



A rescued female turtle being released at Lake Claremont *Photo: David Brauhart*

It is now the nesting season for our turtles. David and Harry Brauhart found this very healthy mature female turtle about 600m from the Lake Claremont on busy Montgomery Road in early September. She seemed calm and they managed to return her to the wetland without any trouble. This is the second rescue for David and Harry. Thank you both for taking time to assist a precious female turtle. More information about turtles is included on page 11.

Although our planting season has come to an end, the Friends of Lake Claremont have continued to work hard. The growth of weeds after our record winter rain has necessitated extra weeding sessions and the FOLC have been involved with 'Celebrate Lake Claremont' and with parking for the Royal Show. Heidi Hardisty, after her great planting leadership, has now returned to join her husband, Paul, in Townsville. Heidi took some beautiful photos at Lake Claremont before she left. (See page 4) Thank you for your tremendous effort over the last few months, Heidi. It is much appreciated!

BUSY BEE SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 9

From : Nick Cook

There was a great turn out for our monthly Busy Bee on September 9. It was a beautiful spring morning and 26 volunteers filled 47 bags with weeds. It was good to see some new faces and about 10 teenagers in the group.

A big thank you to Kate Lamby for a terrific morning tea.

Volunteers enjoying morning tea at the old shed



CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS' WEEDING DAY

From : Angela Hine (TOC Bushcare Officer)

In late August, the Town of Claremont hired eleven Conservation Volunteers to work at Lake Claremont. I worked with them to hand weed the area which was planted last year, adjacent to the golf course and red path.

Overall, we managed to remove the vast majority of weeds from this area and filled 36 bags in the process!

Everyone worked hard and many commented on how satisfying it was to do this kind of work- working outdoors and doing something positive for the environment.



OUR BIRDS

Text and photo : David Free Painting : Pam Free

Musk Duck, *Biziura lobate*

This largish duck is a very uncommon visitor to our lake. A pair appeared in August and may still be around. They are strong divers and seem to prefer deeper water than we normally have. When feeding, they typically stay underwater for thirty seconds and surface only briefly between dives.

Male Musk Duck : Pam Free



Musk Duck, female. David Free



While on the surface, musk ducks sit very low on the water; sometimes the tail is held erect, more often flat on the water. Musk duck mainly eat aquatic invertebrates. The male has a large leathery appendage below the bill; this seems to have no purpose except, perhaps, to attract females. This duck is endemic to south east and south west Australia.

Female Musk Duck : David Free

IN BLOOM THIS MONTH

From : Heidi Hardisty

Heidi took these beautiful photos of plants at the Lake in September before she left Perth. The pink fairy orchids below came up on their own in the remnant bushland and are starting to spread slowly with the aid of wire mesh around them for protection. They disappear completely in the summer and re-emerge over the following winter.



Left.
Pink fairy orchids
Below
Hakea prostrata, Harsh Hakea



Left
Melaleuca systena,
Coastal
Honey myrtle

Below
Banksia sessilis, Parrot
Bush



THANK YOU TO SIMON MCGRATH

From : Nick Cook



A big thank you to [Simon Mcgrath](#) and the Abel McGrath Property Group for supporting our successful application for a community grant from RealEstate.com.au

The funds will be directed to our War on Weeds at the Lake. Weed control is vitally important to the success of our plantings!

Friends of Lake Claremont run a number of hand weeding initiatives that local residents can get involved in helping us care for the wetland.

These funds will be used to engage Conservation Volunteers Australia in hand weeding activities at the Lake to complement our own efforts.

ROYAL SHOW PARKING

From : Hilary Heptinstall.

Once again, the Friends of Lake Claremont were allocated four days of parking supervision on the lower swimming pool car park. It was busier than in the previous few years due to the lovely sunny weather and our volunteers had to work hard but found the job interesting and satisfying. Thank you to all our volunteers, particularly to Claire Brittain who was there every day for set up and to Nick Cook who was there for set up and closing each day!

Financially it was a very successful undertaking. 728 cars parked at \$20 per car raising a total of \$14560 of which the FOLC will receive 70%. A fantastic result!



Nick Cook and Rose Senior

CELEBRATE LAKE CLAREMONT

From : Hilary Heptinstall

It was a perfect spring day for the Celebrate Lake Claremont Day on Sunday September 16 and an estimated 700 people attended. A number of West Australian organisations ran stalls there including Earth Carers, Bird Life Western Australia and Kids Nature Club. There were many activities for kids. Friends of Lake Claremont had a good presence with a stall giving away free native plants paid for by FOLC with an Alcoa Landcare grant and another serving hot dogs. Both proved very popular!



Kevin McAlpine , Rosemary Johnston and Claire Brittain preparing hot dogs



Nick Cook addressing the crowd.



Aernout Boere, Zac Hardisty and Anthony Barr

SEPTEMBER NIGHT CHAT

From : Hilary Heptinstall

We had a very interesting Night Chat on September 25. Our speaker was Liz Edwards who is from the MyPestGuide team in the Pest and Disease Information Service at the Department of Primary industries and Regional Development (PaDIS). She had a private tour of Lake Claremont in June and enjoyed learning about the background of our organisation.

Liz Edwards



Liz is involved in Biosecurity and Agriculture Management which aims to prevent new animal and plant pests getting into WA and to eradicate, or where this is not possible, to manage and control existing pest species.

We are lucky in WA in that we have the ocean to the west and desert to the east. However, pests are still introduced by human activity, for instance on the tyres and clothes of travellers from the Eastern States. Farmers and National Parks can be affected by these.

Liz gave several examples of eradication problems in WA. The European wasp is a prime example. All West Australian native wasps are solitary and do not sting. They play an important role in plant pollination. The European wasp is an exotic pest which threatens our social amenity, and horticultural industries. Its presence should be reported to PaDIS at mypestguide.agric.wa.gov.au or call 1800 084 881.

Liz also spoke about the Mediterranean fruit fly which is a serious horticultural pest in the South West of WA. The female lays eggs into unripened or ripe fruit and larvae may develop from these eggs.

Rainbow lorikeets (although beautiful and loved in the Eastern States) have become a serious threat to grape growers in WA and take over nesting hollows. They are controlled by shooting outside the metropolitan area but there is no funding for their control in the cities. Corellas can be controlled by netting as they spend much time on the ground.

This was a very interesting talk and time ran out before Liz could answer the many questions with the interested audience. Thank you for sharing your knowledge with us, Liz.

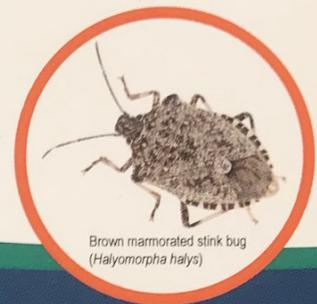
A Biosecurity Blitz will be held later this month. See details on page 8



Department of
Primary Industries and
Regional Development

Biosecurity Blitz

19 October - 16 November 2018



Brown marmorated stink bug
(*Halyomorpha halys*)

Help report pests in WA!

Everyone can participate in the blitz...

- 1 Download a free app from your preferred app store.
- 2 Look for pests around your local area.
- 3 Send us your reports from your mobile device or create a report online.



MyPestGuide for everyone to easily report pests. Experts will identify the pest and reply back to your device.



PestFax for people in the field who are confident at identifying pests.



WA PestWatch for everyone to report new aquatic pests and monitor the spread of those already in WA.

mypestguide.agric.wa.gov.au

Join forces to discover and map pests!

To register go to agric.wa.gov.au/biosecurity/biosecurity-blitz-2018

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER CALENDAR

Day	Event	Time
Friday Oct. 12 th	Year 10 Community Service Program	1:30 - 3:00 pm
Sunday Oct. 14 th	FOLC Busy Bee: Hand weeding	9:00 – 11:00 am
Friday Oct. 19 th	Year 10 Community Service Program	1:30 - 3:00 pm
Oct. 22 nd -28 th	Bird Week and Aussie Backyard Bird Count	
Tuesday Oct. 22 nd	Night Chats at Lake Claremont Lake Claremont Pool	Talk 6:00 -7:00 pm Doors open at 5:30 pm
November 18	FOLC AGM	4:30 -7:00 pm

Please save the date and time of our AGM (above). Details will follow in the next newsletter.

OCTOBER NIGHT CHAT

Tuesday 23rd October 5:30 -7:00 pm

Speaker: Denise Crosbie

Title: Saving Bibra Lake

Come and meet Denise who will be speaking on revegetation techniques at Bibra Lake and other environmental practices which have proven to be effective, and in some cases not, in a wetland setting.

Denise Crosbie has been the full-time Wetland and Education Officer at the Cockburn Wetlands Education Centre at Beeliar Wetlands since 1996. She holds a tertiary qualification in Environmental Science and has been a member of the Wetlands Conservation Society since 1991. Denise was awarded the 2006 John Oldham Conservation Employee Award for her ongoing efforts at the Centre.

The event is hosted by the Friends of Lake Claremont at the Claremont Aquatic Centre, 12 Davies Road, Claremont. The talk commences at 6:00 pm. Doors open for refreshments at 5:30 pm. A gold coin donation is appreciated.



Denise Crosbie at Bibra Lake

TURTLE INFORMATION

Oblong or long-necked turtles are out and about near *your* lake. Here's how you can help them!



Please place this flyer on your fridge and/or add our numbers to your phone, in case you find a turtle that needs your help when you're out and about.



Turtle Oblong
Rescue & Rehabilitation
Network

For help, rescue and advice, please call one of our emergency numbers (don't text)

East Metro - 0424 727 411
South Metro - 0424 727 624
North Metro - 0414 476 867

If for any reason the number in your area doesn't answer, please try another.

There is no fee for our rescue services

More info? www.turtleoblonganetwork.org.au



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How do I pick it up? The turtle will not bite, but may *lightly* scratch you with its claws as it tries to escape; use a towel and grasp firmly like this. It will squirm strongly, so be ready and don't drop it.

What if it's crossing the road? If safe to do so, please carry the turtle across the road in the direction it was heading (don't turn it around or it will re-cross the road once you have gone!)

What if I find an INJURED turtle or hatchling?

- Please do not put the animal in water.
- Gently place the turtle on a damp towel in a secure container.
- Cover the turtle with a damp hand towel (reduces stress & flies).
- Place the container somewhere dark, quiet and cool (under 26°C).
- Call us on one of the numbers above and we will provide step-by-step advice.

What if I find an UNINJURED turtle or hatchling? If the turtle/hatchling appears alert and healthy, you can return it to your lake. Place the animal in fringing vegetation away from predators.

If you are UNSURE or concerned that a turtle may be injured or unwell? Call us on one of the numbers above and we will provide step-by-step advice.

What if I find a NESTING turtle? Please guard her until she's finished laying her eggs and filling the nest (~30 min.) then carry her back to your lake.

What if I find turtle EGGS? Please leave the eggs undisturbed and call us. We can expertly relocate and incubate the eggs (if necessary for their survival). We can also advise on protecting any turtle nests found in your garden.



from *Caring for Australian Wildlife*

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from *Caring for Australian Wildlife*

Had a great moment at Lake Claremont?

Share it with us at:-

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Friends-of-Lake-Claremont/159586380873009?ref=hl>The Friends of Lake Claremont Ltd. FOLC is a community organisation 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
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natural resource
management program

