



FAWNA INC. NEWS

June 2009

Volume 26 No 3

FAWNA General Meeting.

Date: Saturday 12th of September 2009

Time: 12.00 noon for 12.30 pm start

Venue: Busselton Dunsborough Environment Centre.

PLEASE: Bring a plate.

FAWNA INC.

The Secretary

P.O Box 551

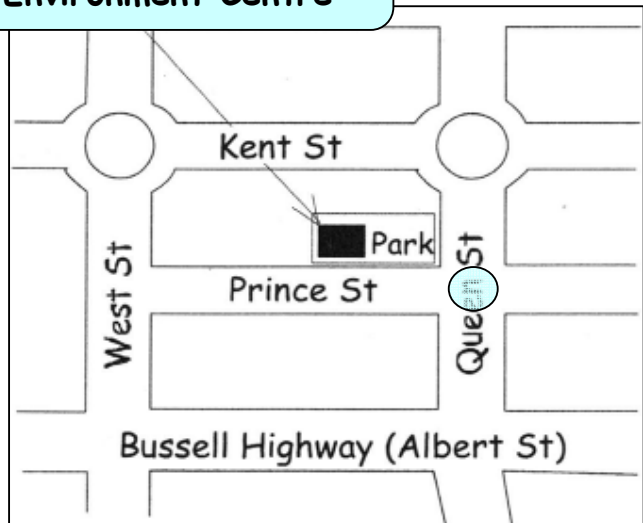
Busselton

WA 6280

email: fawna@westnet.com.au

web site: www.fawna.com.au

**Busselton Dunsborough
Environment Centre**



FAWNA OFFICE BEARERS 2009

Chairperson	Kristy Gawthrop	9751 3023
Deputy Chairperson	Vicki Newman	9731 5252
Secretary	Amanda Bell	0407 440 743
Treasurer	Donna Cain	9752 2218
Emergency Assistance	Vicki Newman	9731 5252
	Gail & Frank Seymour	9755 3933

Photocopying courtesy of Troy Buswell
Paper donated courtesy of Department of Environment and Conservation

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Chairperson's Report

This is just a very brief report. Tyler has been keeping me very busy along with the animals.

Helen Jones and Sean McArthur from Yallingup became a new depot at the last meeting.

Thank you to Ian who is doing a wonderful job on the newsletter.

Technology failed us with the order of our hot boxes. A quote was sent via e-mail but was never received. I didn't hassle them because of their large back order and they didn't hassle us because they know how busy we are with the wildlife, so our order lapsed. A new order has been placed by phone this time and we are waiting for the phone call to let us know they are ready to be picked up.

Amanda Bell has been busy working on the proposed LotteryWest house for community groups and will keep us posted as to how this is progressing.

FAWNA is working towards getting some training and information sessions up and running, if you have a particular interest you would like to learn about please let us know and will we see what we can do.

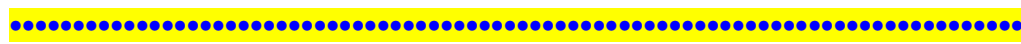
Ben Deeley is investigating getting our data and records put onto hard drives so we have a back up copy. Everyone at the last meeting agreed this is very important but a massive task.

The New Process for Registered Wildlife Rehabilitators (see link below) has been released for comment and will be discussed in detail at the meeting. If you would like to have a look at this proposed process and make a comment and are unable to come to our meeting please call me on 9751 3023 and I will send you a copy.

Don't forget our Animal Nursery at the Busselton Show is fast approaching and we always require volunteers.

Hope to see you at our September meeting.

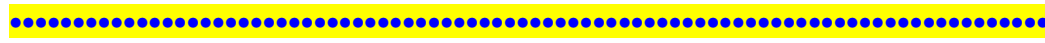
Kristy Gawthrop



THE WILDLIFE REHABILITATION PROGRAM IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

By Margaret Buckland, Community Involvement Coordinator, Department of Environment and Conservation

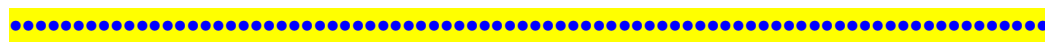
http://www.nwrc.com.au/2k6/papers/Margaret_Buckland-Wildlife_Rehabilitation_WA.pdf



GREAT GARDEN WORKSHOP

The Great Gardens Team are coming to the Busselton Senior Citizens Centre on the 12th September. John Colwill, Garry Heady and John McWilliams. The free, three hour Waterwise Great Gardens workshop will be both informative and fun as the Team present a diverse fun filled event which is full of the latest techniques to help people create their own Waterwise garden paradise. Learn how to use less water and fertiliser, save time and money and enhance the appearance of your garden. Sample a range of the latest sustainable garden products and take home information on garden design, improvement and management.

Phone the hotline to register on 1300 369 833



Depot Updates

Causeway Depot Report

It is starting to get busier as we head towards Spring. A few baby possums and joeys have been brought in, all of them are furless with their eyes shut. Most of these are just too small to save.

I have received a couple of Sea Birds from the recent storms and was saddened to see during our beach drive two Giant Petrels that had died at Wonnerup. There has also been a wide variety of other species of birds coming in with various injuries.

The Mountain ducks have started arriving and the others won't be far behind. My pond is about to go through its annual overhaul and will be ready for another year of duck diving and swan splashing.

If anyone would like to care for a particular species and has not already let me know please call as it won't be long before we are looking to home various babies.

[Kristy Gawthrop](#)

Duchess Street Depot.

Mabel and Peter Bell have returned to Busselton after their extended visit to Melbourne to be with their sick grandchild. We understand that the outcome of the operation was encouraging and we pass on our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Cowaramup Depot.

I was having a quiet time when I was brought a lone duckling to foster. As ducklings are generally born in a clutch, this little one was lonely. I was expecting to need to call upon Mabel to adopt him into her ever-changing flock of orphans to give him some company, then, as if by magic, I had delivered to my door eleven abandoned ducklings. It appears that their parents had been frightened away or killed - leaving their brood with the impossible task of surviving without protection. This proved to be just what my lonely little fellow needed and there are now 12 (I think they are Australian Shelducks - often called Mountain Ducks) hungry little mouths to feed. They are fascinating birds, very quick in their activities and very hard to catch. They seem to do everything together. If one decides it is time to eat, then they all want to eat at the same time. When one decides to run off, the rest run off as a flock of squeaking feathers and legs.

I also received an injured adult black duck from the Dunsborough Vet recently. Apparently it had been hit by a golf ball and needed a few days of rest and recuperation after the vets had done their work. I was rewarded by the duck laying a single egg (they usually lay more than one) - at least it didn't lay a golf ball!. There is a high probability that I will be able to release her back into the "wild" of Dunsborough Lakes in the near future.

You may be interested to know that ducks are generally monogamous, although these bonds generally last a single year only. Larger species and the more sedentary species tend to have pair-bonds that last numerous years.

Footnote: the collective noun for ducks is reported to be a "padding" - but that only applies when they are in the water.

Not every story has a happy ending. One of last year's joeys was brought in by a member of



Photo: Lesley Jackes

the public. He had been caught on a wire fence and done quite a lot of damage to the flesh on his leg and the tendons were found to be badly damaged. This had probably happened as he struggled to escape from the fence. Unfortunately he was too badly injured to be repaired and rehabilitated, so we reluctantly had to put him to sleep. At least he was saved from a painful death trapped by the fence where he may have slowly starved

to death or been preyed on by foxes or dogs.

[Margaret Lewis-Mee](#)

Gunn Street Depot.

Little to report except the story about the sad brushy on page 8.

[Donna Cain](#)

New Yallingup Depot.

I have nothing to report on activities (no birds, no animals - not even a phone enquiry) at the new depot at our place in Yallingup so far. As we are a new depot it will probably take a little while for our contact details to be known (see below). We are hoping that everything is going well and that no contacts means good news. However, we are ready and prepared for an influx as the warmer weather approaches, bringing tourists and the inevitable road injuries.

[Helen Jones](#)

Boyanup Depot.

Not much happening at this depot, I am enjoying the quiet time, but still getting calls about joeys, most still seem to be pinkies. We did see one owl that was sick and regrettably died. The 28 parrot that came in at the last meeting is now ready to go.

I did one rescue of a baby ringtail that fell from a drey. It was just an easy exercise to find its mum and put it back up the tree. The only thing I forgot was that when baby runs to mum, my ladder and torch holders all follow the baby and I get to fall on my rear end! Thankfully I've got padding!

[Vicki Newman](#)



Depots

A depot is an initial point of contact to FAWNA Inc. Depots will provide guidance and advice on the care of animals. They are also designated drop off points. Depots take in casualties, give first aid, obtain veterinary treatment and may care for the animals or transfer it to a FAWNA member.

Depot List 2009

Location	Contact FAWNA member	Contact phone number(s)
Boyanup	Vicki Newman	08 9731 5252
Busselton	Donna & Peter Cain	08 9752 2218 or 0417 060 977
Busselton	Mabel Bell	08 9752 2275
Busselton	Kristy Gawthrop	08 9751 3023
Carbunup	Roger Jackson and Kim Green	08 9755 1771 or 0413 149 689
Capel	Helen Bryant	08 97271501 or 0438 663 411
Cowaramup	Margaret Lewis-Mee	08 9755 6207
Karridale	Robyn Dennis	08 9758 5556
Kirup	Peter and Carol Vickridge	08 97316116 or 0429 430 690
Ludlow	Amanda Bell and John Okley	0407 440 743 or 0427 055 451
Manjimup	Darryn Ward	08 9771 8312
Yallingup	Helen Jones and Sean McArthur	08 9755 2460
Yarloop	Kathy Kilgour	08 9733 5139

Busselton "Community Hub" Plans.

The local press has recently reported a new building planned for the current library and fire station area in central Busselton. It is described as a multi-million-dollar resource and community hub. Government departments and LotteryWest are the major source of funding for the building which is planned to include a Lotteries House, government agencies such as the Department of Child Protection, a new library and café. The current capital cost is quoted as \$13.3 million.

FAWNA currently has an arrangement with the Busselton Dunsborough Environment Centre (BDEC) for the use of their building in Prince Street (Barnard Park). We have a storage facility as well as the opportunity to hold meetings and make use of the office. This arrangement is due to expire in 2011. It is understood that the proposed new community hub will offer accommodation for groups such as ours. Our representative, Amanda, has been working closely with the consultation (see below).

Expansion Busselton Library Lotteries House - An Update

For the past four months I have been attending meetings of the Community Reference Group as part of the process of planning a 'community hub' and possible library extension for Busselton. Below is a brief update on current happenings.

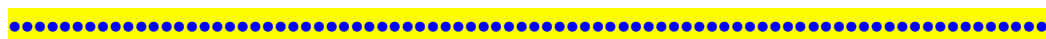
Busselton Shire Council endorsed to proceed to the next stage of a Community Resource Centre being built on the current library site. Individual meetings have been held with group members to discuss the grant application and to receive a letter of agreement in principle to a rental of \$2/sqm. Bret has been working close with the Childcare Centre, YMCA, ACTIV and Silver Chain to finalise the complexities of their spatial requirements.

The Grant application was finalised by Friday 21st August and was hand delivered by Shire staff and reps from the Reference Group to Faye Overhue at Lotterywest. A decision will be made by November (hopefully) on the Lotterywest funding for the project.

The next phase will include a 4 month consultation period with the group for the design phase. The reference group's position will remain the same until ribbon cut with regular updates and meetings. Councillors will join Councillor Hanran-Smith and Councillor Beth Hastie as Council representatives on the group.

I believe this project is worthwhile, and have enjoyed attending the meetings on behalf of FAWNA. Whilst FAWNA continues to have a rep on the Reference Group, discussion will still take place regarding possible tenancy. If anyone would like to be involved or would like more info, please give me a call on 0407440743. I will report on the above at our next meeting. Hope all your animals and yourselves are happy and well.

Cheers, Amanda



Xstrata to the rescue

XSTRATA Coal has pitched in \$A3 million to help Queensland's Department of Environment and Resource Management establish a second colony of the endangered northern hairy-nosed wombat in Epping Forest National Park, near Clermont.



northern hairy-nosed wombat

On Wednesday (1st July) Xstrata Coal chief executive Reinhold Schmidt and state Climate Change Minister Kate Jones attended an event at Yarran Downs, 62km north of St George, to celebrate the milestone.

While the entire world population of 138 northern hairy-nosed wombats live in one colony at Epping Forest National Park, a second habitat is expected to be completed within weeks for the establishment of a second colony.

Development work for the new habitat includes setting up 2.5m-high predator-proof fences and removing pests and weeds, while starter burrows are also being built at the Richard Underwood Nature Refuge, near St George. Wombats moving into the second colony will be selected on gender, age and weight criteria.

Minister Jones said the wombats escaped the 2008 floods in central Queensland but it was a timely warning of how real the threat of extinction was to the species. "They are more endangered than the Sumatran tiger, Central Africa's mountain gorilla and China's giant panda and are presently only found in one isolated area about the size of Brisbane's CBD," she said.

Jones said the opportunity to act now was thanks to Xstrata's \$3 million contribution to the project.

Schmidt said he was proud Xstrata was playing a role in saving the iconic and endangered species. Xstrata's funding comes from its Community Partnership Program.

Earlier in the year, Jones announced a 20% increase in the population of the endangered wombat.

[Article by Blair Price copied (with permission) from "Mining News" 3 July 2009]



A Sad Winter's Tale

It was an early July evening soon after the wild storms that battered the south west at the end of June. There, on our front door step, was a juvenile brushtail possum. He was on the ground and seemed to be sniffing around the area where our dog often leaves a few crumbs of biscuit.

We offered a few grapes and these quickly disappeared. A few minutes later our door-step brushy was gone. Much later that evening he was back and still seemed both docile and hungry. As he showed no inclination to go away, we brought him indoors where we could keep him warm, safe and hydrated.



At 2 am he still seemed very docile - not at all the activity we expected from a healthy nocturnal animal. With no change in his behaviour by the morning we knew that an expert opinion was necessary. After a brief phone call, Donna agreed to see him and she immediately saw that he had a damaged right front leg or shoulder. There was also an indication of some damage to the top of his head, although there were few external signs of trauma. It appeared that our brushy may have fallen from a tree as the injuries were not consistent with an animal attack or a motor vehicle impact.

The vet confirmed a broken shoulder and head injury. The injuries were considered too serious for him to be successfully rehabilitated and able to survive in the wild. Regrettably the trip to the vet was his last journey - he had to be humanely put to sleep.

Not every rescue story has a happy ending. Sadly, our brushy was probably another victim of the wild winter storm. We are left with the minor consolation that we helped make this injured creature's last few hours a little more comfortable. He did not die of starvation or as injured prey at the mercy of some domestic animal or fox.



Peppies for Possums

After many months of planning the 'Peppies for Possum / Jack in the Box' revegetation planting at Busselton Shire Reserve 5021 (along the Busselton bypass) took place on Saturday the 11th of July.

The planting was part of GeoCatch's ongoing commitment to increase habitat and connectivity for Western Ringtail Possums around Busselton's urban and peri-urban areas. Jack in the box came on board in 2008 as part of their eco campaign and provided much of the logistical support for the project as well as attracting other sponsors.



In total over 70 community members contributed on the day to planting some 2500 local species on the site, including 600 peppies (*Agonis flexuosa*) and 1900 understorey species including Paperbark (*Melaleuca pressina*), Rigid wattle (*Acacia cochlearis*), Golden wreath wattle (*Acacia saligna*) and Flooded Gum (*Eucalyptus rudis*).

Also a huge thanks to all the following business involved in the planting project: Doral Mineral Sands, Shore Landscapes, Challenge Dairy, Harley Survey Group, Globe Signs & Shire of Busselton.

For more information please phone GeoCatch NRM officer Gene Hardy on 9781 0108 or visit <http://eco.thebox.com.au>

Original Title
"Increasing Biodiversity in our Coastal Habitats - Peppies for Possums / Jack in the Box Planting Day"

[Gene Hardy](#)



Busselton Show - Animal Nursery

FAWNA runs the Animal Nursery at the Busselton Show on Saturday 31st October 2009 and it is our MAJOR fundraising event each year. It is also a great opportunity to publicise FAWNA and to raise awareness of native animals and birds among the general public who visit our displays.

I will be coordinating the event and require as much assistance as possible. On Thursday 29th October many hands are needed for the erection and setup of our compound, starting about 10 in the morning. We hope to have that accomplished by 4 or 5 pm.



On the Saturday I would like to have enough volunteers to ensure that each stint on the roster is not too onerous. Animals can start arriving at 5am and we are usually still packing away the compound at nightfall. A very big day indeed. We are issued with a number of free passes so first in to volunteer will benefit. There are many and varied tasks so there will be one for you.

We need baby animals so if you know of any that may be available at that time could you please make enquiries as to their availability or call me to handle it. Puppies are often hard to secure. Any would be welcome. We do not show cats or foxes but almost anything else is considered. Owners of domestic animals can sell them through our nursery if we accept them for display.

If you have a native animal then that is suitable for display please let us know. We have a licence to display certain fauna and need several of the same species as it is imperative that any individual animal is rested frequently. Showing wildlife is the highlight of our display.

Entry to our nursery is free to the public (after they have paid to be admitted to the show grounds), however we seek donations at the gate and this is our main source of fund raising.

This year we will also be drawing our raffle (details on page 11 of this newsletter) so that means we will be selling the last raffle tickets on the Saturday afternoon.

Ring me on 9727 2170 or 0427 272 171 or email on ceecee@westnet.com.au if you can help

Thank you - Cheryl Campbell



Fundraising Raffle

We have some magnificent prizes on offer in our fundraising raffle - thanks to the generosity of Paul and Shelley at Ranger Outdoors.

1st prize: Large framed Michael Taylor photograph of Boranup Forest. This magnificent picture would grace anyone's wall and has a retail value of \$600. And when we say large, we mean large: the frame measures 1050 mm by 500 mm.



2nd prize: LED rechargeable spotlight by Coleman - retail value \$99. Just the light you need for outdoor work at night.

3rd prize: Voucher \$50 to spend at Ranger Outdoors.

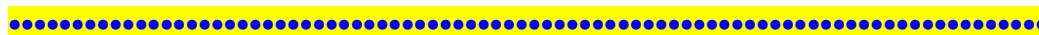
Our raffle will be conducted over the seven weeks from the 12 September to the Busselton Show on 31 October

We have 500 tickets to sell at \$2 each. With over 100 FAWNA members it will take each member, on average, the very small task of selling just 5 tickets each to reach our target.

Please make sure that as a member of FAWNA you make your contribution to this fundraiser by selling your fair share of tickets. Don't be shy. Ask for a book of tickets. Contact Ian Watson to help with this raffle. Phone: 9752 1853 Mobile: 0427 407 305



Ranger Outdoors are located in the Home Depot on Strelly Street (near Bunnings) in Busselton. Paul and Shelley D'Abreu will be pleased to see you looking around their store. Remember that when someone like Ranger Outdoors supports us it is a two-way street - and we need to support them. Even if you just call in to say hello and thank you, you may be pleasantly surprised at the range, quality, value and service available.



Last, but not least

If you have received this newsletter but have not yet renewed your FAWNA membership (paid your annual fee) you run the risk of becoming unfinancial and hence not being a member. FAWNA relies on membership fees as a source of funding. If you haven't yet got around to making your payment, please contact Donna, our treasurer, and make the necessary arrangements as soon as possible.

If you have received this newsletter in the traditional way but would be happy to join those who are now getting theirs by email, then please advise us.

We would also be pleased to hear from you if you want to see anything else in the newsletter or have a story to tell. Is there any topic you would like to see addressed?

FAWNA Newsletter Editors

Ian Watson - email: idwatson@netserv.net.au

Jodie Wood - email: wood_jodie@hotmail.com

Notes for your diary.

Friday 4th September - Sunday 25th October

The Other Side of Urban Life.

Exhibition at Bunbury Regional Art Gallery by Busselton artist Jane Hardy

The exhibition addresses the concept of linking art and conservation. It offers an alternative window into the life and survival of the ringtail possum.

Contact Bunbury Regional Art Gallery on 9721 8616 or email mail@brag.org.au for more information.

Saturday 12 September 2009.

FAWNA General Meeting - see front page for details.

Saturday 12 September 2009.

Great Garden Workshop -

For more information and to register online visit www.greatgardens.info

or phone the hotline to register on 1300 369 833

Venue: Busselton Senior Citizens Centre, BUSSELTON

Cost: Free

Saturday 31 October 2009.

FAWNA display and animal nursery at Busselton Show - see details on page 10.
