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Celebrate Lake Claremont 2012

Hundreds attended the best ever Celebrate Lake Claremont event in September. Held at the Stirling Road Park, there were heaps of interactive displays by many groups including SciTech, Radical Reptiles, Earth Carers, and Ribbons of Blue. Children enjoyed face painting, rock painting, damper making and a bouncy castle.

Premier Colin Barnett and Mayor Jock Barker opened the new playground and both thanked the FOLC for their contribution to the community.

Thanks to the Town of Claremont who organized the event this year.



Chasey came to visit from Karaakin Black Cockatoo Rehabilitation Centre



Premier Colin Barnett with FOLC Coordinator Heidi Hardisty

FOLC Grant Success Continues

The FOLC have been awarded 4 more grants this year to continue the restoration work around Lake Claremont over the next 2 years. This brings our yearly total to \$150,000.



CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY

1. Caring for Our Country – Community Action Grant.

A \$20,000 grant to partially restore the wetland buffer. Each year volunteers help to plant approx. 10,000 native seedlings along the lake shore.

2. State NRM (Natural Resource Management) Grant

Two \$50 000 grants to reconstruct native woodland on the north side of Lake Claremont in 2013 and 2014. Over 70,000 seedlings will be planted in total by volunteers. Did you know the FOLC members administering the grants are all volunteers?



**GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

3. Environmental Community Grant - WA Government

A \$30,000 grant won in the “Biodiversity Conservation” category, the money will be used to restore a portion of the lake bed and wetland buffer on the southern shore at Stirling Road Park.



Department of
Environment and Conservation



The FOLC restoration work is directed and supported by the Town of Claremont. Part of their support includes the initial removal of invasive grasses and weeds and installation of temporary fencing to protect the seedlings against trampling by walkers and dogs. Weeding and fence maintenance is continued by volunteers and the Town of Claremont.

Monday Morning Weeding Group

A new war on weeds initiative was launched in September. Norma Hay created the Monday Morning Weeding Group to encourage people to drop in for a short time (half an hour or less) and lend a hand. The spring sessions were a great success and have made a huge difference. In fact, the weed situation is under control and the group will take a short break for the summer. We will recommence in February, unless the weeds get out of hand.

FOLC Mission: Build an Army of Weeders

1. Learn basic weeding techniques
2. Help young seedlings survive
3. Reduce herbicide use
4. Get exercise
5. Feel great!

Please contact Norma Hay for more information on 0413 282 515.



Joan gives Norma a hand removing weeds

Another Orchid Springs Forth

A pink fairy orchid sprouted this spring in the remnant bushland, an encouraging sign that the bushland is starting to regenerate itself. The last orchid was seen in the spring of 2010.



The young pink fairy orchid



Richard Olive sharing his expertise on water creatures

Damsels and Dragons

At Celebrate Lake Claremont, Richard Olive scooped up a bucket of lake water and showed us dozens of animals we don't normally think about. These are the macroinvertebrates (tiny creatures without backbones) that we can see with the naked eye. There was a lot to see: damselfly and dragonfly nymphs, water fleas, water boatman and backswimmers. There was even a plump water mite, a sensitive species whose presence indicates that the lake water is in good health.

Richard is the State Coordinator for the DEC's (Department of Environment and Conservation) Ribbons of Blue program, which provides teachers and their students with hands-on learning experiences about local waterways and wetlands.

Macroinvertebrates provide food for birds and help recycle nutrients by eating dead and decaying plants and animals. For more info check out the DEC website:

<http://education.dec.wa.gov.au/ribbons-of-blue/water-life/macroinvertebrates.html>

December 2012

Day	Event	Time
Sunday 2 nd December	Christmas in Claremont, Claremont Park	4:00 pm – 8:30 pm
Friday 5 th December	International Volunteer Day	
Sunday 9 th December	FOLC Busy Bee Hand weeding	8:00 am – 10:00 am
Monday 10 th December	FOLC Annual General Meeting (AGM)	6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Have an interesting story, past or present, about Lake Claremont? We welcome additions to the newsletter. Deadline: 15th of every month.

The Friends of Lake Claremont Ltd. (FOLC) is a community organization established and run by local residents all of whom are volunteers.

Our mission is to assist in the conservation and enhancement of Lake Claremont, a Conservation Category Wetland and Bush Forever Site

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