

WINTON WETLANDS **AUTUMN NEWS**

WORLD WETLANDS DAY

Marking the anniversary of the Ramsar Convention on 2nd February 1971, World Wetlands Day was celebrated at the Mokoan Hub & Café to raise awareness and recognise the value of wetlands in our local communities. Attendees had the opportunity to learn about our aquatic mini-bugs and ecosystems with our scientists, get crafty with colouring and enjoy World Wetlands Day themed cakes and drinks. Thank you to all who came along.

ECO NEWS – TURTLE POD

Winton Wetlands, partnered with the 1 Million Turtles program, has recently been granted the funding for a turtle pod facility by the Federal Government's Commonwealth Communities Environment Program.

The installation of a turtle pod facility will provide a refuge for the most vulnerable turtles until they are ready to be returned to the wild, which aims to increase local and regional turtle populations.

A combination of human changes and environmental shifts has seen a significant decline in numbers so compelling that almost half of all turtle fauna are threatened or extinct in the wild.

The facility will also be used as an education opportunity and will be able to connect local schools, community groups and our neighbours with hands-on conservation activities.



11,000
TREES PLANTED
(2018-2019)

ANNUAL REPORT

The 2018-2019 annual report is available for public viewing on the Winton Wetlands website.

If you would like a printed copy, please contact [03] 5766 4462 or info@wintonwetlands.org.au.

TRUE HISTORY OF THE KELLY GANG RELEASE

Photo: Ben King.



The 2019 Australian film, *True History of the Kelly Gang* was released on the streaming network, Stan, on Australia Day this year and the team at Winton Wetlands are thrilled to see the site on the big screen.

The bushranger epic, based on the Booker Prize winning novel of the same name by Peter Carey, 'detonates a punk power-chord of defiance and anarchy with this brutally violent and unflinchingly stark tale that unfolds in a scorched, alien-looking landscape [The Guardian].' Winton Wetlands featured as that landscape after filming took place in winter 2018 and we look forward to visitors discovering the iconic images in true form, supporting tourism and the economy region-wide.

A map of filming locations is available from the Mokoan Hub & Café.

WILDLIFE VICTORIA FUNDRAISING



Acknowledging fire-fighting efforts and the impact to not only human life, but wildlife, lead the team at the Mokoan Hub & Café to forge ahead with some supportive initiatives throughout summer.

Throughout January, \$1 from every coffee sold went to the Wildlife Victoria Bushfire Appeal. All February, the hard cover local history publication Winton Swamp to Winton Wetlands, was sold at half price with all proceeds going towards the charity who distribute funds to fire affected animal shelters. Find out what our final tally was by visiting our Facebook page!

The Mokoan Hub & Café is the perfect place to enjoy breakfast or lunch with family and friends. Open 9am – 4pm. 7 days a week.

CITIZEN SCIENCE



Have you seen a Bearded Dragon at Winton Wetlands? Or do you have a keen eye for Cane Grass? By recording your plant and animal finds into our Atlas of Living Australia online database – I Saw That, you can be a citizen scientist at Winton Wetlands! It's simple. Just follow the link on our website and check out other projects to get involved in!

8,750ha
TOTAL AREA
40% WETLANDS, 60%
GRASSY WOODLAND

BIRDWATCHING



Recent drought and bushfire events have seen an influx birds to our region, including some species not common to the area which has created a perfect, yet bittersweet, time for birdwatching.

At Winton Wetlands, the vibrant Crimson Chat, which are usually found along the coast of South Australia and through to Western Australia, was spotted on site. Another uncommon species at Winton Wetlands is the Budgerigar which have recently been seen in large flocks. Our site also provides habitat for 18 endangered, threatened or vulnerable species, listed under the Environmental Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act [1999].

Wherever your journey takes you on site, keep your eyes peeled for the 191 species that have been recorded. You can find our bird list on our website or at the Mokoan Hub & Café where binocular hire is also available.

OUR PEOPLE – ZOË ROBERTS

Born in England, Zoë moved to Australia three years ago and has since immersed herself in all that the Australian environment has to offer. She spent part of her first week in Australia at Winton Wetlands where she is now employed as an administrator and field officer. Zoë has also been a member of the volunteer group, Friends of Winton Wetlands, since she began living in Australia.

Away from the wetlands, Zoë enjoys exploring the natural environment and all its inhabitants. She especially loves scuba diving (she's basically a mermaid) and has swam with 13 species of shark!



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Contact us:

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📱 #wintonwetlands
📷 @wintonwetlands

Cafe Hours:

7 Days per week 9 am – 4 pm