



President: Michael Lawton 0401 118 383
Secretary: Helen McSkimming 0434 768 306

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NEWSLETTER

October 2021

Coming meetings

Thursday 14 October

"Fleurieu swamps and the unexpected creativity of science"
Emily McAllan, Filmmaker, artist and photographer

Emily has moved outside of her filmmaking background to pursue science, and has found it to be a surprisingly creative endeavour.

She will discuss her recent volunteer project at a remnant Fleurieu Peninsula Swamp in Mt Compass, and talk about why swamps are such an important and endangered local ecosystem.

This meeting will be held in the St Ann's Church Hall, Aldinga at 7:30 pm.

Thursday 11 November

"BioR: reconstructing habitat for biodiversity"
Dr David Paton, Director, BioR

The Mt Lofty region has been extensively cleared of native vegetation with just 10% of the original habitat remaining. BioR aims to reconstruct structurally and floristically diverse habitats to meet the needs of declining woodland birds.

David will illustrate why additional habitats are needed to prevent further species losses. He will show how these additional habitats can be re-established at the scales needed with broad community support.

Bookings are essential for this meeting. Venue to be advised once numbers are confirmed. Please go to [Eventbrite](#) to book your place. Contact Helen on 0434 768 306 for more information or for help with your booking.

Farewell to our President Michael

We were very sorry to learn from Michael that he is soon to leave Aldinga Beach and move to Victoria, to make his home on Phillip Island.

We have greatly benefited from Michael's considerable knowledge and experience on conservation matters, and have appreciated his leadership as our President since 2016.

Thank you Michael, we wish you the very best as you explore your new environment!

You are invited to our end of year gathering!

Breakfast by the Beach
Sunday 5 December
from 9:00 am



Pack your picnic basket and join us as we celebrate another successful year for Friends of Aldinga Scrub!

We will be meeting at the old shack site at the bottom of the pathway leading down to the beach opposite Ocean Street. BYO everything (food, drink, chairs, tables).

Contact Helen on 0434768306 for more information.



Aussie Backyard Bird Count October 18 - 24

You are invited to participate in one of Australia's biggest citizen science events. Join thousands of people around the country in exploring your backyard, local park or favourite outdoor space and help BirdLife Australia learn more about the birds that live where people live.

Check on the Aussie Backyard Bird Count website to find out more!

Friends active in the community during Spring!



Photo courtesy David Speirs MP

Sunday 19 September

Friends walking with Minister Speirs and local candidate Amy Williams around the Coral Lichen Circuit.

Topics we raised with the Minister included

- managing the problem of numbers of kangaroos which are abundant in Aldinga Scrub and throughout the State
- protecting our unique endangered species
- planning for the Washpool and its proposed integration with Aldinga Scrub
- engaging with our neighbours in a suburban environment



Photo courtesy Aldinga Library

Saturday 18 September

Friends join with Jenny Deans from Cosmophylla Garden Services at Aldinga Library to promote the use of native plants in home gardens



Photo courtesy Aidan Bradford

Saturday 25 September

Friends supporting Nature Conservation Society of SA in conducting a Nature Festival event for community members in Aldinga Scrub

News from the Park

- Our planting program for 2021 is now completed. Seedlings have been planted in the bee enclosures, in the DF enclosure and on the dunes. We have also assisted Green Adelaide with planting at the Washpool.
- Working bee crews have spent 3 mornings grubbing out invasive onion weed on the eastern boundary and towards the southern boundary of the Park.
- Its not all about weeds! During our recent working bees, we've been rewarded by seeing many of our delicate orchids in flower, including donkey orchids, sun orchids, pink and blue fairies, and onion orchids.

Committee news

- We have applied for 2 grants through the new Small Grants program being offered to Friends groups. We are seeking funds to continue our weed control work, targeting woody weeds and bridal creeper. Our second application is for funds to construct paddock tree guards to protect plantings outside the existing enclosures.
- We are currently reviewing our participation in the Bushland Condition Monitoring program and are consulting with District Ecologist Anthony Abley about the best way forward for our group.



Working Bees Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am

Working bees will continue on Tuesday mornings throughout the spring and summer 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

