

# THE GECKO



Edition 34  
January 2022

Welcome to the January 2022 edition of The Gecko.

We hope you survived the heatwave over Christmas. We resorted to moving our seedlings and cuttings, that we had just started growing for next winter's planting, inside the house so that they

were spared the worst of the heat. Although it was a bit on the dim side for their liking, it was the better of two bad options.

Let's hope we don't have too many more weeks like that one!

## October to December 2021

### **31 October 2021**

During the months prior to the work day, several of our group had been carefully pruning branches from Brazilian Pepper trees, *Schinus terebinthifolia*, and extricating them from the tangle of native trees. The branches were then cut to an appropriate length and stored on the block.

Eight of us joined together on the work day for the comparatively easy task of moving the cut branches to the verge ready for the green waste pick-up.

A Bobtail, *Tiliqua rugosa*, was found sheltering under the cut branches. It was gently coaxed back into the bushland and out of harm's way.



This pile of green waste was moved to the verge in under 1 hour.

### **14 November 2021**

Four of us spent an hour or so cutting the seed heads off the Pink Gladioli (*Gladiolus caryophyllaceus*).



The opening seed pods of Pink Gladioli.

While not glamorous work, it gave us the opportunity to work in areas away from the paths. These areas are not subject to the "edge effect", where plants suffer from more weed competition and greater exposure to harsh conditions.



*Lobelia tenoir* growing and flowering away from the paths.

## 28 November 2021

Six members gathered to strike around 200 cuttings. The resulting plants will be used in our revegetation efforts next winter. Numbers will be boosted by plants grown from seed, which were sown a few days after the cuttings were struck.

All of the cuttings and seeds were collected by us from 'our' bushland (with the appropriate licences and permission). This ensures continuity of the genetics local to our area.



Some of the cuttings.

## 19 December 2021

Following two days of overcast, drizzly weather we were blessed with a sunny, calm day for our end of year picnic. Eleven of us enjoyed a couple of hours of sharing good food and each other's company without the sweating and puffing of our usual gatherings.



The Christmas picnic.

A big THANK YOU goes to Alan, Barbara, Francis, Frank, Ian, Jackie, Lily, Maimunah, Mia, Ronnie, Rosemary, Shirley, Sian, Sophia and the City of Canning's Natural Areas Team for helping out with these, and other, activities in the bushland.

## Upcoming events

January – To be confirmed  
February – Annual general meeting  
March – To be confirmed

## Also this quarter

In October, a cockatube, a nesting box suitable for black cockatoos, was moved from near the Kent St Weir to our bushland by the City of Canning. Danielle Crichton and Simon Cherriman, from iNSiGHT Ornithology, installed the box in a secure location.

We'll keep checking for any activity at the box and keep our fingers crossed.



The cockatube is being hoisted up the tree.