

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

Volume 26 No. 1

NEWSLETTER

February 2021

Coming meetings

Thursday 11 February

At our first meeting in 2021, we'll have two speakers from our own group updating us on research activities in Aldinga Scrub.

"Orchid research in ASCP" Thelma Bridle

Calochilus cupreus is a SA endemic Critically Endangered orchid found only in Aldinga Scrub. Close observations of plants were made in 2020 and it is hoped that eventually the Seed Centre will be able to cultivate orchids for translocation, to boost the population.

"Motion Detection Camera Observations in ASCP" Neville Hudson

Neville's presentation will include a brief summary of data collected from over 100 sites. Short videos of native and feral animals will be shared. There will be an emphasis on the location and behaviour of Echidnas.

Thursday 11 March

2021 Annual General Meeting

At this important meeting, we will receive reports about last year's activities, and elect the committee for the coming year.

Following the meeting, we will have a chance to chat with Friends and enjoy a light supper.

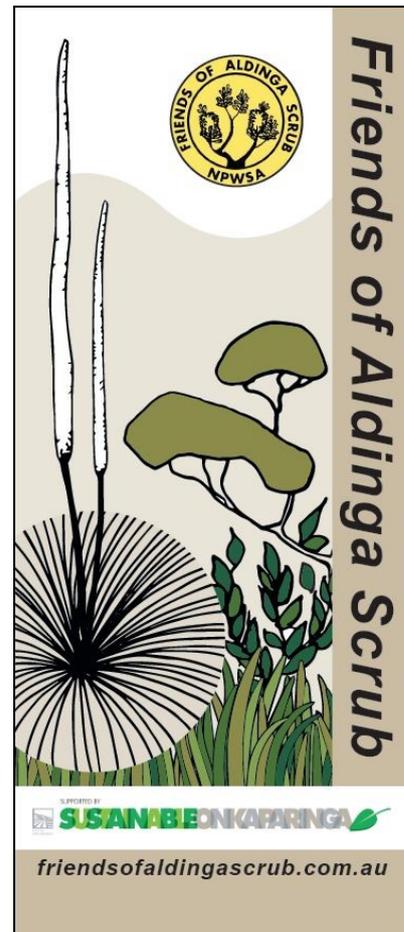
Our meetings are held in the St Ann's Church Hall, Aldinga at 7:30 pm on the second Thursday of each month (February to November).

All welcome!

Come along
to the
launch of
our new
banner

Aldinga Central
Shopping Centre

Saturday
13 February
10:00 am—1:00pm



We were very pleased to receive a grant from the City of Onkaparinga last year to fund the purchase of a pull-up banner which will be used to promote our group.

Julie designed this eye-catching banner which is now ready to be displayed in the community.

We're looking forward to launching the banner at Aldinga Central Shopping Centre where we have booked a space to hand out information, and talk to people about Aldinga Scrub and our Friends group.

We'd love to have lots of Friends at the stand to spread the word about the importance of our unique conservation park and how we help to look after it!

If you would like to join us on 13 February, please contact Helen on 8556 3166.



Photo: Jean Tucker

Summary 2020/21 season

HOODED PLOVERS WASHPOOL AND ONKAPARINGA BEACHES

Sellicks (Washpool, Button Rd)

2nd season 3rd nest; 3 chicks hatched New Years Day; lost to Silver Gulls & unknown causes;
3rd chick lost at 12 days;
2 previous nests lost to ravens taking the eggs;
Adults back on territory (29/01/21).

Aldinga

1st season 2nd nest; 2 chicks hatched Boxing Day, were walked 1.5km N at 2 days old;
Lost to Silver Gull (Day 6) & possibly a fox (Day 8);
No re-nesting as yet.

Northern Onkaparinga Beaches (Summary)

Pt. Willunga Beaches: 2 chicks fledged: 1 each at Pt Willunga N & S;
Maslin: 2 chicks fledged (same nest);
Ochre Cove: 1 chick fledged (was hatched on Maslin and taken N around the point);
Moana: no surviving chicks as yet (01/02/21);
Snapper Point: recent sightings: – mixed Hooded Plover flocks of up to 15 adults & new juveniles are frequenting the reef and rocks along the foreshore, feeding and roosting.

Thanks are due to the dedicated volunteers and also to the co-operation and support from most of the local beach users and dog walkers who have kept their dogs on a leash when passing by the nesting enclosure and banners – a big thank you to you all!! Thanks as well to the City of Onkaparinga Council crews for logistical support and assistance in putting up and taking down the nesting enclosures and signs.

Acknowledgements: 'Friends of the Hooded Plover' local and regional co-ordinators from Onkaparinga Beaches and Fleurieu Peninsula under the auspices of Birdlife Australia and Green Adelaide – contact information:
<https://portal.mybeachbird.com.au/site/index>

Thank you to Dudley for providing this summary report. You can read a full version of Dudley's observations on the Aldinga Washpool Lagoon website at www.aldingawashpool.net.

News from the Park

- Our Ranger Jasmin is finalising the production of trailhead signs which will provide information about the new Boomerang and Wattle Loops. Signs will be placed at the Dover Street carpark (Gate 14) and at each end of the Boomerang Track (Gates 3 and 11) which are the main entry points for visitors.
- We also have a new sign at Gate 11 to remind visitors to the Park that pets are not welcome in ASCP.

Committee news

- Unfortunately numbers were limited at our tube filling day in December last year, due to COVID restrictions. However, a team of 10 Friends worked together to get the 10 boxes filled and ready for propagation
- Our application for a grant under the Green Adelaide program was successful. We have received a very welcome \$10,000 to continue engaging a contractor to treat bridal creeper and woody weeds in 2021.



Working Bees **Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am**

Working bees will continue on Tuesday mornings throughout the summer and autumn months, weather permitting.

If you are available to help, please contact John on 0488 552 797 to find where the group will be working, or ask to be included in our weekly SMS notification list.

Visit our website at www.friendsofaldingascrub.com.au

