

Australian Pelican
Pelecanus conspicillatus



Australian Pelicans Flying over Lake Claremont Photo by Dan Quinlivan

October Activities

Even though the planting season has come to an end, the FOLC members continue to keep themselves busy in other ways, which you can read about in this newsletter.

Weeding remains a priority and Norma Hay does a wonderful job in coordinating regular weeding sessions. Our 'Adopt a Spotters' also contribute greatly to weed control.

The FOLC had a good presence at the 'Celebrate Lake Claremont' morning on September 18 running a very popular BBQ and publicising the work that we do.

Our major fundraiser this month has been running the Royal Show Parking in the car park below the Claremont Pool. Thank you to all the FOLC members who helped and to Nick Cook and Claire Brittain for coordinating their efforts.

See also our regular features 'In Bloom this month' and 'Our Birds'.

Weeding Session October 11

Photos by Nick Cook and Rose Senior

A very successful weeding session was held with about 10 volunteers filling approximately 22 bags. One of the islands was cleared, mostly of fumitory and thistle.

Nick Cook found this beautiful bobtail at the weeding session and released it after everyone had had a good look.



Norma Hay in action



Nick Cook with bobtail



A good morning's work!

Celebrate Lake Claremont October 18

Photos by Geoff and Soozie Ross

FOLC volunteers ran a barbecue and display stand at the Celebrate Lake Claremont event. Many thanks are due to all those who helped. We raised about \$800, which is a very good result.



Geoff Ross, Nick Cook and Greg Simpson manning the barbecue



The Shah Satnam Ji Green S Welfare Force Win group was presented with a certificate of appreciation from the Town of Claremont and the Friends of Lake Claremont in recognition of the huge amount of work that its members have done during the 2016 planting season.

Bruce Haynes and Heidi Hardisty with the Shah Satnam volunteers

In Bloom this Month

Text and photos by Heidi Hardisty

We are delighted that a few orchids have been popping up around Lake Claremont this spring. It is very exciting as this indicates that natural regeneration is starting to happen. Two types of orchids that are around presently are the Common Mignonette Orchid and the Pink Fairy Orchid.



Pink Fairy Orchid – Calademia latifolia

Please be careful not to disturb these plants if you see them. Note that when the Common Mignonette Orchid first appears, it looks like a single rounded blade of grass, (quite rush like in appearance). If you find any single Pink Fairy Orchids in the bushland, please notify Friends of Lake Claremont, as we would like to know the location in order to place a protective mesh ring around them. This helps them to survive and multiply.

Common Mignonette Orchid

Microtis media



Our Birds

Text and photo by David Free

White-cheeked Honeyeater *Phylidonyris niger*



On 24th September I was walking along the tarmac path at the north of the lake and I heard a call, which I didn't immediately recognise. It was something like a New Holland Honeyeater, but not quite right. After a frustrating ten minutes or so, I glimpsed the bird. It was a White-cheeked Honeyeater, the first I have seen at our lake for some time. These birds are very similar to the New Holland Honeyeater, but differ in having a bold white cheek and a stronger bill; they lack the New Holland's white eye ring. In Perth they are more often seen in the bushland (Bold Park is a good place to find them) whereas the New Holland is common in suburban gardens.

youtube video of planting at Lake Claremont

Jack Logan, a year 11 Scotch College student, has made a great short film of one of our planting days. It is titled Friends of Lake Claremont - the sustainability movement from Swanbourne to South Asia.

It can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UzrdBNsNuhM>

Turtle Update

Text and photo by Nick Cook

The turtle nesting season has started at Lake Claremont. Readers may have read the article in the Cottesloe Post describing how Claremont Councillor, Kate Main, was walking her dog round Lake Claremont when someone ahead of her saw a baby turtle in trouble. The turtle was struggling so Ms Main took it home and contacted the Friends. I tried releasing it but it was too weak so I took it home to recover. By the morning it was looking much stronger and was successfully released among the safety of fringing vegetation.



The rescued turtle

Turtles have been hatching for 6 months and females started nesting this month. Hatchlings and gravid females are at most risk of predation between the nest and the lake. People are encouraged to report sightings using a free app called Snap Send Solve or to contact the FOLC, who would also be keen to hear from anyone who sees a fox in the area. Ravens are responsible for most turtle deaths.

The FOLC are working closely with the Town of Claremont to finalise plans for a Baseline Population study of our Oblong turtles. We hope to have this organized to go ahead this summer, before the lake dries out.

FOLC plans to apply for a grant to facilitate the implementation of the study.

The study involves trapping, marking and releasing turtles, taking measurements and identifying males and females.

The study has been ranked as a high priority in the Lake Claremont Management Plan-Draft (LCMP) and will greatly add to our knowledge of our resident turtle population. It will also provide a vital baseline from which future monitoring can be measured against and help to inform management decisions.

Over the last 2 years we have been collecting dead turtle carapace at the lake and we expect that the data we have will help to inform the population study and provide some clues to turtle movements and possible nesting areas.

After recent sightings of fox activity at the Lake by FOLC members and Town of Claremont staff, contractors are now on site trapping. A female fox was caught on September 23 and trapping continues after fresh tracks were sighted over the following weekend. This will help to protect the turtle population.



Royal Show Parking

Text by Hilary Heptinstall Photos by Hilary Heptinstall and Nick Cook

The FOLC were once again awarded 4 days of Royal Show parking by the Town of Claremont. We ran the parking at the Lake Claremont Golf Course Car Park at the busiest time, over the long weekend. There was a very good response from members and as usual we found it an enjoyable experience interacting with the public and other FOLC members.



A very wet car park!



Greg Simpson and Cath McAuley on parking duty

The weather on the Sunday was much better than expected. When Nick arrived at 7.00 am, he found a very wet car park after the heavy overnight rain! However it soon dried up as the sun came out for us.

The Tuesday volunteers were not so fortunate as there was a heavy downpour that afternoon!

Over the four days, we parked 670 cars and raised about \$10,000 for the FOLC, which is an excellent result.

September Night Chat – Restoring Lake Claremont

Text and photos by Rose Senior

At the end of September, 29 FOLC members and other interested people braved the wet, windy and decidedly chilly weather to attend the Night Chat presented by Heidi Hardisty in the relative warmth of the clubroom at Claremont Swimming Pool.



Heidi gave us a fascinating overview of the history of Lake Claremont from the early days of European settlement to the present time.

Heidi Hardisty addressing the audience

She focused in particular on pivotal moments in the recent history of Lake Claremont, including its designation as a Bush Forever site (2000), the establishment of FOLC (2003), the narrow decision to remove the long-9-hole golf course and retain all 23 hectares for the Lake and its surrounds (2009), and the incorporation of FOLC so that funding applications could be made.

Heidi explained that a further key factor that has enabled FOLC to achieve such spectacular success over the past 7 years has been the development of a park concept plan by the Town of Claremont. This plan not only serves as a template for grant applications, but also provides a framework within which FOLC achievements can be documented. She then proceeded to outline FOLC's spectacular achievements over the past 7 years: 19 grants amounting \$512,000 and 280,000 seedlings planted by 6000 people in a range of different volunteer groups.

Looking towards the future Heidi explained that, although the first stage of the concept plan will be completed in 2 to 3 years' time, much still remains to be done: monitoring and statistical reporting, better information for and communication with the public, increased hours for a bush-care officer and so on.



Thank you, Heidi, for a highly professional and engaging talk.

The very appreciative audience

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER NIGHT CHAT AT LAKE CLAREMONT

Do you have a story to tell? We would love to hear your favourite story about Lake Claremont.



This month, the Friends of Lake Claremont are looking for people to tell their stories on the night. Whether you have lived here your whole life or just arrived, we would love to hear your favourite story about Lake Claremont. The FOLC would like to invite 8-10 people to share a brief story (4 minutes) with the audience and finish up with good conversation afterwards.

Please register by email if you would like to speak on the night and send a brief description of your talk with your registration. folc.wa@gmail.com

Tuesday October 25 6.00-7.00 pm

Claremont Pool Club House, Davies Rd, Claremont

Doors open at 5.30pm for light refreshments.

A gold coin donation would be appreciated.

Behind the Scenes with Friends of Lake Claremont

Tuesday October 18 2016 6.30 – 8.00 pm

At the Hardisty Residence

12A Myera St, Swanbourne

Ever wondered what's involved in running the Friends of Lake Claremont? Come along and meet the dedicated volunteers and make suggestions for the group. It's also a great opportunity to find out how you can contribute.

Refreshments provided.

R.S.V.P. to folc@gmail.com or call Heidi 0416 614 696

Next Sunday Busy Bee

October 9th 9:00 – 11:00 am.

Please meet at 9:00am at the Old Tin Shed on the northeast side of Lake Claremont. We will be hand weeding and pruning. Gloves, tools, and tea provided. Come along and help make our revegetation project a success. For further info Contact Heidi on M 0416 614 696

Friends of Lake Claremont AGM

Please save the date for the AGM on Wednesday evening November 2nd .

Details to follow.

Calendar October 2016

Day	Event	Time
Tuesday Oct. 4th	World Animal Day	
Thursday Oct. 6th	Singapore Volunteers via UWA Centre for English Language	9:00 am – 12:00pm
Sunday Oct. 11th	FOLC Busy Bee: Hand weeding	9:00 – 11:00 am
Monday Oct. 10th	FOLC Board Meeting	5:30 - 7:00 pm
Thursday Oct. 13th	Guided Walk for the Historical Society	9:00 – 11:00 am
Friday Oct. 14th	Year 10 Community Service Program	1:30 - 3:00 pm
Oct. 17th -23rd	Bird Week and Aussie Backyard Bird Count	
Tuesday Oct. 18th	Behind the Scenes	6.30 - 8.00 pm
Friday Oct. 21st	Year 10 Community Service Program	1:30 - 3:00 pm
Tuesday Oct. 25th	Night Chats at Lake Claremont Lake Claremont Pool	6:00 -7:00 pm Doors open at 5:30 pm

Check out the yearly calendar on the [FOLC Website](#) to find dates of future events.

Like us on facebook!

Had a great moment at Lake Claremont?

Why not like us on facebook and post your picture and story?

Friends of Lake Claremont facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Friends-of-Lake-Claremont/159586380873009?ref=hl>

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

www.friendsoflakeclaremont.org

Newsletter articles and photos from members are most welcome and should be sent to the editor, Hilary Heptinstall
heptins@bigpond.net.au 0411 052 329

CONTACT

E-mail: folc.wa@gmail.com

Phone: (08) 9384 2820

Fax: (08) 9383 4213

POSTAL ADDRESS

Friends of Lake Claremont Ltd.

P.O. Box 837

Claremont WA, 6910