

Department of Conservation and Land Management  
**Volunteers play vital role in conservation**

June 1990  
**New publication**  
 Welcome to CALM's new publication - Volunteer News - newsletter for you, the Western Australian who cares about the environment.

**So you want to be a volunteer?**  
 If you have time to spare, have the ability and love nature, CALM has a place for you as a volunteer. But before you face off to sign up, there are several things to consider.



### Welcome to the May 2017 edition of **Volunteer News**.

April and May fall in to Djeran in the Nyoongar calendar, where temperatures become cooler with the winds from the south-west. This cooler weather is an excellent time to volunteer in WA's natural environment. We have a wide range of projects available both outdoors and indoors, from admin work to park maintenance and wildlife. For more information visit the [website](#).

For more information on Nyoongar seasons and culture, download the free **Sharing the Dreaming** smartphone App on **iTunes**.

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Department of Parks and Wildlife





## Dolphin Watch training

**Have you ever wanted to know more about the dolphins that live in the Swan and Canning rivers?**

*Dolphin Watch* volunteers and scientists from Murdoch and Curtin universities have been studying these beautiful creatures for quite some time.

Come and join us for an informative evening and learn about the river's dolphins from dolphin experts.

We will show you how you can help keep the rivers clean and healthy for them and there are even some prizes to be won.

This evening is also an opportunity for anyone over the age of 16 to become a *Dolphin Watch* volunteer.

**Date: Wednesday 21 June 2017**

**Time: 6 – 8.30pm**

**Venue: Scitech, City West Centre, Corner Railway Street and Sutherland Street, West Perth.**

**RSVP: Registration is essential for the event.**

**Light refreshments are provided.**

*Dolphin feeding in the Swan River. Photos – Ben Ansell*

## Basic course for **wildlife rehabilitation**

**This introductory course, facilitated by Parks and Wildlife, is designed for anyone in the community interested in the rehabilitation of sick, injured or abandoned native wildlife.**

Information will be presented by some of Western Australia's most experienced wildlife rehabilitators, who will share their expertise in their specialist fields - marsupials (kangaroos and possums), reptiles and birds (including raptors).

The course also caters for those interested in volunteering at wildlife rehabilitation centres and is a prerequisite for volunteers who would like to become a Department of Parks and Wildlife registered wildlife rehabilitator.

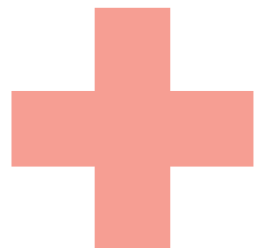
Please note: The course format does not provide for the handling of native wildlife.

**There are two remaining metro courses in 2017:**

• **July 29, 30 (Sat/Sun)**

• **October 21, 22 (Sat/Sun)**

**For more information and to register [visit the website.](#)**



## Volunteer effort recognised

**Parks and Wildlife volunteer reptile remover Wendy Jackson was recently nominated in the City of Mandurah's 2017 Community Citizen of the Year Awards.**

City of Mandurah Mayor Marina Vergone hosted the event back in January which recognises and celebrates the individuals and groups that actively contribute to the community.

Wendy has been a volunteer reptile remover with the department for more than 12 years and was nominated for her work in removing and relocating snakes as well as educating the public about them.

She is also involved in a number of other voluntary activities, including; being an Accredited Animal Companion Team with her dogs in [Animal Companions WA](#); a foundation member of [Western Australian Seabird Rescue](#), a [Keep Australia Beautiful WA](#) litter reporter, and [Adopt-A-Spot](#) coordinator.

Wendy and one of her dogs have also just been accepted to the Story Dogs program in Mandurah, an initiative that helps children improve their literacy skills and reading with confidence.

Wendy is well-respected among Parks and Wildlife staff, particularly in the Nature Protection Branch.

"Wendy is an exceptionally dedicated volunteer I have worked with over the years," wildlife officer Matt Swan said.

Wendy says she feels very proud to be a volunteer in all her capacities and is humbled to be recognised for doing something she enjoys. We are fortunate to have Wendy as part of our team of volunteers.



*Wendy with her award.*

## Eyre Bird Observatory volunteers needed for 2018

**The Eyre Bird Observatory is seeking expressions of interest from volunteer couples interested in caretaking the facility in 2018, with tenures lasting three months. Currently, there are vacancies for the whole year.**

The observatory, located in a wilderness environment in the Nuytsland Nature Reserve, was established as Australia's first bird observatory by Birds Australia and is a not-for-profit research, education and nature-based facility.

Caretaker duties include providing information to visitors, weather reporting to Bureau of Meteorology, carrying out bird surveys, cooking for overnight guests, general cleaning and office duties. Being bird enthusiasts will be a bonus.

Accommodation and food is provided free of charge, however camping and dogs or other pets are not permitted.

Please note, this volunteer project is not managed by Parks and Wildlife.

**If you are interested, contact: [eyre@birdlife.org.au](mailto:eyre@birdlife.org.au), or for more information see the website [www.eyrebirds.org](http://www.eyrebirds.org)**



*Volunteer with Fiordland penguin.*

# Campground host opportunities



*Above: Campground hosts Pat and Albert Right: Campground hosts Joan and Neville.*

The following sites currently have vacancies for campground hosts in 2017. Please note that only volunteers currently registered as campground hosts can apply for these roles. For more information on becoming a volunteer campground host [visit the website](#).

## Pilbara Region

**Karijini National Park** May  
Requires at least one host couple  
Contact: Ranger Steve Berris Ph: (08) 9189 8147  
Email: [steve.berris@dpaw.wa.gov.au](mailto:steve.berris@dpaw.wa.gov.au)

**Millstream Chichester National Park** June  
Stargazers Campground  
Contact: Senior Ranger Kate McNicol Ph: (08) 9184 5144  
Email: [kate.mcnicol@dpaw.wa.gov.au](mailto:kate.mcnicol@dpaw.wa.gov.au)

## Midwest Region

**Mount Augustus National Park** May  
**Kennedy Range National Park** June  
Contact: Operations officer Gary Hearle Ph: (08) 9941 3754  
Email: [gary.hearle@dpaw.wa.gov.au](mailto:gary.hearle@dpaw.wa.gov.au)

## Swan Region

**Yalgorup National Park** November and December  
Martins Tank Campground  
Contact: Ranger Ben Byrne Ph: (08) 9303 7738  
Email: [ben.byrne@dpaw.wa.gov.au](mailto:ben.byrne@dpaw.wa.gov.au)

## South West

**Shannon National Park** October  
**Big Brook** October onwards  
Contact: Ranger Tracey Robins Ph: (08) 9776 1207  
Email: [tracey.robins@dpaw.wa.gov.au](mailto:tracey.robins@dpaw.wa.gov.au)

## South Coast (Esperance)

**Stokes National Park** June  
Benwenerup Campground  
Contact: Senior ranger Dave Thornburg Ph: (08) 9076 8541  
Email: [dave.thornburg@dpaw.wa.gov.au](mailto:dave.thornburg@dpaw.wa.gov.au)

**Cape Arid National Park** May, June, July and August  
Contact: Senior ranger Johlene Shalders Ph: (08) 9075 0055  
Email: [johlene.shalders@dpaw.wa.gov.au](mailto:johlene.shalders@dpaw.wa.gov.au)



# Friends of group recruiting new volunteers



*Samphire Cove Planting Day. Photo – Parks and Wildlife*

**The Friends of Samphire Cove Nature Reserve is a group of volunteers who work alongside Parks and Wildlife and other partners to manage and improve the unique Samphire Cove 'Class A' Nature Reserve.**

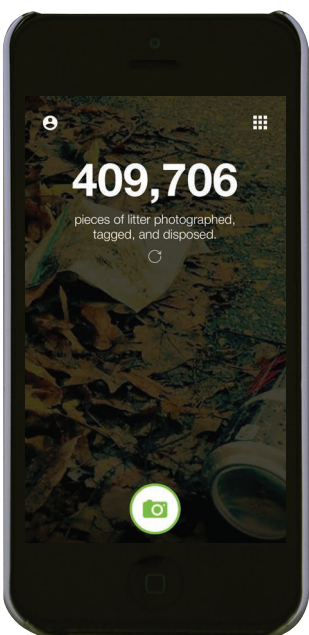
The group formed in 2013 in response to complaints of anti-social behaviour at the nature reserve.

The group meets regularly to clean up rubbish, repair damage to fences, paint out graffiti, spray weeds, water

and plant seedlings and oil bird hides, before enjoying a nice morning tea together.

For more information on the group and its work visit the website [www.friendsofsamphirecove.myclub.org.au](http://www.friendsofsamphirecove.myclub.org.au)

**If you are interested in getting involved with the group contact conservation officer Megan Sheehan on (08) 9303 7750 or email: [megan.sheehan@dpaw.wa.gov.au](mailto:megan.sheehan@dpaw.wa.gov.au)**



**Join the *Litterati* and help clean the planet one piece of litter at a time**



**LITTERATI**  
A LITTER FREE WORLD

**Smartphone app**

**Keeping our beautiful earth clean is so important. With the *Litterati* app you can track and identify the rubbish you collect once piece at a time.**

It's easy to use! Simply take a photo of each piece of litter that you find and dispose of, tag it by its brand name and/or type and upload the image to the app.

Your image will be stored in the Digital Landfill database which helps to identify problem areas and highlights brands and companies to encourage them to find more sustainable solutions.

The *Litterati* app is free to download on [iTunes](#), with an Android version coming soon.



## Healthy Wildlife Healthy Lives website launched on World Wildlife Day

The Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC), in conjunction with long-term partners Murdoch University, Kanyana Wildlife Rehabilitation and Native Animal Rescue with support from Lotterywest announced the launch of a new website that will provide information about keeping wildlife healthy.

The Healthy Wildlife website was launched on 3 March 2017, to coincide with World Wildlife Day as part of the Healthy Wildlife, Healthy Lives project, the first of its kind in Australia. The project focuses on the potential harm that can be caused to wildlife through interactions with people.

It is part of the [One Health Global Initiative](#) which recognises that the health of humans, animals and the environment are all directly linked. A key component of the program is providing primary source information that enables active and ongoing community participation.

Australia's unique native wildlife can be put at risk unintentionally by harmful human behaviour, such as feeding inappropriate food to wildlife. This project aims to engage communities in protecting and enhancing wildlife conservation while increasing their knowledge about wildlife in an urban environment.



Quenda. Photo – Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council

At the launch, EMRC CEO Mr Peter Schneider said there was an increasing interaction between humans, domestic animals and wildlife in urban areas due to habitat loss and urban encroachment on native bushland.

“This website provides an easy source of information for the community on appropriate ways they can protect wildlife without causing unintentional harm,” Mr Schneider said.

Initially, the EMRC will engage the large and diverse community network in their region, which comprises over 130 ‘friends of’ groups and five catchment groups, equating to more than 1,700 volunteers. These volunteers contribute around 30,000 volunteer hours towards environmental projects each year and many also work at the local wildlife centres participating in the project.

The Healthy Wildlife website can be found at [www.healthywildlife.com.au](http://www.healthywildlife.com.au)

The Volunteers and Community Unit provides community members within WA with opportunities to support, be involved in, and contribute to, the work of the Department of Parks and Wildlife.

The unit supports volunteers as an integral component of the Western Australian community. Volunteering enriches the community through the delivery of environmental, social, economic and health benefits to individuals, local groups and communities, the State and the nation.

If you have an event or story you would like to feature in future editions of the newsletter, or have any comments or suggestions, please contact us. All photos credited to Parks and Wildlife unless otherwise stated.

### Volunteers and Community Unit

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