

This is a **Plain Language Statement form (PLS) and Consent Form** for people who wish to send their stories, anecdotes and photos on birds for consideration for publication in a book about backyard birds authored by Dr Grainne Cleary and published by Allen and Unwin book publishers. The Plain Language Statement explains to you as clearly as possible what you need to do as well as the copyright and ownership of any photos or stories you may wish to submit.



Your Consent is required

You are invited to send Dr Gráinne Cleary stories, anecdotes and photos about birds in your backyard, including stories about your own interactions with birds. Please only submit photos that are your own or photos that you have permission to submit from the photographer or owner of the photo. We only want photos of birds, not humans! Photos will be credited to the photograph/owner of the photo. Unfortunately we are unable to return photos so please ensure you have a copy of the photo for your own records. The copyright and ownership of the photos and the stories and anecdote you send in will belong to you. For this reason we need your consent when providing them. Please note that you are under no obligation to provide any information and only do so if you feel comfortable.

To help you make the decision this Plain Language Statement explains to you as openly and clearly as possible all the steps involved in submitting stories, anecdotes and photos. This is so that you can make a fully informed decision about whether you wish to do so. If you have questions about any information in the document please feel free to email Dr Gráinne Cleary at g.cleary@deakin.edu.au. You can download this document as a PDF file to keep for your records.

The first name and surname of the person and their state will be published under their stories and anecdotes (for example John Smith, NSW). If you wish any published materials to be anonymous please indicate this using the consent boxes.

Procedure for participation in the book

If after reading this Statement you want to share your stories and/or photos please email the completed consent form to Dr Cleary. If you have already shared stories and/or photos with Dr Cleary, please indicate that you give permission for their possible inclusion for publication in her book. You can send your stories and anecdotes to Dr Gráinne Cleary through her email address, g.cleary@deakin.edu.au.

Possible risk and benefits to you and/or the wider community

Please be advised that there is no reimbursement for contributing stories and photos. There is no anticipated risks associated, however we request that you do not send in plagiarized photos and stories. If you send in a photo, please ensure you have credited it correctly. Please only send in pictures of birds! We do not require you to send in pictures of yourself with the birds.

Dr Gráinne Cleary will ensure strict confidentiality and participants anonymity (if requested) is maintained at all times.

Privacy, confidentiality and disclosure of information

All information will be handled in the strict confidentiality. All stories, anecdotes and photos will be downloaded and stored securely, in electronic format on a password-protected computer for a period of six years following the publication of the book.

Complaints

Approval to undertake this research project has been given by the Human Ethics Advisory Group (HEAG), Faculty of Science, Engineering and Built Environment, Deakin University. If you have any complaints about any aspect of the project, the way it is being conducted or any questions about your rights as a research participant, then you may contact: The Manager, Ethics and Biosafety Deakin University, 221 Burwood Highway, BURWOOD VIC 3125 , Telephone: 9251 7123, research-ethics@deakin.edu.au. Please quote project number STEC-62-2015-Cleary-MOD 03.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read this plain language statement and hopefully you will send me some of your stories. If you have any questions or concerns regarding any aspect of this research, please feel free to contact me (details below).

Your sincerely,

Gráinne

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PLAIN LANGUAGE STATEMENT AND CONSENT FORM

TO: registered participant

Consent Form Date:



Full Project Title: Watering and feeding birds in back gardens

Reference Number: STEC-62-2015-CLEARY-MOD 03

I have read and I understand the attached Plain Language Statement. I freely agree to participate in this project according to the conditions in the Plain Language Statement. I have been given a copy of the Plain Language Statement and Consent Form to keep.

If you do wish to send Dr Grainne Cleary stories and photos for potential publication in her book please indicate this by ticking the consent boxes below.

- I hereby give my consent to Dr Grainne Cleary to use the **stories** I will email to her or have emailed to her in the past for publication in her book
- I hereby give my consent to Dr Grainne Cleary to use the **photos** I will send her/ or have already sent for publication in her book
- I hereby give consent for my **first and last name** and state to be used
- I only wish my **first name** and state to be used
- I wish to remain anonymous

Participant's Name (printed)

Signature Date

Please email to:

Dr. Gráinne Cleary

Email: g.cleary@deakin.edu.au