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NEWSLETTER

February 2025

Coming meetings

Thursday 13 February

"Researching the Bibron's toadlet"

**Tom Prosser, Senior Ranger,
Southern Metro District, NPWS**

Tom has recently been appointed as Senior Ranger for Aldinga Conservation Park. Tom will talk about his current research looking at how habitat loss and degradation in the Adelaide Mount Lofty ranges is affecting the Bibron's toadlet *Pseudophryne bibronii* as well as other species of frogs and small ground dwelling species.

Tom will tell us about the unique biology of the Bibron's toadlet and the expectations and aims of his research.

Thursday 13 March

2025 Annual General Meeting

At our 37th AGM, 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.

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 of Aldinga Scrub host guided walk



On a perfect morning on 8 December, Friends of Aldinga Scrub were joined by some 20 members of the public for a guided walk along the Coral Lichen Circuit. We were particularly pleased to see a number of family groups participating, with young people curious and keen to learn more about our natural environment.

This walk was promoted through the NPWS 'Park of the Month' program. Each month, a different park is featured with a range of activities being provided. Keep an eye on the DEW 'Park of the Month Events' website to learn about events for the current month.

Haiku

*a bee lands
on a flower
breaks the silence*

from Ewan, Friend of Aldinga Scrub

Friends of Aldinga Scrub support Youth Expo

We were very pleased to be invited to participate in an Environmental Expo which was held on 23 January at Studio 20, Aldinga Beach. During the afternoon, we spoke informally to a number of young people who are interested in caring for the environment, with some looking to a career in environmental management.



John also addressed a group of young people who were keen to learn about Aldinga Conservation Park and the work done by our volunteers.

In autumn, we will follow up this event by providing a guided walk around the Coral Lichen Circuit for young people.

A couple of housekeeping matters

- Following the AGM to be held on 13 March, your membership fee will be due again. From the 2025 financial year, receipts will be issued to Friends who pay cash, but no longer automatically be issued to members who pay online. However, please let us know if you would like a receipt for an online transaction and we will happily provide you with one.
- If you currently receive your newsletter in hard copy, you may wish to consider receiving it online. A significant benefit of digital newsletters is that you will see the photographs in full colour rather than black and white. For members who prefer to receive a hard copy, we will continue to deliver them to you in this format.

News from the Park

- Our working bees have continued throughout the summer months, with only a few cancellations due to hot weather. However, we have observed how stressed the vegetation is looking due to the lack of rain.
- Working bee crews have spent a couple of mornings weeding in the DF patch where the exclusion of kangaroos has allowed the veldt grass to flourish.
- We have recently been working in MU 8 (north of Boomerang Track) where we have been removing woody weeds, including Rhamnus, boneseed and olives.

Committee news

- Our application for a Friends grant from DEW to undertake weed control in 2025 has been successful. The grant provides us with \$5000 to engage our contractors to continue their work on removal of bridal creeper and woody weeds.
- We recently met on-site with the Project Officer and other council and DEW staff to walk over the planned shared-use path along the eastern boundary. Work has started this week on the trail which will provide a safe route for cyclists travelling between Sellicks Beach and Aldinga Beach.



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

