



*Lotty, Christina and Oskar Graham enjoyed the Residents' Planting Day on June 11*

The planting season is now well underway. The month of June saw the involvement of local residents, the Shah Satnam Ji Green S Welfare Force Wing, Conservation volunteers and many local primary and secondary schools. (See details on pages 2-4). Thank you to all our volunteers. We would not be achieving such amazing results without your help. Special thanks are due to Heidi Hardisty for her huge effort in coordinating the planting sessions and educating the school groups. She did not have many days off in June and will continue to be busy in the coming months! The aim is to plant 27000 seedlings this season. We will all miss Heidi when she moves to Townsville in the New Year to join her husband Paul who has been appointed CEO of the Australian Institute of Marine Science for the next five years. Congratulations, Paul, this is a tremendous achievement! Heidi has promised to be back for 2 or 3 weeks of the planting season next year!



**Community Planting Days**  
Help Enhance Lake Claremont.

June 11th – Local Residents' Planting Day  
July 9th – Planting for the Birds  
July 30th – National Tree Day  
August 13th – Friends' Planting Day

Sundays: 9:00 AM to 12:00 Midday. Stay as long as you like.  
Meet at 9:00 AM on the east side of the lake.

Join the Friends of Lake Claremont as we continue one of the largest restoration projects in Perth.  
Please wear enclosed shoes. Bring a hat, long sleeves and rain jacket if needed.  
Gloves, tools, sunscreen and refreshments provided.

For more information contact Heidi Hardisty  
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[www.friendsofclackclaremont.org](http://www.friendsofclackclaremont.org)

CLAREMONT natural resource management program

## PLANTING REPORT *From Heidi Hardisty*

We have had a great start to the planting season. By the end of June we had planted 12,360 native seedlings in 3 weeks!

We have had help from the Shah Satnam Ji Green S Welfare Force Wing who attended twice and planted 2850 seedlings. The Conservation Volunteers planted 800 seedlings and also spent the whole day de-mulching! We planted 1600 seedlings on the Local Residents Planting Day.

The local schools programme has involved approximately 500 children and 45 teachers. More than twenty classes of primary school children from Quintilian School, Methodist Ladies College, Freshwater Bay, and Mount Claremont Primary Schools, Scotch College Year 7's and JTC Year 11's have been involved with the planting.

Volunteers, Heidi Hardisty and David Hammer, have supervised most of these sessions and Heidi has spoken before each session about the history of Lake Claremont and the importance of the conservation of this environment.

Together with the Scotch College and Christ Church Grammar year 10's regular Friday afternoon sessions, 7100 seedlings have been planted.

The planting this year is aimed at restoring the wetland buffer on the east side of the lake. All the plant heights are below 1metre to maintain the view of the lake.

The FOLC will host 6 more planting sessions (mornings) with 6 classes of YR 7s from JTC at the end of July. Public planting days will be held on July 9 and July 30. (See how you can help on page 10. )

A lot of work and frustration has gone into "de-mulching" the area. The mulch, spread two years ago by a bob-cat, was far too thick in many areas. The excess was removed with mulching forks and wheelbarrows with the help of many volunteers and luckily some enthusiastic students. What hard work! Thank you to all those who contributed to "de-mulching", especially Paul Hardisty.

Thank you to Bunnings who donated 75 pairs of gloves and to our grant sponsors – SALP and State NRM – who donated the money to purchase the seedlings.



natural resource  
management program





## RESIDENTS' PLANTING DAY SUNDAY JUNE 11

*Text: Hilary Heptinstall Pictures : Hilary Heptinstall and Nick Cook*

70 local residents turned up for this planting session on the East side of the Lake. The threatened rain did not eventuate and we all enjoyed the beautiful weather. It was good to see so many people including visitors from Beijing among our volunteers. We planted 1600 plants in the morning.

The heavy mulch presented a challenge and took some time to remove.

Paul Hardisty and Nick Cook spent the morning using an augur drilling holes through the mulch for the next planting sessions. This, together with the laying out of plants in advance, makes planting much easier for our volunteers.



*Bruce Haynes with Rose Mei's family including her mother from Beijing.*



*Avril Balfe (left) and Terry Griffiths (right) battle the mulch*



*Paul Hardisty at work*



## LOCAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS' PLANTING SESSIONS

The weeks of June 12 and 19 saw great activity at our local primary school planting sessions. It is wonderful to see the participation of our local students and their teachers. As well as helping the Friends of Lake Claremont, it is a great learning experience for them and they all enjoy planting after listening to Heidi's very interesting talk. We hope that it will inspire a lasting connection with the local environment for them.

Quintilian school students planted hundreds of native plants and their teacher said that they loved getting involved in this fantastic community initiative.

*Text: Hilary Heptinstall    Photos: Hilary Heptinstall and Quintilian School*



*Heidi Hardisty demonstrating planting to the Quintilian students*

Mount Claremont Primary School students also enjoyed the experience and, on a surprisingly fine Friday morning after all the heavy rain, had a very successful morning and planted 400 seedlings.



*A happy group of Quintilian students*



*Declan Hardisty planting with the Mount Claremont Primary School Students*



*Volunteer Hilary Heptinstall with grandson, Chris from Mount Claremont Primary School*



## **SOME MORE PLANTING PICTURES** *(From Face Book)*



*Shah Satnam Ji Green S Welfare Force Wing Volunteers*



*Heidi on her Gator*



*Conservation volunteers*





## NEWS FROM ANGELA HINE (Town of Claremont Bush Care Officer)

I found this lizard sunning itself on the block directly north of the FOLC shed last week.

It seems unbelievable that they are still out and about and not hibernating by now...this one was very slow though, which is how I managed to get so close.

I have a definite ID for the mystery plant that Geoff Ross photographed last month, it is Bush violet or *Barleria obtusa* and is native to South Africa and Zimbabwe.

As it is a weed, I will arrange to have it removed!



Western Bobtail (*Tiliqua rugosa rugosa*) Picture: Angela Hine

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## OUR BIRDS Text and picture : David Free

### Western Gerygone (*Gerygone fusca*)

This small (10-11 cm), plain and unobtrusive bird has returned to our lake with the successful regeneration of native bushland. It could be mistaken for a thornbill but for the banding in the tail. The Gerygone is far more often heard than seen; its plaintive rising and falling call always seems to end before being finished. It was previously named the Western Warbler. They feed on insects found in the foliage. Look for them foraging in the area to the north of the lake.



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## IN BLOOM THIS MONTH *Picture : Geoff Ross*

### *Templetonia retusa* "Cockies Tongue"

This is a shrub, which is endemic to the west coast of Western Australia. It grows to about two metres tall and produces bright orange flowers in late autumn, winter and spring. It has an underground rootstock, which helps it to regrow from coppices after fire.



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## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO JOAN TOCOCK! *Picture : Hilary Heptinstall*



Congratulations to FOLC member, Joan Toccock, who celebrated her 98<sup>th</sup> birthday in June.

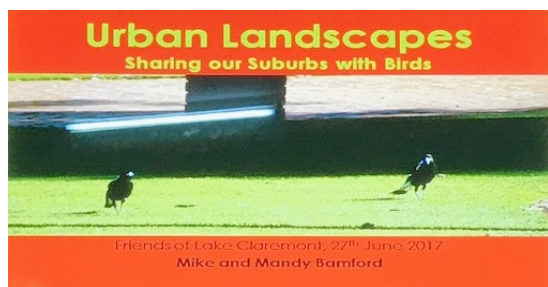
Joan is quite remarkable! Although she is no longer planting, she is present at all our planting sessions to record the names of volunteers. We all send our love, Joan, and very much appreciate your efforts.

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## JUNE NIGHT CHAT SESSION

*Text and pictures by Hilary Heptinstall*



Our Night Chat session on June 27 saw a large audience of about 55 people at Mandy and Mike Bamford's talk about birds in the suburbs, and they were not disappointed. It was a most interesting evening. Mandy grew up around Lake Claremont at a time when there was no bush, fewer birds but more water!

Birds are good for people, they make us feel happier, patients heal faster and there are fewer cases of diseases. Native predators such as owls help to control pests. 75% of our population now live in cities and need a connection with birds. Birds are challenged by changes in structure (eg buildings), food supplies, water supplies, feral animals and climate.

The winners in the bird population are the showy, noisy birds such as Magpies, Ravens and Ibis. The losers are the shy secretive birds like Western Thornbills. The Carnaby Black cockatoo population has declined by 50% over the last seventy years.

Birds are losing their habitats. Building blocks have shrunk from a quarter acre to 300 square metres. We are encouraged to grow plants (even if only in a pot) and to have bird baths and roof top gardens. In the 1990's there was a lot of vegetation but this has been cleared to a large extent. People are taking out trees because the leaves are a problem or because they block the light.

Lake Claremont restoration, with its dense shrubs supports insect and small bird populations. Banksia and Marri trees support the Carnaby's Cockatoos. Planting along the Swan River is making corridors for birds and provides linkages between different reserves.

The Bamfords concluded that birds are good for us and that we should do all we can to encourage them. We all enjoyed the evening and hope that they will visit us again sometime.

If people would like more information they should look at 'Bird Data' a Birdlife Australia website.

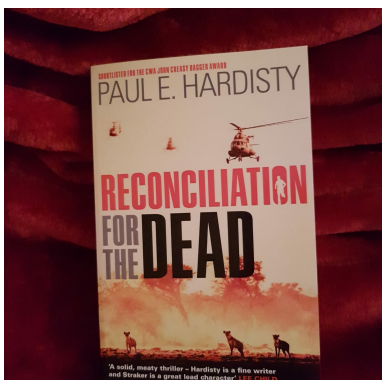


*Heidi Hardisty thanks Mike and Mandy Bamford*



## PAUL HARDISTY'S PERTH BOOK LAUNCH

*Text and picture : Hilary Heptinstall*



*Paul Hardisty chats to David Whish Wilson at the book launch*



Paul Hardisty held the launch of his third novel in the Claymore Straker series 'Reconciliation for the Dead' at Subiaco Library on Monday June 26. After light refreshments, we listened to a very interesting 'Q and A' session between Paul and Perth author, David Whish-Wilson.

The book sounds fascinating and I am looking forward to reading it. Paul has almost finished his fourth book in this series and will then move on to a different genre! I do not know where he finds the time!

If anyone is interested in purchasing a copy of the book they should contact Paul on [paul.heidi@bigpond.com](mailto:paul.heidi@bigpond.com)

## THE UNUSUAL BREEDING SEASON

The unseasonal rain this year has led to out of season breeding. David Free took this lovely photo of a coot with a chick in June this year.





## UPCOMING EVENTS

### PUBLIC PLANTING DAYS

Public planting days will be held on July 9, 'Planting for the Birds' and July 30, 'National Tree Day' from 9.00 am to 12.00 midday at the east side of Lake Claremont. Your help is needed at both these sessions.

Laying out plants	8.00-9.00 am (5-6 people)
Team leaders for planting	8.30-11.45 am (5-6 people)
Clean-up after event	12.00 -1.00 pm (2-3 people)

If you would like more information or would like to volunteer please contact us on [folc@gmail.com](mailto:folc@gmail.com)

### NIGHT CHAT ON TUESDAY JULY 25

6.00 pm at Claremont Aquatic Centre. Doors open for refreshments at 5.30pm

TOPIC : The Politics of Lake Claremont

SPEAKER : Dr Bruce Haynes FPESA, FPES

Bruce is a life member of the Friends of Lake Claremont and has been involved with the group for the past 30+ years.

He will speak about the contest between different interest groups for the control of Lake Claremont, from the original hunting and gathering of aboriginal time, the pasture and agriculture of Butler's Swamp, the 'beautification' of what was consequently named Lake Claremont and its history as a rubbish tip and golf course.

Bruce became engaged in the politics of the Lake in the late 1980s when the Town of Claremont took over the management of the land.



***Bruce Haynes reading to his grandson***

It promises to be a very interesting session. A gold coin donation would be appreciated towards the cost of refreshments.



## Calendar July 2017 - Plastic Free July

Day	Event	Time
Saturday <b>July 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Planting with the Shah Satnam Ji Green S Welfare Force Wing</b>	9 am - 1 pm
Sunday <b>July 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Planting for the Birds</b>	9:00 – 12:00 pm
Monday <b>July 10<sup>th</sup></b>	FOLC Board Meeting	5:30 - 7:00 pm
Friday <b>July 21<sup>st</sup></b>	Year 10 Community Service Program - Planting	1:30 - 3:00 pm
Tuesday <b>July 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Night Chats at Lake Claremont</b> Claremont Aquatic Centre	Doors open at 5:30 pm Talk 6:00 – 7:00 pm
Friday <b>July 28<sup>th</sup></b>	Year 10 Community Service Program - Planting	1:30 - 3:00 pm
Saturday <b>July 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Planting with the Shah Satnam Ji Green S Welfare Force Wing</b>	9 am - 1 pm
Sunday <b>July 30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>National Tree Day</b>	9 am – 12pm

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



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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.

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[www.friendsoflakeclaremont.org](http://www.friendsoflakeclaremont.org)

Newsletter articles and photos from members are most welcome and should be sent to the editor, Hilary Heptinstall  
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