



Rottnest Foundation

Conserving the essence of Rottnest

2020/2021 ANNUAL REPORT

CONTENTS

- 1 ROTTNEST FOUNDATION INC
- 2 MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR
- 4 OUR MAJOR PROJECTS
- 7 OUR PARTNERS & COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS
- 9 OUR FUNDRAISING INITIATIVES
- 10 FINANCIAL SUMMARY & STATEMENTS
- 13 OUR PATRON & OUR BOARD
- 14 OUR SUPPORTERS



ROTTNEST FOUNDATION INC

Conserving the essence of Rottnest

The **Rottnest Foundation** was established by Mrs Pat Barblett AM in **1985** for the purpose of raising funds for the island, with a particular focus on funding projects with environmental considerations.

In recent years the Rottnest Foundation has been particularly successful, having provided funding to support statewide Aboriginal consultation to progress the memorialisation of the Aboriginal Burial Ground and the construction of the Wadjemup Bidi, overall contributing **\$2,712,000** towards projects on Rottnest, which are of an **environmental, cultural or heritage importance**.

OUR VISION

To conserve and enhance the unique environmental, cultural and heritage assets of Wadjemup (Rottnest Island).

OUR MISSION

To develop relationships and raise funds for projects which strengthen and support our vision.

OUR VALUES

Innovation: Welcoming opportunities to fund projects which conserve the essence of Rottnest.

Collaboration: We work in partnership with the Rottnest Island Authority to achieve our purpose. We invite the corporate sector and community to support our projects.

Practical: We have a proven record in delivering conservation projects for the Island that are sustainable. Rottnest Island is a unique A-Class reserve that deserves our care and stewardship. Our Island requires support beyond current government contributions if it is to be sustained for future generations.

OUR PRIORITIES

Supporting conservation projects: The Rottnest Foundation will continue to work with the Rottnest Island Authority (RIA) to identify and support the delivery of conservation projects that align with our vision.

Secure partner contributions: The Rottnest Foundation will continue to collaborate and seek greater engagement with funders, the corporate and philanthropic sectors and the Western Australian community to support the ongoing sustainability of Rottnest Island.

Build organisational capacity: The Rottnest Foundation will work to achieve Our Plan by strengthening our relationships with our major partners, improving governance and seeking to increase operational funding.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have supported the Rottnest Foundation throughout the year, to conserve the Island's unique natural, cultural and heritage values.

We have enjoyed another successful year and delivered a number of important conservation projects, with support from grant funding, corporate partnerships and contributions from our members and volunteers.

Our members play an important role in supporting our revegetation programs. During the winter planting program, our enthusiastic members planted approximately 6,500 seedlings to revegetate an area of salt-marsh habitat adjacent to Herschel Lake, made possible with grant funding.

We were also pleased to have secured a number of grants throughout the reporting period to support dune stabilisation at Longreach Bay and acknowledge the Island's Aboriginal heritage with the commissioning of a bronze sculpture depicting a Noongar Elder, titled 'Noongar Boodja'. The sculpture will be on permanent display in the gardens of the newly refurbished Wadjemup Museum.

The Rottnest Foundation continues to invite the corporate sector to partner with us to deliver conservation projects and at the same time, assist them in meeting their corporate social responsibilities. Foundation Board member, John McMath presented to the Australian Institute of Company Directors' annual Rottnest event in March, providing an overview of the corporate partnership opportunities being offered by the Foundation. There was great interest in these opportunities and I would like to thank those who made a donation to our organisation at the event, totalling just under \$3,000.

It was a pleasure to attend the opening of the newly refurbished Wadjemup Museum on the 22 December, and to see the Rottnest Foundation acknowledged in an exhibition highlighting the significant contribution to the Island made by volunteer groups. The contribution to Rottnest Island by our Founder, Mrs Pat Barblett AM is also recognised in a new museum exhibit.

I would like to acknowledge our hard-working Rottnest Foundation London Chapter, whose fundraising efforts have supported the replacement of the beach access on the Gabby Karniny Bidi in North Thomson Bay. The works will commence in the latter half of this year.

We continue to work closely with the management of the Rottnest Island Authority, to identify priority projects that will conserve and improve the unique environmental qualities of the island. I would like to thank all management and staff, in particular the Environment, Heritage and Parks team, for their support.

The Rottnest Island Chamber of Commerce is another valued partner. Chamber members contribute to many of our fundraising initiatives, ensuring their success, in particular are annual raffle and calendar.

We are also grateful for the continued support of a number of island events and mainland businesses, who generously donate in support of our conservation projects. Our relationships with these external partners and other Rottnest Island Volunteer Groups is important and we commit to meet with them regularly throughout the year to provide updates on our current and future activities.

I would like to thank the Rottnest Foundation Board who volunteer their time to enable the organisation to achieve its goals and oversee the organisation's governance. Board Members, Melissa Beresford and Denise Hilsz stepped down during the year. I would personally like to thank them for their commitment and contribution to the Foundation. We also welcomed five new board members, adding financial, legal, marketing and environmental expertise to the Board's skillset. Thanks to Phoebe Carre who has developed a Brand Style Guide for the organisation and Kate Atkins for her work in drafting a Partnership Donation Agreement to formalise arrangements with many of our ongoing supporters. I would also like to thank Vicki Taylor for her work in reviewing and updating the Foundation's Constitution.

At the beginning of the reporting period, the Board moved to create a part-time administrative role to ensure we can continue to build on our success and deliver conservation outcomes. Pauline McMullan our Board Secretary was appointed to this position.

As a volunteer organisation we are also appreciative of the pro-bono support we receive. I would like to thank Pauline Casey who provides bookkeeping services and Trenna Kerr for design input.

I would also like to acknowledge our Patron, Mrs Janet Holmes à Court AC for her ongoing support.

In closing, special thanks go to our members and the Western Australian community who love Rottnest Island and support us in our role in 'Conserving the essence of Rottnest'. Support of our fundraising initiatives and participation in our volunteering days is greatly appreciated. Rottnest Island belongs to us all and we have a responsibility to ensure it is conserved for future generations.



Jeff King, OAM
Chairman



OUR MAJOR PROJECTS

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

The Rottnest Foundation Board has committed to support and seek funding to implement the Rottnest Island Settlement Greening and Woodland Management Plans. Both plans seek to rehabilitate and increase habitat in the settlement precincts and throughout the A Class Reserve. All native rehabilitation projects on Rottnest use species collected and propagated on the island by the Rottnest Island Nursery Volunteers and the RIA Environmental Team, which results in a higher survival rate.

We were pleased to deliver the following projects in support of these plans.

Dune rehabilitation – Basin to Longreach Link

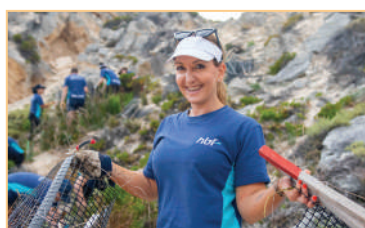


The Foundation secured grant funding through the Alinta Energy Community Grant program to undertake dune stabilisation at Longreach Bay. The \$17,940 funding enabled the collection and propagation of 3,200 coastal dune species. The planting will be undertaken in August 2021 by Alinta Energy staff volunteers.

Tree guard removal – Little Armstrong & Porpoise Bays



In March 2021, the Rottnest Foundation partnered with HBF to undertake tree-guard removal from established plants at Porpoise and Little Armstrong Bays. Tree-guard removal is an important component of the Island's ongoing Woodland Management Plan and HBF's significant contribution to this program was greatly appreciated by the Island's Environment Team. Tree-guards are essential to protect the young seedlings from quokka grazing and are removed once the plants are well established, approximately 2-3 years later. The corporate partnership contributed just over \$3,000 to support the Foundation's ongoing conservation programs and provided HBF volunteer staff with a fun team-building and conservation experience.



Salt-Marsh Revegetation – Herschel Lake

During the winter planting program, Rottnest Foundation members planted 6,500 seedlings, to revegetate an area of salt-marsh habitat adjacent to Herschel Lake. Participation by our members and other voluntary groups encourages ongoing environmental stewardship and enables each volunteer to develop an appreciation of the Island’s natural values.

The salt-lakes on Rottnest Island are listed as ‘*Wetlands of National Significance*’ supporting endemic fauna, microbial communities and important habitat for migratory and non-migratory birds.

The project was made possible through an \$18,000 Federal Government Community Environment Program Grant secured by the Foundation in the previous year. The funds supported the construction of fencing to exclude quokkas and the collection and propagation of endemic plants by the Rottnest Island Nursery Volunteers.



LAKE HERSCHEL BEFORE REVEGETATION



LAKE HERSCHEL AFTER REVEGETATION

OUR CULTURAL HERITAGE PROJECTS

Noongar Boodja

Rottnest Island is located on Whadjuk Noongar country and is referred to by its Traditional Owners as Wadjemup, which translates as, *'place across the water where the spirits are'* (Nannup via Stasiuk, 2015, p.32).

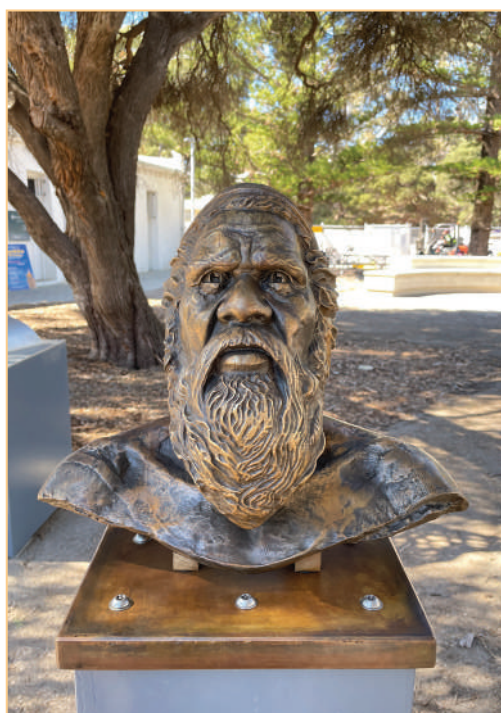
The Island is significant for Aboriginal communities across Western Australia. Between 1838 to 1931, Rottnest was a prison for more than 4,000 Aboriginal boys and men, with at least 373 of them dying on the Island during their imprisonment. Consequently, Wadjemup is Australia's largest known deaths' in custody site. The Island is also one of Western Australia's largest 19th century heritage estates, with many of its significant buildings constructed during the 1800s, with Aboriginal forced labour.



The Rottnest Foundation secured a \$25,000 grant from the Copland Foundation, a private Foundation established by Alexander Ewart Copland to support fields that were important to him.

The grant enabled us to commission the casting of a bronze bust depicting a Noongar Elder, titled 'Noongar Boodja' by artists Nicole and Alex Mickle of Shoalhaven Studios.

The project received the support of the Island's Traditional Owners and will serve to facilitate healing and reconciliation. The bust is due to be unveiled later in the year and will be on permanent display in the gardens of the newly refurbished Wadjemup Museum.



The Rottnest Foundation greatly appreciates the support provided by The Copland Foundation for the acquisition of 'Noongar Boodja'.

'NOONGAR BOODJA' BY ARTISTS NICOLE & ALEX MICKLE OF SHOALHAVEN STUDIOS.

OUR PARTNERS & COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS

Rottnest Island Authority



We continue to work closely with the Rottnest Island Authority, in particular the Environment, Heritage and Parks team, to identify priority projects that will conserve and improve the unique environmental, heritage and cultural qualities of the island.

Rottnest Island Chamber of Commerce



The Rottnest Island Chamber of Commerce is another valued partner and supporter of the Foundation. Chamber members contribute to many of our fundraising initiatives, ensuring their success.

We are also extremely grateful for the continued support of a number of mainland businesses and island events, who value the unique attributes of Rottnest Island and generously donate to our conservation projects. Our relationships with these external partners and other Rottnest Island Volunteer Groups is important and we commit to meet with them regularly throughout the year to provide updates on our current and future activities.

We would like to acknowledge the following donations to the Rottnest Foundation.

Hotel Rottnest and Rip Curl



The World Surf League 'Rip Curl Rottnest Search' was held on Rottnest Island in May, providing an opportunity to host the world's best surfers and showcase the Island to the world.

Hotel Rottnest and Rip Curl kindly donated \$4,530 from the proceeds of an auction of surfing memorabilia and Rip Curl merchandise to the Rottnest Foundation in support of our conservation programs. Items included Rip Curl watches, a wetsuit and a surfboard used at the event by Matthew McGillivray and signed by some of the world's best surfers including Tyler Wright, Gabriel Medina and Rip Curl founder Doug Warbrick.

Australian Institute of Company Directors

Foundation Board member, John McMath presented to the Australian Institute of Company Director's annual Rottnest event in March, providing an overview of the corporate volunteering programs that can be offered by the Foundation. There was great interest and support for the Foundation's work and we thank all those who made a donation on the day, raising just over \$3,000.



Rottnest Channel Swim

Once again, the Rottnest Foundation was included as one of three recipient charities in the registration process for the iconic 2021 South32 Rottnest Channel Swim event. This provides great exposure for our Foundation and raised just under \$3,000.

The Lane - Rottnest Island

The Lane

The ANZAC Day Service on Rottnest Island was cancelled due to a COVID-19 lock-down. Glenn Evans from The Lane generously donated \$1,000 from funds allocated to deliver the dawn breakfast to the Foundation.



Make an Impression Greeting Cards

Make an Impression Greeting Cards continue to donate part proceeds from the sale of a Quokka Greeting card produced by Edwina Carre. This year the Foundation gratefully received \$875.

RI Gin - The Wine Thief



The RI Gin and RI Pink Gin are made from sustainably sourced Rottnest Island botanicals. The creators and owners of The Wine Thief in Leederville, also support our Foundation by donating part proceeds from sales. This reporting period they donated \$250.

Pat Barblett Knitting Project



Our Founder, Pat Barblett AM continues to make a significant contribution to our Foundation and Rottnest Island. Pat loves to knit and her cardigans are in hot demand. Pat invites a donation for each garment and has raised an amazing \$4,000 from her knitting project.

OUR FUNDRAISING INITIATIVES

Rottnest Foundation London Chapter



The fundraising efforts of the hard-working Rottnest Foundation London Chapter is supporting the replacement of the beach access on the Gabby Karniny Bidi in North Thomson Bay. Up to \$75,000 has been allocated to the purchase and transport of materials to the Island, and construction by the RIA Rangers will commence in the latter half of this year.

COVID-19 has impacted on their annual fundraising events. To maintain contact with their supporters, the Chapter delivered a virtual event in May 2021 to provide an overview of recent projects on the Island. The webinar included a message from Michael Deeks the Agent General to London, and a previous Rottnest Foundation Board member, and pre-recorded messages from the Minister for Tourism, Hon David Templeman MLA and a joint presentation with the Foundation's Patron Janet Holmes à Court AC, Chair Jeff King OAM and Rottnest Island Authority Chair John Langoulant AO.

2021 Rottnest Foundation Calendar

The Rottnest Foundation calendar has raised just over \$155,000 since the first publication in 2016. Our 2021 calendar was a sell-out and raised just under \$30,000. Thank you to all the businesses who underwrite the production of the calendar and all those who purchased a copy.



Sea Dog TV International & Grand Cinemas

Leighton and Jodie De Barros of Sea Dog TV International have been long-time supporters of our Foundation donating part proceeds from sales of their *Kingdom of the Quokka* book and DVD. They are acclaimed film producers, recently producing the inspirational documentary 'Jaimen Hudson - From Sky to Sea' which features Jaimen's stunning drone imagery, including Rottnest Island and shares his quest to be the world's first underwater cinematographer with quadriplegia. Leighton offered the Foundation the opportunity to screen the movie as a fundraiser. With the support of Grand Cinemas Warwick the movie screened on 9th June and raised \$1,000.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY & STATEMENTS

The 2021 Financial Statements reported a deficit of \$54,527 after a surplus for the previous year of \$87,988. This reflects the expenditure this year from accumulated funds, in line with our purpose to conserve and enhance the environment of the island. The current accumulated surplus held by the Foundation is \$271,627

This financial year, the Foundation has contributed funds towards the replacement of the North Thomson stairs and Quokka Monitoring and expended our Community Environment Program grant and The Copland Foundation grant. The Foundation is also holding a grant of \$17,940 from Alinta Energy which is yet to be expended.

Our operating expenses have increased this year as a result of the decision by the Board to employ an Executive to facilitate the day to day running of the Foundation. This expense is being monitored and whilst it is covered by income from a range of fundraising activities managed by the executive, the Board is endeavouring to have this cost incorporated into future sponsorship arrangements. Corporate sponsorship has been a major focus of the Board this year with potential targets identified and proposals developed.

Our primary sources of income for the year were from calendar sales, donations received and an increase in membership. Other income included receipts from the movie fundraiser, HBF Corporate Volunteering and Cash for Cans which began in October last year.

The Foundation is fully insured for Public Liability, Directors Indemnity and Voluntary Workers Insurance which the Rottnest Island Authority has refunded to the Foundation.

The reporting for our status as a not for profit and a tax-deductible conservation entity has changed for this year. We are now only required to report to the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment and the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission.

The financial statements have been audited by Brodie Wood at Aylmore & Associates.

The Board would like to extend their gratitude to Pauline Casey for her voluntary accounting and bookkeeping work for the Foundation for over 10 years. Pauline has indicated her intention to handover this role and we will be looking to manage the bookkeeping in-house with existing resources.



FINANCIAL SUMMARY & STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2021

	2021	2020
CURRENT ASSETS		
BankWest Trading Account	\$2,520	\$2,385
BankWest Donation Account	\$23,465	\$104,295
BankWest Telenet Saver - RF	\$200,220	\$219,115
BankWest Telenet Saver – Museum	\$45,978	\$2
TOTAL ASSETS	\$272,183	\$325,797
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
GST Payable / (Receivable)	(\$2,183)	(\$356)
PAYGW Payable	\$1,689	
Superannuation Payable	1,050	
Subtotal	\$556	(\$356)
NET ASSETS	\$271,627	\$326,153
EQUITY		
Surplus / Carried Forward	\$326,153	
Current year surplus (deficit)	(\$54,526)	
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS	\$271,627	\$326,153

PROFIT & LOSS

2021

2020

INCOME OPERATIONS

Art Exhibition 2019		\$2,019
HBF Corporate Volunteering	\$4,964	
Rottneest Channel Swim	\$2,905	
Calendar	\$39,600	\$37,257
Calendar 2022	\$2,000	
Raffle 2019		\$8,830
Membership Fees	\$4,059	\$2,804
Donations	\$17,008	\$31,132
Interest	\$120	\$812
Sundry Fundraising	\$4,345	\$2,186
Total Income Operations	\$75,001	\$85,040

INCOME GRANTS & SPONSORSHIP

Alinta Community Grant – Longreach Bay	\$17,940	
Community Env Program Grant – Herschel Lake		\$18,000
Copland Foundation Grant – Noongar Boodja	\$12,500	
London Chapter		\$22,012
Margaret River Choc Co. – Chokka Quokka		\$10,000
Total Income Grants & Sponsorship	\$30,440	\$50,012

TOTAL INCOME

\$105,441 **\$135,052**

EXPENSES OPERATIONAL

Art Exhibition 2019		\$4,500
HBF Corporate Volunteering	\$1,827	
Calendar	\$9,835	\$10,454
Museum Set-Up	\$778	
Raffle 2019		\$1,352
Advertising/Promotion	\$246	\$260
Audit & Insurance	\$1,697	\$1,080
Computer & Internet	\$1,673	\$813
Consultants		\$10,000
General Expenses	\$1,583	\$716
Merchant Charges	\$741	\$1,061
Sundry Fundraising	\$3,110	\$465
Superannuation	\$4,437	\$872
Wages & Salaries EA	\$44,200	\$10,091
Total Expenses Operational	\$70,127	\$41,664

EXPENSES GRANTS & SPONSORSHIP

Community Env Program Grant – Herschel Lake	\$18,000	
Copland Foundation Grant – Noongar Boodja	\$12,500	
London Chapter	\$875	
Margaret River Choc Co. – Quokka Monitoring	\$10,000	
North Thomson Stairs – Wadjemup Bidi	\$48,466	\$5,400
Total Expenses Grants & Sponsorship	\$89,841	\$5,400

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$159,968 **\$47,064**

NET OPERATING SURPLUS / DEFICIT

(-\$54,527) **\$87,988**

OUR PATRON & OUR BOARD

The Foundation stands as an independent, for purpose organisation, incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 2016 (WA). The Foundation is endorsed by the Australian Government as an Environmental Organisation and holds Deductible Gift Recipient Status. The Rottnest Foundation is apolitical and does not seek to lobby or influence, other than by informing those who might themselves be influential.

The affairs of the Foundation are managed exclusively by a voluntary Board of Management. The Foundation Board has representation from a variety of community and business leaders, many of whom have considerable experience and direct involvement with Rottnest Island.

OUR PATRON



Janet Holmes à Court, AC

OUR BOARD



Jeff King, OAM
Chair



Pauline McMullan
Secretary



Kate Atkins



Sue Campbell



Phoebe Carre



John McMath



Rosalie Ritchie



Vicki Taylor

OUR SUPPORTERS

PAST & PRESENT



2021 CALENDAR SUPPORTERS

