

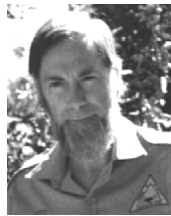


Newsletter of the  
Friends Of Whyalla Conservation Park  
1995 Friends Group Of The Decade  
PO Box 805 WHYALLA SA 5600  
Volunteers Working For Conservation

# The Whyalla Post



Volume 10 No 4  
November 1996



## President's Message

*What is sustainability or ecological sustainable development?*

*It means meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to live successfully on the earth. It means looking at our actions in a long term sense and asking ourselves, what are the consequences of these actions for our grand-children and their grand-children. For example if I spray CFC's into the air, there is little effect on me personally, but the combined effect of many people doing this has resulted in a significant loss of ozone and an increased risk of cancer for later generations.*

*Whyalla is not at this stage a sustainable city. It imports nearly all of its energy, food, water and materials for daily life. Imagine the impact on this city of removing the subsidy on water supplied to Whyalla. The State government could say that the user should pay the full cost of getting water from the Murray to here. But, this would mean a trebling of water costs. What would our city be like in such a situation?*

*This is why the City Council is keen to demonstrate that we can make better use of our available resources by trapping storm-water and using that rather than being a*

*drain on the state. It is estimated that in an average year, 1,200 million litres of storm water is discharged to the sea. Much of this water is only slightly polluted and is suitable for parkland watering. At this stage, the Golf Club and Wilson Park are the main beneficiaries of water harvesting. However, it is intended to spread this scheme more widely and water many of our parks in this way.*

*Whyalla has a lot going for it. It is a compact city in a mild, dry climate. It has 300 sunny days a year and abundant wind energy. Capitalising on these assets and reducing our impact on the environment is a sound strategy for the future. The great challenge is to bring together a number of programs which allow this city to be more sustainable. This is what the council is trying to do with the Solar Hot Water Heater Rebate, Water Recycling, Wetlands, Renewable Energy Centre and Ecocity programs.*

*Whenever I hear people saying that such changes are utopian or some sort of plot to subvert society, I am reminded of this:*

*"Whenever there is a choice, I side with Nature - because in the end nature always wins". History is littered with the remains of civilizations which thought that they could outsmart nature or control it. The reality is that we cannot live outside of nature's limits and must work within them if life is to be sustained on earth.*

Clint Garrett



*The Department of Road Transport sealing the verges of the highway outside the Park recently.*



## Coming Events!

- *Thursday November 7th @ 7:30 pm*  
*Peters St Uniting Church Hall*  
*General Meeting*  
*(Please note date - not the 3rd as previously advised!)*
- *Saturday November 9th @ 8:00 am*  
*Wild Dog Hill*  
*Breakfast and Working Bee*
- *Saturday November 23rd @ TBA*  
*267 Landrace Rd*  
*Concreting of plant growing area*
- *Thursday November 28th @ 7:30pm*  
*71 Jenkins Ave*  
*Committee Meeting*
- *Thursday December 5th @ 7:30pm*  
*Peters St Uniting Church Hall*  
*General Meeting*
- *Saturday December 7th @ 2:00pm*  
*267 Landrace Rd*  
*Potting-on Day*
- *Saturday December 14th @ 5:00pm*  
*End of year BBQ*  
*Venue to be advised*



*Magaret Garrett found this Greenhood Orchid out in the park during the recent working bee.*

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## November Breakfast & Working Bee

*The next working bee will be held on Saturday 9th of November. Before the working bee however, there is a chance for you to have breakfast in the Park. Breakfast starts at 8:00am, although those members who are up with the birds may like to start earlier!*

*A BBQ plate will be supplied, as well as orange juice, eggs, tea, coffee and bread. You will need to bring your own meat and anything else you would like to eat. You may also need to bring a chair each.*

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## 1997 Friends Forum

*The 1997 Forum will be held on the last Weekend of the October Holidays - October 10th - 12th. We would like to hire a 8 seater bus to tour the island for a few days before the event. Estimated cost/person for travel and accomodation is \$215. This does not include the Forum fees or meals.*



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## Bin Roster

*Weekend beginning:*

*1/11/96 Perc*

*8/11/96 Dean*

*14/11/96 Vacant*

*22/11/96 Carter*

*29/11/96 Garrett*

*Do you want to join the bin roster? Ring Kathryn Hollingworth on 45 9233*



## TAFE Students in Park

On Sunday the 20th of October, eight students studying externally from the Port Augusta campus of TAFE spent the day in the Park learning vegetation sampling techniques.

Gee, don't they look enthusiastic?  
(Actually, when you are just learning it's not all that much fun - I had

## Planting at Richardson's Landscaping

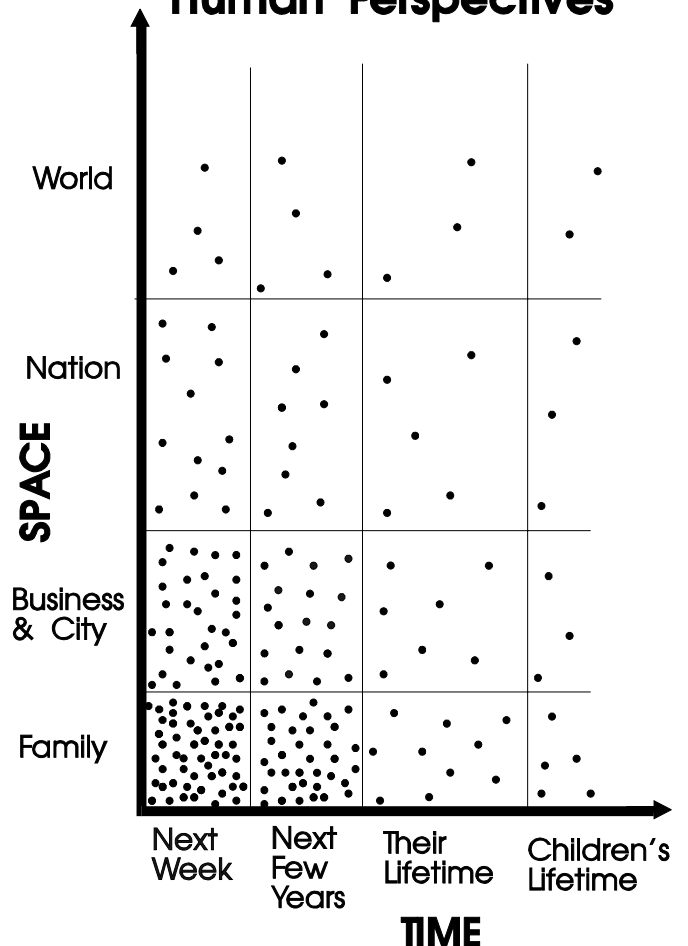
Our members assisted Chris and Pat Richardson to plant up an area at their landscaping yard last Sunday, the 26th of October. Trees and shrubs that were left over from last years plant sale were used for the project. We were assisted in this by some members of the 4WD club, Both organisations did this to thank the Richardsons for their generous support of them.

Members will have seen the results of Chris' nifty bobcat driving in various places around the park, when he has brought his machine out to assist with projects. He has never charged for this work and the planting bee was our way of thanking him and Pat for their contribution to the park.

## What do you think about?

Continuing on the theme of ecological sustainable development, here is a graph which illustrates where we place our priorities. You will notice that we spend most of our time concerned with our families in the immediate future.....

### Human Perspectives



## What's This?



Recently, David attended a Civic Reception at the Council Chambers to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Soroptimist International organisation. Long term members will remember that the Soroptimists helped map the rabbit warrens in the Park some years ago.

In recognition of involving the Soroptimists in our work, we were presented with this commemorative flag.




## Committee Report


## Contacts.....


Publicity Officer (Me!): David Poyner

The last committee meeting was held on Thursday the 24th of October. The following items were discussed:

- Renewal of memberships were received from Ellen Zukowski and Bruce Ledo.
- The possibility of charging a joining fee to our group as well as a annual membership fee was discussed. Members who did not renew their membership in a set time would need to pay the joining fee again. The idea of offering new members a package containing information, stickers, badges etc was floated.
- Several methods of targeting prospective new members was discussed.
- Two applications for Director's Grants have been submitted. The first is for further funds to build a toilet at Wild Dog Hill, and the second is for funds to purchase a new, larger storage shed for Friends equipment.
- David reported that he had spent Sunday the 20th of October in the Park with some students and their lecturer from the Spencer Institute of TAFE at Port Augusta.
- A summary of the information gained at the planning day on the 3rd of August was presented. Many thanks to Marg for collating and typing the information.
- Coming events were organised.
- Individuals nominated themselves to be responsible for the coordination / implementation of specific Park maintenance tasks. A list of these will appear in a future newsletter.

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## 1997 Plant Sale



Propagation of plants is going well. There are several hundred in my cutting frames at this stage and some of them have struck root within 10 days of being prepared. Our big potting on day will be Saturday December at Ella's place, when we will pot approximately 1000 plants. There will be a second smaller potting day in mid January to deal with 400 later propagated plants. Some of our cuttings may need to be potted up before then as they are progressing very quickly.

There will be a working bee at Ella's on to lay a new concrete pad for the plants. This will create a more satisfactory holding area for them to grow on during the summer.