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## NEWSLETTER

February 2022

### Coming meetings

#### Thursday 10 February

**"Surveying microbats across the Adelaide Region"**  
Harry Rust, Wildlife Ecologist

Supported by Green Adelaide, this project is the first of its kind to be done at a citywide scale in South Australia. Harry will be speaking about the methods used to gather data and to identify bat species. He will talk about some of the early results he's gathered specific to Aldinga Beach and Aldinga Scrub, with information about some of the bat species which have been identified in the area so far, regarding their ecological significance and why they might be visiting and residing in Aldinga.

#### Thursday 10 March

#### **2022 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.

Please note: under current COVID rules, masks will be required during attendance at these meetings.

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!**

### Getting to know our native bees in Aldinga Scrub

Sunday 27 February  
10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Did you know that many species of native bees live in Aldinga Scrub? We have received a grant from the City of Onkaparinga to help us learn about these small but important creatures, and the role they play in pollinating our native shrubs and trees.



Blue-banded bee  
Photo: Aidan Bradford

The workshop will be delivered by Dr Remko Leijs from the SA Museum and Dr Katja Hogendoorn from the University of Adelaide who are recognised experts in the native bees of South Australia. The workshop will involve a 2 hour session at the Aldinga Community Centre where Remko and Katja will talk

about native bees, teach us how to distinguish between some bee groups and how to identify native bees.

The second session will involve a field trip in Aldinga Scrub Conservation Park where Remko and Katja will lead groups to look for bees, catch some bees on flowers, and explain about the different flower preferences of native bees. Remko and Katja will also take participants to our newly installed bee enclosures, look at the bee hotels, explain the doors, and observe the activity.

Bookings are essential. Please contact Helen on 0434 768 306 if you would like to attend this workshop.



### NPWS Park of the Month Onkaparinga Parks



Onkaparinga Parks are featuring as February's 'Park of the Month' and our Rangers have invited us to provide an activity for members of the public. FoAS will be leading a guided walk at 9:00 am on Sunday 6 February to introduce visitors to our beautiful Aldinga Scrub. All Friends are welcome to come along and enjoy a walk with our visitors.

## Great news for Aldinga Washpool Lagoon!



On 21 January at a gathering at the Washpool Lagoon, Premier Steven Marshall proclaimed the Aldinga Conservation Park which incorporates the Washpool with Aldinga Scrub into one new Conservation Park. After many decades of campaigning by countless committed local people and groups, the very significant environmental and cultural values of the Washpool will at last be protected.

We can now look forward to upgraded fencing and signage for the Washpool which will raise awareness in the community about the importance of this last remaining wetland in the greater Adelaide region. Ongoing hydrology studies and revegetation projects will continue to assist with rehabilitation of the site.

### Vale Bob Moore

Friends will be very sad to learn that Bob died in January, just a few weeks short of his 102nd birthday. Bob was an inaugural member of Friends of Aldinga Scrub, a committee member for many years and President for 12 years. Bob also represented FoAS on several regional advisory committees.

Bob was committed to helping with the protection of Aldinga Scrub and was a keen member of our working bees for some 25 years. In later years when physical work became too difficult, Bob contributed by filling hundreds of bottles of water each year which were used to give our new plantings a refreshing drink.

Friends of Aldinga Scrub was not the only group to benefit from Bob's great community spirit. He was an active member of many groups in the Aldinga area and he will be sadly missed.



#### News from the Park

- Working bees have continued over the summer months with only a few cancellations due to hot weather. Our new plantings in the native bee enclosures and along Kestrel Terrace have received regular watering throughout the summer and are doing well.
- Working bees have also cleared boneseed and Rhamnus, and taken down several cubbies.

#### Committee news

- FoAS are to be represented at a meeting of stakeholders to discuss plans for the duplication of Main South Road and how they may impact on Aldinga Scrub and native wildlife.
- During February, we will have experts in their fields monitoring moths and bats in ASCP. We will also be assisting our Regional Ecologist Elisa to put up pygmy possum nesting boxes in several locations.



#### 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](http://www.friendsofaldingascrub.com.au)

