

Sponsor A Duck



Thank you for sponsoring one of our Freckled Ducks. Your generosity will help us provide vital habitat, food and veterinary care for this unique species.

Please complete this form, detach and return to HWCA with your payment.

Thank you!

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Duck name: _____

Please select one:

Child sponsorship - \$3

Level One – \$15

Level Two – \$30

Level Three – \$50

Corporate Sponsorship – \$300

Other amount – please specify _____

Payment method:

Cash

Cheque

Credit Card

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiry _____ **CCV** _ _ _

Signed _____ **Date** _____

By adopting one of our freckled ducks you're helping to protect one of the world's rarest ducks. Freckled ducks are often referred to as the 'dinosaur duck' - an ancient proto-duck that came before ducks, swans and geese in the evolutionary chain.

Freckled ducks are listed as a vulnerable species in NSW and they will become endangered unless we stop draining, clearing and grazing wetlands, changing natural river flows, and illegally shooting them!

Over the past decade the Hunter Wetlands Centre Australia has developed a reputation as one of the most successful captive breeders of freckled ducks in Australia, successfully breeding a total of 46 ducklings.

Every cent of money raised through our adopt-a-duck program goes directly into improving our enclosures, providing our freckled ducks with food and veterinary care, and other sundry expenses. As a community-supported organisation, the HWCA relies on donations to continue its valuable work helping to conserve these amazing, uniquely Australian birds.

This is your chance to help save a species that the planet definitely doesn't want to lose!

Levels of sponsorship:

Children's – \$3

- Freckled duck colouring sheet
- Fun fact sheet

Level one – \$15

- Adoption certificate
- Freckled duck postcard
- Fun fact sheet

Level two – \$30

- All the above PLUS:
- Wetlands Centre show bag
- E-newsletter with biannual updates on your freckled

Level three – \$50

- All the above PLUS:
- Behind-the-scenes tour of the freckled duck enclosure (includes two free entries)
- The opportunity to name your very own duck (if

Corporate – \$300

- All the above PLUS your name
- in HWCA e-news and
- on HWCA website.

Hunter Wetlands Centre Australia

A haven for wildlife and people

Wildlife Walking trails Canoeing Discovery Zone & Playground Picnics & BBQs
School Holiday Program Gift Shop Café Nourish
Open 10am to 5pm weekdays & 9am to 5pm weekends

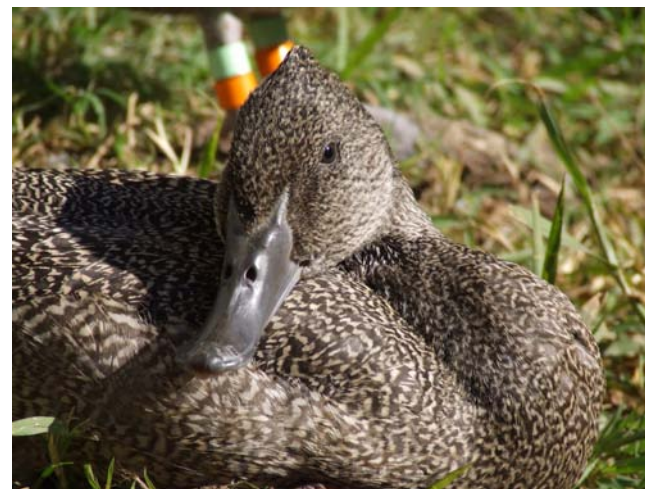
Off the roundabout, Sandgate Rd Shortland PO Box 292 Wallsend NSW 2287
P: (02) 49516466 F: (02) 49501875 E: hwca@wetlands.org.au W: wetlands.org.au

Thanks to Hunter and Central Rivers Catchment Management Authority and Sugarloaf Animal Hospital.

Hunter Wetlands Centre Australia



Help Me!



Sponsor a duck... make a big difference

Meet our freckled ducks...

Geoff – brown over pale green

Geoff was named after one of our site staff, Geoff Nicholls. He is the son of Chris, one of our first ducks, and brother of Amy. He is a classic, handsome male, with the typical dark head and bright red bill of male freckled ducks. One of the more dominant males and the probable sire of several of our most recent clutches, Geoff is nonetheless rather aloof around people and tends to hang back more than his companions, preferring to roost in the centre of the pond away from possible contact with humans.



Leifina – orange over pale blue

Leifina has been our most successful breeder, producing eleven young from two clutches in September of 2007 and January of 2008. Leifina's parenting style differs significantly from our other breeding female, Amy – she appears to foster independence in her young by leaving them to their own devices and encouraging contact with humans, and as a result her offspring tend to be friendlier towards people. She is a very curious and intelligent duck and very trusting of her keepers, even while nesting or raising young, and she is somewhat of a leader to the group. Like her daughter Leila, she has a feather on her right wing that grows at an off angle and kicks up, creating a slightly unkempt appearance.

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Left-purple-right-green and left-blue-right-green

These two newest arrivals come to us from the renowned freckled duck breeder David Rushton. The HWCA tries to transfer ducks between breeders and facilities on a regular basis to ensure maximum genetic diversity and prevent inbreeding. These two new males, though shy at first, appear to have settled in well.



Barry – black over mauve

Barry was named after the original designer and builder of the shelters, Barry Whitson. As the brother of Graeme, he has always been submissive to his rather more aggressive sibling, and as such has, despite constant courtship behaviour and attempts at mating, missed out on the mating opportunities Graeme has had. With the recent transfer of Graeme to another facility, Barry's day may have come.

Jacob – red over orange

Jacob was named for the son of our CEO, Tara O'Connell. He is from Leifina's September clutch and displays much of his mother's confidence and authority. He has been noted as being somewhat of a 'ladies man', chasing and accompanying any female in sight, sometimes for lengthy periods of time, and it is likely he will become one of our dominant sires in the years to come.



Leila – pale green over orange

Leila is one of our most beloved and friendly ducks and is named for the mother of one of our site staff, Geoff Nicholls. She is a duck that immediately stands out as she is very people oriented and inquisitive, and will often be the first to approach humans when other ducks hang back. She has the same intelligent gaze as her mother Leifina, as well as sharing a kicked up right wing feather with her mother.

George – black over blue

George is one of Amy's sons from her September clutch and is beginning to establish himself as a wily and clever duck – when keepers attempt to catch him he will try to confuse them by diving under shelters and changing directions in order to escape. He is one of the bigger males and, as many of Amy's offspring, is less interested in human company than the company of other ducks.



Jewel – pale green over yellow

Jewel is the only female from Leifina's January clutch and was adopted and named by a volunteer, Kathryn Haythorpe. Although young, she has established herself as 'another Leila' due to her curious and people oriented nature. She has also proved to be a very assertive and aggressive duck, pecking other ducks aside to reach the roosting spot or the feed dish she wants, and shows a natural leadership.

Pearl – yellow over white

Pearl is named for the duck-loving daughter of our site manager, Boyd Carney. She is a daughter of Amy from her January clutch and still has the attitude of a young duck to her, being rather shy and dependent still on her siblings for company. She is one of the more 'flighty' of our ducks and perhaps due to her young age is easily spooked.



Zenon – black over white

Zenon is named after the son of our site manager, Boyd Carney, and is Pearl's brother. He is from Amy's January clutch and, although still quite young, promises to grow into a large and handsome duck.

Blue-yellow

This male duck from Leifina's January clutch is as yet unnamed and no significant behaviour has been observed to report here. When a duck has a name attached to it the keepers tend to notice behaviours more and a personality profile can develop.



You can visit all our ducks at the freckled duck enclosure during HWCA opening hours. For a more up close and personal experience, come and join us during daily feeds at 4PM, where keepers will be on hand to allow access into the enclosure and answer any questions.