Whistling ducks on the scene

Dendrocygna eytoni ... plumed whistling-ducks that have taken up temporary residence in Alice Springs. Picture: Chris Watson

PET TALES

They’re looking for a cuddle

IT is the season for giving so let’s give these, and the other animals at the RSPCA shelter, a second chance in life by adopting them.

Kassy says “Hello” and wants to know if you want to chat – or maybe just to cuddle? Whatever you want to do, count Kassy in. She will be by your side always, giving you all the love and affection you need.

Kassy is a sweet and affectionate, two-year-old cat with a quiet nature. She will make the perfect lap warmer next winter and will bring everlasting joy to her lucky new owner.

She is a darling girl. She’s very sweet and affectionate. She is looking for a home and family of her own now that her kittens are all old enough to start their own adventures. Kassy is a two to five-year-old female cat.

In case you haven’t guessed yet, she is definitely a “people-person/ kitty”.

Connie is looking for someone to love, adore, and play with. She is very friendly and loves cuddles. Wherever you are, that’s where she’ll be. She is a seven-month-old female who likes to take things pretty slow.

She is in no great hurry to get anywhere – except perhaps the lap of a new owner for some love and affection.

Red Centre Bird’s Bulletin

By Chris Watson

JUST as many Centralians thronged to the sights of the total lunar eclipse last weekend, many birds have been delighted by the spectacle of some plumed whistling-ducks that have taken up temporary residence at the sewage ponds.

They’re not usually resident around Alice Springs, but they are frequent visitors.

This flock of about 15 birds have been showing their beautiful plumage around the sewage ponds and Liptopa swamp for the past few weeks. These birds are more commonly seen in wetter parts of the Territorial Park, but may be seen anywhere there is a decent body of open water like a dam, claypan, or ephemeral swamp.

Apart from their distinctive plumage, they can be identified in flight by their whistling call which they often emit as they take off.

Another unusual visitor lobbed in during the week. A lone Australian pelican that was sighted by contractors at the sewage ponds during the dog-incurred closure to the public.

During a drive south of town I was lucky enough to have an early morning ramble through a mutia wonderland of bush birds, including the elusive white-browed treecreeper, inland thornbird, major Mitchell cockatoos, western gerygones and a single black falcon.

More exciting vagrant news has arrived from Broome where Adrian Boyle has reported a find of a cinnamon bitttern being munched on by a brown falcon.

The bird had been recently killed by the falcon and was still in excellent condition and has been sent to the museum as a specimen.

This is a species usually found from Timor Leste up through SE Asia and now joins the Rausian blackcap and stripe-breasted petrel as another first record for the Australian bird list.

Happy birding!

birdcentral@gmail.com

DAKOTA

Clockwise, from top left: Jade, Wynnie, Kassy and Connie

Pictures: MAI WALTON

Bakehouse Bakery

Whistle ducks on the scene at Brumbys Bakehouse.

PICS: RON WRIGHT

Clearance Sale

R M Williams Clothing

Mens LS Shirt $19.95 $10.00

Ladies LS Shirt $19.95 $10.00

Ladies Vest $9.95 $5.95

R M Williams Boots

Calfskin Boots (Mens) $399.00 $249.00

Dynamic Flex Boots (Cheatham’s Back) $299.00 $229.00

Comfort Turn Out $388.00 $239.00

Tanbo $388.00 $250.00

Turn Out $388.00 $250.00

Wrangler Mens LS Shirt $19.95 $9.95

Ladies LS Shirt $19.95 $9.95

20% Off

Full Price R.M. Williams Akubra, Ortiz and Bony OUTBOUR "family friendly"

Ph: 3953 0222

Shop 4, 40 Todd Mall (Opposite National Bank)

Drive away with the Limited Edition Sports Kia Rio

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Open 7 Days - 8952 0016

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No worries

AVAILABLE IN SANDWICH LOAVES:

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BULK BREAD DEAL

2 Loaves $6.80  3 Loaves $9.50

4 Loaves $12.50  5 Loaves $15

Family Friendly Car

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5 Door Hatch

6 Mil’s Rego

To win this car valued at $16,990 simply spend $30 or more in any participating store, attach your receipt and go in the draw to win!

Competition Closes Wednesday 21st Dec at 12Noon.

Draw to take place at Yepereny Shopping Centre at 12.05pm

Community Invitation

书t：Still a Town Like Alice

Still a Town Like Alice is a special project of the Alice Springs Town Council. As well as relating the history it provides an entertaining snapshot of life in the town between the years 1986 and 2008; following the Council’s first written history which covered the period to 1986.

When: Friday 16 December

Time: 5pm-6pm

Where: Alice Springs Public Library in the Alice Springs Collection. All welcome.

For details call the Library on 8950 0555 or go to www.alicesprings.nt.gov.au/library.

Phone: (08) 8950 0500  Web: www.alicesprings.nt.gov.au

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