

Djeran-Ant season (season of the adulthood) April - May

Djeran season at last sees a break in the really hot weather. A key indicator of the change of season is the cool nights that once again bring a dewy presence for us to discover in the early mornings. The winds have also changed, especially in their intensity, with light breezes being the go and generally swinging from southerly directions (i.e. south east to south west). Many flying ants can be seen cruising around in the light winds.

Djeran is a time of red flowers especially from the Red Flowering Gum (*Corimbia ficifolia*), as well as the smaller and more petite flowers of the Summer Flame (*Beaufortia aestiva*). As you travel around the Perth area, you may also notice the red 'rust' and seed cones forming on the male and female Sheoaks (*Allocasuarina fraseriana*). Banksias start to display their flowers, ensuring that there are nectar food sources for the many small mammals and birds that rely upon them.

Traditionally, foods at this time of year included the seeds that had been collected and stored for treatment from the *Zamia* last season along with the root bulbs of the Yanget (Bullrushes), freshwater fish, frogs, and turtles.

As the season progresses, the nights will become cooler and damper along with some cool and rainy days which also means that traditionally mia mias (houses or shelters) were now repaired and updated to make sure they were waterproofed and facing in the right direction in readiness for the deep wintery months to come.

<http://www.bom.gov.au/iwk/nyoongar/djeran.shtml>

Welcome to Autumn Champion Lakers

How nice are the cooler days and nights? One of the best parts of living in this community is watching the number of people using the paths around the lake. As the weather has started to cool down, the foot and bike traffic has increased significantly. It's so great to see everyone getting out and about.

Unfortunately, WA finally got hit with Covid. While the numbers haven't been as bad as many places across the world, we have all had to adjust. This meant the CLRA committee had to make some difficult decisions about the events that had been planned for March.

- The Community Security Forum planned for 12 March will be rescheduled to later in the year
- The Harmony Day Family Picnic planned for 26 March had to be cancelled. We will be doing this in 2023
- Our last Friday Evening Sundowner was also cancelled due to the restrictions

UPCOMING EVENTS

2022 ANZAC Day Dawn Service and Gunfire Breakfast – 25 April, assemble at the Community Centre at 5.30am for a 5.45am start. Afterwards we will have a sausage sizzle with tea and coffee for a \$2.50 donation per person. (if you don't remember your cash, we will have a Square available) Please check the Facebook page for information.

SUNDOWNER Our final Friday evening Sundowner will be held on 29 April from 6pm. We can watch the end of the sunset and move inside if it becomes too cool. Please BYO drinks and some food to share. Don't forget a warm layer of clothing. It does get cool by the lake! After this we will commence Sunday afternoon Sun downers from 3 – 6pm.

CLRA COMMITTEE PROFILES

During this year we will showcase the CLRA committee members and give you an idea what everyone does on the committee and a little bit about themselves and their pets.

Hi, I'm Sue Conway and have lived in Champion Lakes for 6 years. I joined CLRA to meet new people and have made incredible, lifelong friends. I often take the minutes at the meetings and take turns watering the community gardens. I also help weeding and planting in the gardens. My passion is the ecology of the Lake and its natural wildlife and hope to help preserve its condition. I have a gorgeous dog Atticus, known as Atti and love walking him around the lake.



Paul Andrew Baker current committee member of CLRA and have lived in Champion Lakes since 2017.

I was born in Mayday Hospital, (no puns!!) Croydon, Surrey England 28/07/1957 but grew up in North Devon and Somerset, hence the wacky accent.

I was educated and qualified as a Mechanical Engineer and came to Australia in 1981 and have always lived in the Kelmscott area.

I have been with the CLRA for the past four years and mainly enjoy the physical side of things such as the garden and building.

I adore the wildlife around the lake and am probably better known as the guy who walks Jasper and Timmy the two Chihuahuas



Containers for Change

Our ongoing fundraising project is "Containers for Change". The money we raise pays for the utilities at the Community Centre, including power, insurance, and cleaning goods. It also covers the cost of printing the bi-monthly newsletter. This financial year we have raised \$1041. The last two months have raised \$213. Please support this project by dropping your 10 cent cans and bottles into the large bin in the back carpark of the Community Centre. This can be done anytime 7 days a week, but please be mindful of the neighbours.

Champion Lakes Community Book Library

Members of our committee have just completed a new project, the Community Book Library. This is placed at rear of the Community Centre, just up the ramp to the back door. Its available to people who live in the estate to borrow/swap books.

We are asking people to help us get started by donating a book that they have finished with so we can get the wonderful project up and running. We are looking for a variety of books, both adult and children's books, and maybe even jigsaw puzzles.

