awards:

- **On-board Favourites:** Each vote in this category is tied to a boat ticket purchase, ensuring that voters have actually experienced your display in person.
- **Most Jolly:** This new category aims to encourage the festive atmosphere we saw last year, where residents dressed up, welcomed the boats, and created a truly special experience for everyone.

Technical Improvements

We're developing a new website that requires users to log in, allowing votes to be tied to email addresses for better tracking and prevention of duplicate voting. The website will also feature an interactive map, enabling participants to see their location and vote for displays in their vicinity.

To improve visibility, we'll be providing signs for competition entrants to display outside their homes. These signs will show their entry number, making it easier for passing boats to identify and vote for their favourite displays.

Route Expansion

We're addressing last year's issue where the cruise boat was unable to fit under certain bridges. Aigle Royal is working closely with the boat company to resolve this limitation, which will hopefully make more of the canal accessible for this year's route.



PGLOA COMMITTEE 2024/5

Chair	Pete Keynes: peter@portgeographe.com.au
Deputy Chair	Mike Cann
Secretary	Tanya May
Treasurer	Geoff Cocks: pgloa6280@gmail.com
Coastal Issues portfolio	Geoff Cocks
	Anton McLaughlin (ex-officio)
	Peter Jodrell
	Peter Maccora (ex-officio)
Membership	Dave Eyers
Landscape, Parks and Gardens	Steve O'Brien: pebble5@bigpond.com
AGM and Social	Michelle Wiseman
Committee	Brooke Neal
	Lisa Shreeve
Website:	portgeographe.com.au
Email	info@portgeographe.com.au

Application for PGLOA Membership 2025-26

Membership of the Port Geographe Landowners Association Inc. is open to all landowners and residents over 18 living within the Port Geographe development. If you pay a Special Area Rate for Port Geographe or the property you live in is subject to the Rate as part of Council rates, then you are eligible to join. Persons from outside the Special Area Rate zone especially including Wonnerup Residents and Landowners, are welcome to join as Affiliate members.

I/WE……

RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS:

……

……

POSTAL ADDRESS (if different to residential address):
…….

……

BEING THEOWNERS/RESIDENTS OF:

……

……

PORT GEOGRAPHE, 6280 (If not Port Geographe, please show suburb and postcode)
Mobile:……..

Email:…….

I/WE WISH TO APPLYFOR MEMBERSHIP/AFFILIATE (cross out the non applicable category) MEMBERSHIP OF THE PGLOA. I HAVE PAID THEMEMBERSHIP FEE OF $30 BY BANK TRANSFER. Email this form to pgloa6280@gmail.com

……

(SIGNED)

……..

(DATE)

To pay by direct debit, our bank details are:

BSB 036-123

Account Number 186479.

(Please reference your name and street if paying by Electronic Funds Transfer or over the counter at the bank and email info@portgeographe.com.au when payment is made)

AIGLE ROYAL NEWPORT MASTER PLAN



Ref: https://newportgeographe.com.au/about/