

Nomination of Robert Boase
Patron of the Toodyay Naturalists' Club Inc

When four Toodyay farmers were researching the idea of forming a naturalists' club, Rob, as he is called and a young guy in his very early 20's, drove from Goomalling to Toodyay to attend the inaugural meeting. Unfortunately, he could not locate the venue and returned home again.

Since demonstrating that interest as a young man Rob has attended meetings over the many years of the 52 year old Toodyay Naturalists' Club and contributed in his quiet way with knowledge, exquisite photography and natural history data of both flora and fauna.

Rob, and his wonderfully supportive wife, Beth, developed a native tree nursery business on their Dowerin farming property opening in 1996. Plants became available for large-scale revegetation projects across the wheatbelt. Together with the plant production Rob educated customers in the use of endemic plants rather than introduced native plants.

With Rob's extensive knowledge of native flora he recognised his Dowerin farming property was unique containing rare flora and natural seeps that were unique to the area. To protect the property Rob and Beth registered a Conservation Covenant from the National Trust on 214ha of their land; the covenant became effective December 2011.

In 2017 Rob was named the winner of the Western Australian Individual Landcare Award, an award justly deserved.

From the original role models of his late parents, Beryl and Fred, Rob has seen the continuation of love of nature through his son, Craig, and the Boase grandchildren.

With the above overview of Robert Boase I wish to nominate him as Patron at the 2021 Annual General Meeting of the Toodyay Naturalists' Club.

Desraé Clarke.