



PATRON: DARRELL KRAEHENBUEHL

President: John Ackers 8556 6776
Secretary: Helen McSkimming 8556 3166
Treasurer: Neville Hudson 8556 6782

Volume 19 No. 3

NEWSLETTER

June 2014

Coming meetings

Thursday 12 June

Save the southern hairy nosed wombat!

Dr Peter Clements is a member of the Natural History Association of South Australia which manages five wildlife reserves for the preservation of wombats and other native fauna. Peter will talk about the campaign which has seen the return of some 2000 hairy nosed wombats to the Moorunde Wildlife Reserve near Blanchetown. Don't miss this special meeting with our very esteemed guest speaker!

Thursday 10 July

Scenes of the west

FoAS member and renowned photographer Julie Burgher will present images of her 2013 travels around Western Australia, highlighting the scenery and biodiversity of the north-western region.

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

All welcome!

Visit to Laratinga Wetlands



On a beautiful calm and mild autumn day, a group of Friends visited the Laratinga Wetlands at Mount Barker. We were very pleased that our Ranger Steve was able to join us. Our walk was led by Emma Cope, Environmental Officer with the District Council of Mt Barker, who has a comprehensive knowledge of the development of the wetlands and the ecology of the wetland system. Emma spoke about the involvement of the many volunteer groups, including corporate businesses, schools, clubs, bird watchers and church groups, who help care for the wetlands. A native nursery is being constructed and will be open for the general public to use.

First established in 1999, the wetland and surrounds have now become an increasingly important area for locals, visitors and native wildlife. Attractive interpretive signage acknowledges the Peramangk People and assists visitors to learn about the wetlands. Feral predators are generally well controlled, although a troublesome fox was recently exterminated.

Following the walk, Friends enjoyed a convivial lunch at nearby Gray's Inn.

Our thanks to all who helped to organise this day. Everyone agreed that the Laratinga Wetlands was a place we would like to visit again!

2014 Planting day
Sunday 15 June
Paxton Patch at 10:00 am

Come along and help us plant out this year's seedlings. Bring gloves, buckets, trowels (if you have them).

Enter the park through Gate 9 at the corner of Wattle Avenue and Acacia Terrace.



For more information,
please contact Julie on
8556 5782.

New website for
Friends of Aldinga Scrub!



Our thanks to Chris Collin who very generously volunteered his expertise and time to develop our new website. An exciting feature of the website is that we are now able to add photographs to the online gallery.

Do you have some special photos you would like to add to our website? Julie will be managing the photo gallery and she would welcome your contributions.

Also check out the website for downloadable maps, brochures and species lists for Aldinga Scrub, as well as news about our upcoming events.

Thanks also to Bendigo Bank for providing funds to assist with the costs of setting up the website.

www.friendsofaldingascrub.com.au

News from the committee

- The long awaited Biodiversity Management Plan for Aldinga Scrub Conservation Park has recently been published. We have a limited number of copies, but anyone who is interested is welcome to borrow one. Electronic copies may be available shortly.
- Members of the committee met recently with our Ranger, Steve Johnson and our NRM Liaison officer, Jodie Woof. Topics for the meeting included the Biodiversity Plan and the works schedule for 2014.
- FoAS participated in the Willunga 175 Fair on 4 May. Our appealing and informative stand in the hall attracted a good deal of interest.
- The committee is concerned about flooding in Dover Street and inside the western boundary of the Park each winter as a result of water overflowing from the inadequate pond in the Sunday estate. We have recommended to council that this water should be pumped directly from the pond to the Hart Road wetland **before** it reaches the point of overflowing.
- A group of committee members will be meeting with NRM Coastal Officer Emma Stephens in June to discuss plans for this year's dune rehabilitation.

Park news

- The bushland monitoring group will be surveying their three sites again this year from June to August. The group has been recording biodiversity at these sites for 10 years. If you are interested in their findings, please ask to see the records.
- Propagation has been patchy this year, but we have plenty of healthy seedlings ready to be planted on our planting day in June.
- Rubbish is regularly picked up during working bees, the group has recently been concentrating on clearing rubbish from the northern boundary plantings and the eastern area near the holiday park.
- Woody weeds around the Nardoo lake on the eastern boundary have been tagged to help our contractors quickly locate them.

Working Bees

Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am

Working bees will continue on Tuesday mornings over the autumn period, weather permitting.

If you are available to help, please contact John each week on 0488 552 797 to find where the group will be working.

Visit our website at www.friendsofaldingascrub.com.au

