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NEWSLETTER

October 2011

Don't miss these interesting speakers at our last General Meetings for 2011!

13 October 2011

Kazz Benson from the Native Animal Network of SA will speak to Friends at our October meeting. **NANSA provides a wildlife rescue, care and information service, and Kazz is one of the large number of dedicated volunteers who provide a 24hour/7day service for sick, injured or orphaned native animals. She may bring one or two of the animals currently in her care!**

10 November 2011

Our November speaker will be Melinda Morris, who is the Senior Environmental Geologist with URS Australia. Melinda is currently studying the intrusion of seawater into the Willunga Basin coastal fringe. She will speak about her early results, which indicated that Aldinga Scrub functions as a 'sand island' experiencing little seawater intrusion, and her more recent findings along the coast.

Our meetings are held in the
Community Room
Aldinga Library
at 7:30pm each month
(February to November)

All welcome!

Meander through Milang

The eighteen Friends who journeyed to Milang on 18 September enjoyed a gentle stroll along the beautiful Milang foreshore, a fascinating tour of the Turtle Shed, and a very congenial lunch at the Milang Hotel!

Karen Bradford, our highly knowledgeable and committed guide, spoke about the establishment of the Lakes Hub project which coordinates groups scattered around the shores of Lakes Alexandrina and Albert. This group has achieved amazing results in revegetation and monitoring projects, school-based activities, and community engagement and training. Karen told us about the devastation of the biodiversity around the lakes during the drought period, and the great relief experienced by the community as the levels in the lakes have risen again.

A highlight of the day was the tour of the Turtle Shed in the grounds of the Eastern Fleurieu School. Here we heard about the rescue efforts of children at the Milang school who have scraped encrustations weighing up to 3 kg from the backs of thousands of long-necked and short-necked turtles. These coral-like calcium deposits, which are built up by marine tubeworms thriving in the very high levels of salinity in the lakes, will eventually cause the death of the turtle if not removed.



Karen speaking to Friends about the Hub Lakes projects

on this weekend!!!

Willunga Environment Expo - 8 & 9 October

see <http://www.willungaenviro.org.au/> for full details

Important dates for your diary!

Sunday 13 November

TFL Distribution Day

Tatachilla Lutheran College
from 8.30 am

Assist with the distribution of kits to TFL growers for the coming season. Stay on for the light lunch which is provided for all volunteers.

Sunday 27 November

Tube Filling Day

Julie's place (7 Palmer Street) from 10:30 am

Come along and help to fill tubes with soil for our 2011/12 growing season. Bring a plate and stay for a shared lunch.

Sunday 4 December

Breakfast on the Beach

Venue to be advised, see December newsletter

Join us at this informal gathering where we will celebrate a very successful year of working together to care for Aldinga Scrub.

From the committee ...

- we are planning to get *The Aldinga Scrub Conservation Park* reprinted, as the booklet is nearly out of print. First published nearly 20 years ago, the 'green book' continues to guide and inform us about Aldinga Scrub, and we are hoping to be able to maintain the existing price.
- signage continues to be an issue in our park. Our ranger Dennis is preparing new signs for the Dover Street entry, which will provide general information about ASCP and more detailed information about the Lacy Coral Lichen. We have also asked DENR to upgrade signs at various entry points to clearly convey the message that dogs are not permitted in ASCP.
- council has approached us about maintenance required at the Acacia Terrace wetland. We have offered to meet with council officers to discuss assisting with removal of silt which has built up at the main inlet into the ponds.

Park news

- this spring we are conducting a number of guided walks for visitors. In early September, we participated in the Bushcare's Major Day Out event, while in October we will be providing a walk in conjunction with the Willunga Environment Expo, and another for members of the Willunga National Trust.
- working bee members have encountered and dismantled numerous cubby houses in the last few weeks. Some have been quite substantial, with freshly cut branches and limbs being used in their construction.
- fox numbers have increased this year. NRM have engaged a contractor, Bob Curley, to traverse the Park to locate fox dens which are to be fumigated.
- NRM officer Emma Stephens has established a bushland monitoring site in the foredunes adjacent to the Esplanade boardwalk.
- an automatic weather station is currently being installed in ASCP to the west of the Aldinga Holiday Park. Once it becomes operational, the results will be automatically updated on the Super Science website.

Working Bees Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am

Working bees are held on a regular basis during the cooler weather — and we would greatly appreciate your help!

Please contact John on 0488 552 797 if you would like more information about where the groups will be working each week.

Financial Report as at 31 July 2011

Funds held at Bendigo Bank, Aldinga

Club Cheque account	\$1229.80
Extra Cash Management account	\$9778.75
Fixed Deposit account	\$15000.00
Total funds	\$26008.55



Visit our website at www.angelfire.com/journal/aldingascrub

