Land for Wildlife and Garden for Wildlife

Central Australia Newsletter

January 2017

From the Land for Wildlife Coordinator

Welcome to the new year Land for Wildlife and Garden for Wildlife members! What a wet start to the year we have had here in Alice Springs! It seems that the Todd River has flowed enough times in the last month that we will all be life -residents (according to the well-known local theory).

Shield Shrimp have popped up in some of the local national parks such as Owen Springs and Finke National Park. The Buffel Grass is proving to be a challenge again with some rapid growth after the rains, but it's a great time to chip it out (while the soil is wet and soft). Come along to the upcoming Buffel Busters Tour to get some inspiration on what can be done once the Buffel is gone! Cicadas are making a racket as loud as if we were based in the tropics. Invertebrates are multiplying like there's no tomorrow (especially the grasshoppers), so be vigilant in the garden.

In the Garden:

Prepare for the planting season

Spray weeds after rain

Propagate by cuttings and seed

Protect your plants from grasshoppers

Life is about waiting for the storm to pass… and learning to dance in the rain.

Golden Orb Weaving Spider (*Nephila edulis*) at the Alice Springs Telegraph Station.

In This Issue

Summer Rains Bringing Life to the Alice

Living in central Australia, in a semi-arid zone that receives around 280 mm of rainfall a year, can sound like a dry existence to those on the coast. But as we all know, when it rains, it pours! Alice Springs receives approximately 80 mm in an average December-January period. So far this summer, the airport has received 200 mm over the two months.

The Todd and Finke River have flowed several times already this summer and the 'red centre' is looking more green than red. Fungi are making the most of the wet weather and producing fruiting bodies, the cicadas are calling and if you fly into Alice Springs Airport, you can see how green the landscape has become (alas, some of which is Buffel Grass, but there are some native grasses that are flourishing also). With all this rain comes a greater biomass of vegetation, leading to the recent increase in grasshopper numbers and the threat of bigger fires when the Buffel dries up.

***Clockwise from Top*: Plant roots twisted along the riverside, the Finke River flowing near the Stuart Highway, drying pools, cracking clay as the water disappears, river pebbles smoothed out through years of water flow, sprouting herbs such as Variable Daisy (B) emerge after rains, Stalked Puffball (*Podaxis pistillaris*) is a fungus in arid and semi-arid areas that responds to rain events by fruiting a club-shaped cap with flakey scales that hides a black spore mass used in Aboriginal body painting, Golden Drummer Cicadas (*Thopha colorata*) have a distinctive call that represents wet and humid weather.**

Stinkhorn Bringing in the Crowds

The summer rains have brought up some unusual fungi around town, including this fragrant specimen, known as a Stinkhorn (possibly classified under the *Phallus* genus, though it hasn't yet been identified to species - if you know what it is, get in touch!). The fungus popped up overnight and by the afternoon, it possessed a strange foetid smell. According to Young (2005)* the odour is used by the fungi to ensure spores are dispersed. Spore-producing tissues break down to form a slime that houses the spores. This slime has a rotting meat smell that is attractive to various flies, which then feed on the mass and secondarily transport spores on their feet to other locations.

Once the fungi have begun producing the odorous slime, they are toxic and should be avoided. Some dogs can be attracted to the rotting meat odour and consumption of the fungus can result in sickness (or worse). So be sure to keep an eye out for Stinkhorns and prevent your pets from taking a nibble.

Barbara Gilfedder from the Alice Springs Field Naturalists Club sent in some photos of Stinkhorns that she has taken and helped us to identify the fungus to Genus level.

*Young, AM (2005). A Field Guide to the Fungi of Australia. University of New South Wales Press Ltd, Sydney, NSW.

***Above*: Stinkhorns (*Phallus sp.*) are a funky smelling fungus that has been popping up in several gardens around Alice Springs of late and is attracting the flies for a feast. *Below*: Images taken by B. Gilfedder of Stinkhorn Fungi, the same unidentified species to the left, followed by *Phallus rubicundus* at Olive Pink Botanic Garden in 2011 and two *Phallus indusiatus specimens* from Queensland in 2006 (*Image B. Gilfedder*).**

Conservation and Land Management/Horticulture Courses in 2017

Charles Darwin University (CDU) offers training through individual units under the Conservation and Land Management/Horticulture courses. You can attend sessions for $2.70 per nominal hour. For more information, contact kath.watson@cdu.edu.au, or visit www.cdu.edu.au. Courses of interest for Land for Wildlife and Garden for Wildlife members in 2017 include (but may not be limited to):

Unit Code	Unit Name	Hrs	Delivery / Assessment	Lecturer	Delivery Dates
AHCNSY306A	Implement a propagation plan	90	10 weeks Monday Night Classes. 5.00-8.00pm	Sarah Roberts	Semester 1 Dates TBA
AHCNAR101A	Support natural area conservation	15	One week term 1	Phil Gates	27-31 Mar
		15	One week term 2	Phil Gates	13-16 Jun
		15	One week term 3	Phil Gates	18-22 Sep
		15	One week term 4	Phil Gates	20-24 Nov
AHCNSY101A AHCNAR102A	Support nursery work Support native seed collection	15 80	One week term 1	Sarah Roberts	27-31 Mar
		15 80	One week term 2	Sarah Roberts	13-16 Jun
		15 80	One week term 3	Sarah Roberts	18-22 Sep
AHCIRG302A	Install Irrigation Systems	70	Intensive short course	Phil Karagu	23-26 May and 29 May -1 June
AHCPCM303A	Identify plant specimens	80	Intensive short course	Sarah Roberts	24-28 July
AHCFAU201A	Recognise fauna	40	Intensive short course	TBA	28-31st Aug
AHCPCM502A	Collect and classify plants Part A	120	Intensive short course	Sarah Roberts	11-15 Sep
AHCPCM502A	Collect and classify plants Part B	120	Intensive short course	Sarah Roberts	2-6 Oct

Wood Borer

One of our Land for Wildlife members has sent in a photo of a wood boring beetle that is damaging a tree. Do you have any tried and testing methods of protecting your trees against wood borers? Get in touch! Email us to tell your story (lfw@lowecol.com.au).

Variegated Fairy Wren Snapped Taking a Bath at the LFW Office

A Variegated Fairy-wren (*Malurus lamberti*) was snapped in a compromising position at the Land for Wildlife office. A group consisting of one male, a female and many juveniles (being a highly sociable species, this group structure is quite common) were seen fluttering about in a Witchetty Bush (*Acacia kempeana*) and Old Man Saltbush (*Atriplex nummularia subsp. nummularia*) in search of a drink and bath. Hot tip: The juveniles are characterised by a pink-orange eye ring. Within moments of the birdbath getting topped up, the family made a rushed and chattering B-line to the water source. The male, however, managed to stay clear of the camera (see the December Newsletter for an image of the male at the Water Stabilisation Ponds). You can head to our YouTube channel to see the video of a juvenile making a splash and below for the snapshots. *Blog*►

View the YouTube Video

Variegated Fairy-wren (*Malurus lamberti*) juveniles and female take a bath at the Land for Wildlife office. Juveniles generally have a orange-pink eye ring (*eg. see top-right*).

A Colourful Tale (& Tail) of a Skink on the Prowl

I was lucky enough to come across a Three-spined Rainbow Skink (*Carlia triacantha*) resting on the warm paving tiles recently. They are often somewhat dull in colour, but some are striking with a bright blue head that is indicative of a breeding male. The darker tail in this case is due to regeneration, as it may have lost it in a near-miss with a predator.

Upon being sprung, the male flicked his tail in the air and waved it around, while it strutted along the pavement. The shaking of tails in skinks and geckos is thought to be a form of communication, when they are excited about food or when they are searching for a mate. In this case, it is likely to be the latter of the three due to the colouration of the male. You can watch the video of the Rainbow Skink walking by clicking the link below (sadly, I wasn't able to capture the tail shaking). *Blog*►

View the YouTube Video

Three-spined Rainbow Skink (*Carlia triacantha*)

Website Updates

The Land for Wildlife website has had an update!

You can now head to the website wildlife.lowecol.com.au to see a range of new pages, including the webpage dedicated to our domestic cat monitoring and awareness project.

Previous links to fact sheets not working? The fact sheet page has had a name change to Resources, which is now home to the Vegetation Maps, a list of contact details for our Networks.

The fact sheet (Resources) repertoire has also had a major spruce, with over 30 new fact sheets added to the page for you to access. They are arranged by topic and include a basic description so you know what you're getting into with the download. Check it out!

Dodonea sp. **damage in Quinyambie, SA. The** ***Dodonea*** **shows bark stripping during a drought. By the time they are stripping** ***Dodonea*****, which are highly unpalatable, everything else within their reach has been eaten (*****Image Biosecurity SA*****).**

New Viruses Offer Hope for Improved Rabbit Biocontrol

By Greg Mutze

Biosecurity SA

About 6 years ago, two things happened that may ultimately lead to better biological control of rabbits in Australia.

RHD Boost (K5)

The first one was a plan developed by Australian rabbit researchers to look for new strains of rabbit haemorrhagic disease virus (RHDV, also known as RHDV1 or calicivirus) in Europe and Asia. It was known that some RHDV1 strains that that had been causing problems to rabbit meat producers overseas for 20 years were not present in Australia. The research program, called RHD Boost, introduced new strains of RHDV1 for testing at the Elizabeth Macarthur Agricultural Institute near Sydney. In particular, the research aimed to see if any of the overseas strains might be more effective in the higher rainfall areas of south-eastern Australia, where rabbits are partially protected from RHDV1 by a related, benign calicivirus called RCV-A1. RCV-A1 was present before RHDV1 was introduced but doesn't cause noticeable disease. However, rabbits that have been infected by RCV-A1 are less likely to die when infected by RHDV1. A Korean RHDV1 strain (K5-RHDV1) was identified that killed a high proportion of rabbits with antibodies to RCV-A1 and it has been approved for release in autumn 2017. About 600 landholder groups have signed up to be part of the national release program. K5-RHDV1 may provide some benefit in the hot, dry areas where RCV-A1 is less common, but that is less certain.

RHDV2

At about the same time as RHD Boost research began, another new strain of calicivirus, RHDV2, emerged in Europe in 2010 and rapidly spread through France, Spain and Portugal. It was discovered in Canberra in May 2015. How it arrived in the country is unknown but it has also spread from Europe to pet rabbits in Canada. The Australian strain is genetically similar to a strain from Portugal.

RHDV2 spread within 1 year to much of New South Wales and Victoria, probably aided by flies and mosquitoes, but possibly also through people moving infected pet rabbits, or contaminated equipment or food. It was detected in South Australia in December 2015, and spread gradually through almost all the agricultural districts and into the southern pastoral zone. Isolated cases have been reported from pet rabbits in Darwin and Alice Springs but it is not known to be widely established in wild rabbits in central Australia.

RHDV2 has been killing some pet rabbits that have been vaccinated against RHDV, and can overcome immunity in wild rabbits that have survived infection in previous RHDV1 outbreaks. In agricultural areas and areas of high biodiversity, it is hoped that the new strain might provide another significant knockdown of wild rabbit populations for some years. In France, Spain, Portugal and Scotland where RHDV1 has also

been active 20-30 years, rabbit populations have been severely depleted by RHDV2 in the past 5 years.

Biosecurity SA Needs Your Dead Rabbits

Biosecurity SA expects that RHDV2 will continue to spread in arid Australia but want to discover how it competes with the existing field strains, and whether K5 RHDV1 Boost strain spreads naturally in those areas, or if there is an optimum time to make tactical releases of the K5 RHDV. The virus can only be identified reliably in the liver or bone marrow of rabbits that have recently died from the disease. Samples are urgently needed to monitor RHDV2 spread. Please call us if you see dead rabbits. Freeze them and we will organise the rest. Samples will help determine which strains are most effective, and at what time of year and where these strains are active.

More broadly, data from rabbit samples can be used to assess the effectiveness of the various rabbit biocontrols currently in existence and to argue for further research to find new biocontrols to benefit Australia's agricultural industries and the environment.

In the event RHDV2 does take hold, it may significantly enhance the effectiveness of standard rabbit control measures, with less rabbits around to survive a control program and reinfest properties. This is a great opportunity to get long term control of persistent rabbit problems.

~ Greg Mutze

Download the LFW Rabbit Control Factsheet

How to Provide a Sample

Look out for dead rabbits that otherwise look healthy. This may be evidence of an RHDV1 or RHDV2 outbreak. Collect a rabbit carcass (or just liver, or long hind leg bones if the liver has been scavenged) and store it, with its source location and date, in a plastic bag in the freezer.

Record any observations. For example: "I used to count 50 rabbits driving from the gate to the house and in the last week I have seen none" or "I found a number of dead rabbits but there still seems to be heaps of live rabbits about".

Once you have a rabbit sample in the freezer, please contact Biosecurity SA to arrange collection or drop-off of the sample for testing in Adelaide, or at CSIRO in Canberra.

Land managers will be advised of the results, which could confirm RHDV1 or RHDV2 activity in their area.

Further Information

Greg Mutze, Biosecurity SA
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p. 08 8303 9505

Dave Peacock, Biosecurity SA
e. david.peacock@sa.gov.au
p. 08 8303 9504

The rabbit shows the typical pose in which rabbits are often found if they have died of RHDV – lying on their side, neck arched back and legs extended backwards (*Image Biosecurity SA*).

FeralScan – A New Community Resource for Mapping Australia's Worst Introduced Pest Animals

By Peter West

Project Manager – FeralScan | Invasive Animals CRC

Introduced pest animals such as rabbits, feral cats, carp, feral camels, foxes and wild dogs occur all over Australia and cause significant damage and economic loss to agricultural production, biodiversity conservation and human health each year. In response, farmers, governments, community and industry organisations invest millions of dollars trying to reduce the impacts of pests, placing further pressure on existing resources and people.

The FeralScan Community Pest Animal Mapping Program (available at www.feralscan.org.au and via Apple and Android Apps) provides new digital technology for community-based pest animal mapping. For the first time, communities have an easy way of documenting pest animal problems in their local area. More than 65,000 pest animal issues have now been recorded by community volunteers through FeralScan, making it the single largest community developed pest animal database in Australia.

The FeralScan program can be used to document problems caused by rabbits, foxes, feral cats, feral camels, feral pigs, cane toads, Indian myna birds, wild dogs, feral goats, house mice, pest fish, starlings and feral deer. Community participants can document sightings of pest animals, evidence of pests, the damage/problem they cause, and control actions in their local area. They can also submit and share images of pest problems with other community users.

FeralScan offers a positive way for individual landholders, Landcare and Coastcare groups, Green Army teams, indigenous groups and urban communities to contribute to the management of introduced pest species to protect our natural and agricultural resources.

Information recorded in FeralScan about pest animals is delivered directly into the hands of land managers, farmers, and biosecurity stakeholders at the local scale. In this way, FeralScan provides a new technology for active surveillance and detection of pest animals; it centralises and shares data; alerts people to new pest problems; tracks progress of management actions, and guides local pest control activities.

The program has been co-designed with landholders, community groups, pest animal management stakeholders, industry and citizen scientists Australia-wide. it is available as a website and an App that works without phone service once installed on a users mobile device. It is simple to use once you get started.

New alert technology is currently being developed and is available for groups to help members notify landholders and land managers in their local area whenever a significant pest incident has occurred, such as wild dog attacks on livestock.

If you require assistance with using FeralScan to map pest animals in your local area, please contact Peter West (FeralScan Project Manager, Invasive Animals Cooperative Research Centre) via:

e. peter.west@invasivenanimals.com

p. (02) 6391 3887

~ Peter West

Available on the iPhone App Store

ANDROID APP ON Google play

Back Roads at Hermannsburg / Ntaria

See the Back Roads episode from Hermannsburg / Ntaria to see the Ntaria Junior Rangers at Palm Valley. Land for Wildlife was there teaching the Junior Rangers about the changing world (we missed the cut for the documentary). It's exciting to support such a great ranger team!

Head to ABC iView and View the Episode.

Low Ecological Services Field Trip to the Tanami

By Candice Appleby

A team of enthusiastic consultants from Low Ecological Services *P/L* ventured north in mid-December to conduct a week long biodiversity study. The team braved it through 12 hour and 43 degree days and monitored everything from ground vegetation density, tracks and scats, and water tested bores 50+ meters deep.

The highlight of the trip (other then the stunning sunsets) would have to go to our consultant Emma Smith who had herself a quite profound close encounter with a Brown Falcon (*Falco berigora*). Armed with her Lumix in hand she spotted the fellow at a distance of 50 meters perched ever so regally upon a rock ledge. As Emma was hoping for a close up shot, she began creeping ever so slightly closer, all the while snapping away.

Fifteen minutes and 49 meters later, Emma had found herself within one meter of this mighty Falcon. He seemed quite comfortable with his brush with the paparazzi—almost as though he was posing on the red (dirt) carpet and Emma's reward is this wonderful shot of the Falcon in all his glory!

~ Candice Appleby

***Right*: Brown Falcon (*Falco berigora*) viewing the world from a hill (*Image E. Smith*). *Below*: Sunset in the Tanami (*Image E. Smith*).**

Cat Monitoring and Awareness

Land for Wildlife has had so much success with the Domestic Cat Monitoring and Awareness project, that we have established a webpage dedicated to the study.

The webpage is hosted within the Land for Wildlife website, and contains information regarding the methods we are using, up to date findings, how to keep your pet indoors and contact details for how to get involved.

Please share the page among your networks, as we are looking for more domestic cat owners to volunteer for the monitoring program. You can find it in the Current Projects tab of our website, alongside the Significant Trees Register.

Visit the Webpage

This project is supported by Territory Natural Resource Management, through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Programme.

Territory Natural Resource Management | Australian Government | National Landcare Programme

Feral Cats in the Media

Click on the link symbol to be redirected to the article

- *Article* • Feral cats now cover 99.8% of Australia
- *Article* • Arid Recovery—20 years of cat control: keeping threatened species safe
- *Article* • Feral cats' diet tracked ahead of calicivirus release
- *Article* • Researchers strap a video onto a feral cat in a wildlife sanctuary
- *Article* • Research into feral cat behaviour could change prescribed burn management
- *Article* • Parks Victoria staff used work credit cards for KFC to lure feral cats

Opuntia stricta - Prickly Pear

Opuntia elata - Riverina Pear

Opuntia microdasys - Golden Bristle Cactus

Cacti Disposal

We have wheelie bin stickers to give away, pop by our next stall to grab one!

Invasive cacti are a prickly problem on many Land for Wildlife and Garden for Wildlife properties and disposal of these weeds can be tricky. The NT Government factsheet on Cacti disposal can help you learn how to dispose of cacti (Download). Not sure what cacti qualify? Download the identification sheet from Alice Springs Landcare Inc. for the two groups: *Austrocylindropuntia* & *Cylindropuntia* (Download) and *Opuntia* cacti (Download).

Caterpillars as Big as a Mountain are Starving

By Dr Fiona Walsh, Garden for Wildlife Member

Are your children ‘caterpillar children’? Alice Springs has been described as caterpillar country. Why? Where are the caterpillars now?

I have birthed two children in Alice Springs. In 1998, our first child was greeted by an Arrernte statesman, Wenten Rubuntja, “Hey, a baby! Ayepe-arenye boy that one. This is his country.” We were in the corridors of Central Land Council; he was the Chairman and I a staff person. But what did Mr Rubuntja mean? Traditional owners and the Arrernte dictionary tells us that Ayepe-arenye is the name for one totemic caterpillar. This is anglicised as Yeperenye or Yipirinya.

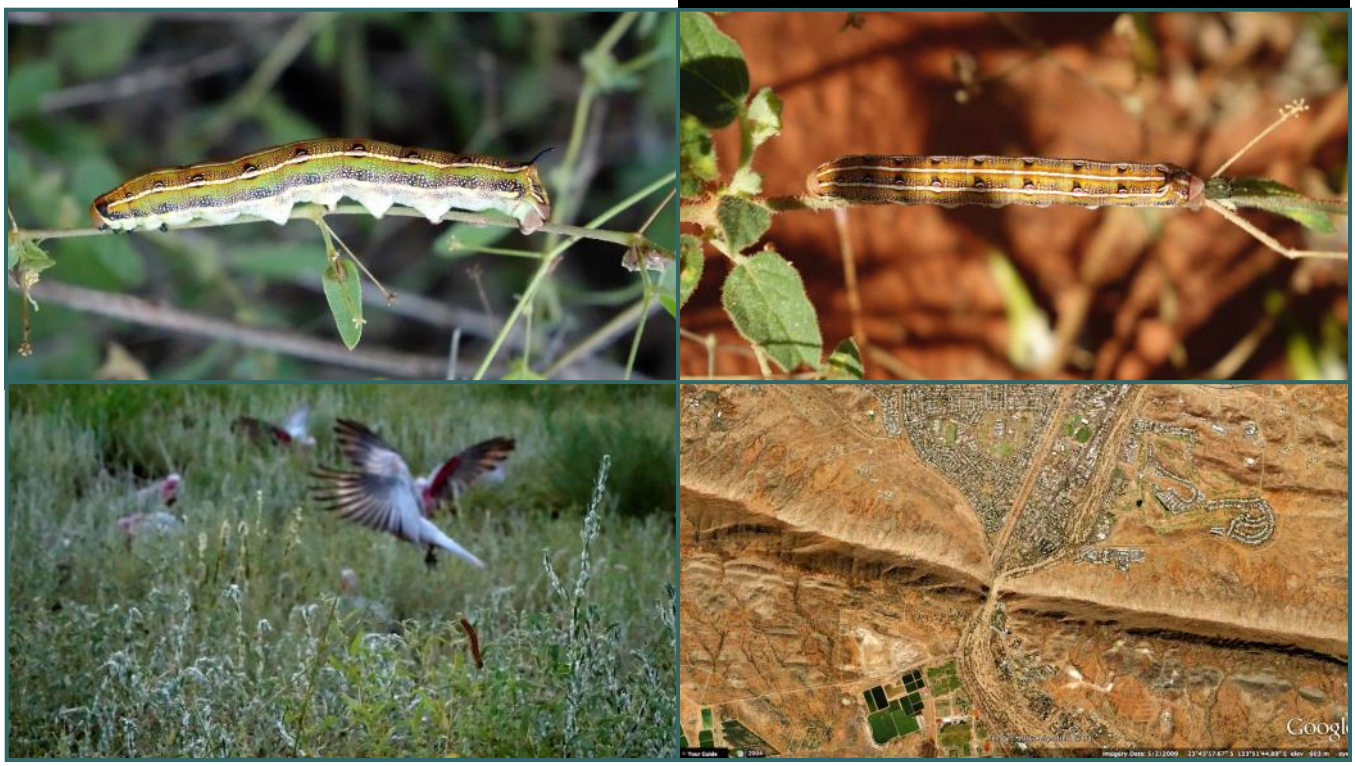
As our boy grew, I learnt about the caterpillars more by assimilation than deliberate intent. I gleaned snippets of their culture and ecology from key people like Arrernte women Veronica Dobson, Doris Stuart, Margaret Kemarre Turner; photographer and naturalist Mike Gillam; zoologists Ada Nano and Max Moulds; and curious colleagues and friends. Custodians talk about caterpillars in the CAAMA film ‘Mparntwe Sacred Sites’.

Alice Springs has a remarkable diversity of caterpillar icons. Aspects of caterpillars are revealed through things that represent them. Caterpillars are seen in names, photos, paintings and more. We go to Yeperenye Shopping Centre, we drive past Yipirinya School, we can read interpretive signs at the airport and parks, and Yipirinya moth forms inspired the design of shade structures in the Todd Mall. Where else do you see Yeperenye forms? In Australia, Alice is unique to have both a humble insect as an icon and to have icons so expressive of local Aboriginal cultures. But icons are an abstract way to learn about an animal; like knowing a dog from books rather than to pat or share a home with it.

The remainder of article can be read at Alice Springs News Online with the comments that give community views and practical actions related to the topic. There are also 96 photos in a Flickr album Caterpillars as Big as Mountains. If you click into the album there is more detailed description of the caterpillars and their ecology.

~ Fiona Walsh

Caterpillars as big as mountains—The Ayepe-arenye caterpillar in Alice Springs (*Images F. Walsh*).



Biodiversity Matters: Buffel Busters Tour

Land for Wildlife will be assisting with a Buffel Busters Tour of Alice Springs!
Saturday, February 18, 2017 at 9am - 12pm

Come and see local buffel busting efforts across Alice Springs and the rural areas. Participants will visit Land for Wildlife properties, The Alice Springs Community Garden, Ankerre Ankerre, Todd River and Olive Pink Botanic Gardens.

Be inspired by local actions to bust buffel and protect native flora and fauna.

Supported by Territory NRM, Land For Wildlife, Alice Springs Landcare and Olive Pink Botanic Gardens.

For more information and to *RSVP*, head to the Buffel Busters Tour event page hosted on the ALEC website.

Land for Wildlife Calendar

Don't miss all those important wildlife/ environment holidays - grab the latest Land for Wildlife / Garden for Wildlife Calendar. Download the 2017 Calendar and print a copy for your home or office to keep track of your comings and goings!

Upcoming Events

» Book Launch—Reptiles and Frogs of Alice Springs: TBA (February)

Land for Wildlife have released the second edition of Reptiles and Frogs of Alice Springs by Nic Gambold and Deb Metters. The book will be launched, with a presentation by local reptile expert Rex Neindorf.

» Biodiversity Matters: Buffel Busters Tour: 18 February

A Buffel Grass removal inspiration tour of Alice Springs. See page 13 for more information.

Reference Books

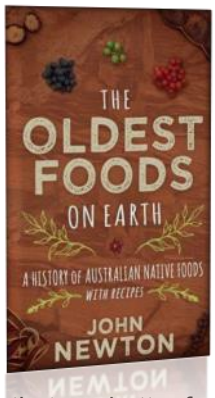
The Dingo Debate: Origins, Behaviour and Conservation

Edited by Bradley Smith

The Dingo Debate explores the intriguing and relatively unknown story of Australia's most controversial animal – the dingo. Throughout its existence, the dingo has been shaped by its interactions with human societies. With this as a central theme, the book traces the story of the dingo from its beginnings as a semi-domesticated wild dog in South-east Asia, to its current status as a wild Australian native animal under threat of extinction.

It describes how dingoes made their way to Australia, their subsequent relationship with Indigenous Australians, their successful adaption to the Australian landscape and their constant battle against the agricultural industry. During these events, the dingo has demonstrated an unparalleled intelligence and adaptable nature seen in few species. The book concludes with a discussion of what the future of the dingo in Australia might look like, what we can learn from our past relationship with dingoes and how this can help to allow a peaceful co-existence.

The Dingo Debate reveals the real dingo beneath the popular stereotypes, providing an account of the dingo's behaviour, ecology, impacts and management according to scientific and scholarly evidence rather than hearsay. This book will appeal to anyone with an interest in Australian natural history, wild canids, and the relationship between humans and carnivores. **Excerpt from CSIRO.*



The Oldest Foods on Earth: A History of Australian Native Foods With Recipes

By John Newton

This is a book about Australian food, not the foods that European Australians cooked from ingredients they brought with them, but the flora and fauna that nourished the Aboriginal peoples for over 50,000 years.

We celebrate cultural and culinary diversity, yet shun foods that grew here before white settlers arrived. We love 'superfoods' from exotic locations, yet reject those that grow here. We say we revere sustainable local produce, yet ignore Australian native plants and animals that are better for the land than those European ones.

In this, the most important of his books, John Newton boils down these paradoxes by arguing that if you are what you eat, we need to eat different foods: foods that will help to reconcile us with the land and its first inhabitants. But the tide is turning. European Australians are beginning to accept and relish the flavours of Australia, everything from kangaroo to quandongs, from fresh muntries to the latest addition, magpie goose. **Excerpt from Red Kangaroo Books.*

Copies available for $30.00 at Red Kangaroo Books. To grab a copy or to see what other relevant books are available, contact Red Kangaroo Books in Todd Mall or visit their online store.

Land for Wildlife in Central Australia Turns Fifteen!

This year, Land for Wildlife is turning 15 and Garden for Wildlife turns 10 and we would like to celebrate in style and take the opportunity to improve our services. In order to do this, we would like your feedback.

Please fill in the following feedback form and return it to us by the end of February. You can post it to us, or scan and email the form. Alternatively, you can head to the online survey to complete it electronically.

Land for Wildlife
P.O. Box 3130, Alice Springs NT 0871
lfw@lowecol.com.au

Name (Optional)	Registered Program ◊ Land for Wildlife ◊ Garden for Wildlife
What is the size of the property (in hectares) that you have registered with *Land for Wildlife / Garden for Wildlife*?	
How long has this property been registered with the program?	
2017 will be the 15th anniversary of Land for Wildlife operating in Central Australia. As a member, how do you think we could best mark the occasion?	
Would you be interested in purchasing promotional material from *Land for Wildlife / Garden for Wildlife*, such as T-shirts?	

How much do you estimate you spend, in an average year, on managing the conservation values of your property?

◊ less than $100
◊ $100-$500
◊ $500-$1000
◊ $1000-$2000
◊ more than $2000

How often do you read the *Land for Wildlife / Garden for Wildlife* Blog posts?

◊ Once a week
◊ Once a month
◊ Never

How often do you read the *Land for Wildlife / Garden for Wildlife* Newsletter?

◊ Once a month
◊ A few times per year
◊ Never

What subjects would you like to see *Land for Wildlife* conduct workshops on in the coming year?

◊ Bats
◊ Birds and birdwatching
◊ Fish
◊ Insects
◊ Mammals
◊ Molluscs
◊ Geology
◊ Soil conservation and erosion control
◊ Weed control
◊ Native plants
◊ Fungi
◊ Other (please specify)

What support and advice have you received from LFW coordinators that provided the most benefit for conservation projects on your property? What is the greatest benefit you believe you've had through membership in the program?

What, if any, drawbacks to membership have you identified since joining the program?

How do you think we can improve the program to better assist you with managing your block?

Any other comments:

Further Reading

Click the link symbol to be redirected to the article

Article • South Australian pastoralists partnering in conservation through unique stewardship program

Article • Tiny desert mice could help save Australia's grasslands from invasion

Article • What makes my garden sustainable?

Article • Steward of the land: A farmer's mission to protect the environment

Video • AWC footage of dingo hunting a feral pig

Article • NT Parks and Wildlife identify shield shrimp in Alice Springs

Article • A burning issue – grass invasion and seed dynamics across Central Australia

Article • Top Aussie animal science stories of 2016

Do you have any stories or images to share? Get in touch! We are always looking for members to share their experiences via our social media and newsletter. Email us with your suggestions of articles or topics that you wish to hear more about.

Cheers,
Caragh and Bill

All images by C. Heenan, unless specified otherwise.

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Opinions expressed by contributors to the Land for Wildlife & Garden for Wildlife Central Australia newsletter are not necessarily those of the Land for Wildlife program nor any of the supporting agencies.

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http://wildlife.lowecol.com.au/

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