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Another New Fly In...

Although the Black-fronted Dotterel is a regular visitor to Lake Claremont, this was the first time David Free has seen the Red-kneed there. Both species have been foraging in the mud this past spring and summer. The Black-fronted pictured here is a juvenile; the adults are more strikingly marked. They nest in shallow depressions on the ground near the water. They eat small molluscs and insects.

The Red-kneed Dotterel nests in small hollows built in wet ground often near vegetation and eats aquatic insects, larvae and seeds. Neither has been confirmed nesting at Lake Claremont but perhaps will in the future with more protection and less disturbance as the wetland buffer is established.



Black-fronted Dotterel - a regular visitor (photo by David Free)



Red-kneed Dotterel - a new arrival (photo by David Free)

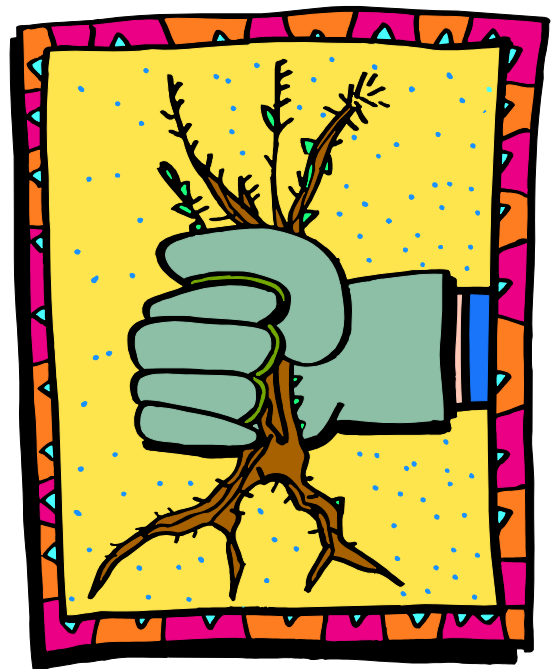
Norma's War on Weeds

Norma's War on Weeds: Weekly Weeding Group recommences on Monday 11th February 2013. Norma Hay has waged a war on weeds and is determined to keep them away from Lake Claremont. She leads a weekly weeding group every Monday morning and is happy to help you identify and learn how to pull weeds while keeping ground disturbance to a minimum. Please come along and help build up an army of weeders to make our planting efforts successful. Come for a few minutes or stay for the entire 1 hour session. Sessions in February will start early to beat the heat. Please meet at 7:30am at the Strickland Street cul-de-sac.



Norma invites you to her Monday morning weeding group

WAR ON WEEDS



WEED NEED YOU!

Fox Caught at Lake Claremont

After a reported fox sighting at Lake Claremont in December, animal management contractors monitored the area for any signs of activity. Tracks (paw prints in the lake bed) and some piles of feathers confirmed yet another fox was using the Lake as a site for food collection. It was confirmed he was not living at the site. All abandoned dens are still collapsed. The fox was caught on the 22nd of December after traps were set up in the area by Animal Pest Management Services.

Fox's favorite food includes young birds, which have been in abundance this year at the Lake. Marsupials and reptiles are other targets on its menu.

Freshwater wetlands such as Lake Claremont are critical for wetland bird species during breeding season. Removal of feral animals like foxes is paramount in protecting the biodiversity of these remnant wetlands and urban bushlands.

If you see a fox, please contact our local council (Town of Claremont on 9285 4300) so monitoring and trapping can be undertaken. All Western Suburb councils have officers who can supply observation sheets and assist in the identification and removal of these animals.



Successful fox trappers Luke and Shane from Animal Pest Management Services

FOLC Busy Bee – January 2013

A wonderful turnout of 14 people helped clear some nasty weeds on a pleasant January morning. Caltrop (*Tribulus terrestris*) was discovered along the foot path on the north side of the Lake. An introduced spreading annual from the Mediterranean, it has vicious spikes that easily puncture bike tires. If you see Caltrop, please contact the FOLC or Town of Claremont (9285 4300) so it can be removed.

We also removed a patch of Castor Oil Plant (*Ricinus communis*) on the northeast shore of the Lake. The seeds are poisonous to humans and livestock. When there are no flowers or seeds, the pulled weeds are left in place to provide mulch and nutrients for the native plants.

FOLC Busy Bees are held on the second Sunday morning of every month in summer time, from 8am-10am.



Castor Oil Plant Patch Before ...



... and After



Thorns on the Caltrop

FOLC Membership – Value for All

It's that time of year again. Time to renew your FOLC membership! We are required by law to have at least 50 financial members to maintain our status as a Company Limited by Guarantee. This enables us to apply for grants and continue our major restoration works. We are run solely by volunteers so your contribution helps pay directly for projects and events. FOLC now have Deductable Gift Recipient Status and for any donations we can issue a Tax Deductable Receipt

Are you interested in getting more involved? There are heaps of opportunities to get involved with. Why not help with our revegetation projects, weeding or volunteer behind the scenes? You can meet new people, reconnect with nature, increase your health and fitness, and enhance the community and environment.

Please renew your membership today. Thank you for your continued support and participation.

Membership renewals will be sent out within the next week or you can find the renewal form on our website www.friendsoflakeclaremont.org

Clean Up Australia Day

Clean up Australia Day at Lake Claremont will be held on Sunday 10th March from 8:45am - 11:00am. Please meet at the Strickland Street cul-de-sac at 8:45am for an introduction to the area and your instructions for the event.

Please register using the following link:

<http://www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au/Lake+Claremont>



Calendar February 2013

Day	Event	Time
Friday 1st February	WA Wetlands Management Conference, Bibra Lake	9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Saturday 2nd February	World Wetlands Day FOLC Summer Barbecue	5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Sunday 10th February	FOLC Busy Bee	8:00 am – 10:00 am
Monday 11th February	FOLC Board Meeting	5:30 pm – 7:00 pm
Friday 15th February	Year 10 Community Service Program	1:30 pm – 3:30 pm
Friday 22nd February	Year 10 Community Service Program	1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

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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