

SANCTUARY LAKES RESORT NEWS

September 24, 2019



HOW WINTER WEATHER IS AFFECTING OUR ESTATE

Winter Temperature and Rainfall Statistics

Temperature

	Long Term Average Temperature (°C)	Highest Daily Temperature for the month (°C)	Average Monthly Temperature (°C)
June	14.2	19.1	14.9
July	13.7	17.7	14.7
August	14.9	19.6	14.3

Rainfall

	Monthly Average (mm)	Recorded rainfall for the month (mm)
June	38.6	59.00
July	38.4	32.6
August	43.9	51.2
Total	120.90	142.80

The effects of the temperature and rainfall exceeding the long term averages have been both good and bad for the Resort. With increases in temperature and rainfall at this time of the year means that the soil is warming up and the weeds and grass will start to grow, which we are now seeing around the Resort. It also means that a lot of trees and plants are coming out of dormancy, which will mean that the Resort Maintenance Team will begin to irrigate more frequently.

To try and keep ahead of the weeds we have been spraying (whenever the weather has allowed - low wind and no rain). We also have had the Mambourin hand weeding team in three times a week rather than two

for the last few months. Mambourin work their way around the Boulevard while the Sanctuary Lakes weeding team works in the individual stages in a clockwise direction around the estate, we are currently in the Sapphire Island area.

On the lake, the effect of additional rainfall has the result of flushing the lake out which will help with the water clarity and algal blooms in the lake. The combined effect of the rainfall and increase in temperature may lead to a different suite of algal blooms occurring in the lake.

If you have been walking around the head of the lake you may have noticed the new algal bloom which cropped up on Friday and has been developing rapidly. This new algal bloom called Filamentous algae or string algae has formed due to the change of season. As per our recent works update our lake team are currently working in this area.



8.5 MONTHS TO GO - IMPORTANT NOTICE - NBN

Have you upgraded to NBN yet?

If so, you should have upgraded your alarm system too.

The copper telecommunications network will be switching off in June 2020. This will cause many existing Telstra/Optus phone lines to cease operation.

This means any home which has not had its alarm panel upgraded with an NBN compatible (PermaConn) communicator will NO LONGER report to the Monitoring Station.

If you would like to upgrade your alarm system, or to find out more information please visit our website or contact SLR Security 9394 9477.

SEA GRASS

In July the Lake team collected 46.48 tonnes of sea grass. This is 17.4 tonnes higher than the average grass collected in the lake for the month of July over the past 8 years.

This is a significant indicator that we may be in for a bumper season this spring/summer season. To get ahead the lake team recently t-bar cut along the edge of the lake wall.

SWOOPING MAGPIES

Magpie season is here and we encourage residents to be aware of swooping areas (where birds nest). If you are swooped you can report it to the Victorian Government's Department of Land, Water and Planning at:

<https://www.wildlife.vic.gov.au/managing-wildlife/swooping-birds>

If you have a swooping magpie nearby try to avoid the area. The best way to protect yourself from a swooping bird is to avoid venturing into their territory.

If you must pass through the area – move quickly – do not run. Cover your head, wear a hat or carry a stick or umbrella above your head.

Cyclists should wear a helmet, dismount and walk through the area.

Don't interfere with or throw stones at birds. This gives them added reason to see humans as a threat and may increase swooping behaviour.



PROSPECTIVE RECREATION CLUB DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The initial consultation period for the potential Recreation Club Development closed on Friday 6th September 2019. This initial consultation was opened following the July 2019 Community Town Hall meeting, where an Initial Draft Concept Design was presented.

The SLRS project team continue to review all responses received. During this process we are reviewing all operations of the Recreation Club, to ensure we are delivering the best service to residents.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all lot owners again for providing their feedback. This will help SLRS reach initial findings.

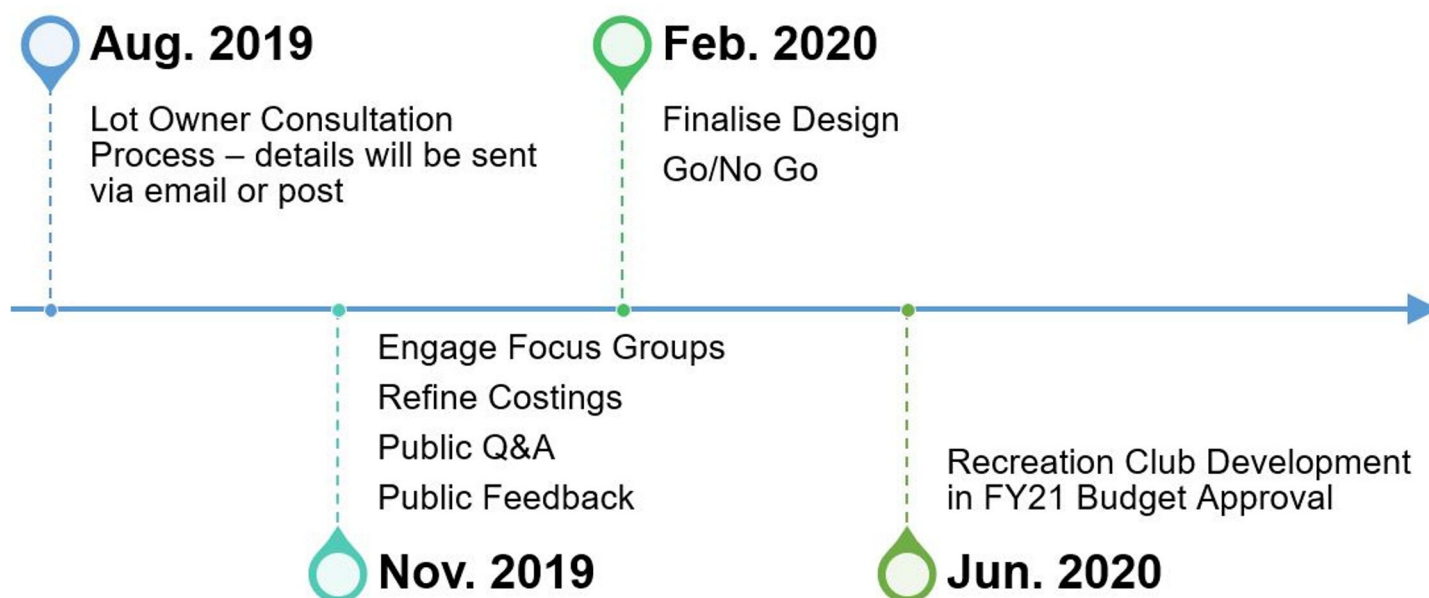
Timeline

As per our original timeline, we will provide an update on the outcome of the initial consultation process in October 2019.

We remain on track to engage focus groups and facilitate public Q&A and feedback sessions in November 2019.

As represented below (refer to Figure 1), we remain committed to a February 2020 Go or No-Go decision.

Figure 1: Timeline



We would like to assure all lot owners and residents that SLRS is looking for an option that provides the best value for money, the best service offering and offers the best results for all lot owners and residents.

It is important to note that all options, including no action, currently remain on the table. As such, at each consultation opportunity, we really encourage all lot owners to provide their input and have their say.

We look forward to providing you with the next update in October 2019.



PARKING CORRECTLY IN THE ESTATE

We have recently been receiving some feedback from residents with regards to some parking issues around the estate.

Did you know when parking in a two-way street you must park on the left hand side of the road. Your vehicle must face the direction of travel, i.e. passenger side must be parked to the kerb and NOT the drivers side.

If parking in a parking bay you must park within the marked lines of the parking bay.

You cannot stop on a footpath, shared path, or a nature strip adjacent to a length of road in a built-up area, unless there is permissive signage.

Victorian Road Rules state that you cannot park across or block access to a footpath.

You must not stop or park in a position that obstructs access by vehicles or pedestrians to, or from, a footpath ramp or a similar way of access to a footpath. There is potential for pedestrians and others, particularly those in wheelchairs, motorised wheelchairs and prams to be obstructed.

Council has a legal obligation to enforce the Victorian Road Rules, including those related to vehicles parking on nature strips. Under State law, parking fully or partially on nature strips (whether it is grassed or another surface), regardless of the intention, is illegal.

Finally, please note that Wyndham City's Local Laws also prohibit the sale of vehicles on roads or Council controlled land.



NATURE'S RUBIK

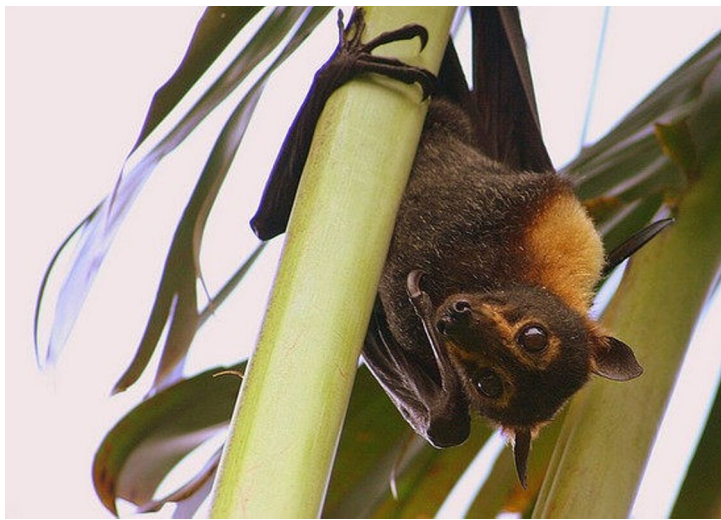


THE GREY HEADED FLYING FOX



NATURE'S
RUBIK
by Tom Parkinson

One of the pleasures of living in Sanctuary Lakes is that thanks to our geological position on the edge of the Great Western Plain and adjacent to Port Phillip Bay we have what the old landscape painters called the Big Sky. On clear days and nights, we can see planes circling towards Tullamarine from as far away as Mount Macedon. Likewise, we often see flocks of birds, Pelicans, Ibis, Swans, Terns circling our neighbourhood. Around dusk I occasionally would see small groups of Grey Headed Flying Foxes, but over the past couple of years, Flying Foxes visiting our neighbourhood, has become an almost regular occurrence.



The Grey Headed Flying Fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*)

and pollens of around 180 plant species, but their favourite foods are Eucalypts, particularly Bloodwood (*Corymbia gummifera*), Yellow Stringybark (*Eucalyptus muelleriana*), White Stringybark (*Eucalyptus globoidea*) and fruits from members of the *Ficus* genus. All of which grow in our neighbourhood providing a year-round smorgasbord of food. Walking by these trees of an evening, you can sometimes hear a small group of Flying Foxes squeaking in delight as they take in the juicy nectar and pollen.

Sanctuary Lakes lies between two major Victorian Grey Headed Flying Fox camps. One on Yarra Bend in Melbourne which in the summer has over 35,000 daily inhabitants and another in Eastern Park Geelong which has up to 15,000 daily summer stayers. Flying Foxes are nomadic and although they do set up camps, they should be seen more as hotels, with at least 10% 'packing their bags' and leaving in the evening with an equal number 'booking in' the next morning. Those migrating between Yarra Bend and Geelong's Eastern Park are often the Sanctuary Lakes visitors. The Flying Fox will consume nectar

The Grey Headed Flying Fox and sometimes called a Fruit Bat, is the largest bat in Australia. The overall colour is a dark-grey body with a light-grey head and a reddish-brown collar that fully encircles the head. The fur on the body is long and streaked with grey. A unique characteristic is that the fur on the legs extends all the way to the ankle. Adults may have a wingspan reaching one metre in length and up to one kilogram in weight.

Like the majority of Bats, the species lacks a tail, but like all Bats, they possess claws on their first and second digits. The head is simple in form, with the defining characteristic, 'fox-like' appearance. It relies on smell and predominately sight, to locate its food. They don't use sonar like smaller, insect-eating bats, they like us, just use their ears, eyes and nose. Flying Foxes have good sight, similar to that of a domestic cat at night and thus has relatively large eyes.

Flying Fox's voice can sound similar to a complex series of squeals and screeching's. But being a very

NATURE'S RUBIK



THE GREY HEADED FLYING FOX

social animal, they have sophisticated vocal communication between themselves, making more than 30 recognisable and specific calls.



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They will flap their wings in hot weather, using the blood pumped through their wings to cool the body temperature. Also Flying Foxes need to drink a lot of water on hot days, so they like to locate themselves close to water. Their unusual method of drinking is by dipping their belly in the water while flying and then lick the water from their fur.

For its size the Grey Headed Flying Fox is a long-lived mammal. Individuals, in the wild, have reportedly survived to a maximum age of up to 15 years.

Movements of Grey Headed Flying Foxes are influenced by the availability of food. Their population is very fluid, as they move in response to the irregular blossoming of certain plant species. The Flying Fox is a very important animal in our ecology, they are an essential keystone pollinators and seed dispersing over 100 species of native trees and plants. The grey-headed flying fox is a partial migrant that uses winds to facilitate long-distance movement. It does not migrate in a specific direction, but rather in the direction that will be the most beneficial at the time.



Grey Headed Flying Fox's distinctive flight

Although recorded in small numbers sporadically throughout twentieth century it was not until the 1980s that Grey-headed flying foxes routinely visited Melbourne with a permanent camp since the 1990s. The spread South is likely due to climate change, habitat loss and drought. while the location of the new camps appears to be in response to urbanisation: a reliable food supply (such as native eucalypt plantings and backyard fruit trees), and warmer temperatures due to climate change and urban heat islands. Mating is generally observed between March and May, but the most likely time of conception is April. Females usually give birth to one young each year. Gestation lasts around 27 weeks, and pregnant females give birth between late September and November. Newborns rely on their mothers for warmth. In their first three weeks, the young cling to their mothers when they go foraging. After this, the young remain in the roosts. By January, young are capable of sustained flight, and by February, are fully weaned.

Due to some classic literature and popular movies (Dracula) Bats have a reputation of carrying diseases, particularly rabies. Fortunately, the rabies virus has not been found in any Australian Bat species, but they might, and this is very rare, carry the Lyssa or Hendra virus. Therefore, if you see an injured Flying Fox do not handle it. Contact a wildlife rescuer from the Melbourne/Werribee Zoo...

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WHAT'S ON

Around Sanctuary Lakes



Medallion Estate Reed Collection - On Hold

You may recall back in July we cut the reeds in the creek that runs through and behind the Medallion Estate. The reed piles are still waiting collection as the area around it is too wet to drive machinery onto, when the area dries out we will be back to collect the cut reeds.



Hedging and Tidy Up Regatta Area

Hedging, top filling of Tuscan Toppings and general tidy up of the Regatta park area has been completed.



Lake Pipe Repair

A few weeks ago we had the first of two breaks repaired on the lake pipe. The second break was repaired on the 16th of September. This pipe pumps water into the lake from storage ponds.



Second Pump Point Cook Entry/Exit Fountain

On the 17th of September we reinstalled the second pump in the entry / exit water feature.

T-Bar Cutting Around

The Lake

Last fortnight the Truxor T-Bar cut along the entire lake wall (capping stones side). The purpose of this task is to reduce weeds collecting at the rear of properties and help with the flow of cut sea grass to the collection areas of the lake.

All grass cut with the T-Bar cutter was left to float in the lake for a week, to give it time to drift to the collection points for easy pick up.

By cutting along the lake wall now we are getting a head start as we head into the warmer months, which will hopefully help to reduce the amount of grass build up along the rear of properties.



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