



PO Box 33, Aldinga Beach 5173

Friends Group of the Decade 1993 - 2003

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Secretary: Helen McSkimming 8556 3166
Treasurer: Alvin Williams 8556 3612

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NEWSLETTER

January/February 2007

Recent Meetings

Albert Gillisen welcomed 19 members to the November meeting.

Guest speaker Alison Radford updated Friends on the progress of the CIC investment strategy. Proposed projects include new signage and pathways, kangaroo and echidna monitoring, and revegetation. Tenders are about to be called for the Hart Road wetland.

Friends expressed their dissatisfaction with the quality of the fence which has been erected from these funds.

Friends also advised Alison that they wish to be involved in decisions about the investment strategy projects, especially the community education initiative.

Alison advised that a new management plan for ASCP will be commenced shortly. The plan may take 2 years to complete.

In place of a December meeting, our end of year function was the traditional "Breakfast on the Beach". Some 30 members gathered together to enjoy cornflakes and coffee in ideal conditions.

Following the breakfast, Friends and other interested coast watchers enjoyed a "Tideline Walk".

From the committee

- fencing and propagation materials have been purchased for the dune restoration project, and work has begun at the site between the Lower Esplanade and Palmer Street
- funds have been received from Envirofund

Willunga Environment Centre
Tuesday, 13 February, 2007 at 7:30 pm

Butterflies: Creating habitat in your backyard

Topics include

- Butterfly identification
- Identifying and establishing food plants in the garden for butterflies and their lava
- Protecting butterflies and their habitat
- Backyard threats to butterflies and their lava
- Butterfly Watch 2007



Presented by the Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board

Provenance – There are new rules



Four things you should know about seed provenance

1. Local provenance isn't always the best. Seed collected from small, isolated populations can be highly inbred, leading to plants with low vigour and poor resistance to disease or disturbance.
2. It's more important to collect from a sufficient number of parent plants to maximise genetic diversity. The more plants that are used for collection the greater the chance of capturing high genetic diversity. This improves the chance of producing high quality seed that will germinate, grow and produce more viable seed for future generations.
3. Collect seed from widely spaced individuals within a population. Plants that grow close together are more likely to be related, and have similar genetic makeup.
4. In most instances local provenance isn't defined by distance. It can be better defined by similarities in soil type, topography, climate, vegetation communities, and the means of pollination and dispersal.

Extract from Thinking Bush Thinking Seeds (Greening Australia 2006)



Fox DNA Project- developing a genetic map of foxes throughout Australia

If you would like to support this project by taking samples from foxes (culled or roadkill), please contact Oliver Berry at the University of Western Australia on (08) 6488 4509. If you would like more information on the project, visit the website at www.foxDNA.animals.uwa.edu.au

Financial Report as at 31 January, 2007

Opening Balance		\$8457.79
Receipts	\$13578.00	
Payments	\$6936.40	
Balance at 31/01/07		\$15099.39
Less Grants Unspent		\$11955.10
Available funds		\$3144.29

Weekend Working Bees

Weekend working bees will be held again this year on the first Saturday of each month.

The first working bee for 2007 will be held on Saturday, 3 March at 1:30 pm. Meet at the Dover Street carpark.

Please phone Pam on 8556 3924 for more information.

Coming events – General Meetings

Thursday, 8 February, 2007

Stan Flavel from the South Australian Museum will speak about Bats

Thursday, 8 March, 2007

Annual General Meeting

Coming events – Working Bees

Weekly working bees will resume on Tuesday, 13 February.

Please contact Julie on 8556 5782 if you would like more information about where the group will be working each week.