



Friends of Lake Claremont News

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March 2014

Great Britain Wins for FOLC

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Claire Brittain, FOLC secretary and grants officer, has continued her tremendous success in obtaining grants to help restore Lake Claremont. In the past 6 months she has added 2 more grants totalling \$83,000! The majority of the money will go directly into revegetation projects, restoring the wetland buffer and native woodland. The FOLC will purchase 60,000 seedlings this year and coordinate and lead hundreds of volunteers to do the planting which will start in early April.

Over the past 5 years, the FOLC have won a total of 13 grants for \$371,000. Considering the number of volunteer hours for administration, management and ground work done by the FOLC members plus all the hours done by other volunteers coordinated and led by the FOLC, the contribution to the area by FOLC through these grants is worth well over \$1 million! Add the contribution by the Town of Claremont for planning, infrastructure and management, and the value is easily doubled.

1. **Community Environment Grant (2013/14) - \$55,000** as part of the Caring for Our Country initiative by the Australian Government to restore a portion of the wetland buffer, the fringing vegetation around the lake edge. Another 22,000 native seedlings will be planted along the south east edge of Lake Claremont this winter. Recently renamed Community Environment Grants, this is the fifth year in a row we have been awarded the grant obtaining the new maximum amount of \$55,000. The previous 4 years the FOLC were awarded \$20,000 annually.



CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY

2. **State NRM (Natural Resource Management) Grant Programme (2014/15) of \$28,000** for the extension of revegetation of the northern section of Lake Claremont to restore indigenous woodland. The seedlings will be planted by volunteers, a requirement of the grant funded by the Government of WA, in 2015. This is the fourth State NRM grant the FOLC have received. This winter volunteers will plant 34,600 seedlings paid for by the State NRM \$50,000 grant the FOLC obtained for 2013/14. The Town of Claremont will pay for weed removal, mulching and fencing.



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Our Birds

The beautiful Straw-necked Ibis (*Threskiornis spinicollis*) is one of two Ibis species commonly seen at the Lake when there is sufficient water. With its long curved bill it probes the mud for food. It can also be seen foraging for insects in the adjoining grassland. Ibis are usually found in small groups, although some birds are solitary feeder. This bird is endemic to Australia.



In Bloom This Month

Geoff Ross's photos of unopened and opened Banksia prionotes (Saw-toothed Banksia). It is Perth's only tree-banksia that is readily killed by fire.



Open Garden Fundraiser 2013

Every year Tania Young opens her private garden (set on 5 residential Dalkeith blocks) to various organisations for fundraising. Having missed out in 2012 the FOLC were very fortunate to be included in the 2013 program. In 2013 only 2 groups were invited to participate. This was to be the FOLC's first major fundraising event.

Claire, Nick and Cath McCauley formed an organising committee and the troops were rallied for baking of the various goodies to be offered to our guests. Volunteers for the day were recruited and we set about the task at hand. We opted to hold both a morning and afternoon tea on the one day, giving us the possibility of selling 600 tickets.

On the day it was all hands on deck, we began at around 7am picking up food etc and finished packing up at around 6pm that evening. All our volunteers did an amazing job and ensured that our guests had a very pleasant day. The weather was perfect and attendance was very good. Tania's garden was very inspiring and a great opportunity for many who had not previously visited.

Aside from ticket sales we held a raffle, the main prize for which was a portrait kindly donated by a local artist and also sold plants donated by the Dalkeith Garden Centre. At the end of the day we managed to raise over \$13,000!

We have several potential projects at the Lake that we wish to apply these funds towards. FOLC are currently seeking TOC approval to purchase and install 13 nesting boxes following on from the success of the installation of 7 duck boxes in the Lake last year.

A huge thanks goes out to all our organisers, bakers, volunteers and of course Tania and Peter Young and their gardener Andrew.



The portrait for raffle

Ted's Corner

In order to recognise and appreciate the work of our numerous volunteers who often work in the background with little acknowledgement or recognition, we will endeavour to bring you the story of a local volunteer who has contributed their time and energy to help our Lake. We dedicate this section of FOLC News to the fond memory of Ted Tocock, whose exceptional ethics of volunteerism and community service are an inspiration to us all.

Many of you won't know me as I don't like to get my hands dirty! My name is Claire Brittain and I'm the Company Secretary for FOLC. I didn't know where Lake Claremont was when I first met Heidi on the Lake Claremont Committee. I had been involved in volunteering in the arts and as a board member and Vice Chairman of Alzheimer's Australia WA. I like to be involved in the local community. Heidi was so passionate about our local wetland that I offered to help with Administration (not planting). I have a Commerce Degree from UWA.

I was brought up in South Australia (the state which has had a deposit on containers for about 50 years). Right from primary school I had the urge to travel after reading a children's novel centred in Rhodesia. After completing my Radiography Degree I headed off to Southern Africa and worked as a Radiographer in South Africa and Zimbabwe as it's now known. After two years I back-packed up through East Africa and India, finally ending up in the UK. More travel followed in Europe and I came back to Adelaide and then to Darwin. There I experienced Cyclone Tracy and the rebuilding of a devastated community. I ended up back in Adelaide before coming to WA temporarily on my way to Switzerland to work. I'm still here 35 years later!

I've since completed my degree and worked as the Advertising Manager at Ahern's and Marketing Officer at the WACA along with other Market Research positions. Having met my partner and become interested in Sailing I then opened a Travel Agency specialising in yacht charter holidays.



Claire Brittain in France

Since retiring I have continued Volunteering and acting as Company Secretary has become a significant commitment. I get a great deal of personal satisfaction from the role and really feel FOLC are achieving more than we realise.

I live with John my partner of 28 years and despite not having done the hard work of having children of my own I have 3 lovely grandchildren and a grand dog.

Friends of Lake Claremont Barbecue

The Friends of Lake Claremont were invited to a barbecue at the Lake to celebrate the achievements of the group during 2013. It was a lovely evening and we all enjoyed the food provided by chefs, Nick Cook, Kevin McAlpine and Bruce Hynes. Marcie Cook provided delicious Guacamole and salads.



The Chefs – Kevin McAlpine, Nick Cook and Bruce Haynes



Joan Toccock and Soozie Ross

It was good to see Joan Toccock back in action looking well and as independent as ever after breaking her hip. When asked how she was getting home, Joan replied “Why walking, of course, it’s only round the corner!”



*Heidi Hardisty resting her broken ankle and chatting to
Terry Heptinstall*

Marcella's Guacamole Recipe

Ingredients

- 3 Avocados
- 1/8 of a Spanish onion
- 1/8 of a Red capsicum
- 6x Cherry tomatoes
- Dash of Tabasco
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice
- 1 Tablespoon Sweet chilli sauce
- ½ teaspoon cracked Black pepper

Method

1. Mash the avocado with a potato masher, finely chop the onion, capsicum and tomato and mix together.
2. Add the Tabasco, lemon and sweet chilli sauce to taste.
3. Season with cracked black pepper and serve with corn chips

Help Needed

FOLC is looking for a new volunteer Newsletter editor. The job involves laying out and editing already compiled articles and photos to produce the monthly newsletter. Ideally the individual would develop a new template for email and may contribute articles. The role requires approximately 3 – 5 hours of work per month, proficiency in English and your own laptop/software. Please email/call FOLC if you are interested.

Calendar March 2014

Day	Event	Time
Sunday March 2nd *	Clean Up Australia Day	No event due to long weekend
Friday March 7th	Year 10 Community Service Program	1:30 - 3:00 pm
Sunday March 9th *	Clean Up Australia Day Lake Claremont	8:00 – 10:00 am 10:00 am Tea
Monday March 10th	FOLC Board Meeting	5:30 - 7:00 pm
Friday March 14th	Year 10 Community Service Program	1:30 - 3:00 pm
Friday March 21st	World Forestry Day Year 10 Community Service Program	1:30 - 3:00 pm
Saturday March 22nd	World Water Day	
Friday March 28th	Year 10 Community Service Program	1:30 - 3:00 pm
Saturday March 29th	Earth Hour	8:30 – 9:30 pm
March 31st – April 4th	Planting Rushes Conservation Volunteers	9:00 am – 2:30 pm

* Please note that Clean Up Australia Day is celebrated nationally on March 2nd which clashes with the WA long weekend. Hence the FOLC will hold their Clean Up Day March 9th.

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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