



Sha Satnam members : Ravi Kumar, Sanjeev Kumar, Sourav Mainro, Rajinder Insan, Manjeet Dhull with their Volunteer Group Certificate at the Town of Claremont Volunteers' function

The Friends of Lake Claremont have celebrated National Volunteers Week by winning several awards, including Claire Brittain's Volunteer of the Year award, at the Town of Claremont Volunteers Function (see page 2). We also held a very enjoyable lunch with our Sha Satnam volunteers at Lake Claremont. (See page 6)

Our 2019 planting season starts this month and we welcome back Heidi Hardisty to supervise the planting sessions commencing on June 9. (See page 11)

Claire Brittain has announced her retirement from the Board of FOLC. (See Nick Cook's tribute on page 9)

This has necessitated changes to the Board of Directors. We are very pleased to welcome Lance Banister-Jones to our Board of Directors. Lance is also taking on the roles of Treasurer and Company Secretary. Lance has a great deal of experience in accounting and the administration of public companies.

We also wish to welcome Jenni Banister-Jones to the role of Grants Officer.

Zac Hardisty has been elected as Deputy Chairman of the Board of Directors while Nick Cook has been elected as Chairman of the Board.

We would welcome any expressions of interest from members who are keen to join our Board in future.

TOWN OF CLAREMONT VOLUNTEER AWARDS EVENT

From : Hilary Heptinstall

The Town of Claremont held its Volunteer Awards Night on May 22, as part of National Volunteer Week.

It was a most enjoyable occasion with delicious refreshments and lovely background music provided by a group from the Claremont Concert Band.

Claremont has the highest rate of volunteer participation in WA.

It was a very successful evening for the Friends of Lake Claremont.

Claire Brittain won the Individual Volunteer of the Year award for her great efforts over many years in obtaining hundreds of thousands of dollars in grants to fund our planting which has made Lake Claremont such a beautiful place. Congratulations, Claire! This award is very well deserved.

Claire Brittain

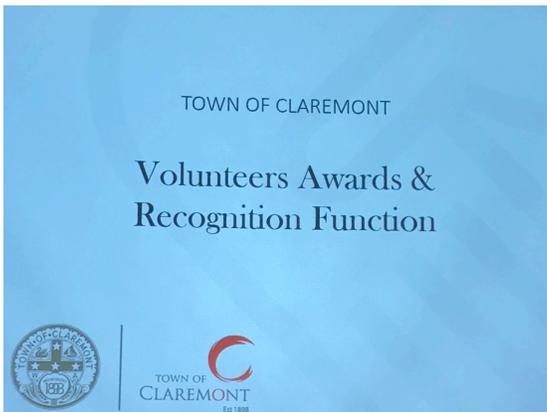


Reagan Manns with Mayor, Jock Barker

Reagan Manns won the Youth Volunteer Award for his tireless effort in building and maintaining the FOLC website.

We were very pleased that our friends from the Sha Satnam Ji Green Welfare Force were awarded the Volunteer Group of the Year Certificate.

The FOLC are very proud of all their volunteers and their contributions both in planting and behind the scenes.



BUSY BEE SUNDAY MAY 12

From : Nick Cook

A lot of preliminary work was carried out before our May busy bee.

We received a delivery of twenty beautiful advanced trees. These trees have been approved and purchased by the Town of Claremont (TOC) for planting at the North-East end of the wetland around the FOLC Shed.

Contractors have sprayed out the turf and removed a large stand of Tamarisk trees (a declared weed of National significance) from around the FOLC shed. Our Year 10 students made a solid start on mulching the site. Planting will commence in June with FOLC purchasing 5000 native seedlings. The removal has left the shed looking quite exposed but will look amazing once we have planted the site and the native seedlings begin to grow.

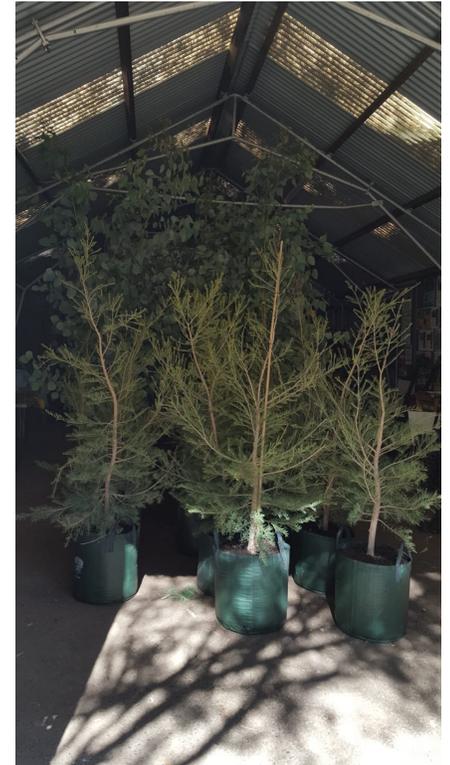


Removing the Tamarisk trees

We had a very successful busy bee with 22 volunteers attending. It is always a pleasure to welcome new volunteers. A group of 6, led by Zac Hardisty, donned gum boots and headed out onto the 'dry' edge of the wetland to plant 10 each of advanced Flooded Gum and Paperbark trees purchased by the TOC. It was hot and dirty work!

Zac Hardisty in action

Continued on page 4



Mature trees ready for planting



The remaining group mulched our 2019 planting site around the FOLC shed. This also was hot and dusty work. What a great effort! We hope it meets the high standards of our Planting Supervisor, Heidi Hardisty!



Mulchers at work



Many thanks to Dot Leeson and Consi Woods for providing a delicious morning tea which was enjoyed by our volunteers at the FOLC Shed.



OUR BIRDS

Text and photos : David Free

Silvereye, *Zosterops lateralis*

Since the successful revegetation of the old golf course, the Silvereye has become one of the most common species in the bushland around our lake. Outside the breeding season large groups of Silvereyes can be seen, and heard softly buzzing, as they forage. They feed on insects, insect larvae, fruit and seeds and are very partial to grapes. In the past large numbers were shot by wine growers.

Feeding parties move quickly through the bush, keeping in the foliage and rarely staying still for long. They are very challenging to the photographer.



FRIDAY WEEDING GROUP

From : Norma Hay

Meeting Place - The FOLC Shed

Time - 8.00am

Contact Norma Hay 0413282515

Winter is almost here and with a little rain and plenty of sunshine the weeds are beginning to emerge. There will be much to do during the next six months.

Since the beginning of March, we have been out on the lake bed most weeks pulling bushy starwort and nightshade.

At present there are four regulars in the group and a new member will be joining soon. Extra hands are always welcome.



VOLUNTEERS' LUNCH SATURDAY MAY 25

From : Hilary Heptinstall



Thanks to the efforts of Claire Brittain, we were very pleased to receive a grant of \$1000 from Volunteering WA, with ongoing support from Lotterywest.

This enabled us to hold a Volunteers' lunch on Saturday May 25 at Lake Claremont.

We were joined by our friends from the wonderful Indian ex-pat group the Shah Satnam Ji Green S Welfare Force Wing. They have worked with the FOLC for the past seven years and have planted thousands of seedlings at Lake Claremont.

It was good to see Heidi and Paul Hardisty back in Perth for the lunch and then to watch their son Declan play football for Claremont.

We were blessed with beautiful autumn weather and there was a good turn out from both the FOLC and the Sha Satnam groups.

Delicious food was provided by the Ganges Indian restaurant and we enjoyed both the vegan and meat alternatives. It was good to meet and socialise with the Sha Satnam volunteers and their families. Many thanks to Soozie and Geoff Ross for their organisation of today's lunch.



Sohan Singh and Amit Patel from Ganges Restaurant.



Gopal, Vipin, Gavril and Heidi Hardisty



Ritu, Mary Yates, Saageeta and Simran



Enjoying lunch. (More photos on page 7)



Lance Banister-Jones, Pam & David Free.



Kevin McAlpine, Paul Hardisty, Terry Heptinstall, David Free, Bruce Hynes, Marcella Cook



Joan Tocock and Heidi Hardisty in the lunch queue

ADOPT A SPOT UPDATE

We have had a (relatively) weed-free summer! The plantings have survived and are looking great. While they enjoyed some rain in May, so did the weeds. Hopefully we will have a rainy June for our new plantings which means the weeds will be flourishing too! So we hope to see our Adopt a Spotters down at the lake to get the weeds out while they are still small and easy to extract. Anyone wishing to adopt a spot should contact Jenni at jennibj@iinet.net.au



LIFE AT THE LAKE IN MAY



Mary Yates took this very interesting photo of a termite mound in the bush on the east side of Lake Claremont and says that it is still growing.



This beautiful Red-necked avocet was photographed by **Gary Tate** on the water still remaining at Lake Claremont



Nick Cook came across this fat and healthy Bobtail lizard (*Tiliqua rugosa*) sunning himself by the edge of the path in May.

Did you know that unlike most lizards, the species tends to be monogamous? The breeding season is September through to November. Such pairs have been known to return to each other every year for up to 20 years.

CLAIRE BRITTAIN'S LASTING LEGACY

From : Nick Cook

In our March newsletter we, regretfully, announced the retirement of our long standing Director/Company Secretary and Grants guru Claire Brittain.

On behalf of the FOLC Board (past and present) and membership we offer our most heartfelt appreciation and thanks to Claire for all her support and the significant contribution that she has made to FOLC and for the wetland over the last 11 years! I can confidently say that FOLC could not have achieved so much without Claire's dedication and commitment. Much of Claire's efforts are conducted behind the scenes and few would be aware how much time and effort she has volunteered to the revegetation project and the group.

Claire was instrumental in setting up FOLC as a company in order to be able to apply for grants' funding and to administer the execution of those grants. The decision to adopt this funding model has been one of the keys to our partnership with the Town of Claremont and has accelerated the completion of the revegetation works significantly. Under Claire's guidance we have also attained tax deductible gift status and are an accredited charity organisation.

Claire Brittain at the 2018 AGM



As our Grants Officer Claire has been responsible for raising over \$604,000 since 2009. This has fully funded the purchase of approximately 350,000 native plants that have been planted by FOLC since the closing of the Long 9 Golf Course. Claire has had incredible success in winning grants year after year and her partnership with Heidi Hardisty's efforts on the ground proved a winning combination. FOLC and Town of Claremont have been widely recognised for the success of our revegetation efforts.

As we approach the end of the large scale plantings at the lake our focus is shifting to management issues such as weed control and water quality. To that end Claire has recently secured funding for manual weed control in order to reduce our reliance on the use of herbicides. This work will compliment the FOLC's other manual weed control initiatives. Another recent grant won by FOLC contributed to the cost of running Celebrate Lake Claremont Day last year.

All this behind the scenes work is not as 'visible' as the work on the ground but one could not be achieved without the other! Claire's enormous and significant contributions as a FOLC volunteer leave behind a legacy for the benefit of our native wildlife, the environment and the entire community. She leaves us with an enduring gift for which we are all very grateful .

MAY NIGHT CHAT - GOOD BUGS, BAD BUGS AND YOUR GARDEN

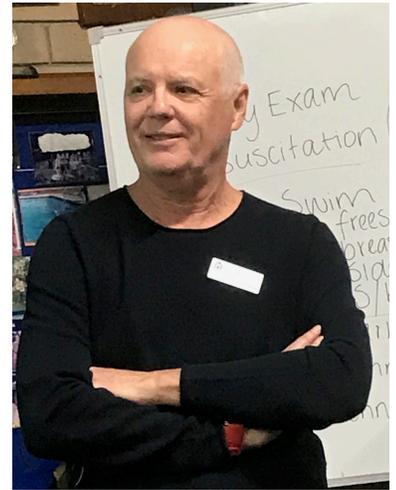
From : Hilary Heptinstall

Our speaker was Darryl Hardie, aka 'Dr Bugalugs'. I have always enjoyed listening to Darryl on the radio so I was looking forward to hearing him speak tonight and was not disappointed.

Darryl has worked at the Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development for 44 years (he said he was only 12 when he started!) He is an authority on bugs in WA.

Darryl spoke first about **bad bugs**, of which there are many. Australia's largest grasshopper, The Valanga is Australia's largest grasshopper It was only known in the Murchison until 2012 when it was found in Perth. However, Wattle Birds and Butcher Birds like to eat them so they may not thrive here.

Darryl Hardie



PADIS like citrus, herbs, banana and frangipani while Mole Crickets from the Eastern States only like 'good' gardens, so many of us do not have to worry!

Darryl is not against the use of chemicals as long as the right one is chosen and used correctly. He suggests sharing 'Amdro' or Pest Expert with neighbours to control Coastal Brown Ants. This not only reduces the cost but serves to eliminate them from a larger area.

Soap is one of Darryl's favourite insecticides.

Portuguese millipedes stop trains by forming oil on the rail tracks. Light traps, chemical and physical barriers can be used to control them.

The European Wasp had also become a problem in Perth. They are a threat to native bees and an "Adopt a trap" programme is finishing this year.

Good bugs are those that are predators of **bad bugs**. Cryptoaemus is a mealybug predator, while Orius is a Thrips predator.

Darryl spoke of the need for surveillance to be carried out by the general public as well as scientists.

Darryl suggested that that we download 'MyPestGuide' from the Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development website.

The audience were fascinated by Darryl's talk, we loved his vast knowledge and great sense of humour. There were many questions throughout and we did not want him to finish.

Thank you, Darryl for spending the evening with us. It was much appreciated.

Many thanks also to Angela Hine and Chloe Davidson from the Town of Claremont for organising such good Night Chat sessions this year. We have seen a large increase in our audience numbers which has necessitated a change in venue to Claremont Tennis club for future sessions.

LOCAL RESIDENTS' PLANTING DAY SUNDAY JUNE 9 *From : Heidi Hardisty*

Don't forget the planting season kicks off at the next FOLC Busy Bee Sunday 9th June. Our goal is to plant 2000 native seedlings around the FOLC shed that morning. We will be joined by the wonderful Indian ex-pat group the Shah Satnam Ji Green S Welfare Force Wing who will be cooking a vegetarian curry lunch for all volunteers. Please register on our facebook event for catering purposes: [Local Residents' Planting Day](#) or email. folcwa@gmail.com



Meet at the FOLC shed on the northeast side of Lake Claremont. Planting will begin at 9:00 am. We need 8- 10 helpers to lay out plants 8:00 – 9:00am.

Please wear closed-in shoes, a hat and be prepared for rain. Instruction and morning tea will also be provided. Thank you to the Town of Claremont who will be contributing to the lunch.

JUNE NIGHT CHAT

This will be held on Tuesday June 25 at Claremont Tennis Club at 5.30pm. Please note the change in venue. The speaker will be from Bird Life Australia. More details will be sent by email.

Day	Event	Time
Wednesday June 5 th	World Environment Day	
Friday June 7 th	Year 10 Community Service Program - Planting	1:30 - 3:00 pm
Sunday June 9 th	Local Residents Planting Day and curry lunch Lake Claremont	9 am -12.00 pm
Monday June 10 th	Board of Directors meeting	
Friday June 14 th	Year 10 Community Service Program - Planting	1:30 - 3:00 pm
Friday June 21 st and June 28 th	Year 10 Community Service Program - Planting	1:30 - 3:00 pm
Tuesday June 25 th	Night Chats at Lake Claremont Claremont Tennis Club	Doors open at 5:30 pm Talk 6:00 -7:00 pm

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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

POSTAL ADDRESS

Friends of Lake Claremont Ltd.

P.O. Box 837

Claremont WA, 6910



natural resource
management program

