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NEWSLETTER

August 2022

Coming meetings

Thursday 11 August

"Ecohydrological Restoration Assessment of the Aldinga Washpool and Blue Lagoon"
Ben Taylor, Nature Glenelg Trust

Since January 2021 Nature Glenelg Trust has been investigating the pre-colonisation ecohydrology of the Washpool and Blue Lagoon and developing hydrological restoration options. This has involved archival research, discussions with a broad range of people with knowledge of the site, review of contemporary reports, interpretation of data and collection of additional data. Ben will present a summary of the draft findings.

Thursday 8 September

"Threatened Species and Ecological Communities in Green Adelaide"
Elisa Sparrow, Urban Ecologist

Elisa will talk about Green Adelaide's threatened flora program, including reptile surveys and possible reintroductions/translocations of numerous species (pygmy blue tongues, Flinders worm lizard and Cunningham's skinks), microbat surveys across the region, the search for elusive birds (Australian bitterns and black-chinned honeyeaters), tracking square-tailed kites, and threatened ecological community management.

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!

Rare opportunity for Friends to visit Frahns Farm, Monarto

Wednesday 21 September
Frahns Road, Monarto
11:00 am



We have the special privilege of being invited for a tour of Frahns Farm at Monarto which is one of several projects being managed by Bio-R, an organisation which reconstructs habitats to support native wildlife. Frahns Farm is their flagship restoration site, and Bio-R leader Dr David Paton will be present to show us around the property and talk about the innovative revegetation techniques being trialled there.

We will be gathering at Frahns Farm at 11:00 am but people may prefer to car pool from Aldinga or meet at Callington to travel in convoy to the site which can be a bit tricky to find.

Please note that there are no facilities at the site. You will also need to bring your own lunch.

Please contact Helen at helenmcs@dozemail.com.au or on 0434 768 306 to confirm that you will be attending and to discuss how you would like to get there.



It's time to celebrate our 35th birthday!

Sunday 11 September
Aldinga Beach Holiday Park,
Cox Road Aldinga Beach (near Gate 3)
1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

All Friends are invited to join us as we celebrate this significant milestone. The afternoon will begin with a gathering in Camp Aldinga which is at the rear of the Holiday Park. Our rangers will be joining us to say a few words, and to make presentations to our group and to individual Friends who have achieved milestone memberships. We will share slices of our birthday cake over a cup of tea or coffee, and then enjoy a leisurely stroll in our beautiful Aldinga Scrub in all its spring-time splendour.

This will be a special opportunity to meet and chat with other Friends - we look forward to seeing you there!
For catering purposes, please RSVP by emailing helenmcs@ozemail.com.au or phoning 0434768306.

Bird survey interim report – Winter 2022 **(Julie Burgher, Bird Survey coordinator)**

After a few trial sessions, in the autumn of 2021 a few members of Friends of Aldinga Scrub commenced systematic rounds of Birddata bird surveys in Aldinga Conservation Park.

Over this time we have recorded a total of 75 bird species throughout the six sites in differing habitat over the area of the park. We have five regular members of the bird survey team that get together and record sightings every two weeks. Each of the same six sites are surveyed 4 times a year - one in each season.

The highlight this winter has been watching Spotted Pardalotes make their way down to the edge of Cliffs Waterhole to feed on insects in the mud and aquatic vegetation. We stood mesmerised and delighted in witnessing these beautiful little birds going about their daily business. Usually difficult to see, it is their call that is noticed first whilst they forage in the eucalypt canopy feeding on lerps and other invertebrates. As often happens, the survey had run out of time when even more pardalotes came down to feed. We were surrounded. While we were watching Aidan managed to capture a photo or two to remember this special moment.



News from the Park

- On 25 July, an enthusiastic group of Friends assisted with the planting of some 1000 wetland seedlings at the Washpool. The planting day was organised by Matt Endacott, Coastal Conservation Officer with Green Adelaide.
- Our working bee crews have recently continued our planting program in the foredunes, where runners of *Carpobrotus rossii* and *Spinifex sericeus* were layered into the sand. We were particularly pleased to see how well our plantings from previous years are faring.

Committee news

- Committee members have recently met with our Rangers Seiji and Genki to discuss the management and coordination of our grants and onground projects.
- Eligible Friends have now been provided with their Annual Passes. These passes are issued by Department of Environment and Water to provide concessions for entry and camping in SA Parks. The passes acknowledge the significant contributions made by our active members each year.



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 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

