



PO Box 33, Aldinga Beach 5173

## Friends Group of the Decade 1993 - 2003

President: Julie Burgher 8556 5782  
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Treasurer: Neville Hudson 8556 6782

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## NEWSLETTER

December 2009/January 2010

### Recent Meetings

Our October meeting was chaired by Pam Rowney and attended by 10 members.

Andy McKinnon and Rick Williams from the Friends of Onkaparinga Park spoke to us about their park and the work done by the group. Onkaparinga consists of two sections, the National Park of 1545 ha, and the Recreation Park of 285 ha. Some 500 species of indigenous plants are found in the Parks, while some 204 bird species have been recorded. Fauna include koalas, kangaroos, echidnas, possums, water rats, snakes and fish.

Major projects undertaken by the group include direct seeding, weed removal, Waterwatch monitoring, erosion control and maintenance of visitor facilities. The Rehabilitation Plan has supported \$400,000 of work, spent on removal of weeds and revegetation. Targeted weeds include the non-indigenous *Casuarina glauca* and the encroaching Texas needle grass.

The group has about 100 members, holding monthly meetings and three working bees a week. Friends also participate in fundraising and social activities.

Rick showed us the excellent maps he has produced for Onkaparinga and Aldinga Scrub, which display features such as fire history, contours and walking trails.

Neville Hudson chaired our November meeting which was attended by 13 members.

Heidi Hackworth from 'earth greetings' spoke to the meeting about the development of her company which produces environmentally friendly stationery.

When Heidi began her business in 2003, she was shocked to find how destructive the production of regular paper is to the environment, and how difficult it is to source environmentally-friendly alternatives. However, she did a great deal of research, and eventually found both suitable papers and printers who used vegetable inks.

Heidi explained that recycled paper comes from two sources. It may be pre-consumer off-cuts, which are re-milled, or it may be post-consumer waste which is saved from landfill to be reused. Heidi believes that 100% post-consumer paper is the best environmental choice. Heidi also spoke about potential alternative sources of paper which include hemp, kenaf, banana stalks or sugarcane.

As consumers become more aware of the devastating impacts of the production of virgin paper, they are welcoming 'green as the new black' in paper and stationery products.

### Tube filling day

We have hundreds of tubes just waiting to be filled in preparation for our 2009/2010 propagation program. Lots of opportunity for chatting and sharing stories while the work gets done! You're invited to bring a plate and stay for a lunch with the Friends.



7 Palmer Street  
Sunday 22 November  
from 10.00 am.

Join us this Sunday!

### Breakfast on the Beach



Come along to our traditional end-of-year event!

Sunday 6 December from 9.00 am

You'll find us at the old shack site at the bottom of the path leading down to the beach opposite Ocean Street.

Bring your own everything (food drink, chairs, tables).

### Friends leading the way!

We have had a very high number of requests for guided walks this year.

Visitors were introduced to Aldinga Scrub on walks held during Aldinga on Display and Seniors Week. We were also pleased to lead a group of people from Paxton Wines who enjoyed the opportunity to learn more about the importance of Aldinga Scrub and to see examples of our revegetation work.

In addition, we have continued to take groups of students through the Park.

Thanks to all Friends who have helped with the planning and leading of these walks.

### From the committee ...

- We have noted that a damaged plank on the Coral Lichen Circuit boardwalk has not yet been repaired. We are asking DEH to attend to this matter as we believe it poses a safety risk to visitors.
- We have received reports of motor bikes being ridden along the new eastern boundary track, and also gun shots from this part of the Park. We will continue to monitor these issues. If any Friends see or hear evidence of these activities, please contact a committee member.

### Southern Lofty District Friends & Volunteers

#### *Volunteer Thankyou BBQ*

*Karika Pavilion*

*Belair National Park*

*Monday 7 December 2009, from 4:30pm*



If you would like to join Friends from throughout the District to celebrate the successes of 2009, please contact Helen on 8556 3166 by 23 November.

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

There are no further meetings for 2009.

Meetings resume in February, please look for details in our next newsletter.

We look forward to another year of interesting speakers and lively discussion. See you in 2010!

Colin Pitman, leading expert on storm water aquifer storage, will address the topic

### “The balancing act - the environment on a knife edge”

**Fleurieu Visitors' Centre,  
Main Road, McLaren Vale  
Wednesday, 18 November from 2pm.**

Speakers from the City of Onkaparinga will present Council's approach to water management in our area.

RSVP by 16 November  
Willunga Environment Centre on 8556 4188.



### Park news

Our contractors have finished their work for 2009, and once again have done excellent work on our behalf.

Tony Patterson has continued attacking bridal creeper and woody weeds, while Rebekah Crawford has continued her work in removing veldt grass in the vicinity of the Coral Lichen Circuit. If you take a walk along the CLC, you can see very clearly just how effective Rebekah's work has been.

We have applied for grants to allow Tony and Rebekah to undertake more work next year. Thank you to Tony and Rebekah for their ongoing commitment to Aldinga Scrub!

### Financial Report as at 30 September 2009

Funds held at Bendigo Bank, Aldinga	
Club Cheque account	\$1969.74
Extra Cash Management account	<u>8163.94</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>\$10,133.68</b>

### Coming events – Working Bees Summer tasks

Working bees will ease off during the warmer months. However there are still some jobs to be done, and your help would be greatly appreciated!

Please see notices in this newsletter or contact John on 8556 4385 if you would like more information about how you can help.