

Dear Wetlanders, this newsletter has user-friendly hyperlinks. *Previous articles are marked red.* Please forward new contributions by the end of March for distribution at the beginning of April. Regards, Denise

March 2007

## WetNet Newsletter

Your community wetland network!



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#### Wetland talks, events & training opportunities

##### 1. Fourth Biennial Australasian Ornithological Conference

Call for Papers and Expressions of Interest

The Fourth Biennial Australasian Ornithological Conference will be held in Perth, Western Australia on 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> of December 2007. This conference provides a regular forum for the exchange of information and ideas between avian researchers and conservationists throughout the Australasian region. The

venue will be the University of Western Australia, and the Western Australian group of Birds Australia (RAOU) will host the conference. Post-conference field excursions will be available.

An Invitation - You are invited to express your interest in attending this conference, and presenting a paper by visiting [www.birdswa.com.au](http://www.birdswa.com.au) or by writing to the conference coordinator: S. Mather, Birds Australia Western Australia, 167 Perry Lakes Drive, Floreat WA 6014.

Email: [aoc2007@birdswa.com.au](mailto:aoc2007@birdswa.com.au)

Tel: +61(08) 93896416

## **2. Free volunteer management workshops**

Conservation Volunteers Australia in partnership with Toyota Australia is proud to offer a series of free volunteer management workshops. Conservation Volunteers is one of Australia's largest volunteer involving organisations, managing more than 10,000 volunteers a year. Through the partnership more than 1,000 volunteers have achieved the formal qualification, the 'Certificate in Active Volunteering'. This free workshop series is designed to share experience and expertise with volunteer managers and coordinators (paid and unpaid) from environment groups as well as other volunteer organisations. Each workshop runs for half a day and you are welcome to attend either or both of the following workshops.

Change Management for Community Groups  
Wednesday 18 March 2007, 9am – noon

Volunteer Management – Meeting the Challenges  
Thursday 22 March 2007, 9am - noon

To book into a workshop please contact Colleen Daly on Freecall 1800 032 501 or email [info@conservationvolunteers.com.au](mailto:info@conservationvolunteers.com.au)

## **3. 'Yarragadee for Life' rally**

Friends of Yarragadee advise all that there will be a 'Yarragadee for Life' rally in Perth on Tuesday 27th March, meeting at 11.30 am at the Esplanade, followed by 11.45 am walk up St George's Terrace to Parliament House for 1pm. Alternatively meet at 1 pm at Parliament House.

## **4. Conservation Week 2007**

Following its great success in 2005 & 2006, CCWA is proud to announce the third annual Conservation Week and you are invited to participate!!

Conservation Week, 17<sup>th</sup>–25<sup>th</sup> March 2007, is a chance to recognise and celebrate the achievements of the conservation community who act tirelessly to protect our unique environment. One of the key aims of Conservation Week is to raise the profile of the environment by raising public awareness and encouraging people – young and old - to get involved in environmental conservation activities in their local community. Conservation Week 2007 will be particularly special with the Council celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary and we'd like as many people to help us celebrate as possible.

Already over 20 events statewide have registered for Conservation Week 2007...but don't worry there is still plenty of time to get involved!! Organisations are encouraged to either register an event already happening during Conservation Week or consider organising a special event to communicate the importance of the environment during the week.

For further details of these events and many more exciting things happening over the week please visit [www.conservationwa.asn.au](http://www.conservationwa.asn.au) or contact Jessie Cochrane, Community Liaison Officer phone: 9420 7266 or email: [clo@conservationwa.asn.au](mailto:clo@conservationwa.asn.au)

## **5. 9<sup>th</sup> Western Australian Environment Festival – Our Place, Our Planet**

Held in the naturally beautiful, peaceful grounds (1.7ha) of Naragebup Rockingham Regional Environment Centre, opposite Lake Richmond in Peron, a place of 'natural encounters', this years WA Environment Festival – Our Place, Our Planet, will host exciting activities, performances, eco-educational displays and presentations. With plenty of stall holders and performing groups to entertain throughout the weekend this vibrant event provides excitement and stimulation, whilst presenting quality of life options.

The ever popular wildlife presentations will be available with a chance to get up close to some of WA's unique native animals, including reptiles, mammals (Kanyana Wildlife Caring), minibeasts (Spineless Wonders) and birds of prey. Even Captain Clean up is coming along! Entry is free to the public,

nearby parking is available. This is a non-smoking event. Food and drinks are available for purchase or bring a picnic to enjoy in our large, shady amphitheatre!

When: Sat 24 and Sun 25 March 2007, 10am – 5pm

Further information: please contact us on 9591 3077 or visit our website [www.naragebup.org.au](http://www.naragebup.org.au) We welcome you to join us!

This event is proudly sponsored by Naragebup, Lotterywest, the City of Rockingham and the Department of Water

#### **6. 11th International Mediterranean Ecosystems Conference - MEDECOS XI**

The 11th International Mediterranean Ecosystems Conference - MEDECOS XI - will be held in Perth, 2 - 5 September 2007. The scientific program will feature oral and poster presentations covering important contemporary topics of global interest (eg global change, conservation of threatened species and ecosystems, restoration ecology) while the social program will include a welcome reception, wine session, cocktail party and conference dinner. Given Perth's location in a global biodiversity hotspot, the accompanying pre- and post- conference field trips are guaranteed to be conference highlights, showcasing some of Western Australia's unique flora and fauna, ancient landscapes and striking coastline.

For interested individuals, abstracts are now being called and will address the following themes:

1. Defining a Mediterranean Ecosystem
2. Species and Population Ecology
3. Landscape Ecology
4. Socio-Cultural Dimensions
5. Global Change
6. Disturbance Ecology
7. Invasive Species
8. Ecophysiology
9. Conservation of Threatened Species
10. Conservation of Ecosystems
11. Restoration Ecology

Abstract submissions have been extended to 27 March 2007. For interested individuals, registration fees and accommodation information are now posted on the website. The registration form and the on-line accommodation booking form will be posted on the website in March 2007.

For detailed conference information, please visit <http://www.medecosxi2007.com.au> For additional information; the organising committee can be contacted via [medecosxi2007@bgpa.wa.gov.au](mailto:medecosxi2007@bgpa.wa.gov.au)

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#### **Wetland employment**

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#### **Wetland funding opportunities**

##### **7. Australian Government Envirofund Grants Round 9**

Applications are now open for funding of up to \$50,000 (GST-inclusive) per project. The Envirofund has two main objectives:

- To provide the opportunity and means for community groups to undertake small on-ground projects tackling important local problems; and
- To provide a mechanism through which community groups can move towards effective engagement in broader regional approaches to natural resource management.

Projects may have a better chance of funding if prepared in consultation with a Natural Resource Management Facilitator. Contact details are available at [www.nrm.gov.au/contacts/facs](http://www.nrm.gov.au/contacts/facs) or phone Freecall 1800 065 823.

For the electronic Guide and Application Form visit [www.nht.gov.au/envirofund](http://www.nht.gov.au/envirofund)

For printed copies contact Freecall 1800 065 823

Applications close: 5 pm Friday 27 April 2007

##### **8. Swan Alcoa Landcare Program**

The Swan Catchment Council, Alcoa of Australia and the Swan River Trust are pleased to announce the Swan Alcoa Landcare Program 2008 Funding Round. \$625,000 is available to community groups

or local government working with community groups for a wide range of landcare activities in the Swan region. Priority is given to projects that address:

- Retention, restoration and management of bushland, coastal, wetland and riverine vegetation.
- Protection and enhancement of the quality of surface water (streams, rivers, wetlands) and groundwater.

Information on the application process and eligibility criteria is available from the Swan Catchment Council on (08) 9374 3333 or [www.swancatchmentcouncil.org](http://www.swancatchmentcouncil.org)  
Applications close 1 May 2007.

### **9. SGIO communityhelp Grants**

Through the communityhelp Grants program, SGIO offers grants of between \$500 and \$5,000 to groups undertaking projects in areas of:

- Crime prevention,
- Injury prevention,
- Emergency services
- Environment.

There are hundreds of community-based groups across the State working tirelessly, on minimal budgets, to improve aspects of their local area. SGIO is happy to offer a helping hand to these groups, especially if the results have the ability to improve local safety or build environmental awareness. Applications for SGIO communityhelp Grants close on Friday 30 March 2007, with successful recipients announced in late May 2007.

Applicants for a communityhelp grant are encouraged to visit [www.sgio.com.au/grants](http://www.sgio.com.au/grants) and complete an online application or obtain a copy of the communityhelp Grant Guidelines and Application Form. You may also contact the SGIO Community & Environment team on 1300 306 496.

### **10. Luke Pen Fund: 2007 Honours scholarships**

Applications are open for funding for research into waterways in honour of the late Dr Luke Pen. For further information please email [waterways@water.wa.gov.au](mailto:waterways@water.wa.gov.au)  
Applications close 31 March 2007

### **11. Healthy Wetland Habitats**

*Management assistance for landholders managing wetlands on the Swan Coastal Plain*

Healthy Wetland Habitats is a new program developed by the Department of Environment and Conservation to provide management support and financial incentives for private landholders managing wetlands on the Swan Coastal Plain. Landholders will be encouraged to have wetland management plans prepared for their wetlands and to implement management actions identified under those management plans through the offer of incentives.

The management plan will identify priority management actions, such as fencing and weed control, which will ensure the wetland's values are maintained and enhanced for future generations. Once a management plan is prepared, landholders can access funding of up to \$10,000 to carry out priority management actions identified in the management plan.

For further information, please contact Anthea Jones, Healthy Wetland Habitats Coordinator, on (08) 9334 0570.

### **12. Gordon Reid Foundation Conservation Grants**

Focus: To support community organisations to conserve the State's natural habitats and diversity. Examples of projects that may be considered are revegetation activities and the protection of remnant vegetation, flora and fauna surveys, management plans for reserves, public education projects such as the production of brochures etc., research projects which will assist in the conservation of Western Australia's biodiversity

Closes: Ongoing

Contact: Web: <http://www.lotterywest.wa.gov.au/asp/index.asp?pgid=444>

Email: [community\\_funding@lottery.wa.gov.au](mailto:community_funding@lottery.wa.gov.au)

Freecall: 1800 655 270 Ph: 9340 5270

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## Wetland resources

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## Wetland submissions

### 13. Opportunity to nominate species and ecological communities for listing as threatened

The Australian Government Department of the Environment and Water Resources is seeking nominations for consideration under the *Environment Protection Biodiversity and Conservation Act 1999* in the following categories:

- Species
- Ecological communities
- Key threatening processes

Further information, including details of the nomination process, nomination guidelines and nomination forms, is available online at: [www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/nominations](http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/nominations) or contact the Director, Species Listing, Recovery and Policy Section, email: [epbc.nominations@environment.gov.au](mailto:epbc.nominations@environment.gov.au) or telephone: (02) 6274 2238

### 14. A 100-year Biodiversity Conservation Strategy for WA (Draft): Blueprint to the Bicentenary in 2029

Further information: [www.naturebase.net/content/view/2558/336/](http://www.naturebase.net/content/view/2558/336/)

Submissions close: 30 March 2007

### 15. The Draft Healthy Rivers Action Plan

Further information:

[http://portal.environment.wa.gov.au/portal/page?\\_pageid=973,1&\\_dad=portal&\\_schema=PORTAL](http://portal.environment.wa.gov.au/portal/page?_pageid=973,1&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL)

Submissions close: 31 March 2007

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## Wetland awards

### 16. Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Community Business Partnerships

Nominations are open for business and community groups who are working together, contributing to the social, environmental and economic well-being of their community.

There will be awards for: small, medium and large businesses in each state and territory plus a multi-state category.

Four Special Awards include:

- 'Impact on a Community'
- 'Longevity' of a partnership
- 'Contribution to Indigenous Communities'
- 'Media' reporting of partnerships and corporate social responsibility

Each National Award and Special Award winning partnership will receive \$10,000 for their community partner. Further information and nomination forms are available at [www.partnerships.gov.au](http://www.partnerships.gov.au) or Freecall 1800 050 009

Closing date for nominations: Friday 27 April 2007

### 17. World Environment Day Awards

The 5th of June is World Environment Day. Each year on this designated day, the United Nations Association of Australia seeks to focus world attention on the environment, and in particular, on positive programs that work towards protecting or restoring the world's natural heritage.

The UNAA actively promotes World Environment Day through the United Nations Association of Australia World Environment Day Awards. The Awards focus on the time-honoured theme: 'Think Global, Act Local.' The Awards recognise businesses, local governments, schools, community groups, individuals and the media whose work serves to protect, manage or restore the environment.

Entries close at 5pm on Wednesday, May 9, 2007

For further information please visit the UNAA VIC website: [www.unaavictoria.org.au](http://www.unaavictoria.org.au)

Or contact the UNAA Victoria [ABN: 59 485 457 115]:

GPO Box 45, Melbourne VIC 3001

Telephone: (03) 9670 7878 Facsimile: (03) 9670 9993

Email: [info@unaavictoria.org.au](mailto:info@unaavictoria.org.au)

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## Miscellaneous wetland items

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#### CONTRIBUTIONS:

- Forward to Denise Crosbie, Wetlands Officer, at [wetlands@iinet.net.au](mailto:wetlands@iinet.net.au) by the second last working day of each month in email or Word format (for distribution at the beginning of each month)
- Must relate to wetlands
- Should be brief (less than 150 words)
- Please refer to other sites/contacts for detailed information (no attachments will be included)
- Will be circulated up to 3 times (please resubmit for further inclusions)

#### WETLAND Help Line:

- Please include name, organisation & very brief request (1 or 2 sentences)
- Help Line items will be circulated once (please resubmit for further inclusions)

To SUSCRIBE or UNSUSCRIBE please forward a blank email with subscribe or unsubscribe in the subject line.

Feedback on this newsletter is very welcome.

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*The Cockburn Wetlands Education Centre was established during 1993 and is a not-for-profit organisation committed to wetland restoration, environmental education and training. Many volunteers provide vital support to the Centre's work. Donations and sponsorship are welcome to help fund our core operations. Donations exceeding \$2 are tax-deductible.*

#### *Cockburn Wetlands Education Centre*

*184 Hope Road*

*BIBRA LAKE WA 6163*

*Ph/fax: (08) 9417 8460*

*E-mail: [wetlands@iinet.net.au](mailto:wetlands@iinet.net.au)*

*Website: <http://iinet.net.au/~wetlands>*

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