



PO Box 33, Aldinga Beach 5173

## *Friends Group of the Decade 1993 - 2003*

**President:** Julie Burgher 8556 5782  
**Secretary:** Helen McSkimming 8556 3166  
**Treasurer:** Neville Hudson 8556 6782

Vol. 14 No. 5

**NEWSLETTER**

October/November 2009

### **Recent Meetings**

John Ackers chaired our meeting on 6 August, but regrettably our scheduled speaker, Dale Hobbs, was not able to attend due to illness. Dale has offered to talk to our group at a later time.

Bob Moore chaired our meeting on 3 September, where members of the Friends of Aldinga Scrub monitoring group gave a presentation about their activities. Joy Forrest gave an account of the history of the group, which commenced with a training workshop provided by the Nature Conservation Council of SA in 2006. The first site in ASCP was established with the support of Janet Pedlar, and two additional sites are now being monitored each year.

Boundaries and photo points have been established for each of the 900m<sup>2</sup> sites. Indicators which are being monitored include species diversity, weed levels and threats, ground cover extent, canopy cover, regeneration, habitat, feral animal abundance, grazing pressures and bushland degradation risk.

While the bushland degradation risk score was high in most instances, the monitoring team noted some regeneration even in bad years, which was a positive sign.

### **Help wanted!**

#### **2009/2010 growers**

Helpers are needed to collect boxes on distribution day, to fill tubes on tube filling day, and to propagate seedlings during the forthcoming season.

Support is available for novice growers, so please let us know if you would like to be involved. Please contact Julie on 8556 5782 if you are able to help with any of these activities.

#### **Walking group leaders**

FoAS will be leading two walks in ASCP during October.

Saturday 17 October—Aldinga on Display  
Guided walks for members of the Aldinga Community at half-hourly intervals from 10 am.

Sunday 18 October—Celebrating Seniors  
Guided walk hosted by the Cherry Gardens Garden Club for up to 50 people at 10 am.

Please contact Helen on 8556 3166 if you can help lead a group on either of these days.



## **Thank you Paxton Wines!**

We are extremely grateful for the generosity of Paxton Wines, who have once again nominated Friends of Aldinga Scrub as their recipients under the '1% for the Planet' scheme.

In 2009, Paxton Wines are donating \$13,500, which we plan to spend on revegetation of the southern corner of Aldinga Scrub adjacent to Wattle Street.

Staff from Paxton Wines are keen to learn more about Aldinga Scrub, and we are looking forward to showing them where their donation will be spent, as well as some of our earlier projects.

## 2009 New residents' walk

Thank you to all our Friends who contributed to this very successful day. Over 60 people enjoyed the walk and the informal gathering which followed.

Special thanks to the Bendigo Bank for sponsoring this event with a \$400 donation, and to the Aldinga Beach Holiday Park who provided the perfect venue for the après walk afternoon tea.



### Do you have room in your shed to house our ride-on mower?

We would prefer a location close to the Scrub, but please let us know if you have any space where the mower could be safely stored and accessible for working bees.

From the committee ...

- Council has constructed a levee along the eastern boundary of ASCP to prevent overflow from the Hart Road wetland flooding into the neighbouring vineyards. The levee has held water inside the Park and created a series of shallow ponds where plant and bird life are flourishing.
- FoAS have responded to an invitation to provide comment on the DEH Fire Management Plan for Reserves of the Onkaparinga Valley. Members at our August meeting voted overwhelmingly to oppose any prescribed burn in ASCP.

### Coming events – General Meetings Aldinga Library at 7:30 pm

#### Thursday, 8 October

Andrew MacKinnon from Friends of Onkaparinga Park will speak about the group and their activities.

#### Thursday, 12 November

Heidi Hackworth from Earth Greetings will speak about eco-friendly stationery.

### Park news

Lupins have been mowed and hand weeded on the northern boundary. Working bees are attacking boxthorn and boneseed. Our contractor is continuing his work spraying bridal creeper and removing olives.

We have purchased a drill and drill bits to assist with treatment of olives.

This has been a particularly good year for orchids. Members of the Native Orchid Society of South Australia recently visited Aldinga Scrub, and were very impressed with the number of orchids they found.

### Financial Report as at 31 July 2009

Funds held at Bendigo Bank, Aldinga	
Club Cheque account	\$1641.78
Extra Cash Management account	<u>8139.73</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>\$9781.51</b>

### Coming events – Working Bees Every Tuesday

Working bees are in full swing, and are held regularly on Tuesday mornings. Your help would be greatly appreciated!

Please contact John on 8556 4385 if you would like more information about where the groups will be working each week.