



WEEKLY BULLETIN

December 6th 2010

Lou Mawson : Lakes Hub Coordinator
Andrew Dawes : Lakes Hub – Info. & Admin. Officer Meningie
Jo McPhee : Community Nursery Coordinator Milang
Carole Richardson : Project Officer Coordinator GWLAP Milang
Regina Durbridge : Monitoring & Evaluation Project Officer GWLAP Milang
Leah Sullivan : Revegetation – Tributaries Project Officer GWLAP Milang
Terry Sim : Fencing grants Project Officer GWLAP Milang
Ken Stother : Revegetation Project Officer GWLAP Meningie
Joy Mayberry : Hub Office Admin assistant (part time) Milang

Lakes Hub contacts

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The Lakes Hub is part of the Lower Lakes Bioremediation and Revegetation Project funded by the Australian Government and supported by the South Australian Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

General Info.

Lakes Hub – Milang 1st anniversary !

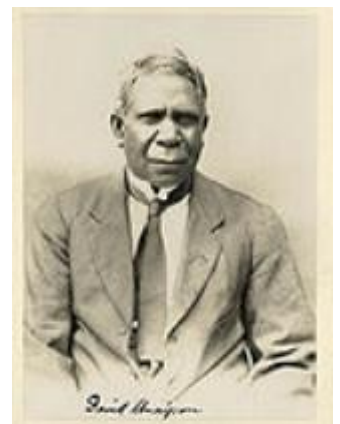
On December 4th 2009 Hon. Jay Weatherill MP – Minister for Environment and Conservation officially opened the Lakes Hub at Milang. Now one year on the Lakes Hub Milang accommodates a Hub Coordinator, a Community Nurseries Coordinator, four Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Project Officers, and a part time office assistant. A sister Lakes Hub at Meningie has also been established recently and will operate on similar lines at the Lakes Hub – Milang. Both Hub's have been the initiative of the Milang & Districts Community Association and are funded by Australian Government and South Australian Department of Environment and Natural Resources Government. Congratulations to everyone that have ensured that the Lakes Hubs are such a success.

David Unaipon and Raukkan's Church on Australia's \$50 note.

David Unaipon was Ngarrindjeri and his birthplace was Raukkan. He was an author, political leader, preacher and inventor. His inventions included a shearing machine and drawings for a helicopter design based on the principle of a boomerang. The Raukkan Church is pictured on the Australian fifty dollar note as is David Unaipon and his shearing machine invention.



Raukkan is where David Unaipon grew up listening to his father preach in the Raukkan church. Located at the former Point McLeay Aboriginal Mission now known as Raukkan, the church overlooks Lake Alexandrina just a little on from Narrung. First opened in 1869 the church has an important history, particularly to the Ngarrindjeri people where it is a landmark in the community and a memorial for local Aboriginal Anzacs. A special feature of the church is the stained glass window installed in 1925 in memory of four Ngarrindjeri Anzacs from Raukkan.

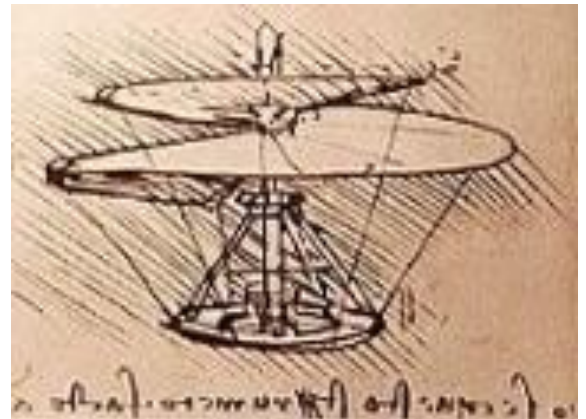


Raukkan has a population of approximately 122 people, the majority of whom are Indigenous (ABS 2001 Census, January 2007). Raukkan Community reside on 14,000 acres of land, of which 9,000 is arable. The commercial activities of the community are managed by Raukkan Ngarrindjeri Pty Ltd which oversees cropping, dairy farming and beef cattle.

Raukkan, previously known as the Point McLeay Mission until 1982, is administered by the Ngarrindjeri people. (State Library of South Australia, January 2007). The community's name means 'meeting place' in the Ngarrindjeri language. For thousands of years Ngarrindjeri clans have met here, on the banks of Lake Alexandrina near the mouth of the Murray River, to discuss important issues.



David Uniapon and the Raukkan church depicted on the \$50



Helicopter design



Raukkan

Lakes Hub - Meningie contact details

Andrew Dawes – Information & Administration Officer

79 Princes Highway, Meningie. SA 5264

Phone : 08 8575 1830

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Mobile : 0488 435 050

Communication alert - more time to provide feedback on Guide to the proposed Basin Plan

The Murray-Darling Basin Authority has extended its date for input to the preparation of the proposed Basin Plan to 17 December 2010. We have so far received approximately 1,000 items of feedback. With so many items being received before the end of November we have already assessed a large body of information. As a result, we are now able to guarantee that feedback received by 17 December 2010 will be considered in drafting the proposed Basin Plan.

If feedback is received after 17 December 2010, it will still be considered in the drafting of the final Basin Plan, along with feedback received during the consultation process for the proposed Basin Plan.

Where people find this new date impossible to comply with, the Authority has suggested that people might consider providing their feedback in instalments. In addition, we are prepared to consider any individual requests for further extensions where there might be particular issues.

Feedback can be provided via the MDBA website and also via mail, email and phone (1800 230 067).

Council encourages your response to the Murray Darling Basin Authority's 'Guide to the proposed Basin Plan

Alexandrina Council has been working closely with our community, the Lower Murray Drought Reference Group, the Southern Alexandrina Business Association, and the Fleurieu Tourism and Boating Industry Working Group in developing our response to the community consultation managed by the Murray Darling Basin Authority on The Guide to the Basin Plan.

This Guide is the first part of a three-stage process in developing the Basin Plan. It will be followed by the proposed Basin Plan and 16 weeks of consultation, and the final Basin Plan in 2011.

We believe that it is essential that as many of us send in a response to the Authority, no matter how short or long to ensure our voices are heard. We welcome you to copy any part of our response and include it with your own views.

Alexandrina Council have prepared a draft response. Your feedback on this response is welcome by Friday 10th December 2010 via email: alex@alexandrina.sa.gov.au

To access the Council Draft Response go to <http://www.alexandrina.sa.gov.au/site/page.cfm?u=1109&c=36562>

Alternatively you may wish to use this draft (which can be copied or edited) to assist you to formulate your response, please see contact details for submissions direct to Murray Darling Basin Authority below.

Feedback can be provided via the Murray Darling Basin Authority website

<http://www.mdba.gov.au/> and also via email: engagement@mdba.gov.au

Phone: 1800 230 067 Fax: 02 6230 7579 Post: GPO Box 3001, CANBERRA ACT 2601

The closing date for all submissions to Murray Darling Basin Authority has been extended to the 17th of Dec 2010.

UNIS (University News and Information Service)

To view an interesting paper on 'Water – the basis for the future'

<http://www.unisaustralia.com/2010/12/05/water-%e2%80%93-a-basis-for-the-future/#more-4344>

The final report of the breeding ecology of Australian pelican in the Coorong National Park 2009-10.

In very brief summary: Australian pelican were found breeding on North Pelican Island located in the Coorong South Lagoon and in terms of diversity, non-native species made up 56.5% of the vegetation on the island. The total abundance of individual adult Australian pelican peaked to 2085 in December 2009. Eight colonies were initiated on the island, occupying approximately 50% of the island. The breeding period was confined between June and March and the average clutch size was two.



In one colony, 12% of the eggs laid successfully hatched, while hatched chick mortality was 14.1%.

The number of nearly fledge juveniles observed in the same colony suggest that up to 85% of the chicks successfully hatched were ~12 weeks old however because of gaps in data (due to extreme weather conditions) this figure should be viewed with caution.

The Australian pelican needs an assured, adequate food supply and an undisturbed nesting area for at least three-months in order to breed successfully. This is the time from the establishment of a nest site to growth of the young to near adult size.

Re-defining and classifying terminology to distinguish between pinkies and juveniles will provided greater understanding of survivorship at different stages of early life from point of lay to hatching, crèche stage and fledged birds. (as we have now adopted for 2010-11).

This report marks a huge CLL District effort with guidance and encouragement from Dr. Greg Johnston and further support from Chris Brodie, Steve Bourne, David Connell, and community volunteers - THANK YOU!

To view the report click on the following link -:

http://lakeshub.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/12/DENR-2010_AP-Report-Pelican.pdf

DREDGING OF THE MURRAY MOUTH CEASED

Recently improved inflows to the Lower Lakes has seen dredging operations at the Murray Mouth cancelled for the first time in over eight years. SA Water Minister, Paul Caica says that substantial flows are predicted for next year also. See media link [Dredging ends at Murray Mouth](#)

LOCAL MILANG WOMAN on ABC radio National

Liz Yelland's audio piece "Frog Story" about the situation in the Lakes over the last 4 years is going to be broadcast as part of a program on ABC Radio National "360 Documentaries" next Saturday December 11th at 2pm. It is repeated on Wednesday Dec 15th at 1pm. A podcast will be available on the website after the 11th.

The program is mainly about northern rivers like the Daly, how pristine they are now and why we shouldn't destroy them by repeating the mistakes which are now devastating the southern river systems.

Liz's piece is only about 5 minutes, but they have apparently split it into its 4 sections, playing each at critical points throughout the broadcast to emphasise what has happened in the MDB.

<http://www.abc.net.au/rn/360/stories/2010/2967522.htm>

Original "Frog Story" :

http://pool.org.au/audio/bony_bream/frog_story_0

Thanks Liz

Tim Marshall Workshops – Building Soil Carbon

Tim Marshall was the Co-founder of organic certifier NASSA in 1987, and author of certification standards and guidebooks. Deputy Chair of Organic Federation of Australia Board.

Tim has inspected/visited over 3000 organic farms (or farms in conversion) in Australia and 20 other countries. Tim was the first Certification and Standards Manager for the world peak body in organics IFOAM.

He has extensively trained thousands of people in organic practices, horticulture, land management, chemical safety, environmental safety and roadside/bushland management.

All information will also be available on Tim's website under the OFA Climate Change title at www.tmorganics.com

For more information contact -:Louise (Lou) Lucktaylor, Website & Workshop Co-ordinator, TM Organics Pty Ltd
PO Box 207, Stirling SA 5152 Phone: 8339 1250 / fax: 8339 1251 Mobile: 0412 803 757 Email: lou@tmorganics.com



Do you know where this picture was taken ?

Mulgundawa jetty - Boggy Lake
(Lake Alexandrina)

Picture taken July 2010.

This jetty was erected in approximately the 1870's as a dock for steamboats to pick up salt produced at the Mulgundawa salt mine a few kilometres away. The remains of this jetty are now submerged.

Conservation Council of SA launches Boat Owners Guide

Conservation Council of SA's Feral or In Peril program has recently published a new booklet entitled "**Boat Owners Guide: Caring for our Coastal Waters**".

The booklet details practical ways to reduce boat running costs while looking after our coastal waters. The guide is an extension of the long running Feral or In Peril program by providing further information about marine pests and potentially threatened marine species, especially with regard to vessel maintenance as well as the identification and reporting of marine pests.

Marine pests are great hitchhikers and readily attach themselves to hulls, internal seawater systems, damp spaces or to boating gear such as anchors, ropes and buckets. Recreational boats are known vectors of marine pest transportations and with more than 1 million recreational vessels in Australia, there is increased potential for pests to be inadvertently spread as boats move from one place to another.

The booklet will be distributed for free to recreational boat owners around South Australia. Project Officers are available to provide a short presentation about the Feral or In Peril program and the new Boat Owners Guide to any interested groups.

For more information, a copy of the booklet and bookings for talks contact:
Carl Charter, Feral or In Peril Project Officer
0466 278 187 or [email Ferial or in Peril](mailto:Carl.Charter@reefwatch.org.au) or contact Reefwatch on 8223 5155

The new Strathalbyn Natural Resource Centre is open and ready for business.

You are invited to the opening:

Friday 10 December at 3.30pm

6 Catherine Street (Corner Donald Street) Strathalbyn

The celebration will commence with drinks and nibbles.

To assist with the catering please **RSVP by 3rd December**

Contact Liz Schofield on 8536 5616

Staff from the Goolwa to Wellington LAP and the South Australian Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board will be working from this office from now on and services provided from the old centre will now resume from the new centre [GWLAP website](http://www.gwlap.org.au)

Southern Brown Bandicoot Research

Jasmin Packer from the University of Adelaide is researching the impact of blackberry on habitat for the endangered Southern Brown Bandicoot. She is seeking volunteers to assist with bandicoot surveys in the Adelaide Hills. Each survey includes setting up sites.

For more information email j.packer@adelaide.edu.au

Dates for 2010, 2011 surveys are:

Summer: 30 November-9 December,14-22 December and 3-9 January 2011

Request for Volunteers: Annual Shorebird Count

Efforts of volunteer shorebird counters for the last 28 years have allowed us to understand where the important areas for shorebirds are in Australia, and that shorebirds are showing increasing evidence of decline. The Summer Count Schedule is out now and can be viewed on the link below.

To learn more about the Shorebirds 2020 program and to find all kinds of information on shorebirds visit:

<http://www.shorebirds.org.au>

Recently released and comprehensive Action Plan for South Australian Freshwater Fishes

This plan aims to improve the conservation of this important group. It is a first port of call for information regarding the general conservation of freshwater fishes and habitats in SA as well as specific biological information and actions for local threatened fish species and habitats. The aim is to spark a new wave of interest and awareness for freshwater fish and drive much needed on-ground restoration and supportive management. The Action Plan has been a lengthy and involved process produced by Native Fish Australia (SA) and funded through the NGOs Nature Foundation SA, Threatened Species Network – WWF Australia, and Native Fish Australia (SA), with in kind support from the SA Department for Environment and Natural Resources.



Action Plan link <http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened-species/threatened-fauna.html>

For an email pdf on the Congolli and Glass fish Action Plan contact the Lakes Hub – Milang.

Thank you Michael

THIS WEEK'S FLOW INFO :

<http://www.riverland.net.au/~heinz/mdbcrep.htm>

MDBA website – weekly reports http://www.mdba.gov.au/water/river_info/weekly_reports

Flow to SA over 55 Gl/day, as is Wentworth.

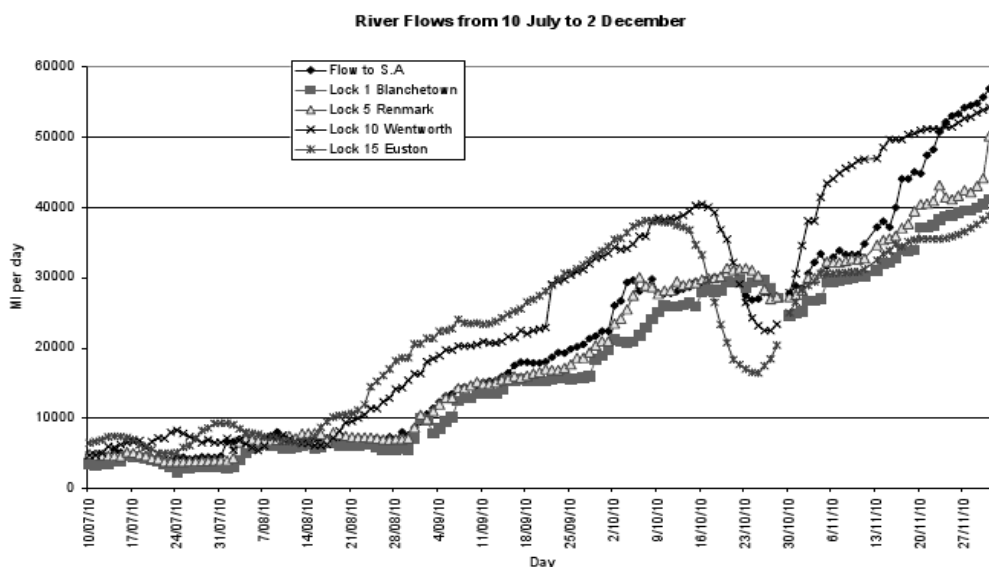
Lock 5 Renmark has risen 10 Gl/day during this week to 53.6 Gl/day

Lock 1 has gradually risen and is now just over 40 Gl/day.

Lock 15, Euston, is rising again to almost the same level as it was in early October, with the Victorian floods, so that's adding to the Darling water through Wentworth.

There are 65 gates open at Goolwa, and 82 at Tauwichee.

Thanks John Y



DAILY RECORDINGS – RIVER MURRAY DATA

Data received from <http://e-nrims.dwlbc.sa.gov.au/Telemetry/Default.aspx?App=RMW>

Date : November 29th - December 3rd 2010

DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	PH	SALT (EC)
29	Clayton Bay	0.745	7.47	1234
30		0.760	7.05	1037
1		0.736	7.03	840
2		0.707	6.98	774
3		0.690	7.11	773
	Average	0.728	7.13	932
29	Milang 7km SE	0.745	7.09	623
30		0.761	7.20	452
1		0.721	7.08	506
2		0.703	7.18	1136
3		0.690	7.01	773
	Average	0.724	7.11	698
29	Hindmarsh Is. Beacon 23	0.694	–	1321
30		0.721	–	1237
1		0.684	–	1156
2		–	–	1015
3		0.624	–	924
	Average	0.681	–	1131
29	Warrengeie Point Lake Albert	0.617	9.01	6845
30		0.580	8.80	7227
1		0.660	8.73	7175
2		0.696	8.59	7312
3		0.720	8.61	7487
	Average	0.655	8.75	7209

Monthly averages for November 2010

	Water level		
	AHD	PH	SALT (EC)
Clayton	0.704	7.9	1812
Milang	0.682	8.0	1992
Hind / Isl	0.673	8.1	1899
Albert	0.685	9.0	7723

[Flooding has silver lining for Murray region](#)

ABC Online

While the **Lower Lakes** have healthy water levels, extra flows from the NSW floods will help ease salinity levels. (ABC Adelaide: Brett Williamson) The heavy ...

[Dredging ends at Murray Mouth](#)

Stock Journal

Due to recently improve inflows in the **Lower Lakes**, up to 48000 megalitres of water is flowing through the barrages into the Coorong and out the Murray ...

Calendar below

CALENDAR OF EVENTS – for more info. contact the Lakes Hub

If you have any community event or courses that you would like added to the **Calendar of Events** please contact the Lakes Hub.

DECEMBER 2010	
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5	Dog's Breakfast Workshop – Middleton – Contact Normanville NRM Centre PH/FAX: 8558 3644 Email: admin@nnrc.com.au
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18	Dog's Breakfast Workshop – Victor Harbor – Contact Normanville NRM Centre PH/FAX: 8558 3644 Email: admin@nnrc.com.au
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