



Recovery; Community Connections Lake Clifton Thrombolites

Experiencing working around extremely rare and primitive life forms may not be what participants of Growing Towards Wellness had initially thought they were signing up for. But the opportunity to visit and work around what scientists think are the earliest form of life on earth, the Lake Clifton Thrombolites, was not to be passed up.

Believed to be about 3500 Million Years old, thrombolites are a single-celled bacteria which deposit layers of silt and calcium that grow slowly into grounded rocks. These relics are mostly extinct and exist as fossils found only in a couple of places in the world.

Through the 'GTW - Recovery; Community Connections' project participants were able to contribute to very important environmental conservation work.

This project is funded by the Department of Training & Workforce Development to provide adult learning for members of the mental health community, inpatients and outpatients of the PaRK Mental Health Service.

Participants have been learning many skills applicable to further education and employment through this supported horticultural and environmental training activities program.

The Peel-Harvey Catchment Council offered this paid work experience opportunity to the GTW teams resulting in 10 hectares of Cotton Bush, a declared weed, being cleared in this international environmental effort.



• Teams identify and eliminate dangerous cotton bush weeds



• Enjoying the opportunity to see the Thrombolites first hand



• Lake Clifton Thrombolites



• Taking a moment to learn about the history of Thrombolites