



PATRON: DARRELL KRAEHENBUEHL

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

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NEWSLETTER

April 2010

Recent Meetings

Bill Rowland chaired our meeting on 10 February, which was the first meeting for 2010. Bill welcomed 12 members to the meeting.

Our guest speaker was Neville Hudson, who spoke about his trip with the Scientific Expedition Group to Arkaroola in 2009. During September and October the group conducted surveys on a remote area of the Flinders Ranges which has been set aside as a private wilderness sanctuary by the Sprigg family.

Early settlers took out pastoral leases, as well as prospecting for minerals. In 1910, uranium was discovered at Mt Painter and Mt Gee. Marathon Resources now want to mine these deposits, but there are serious environmental concerns about threats to this fragile region.

The expeditioners were based at the Arkaroola homestead. Wallabies, euros, echidnas, birds and reptiles, as well as a wide range of vegetation species, were recorded at the monitoring sites and valuable scientific data was gathered.

Neville appreciated the opportunity of supporting a team of expert scientists in their research, while at the same time experiencing the joys of camping in this unique location.

Our AGM was held on 11 March. Bob Moore welcomed 14 members and 2 visitors to the meeting.

In her President's report, Julie Burgher provided a summary of the year's highlights. Once again FoAS have been involved in community events such as the Almond Blossom Festival and Aldinga on Display. We have also conducted another highly successful 'Welcome Walk' for new residents. We were honoured to be nominated in 2009 by Paxton Wines for their '1% for the Planet' donation and this year received \$13,500 to support our rehabilitation projects.

Kate Parkin from TFL kindly officiated for the election of officers. All committee members were re-elected, while John Ackers was elected as a new member of the committee. Outgoing committee member Pam Rowney was thanked for her contribution over the past 4 years.

Ranger Kat Mroczek reported on the progress of the boardwalk upgrade, which will be completed in the next few months. Kat also advised us that DEH have made a commitment to upgrade their out of hours compliance patrols in ASCP, targeting dogs and cyclists in particular.

Looking for information about SAMPIT?

Find out more at our meeting on 8 April!

Join us at the special time of 7:00 pm, when Marine Parks project officer, Sarah Bignell will provide a hands-on demonstration of the SAMPIT (South Australia's Marine Parks Information Tool) software in the computing corner of the Aldinga Library.

Following the demonstration, the meeting will commence at about 8:00 pm. Sarah will provide a brief overview of the developments in the Marine Parks scheme.

Come along at 7:00 pm if you would like to learn how to use SAMPIT, or at 8:00 pm for our regular meeting.



Park news

The NRM Board has allocated \$4000 to be spent in ASCP this year. Funds will be used to eradicate woody weeds and pyp grass on the foredunes above the Esplanade.

DEH have engaged contractors for the upgrade of the Coral Lichen Circuit boardwalk, and work should be completed in the next few months.

Working bee groups have targeted boneseed throughout the Park, and removed bulrushes in the Acacia Terrace wetland. New plantings on the northern boundary have been watered several times during the summer.

DEH have been monitoring and spraying at the sites of last year's prescribed burns.

From the committee ...

- We have received three grants for 2010 projects:

City of Onkaparinga—\$500 to produce a special promotional newsletter

NRM—\$10000 for Veldt grass eradication

Caring for Country—\$20000 to continue eradicating bridal creeper and woody weeds

- A group of some 70 landscape architecture students from University of Adelaide visited ASCP recently to learn about the unique features of our Park.

- DEH have advised that they are planning another prescribed burn on the eastern boundary in the spring of this year.

- We have been asked by the NRM Board to help them celebrate Volunteers Week by hosting a guided walk for volunteers in our region on Sunday 16 May.

- Along with TFL, we have written to the City of Onkaparinga requesting information about the progress of the Washpool rehabilitation project.

2010 Annual Friends Forum

Woomera "Stony Desert"

This year's Forum is to be held in Woomera from 20–23 August. It is essential to register your interest if you are thinking of attending to ensure you do not miss out on accommodation and tours.

If you would like more information about the Forum, please contact Helen on 8556 3166.

Financial Report as at 31 January 2010

Funds held at Bendigo Bank, Aldinga	
Club Cheque account	\$1165.64
Extra Cash Management account	\$21828.16
Total funds	\$22993.80

A friendly reminder — all subs are now due!



Please post the attached renewal slip with your payment, or hand to any committee member.

Your ongoing support will help us to care for Aldinga Scrub.

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

Thursday, 8 April 2010 at 7:00 pm
Sarah Bignell from the Natural Resources Management Board will demonstrate SAMPIT.

Thursday, 13 May 2010
Tina Bentz from the Nature Conservation Council will talk about her 'Woodland Birds' study.

Coming events – Working Bees Every Tuesday

Working bees are being held on a regular basis now that the cooler weather is here. Join us 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.