



PATRON: DARRELL KRAEHEBUEHL

President: Michael Lawton 0401 118 383
Secretary: Helen McSkimming 8556 3166
Treasurer: Neville Hudson 8556 6782

Volume 22 No. 2

NEWSLETTER

April 2017

Coming meetings

Thursday 13 April Fungi of the Adelaide region

Thelma Bridle, who is a member of Friends of Aldinga Scrub and Secretary of the Adelaide Fungal Studies Group, will tell us all about fungi. These relatively little-known organisms play very important roles in the environment with 90-95% of plants dependent on partnerships with fungi. Some fungi are important to humans, especially those with culinary or medicinal values, and they are also nature's great recyclers!

Thursday 11 May Reptiles of the Adelaide region

Peter Matejic is the President of the Field Naturalists Society of South Australia, and he also leads the SA Herpetology Group. Peter will be speaking to us about the taxonomic features of Adelaide's reptile species and sharing biodiversity ideas about the Sellicks Aldinga Noarlunga region.

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

Bats field trip

On a balmy February evening, some 20 Friends gathered in ASCP with Terry Reardon, expert bat man from the South Australian Museum, to find out more about the bats in our Park. In three locations near the Acacia Terrace wetland, Terry showed us how he erects harp traps and mist nets. While he was doing this, he spoke about the bats in our area and their habitats and behaviours. As the sun began to set, Terry dispersed the group to monitor each of the nets. We were very lucky to trap a Lesser Long-eared bat (*Nyctophilus geoffroyi*) in the mist net, which Terry held while we all had a close look. The bat was then released into the night. Under the light of many torches and headlamps, the traps were taken down and folded back into their carry bags.

The knowledge we gained from our evening with Terry will be extremely helpful as we become more proficient and experienced in using our recently purchased bat monitors.

We were very grateful to Terry for providing this opportunity for a field trip and we look forward to acting as 'field assistants' for any future monitoring sessions which he may organise in Aldinga Scrub.



Terry explains to the group how the traps are set up before we head into the Park

Committee for 2017/2018 elected at Annual General Meeting

Our AGM was held on 9 March at the new Aldinga Library. The meeting was attended by 15 Friends and visitors. Following the reports presented by our President and Treasurer, elections were held for positions on the committee.

The committee for the forthcoming year will be:-

President:	Michael Lawton	Committee members:	Julie Burgher	Joy Forrest
Secretary:	Helen McSkimming		John Edmeades	Aidan Bradford
Treasurer:	Neville Hudson			

Lyndsay Seal and Rod Grandison, both regular members of our working bee crew, decided not to continue on the committee and we thank them for their contributions over the past year.



Positions vacant — growers needed for 2017!

Our tube-filling day was held in December last year and the boxes are now ready for sowing. Our focus this year is on propagating grasses.

Growing seedlings is a great activity to involve younger children, and assistance and advice is always available. If your family would like to be involved, please contact John on 0488 552 797.

Experienced growers are also welcome to re-apply!

Committee news

- Despite considerable community opposition, the Sellicks Beach Motorcycle Race went ahead on a damp and windy weekend in February. Some 3,000 people attended the event which was well below the anticipated 10,000. Fortunately grandstands were not erected and there was less competition for amenities and parking spaces around the event site. However, the noise and disruption to local residents was significant. It is to be hoped that the lack of support for the event will cause the promoters to reconsider holding the event every two years.
- The Washpool Forum held in February was highly successful. Over 100 people attended the event and heard a range of very informative speakers talk about flora and fauna of the Washpool, and the future of this unique wetland. Attendees were very pleased to hear Brenton Grear, our DEWNR Regional Director, commit to the amalgamation of titles held by various state and local agencies, and the nomination of conservation status for the Washpool within the next two years.
- Preliminary discussions are currently being held with a view to establishing a working group which could advise Onkaparinga council on environmental issues.

Willunga Christmas Tree Festival

Unfortunately we didn't have enough room in our February edition to show you our beautiful entry in the 2016 Festival. The 'tree' was assembled by our creative team of Neville, June and Joyce to represent the theme 'A Bush Christmas'. If you didn't make it to the Festival, you are encouraged to go to the Friends of Aldinga Scrub website where you can view this photo in full detail.



Membership subscriptions for 2017/2018 now due!

Family	\$15:00	<i>See attached</i>
Individual	\$10:00	<i>renewal notice for</i>
Concession	\$8:00	<i>payment details</i>

Working Bees

Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am

Working bees will continue on Tuesday mornings throughout the autumn 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

