

Stenner Street

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Due to health issues, Ken and I have not been as active in the Stenner street Forest Park, as in previous years. It is pleasing to see the regeneration of some native species, following clearing of lantana and privet. I continue to pull out privet seedlings on a regular basis. Small native trees that we have planted are slowly growing. Bird life is prolific, with a welcome chorus of bird song each morning, and many birds sharing our garden and the forest.

I periodically weed the planted areas adjacent to the bike skills park. If the bike skills park becomes overgrown, I contact the council and there is usually a prompt response to the request for whipper snipping to remove long grass which is a potential fire hazard. Thankfully, this year, the amount of rubbish from drink bottles and take away food containers has been less than previously. However, I do clean up the rubbish in this area and the rest of the forest park on a fairly regular basis. I had occasion to contact the council when bike riders began digging holes, cutting down trees building jumps and bringing in stolen property in the forest park. Having seen a council sign prohibiting bikes in noFranke's scrub, I asked for one of these to be installed at the exit of the bike skills track, to hopefully confine riders to the council approved bike track. However, this was ignored and removed. Concern over the finding of drug utensils and stolen property in the bush and the numbers of bike riders once again entering the forest, led to another conversation with council. This time a sign asking people to respect the area and not build illegal tracks, was erected. Rubbish levels have markedly decreased and there haven't been any illegal tracks dug lately.

All the residents adjacent to the forest park keep a cleared firebreak. Residents close to the bike skills park had occasion to call Police on at least 2 occasions, when youths had lit a fire and were throwing in cans to make them explode and when one of the bike riders attempted to stab the resident's dog with a knife. A request was made by residents to have a regular council presence in that area on weekends, to monitor behaviour.