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NEWSLETTER

February 2017

Coming meetings

Thursday 9 February
Discover bats in ASCPI

Note that this field trip will be held in place of our regular February meeting.

Join us as we walk through Aldinga Scrub in the early evening with SA Museum's bat expert, Terry Reardon. We'll be using our new equipment to locate and identify local bat species

Please see Page 2 for further information about how to book your place for this field trip.

*COMMENCING IN MARCH 2017,
ALL FUTURE FOAS MEETINGS WILL BE
HELD IN THE NEW ALDINGA LIBRARY
(SEE PAGE 2)*

Thursday 9 March
Annual General Meeting

At this important meeting, we review the past year and elect officers for the forthcoming year. Following the formal proceedings, we will have the chance to chat over a light supper.

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!

Celebrate World Wetlands Day!

ALDINGA WASHPOOL LAGOON



COMMUNITY FORUM

Sunday 5 February from 2.00 till 5.00 pm

Facilitated by the Aldinga Washpool and Silver Sands Heritage group (AWASSH!), this forum will provide a fantastic opportunity to learn about the Kurna heritage of the Washpool and Blue Lagoon, and the amazing way the plants, water bugs, frogs and birds adapt to the alternating flooding and drying out of the Washpool each winter and summer.

Aldinga Washpool is a hidden treasure, nestled between Aldinga Scrub and Sellicks Beach, that many locals remain unaware of, let alone recognise how important it is to the health of Aldinga Scrub or Aldinga Reef. They're all protected areas enabling many native plants and animals to flourish right on our doorstep. Right now we're hoping to raise the profile and understanding of the community, as the State Government is taking significant steps to give the Washpool the recognition it deserves, and finally resolve the challenges that have threatened its existence, or allowed it to languish uncared for over many decades.

For more information about the forum, please phone Peter on 8556 3915 or email at jmpe@internode.on.net. Thanks to Peter providing the publicity for this event.

To find out more about **World Wetlands Day** go to <http://www.worldwetlandsday.org/>.

Further information about the Bats Field Trip to be held on Thursday 9 February

Friends may recall that in 2016 we received a grant from the City of Onkaparinga to purchase bat monitoring equipment. Late in the year, several of us attended a workshop run in conjunction with the Willunga Environment Centre, where Terry Reardon spoke about bats of our region and introduced us to the monitoring equipment.



Terry has kindly offered to lead a field trip where we can learn more about the bats and the equipment. Terry is keen to record the data we gather from Aldinga Scrub as this area has not been monitored in the past.

As we need to be sure that we can manage the numbers of people who are interested, you are asked to book for this field trip by contacting Neville on 8556 6782 or at info@friendsofaldingascrub.com.au. Further details about meeting arrangements will be provided when you book your place.

Watch out for these exciting events in 2017

We're celebrating
our 30th birthday!



During the year, we will be holding some special events to mark the occasion. More details will be provided in our forthcoming newsletters.

Washpool website to be launched!

A component of our grant to promote the Washpool includes funding the development of a website dedicated to the Washpool Lagoon

Through the website, you'll be able to learn the about the history of the Lagoon and view some fabulous images taken by our talented photographers.

Not sure where to find our new meeting room?

The new Aldinga Library is immediately to the north of its current location. You'll be able to access the building from the northern entrance on the 'Central Way' roadway.

Come along to our AGM in March and experience the state-of-the-art facilities which are provided in the new building!



Forthcoming AGM — all positions vacant!

Would you like to join our friendly committee, but not sure what it involves?

Just have a chat to any of the current committee members, we'd love to welcome new members for 2017.

Working Bees Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am

Working bees will continue on Tuesday mornings throughout the summer months, 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

