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NEWSLETTER

October 2019

Coming meetings

Thursday 10 October

"NRM projects in the Willunga Basin"

Dana Miles and Wayne Lawrence

Dana and Wayne are local NRM District Officers based at Willunga and they are involved in a wide range of projects within the Willunga Basin. One of Dana's projects has been to support the McLaren Vale Biodiversity Project, while Wayne has been working with the Kangarilla Bandicoot Group. Dana and Wayne will provide us with an update on their projects.

Thursday 14 November

"The green carpenter bee"

Dr Remko Leijs

Remko is an Honorary Research Associate at the South Australian Museum. He will speak to us about the biology and conservation of the green carpenter bee. This species was last seen on mainland South Australia at Aldinga Scrub in 1902. Remko will be talking about the work that he is doing to prevent the bee from going extinct on Kangaroo Island.

Our meetings are held in the St Ann's Church Hall, Aldinga at 7:30 pm on the second Thursday of each month (February to November).

All welcome!

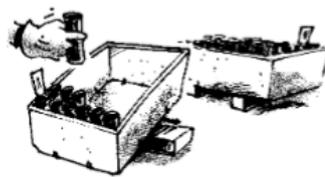
Recognition for John's great commitment!

John devotes many hours each week caring for Aldinga Scrub, and is very active in numerous other environmental groups. His remarkable contribution was acknowledged when he was recently awarded with a Premier's Certificate for Recognition of Outstanding Volunteer Service.



President Michael presenting John with his certificate at our August meeting.

End of year gathering for Friends of Aldinga Scrub



Sunday 1 December
7 Palmer Street
10:00 am onwards

Come along to our tube filling day and stay on for a congenial shared lunch.

All Friends are invited to help fill the tubes for this year's propagation season. The work is not hard and the conversation is always lively!

You are also invited to join us for lunch after the work is done. If you would like to stay, please bring a plate to share. However, you most welcome to arrive or leave at any time.

For more information, please contact Julie on 0418 459 450.

Vale Rex Hoepner

Many Friends will have fond memories of Rex who died on 16 September. Rex was a much-loved member of our committee for several years and a tireless working bee member.

Rex led a relentless crusade against olives in Aldinga Scrub, and on nearby verges and properties. We can thank Rex for the significant reduction in the number of olives we now see in the Scrub!

Rex will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

Music in the Park

Hosted by Gabriella Smart, artistic director of Soundstream and Friend of Aldinga Scrub, this special event provided an opportunity for 4 up-and-coming composers to focus on site-specific music making inspired by the unique surroundings of Aldinga Scrub Conservation Park.

Their music was recorded at the ABC studios in late September and will be broadcast on ABC Classic radio but at the time of print, the dates were not yet available. We will let you know as soon as we are advised. You will definitely not want to miss the chance to hear the evocative sounds of Aldinga Scrub interpreted by 4 very talented composers!

Update on campaign to save Flinders Chase

The fight to stop the inappropriate luxury accommodation development in Flinders Chase National Park continues, and Eco-Action KI need your support. You can read full details of the campaign at Public Parks NOT Private Playgrounds ([https://ppnotpp.org/.](https://ppnotpp.org/))

Although the State Commission Assessment Panel (SCAP) and the Native Vegetation Council (NVC) have approved the development, it's not yet a foregone conclusion. Eco-Action KI have launched a legal challenge against the approvals on the grounds that they are unlawful or invalid for several reasons relating to the Development Act, Native Vegetation Act, and National Parks and Wildlife Act. The aim of the legal challenge and continuing opposition is not to halt the development altogether, simply to have it moved "back on the track" as it was in the original proposal.



To help achieve this, Eco-Action KI have launched another crowd-funding campaign (see details on the website above). Friends of Aldinga Scrub have contributed to the campaign on your behalf but you may also wish to do so personally.

A second rally is being held to show the government that those of us who care about nature and the bush are not going to take this lying down. There are several other Parks where private developments are threatened; we have to take a stand to protect the areas we love and have worked hard to preserve.

JOIN BOB BROWN AT THE RALLY!
Parliament House
North Terrace Adelaide
Thursday 10 October 2019
11am–12pm

Committee news

- The propagating workshop held in September was very successful. Our 4 presenters shared their expertise and enthusiasm with some 30 people from both our group and the wider community. Our thanks to City of Onkaparinga for their contribution towards the funding of this workshop.
- We have received a Volunteer Support Grant to purchase four wildlife cameras to monitor fauna in Aldinga Scrub. The cameras will have flash functions to capture activity at night.
- With the warmer weather approaching, our bat monitors will soon be installed in the park again.
- We have been invited to apply for a grant of \$4600 from the Commonwealth Communities Environment Program. Our project will be to engage Tony from Better Bushland to undertake a targeted attack on bridal creeper in 2020.

News from the Park

- Crews have been busy pulling weeds, completing this season's plantings, and dismantling the cubbies they continue to find in the Park.
- We are currently collating the data gathered each year during our Bushland Condition Monitoring program. Data recorded from over 30 collecting days will be entered in the BCM system, and we are anticipating this data will provide useful information about long-term trends in our 3 locations.

Working Bees Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am

Working bees will continue on Tuesday mornings throughout the spring 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

