



## DEAR NEW READERS...

We've recently expanded our mailing list to include a variety of government and non-government agencies, environmental companies, wildlife organisations and friends groups to ensure they know about us and what we are up to.

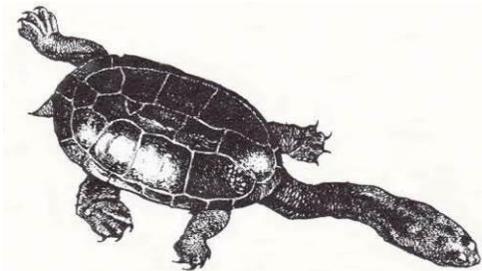
If you are reading this for the first time, we hope you enjoy our E-news. You can also check out some previous editions on our website [here](#).

**Do you know of someone who might also like to receive a copy of our E-News? ☺**

Please send an email to [Karen](#) with the word "SUBSCRIBE" in the subject line and tell us their NAME, ORGANISATION and EMAIL ADDRESS.

**Should you no longer wish to receive our E-News ☹**

Please send an email to [Karen](#) with the word "UNSUBSCRIBE" in the subject line.



## SERVICES WE OFFER

We are not just about the rescue and rehabilitation of turtles. Please see our [website](#) for information about the services we provide to the community.

## SUPPLIES NEEDED!!

Do you have access to surplus hospital supplies that you could donate to the Network? Please email [Ruth](#) if you can help out. Items we are currently in need of include:

- Cohesive bandage
- Betadine wipes
- Mediswabs
- 10ml Ampoules of Irrigation Saline

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## TURTLE SHOP

Please support us by purchasing something from our [Turtle Shop](#). We will also have selected items available for sale at future events, so please bring your wallets!



## HELP NEEDED!!

Do you have a sewing machine and basic sewing skills? Maybe you'd be willing to help out in a different way by making us some Turtle Rescue vests? Please email [Dianne](#) if you can help.





## COMMUNITY NEWS & PROJECTS

### WESTERN SWAMP TURTLES CELEBRATE 40 YEARS OF RESEARCH !

Recently the Friends of the Western Swamp Turtle celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the "tagging" of female turtle No. 4 with a function at Ellenbrook. As turtle No. 4 was mature when tagged she would be now be at least 65 years old and is still breeding.

Those present were fortunate to see three of these precious little turtles (a hatchling, juvenile and an adult). Dr Gerald Kuchling who has been involved with this project for some time, managed to locate turtle No. 4 and bring her to the party where she was given a quick ultrasound with a portable ultrasound unit before being returned to the swamp. After 65 years she's still looking good.

Congratulations to Perth Zoo, Friends of the Western Swamp Turtle and the Department of Parks and Wildlife on this significant milestone.

*MEET AND GREET WITH THE MEDIA -  
DR GERALD KUCHLING  
(TURTLE EXPERT AND TORRN PATRON)  
WITH THE FAMOUS TURTLE NUMBER 4*



PHOTO CREDIT : DIANNE HUNTER

*A WESTERN SWAMP TURTLE HATCHLING  
AT PERTH ZOO. THE DOT OF PINK PAINT IS  
AN IDENTIFICATION TAG.*



PHOTO CREDIT: PERTH ZOO

### PIESSE DAM/CREEK LINE REHABILITATION IN KATANNING

A full story about this recent Katanning project will be included in the December edition of Turtle Talk.



PHOTO CREDIT: DARREN DARCH  
(Fauna for the Future)





## TURTLE RESCUES/ RELOCATIONS

### TURTLE RESCUE TIPS

**Rescue Tip Number 1: *Never test the depth of water with both feet!***

Send us your Rescue Tip Number 2: We'll award a prize for the best answer !!!



**TAKE A BOW!**

TORRN would like to send a shout out to just some the recent rescuers who took the time to help a turtle and find us . . . Carmen, Darcy, Harley, Dan, Olga, Sherrie, Tamara, Emma C, Rob S, Neil J, Colin R, Jonathan J, Michelle H, Wendy R, Connie D and Eadie A.

We also send our thanks to the Volunteers at the WildCare Helpline, Council staff and Rangers; and Vets and Vet Nurses who have generously alerted us to or assisted us with rescues and veterinary care recently, including:

- Michelle and Ash at the Town of Cambridge
- Member Warren Alexander from the City of Canning
- Baldivis Vet Hospital
- Lisa at Mundaring Vet
- Talia at Ark Vet Centre in Kelmscott
- GeoVet in Busselton
- Drs Ian, Peter and staff at Riseley Veterinary Clinic
- Drs Yoko and Tiffany at Roleystone Animal Hospital
- Dr Peter from the Unusual Pet Vets
- and as always a **BIG** thank you to everyone at the Wattle Grove Veterinary Hospital!!!

### IMAGINE FINDING A TURTLE ON YOUR BACK VERANDAH ...

In a rescue in the **southern suburbs**, a turtle was found on the back verandah of a property with two heeler dogs. Fortunately, the rescuer saw the turtle before the dogs. Dianne was warned about the dogs prior to arrival and advised not to touch them as one was friendly, and the other wasn't. Great! She drove into the property and remained in the car until the rescuer appeared after having been alerted by the dogs. However, it was still with some trepidation that she extended a leg from the car. All was well and the "unfriendly" dog decided by the end of the visit that Dianne was OK for some tennis ball kicking. This turtle was relocated to a nearby wetland.

### HATCHLINGS FALLING FROM THE SKY?

We had a call this week from a rescuer who told us that he had just found a hatchling after it fell from the sky. There was a pause in the conversation. . . possibly waiting for us to say you must be mistaken - we said yep we've heard that before, where can we pick it up? Hatchlings are often preyed upon upon by ravens or kookaburras. This hatchling was doubly lucky as it landed in the rescuer's geese pen! It was relocated on the same day.



### CONTACTING US

**Perth today, tomorrow the State . . .**

We have now expanded the turtle taxi network to include members in Albany, Margaret River and Busselton.

A reminder that if you need urgent assistance for a turtle rescue or relocation, please call one of our emergency mobiles below - add them in your phone now!

#### PERTH METROPOLITAN

0424 727 411 - East Metro\*  
0424 727 624 - South Metro\*  
0414 476 867 - North Metro\*

#### REGIONAL AREAS

0428 984 445 - Albany  
0438 813 919 - Margaret River  
0437 910 054 - Busselton

*\*If, for any reason, the number in your area doesn't answer, please call one of the other numbers*



## RESCUES/ RELOCATIONS CONTINUED...

### MUMMAS ON THE MOVE...

In September Dianne took a call about a turtle in **South Perth**. As it sounded as though the turtle was OK Dianne asked the caller whether she could take it back to the nearby lake. The caller said "yes, but she's laying eggs". Dianne couldn't get into the car fast enough and arrived in time to see the end of the egg-laying and the tamping down of the nest. The female turtle repeatedly raised herself up on her back legs and audibly dropped the weight of her body down onto the nest. She spent a good 5-10 minutes doing this, with rests between, before being given a lift back to the lake which she did not appear to appreciate.

As the nest was right beside a driveway, in an area with a lot of birds and some distance from the lake, it was decided to relocate the eggs to a safer location nearer the lake. Karen P and Dianne returned to the site with egg cartons, tissues, paintbrushes and marker pen and spent half an hour on their knees in a garden bed acting like archaeologists - carefully removing the soil, marking the tops of the eggs and ever-so-carefully placing them into an egg carton padded with tissues for the short journey to the new "nest" site where the process was reversed. Unlike birds' eggs which are constantly turned during the incubation period, reptile eggs cannot be rolled once laid as this would dislodge and kill the embryo. However, there is a short window of opportunity immediately after the eggs have been laid when it is easier to relocate eggs. There were 15 beautiful little oblong eggs in the nest which we hope will hatch out into 15 beautiful little oblong hatchlings.



PHOTO CREDIT: KAREN PYE

One Saturday afternoon we received a call about a female turtle laying in **East Perth**. The rescuers were asked to watch over the turtle for the 30 minutes it

would take her to lay her eggs and then to see her safely back to the water. By the time Dianne arrived, it was all over. The rescuers had observed the egg-laying process and made sure the turtle had safely returned to the water, and then had waited for Dianne to arrive. The rescuers were interested in everything about turtles and so a pleasant half hour or so was spent talking turtle.



[c] Houndstooth Studio

We received another call early one morning about an injured turtle in **Beelihar** which was a very sad case. Female turtles are currently on the move to look for nesting sites. Female turtles when ready to lay, must lay and nothing will divert them... and nothing will divert them from laying where they think they should lay ... where they may have laid their eggs for the past 30-40 years..... Turtle taxis must also be turtle detectives. It would seem that this turtle was underneath a car in the car park the previous afternoon/evening when she was backed over and not found until next morning when the business opened. As it was obvious that she was an urgent euthanasia case she was immediately taken to the Vet where she was euthanased after which two eggs were retrieved from the cadaver. These eggs have been "planted" in a suitable relocation in the hope that they will hatch in about 4-5 months time. The area of rescue was until recent times bushland but has now become an industrial area bordering a lake. Turtles are thwarted in their attempts to lay their eggs as all the properties are enclosed by high security fences which don't allow the turtles access/egress to their former nesting sites. We're planning a letterbox drop to these properties requesting their help in providing access at the bottom of the fences fronting the lake, the installation of garden beds where the turtles can lay, and car park signage alerting visitors to the fact that there may, particularly in Summer, be turtles under their cars.

### A NOVEL APPROACH...

A rescuer recently hit a female turtle crossing the road to lay eggs, but didn't have time to wait for us so marked her position with of all things, a "Bunnings umbrella"? The turtle had moved several feet from the umbrella by the time we arrived and still had duckweed on her back. Unfortunately this poor turtle could not be saved and was humanely euthanased ☹



## TURTLE REHAB

### "PENNY"

Penny was rescued whilst being attacked by birds when trying to lay her eggs in playground sand. Luckily the rescuer happened upon some TORRN members who were close by doing a community information session and we were able to bathe her eyes and keep them clean. The next day she was examined by the Vets who found no eye damage but that her skin was very lacerated around her face and became infected.

Penny is still in care and her face is almost healed. Unfortunately the 10 eggs that she was carrying at the time of the attack were laid in her water dish in the turtle hospital. We relocated them to an incubation site from where we hope they will hatch - cross your fingers!

### 'KATRINA"

Katrina was skittled on the Great Northern Highway near Baskerville and bought into Kanyana Wildlife. It was Sunday night and the Vets were closed. Katrina was suffering from blood loss and a cracked shell. Volunteers did their very best administering her first aid and pain relief. The next day at the Vet she was very depressed but when they gave her a shot of pain relief she quickly changed her personality to become very feisty. She had surgery and as she had to be given extra anaesthetic we were told she might take a while to recover. She awoke even more feisty the next morning and from that day on she was extremely determined which is exactly what she needed to be!

The Vets suggested that as soon as she was out of dry-dock and eating well she should be released. We chose a lovely wetland far away from busy roads with a lovely body of water and fringing vegetation. The family that rescued Katrina met us at the lake and the children stood by as she bolted to freedom ☺

### "TUTU"

Tutu was found by her rescuer in their neighbour's swimming pool filter. Once we put her in water we found she had a fringe or "tutu" of algae on the back of her carapace. One of her front legs was very swollen and bruised but after a few days of treatment Tutu was able to weight-bear on that leg but still favoured it when swimming in the water. When X-rayed it was revealed

that she was carrying 8 eggs, so release was our top priority.

*Postscript: She was recently released at a wetland where she had plenty of cool shade trees and plenty of places for nesting. Hopefully Tutu has since laid her eggs and is comfortably back where she belongs - in the mud!*



## YOU KNOW YOU'RE A TURTLE LOVER / ADDICT / REHABBER WHEN...

- Your computer background is a picture of a turtle
- You turn your head whenever you hear the word turtle
- You're in turtle territory and watch the road for turtles instead of cars
- You are almost run over trying to save a turtle on the road
- Your turtles take up a large portion of the budget
- Half of your shopping list and freezer is made up of turtle food
- When you get out of bed when you are almost asleep to make sure the turtles' water is warm enough
- You're driving and you see a plastic tub on the road so you go round several blocks so you can check whether it'll be good for the turtles
- You love to wear turtle-theme jewellery
- You somehow manage to incorporate turtles into every conversation
- Anything that looks like a turtle catches your attention
- You're up past 3am browsing turtle web sites and forums
- You buy 3kg of Napisan and you don't have a baby!
- You have a turkey baster in your garden and KY gel in your fridge ☺



## TURTLE RELEASES

### "WILL"

Will's story continued... For those of you who regularly read Turtle Tales, you might remember Will, an adult male turtle that lost an eye when savaged by a dog (Sept-Oct 2013 edition). We are happy to report that Will had that most important ingredient in wildlife rehabilitation - the will to live. Good nursing care is of no use unless the animal can survive in a captive situation, long enough to recover from its injuries. Stress is the biggest problem when working with wild animals. It is a judgement call - to go ahead or end any suffering by humane injection. Each day we looked for signs of improvement but turtles do things slowly so you have to be patient.

After a few set-backs, Will turned the corner one day and became the alert, hungry and determined turtle we all hoped he would be. The first sign was a knowing look in his one eye; 8 weeks after a boy named Josh rescued him. Next he began eating chicken liver. This is what we tempt them on when they are too sick to have an appetite. Like most carnivores, liver is the first thing they eat as it is rich in nutrients. Up until then Will was being fed a special diet by a stomach tube. After a few near misses he quickly adapted to striking fish using only one eye. Now he was definitely on the mend. He gained weight, strength and attitude - just what we want in a turtle, and was released two weeks later.



HERE IS WILL ON THE DAY HE WAS RELEASED.  
ALL WOUNDS ARE HEALED BUT THE SCARS REMAIN.

Remember Thorpie ...?



Here she is being released by Karen P

### OUR LAST LITTLE NINJA'S

Hatchling 'WINSTON' was found quite late in the season in a Wanneroo backyard with an injured neck which we think resulted from another raven attack/drop. She/he was given antibiotics and Betadine treatments until it recovered from its lesions and was recently released along with another late arrival little "FRANKLIN", who was thought to be dead when found in a dry puddle near a train station/Mitchell Freeway.

### "TK2"

The biggest turtle you'd ever care to see (2.14kg) was admitted to Kanyana Wildlife after being found by her rescuer wedged between the bars of his farm gate. The farmer thinks that there was a window of around 3 days between him last checking the gate and finding the turtle. Consequently, TK2 was found to have some wear spots on her plastron and was very dehydrated, we were also concerned about stress myopathy. We estimate that TK2 would be at least 30 years old. After some R&R she was released into a reservoir where testing had shown high quality food sources and water quality.



TK2 WHEN FOUND AND JUST PRIOR TO HER RELEASE



## TURTLE TALES WITH DR AMY

An adult female turtle was brought into Halls Head Small Animal Clinic in September after she was found in the middle of the road. Apart from an old injury to her left eye, the turtle appeared to be in good body condition (weighing 1.3kg) and was a feisty little character.



PHOTO CREDIT: AMY NORTHOVER

Although there were no other obvious injuries, an x-ray was taken to ensure she had no broken bones (and also because turtle x-rays look amazing!). Interestingly, x-rays showed that the turtle was gravid, with 13 eggs in total. As she had also survived crossing the road we decided to name her 'Lucky 13'.



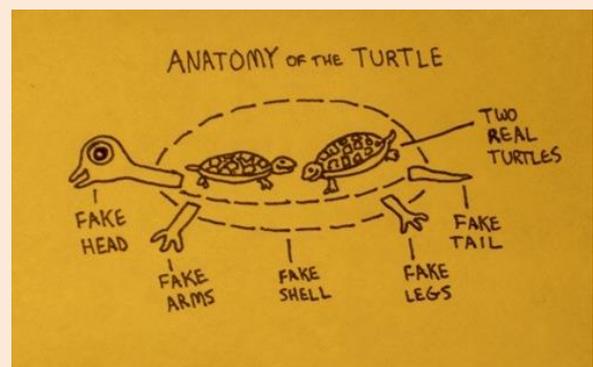
PHOTO CREDIT: AMY NORTHOVER

Turtles such as 'Lucky 13' are often found crossing roads during early spring time in search of somewhere to lay their eggs. Unfortunately habitat loss and urban encroachment prevent turtles from freely migrating between lakes. In this case 'Lucky 13' was picked up before she was injured by a motor vehicle. 'Lucky 13' is also living proof that oblong turtles can survive in the wild with only one eye. Whilst oblongs are apex predators, they typically live in murky water where they use echolocation to locate their prey. As 'Lucky 13' was ready to lay her eggs she was released into a nearby lake later that day.

By Committee Member, Dr Amy Northover  
BSc BVMS MVS (Conservation Medicine)



PHOTO CREDIT: AMY NORTHOVER



Another X-ray view - LOL ☺



## MEMBERS PROFILE

### ATLANTA VELD

My passion for the Oblong Turtle started with a 10min PowerPoint presentation for a TAFE assignment in 2007. We were asked to pick an endemic fauna species within the south west of WA to do a talk on. I had just moved into a house which backed right onto to shoreline of Lake Seppings, here in Albany and I had seen the turtle signs but knew nothing more about them, or what those signs actually meant. By the time I had prepared my presentation, I had more questions than answers!

These turtles have three common names and the one most people know them by (Western Long-necked Turtle), is not the right one. Over the last seven decades scientists have been debating the scientific name because the guy (Mr Gilbert) died before anyone could confirm where he'd collected the original specimen from (named *Chelodina oblonga*) in 1841, so was it *C. oblonga*, *C. colliei* or *C. rugosa*? \*

All the books had conflicting information on nesting times and only one book said anything at all about hatching times (June to December!). But the icing on the cake was that the IUCN *Red List* listed it as 'of least concern' but no-one knows even ball park figures on their population, distribution, juvenile recruitment rates, or even how long they live for. \*\*

Back at TAFE, my teacher (now a great friend) asked the class to design a fauna survey that could be conducted within a month and didn't need animal ethics approval. Lo and behold, it was August and the turtles would be nesting in just a couple of months, maybe even in my own back yard, perfect! That nesting survey won my Great Southern TAFE Student of the Year Award 2007 and the rest is history!

6 years on (with a Ba. Science Degree under my belt now!) and I'm still collecting data on nesting days. I have raised over 100 turtles from egg to hatchling stage and can tell you for sure that eggs laid on a (usually) spring storm day in October definitely hatch around late April and early May. They don't all hatch at once and can take days to finally break free of their porcelain cages. In the wild they definitely stay in the nest chamber until

weather patterns trigger them to get moving, some time from August to as late as October (I saw fresh dead hatchlings on the road as I followed a female to her nesting site).

If I could get paid to spend the rest of my life finding out all I can about these animals, I'd die a happy woman. So until then, if you ever happen to be in Albany on a day in October when the barometrics are falling below 1015hPa, you may just see me on Golf Links Road in my raincoat and hi-viz vest, stopping cars as I follow my girls up to the golf course, nervous to see how many nests will survive the ravens and foxes this year! Please feel free to park and join me and I can't wait to be able to do this same thing when the hatchlings emerge, once I've worked out the exact trigger for them. Just imaging stopping traffic for 16 little black hatchlings the size of 20¢ coins! Now that would definitely make the front page!!!



\* In May this year the decision was finally made by the International Commission of Zoological Nomenclature that what we have known as *C. oblonga* will now be called *C. colliei*, and what has been known as *C. rugosa* will now be called *C. oblonga*.  
\*\* *C. colliei* (formerly *C. oblonga*) is now listed on the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) *Red List* as 'near threatened'.



If you are interested in becoming the next featured member in this column, please email [Karen](mailto:karen@turtlenetwork.com).  
If you don't start volunteering, we will start targeting individuals or might even start making stuff up about you!!!



## RESEARCHER PROFILE

### CAITLIN BARTHOLOMAEUS

Hello! My name is Caitlin Bartholomaeus and I am a PhD candidate from Murdoch University. For the last few years I have been conducting a project looking at how the Oblong turtle is coping with urbanisation around a number of wetlands South of Perth. I have few different areas of focus for my project. One of these is exploring the Oblong turtles' population sizes and demographics in my study wetlands. To identify this we have conducted a number of trapping seasons. We placed traps in each wetland, counted and measured the turtles captured and then released them back into their habitat. In total I have spent over six months trapping turtles to see what their populations look like. I have met some very interesting turtles along the way. One of my favourites was a beautiful female turtle from Booragoon Lake that weighed in at almost 2.4kg!

Another part of my project is looking at where and how people may interact with the Oblong turtle. Currently I am building a picture of where people have reported seeing turtles in the urban environment. We are coupling this with a survey we conducted last year in which we found that the general public lack knowledge about the Oblong turtle and why they might encounter one on land. We are also investigating what influence lack of knowledge and other factors have on how people choose to interact with the Oblong turtle.



Caitlin at Booragoon Lake with a large female turtle.

*Continued in the next column...*

At the conclusion of my PhD (early next year!), I am looking forward to producing a report which will outline some of the things that we can do to ensure that this fantastic species can continue to live and prosper in our local wetlands.



## TURTLE TRAVELS

### WORK WITH SEA TURTLES?

Always wanted to work with sea turtles? then why not check out both paid and voluntary opportunities working with sea turtles around the world. See this [link](#).

### VISIT EXMOUTH

Now is the time to visit Exmouth and the Jurabi Turtle Centre (13km out of town) as the sea turtle nesting season starts now (November and March). See this [link](#) for more details.

### MEMBER TRAVEL STORIES... KAREN CAVANOUGH

**FLATBACK TURTLE TAGGING PROGRAM @ BARROW ISLAND OR MUNDABULLANGANA STATION**  
A whopping 375 people applied for just 72 positions for the flat back tagging season (Nov-Jan). Congratulations to Membership Secretary Karen who was shortlisted as a reserve! She passed her medical and attended the Chevron induction... but will she actually get to go?

*Postscript: Karen was recently offered a place in early November but had to decline - crazy right! Stay tuned a full story might follow in the new year...*

If you are interested in next year's tagging season, see this [website](#) regarding the application/selection process.

Send [Karen](#) an email of your travel stories, particularly about turtles and we could feature them in the E-News.



## SPREADING THE WORD

### E-NEWS, ONLINE & SOCIAL MEDIA

- PICS: If you have any pictures of Oblong turtles (and/or stories about them) for inclusion into the next Turtle Talk OR the website/Facebook page, then **Karen** would love to hear from you.
- OLD STUFF: Have you been out of the loop or want to re-read something? Find previous editions of the TURTLE TALK E-News [here](#).
- UPDATES/NEW STUFF: See our new **Rescues, Rehab & Release** page. Also check out the recent additions to our **In the Media** page.
- WEBSITE: We welcome your suggestions and comments about our website see: [www.turtleoblonganetwork.org.au](http://www.turtleoblonganetwork.org.au)
- FACEBOOK: We are currently sitting on **283** likes and counting! Please **LIKE US** and share things of interest with your friends, as this may also assist us in gaining more likes and subsequent members.



### AND SPEAKING OF MEMBERSHIP.....

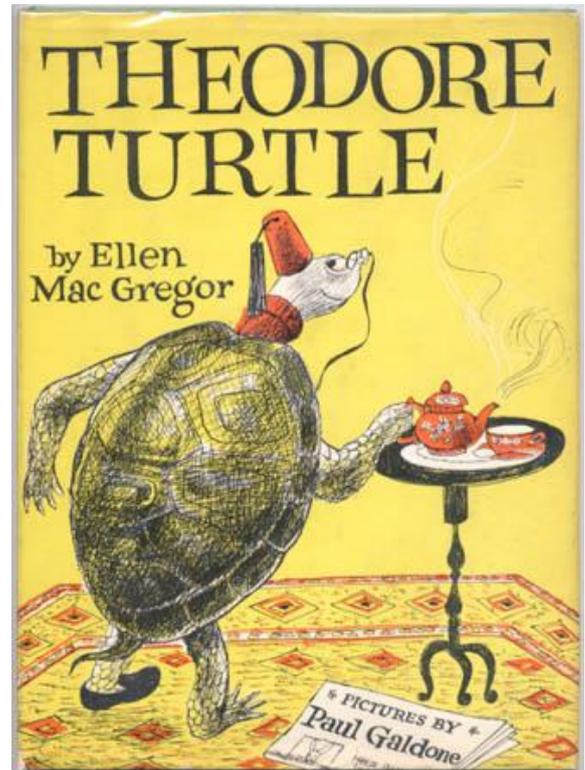
- INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS: 110  
(+2 PENDING APPROVAL AT NEXT MEETING)
- GROUP MEMBERSHIPS: 1

To those of you who are receiving/reading this newsletter, but have not yet officially joined us as a member please do so! Numbers count. Just by becoming a member you are helping. The more members we have, the more supporters our turtles have which will be of benefit when we are lobbying on their behalf. Membership is FREE but you'll still need to complete a membership form. [Download our Membership Form.](#)

### CHANGED ADDRESS, EMAIL OR PHONE?

Remembering that we might need to mobilise our forces in the event of emergency, it would be great if our lists of members and friends were always up to date. Please email **Karen** any changes to your contact details.

## BOOK CLUB



Cover of "Theodore Turtle"

Now out of print and written by Ellen MacGregor (who also originated the Miss Pickerell series) and illustrated by Paul Galdone, this book tells the tale of an unfortunate reptilian whose memory makes a sieve look solid.

We plan to feature this lovely story and illustrations (a page or two at a time) in subsequent Turtle Talk editions for your reading pleasure and amusement!

**Check out our website for other turtley books..**

Kids Books:

<http://www.turtleoblonganetwork.org.au/childrens-books.html>

Reference Books:

<http://www.turtleoblonganetwork.org.au/reference-books.html>



Turtle Oblonga  
Rescue & Rehabilitation  
Network

# Turtle Talk

November 2013



## EVENTS PAGE

### PAST EVENTS...

#### WORLD ANIMAL DAY EXPO

TORRN recently joined a variety of other organisations including Kanyana Wildlife, Kaarakin, WA Sea Bird Rescue, WA Birds of Prey and Native ARC at the Piney Lakes Environment Centre in Winthrop. The Expo for World Animal Day was a huge success, with lots of parents and kids visiting to learn more about their environment and its native inhabitants. Our thanks to the wonderful Penny, Piney Lakes' Environmental Education Officer, for organising this event ☺

TORRN volunteers provided our 'What to do if you find a Turtle' brochure to Mums and Dads and the kids were thrilled to receive a FREE raffle ticket upon entry for turtle prizes and colour in turtle pages. We were happy to take part in raising awareness about Oblong turtles and managed to sell some merchandise on the day too. We also came away with an injured turtle - as you do!

### UPCOMING EVENTS.....

#### GENERAL MEETING / XMAS PICNIC SUNDAY 8 DECEMBER 2013

We thought that a Xmas picnic would be a fun way to end a busy year.

Please join us for a glass of bubbles and a Xmas pudding truffle, a short meeting followed by a picnic and a walk around this vibrant area of East Perth. If time permits, we can check out the wonderful turtle statues.

When: 8<sup>th</sup> Dec at 11am (meeting) / 12 noon (picnic)

Where: the promontory at the end of Brown Street in East Perth at the mouth of Claisebrook Cove. Please look out for our red flags!!

Continued Next column...



Map: See the map attached to the E-news email to help you find the venue and parking.

BYO: Please bring along a chair and plate of food to share. We'll have tables available.

RSVP: Please let us know via email to [Ruth](#).

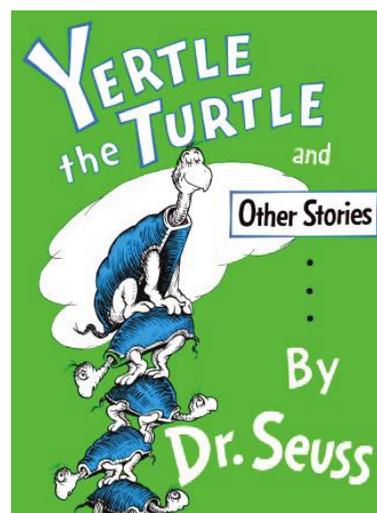


Turtle statues near Claisebrook Lake, East Perth

## MISCELLANEOUS STUFF

### RED EARED SLIDERS

Please report any sightings of this feral species in local waterways to 1800 084 881.



"I KNOW UP ON THE  
TOP YOU ARE SEEING  
GREAT SIGHTS.

BUT DOWN AT THE  
BOTTOM WE, TOO,  
SHOULD HAVE  
RIGHTS."

~ Dr Seuss



## Miscellaneous Stuff continues...

### TEENY WEENY POCKET SCALES

*Perth Fauna Supplies* is about to begin stocking digital pocket scales which are fantastic for weighing turtle hatchlings, baby birds, neonate marsupials, and powders like Calcium Carbonate and Reptile Supplement mix etc. These scales weigh up to 500g in increments of 0.01 of a gram which is necessary when weighing tiny creatures and powder additives. When you're dealing with 5-6 gram (or less) hatchlings and need to know whether they're gaining, maintaining or losing weight, scales such as this are essential. The scales are expected to sell for \$8 with postage costs extra. Profits are directed to the Turtle Oblonga Network. Please email

[Perth Fauna Supplies](#)



*This little hatchling weighs just 2.6 grams!*



### TURTLES' HOPES ARE SOARING.....

Thanks to double the average rainfall for September, all the lakes and wetlands are looking better than they have for many years, and we reached the average rainfall for the year to the end of September.

As at the time of writing we are only 42ml behind the annual average for this time of the year. Yes, we have been counting!

## TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES



Do you remember these dudes? In case you don't know who the main characters in the ninja crew were..... (courtesy Dr Wikipedia) and who within the Network we think most takes after their characteristics.....

### LEONARDO (Leo) - MUST BE RUTH ☺

The courageous leader and devoted student of martial arts, Leonardo wears a blue mask and wields two katana. He is the oldest of the four. Leonardo was named after the Italian polymath, scientist, engineer, inventor, anatomist, and painter, Leonardo da Vinci.

### MICHELANGELO (Mike or Mikey)

- SOUNDS A LOT LIKE OUR DR AMY ☺

Easy-going and free-spirited, Michelangelo wears an orange mask and wields a pair of nunchaku. He is the youngest of the four Turtles, and often provides the comic relief. While he loves to relax and eat pizza, this Turtle also has an adventurous and creative side. He is something of the "surfer" boy, speaking usually in a Southern California accent. He is named after the Italian Renaissance painter, sculptor, architect, poet, and engineer, Michelangelo.

### DONATELLO (Don or Donnie)

- SOUNDS LIKE DIANNE ☺

The scientist, inventor, engineer, and technological genius, Donatello wears a purple mask and wields the bō. Donatello is perhaps the least violent Turtle, preferring to use his knowledge to solve conflicts. He is named after the early Renaissance Italian artist and sculptor from Florence, Donatello.

### RAPHAEL (Raph) - SOUNDS A LOT LIKE KAREN C

- the intensely loyal bit that is :)

The team's bad boy, Raphael wears a red mask and wields a pair of sai. He has an aggressive nature and seldom hesitates to throw the first punch. He is often depicted with a Brooklyn accent. His personality can be alternately fierce and sarcastic, and often times delivers deadpan humour. Still, he is intensely loyal to his brothers and sensei. He is named after the Italian painter and architect of the High Renaissance, Raphael.



☺☺☺ AND JUST FOR LAUGHS ☺☺☺



## WE NEED YOU!!

If you have some spare time and would like to get more involved - please get in touch with one of us ...

### TORN COMMITTEE MEMBERS & CONTACTS

Our Committee has a variety of experience and include administrators, veterinarians, vet nurses, wildlife volunteers & rehabilitators affiliated with many wildlife centres across Perth.

Secretary  
Treasurer  
Membership  
Merchandise

Ruth Haight  
Dianne Hunter  
Karen Cavanough  
Barbara Wright

Committee Member  
Committee Member  
Committee Member  
Committee Member

Michelle Hazelwood  
Dr Amy Northover  
Karen Pye  
Carla Tassone



### OUR EMERGENCY MOBILES

**PERTH METROPOLITAN:**  
0424 727 411 - East Metro\*  
0424 727 624 - South Metro\*  
0414 476 867 - North Metro\*

**REGIONAL AREAS:**  
0428 984 445 - Albany  
0438 813 919 - Margaret River  
0437 910 054 - Busselton

*\*If, for any reason, the number in your area doesn't answer, please call one of the other numbers.*

[www.turtleoblonganetwork.org.au](http://www.turtleoblonganetwork.org.au)

