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Volume 30 No. 5

NEWSLETTER

October 2025

Coming meetings

Thursday 9 October

'The Algal bloom - recovery and resilience!'

Anita Thomas, marine biologist

Anita Thomas is a marine biologist and Oceans Program Coordinator SA with The Nature Conservancy.

Anita is a resident of Aldinga Beach and is a scuba diver and surfer, and the author of *The Diary of a Marine Biologist*, published earlier this year.

Thursday 13 November

'Star of Greece: history, art and material culture'

Mark Staniforth, National Trust of SA (Willunga Branch)

The wreck of the *Star of Greece* was one of the most significant events in the Port Willunga area and arguably in South Australian history. Eighteen men were lost when the vessel ran ashore just north of Port Willunga on 13 July 1888. This talk will consider the history of the ship and the shipwreck event using some of the artworks that were created soon after the wreck by artists like George Frederick Gregory Jr as well as the objects (material culture) that are held in South Australian public collections and private hands.

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!



It's official - new name and additional land for our Park!

Following proclamation on 28 August 2025, our park is now to be known as

Wangkuntila-Aldinga Conservation Park

The park has been co-named Wangkuntila-Aldinga Conservation Park to reflect its considerable spiritual and cultural significance to the Kaurna people. The new co-name means 'place of ring-tailed possum'.

At the same time, an additional 5 parcels of Crown Land at the Washpool Lagoon were incorporated into the park.

This addition means all of Aldinga Washpool and the culturally significant Blue Lagoon will be protected under legislation.



For more information, visit SA Environment News at <https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/news-hub>

You are invited to our end of year gathering!

Breakfast by the Beach
Sunday 7 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).

Please contact Helen on 0434 768 306 for more information.

Become a citizen scientist and participate in the biggest bioblitz across the southern hemisphere!



Friday 24 - Wednesday 29 October, 2025

The Great Southern Bioblitz is an opportunity for all southern hemisphere countries to record organisms during Spring, and showcase our beautiful biodiversity to the world.

Anyone in the world is eligible to take part in the event. All you have to do is upload observations of wildlife to the iNaturalist platform. Observations, however, must be made somewhere in the southern hemisphere during the event time frame.

We strongly encourage Friends of Wangkuntilla-Aldinga CP to register as participants [here](#) or go to the GSB website to be kept informed and to qualify for a certificate.

Thank you Friends of Hallett Cove Conservation Park



On 12 September, a group of Friends gathered at Hallett Cove CP to be given a guided walk by Friends of Hallett Cove.

We were very impressed with their achievements. Having to navigate some very steep rocky faces and a windswept coastline makes this a very challenging site. We all appreciated that, at Wangkuntilla-Aldinga CP, we are fortunate to be working in a relatively flat and sheltered park! We are looking forward to hosting a reciprocal walk for Friends of Hallett Cove in early October.

News from the Park

- We have continued to weed, replant and water in the paddock tree guards adjacent to Norman Road. We've also weeded and replanted in paddock tree guards at the old Camp Kursa site. On one occasion, a young work experience student from Willunga Waldorf School joined the crew. On another occasion, a group of young people from Tatchilla Lutheran College came along to help maintain the paddock tree guards.
- A group of work experience volunteers from Bedford Group has been helping us in the Park, concentrating on onion weed.
- Our bird monitoring team continues to conduct regular bird counts. Don't forget to keep an eye on our website to see photographs of our beautiful birds (and also our amazing plants!) by visiting friendsofaldingascrub.com.au

Committee news

- Data which has been collected by FoAS over many years at our bushland monitoring sites is now being uploaded to the Biological Database of SA. Once fully uploaded, the data will be publicly available.
- Our contractors Fleurieu Eco Solutions have completed their work treating bridal creeper and woody weeds in W-ACP.
- After 3 years of funding through a DEW Partnership Grant, the work of our threatened species contractor Tim is also very near completion.
- Signage for the shared use track on the eastern boundary has now been installed.
- Local residents have reported an increase in visitors at the Washpool since the declaration of the new park. We are exploring strategies to establish a working bee team to focus on the Washpool.



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

