

Kalamunda Reporter

Community

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WATTLEGROVE



Antonino Di Franco compares his chicken's whopper with an ostrich egg.

Picture: Matthew Poon

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Happy hens, not records in mind

A WATTLE Grove teenager's hobby may have landed him in the Australian record books.

Antonino Di Franco (14) has been raising chickens for two years. He found a not-so-little surprise when he went into the chicken house on Monday: Connie the Australorp had laid an egg weighing 174 grams.

The egg topped the 160g whopper reported in the *Hills Gazette* in February this year and is believed to be the biggest ever produced in Australia. It is not far short of the world record 180g chicken egg laid in Cuba in 2008.

Antonino, who wants to become an avian veterinarian, said he was surprised to find the weighty egg.

"I found another large egg last year which weighed 110 grams but I knew that was way under the biggest weights recorded," he said.

Antonino said he did not try to break records; he just concentrated on "raising happy, healthy chooks".

He gets up at 6.15am each day to feed them before school and then his duties continue when he comes home.

"I am usually finished by dusk," he said.