



PATRON: DARRELL KRAEHEBUEHL

President: Julie Burgher 8556 5782
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NEWSLETTER

December 2010

Recent Meetings

Our October meeting was chaired by Julie Burgher. The meeting was attended by 12 members, and we were very pleased to welcome 15 visitors to this special meeting.

Our guest speaker was Colin Cock from Friends of Onkaparinga Park, who presented a talk based on his photographs of 'Birds of the Southern Vales'.

Colin opened his talk by describing the cameras and lenses he uses for his photography. He then showed slides of a vast number of birds, including water birds (varieties of black swan, grebe, coot, dotterel, plover, cormorant), scrub birds (including honeyeater, mistletoe bird, spinebill, thrush, whistler, robin, thornbill) and raptors (kite, kestrel, sparrowhawk, falcon, osprey), all of which Colin has photographed in the Southern Vales and Fleurieu.

Colin spoke of the patience and persistence required to put together a comprehensive collection such as his. The best light for bird photography is in the early morning or late afternoon, but Colin has his camera with him at all times! He captures birds in all situations; in flight, in the nest, sitting on fences, telegraph poles and in trees.

Colin's photographs depicted the stunning profusion of birdlife in our region which reminded us of how fortunate we are to live in this unique environment.

Bob Moore chaired our November meeting, which was attended by 12 members and 2 visitors.

Graham Thomas, a member of Friends of Onkaparinga Park, spoke to us about his expedition to Antarctica earlier this year. He travelled aboard the Heritage Expeditions Polar Research vessel "Professor Khromov" which departed from New Zealand.

Graham showed breathtaking photographs of the sub-Antarctic islands he visited, including Auckland, Enderby, and Macquarie Islands, and the Ross Ice Shelf, the southern most navigable point on earth. The majestic ice shelf is some 300 miles across and rises 100 feet high above the sea.

Throughout the journey, Graham saw a fantastic array of flora and fauna. His photographs included giant kelp, lichens and orchids, seals and sea lions, and countless birds from king penguins to albatross with wingspans of 7 feet. On Enderby Island, Graham was able to photograph the yellow eyed penguin, the world's rarest penguin.

Although expeditioners were requested to observe a "5 metre rule", it was fortunate for Graham that many of the animals were not aware of the rule, and he was able to take captivating photos at very close range of creatures who wanted to check him out!

You are invited to our traditional end of year gathering

Breakfast on the Beach Sunday 5 December from 9:00 am

Pack your picnic basket and join us as we celebrate another successful year for Friends of Aldinga Scrub!

We will be gathering at the old shack site at the bottom of the pathway leading down to the beach opposite Ocean Street. BYO everything (food, drink, chairs, tables).

Contact Helen on 8556 3166 for more information

New Friends especially welcome!



Congratulations to the winners of our

ENVIRONMENTAL PHOTO COMPETITION

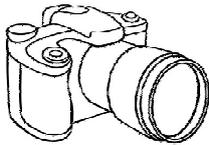
Adult

- 1st **Ann Houghton** "*Crested Shrike-tit*"
2nd **Davey Storm Edwards** "*Caleana major, Duck
Orchid*"

Commendation:

Chris Hoad "*A quiet moment --Crested Pigeons*"

13-18 years



- 1st **Maddie Collins**
*Rugged Coastline at
Beachport, SA*
2nd **Gemma Ingoldby-Craig**
Brown Falcon

Under 12

- 1st **Tyler Cox** "*Snapper Point rock crab*"
2nd **Ida Moore** "*Snotty Gobbler*"

Commendations:

Ida Moore "*Scrub Life*"
Oceah Wolf-Davis "*White Patterns*"

Congratulations to all winners! And thank you to all the other entrants for your excellent photographs.

All entries will be on display at the
Aldinga Central Shopping Centre from
Monday 29 November to Saturday 4 December.

Annual tube filling day

Sunday 28 November at 7 Palmer Street
from 10:00 am

Bring lunch to share when the work is done.

Contact Julie on 8556 5782 for more information.

All welcome!



Park news

Weeding of annual grasses in the Paxton Patch and the northern boundary continues.

DENR are engaging a contractor to undertake priority weed removal (bridal creeper, boneseed, Rhamnus) during November.

A new 'no-bikes' sign has been placed at the entrance near the Aldinga Holiday Park, another sign has been requested for the western end of the Boomerang fire track.

A sign is being prepared for the Paxton Patch fence to inform people about the project and to acknowledge our sponsors, Paxton Wines and Green Corps.

We are seeking an update from City of Onkaparinga in regard to the channel which was dug along the eastern boundary to alleviate flooding.

From the committee ...

- council is planning to develop wetlands along the Port Willunga Creek line as a project under the Waterproofing the South initiative.
- we have an entry in the Willunga Uniting Church Christmas Tree Festival, Friends are encouraged to view the display and vote!
- FoAS have been asked to participate in a groundwater study of the Willunga Basin being undertaken by a research team based at Australian National and Charles Sturt Universities.

Financial Report as at 31 September 2010

Funds held at Bendigo Bank, Aldinga	
Club Cheque account	\$280.31
Extra Cash Management account	\$19,634.39
Total funds	\$19,914.70

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

Thursday, 10 February 2011
David Gill from Friends of Willunga Basin will give an update on the proposed Willunga Basin walking trail.

Thursday, 10 March 2011
Annual General Meeting—presentation of reports and election of officers

Coming events – Working Bees Now on Mondays until further notice!

Working bees will resume in the new year after a recess during the warmer months.

Please contact John on 8556 4385 over the summer period if you would like more information about working bee activities for 2011. We would very much welcome some extra hands to help with the field work!