

# SANCTUARY LAKES RESORT NEWS

November 19, 2019



## SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES

Did you know that monitored smoke detectors are hard-wired into your home's electricity supply via the security system?

When a monitored smoke alarm is triggered, 4 things will happen:

1. An alarm will sound (as usual).
2. A signal is sent to us through your security system.
3. We contact you.
4. We contact Emergency services

We attend your property, and frequently arrive up to 15 minutes before CFA.

Monitored smoke alarms provide far more comprehensive safety coverage for you and your family than the standard builder supplied smoke detectors. When you rely on standard smoke detectors, the sound of an alarm is the only thing that can protect you, and if the detector happens to be faulty, has a flat battery, or you sleep through the alarm, the worst can happen.

Lot owners who rent out their property also have a responsibility to ensure that smoke alarms are not only installed in rental properties but that they are also maintained. Please see below excerpt from the MFB website:

*The Residential Tenancy Act 1997 (RTA) applies to residential premises, the landlord is not only responsible for the installation of a smoke alarm but also its ongoing maintenance as per section 68(1) of the RTA Landlord's duty to maintain premises: "A landlord must ensure that the rented premises including fixtures and fittings provided by the landlord at the rented premises are maintained in good repair."*

The MFB web site says Smoke Alarms need to be serviced every 12 months, and replaced every 9 years. If you have any queries regarding your smoke alarm or alarm please contact our friendly security team at [securityadmin@sanctuarylakes.com.au](mailto:securityadmin@sanctuarylakes.com.au) or call 9394 9477.



## IMPORTANT NOTICE - NBN - 7 MONTHS TO GO

Have you upgraded to NBN yet? If so, you should have upgraded your alarm system too.

Old alarm communication systems are NOT compatible with NBN and in most cases will stop reporting back to security which includes smoke alarm monitoring.

In addition to this there is a chance that the NBN (if not isolated from the alarm panel itself) can cause the alarm to short circuit resulting in an additional cost to the owner – repair costs can be up to \$1,000.

If you would like to upgrade your alarm system, or to find out more information please visit our website:

<https://www.sanctuarylakesresort.com.au/index.php/resortfacilitie/security>



## FOX CONTROL PROGRAMS

Please be advised that Parks Victoria will be commencing fox control programs at Point Cook Coastal Park & Cheetham Wetlands from 25th Nov to 6th Dec 2019 inclusive.

The fox programs will be carried out by licensed contractors at both locations using soft jaw traps.

Signs will be displayed at the entry points to these areas prior to commencing the programs.



## PEDAL FOR A PURPOSE - THURSDAY 28TH NOVEMBER

Pedal for a Purpose is a charity bike ride along the beach, from Kooringal Golf Club, to Williamstown and Point Cook, returning to Altona. The ride will be at a leisurely pace, it is not a timed race.

Part of the planned route will take place around the Sanctuary Lakes Estate along Sanctuary Lakes Blvd.

VIC Roads, VIC Police, CFA and Ambulance Victoria will all be notified of the event, there will be groups of 10 riders at a time, please use caution when passing the riders.



## BREAKFAST IN THE PARK

Wyndham City Council recently upgraded the Oyster Bay reserve with a new playground, signs and some new plantings. This was part of the Council's \$11.4 million Wyndham Parks 2021 program.

Last Tuesday Wyndham held a free breakfast in the park, and the rain and wind held off just enough for everyone to mingle and enjoy the egg and bacon rolls!



It was nice to meet some of the local residents and Wyndham City Council staff. Here's a few photos of the morning.



## LAKE UPDATE

Since last report a total of 43.6mm of rain has fallen over Sanctuary Lakes and the surrounding area. This has caused the canal and stage 10 wetland lake inlet to bring low quality water into the lake.

With this comes a higher amount of bacterial bloom to enter our lake, colour of the water is usually a giveaway. The bacteria is non-toxic, but as a precaution contact with the water should be avoided and washing body parts that have come into contact with this water is recommended.

With the rainfall a flushing of the lake occurs and algae is pushed through the system quicker, but new items can enter our system as above.

Overall the lake is in good condition. The algae has just about finished its cycle and once the low quality water is dispersed through the lake, clarity of the lake will improve.

**Anthony Withington - Lake and Irrigation Assistant Manager**

# NATURE'S RUBIK



NATURE'S  
RUBIK

by Tom Parkinson



## SEAGRASS

In this high communication world, I am always surprised how Science can pack a shattering, down to earth wallop, into Romance. Take for example, our legendary romantic fresh air. Our daily bracing sea and lakeside high quality breaths, mixing with sunlight, that relaxes and purifies your mind and body. Particularly for us residents of Sanctuary Lakes, resting lakeside or by the shore, with the tang of the untainted fresh free, lake and sea air, feeling the soft cool and constantly refreshing quiet thoughts.

Suddenly the relaxing peace and poetry is shattered by the scientific evidence that all our beautiful fresh air is actually a "Blue carbon coastal ecosystem" Thanks to our boundary between land and sea and to our fast growing seagrass, of which 35 tons was mowed last month alone. All these natural elements give Sanctuary Lakes the ability to suck CO2 out of the atmosphere and store it in the ground below. This fresh air production that has been giving us the romantically refreshing pure atmosphere, goes under the scientific name of "carbon sequestration".

It was intense "carbon sequestration" by ancient forests and algae millions of years ago that helped create the very deposits of coal and oil we tap into for fossil fuels today.

Nearby on the ecology colour palette are the better-known green carbon systems of trees, bush and forests. While important, they aren't nearly as efficient at storing carbon as their sea water, blue counterparts.

Rain forests are pretty good at "carbon sequestration", but their carbon stores are bound to the lifetime of the trees, for only 100 or so years, and then it is released back into the atmosphere. As well as being a temporary carbon store, trees can only soak up so much carbon before they become "saturated".

Sea water Blue carbon ecosystems, on the other hand, can store more carbon for longer — thousands of years — and at a far quicker rate.

These Sea water Blue carbon ecosystems store carbon around 40 times faster than green forest carbon ecosystems. One hectare of seagrass, would correspond to at least twenty hectares of dry-land forest.

Therefore, it would require more than 1,000 hectares of rich green forest to equal the 54 hectares that Sanctuary Lake's seagrass is able to carbon store.

Sitting down beside the lake breathing the now scientifically confirmed carbon free air and contemplate our extensive underwater seagrass pastures not only gives us healthy pure atmosphere but that it's also critical in the life cycles of some the Lakes most important fish and bird species.



**Truxor - Sea Grass Cutting Vessel.**



## SEAGRASS



NATURE'S  
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Sanctuary Lakes most common and aggressive seagrass is a member of the *Ruppia Megacarpa* species and is commonly known as Sea Tassel. As the name suggests it is easily recognised by small Tassel like shape of its extremities. Two other seagrass stalwarts of the Lake are the *Ulva Intestinalis*, commonly known as Gut Weed and *Chara* also known as Muskgrass.

**Sea Tassel seagrass (*Ruppia Megacarpa*)** Seagrass pastures are unusual in that very few animals can eat seagrasses directly because they are highly fibrous. Black Swans, however, have specialised plates in their beaks for crushing the fibrous material and in the Swan's gut, there are numerous microbes that can convert some of the material into a major food source for many of the Seagrass community.

Some of the key species that live within the life cycle of Sanctuary Lake's Seagrass community are:

**Glass Shrimp** these common transparent small shrimps generally only reaching 2.5 cm. occur in large numbers within our seagrass pastures. These animals are scavengers feeding on a wide range of dead material including detritus such as swan droppings. They play an important role in the conversion of detritus into food for many species of fish and birds.



**Glass Shrimp (*Macrobrachium intermedium*)**

**Bivalve molluscs** are numerous in seagrass beds hidden beneath the sand and mud. They feed by extending a tube-like siphon to the surface of the mud through which they can draw in water containing plankton and detritus as well as the oxygen they need.

The Bivalve Mollusc is favourite food of Sanctuary Lake's Pelicans, Ibis, Spoonbills and Egret populations.



**Bivalve Mollusc (*Tellina deltoidalis*) sand**

**Black Bream**, the small juveniles of Black Bream are often found above the shallow seagrass beds, while larger fish live in deeper holes beneath the Seagrass. This species is popular with recreational fishers. Size and catch limits are important to ensure that this species is fished sustainably for the future. Beside fishers, the Great Black Cormorant enjoys the taste of Black Bream.

**Hardy Heads**, Up to 10cm in size these small silver fish are probably the most numerous fish found in our lake. They can form large schools in the shallow waters over seagrass beds. Hardy Heads feed on both bottom living and planktonic prey. They are eaten by many larger species of fish and a number of shore birds including the Pied and Little Pied Cormorants. To continue reading this article please click [here](#).



## MEET COMPLIANCE OFFICER: AUDREY THAM

### Tell me about yourself?

I was born in Singapore from a Chinese background. After my husband and I graduated from Uni in Perth, we managed a property investment company for many years. We then moved to Sydney and the Gold Coast to live for a few years before moving to Melbourne. We have been living here with our pet, Lucky for the last 10 years.

### What is your favourite thing about Sanctuary Lakes Resort?

The distinctive beauty of the environment in Sanctuary Lakes. No wonder this unique place is home to a diverse range of flora and fauna. There is always so many new discoveries each time I drive around in this estate.

### What does a typical work day look like for you?

I love to start my day walking my pet before heading to work. Everyday is different and with ad hoc duties arising daily, it is never a typical work day for me. Nevertheless, I love meeting residents and assisting them with their enquiries.

### How did you end up working at Sanctuary Lakes Resort?

Its beautiful environment and near to home.

### What other interests do you have?

I love my long walks with my family along the endless beaches, especially in Geelong and Torquay. I enjoy baking, listening to music, reading and playing tennis.

### One thing people don't know about you?

Despite my small build, I represented my primary and secondary school in various sports and athletics. I also did tennis competitions while living on the Gold Coast.





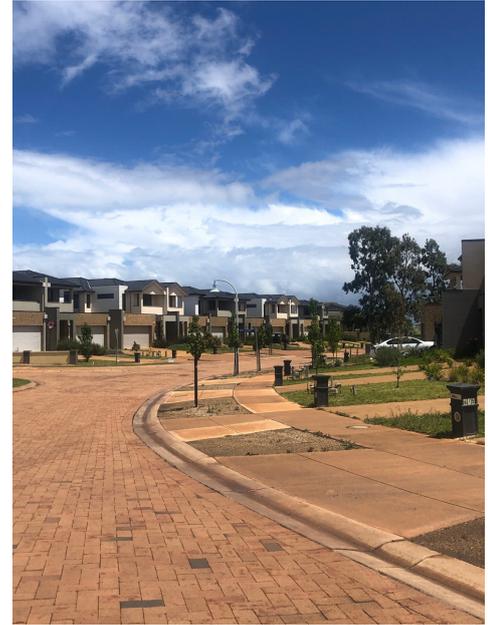
## New Street Trees & Tuscan Toppings

New street trees have been planted along Greg Norman Drive heading towards the tennis courts. The Tuscan toppings in these nature strips have also been topped up.

## Sea Grass

Over the past fortnight 13.98 tonnes of sea grass was taken to the tip for recycling.

The sea grass is dropped in a special area at the tip which is allocated to Veolia. It is then transported to their recycling plant at Bulla for processing.



## New Edging Tournament Drive

New edging has been installed between the turf and Deities garden beds. This edging was installed in both traffic islands along Tournament Drive.

## Rose Planting

Rose planting in the boulevard garden beds is continuing along the southern part of the boulevard.

Fun Fact: the roses we are planting are from this year's cuttings when we did the rose hedging in June/July. The supplier then propagates them into tubes and allows time for them to establish and grow into an appropriate planting size.



What a lovely story about recycling.

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