

Jan_Mar

2011

Wetland Warbler



Clamorous Reed-Warbler

Friends of Edithvale – Seaford Wetlands Inc.



Number 121

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DSE GRANT

FESWI has received a grant of \$52,000 from DSE to manage, in conjunction with Coastcare, a project designed to enhance the integrity and value of the RAMSAR listed Edithvale-Seaford wetland through reducing the impact of domestic pests and on-ground control of aquatic weeds. A range of activities is planned as part of the implementation of this grant including the revegetation of parts of Edithvale South.

Part of the revegetation has been completed with assistance from *Green Corps* by the planting of 596 trees in November 2010 at Edithvale. Further planting is planned for May/June 2011, with a letterbox drop planned to involve the local community.

Further activities planned are: control of Spiny Rush (de-heading and spraying); training for members in identification/treatment of Spiny Rush and identification of aquatic state prohibited/WoNS species; coordinating the delivery of community engagement activities; mapping, locating and checking the status of nesting boxes; developing a 'mapping pathways' of priority weeds; selective revegetation; and purchasing of necessary equipment and tools.



FESWI is going to be busy this year!

If you would like to be involved in this exciting project we would love to hear from you. Help with project management, event management and general sub-committee work would be excellent.

Receive your copy of Warbler via email

If you would like to receive your copy electronically, please let me know (by email).

Send to robin.clarey@hotmail.com

FRIENDS OF EDITHVALE - SEAFORD WETLANDS INC.

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ENVIRONMENT DEFENDERS OFFICE

The EDO is an independent, non-profit, community legal service, practising in public interest environmental law. The EDO's activities include:

- providing the community with legal advice and representation on public interest environmental matters;
- developing and promoting community legal education programs;
- contributing to environmental and planning law reform and policy.

EDO Mission: To defend and enhance our natural and cultural environment by:

- Providing high quality legal advice and representation to the community.
- Improving the understanding of environmental law and promote its use by the community.
- Promoting and encouraging new and improved environmental laws and policies, defending existing environmental laws and working to improve their implementation.

EDO Vision: A legal system that protects the environment, promotes its enhancement and encourages public participation in decision making on environmental issues.

The EDO is the only public interest environmental legal service people can turn to, but they need public support to enable them to do the work they do. If you would like to support their work, you can make a donation by visiting www.givenow.com.au/edovic



BIG GREEN FESTIVAL

On Sunday, December 12th FESWI was well represented at THE BIG GREEN FESTIVAL held at Carrum PS.

The festival was a whole community event that included an overall green theme involving environmental organisations, stall-holders, food vendors, musical performances and the Big Green Short Film Festival.

Thanks to Philippa, Robin, Margaret, Rex (pictured) and Matthew for manning our stall, which attracted a lot of interest during the afternoon.



SNIPPETS SNIPPETS SNIPPETS

Bird Hide Update

Melbourne has chosen a contractor and a work order has been submitted to the Asset Planning division. Once approval has been received from Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts to proceed, the contract will be finalised and a successful tender announced. A start date of the middle of March 2011 is envisaged.

Proposed works includes all necessary work on columns; eliminating rust; and replacing rot-damaged timber rafters and damaged spouting.

Discovery Centre—Work recommenced on 1st March



Wash Against Waste

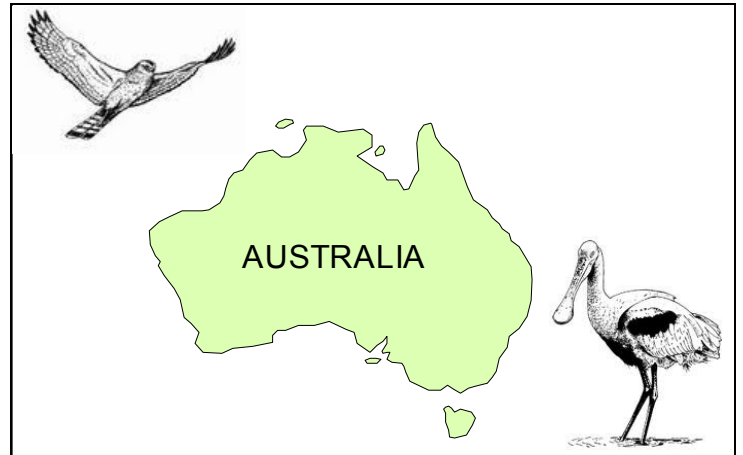
Wash Against Waste is a way of reducing the environmental footprint of Frankston's Latin festival 'Ventana Fiesta' (Sat 19 March) by having reusable crockery and cutlery instead of disposable utensils. The 2010 Wash Against Waste was a great success, providing a **fun way** to be part of **helping the environment** by reducing waste and getting to know other Frankston people who want to **make a difference**.

Volunteering for a shift in the **carnival like atmosphere** is not only fun, but helps changes the expectation that public events will generate volumes of waste. It's a great way to do something easy and show that a different way is possible.

If you'd like to be part of this effective local action, please ring Andrea at Frankston Council on 9784 1867 or email andrea.gaynor@frankston.vic.gov.au

The Australian Wetland Alliance

ESWI was approached by AWA last year for information about our wetlands to be included in a map of important wetlands and key wetland issues across Australia - a map in the form of a poster that can be used as a resource for all.



You may be interested in our response (by Matthew).

The Seaford-Edithvale wetlands are included in the List of Wetlands of International Importance (the Ramsar Convention). Throughout the year they host up to 17 migratory bird species and at any time up to 100 bird species can be observed along with a mob of Eastern Grey Kangaroos. The combined wetland area covers a 261 hectare remnant of the Carrum-Carrum swamp which once extended over 4,500 hectares. The Edithvale section is of particular value as it a freshwater coastal wetland. Edithvale wetlands are located on at 38 degrees 04 minutes South 145 degrees 07 minutes East. The Seaford Wetland lookout is located off Austin Road Seaford, on the beach side of the Frankston Freeway.

Threats to the Wetland:

As the wetlands are in a suburban area they face a series of threats, including the encroachment of urban development along with the associated disturbances of household noise, external lighting and construction noise as well as noise associated with community activities such fireworks and starting pistols. Other threats include the presence of dogs, foxes and cats and in the case of the Edithvale section, the threat that nearby works may puncture the peat layer that prevents contamination by the underlying salt water.

LEGLESS HUNTSMAN

Kaye Proudley

Roy and I were fascinated to watch a smallish wasp attack a huntsman spider one day in the forest. Harry Huntsman was descending on his silken thread which is a sight you don't often see, when along came this Wicked Wasp about half of Harry's size, grasped and grappled with Harry (only later becoming obvious that the first venom injection was given here) then flew to the tree trunk that Harry was descending from, for what seemed like a rest.

In about 20 minutes with Harry not coming down on his thread any further and seeming to have a little struggle with himself, Wicked flew back to Harry and bit him again then resumed the resting phase for another little while. We were just about to give up when Wicked started flying around searching for we knew not what, up and down the tree trunk, on the ground at the base of the tree, landing, taking off...then flew straight back to poor old Harry, grabbed hold of him (by this time there was no struggle left in Harry) and cut his silky life-line whereupon they crashed to the ground in a gruesome embrace.

Wicked lost no time in proceeding to snip all Harry's legs off – all the better to carry him without snagging on twigs and stones – then laboriously carried him across the ground and a fair way up the tree till she found the bark crevice she'd scouted for earlier. After resting for another good while she stuffed him in the hole, laid her eggs in him and took off.

That's the end of the observation but from reading I can tell you the rest of the process whereby the eggs hatch out to little larvae inside the spider's still-live body and commence feeding. So Harry was really legless – not drunk legless. Pretty gross eh? Glad our babies are born the way they are now!

And just that very morning over breakfast I had been reading one of Densey Cline's great insect discovery books and read about this whole process. Fancy having the luck to see it so brilliantly enacted, like a (gory) play put on especially for us.

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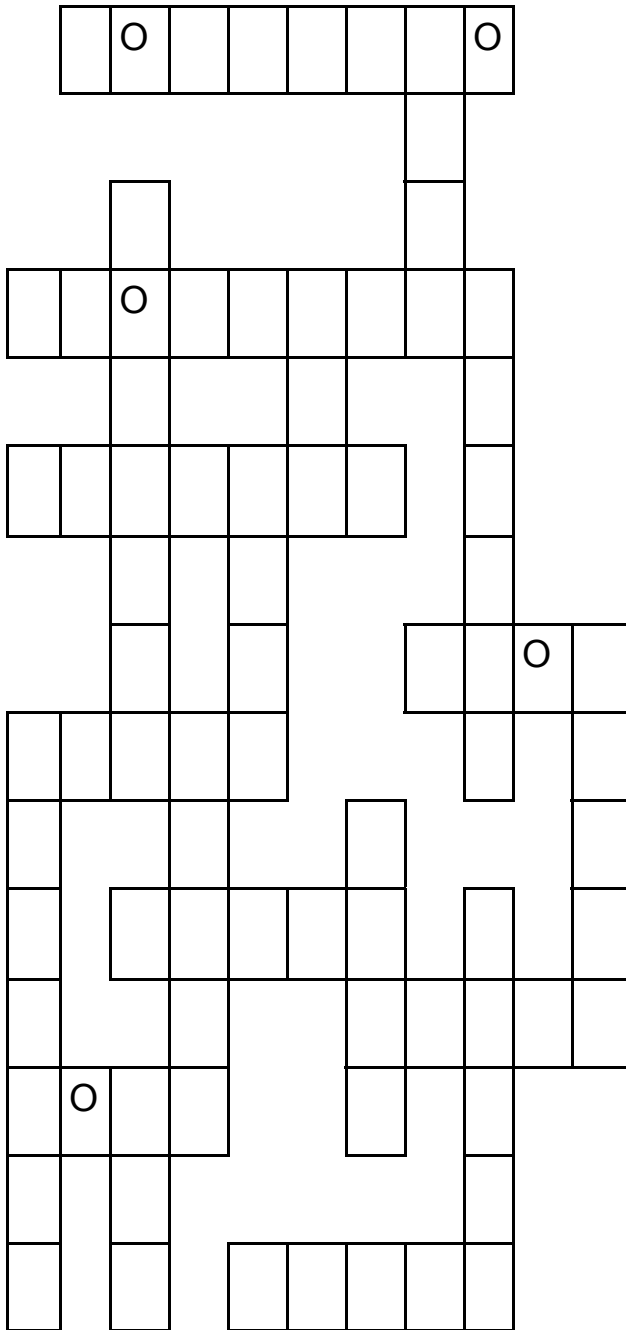
EDITHVALE SEAFORD FLOWS INVESTIGATION



On 2nd March, Les, Margaret, Matthew and Rex accompanied a technical panel of experts from SKM, Dodo Environment and Ecology Australia on a site visit to Seaford and Edithvale as part of an Environmental Flows Study. Thanks to our members for giving their time to attend. Both visits were very productive.

Can you fit these words into the puzzle over the page?	BEE OWL	LIZARD
	COOT FROG IBIS PEST TEAL	HARRIER MOORHEN PELICAN
	CRAKE EGRET GREBE PINES PIPIT SNIPE	MOSQUITO SPOONBILL

WORD PUZZLE



Where We Are

Duck In - Melways map 93 C 7/8. About 100 metres after pedestrian lights near bird hide on Edithvale Rd, turn right down the dirt entrance way to football oval, follow dirt track through reserve. Duck In on left.

Bird Hide - Melways map 93 D 8. On south side of Edithvale Rd, close to pedestrian lights.

Austin Road Lookout - Melways map 99 F 3. North side of Austin Road, Seaford

Seaford Working Bee Dates

Seaford

(First Sunday of the month)

3rd April

1st May

5th June

10:00am – 12 noon

Ring Rex (9766 6056)

for meeting place.

Committee Meetings held 3rd Tuesday of each month at Duck In.

Observers welcome.

Ring Philippa on 9772 2941

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Corporate Members

Following is a list of our corporate members. Please give them your support.

Aspendale Edithvale Ex Services Club

Aspendale Primary School

Aspendale Gardens Primary School

Frank and Isobel Baguley's Nursery

Bird Observers Club of Australia

Bonbeach Primary School

Chelsea Heights Community Centre

Chelsea RSL

Edithvale Primary School

Frankston Primary School

Gales Marine Centre

Instant Garden Nurseries at Gardenworld Keysborough

Good Shepherd Aged Services – Mary Ville Hostel

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Seaford North Primary School

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**Friends of
Edithvale – Seaford
Wetlands Inc.**

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