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## NEWSLETTER

October 2024

### Coming meetings

#### Thursday 10 October

**"The Nullarbor: cliffs, caves and treeless plain"**

**Tom Gara, member FoAS**

*Tom is an historian who has specialised in Native Title research. Tom is also an Honorary Research Associate at the South Australian Museum.*

*In this talk, Tom will provide an outline of the geological and human history of the Nullarbor Plain, illustrated with photos of the landscape, fauna and flora, and some of the significant Aboriginal and European heritage sites.*

#### Thursday 14 November

**"Threatened flora recovery projects"**

**Jack Casley-Smith, Project Officer (Flora Ecologist) Green Adelaide**

*Jack will be telling us how his work fits into species wide threatened plant conservation and management. Jack will discuss specific examples of species he has been working with, including in Aldinga Scrub.*

*Jack will also talk about some of the more complex work surrounding threatened orchid conservation, including propagation research being undertaken at the seed conservation centre on Calochilus cupreus.*

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!**

#### Friends visit Forktree Project at Carrickalinga



In early September, Friends joined with volunteers from the Willunga Environment Centre to visit the Forktree Project. While the day was cool, we were very fortunate that it was not windy as this is an extremely exposed site!

The Project was established in 2019 by Tim Jarvis AM and his partner Liz who was our host for the day. The site covers 54 ha of very degraded farmland. We were shown over sections of the site where various revegetation strategies are being trialled, and through the well-equipped nursery where plants are propagated for the Project. We were also shown the Rare Seed Orchard where some of the rarest species in the state are grown with a view to harvesting seed for propagation and direct seeding across the region.

You are invited to our end of year gathering!

**Breakfast by the Beach**

**Sunday 1 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 below the pathway leading down to the beach from the Esplanade opposite Ocean Street. BYO everything (food, drink, chairs, tables).

Contact Helen on 0434768306 for more information.

## Nature Glenelg Trust Update on investigations in Aldinga Washpool



Since early 2021, NGT has been investigating the ecological history and restoration potential of the Aldinga Washpool/Wakondilla, one of the last coastal lagoons of its type in the Adelaide region.

Current research is focussed on

- updating Washpool catchment modelling to determine if future inflows will be sufficient to justify the increased volume of water that a restored Washpool would hold
- determining the depth of sediment that has been deposited on the bed of the Washpool post-colonisation
- assessing the suitability of accumulated sediment within the Washpool for use as levee construction material, rather than bringing in material from elsewhere to construct the levee
- undertaking an acid sulfate soil risk assessment of the proposed excavation footprint

For more information about these in-depth studies being undertaken at the Washpool, visit the Nature Glenelg Trust website [here](#).

Don't forget!  
'Day of the beetles' workshop  
Sunday 13 October 2024  
10:30 am to 2:30 pm  
Aldinga Arts Eco Village



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## Park of the Month Costal Parks of Adelaide

Throughout December, the NPWS Park of the Month program will be featuring parks along the Adelaide coastline. During this event, you might like to join a walk in Hallett Cove CP or the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary, go kayaking in the Adelaide Dolphin Sanctuary, or visit historic Fort Glanville.

As a part of this event, on 8 December Friends of Aldinga Scrub will be leading a guided walk to introduce visitors to our unique flora and fauna.

For more information about our event or any others being offered, full details will be available on the NPWS website in November. Please visit the NPWS website [here](#) to find out more.

### News from the Park

- We have now finished construction of paddock tree guards and planting within them on the southern section of the Park. Follow up weeding and watering will be required for the next couple of years.
- We have recently removed outbreaks of boneseed in the southern section of the Park and behind the dunes in the western section. Control of woody weeds requires ongoing surveillance.
- The working bee team have made their way through the dense vegetation in the Paxton Patch to remove veldt grass and other weeds.
- We have also been removing freesias near the Coral Lichen enclosure.

### Committee news

- Our application for a grant from Green Adelaide to undertake weed control in 2025 has been successful. The grant provides us with \$10,000 to engage our contractors to continue their work on removal of bridal creeper and woody weeds.
- We have been approached by Studio 20, the council's youth centre in Aldinga Central, to provide an activity for local young people who are keen to learn more about caring for the environment. We are planning to hold an event in 2025.
- DEW are currently undertaking an Aldinga Scrub condition changes assessment which will provide us with updated information about the biodiversity in our Park.



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

Working bees will continue on Tuesday mornings throughout the coming 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)

