

Newsletter of the  
Friends Of Whyalla Conservation Park  
1995 Friends Group Of The Decade  
PO Box 805 WHYALLA SA 5600  
Volunteers Working For Conservation

# The Myall Post



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## President's Message

*We are drawing to the close of a successful year. The bank balance of the group is healthy and we have been able to stage a number of successful events during the past year. For me, the highlights were the Show Stall and the Plant Sale. These events both showed what great heights we could achieve when many people were willing to lend a hand.*

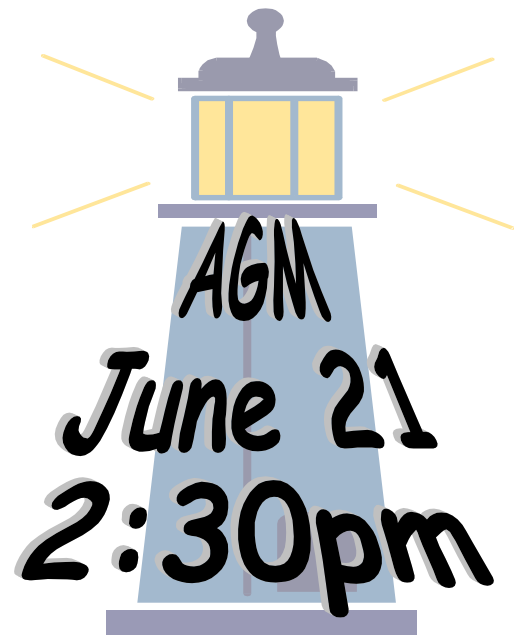
*In the park, we have been able to keep up with a steady program of maintenance, which has kept up with natural disasters such as the storm damage of January and February and with the human disasters such as the theft of logs from the car-park. Turnout to working bees however has been restricted largely to a few dedicated members. I would certainly like to see more members taking part in this important work. Our regular presence in the park is more important now than ever before as we have less ranger support than we have had since the group began. This situation is due to the intolerable work load which results from the National Parks Service having insufficient staff to undertake the work required.*

*I would like to thank all members who have helped in any way at all for their efforts. I*

*would like to thank our ranger, Chris Baxter, for his support in what I can only describe as difficult circumstances. My special thanks though to the members of the committee. They have been the backbone of organising and carrying out work to support the Whyalla Conservation Park.*

*I would encourage as many members as possible to be present at our AGM. We are extremely fortunate to have Minister David Wotton as a guest for the afternoon of the AGM. It is a privilege and a pleasure to be able to welcome him to our AGM. I look forward to seeing you there.*

Clint Garrett



*No, don't ask me. I have no idea what they are all looking at either! Lance Dean and Ella Smith are practising their elbowing skills at the recent Mother's Day walk in the Park.*



## Coming Events!

### AGM

*Did you realise that this June is the Tenth Anniversary of the founding of the Friends of Whyalla Conservation Park?*

*To celebrate this occasion, we have hired the Lighthouse Cottages at nearby Point Lowly for the weekend of June 21st and 22nd . The cottages have six to eight bunk beds in most rooms and can accommodate up to 25 people in each cottage. The cost of accommodation will be covered by the Friends Group.*

*We would commence the weekend with the Friends AGM at 2.00 pm on the Saturday afternoon. This would be followed by a Christmas dinner at about 5.00 pm. We thought that as Christmas is celebrated at the winter solstice in the northern hemisphere, we would have a corresponding Southern Hemisphere event at our winter solstice. On Sunday, we would have a relaxing day and leave Point Lowly shortly after lunch.*

*In order to make travel easier for some of our members from far away, we propose to cater for the weekend. Attached to this newsletter is a catering sheet, would you please fill this in and return it to Clinton with the appropriate payment by Monday June 16th .*

*I would really like to have you there on that weekend.*

#### *What To Bring:*

- Bedding and Pillows*
- Alcohol (if you want it)*
  - Soft drinks*
  - Tea-towels*
- Toiletries and towel*
  - Cards/Games*
  - Torch*

*Plates/Bowls/Cutlery/Tea and Coffee provided.*



### Bin Roster

*Not Finalised*

*Do you want to help check the Park and empty the bins?  
Please ring Kathryn Hollingworth on 8645 9233*

## May Working Bee Report

*The May Working Bee was held in perfect weather. Lance and Clinton walked the western end of the park, fumigating rabbit warrens and marking old warrens. About one third of warrens were still active, indicating that Calici-virus has had some effect, but has not been totally successful in removing rabbits from the park. While they were doing this , John Carter repaired the fences on the Northern and Western boundaries.*

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### Plants For Sale

*We still have approximately 200 plants left over from the plant sale. If you know of anybody who has expressed a desire to buy plants, please put them in contact with either David or Clinton.*

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### Local Environment Plan Launch

*The Local Environment Plan is an initiative being trialed by the Whyalla City council as part of the state government's commitment to implementing the Rio Earth Summit's Agenda 21 process. That summit recognised that many of the problems of the earth had their causes in local decisions and that the solutions were probably best sought at a local level. A Whyalla example demonstrates this well.*

*The draw down on the Murray Darling system and the problems that this causes are well recognised. The pollution of the sea caused by oil and other material being washed off of roads is also well known. The Greenhouse problem is due to excess amounts of Carbon Dioxide being released to the atmosphere especially from burning fossil fuels to generate electricity. But what can Whyalla do about these problems? where do we fit in?*

*There is more than 1.2 billion litres of water which leaves this city as storm water. The effect of this storm-water is to pollute Spencer Gulf. Pumping water from the Murray to Whyalla to water ovals etc uses energy and contributes to lower flows in the Murray. The solution to all three problems is to build dams such as the one at the Golf Club and to capture this resource and use it.*

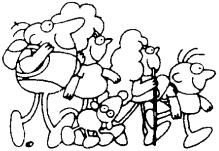
*Four members of our group have been closely involved in the production of the Local Environment Plan. Denise Sharp as council's Policy and Environment planner, Megan Boyle as Research Officer, David Poyner as a Community rep and Public Relations Officer and Clint Garrett as Chair of the committee. We would all like to see you at the Middleback theatre at 11 am on the morning of the AGM. The Minister for the Environment, David Wotton will be there to launch the draft plan for public comment.*



## Ranger's Report

Chris faxed through a report of his activities to Clint for the last Committee meeting on the 22nd May.

- Visited Park last week and all appeared to be OK.
- Have been away in NE of State on Wildlife duties over past 7 days or so.
- Away again first part of June on Yellow Footed Rock Wallaby helicopter survey.
- Still skeleton staff although hope to get 2 more staff (Ranger) soon. Filling of vacant positions.
- Saw Slender billed Thornbills in Park the other day. First Time for me. In Chenopod shrubland.
- Spoke with Council Works Manager Mike Blythe the other day and requested Council commence grading of roads and tracks ASAP. Particularly as there have been some showers lately. This would start spending of \$10,000 Flood Damage money. He said he would get someone out there - hopefully in next few weeks. Also to open drains up again. I expect to be notified of this so someone (me?) can oversee work.
- Saw David Wilson (Barngarla) other day in Port Augusta and he promised to get back to me soon re: site clearance for proposed toilet site. Has anything happened your end on this - with Crofts? Or others.
- With regard to toilet progress. Have you been able to get plans sorted out to suit your needs. The ones I sent were of help, I hope.



## Come'n'Try Walking Report

There was a great turnout for the walk in the Park on Mother's Day. Unfortunately the vegetation was very drought stressed and did not look its best, and all of the birds which normally inhabit the area went on holidays!

Many thanks to Pam, Denise & Margaret for their scones, which as these pictures show, disappeared in a hurry!

Above: Kathryn Hollingworth, Eddie Hughes & Meredith Scottney-Turbil

Below: Alvin & Pam Charlesworth, Vaughan Moldenhauer & Gwen Foulkes


Bottom: Gee, I wonder who those two are?






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