

FROG CALL

THE FROG AND TADPOLE STUDY GROUP NSW Inc.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/FATSNSW/>

Email: fatsgroupnsw@fats.org.au

PO Box 296 Rockdale NSW 2216

Frogwatch Helpline 0419 249 728

Website: www.fats.org.au

ABN: 34 282 154 794

NEWSLETTER No. 145 OCTOBER 2016

Litoria chloris Red-eyed Tree frog The Watagans Photo Grant Webster



*You are invited to attend
our next FATS meeting*

Arrive from 6.30 pm for a 7pm start.

Friday 7 October 2016

**FATS meet at the Education Centre,
Bicentennial Pk, Sydney Olympic Park**

Easy walk from Concord West railway station and straight down Victoria Ave.

By car: Enter from Australia Ave at the Bicentennial Park main entrance,

turn off to the right and drive through the park. It is a one way road.

Or enter from Bennelong Road / Parkway.

It is a short stretch of two way road.

Park in P10f car park, the last car park before the exit gate.

FATS meeting format Friday 7 October 2016

- 6.30 pm** Lost frogs needing adoption: Green Tree Frogs *Litoria caerulea*, 1 *Litoria infrafrenata* White lipped Tree Frog, 1 *Litoria rubella* Desert Frog and 1 *Litoria fallax* available to FATS members. Please bring your FATS membership card and cash \$50 donation. Your current NSW NPWS amphibian licence must be sighted on the night. Rescued frogs can never be released. Sorry we have no EFTPOS
- 7.00pm** Welcome and announcements
- 7.45 pm** Main speaker: Cameron Webb
Mosquitoes, climate change and shifts in demographics
- 9.00 pm** Display of all Frog-O-Graphic competition frogoliscious images and selection of Peoples' Choice awards by those in attendance
- 9.30 pm** Show us your frog images; tell us about your frogging trips or experiences. Guessing competition, continue with frog adoptions, supper, relax and chat with frog experts.

CONTENTS

PAGE

- Last meeting's main speakers "The History of Green and Golden Bell Frogs in Sydney" Arthur White Second speaker Peter Spradbrow (just back from Africa). "Elephants are not Frogs" 2
- Lothar Voigt – End of an era 2
- FATS events team 3
- Frog-O-Graphic Competition 3
- Judy Harrington 4
- Green and Golden Bell Frog coin 5
- Monsanto 6
- Photos by Ben Harrington 7
- FATS finances 8
- Ultrasonic frog calls 9
- Live birth tadpoles 10
- Committee contacts 11
- FATS information 11
- Field trips 12

LAST FATS MEETING AND AGM 5 AUGUST 2016

Marion Anstis welcomed new and regular visitors to the FATS August meeting and AGM. We encourage you to check the web site for our events coordinated by Kathy Potter. After the announcements, Arthur and Karen White presented the President's and Treasurer's reports. The previous committee was voted in again with the addition of David Potter as our new Frog Helpline Coordinator. The President's Report will be in our December 2016 newsletter No 146.

After the AGM, Arthur White spoke about the fate of the Green and Golden Bell Frog in Sydney and NSW. Whilst the GGBF is in serious trouble in NSW, WA Perth mint is about to release a coin celebrating this lovely frog! See page 5. GGBFs are in a dire status with habitat loss, frog diseases, such as chytrid and impacts by the predatory plague minnow.

Peter Spradbrow spoke about his adventures in Kruger National Park. Whilst not a froggy talk, the images were very interesting and he gave us insights into other regions, the impacts of climate change and droughts. A fitting precursor to Cameron Webb's talk in October.



Cameron Webb Our October main speaker

The August meeting ended with yummy supper and relaxed conversation.
MW

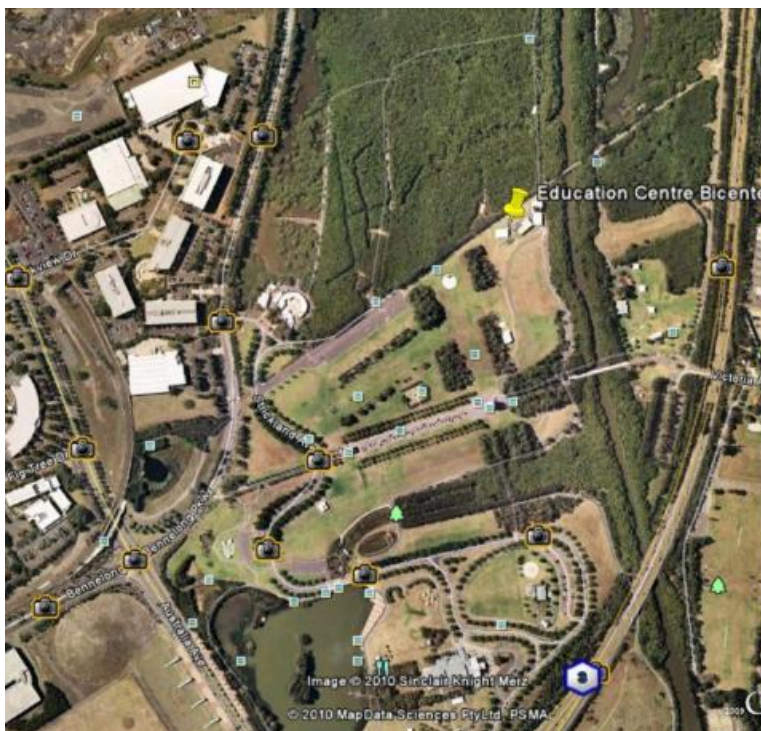
Lothar Voigt and the famous FrogMobile



THE END OF AN ERA.

We would like to give a very special thank you to founding member Lothar Voigt who has retired from the FATS committee after more than 25 years tireless service to frog education, advocacy and advice to the community, government and our members. His retirement from the committee will be a real loss to our society. More of that later! Lothar remains a FATS member of course.
MW

EDUCATION CENTRE LOCATION OF FATS MEETING



FATS CREATIVE & RESOURCEFUL EVENTS TEAM



FATS Event Coordinators Kathy, David, Harriet and Sarah Potter and Ryan Kershaw have been a resounding success at many events FATS attended. Not only are FATS a popular, fun and informative stall at fairs, Council and community days, but our fabulous 5 have been encouraging visitors to donate to FATS' fundraising. Of late, the frog rescue program has been quite expensive to run, eg the cost of food and medications. These extra funds will help not only our lost frogs but student grants, frog advocacy and research as well. MW



<http://www.alpineworld.com/cartoons/cartoon.htm> Fredsies' cartoons

**THIS CHRISTMAS 2016 FATS WILL BE CELEBRATING
OUR 25 YEAR ANNIVERSARY**



Ryan Kershaw, Sarah, Kathy, Harriet and David Potter

Litoria ewingi - two days since it left the water with 1.5cm of tail. It has absorbed the tail fully 11-07-2016 Craig R Broadfield



THE 2016 FATS FROG-O-GRAPHIC COMPETITION

FATS will display the Frog-O-Graphic competition images at the October meeting. Those in attendance will be able to vote for the Peoples' Choice awards.

This year the entries are fabulous! There are SO MANY amazing entries - the best ever - so we have doubled the prize winners in most divisions.

FATS plan to add a new category in 2017, for first time entrants, to encourage newcomers to the world of frog and tadpole photography.

Previous years' entries may appear on the different tabs on our web site, in our calendars and FrogCall newsletters. MW



Photo Karen Russell



Photo: Peter Soltys

PRIDE OF AUSTRALIA 2016 NOMINEE JUDY HARRINGTON

Judy Harrington a true environmental champion, has supported FATS at our Sydney Olympic Park meetings, making us feel very welcome at the Education Centre Bicentennial Park.



“Judy works in the Visitor Programs and Services section at Sydney Olympic Park as an Environmental Ranger. Her main role is to coordinate bird surveys, to encourage members of the community to discover the parklands and to lead children to learn about the world around them through the Nature-based Holiday Programs. She and her family have always been fond of beach and bush, trees and birds - the wonderful world around us. Judy joined the BASNA committee in 2004 and became a member of the *Birds in Backyards* Steering Committee in 2005.” <http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/Meet-Team>

See a Youtube clip of Judy at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FiFJm6TVLR0>

Nominations are currently open and will close Sunday October 9th, 2016. During this time, nominees across Australia will be featured in News Corp Australia's newspapers as we recognise our most extraordinary and inspiring everyday Australians. <http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/pride-of-australia/about-pride-of-australia/news-story/c283dfcd0207bd0025aca88edb231507>



Judy Harrington and (inset) the sea eagle's nest at Sydney Olympic Park.

ENVIRONMENTAL ranger Judy Harrington is a nature lover with a special soft spot for the sea eagles that nest in Sydney Olympic Park beside the Parramatta River.

Ms Harrington and a team of volunteers played a pivotal role in setting up a camera which monitors the park's resident couple and their chicks – enabling people around the world to watch their huge nest.

But it took a tragedy to start the project.



“We’ve known that birds use the park because there are very few safe nesting spots on the river,” she said.

“In 2004 we were watching a pair nesting in mangroves across the river and saw they were expecting.

“Then we saw the female had died on the nest. When we went across to get her, we noticed the male was dead in the water too.”

The team thought it may help protect the birds if they were monitored. So they raised funds to set up the 24hour camera.

Her colleagues have a deep admiration for her 20plus years as a volunteer for BirdLife Australia.

Ms Harrington is our nominee for

this year's Pride of Australia awards.

You can nominate someone who has inspired you with their dedication, initiative, courage or acts of charity. It can be a neighbour, friend, teammate, colleague or family member.

ENDANGERED AND EXTINCT – GREEN AND GOLDEN BELL FROG 2017 1OZ SILVER PROOF COIN



You can buy the Endangered and Extinct – Green and Golden Bell Frog 2017 1oz Silver Proof Coin from The Perth Mint, featuring:

- Beautiful Coloured Design
- Seventh Release in Series
- Proof Quality 99.9% Pure Silver
- Limited Mintage – 5,000
- Illustrated Presentation Packaging
- Numbered Certificate

Specifications The green and golden bell frog is a ground-dwelling tree frog with smooth green skin and patterns of golden brown markings. It has a creamy-gold stripe along the side of the body, from the eye to the hind legs. The inside of the thighs are distinctly coloured in turquoise-blue. It is one of Australia's largest frogs; females grow to an adult size of approximately 10 centimetres in length, and males up to eight centimetres. \$109 AUS Proof Quality 99.9% Pure Silver Each coin is struck from 1oz of 99.9% pure silver in proof quality.

Beautiful Coloured Design The coin's reverse features a coloured Green and Golden Bell Frog on a tree branch. The design includes the inscription GREEN AND GOLDEN BELL FROG.

Tuvalu Legal Tender The coin is issued as legal tender under the authority of the Government of Tuvalu. The Ian Rank-Broadley effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the

monetary denomination, the 2017 year-date and the coin's weight and fineness appear on its obverse.

Limited Mintage No more than 5,000 of the Endangered and Extinct – Green and Golden Bell Frog 2017 1oz Silver Proof Coin will be released.

Illustrated Presentation Packaging Each coin is housed in a presentation case with a stylised shipper featuring stunning imagery, and is accompanied by a numbered Certificate of Authenticity.

<http://www.perthmint.com.au/catalogue/endangered-and-extinct-green-and-golden-bell-frog-2017-1oz-silver-proof-coin.aspx>



Litoria chloris Red-eyed Tree Frog John Pumurs



Jilli Streit's pond

MONSANTO STUNNED – CALIFORNIA CONFIRMS ‘ROUNDUP’ WILL BE LABELLED “CANCER CAUSING”

Sacramento, CA — California just dealt Monsanto a blow as the state’s Environmental Protection Agency will now list glyphosate — the toxic main ingredient in the U.S.’ best-selling weedkiller, Roundup — as known to cause cancer. Under the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 — usually referred to as Proposition 65, its original name — chemicals that cause cancer, birth defects, or other reproductive harm are required to be listed and published by the state. Chemicals also end up on the list if found to be carcinogenic by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) — a branch of the World Health Organization.

In March, the IARC released a report that found glyphosate to be a “probable carcinogen.” Besides the “convincing evidence” the herbicide can cause cancer in lab animals, the report also found:

“Case-control studies of occupational exposure in the U.S.A., Canada, and Sweden reported increased risk for non-Hodgkin lymphoma that persisted after adjustments to other pesticides.”

California’s decision to place glyphosate on the toxic chemicals list is the first of its kind. As Dr. Nathan Donley of the Center for Biological Diversity said in an email to Ecowatch, “As far as I’m aware, this is the first regulatory agency within the U.S. to determine that glyphosate is a carcinogen. So this is a very big deal.”

Now that California EPA’s Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) has filed its “notice of intent to list” glyphosate as a known cancer agent, the public will have until October 5th to comment. There are no restrictions on sale or use associated with the listing.

Monsanto was seemingly baffled by the decision to place cancer-causing glyphosate on the state’s list of nearly 800 toxic chemicals. Spokesperson for the massive company, Charla Lord, told Agri-Pulse that “glyphosate is an effective and valuable tool for farmers and other users, including many in the state of California. During the upcoming comment period, we will provide detailed scientific information to

OEHHA about the safety of glyphosate and work to ensure that any potential listing will not affect glyphosate use or sales in California.”

Roundup is sprayed on crops around the world, particularly with Monsanto’s Roundup-Ready varieties — genetically engineered to tolerate large doses of the herbicide to facilitate blanket application without harming crops. Controversy has surrounded this practice for years — especially since it was found farmers increased use of Roundup, rather than lessened it, as Monsanto had claimed.

Less than a week after the WHO issued its report naming glyphosate carcinogenic, Monsanto called for a retraction — and still maintains that Roundup is safe when used as directed.

On Thursday, an appeals court in Lyon, France, upheld a 2012 ruling in favour of farmer Paul Francois, who claimed he had been chemically poisoned and suffered neurological damage after inhaling Monsanto’s weedkiller, Lasso. Not surprisingly, the agrichemical giant plans to take its appeal to the highest court in France. It’s still too early to tell whether other states will follow California’s lead.



This article is free and open source. You have permission to republish this article under a Creative Commons license with attribution to Claire Bernish and theAntiMedia.org. <http://www.hlfteam.com/monsanto-stunned-california-confirms-roundup-will-be-labeled-cancer-causing/>



George Madani *Litoria staccato*



Limnodynastes tasmaniensis spawning photo Ben Harrington



Litoria peronii photo Ben Harrington



Litoria tyleri photo Ben Harrington



Litoria fallax photo Ben Harrington



Litoria fallax amplexing photo Ben Harrington



Litoria fallax photo Ben Harrington

FROG & TADPOLE STUDY GROUP
STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE 01/07/2015 - 30/06/2016

	01/07/2015 - 30/06/2016		01/07/2014 - 30/06/2015
Opening Balance	\$ 6456.14		\$ 13033.38
Income	\$ 1078.61	Interest	\$ 747.46
	\$ 5045.00	Membership	\$ 3797.32
	\$ 500.00	Donations	\$
	\$ 2000.00	GGBF Surveys - SOPA	\$ 2000.00
	\$ 1000.00	Sales	\$ 1020.00
	\$ 675.00	Raffle/Auction	\$ 661.00
	\$ 670.00	Sales - Rescue Frogs	\$ 957.00
	\$ 1615.00	Field Trip Income	\$ 1458.00
	\$ 3253.50	Workshop/ Community Days	\$ 2202.50
Total Deposits	<u>\$15837.11</u>		<u>\$12843.28</u>
	<u>\$22293.25</u>		<u>\$25876.66</u>
Expenditure	\$ 1.00	Bank fees	\$ 37.00
	\$ 54.00	Dept of Fair Trading	\$ 53.00
	\$ 315.00	Insurance	\$ 1010.00
	\$	Printing Sundry	\$ 1480.02
	\$ 3020.40	Printing - FROGCALL	\$ 3371.46
	\$ 1042.10	Postage - FROGCALL	\$ 1057.81
	\$ 75.35	Stationery	\$ 195.94
	\$ 181.00	Post Box Hire	\$ 172.00
	\$ 1600.00	Field Station Hire	\$ 1392.01
	\$	Herpetofauna	\$ 1584.00
	\$ 1922.50	Sales - Expenditure	\$ 660.00
	\$ 2436.30	Sundry Expenditure	\$ 3254.18
	\$ 761.95	Photographic Competition	\$ 541.15
	\$ 110.00	Subscriptions (NCC)	\$ 125.00
	\$ 799.50	Mobile Phone x 3 years	\$ 560.00
	\$	Student Grant	\$ 1000.00
	\$	Donations	\$ 1000.00
	\$ 1799.65	Live Food for Rescue & Display	\$ 1476.95
		Frogs	
Total Expenditure	<u>\$14118.75</u>		<u>\$19420.52</u>
Closing Balance	<u>\$ 8174.50</u>		<u>\$ 6456.14</u>
		<u>TOTAL FATS ASSETS</u>	
Cash in Bank	<u>\$ 8174.50</u>		<u>\$ 6456.14</u>
Term Deposit	<u>\$37114.65</u>		<u>\$37114.65</u>
Total	<u>\$45289.15</u>		<u>\$43570.79</u>



Limnodynastes dumerilii Tasmania
Pobblebonk / Eastern Banjo Frog
 superb photos 2016 above and below by Craig Broadfield FATS
 Facebook active member



Arms nearly ready to pop out!



FROGS USE ULTRASONIC CALLS TO FIND MATES NEAR NOISY STREAMS



This torrent frog species (*Huia cavitympanum*) has evolved calls to be heard above the sound of rushing water (Sandra Goutte)

Some frogs have evolved ultrasonic mating calls so they can be heard above the background rumble of the fast-flowing streams they depend on, say researchers. Biologist Dr Sandra Goutte of Sorbonne University in Paris and her and colleagues studied the calls of a group of "torrent frogs" in Borneo, Indonesia, Malaysia, China and Cambodia.

They discovered the frogs all had higher pitched calls than most other frogs in the world, and a few species even had ultrasonic calls. "You can see the frog calling but you cannot hear it," said Dr Goutte, who carried out the research for her PhD research. "The call of torrent frogs has most probably been constrained by the environment they live in — which is the torrents — that are really noisy."

Male torrent frogs generally put out mating calls while sitting in vegetation next to fast-flowing streams. Females lay their eggs on rocks and then the tadpoles thrive in the oxygen-rich waters nearby. The problem is falling water makes a low pitched rumble of about 2 kilohertz that would mask the pitch of most frog mating calls, which are generally under 5 kilohertz.

Looking for love in a torrent



The mating calls of this torrent frog (*Odorrana graminea*) from China are partly ultrasonic, which means humans can only hear a part of the call. (Sandra Goutte)

Dr Goutte and colleagues measured the call pitch of 70 species of torrent frogs, that range in size from 2 to 15 centimetres in body length.

They found that, on average, most of the frogs had calls that ranged between 4 and 10 kilohertz.

A few species had calls that consisted of frequency above 20 kilohertz, which is in the ultrasonic range, above the human range of hearing.

For example, the hole-in-the-head frog (*Huia cavitympanum*), which is found in Borneo, has purely ultrasonic calls.

"As a result we don't hear anything, but the frogs do," said Dr Goutte.

While the large odorous frog (*Odorrana graminea*), a species found in China, had partially ultrasonic calls.

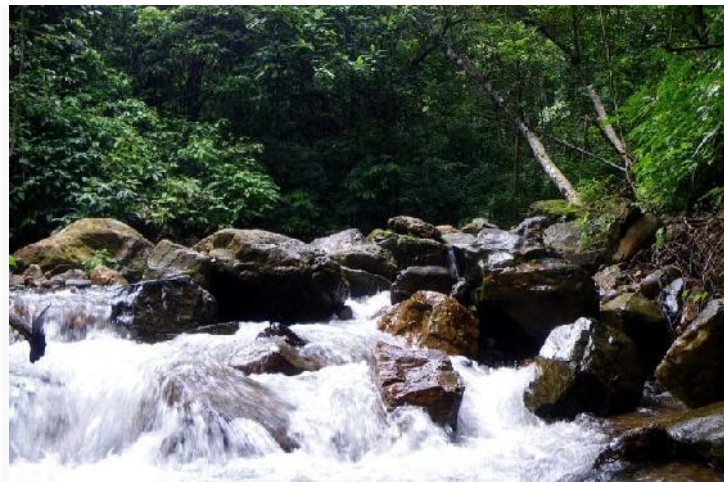
"We hear only a part of the call," said Dr Goutte.

Co-author Dr Jodi Rowley of the Australian Museum Research Institute said the calls of the large odorous frog vary in frequency from very low to extremely high — up to 44 kilohertz.

"They're much more like bird songs than most frog songs in their complexity and frequency modulation," she said.

"There's only a few other frogs known to call ultrasonically and they are all torrent dwelling."

The team's findings were recently published in the journal *Evolution*.



Falling water makes a low pitched rumble of about 2 kilohertz (Jodi Rowley)

Audio <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-08-26/this-torrent-frog-from-hainan,-china-has-partially/7785810>

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-08-26/noisy-streams-make-for-ultrasonic-frogs-calls/7270254> Forwarded to FATS by Andrew Nelson ABC Science By Anna Salleh

FOUND: THE ONLY KNOWN FROG TO GIVE BIRTH TO LIVE TADPOLES



The newly described fanged frog *Limnonectes larvaepartus* (male, left, and female) on the Indonesian island of Sulawesi. (Jim McGuire)

First frog ever found that gives birth to live tadpoles. In one of the tallest rain forests in the world, scientists have discovered a fanged frog that gives birth to live tadpoles. Of the 6,455 known species of frogs on our planet, it is the only one to exhibit this particular behaviour. The newly named frog was found in small puddles and side streams in a rainforest in Sulawesi Island in Indonesia. It's a small animal, about 1.5 to 2 inches long.

In a paper in PLOS One describing the tadpole-bearing frog, an international research team named it *Limnonectes larvaepartus*, which means "giving birth to an early form of an animal." They first realized it could give birth to live tadpoles when UC Berkeley herpetologist Jimmy McGuire was trying to take a liver sample of a female frog. He cut into the frog's abdomen, and, unexpectedly, a few dozen tadpoles slipped out.

"We had captured some of them and at the time, we didn't even know what they were," he said. "Then we opened one up and out popped all these squirming tadpoles." Another time he thought was picking up a male frog when out came a handful of the tiny tadpoles less than half an inch long.

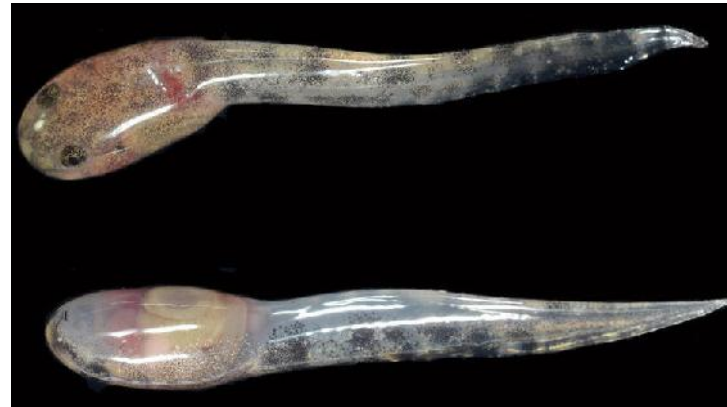


In fossilized fish eye, rods and cones preserved for 300 million years

"I was trying to catch them so we wouldn't lose any," said McGuire. "We wanted to know the clutch count." Over 13 years of studying these frogs, McGuire and his colleagues

witnessed 19 different instances of females either carrying or giving birth to live tadpoles. The research team is still not sure what mechanisms the frogs use to fertilize the eggs in the females' oviducts. They have not found a penis-like organ on the male, and they have yet to see the *L. Larvaepartus* mate in the wild.

In a typical frog life cycle, the male calls to the female, and when she arrives, grabs her either around the waist or under the armpits. While they're locked in this embrace, she deposits her eggs and he fertilizes them. The eggs are usually left to develop on their own in the water. Eventually tadpoles come out, and over time, those tadpoles develop into frogs.



Newborn tadpole (top and bottom views) of the newly described fanged frog. (Jim McGuire)

Not that it always works this way. Some frogs have evolved to provide their developing young with more protection. For example, the male Darwin's frog guards his eggs and then, when they become tadpoles, swallows them and keeps them safe in his vocal sac. Only when the tadpoles mature to little froglets does he cough them up and spit them out.

The now-extinct female gastric-brooding frog gobbled up her fertilized eggs and then neutralized her digestive enzymes so her tadpoles could develop in the safety of her stomach. And you can watch amazing video of several Suriname toad froglets "hatching" out of holes in their mother's back. Fertilized eggs get deposited on her back, and then her skin grows over them to keep them protected until they are ready to be born.

But despite all this dazzling diversity of reproduction, there are less than a dozen known frogs that have internal fertilization, and only one that gives birth to live tadpoles. And that's what McGuire finds truly intriguing about this discovery. "Something like shutting down your gastrointestinal system seems like a pretty complicated thing for evolution to produce, but giving birth to a live tadpole ought to be easy," he said. "Why is this the only frog that does it?"

Science rules! Follow me @DeborahNetburn and "like" Los Angeles Times Science & Health on Facebook. Los Angeles Times Deborah Netburn Contact Reporter

<http://www.latimes.com/science/sciencenow/la-sci-sn-fanged-frog-live-tadpoles-20150102-story.html>
Sent to FATS by Alan Lane.

FATS MEETINGS commence at 7 pm, (arrive from 6.30 pm) and end about 10 pm, at the Education Centre, Bicentennial Park, Sydney Olympic Park, Homebush Bay. They are usually held on the **first Friday of every EVEN month** February, April, June, August, October and December but not Easter (Good) Friday. Call, check our web site, Facebook page or email us for further directions. We hold 6 informative, informal, topical, practical and free meetings each year. Visitors are welcome. We are actively involved in monitoring frog populations, field studies and trips, have stalls at local events, produce the newsletter FROGCALL and FROGFACTS information sheets. FATS attend many community fairs and events. Please contact Kathy Potter if you can assist as a frog explainer, even for an hour. No experience required. Please encourage your frog friends to join or donate to FATS. Donations help with the costs of frog rescue, student grants, research and advocacy.

All expressions of opinion and information in FrogCall are published on the basis that they are not to be regarded as an official opinion of the Frog and Tadpole Study Group Committee, unless expressly so stated.

COPYRIGHT: Material from FROGCALL MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED without the prior consent of the writer, photographer, editor or president of FATS. Permission from FATS and/or author/s must be obtained prior to any commercial use of material. The author/s and sources must be always fully acknowledged.

FATS ON FACEBOOK: FATS has over 1,700 Facebook members from almost every continent. Posts vary from husbandry and frog identification enquiries to photos and posts about pets, gardens, wild frogs, research, new discoveries and habitats from all over the world. The page included dozens of information files.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/FATSNSW/>

RESCUED FROGS are seeking forever homes are at our meetings. Please contact us in advance if you wish to adopt a frog. Cash donation required to cover care costs. FATS must sight your current amphibian licence. Licences can be obtained from NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, Office of Environment and Heritage. We request you join FATS before adopting a frog. This can be done on the meeting night. Sorry we have no EFTPOS.

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/wildlifelicences/GettingAnAmphibianKeepersLicence.htm>



Thank you to the committee members, FrogCall supporters, meeting speakers, Frog-O-Graphic competition entrants, events participants and organisers David, Kathy, Sarah and Harriet Potter and Ryan Kershaw for an enjoyable year. The FrogCall articles, photos, media and webpage links, membership administration and envelope preparation is greatly appreciated. Special thanks to newsletter contributors, Robert Wall, George Madani, Jilli Streit, Karen & Arthur White, Andrew Nelson, Wendy & Phillip Grimm, Henry Cook and Marion Anstis.



FROGWATCH HELPLINE 0419 249 728

FATS COMMITTEE CONTACTS

FATS MAILING ADDRESS: P O Box 296 Rockdale NSW 2216

Arthur White	President	ph/fax (02) 9599 1161	1 arthur@tpg.com.au
Marion Anstis	Vice President and chairperson	(02) 9456 1698	frogpole@tpg.com.au
Wendy Grimm	Secretary	(02) 9144 5600	wagrimm@tpg.com.au
Karen White	Treasurer	ph/fax (02) 9599 1161	1 arthur@tpg.com.au
Phillip Grimm	Memberships, Website & Facebook Manager	(02) 9144 5600	phgrimm@gmail.com
Kathy Potter	Events Coordinator	0403 919 668	kathy@the-pottery.org
Robert Wall	Field Trips Convenor	(02) 9681 5308	rjw2008@live.com.au
David Potter	Frog Helpline Coordinator	0413 210 789	david@the-pottery.org
Monica Wangmann	Editor	0418 992 766 / (02) 9797 6543	monicawangmann@gmail.com
General Committee members	Andre Rank, Jilli Streit, Punia Jeffery and Vicki Deluca		

David Nelson *Crinia tasmaniensis*
 “rather drab but it is set apart by its
 startling underpants”



George Madani *Uperoleia lithomoda*

Jilli Streit's pond



Field Trips

Please book your place on field-trips; due to strong demand, numbers are limited. Be sure to leave a contact number. Regardless of prevailing weather conditions, we will continue to schedule and advertise all monthly field-trips as planned. It is YOUR responsibility to re-confirm in the last few days, whether the field trip is proceeding or has been cancelled. Phone Robert on 9681-5308.

22 October 7:30 pm

Sydney Olympic Park

Leader: Josie Styles

Meet in the carpark at Wentworth Common. The carpark is in Marjorie Jackson Parkway, about 150m from the intersection with Bennelong Parkway.

The Sydney Olympic Park precinct is known for its population of endangered Green and Golden Bell Frogs. The frogs here soared to public prominence during the planning and construction of the Sydney Olympics venue. These frogs had long-occupied this derelict and largely-forgotten site. The Bell Frogs were facing an uncertain future in the face of a construction project that was perhaps the largest ever undertaken in Australia. The public watched as degraded wetland sites were enhanced to ensure the long-term survival of Bell Frogs. This recovery program was necessary to fulfil environmental obligations to the International Olympic Authority and to placate an international audience that had been given many desperate assurances by the Government. Tonight, we will look at how the Bell Frogs are faring a decade-and-a-half later.

Josie works as a Biodiversity Specialist for the Roads and Maritime Service. She provides advice on the environmental impacts of major roads and develops mitigation measures to lessen the impact of those roads. She is well-acquainted with the Bell Frogs of Sydney Olympic Park as she previously spent ten years with the Australian Museum monitoring the Bell Frog population here.

11 – 13 November

Smiths Lake Camp-Out

Leaders: Karen & Arthur White

In Australia, frogs survive periods of extreme aridity by entering into a dormancy known as aestivation (“*es-tuh-va-tion*”). Frogs will also aestivate as cold weather approaches. The body metabolism is slowed down to lower energy use and to reduce water requirements. Historically, the word “aestivation” comes from a Latin word which alludes to “summer sleep”. Aestivation is generally regarded as being different to hibernation. “Hibernation” comes from the Latin word “*hibernia*”, which means “winter sleep”. Broadly speaking, only larger mammals such as bears hibernate (until food resources become available in the Spring). Students should also note that many smaller animals, such as micro-bats, birds and insects enter into a daily or nightly “torpor” to similarly save energy. Torpor is a much more short-lived phenomenon than hibernation or aestivation (usually on a daily cycle) and is perhaps the most common energy-saving strategy amongst wildlife.

All three terms are subtly different, but allude to the much the same thing. It is the way in which an animal conserves energy and avoids dehydration in adverse conditions. These strategies enable animals to survive in environments that would otherwise be unsuitable for it. These techniques allow a species to expand their distributional range.

This weekend, Arthur will discuss aestivation, hibernation and torpor. We will examine the ways in which some of the local species conserve energy and cope with environmental extremes. Arthur and Karen have spent many years studying the Smiths Lake area and have built up an encyclopaedic knowledge of the area and particularly with its wildlife.

Dormitory/cabin accommodation and camping sites are available. All kitchen facilities, crockery and utensils supplied. Hot showers. There is a non-refundable fee of \$17-50 p.p. per night. A maximum of twenty-five people. For bookings and enquiries, please phone Karen and Arthur White on ph.9599-1161.

3 December 8:30 pm

Scheyville National Park

Leader: Grant Webster

Meet at the corner of Scheyville Rd and Dormitory Hill Rd, Scheyville.

Tonight we will revisit the woodlands of the Cumberland Plain, and we will look at the frogs of the shale country. These frogs endure quite different conditions to their cousins of the coastal sandstone. We will discuss these differences and also look at some of the threats that have compelled authorities to list the Cumberland Plain Woodland as an endangered ecological community. The habitat that is represented in the Scheyville National Park is diminishing at an alarming rate and tonight Grant will show us some of the frogs that rely on these woodlands.

Grant has developed into an outstanding researcher. Tonight he will return to some of those sites where he undertook his first research projects. He knows this area intimately and he will explain the changes he has seen in the frog populations over time.

The Australian Reptile Park usually have a Christmas party for herpetological groups, around late November early December, with free entry on presentation of your current membership card. Call (02) 4340 1022 or email admin@reptilepark.com.au in Late October for more information.

In the event of uncertain frogging conditions (e.g. prolonged/severe drought, hazardous and/or torrential rain, bushfires etc.), please phone 9681-5308. Remember! rain is generally ideal for frogging! Children must be accompanied by an adult. Bring enclosed shoes that can get wet (gumboots are preferable), torch, warm clothing and raincoat. Please be judicious with the use of insect repellent – frogs are very sensitive to chemicals! Please observe all directions that the leader may give. Children are welcome, however please remember that young children especially can become very excited and boisterous at their first frogging experience – parents are asked to help ensure that the leader is able to conduct the trip to everyone’s satisfaction. All fieldtrips are strictly for members only – newcomers are however, welcome to take out membership before the commencement of the fieldtrip. All participants accept that there is some inherent risk associated with outdoor fieldtrips and by attending agree to; a release of all claims, a waiver of liability, and an assumption of risk.