Waters Edge

Port Geographe Landowners Association Newsletter Jun 2026



Photo: M.Cann

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Hello everyone in and around Port Geographe,

Anyone found a better place to live yet? I haven't. Just back from a month self-driving and staying right around Bali, and as much as I love it there and did seriously consider staying longer, we're still happiest back home, in spite of recent weather. Fortunately, I'm not aware of any damage that can't be fixed, although some of the Marina boat pen jetties will definitely be a big one for them.

I asked one new waterfront homeowner how they fared. The response: "Yep, all good now after we spent the day cleaning up!" I do hope that's about as bad as it got for everyone. (See also the report on Wonnerup Beach erosion)

There will be some work ahead cleaning up the walkway path along the coast side of Keel and other similar places, but nothing seemed to be permanently damaged.

You'll see below that we've hit a few runs, with a number of requests in the Pride in our Place we submit to the City every year. I met with Iain Ferry, head of the City's Parks, Gardens and Outdoor spaces, recently to discuss priorities going forward. At the time of writing, I'm waiting on his response with cost estimates, so we can choose the most likely to succeed and get them moving on those. They are:

1. Keel Park: Solar Lights and retic repair and upgrade (already included in this year's budget and due to be completed before June 30th)
2. Keel Park top-dress and re-seed
3. Playground for older kids on the eastern side of PG, for example more equipment in Koolangka Park
4. Combo shower and drink fountain for humans and dogs at Baudin Reserve beach access in Wonnerup
5. Beach access from Freycinet Dr. (Denied due to expense and complexity of crossing rock seawall and proximity (60m) of access track adjacent to Lesueur Cl.) He agreed to consider a directional sign to that.

6. Iain agreed to pursue our agenda to have more playground facilities in the new park to be created as Aigle Royal expand the subdivision located east of Portage Way

I imagine that following the recent storm Iain's been a bit busy, so I haven't had his response as yet.

All the best,

P.D. (Pete) Keynes

PGLOA Chair

Speeding Boats in the canals:

I've written to the minister, who's deferred it to the assistant minister, who's deferred it to a senior staffer in the Department, re the smiley face sign. Her (the assistant minister's) response below:

Mr Peter Keynes

Chair Port Geographe Landowners Association Incorporated

peter@portgeographe.com.au

Dear Mr Keynes

Thank you for your correspondence dated 1 April 2026 to the Hon Rita Saffioti MLA, Deputy Premier; Minister for Transport, regarding watercraft speeds in Port Geographe. Your email has been referred to me as minister Assisting the Minister for Transport.

I acknowledge the association's concerns regarding vessel speeds within the marina and canals, particularly given the increasing mix of motorised and non-motorised watercraft and the importance of maintaining safety for all waterway users. Compliance with the posted 5-knot speed limit is critical to reducing collision risk, protecting vulnerable users such as kayakers and paddle boarders, and minimising wake-related damage to infrastructure and moored vessels.

I have sought advice from the Department of Transport and Major Infrastructure (DTMI) regarding the effectiveness and suitability of speed awareness devices at Port Geographe. DTMI currently operates a Speed Awareness Radar near the boat ramp at Port Geographe, which provides outbound skippers with a clear indication of their speed. This unit was relocated from its previous position near the marina entrance to improve functionality, reduce maintenance requirements and provide earlier speed feedback to skippers.

Data downloaded from the radar sign, covering the period 1 May 2024 to 5 February 2026, indicates that the majority of vessels recorded are abiding by the gazetted speed limit. Of the 8,346 vessel movements recorded during this period, approximately 8.6 per cent were travelling above 8 knots. It is acknowledged some non-compliant behaviour persists and DTMI will continue work to target speeding.

DTMI is in the process of replacing existing radar speed signs over the next 12 months with upgraded speed signs more suitable in the marine environment and it will consider your additional sign request as part of this process. Please contact Mr Michael Stoten, A/Manager - Compliance and Investigations at DTMI, by email at: Michael.Stoten@transport.wa.gov.au or by mobile on 0434 074 774 for further enquiries.

Thank you for your ongoing interest in promoting safe boating within the Port Geographe community.

Yours sincerely

HON JESSICA STOJKOVSKI MLA MINISTER ASSISTING THE MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT

7th Floor, Dumas House, 2 Havelock Street, West Perth Western Australia 6005 Telephone: +61 8 6552 5400 Email: Minister.Stojkovski@dpc.wa.gov.au www.premier.wa.gov.au ABN: 61 313 082 730

AGM

Note this ***date for your diary*** – This year's AGM, at the Deck as usual:

Monday 27th July at 5.45 for 6.00pm.

Our guest speaker will be Lisa Shreeve, Busselton Jetty CEO.

Members only, but new members can join and pay at the door (or before). Please note payments at the AGM are cash only and preferably in an envelope with your name, street address and email address on it.

All members who haven't paid yet, please note that your annual subscription of $30 (no inflation here!) is now due for the 2026/27 financial year.

Interested in ***joining the committee***? Let us know and we'll send you a nomination form.

Just a reminder:

Anyone can request repairs or maintenance of footpaths, kerbs, public toilets, etc by clicking on the button on the home page of the City's website: https://busselton.wa.gov.au

New Cafe

Looks like we'll be getting a new café (The Busso Beach Café, I think) at the new Busselton Beach Resort. It will front the ocean with only the bike track in front of it. Should be nice, and a shorter ride than the Goose!



Artist's/architect's impression from the resort's website

Coastal

Peter Maccora sent this report to the City and DoT following the recent storm:

Hi Sam, Oliver and Phil

Geoff Cocks is currently away, and Geoff has asked that I forward this photo and request regarding the erosion that has occurred at Wonnerup over the weekend.

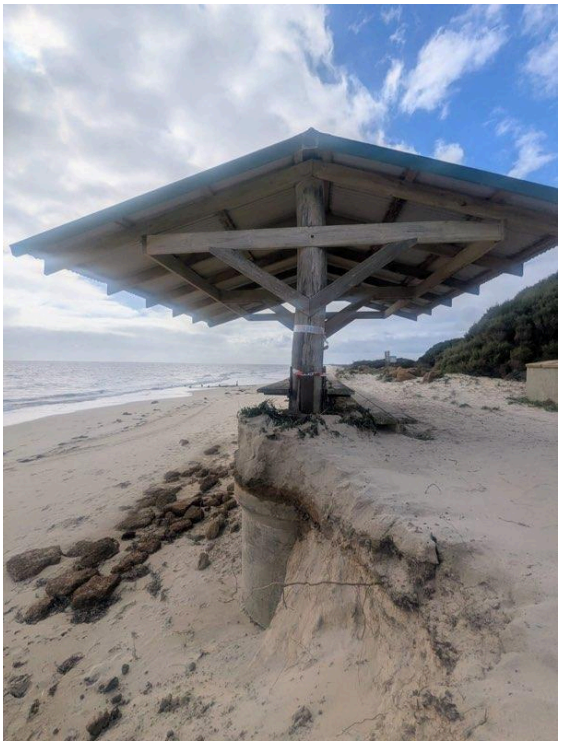
I understand you must be inundated with coastal erosion issues but the erosion that has occurred at Wonnerup has left this area severely exposed leading into winter. Additional sand or sandbags may be required to help stabilise this area leading into winter.

A few residents living within the DTMI area are very concerned that further erosion may occur over time and have asked if the existing submerged rock wall running parallel with the road further west could be considered extended to in front of these houses. They would like

your consideration to possibly include this as an additional option in conjunction with the proposed artificial reef study.

Kind Regards
Peter Maccora
Member Port Geographe Landowners Coastal Advisory Group.





I (Pete) can also report, that Jim Jewell of the Social Sailors, has done some soundings (and I do mean that literally, using the old-fashioned tried and true method of lowering a weighted line overboard, to avoid doubtful readings of weed not sand) that the marina entrance is still open to yachts and powerboats of approx. 2.2m draft. (Please do be aware though, that this changes daily!) The ***Social Sailors group*** is growing in popularity and sails most Thursday afternoons at around 1500 – 1700 when rule no. 1 must be obeyed: Back at the Deck bar by 5.00pm! If you're interested, contact Jim on:

jim.jewell26@outlook.com



But Jim, it's Social Sailors, not a race…..! (Pic: P Keynes)

Parks and Gardens

Volunteers have completely removed the rampant wild geranium from the Port Geo Eastern Foreshore Reserve – Lot 5142
The group's eradication work follows success at removing the toxic Sea Spurge and Geraldton Carnation weed prior to the focus on the Wild Geranium between Wonnerup end of this Reserve and eastern breakwater to marina entrance
The Port Geographe Garden Group – Friends of City Reserves volunteers began this work each Friday in two-hour sessions from the 31st October 2025. They have clocked up 250 man hours of work and filled 140 jumbo bags
Private contractor for the CoB was spraying weeds as a result of germination following rain
From Saturday 13 Jun 2026 and the next three Saturdays between 10am and 12noon planting sessions will occur. The CoB will provide around 200 seedlings each session to fill bare spaces. Volunteers are needed. To participate just meet at the small carpark at the western end of the new Waterfront subdivision on the ocean side of Spinnaker Boulevard at 10am.
Volunteer work is complementing that of a private contractor hired by the CoB to remove dead vegetation (refer pictures attached)

Steve O'Brien





Ironman/Triathlon

Reports came back to us that the parking and access arrangements went well, with a minimum number of issues. This was also assisted by the shorter closure time, and partial opening of roads to one-way traffic before the start and end of the cycling part of the event.

PGLOA Volunteer Committee 2025/6

Chair:	**Pete Keynes**
	peter@portgeographe.com.au
Deputy Chair:	**Mike Cann**
Secretary:	**Tanya May**
Treasurer:	**Geoff Cocks**
	pgloa6280@gmail.com
Coastal Portfolio:	**Geoff Cocks**
	Anton McLaughlin (ex-officio)
	Peter Jodrell
	Peter Maccora (ex-officio)
Membership:	**David Eyres**
Landscape, Parks and Gardens:	**Steve O'Brien**
IronMan/events team:	**Brooke Neal**
	Lisa Shreeve
Web:	**portgeographe.com.au**

Application for PGLOA Membership 2026-27

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 and Geographe Beach Residents and Landowners, are welcome to join as Affiliate members**. Note: membership is per household not per person**

I/WE……

RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS:

……

……

POSTAL ADDRESS (if different to residential address):

……

BEING THE OWNERS/RESIDENTS OF:

……

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

Email:……

I/WE WISH TO APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP/AFFILIATE (cross out the non-applicable category) MEMBERSHIP OF THE PGLOA. I HAVE PAID THE MEMBERSHIP 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)