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# Mordialloc Chelsea Leader

#### LATEST NEWS

## 'Heroic duo' rescues pelican

Wes Hosking

18Jun07

**WILDLIFE** carers have praised the efforts of two teenagers who rescued an injured pelican near Bonbeach station.

Daniel and Toby, both 13, were walking home about 2.30pm on June 2 when they saw the bird.

"It was getting swooped by all these magpies and then it flew into the powerlines and hit the tree," Toby said.

"Then it started walking along the tracks." The boys kept the bird out of the path of four trains before Australian Wildlife Rescue and Education rescuer Paul Hackett arrived.

AWARE service receives up to 20 phone calls a week to rescue ill, injured or threatened wildlife.

Although he did not recommend anyone put their own safety at risk to save wildlife, Mr Hackett said he was certain the boys saved the pelican's life.

"It's pretty heroic for kids that age," Mr Hackett said. "There was an adult there and he didn't go near it."

Frankston wildlife carer Michelle Thomas is looking after the young male pelican who has been named Agro because of a feisty temperament.

Mrs Thomas said pelicans often flew between Patterson Lakes, Braeside Park and Ricketts Point, but it was unusual for a bird to be flying low inland.

It appeared Agro had been brought down by a wind current, she said. The pelican speared himself on a tree during his fall and suffered a dislocated wing, but is expected to make a full recovery. AWARE can be contacted on 0412 433 727.



Daniel, wildlife carer Michelle Thomas and Toby with the rescued pelican.

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