



President: Julie Burgher 0418 459 450
Secretary: Helen McSkimming 0434 768 306

Volume 28 No. 3

NEWSLETTER

June 2023

Coming meetings

Thursday 9 June

"The role of Threatened Plant Action Group in Kangaroo Island's rare and endemic flora in relation to the recent bushfires"

Dr Rick Davies, Chairperson, TPAG

Rick has been studying the impact of the 2020 bushfires which burnt the western half of Kangaroo Island, an area providing critical habitat for a large range of rare, endemic plants.

Rick will be presenting the findings of his study, which he worked on with a team of assistant botanists and 50 wonderful volunteers.

Thursday 13 July

"Revegetation of the Washpool Catchment"

Dr Maarten Ryder, Research Associate, University of Adelaide

Maarten's areas of expertise include agriculture, soil biology, plant disease, plant microbiology, biological control, and Australian native food crops.

Maarten will be drawing on his extensive experience when planning for the revegetation of the Washpool catchment.

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 sighting of a worm-lizard in Aldinga Conservation Park!

Friends were greatly rewarded during a recent working bee. While trialling direct seeding in the Paxton Patch last month, the workers encountered this fascinating and not commonly seen lizard.

Aprasia sp. are small worm-like lizards that burrow in sandy soil and feed upon burrowing insects. They are shy, secretive and nocturnal and are normally found under fallen logs and matted half-buried vegetation.

The Lined Worm-lizard has distinct markings making identification easy. Unfortunately they may resemble small snakes and are often killed. Be very sure of your identification before handling, as baby snakes can be deadly!! Legless-lizards are restricted to the Australian region with 45 identified species.

Acknowledgements: Photo by Jean
Description by Aidan

Results of Autumn 2023 Bird Surveys



Our bird survey team have completed their autumn schedule. Recordings for this period were very pleasing, with an increase in the numbers of birds and species sighted.

You can access the data sheets which have been uploaded onto our website by clicking on the Photos tab.

2023 Fungal Foray

Our fungi expert Thelma has offered to lead Friends on a walk in July to discover and learn about these fascinating organisms. It is anticipated that the walk will take place in Nixon-Skinner Conservation Park at Myponga on Sunday 16 or 23 July.



If you would like to join us, please contact Helen so that we can let you know when arrangements are finalised.

Many thanks to all the Friends who have renewed their membership for the coming year. If you haven't done so yet, we look forward to receiving your payment soon.

Memberships for 2023/24

Family	\$15.00
Single	\$10.00
Concession	\$8.00

EFT

BSB 633-000
Account 134 185 735
Reference Last name, first name, subs

Please email Jackie at
treasurer@friendsofaldingascrub.com.au to confirm
your payment



POST



The Treasurer
Friends of Aldinga Scrub
PO Box 33
Aldinga Beach SA
5173

"The Beach is not a Road" campaign

FoAS member Bridget Gardiner spoke to our General Meeting in May about the objectives of this campaign which is being organised by a group of concerned local people. The group has organised several petitions which ask Council to introduce more restrictions on Aldinga, Silver Sands and Sellicks beaches, such as increasing the existing vehicle free area on Aldinga Beach, implementing a permanent vehicle free area on the foreshore adjacent to the Washpool, restricting the numbers of vehicles allowed on the foreshore during peak summer season, and introducing appropriate event management practices during this peak time to increase beach goer safety and provide protection for the Hooded Plovers breeding and fledging at this time of the year.

The group has also organised 2 petitions calling for a total jet ski ban from Pt Willunga - Sellicks Beach, asking that jet skis not be permitted within 200 metres from the low tide mark in a seaward direction.

If you would like more information or would like to sign the petitions, please contact Bridget at thebeachisnotaroad@gmail.com or on 0405 679 632.

News from the Park

- Over the next few weeks, our working bee crews will be commencing construction and installation of paddock tree guards ready for this year's plantings. Sites being considered for this year include in the dunes, along the Hart Road inlets and on the northern boundary.
- Weeds being pulled at this time of the year include onion weed, evening primrose and scabiosa. Crews have also spent several weeks weeding veldt grass in the DF enclosure.
- Crews will soon be checking for any outbreaks of bridal veil and boneseed in the southern section of the Park.
- A recent working bee was spent direct seeding in the Paxton Patch. This was a trial project, where the site will be monitored to see how successful this method will be.
- Our contractor will shortly begin work funded for this year. Mark will be checking over the areas where he treated bridal creeper last year, and then extending his work further south. He will be concentrating on badly infected areas south of the Boomerang Track.

Committee news

- Friends have met recently with Ranger Genki to discuss the installation of a picnic table in the Park adjacent to the Dover Street carpark.
- Committee has been talking with NPWS about the need for reinforcement of the fencing around the lacy coral lichen to prevent entry into the enclosure. Kangaroos and even dogs have been seen in this very sensitive location.
- We have sought the assistance of NPWS in spraying weeds on the eastern levee bank which is heavily infested with weeds such as onion weed and scabiosa.
- Committee has applied for a grant of \$10,000 from Green Adelaide. If successful, this grant will allow us to engage a contractor in 2024 to continue treating bridal creeper in our Park.
- During the recent Volunteer Week celebrations in May, we received an email from Mike Brown, Executive Director of NPWS, thanking all volunteers for the incredible work done to support South Australia's national park reserves and other significant conservation sites.



Working Bees Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am

Working bees will continue on Tuesday mornings throughout the winter 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

