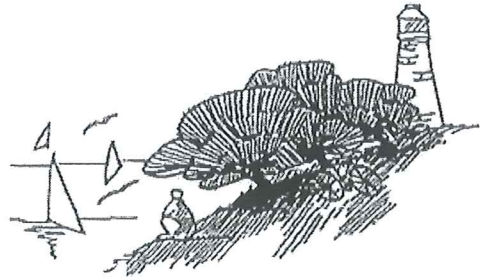


The Rottnest Society



The Rottnest Society

PO Box 418 Claremont
Western Australia 6010

15 April 2016

2016 Premier's Awards
2 Havelock Street
WEST PERTH WA 6005

Dear Premier's Awards Selection Panel

The Rottnest Society (Inc.), formed in 1984, is an incorporated, not-for-profit organisation that aims to protect the natural environment of the publicly owned A-class Reserve that is Rottnest Island.

The work of the Rottnest Society benefits the wider West Australian public (the owners of Rottnest Island) through "hands-on" conservation and restoration work.

We are responsible for planting approximately 5,000 trees on the Island each year.

The Rottnest Society has a very good working arrangement with Curtin Volunteers, Notre Dame Volunteers and Murdoch University MUENSA (environmental students) who volunteer alongside our Society to actively plant trees on the Island. In this way we are working to ensure that new generations are developing a level of understanding of some of the problems that face West Australians in managing Rottnest for a sustainable future.

The Rottnest Society supports the Rottnest Island Wadjemup Walk Trail Project as it aims to preserve and protect the environment by managing visitor impact through formalised trails and closing and rehabilitating kilometres of ad hoc pathways. It also aims to raise the awareness of the Island's environmental values and cultural history by providing interpretive elements along the Trail to educate the community.

The Rottnest Society is contributing volunteer labour towards revegetation aspects of the project including planting, weeding and tree guarding.

The Rottnest Foundation chairs the Rottnest Island Wadjemup Walk Trail Steering Group Committee which consists of representatives from the Rottnest Island Authority and the community groups: Conservation Volunteers, Winnit Club, the Rottnest Voluntary Guides Association and our organisation, The Rottnest Society.

The Steering Group was formed to collaboratively manage the Wadjemup Walk Trail Project over the course of the project's implementation period which, subject to funding, is expected to take five years (2014-18). Three of the five sections are already open and walkable.

The purpose of the Steering Group is to ensure that volunteer involvement is maximised and utilised to implement the project and that all community groups have an avenue to openly discuss ideas to move the project forward, progress that has been made and any issues concerning the project.

This Steering Group is imperative to maintaining successful management and delivery of the Wadjemup Walk Trail.

The Rottnest Society considers the Wadjemup Walk Trail to be a significant, sustainable conservation initiative and therefore supports the Rottnest Island Authority in their application to receive a Premier's Award for the Trail Project, under the 'Managing the Environment' category.

Yours sincerely



Trish Bevan
Secretary/Treasurer
THE ROTTNEST SOCIETY