



PO Box 33, Aldinga Beach 5173

Friends Group of the Decade 1993 - 2003

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NEWSLETTER

August/September 2007

Recent Meetings

John Ackers welcomed 12 members to the August meeting.

Phil McNamara from the National Trust of SA spoke about the Significant Trees register which is administered by the National Trust.

The register began in 1983, and over the first 10 years, some 100 significant trees were assessed and accepted on to the Register. Trees are assessed under four categories: Natural, Cultural, Aesthetic or Botanic. They may be listed as Classified (having state or national significance); Recorded (having regional significance); or On File (worth noting).

Phil concluded with an interactive session during which he showed pictures of each of the Significant Trees within the City of Onkaparinga. Friends were asked to identify the species, the location and whether the tree was still standing. Correct answers were rewarded with delicious chocolates, encouraging lively participation amongst the group!

Desi Moore chaired the September meeting, which was attended by 14 members and 2 visitors.

Our guest speakers were Chris, Alan and Lorraine from the Friends of Simpson Desert Parks, who look after three parks; Witjira CP, Simpson Desert CP and Simpson Desert Regional Reserve. Chris presented a series of photographs depicting the scenery and wildlife in the Parks. His photos showed diverse wildlife which included budgerigars, dingos, camels and wedge tail eagles. Vegetation included the Sturt Desert Pea, a red mulga and the 'lone gum'. Other features were the Dalhousie Springs and ruins, and the Purni Bore.

Alan's slides showed the Friends at work. Projects included a major tree planting project in 1988, construction and placement of walking trail markers, water monitoring, erection of shade shelters and interpretive signs. Alan stressed that the trips to the Desert are not all work, and his photographs showed the Friends enjoying some lighter moments!

Almond Blossom Festival 2007

Thanks to all the Friends who helped with the preparation for the Parade and who walked behind the banner on the day.

A great team effort from all involved!!



Park news!

The major work on the dune rehabilitation project is completed for this year, but the site will be monitored for ongoing maintenance.

The working bee groups have recently been focusing their attention on woody weeds, including olives and boneseed, in Vegetation Management Units 8 and 9.

Active fox dens have been sighted, which will be fumigated. Rabbit numbers are on the increase, and their holes will also be fumigated.

The weekend working group has spread rust fungus into new areas in the Park.

Unused materials have been removed from the enclosures on the northern boundary.

Pest Plant and Animal Control FIELD DAY

Saturday, 22 September 2007
9:30 am to 12:30 pm
Kangarilla

Topics to be discussed:

- woody weed and Salvation Jane control
- Chilean needle grass identification and control
- fox and rabbit control techniques
- improving pasture management to control weeds

If you are interested in attending this free event, please contact Kerrie Howe at the Mount Barker Natural Resources Centre on 8391 7504.

From the committee ...

- FoAS have co-signed a submission opposing changes to the urban growth boundaries in the south. Other signatories included ABRA, Friends of Willunga Basin, and the Southern Eco Alliance.
- we were pleased to welcome our Park Ranger, Leah Egan and our newly appointed Liaison Ranger, Nalini Klopp to our recent committee meeting.
- we have supported an application to the NRM Board to fund the appointment of a project officer to prepare an integrated natural resource management plan for the "Reef to Range" project.

Cleland Wildlife Park **CELEBRATING 40 WILD YEARS!**

To celebrate the fortieth anniversary of its founding, a series of events has been planned for this year. If you haven't visited Cleland for a while, this would be a great time to go!

Coming highlights include

- **22 September—20 October** Natural History Art exhibition
- **2 October** Every Generation Seniors Day—free entry to Cleland Wildlife Park for holders of Seniors Cards
- **2-8 October** Healthy Parks, Healthy People Spring Wildflower Walk—a self guided walk from Cleland Wildlife Park to Mt Lofty Summit

ABRA Family Day **Symonds Reserve, October 20**

Come along and support this local community event!

Friends of Aldinga Scrub will have a stand at the fair. If you would like to help promote our group, please contact Joy on 8557 7275.

Financial Report as at 12 August 2007

Balance at 13/06/07	\$15033.51
Balance at 12/08/07	\$15048.94
Less Grants Unspent	\$9933.00
Available funds	\$51115.94

Coming events – General Meetings

Thursday, 11 October, 2007

Peter Matejic from the SA Herpetology Group will speak about reptiles.

Thursday, 8 November, 2007

The topic for Annette Vincent from the Museum of SA will be "Ants and Art"

Coming events – Working Bees

Working bees are now in full swing for 2007. Groups meet each Tuesday morning, and also at weekends.

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