



WEEKLY BULLETIN

April 18th 2011

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 Project Officer GWLAP Milang

Terry Sim : Fencing grants Project Officer GWLAP Milang

Ken Strother : Revegetation Project Officer GWLAP Meningie

Joy Mayberry : Hub Office Admin assistant (part time) Milang

Lakes Hub contacts

Office – Milang phone 8537 0808

Office – Meningie phone 8575 1830

Email Milang Office info@lakesub.com

Meningie Office meningie@lakeshub.com

Web www.lakeshub.com

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.

The Life and Times of The Coorong” by Henry Jones

WHEN : Saturday 30 April 7pm start

WHERE : Henley & Grange Community Centre 196A Military Road, Henley Beach

WHAT : Coorong Mullet BBQ Dinner

GUEST SPEAKER : “The Life and Times of The Coorong” by Henry Jones

Henry Jones is a fourth generation Commercial Fisherman who has lived all of his life fishing the Lower Lakes and Coorong. He is a member of the Murray Darling Basin Community Reference Group and Native Fish Strategy Group, River Murray Advisory Board, The Drought Relief Group to name a few.

Henry has been fighting for justice for the plight of the River Murray since 1981 when the Murray Mouth closed for the first time. In recognition of his efforts he received the "Pride of Australia Medal " in 2008.

Henry's knowledge and experience as a commercial fisherman and inside knowledge to the workings of many committees makes for what will be a thought provoking and timely talk on the issues associated with the "Lower Lakes and the Coorong".

The barbeque dinner will feature Coorong Mullett caught by Henry Jones.

Cost of Dinner that will include a variety of fresh salads - \$20 per head

BYO Drinks and Glasses.

Bookings absolutely essential by COB Wednesday 27 April

Please email maxchris@adam.com.au or phone 8294 8612

Event organised by Western Adelaide Coastal Residents Association

co-partnered with the Water Action Coalition

1956 River Murray Floods From the Air

Brilliant aerial footage of the '56 floods from the State Library of SA.

Footage can be viewed on the Lakes Hub website www.lakeshub.com

The 1956 River Murray flood is considered to be the greatest natural catastrophe in South Australia's history and is the largest flood ever recorded in the state. The flood peaked 12.3 metres at Morgan.

This is an extract of footage taken by Laurence S. Casson from a plane, showing the impact of the flood on the towns and farms along the river. The film is part of the collection of the State Library of South Australia which holds 48 film reels taken by Laurence S Casson between 1934-1976.

For more information see <http://www.samemory.sa.gov.au/site/page.cfm?c=5120>

Point Malcolm lighthouse

Reference : The Coorong Gazette by Peter Doolette

Point Malcolm lighthouse is **Australia's only inland light house** and is situated at the eastern side of the narrows between Lake Albert and Lake Alexandrina which is about 18 kms from the Narrung turnoff on the Princes Highway.

It was built in 1878 by Richard Trenouth from Strathalbyn to assist ships that were passing through Lake Alexandrina on their way to and from Lake Albert or the River Murray. A lighthouse keeper's cottage was also erected nearby. The residents were expected to be self sufficient and so grew their own produce which was stored in a small cave in the cliffs at the front of the lighthouse. The lighthouse light was turned off in 1931 due to a decline in river traffic. Both the lighthouse and the cave can be visited by the public.



Port Malcolm lighthouse



The produce storage cave in the cliffs below the lighthouse.

Marine bio-security, Murray Cod and Native Freshwater Fish

will be covered at three FREE Autumn Biodiversity Seminars in coming months.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in conjunction with partners invite the community to the popular, free, family-orientated Autumn Biodiversity Seminars to be held at Port Elliot during March to May.

The talks are open to all age groups and DENR encourages the public to come along and learn more about our wonderful natural environment.

The second of talks is Wednesday 20 April at Port Elliot RSL Hall, The Strand at 6.45pm for a 7pm start. Dr. Nick Whiterod will talk about the mighty Murray Cod and how to manage them.

Submissions Due

Lower Limestone Coast Water Allocation Plan Policy Issues Discussion Paper comments by 20 April

<http://www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au/homepage/consultation/current-consultation/lower-limestone-coast-water-allocation-plan>

Lakes and Coorong Fishery 2011 ESD Risk Assessment Report comments by 29 April

http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/12927/coorong_submission.pdf

What's the Rush ?



There are several types of reeds that grow around the lakes in the semi saline conditions but there is one that **is not** a native to the area and can quickly out-compete native wetland species because of its invasive nature and their ability to thrive in inundated and saline situations.

This rush is the Spiny Rush – species name *Juncaus acutus* and is an introduced species from Europe, North America and Africa.

The most distinctive feature of the Spiny Rush is the very sharp, hard tips on the end of the cylindrical and smooth leaves and stems. They also have flowers that later form a dense cluster of round, chestnut coloured nuts just down from the spiny tips.

Spiny Rush are currently found in small populations around the lakes as well as in the upstream catchments of the River Murray, Bremer River and Finniss River and has the potential to invade the fringes of the entire Lower Lakes and adjacent wetlands. There are a few native species of rush (large) that could be mistaken for Spiny Rush i.e; the Sea Rush, Pale Rush, Common Rush, Finger Rush and Knobby Club Rush.

The Lakes Hub at Milang and Meningie have free information sheets and reference materials on the Spiny Rush and others.

Handy web sites :

<http://www.weeds.org.au/cgi-bin/weedident.cgi?tpl=plant.tpl&ibra=all&card=W22>

<http://www.samdbnrm.sa.gov.au/Portals/9/Plant%20Identification%20sheets/Spiny%20rush.pdf>

Mallee/Coorong NRM volunteer day

By Andrew Dawes

The Meningie Lakes Hub has been assisting the Mallee Coorong NRM group organise their Volunteers Day which took place on Sunday the 17th of April. The Volunteers met at the Meningie Sailing Club on the Shores of Lake Albert. Many people commented on how good the Lake was looking now it has returned to a normal level. After some short presentations from the guest speakers including the geriatric bikie, John Howard, the volunteers enjoyed some Coorong Mullet followed by Pavlova and no cream. The lunch was kindly organised by the Meningie Progress Association Incorporated. Following lunch there was a bus tour around the Narrung Peninsular to Raukkan where Clyde Rigney gave us a tour of the Raukkan Church and a history of the church and David Unaipon both of whom appear on the 50 dollar note. Whilst returning from Raukkan we were given a commentary on the district from Gary Hera-Singh and Clem Mason until we reached Camp Coorong. At Camp Coorong the group was greeted by Tom and Ellen Trevorrow who gave a short history of Camp Coorong before the volunteers were shown the Camp Coorong Museum which is a credit to all involved. From here we travelled back to Meningie before departing for home. Thank you to all involved for putting on an excellent day.



Volunteer participants at the Meningie sailing Club

NRM Education Youth Environment Forum in 2011 places are available

For further information go to: NRM Education - Youth Voice

<http://nrmeducation.net.au/?mact=Search%2Ccntnt01%2Cdosearch%2C0&cntnt01returnid=15&cntnt01searchinput=Youth+voice&submit=Submit>

An exciting opportunity for students to explore environmental themes in their local communities and take action for the environment.

ARE YOU A VOLUNTEER?

National Volunteer Week 9 - 15 May 2011

Hills Volunteering and the Mount Barker, Adelaide Hills and Alexandrina Councils in partnerships with Wallis Cinema are pleased to announce that the Volunteer Movie Day THANK YOU will be held on Thursday 12 May 2011 - any session, any time.

Are you a volunteer that lives or volunteers within the in the Adelaide Hills, Mount Barker or Alexandrina council areas?

Do you give your time freely to your community? Do you help organizations in the areas of sports, arts, aged care, emergency services, schools, charity shops, transport, health, the environment or education, just to name a few?

If so we would like to Thank You for supporting community.

A complimentary movie ticket is available for volunteers to see any movie screening at the Mount Barker Wallis Cinema on Thursday 12 May 2011.. Please note 3D movies will have a surcharge of \$4

Movie day vouchers will be available from the Wallis Cinemas from Monday the 11 April - Thursday 12 May 2011 inclusive.

To receive your movie voucher about your volunteering just fill in a short survey on the Council website using the following link:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/volunteermovieday>

Note: you must be able to print the final page of survey monkey to collect your voucher from Wallis Cinema.

Alternatively you can collect a copy of the survey at Wallis Cinema, your local Neighbourhood Centre, Community Library or Council.

Data gathered is vital in the promotion and ongoing support of volunteering across the regions.

The Volunteer Movie Day is proudly supported by: Hills Volunteering and Adelaide Hills Council, Alexandrina Council and the District Council of Mount Barker in partnership with Wallis Cinema Mount Barker.

For more information contact the Milang Old School Community Centre 85 370 6876

FLOW INFO :

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

INUNDATION MAPS

These maps are available at www.waterconnect.sa.gov.au

The latest River Murray High Flow advice is available on the Department for Water Website

<http://www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au/news-info/publications/river-murray-update/>

under the related news section on the right hand side of the web page.

This advice will be issued each Friday by 5pm while high flows remain.

Link to the hazard map is

http://www.transport.sa.gov.au/safety/marine/rec_boating/emerging_hazards.asp

People interested in actual levels should check the following websites for regularly updated daily levels, as the projections do not take into account wind.

SA Water

www.sawater.com.au/SAWater/Environment/TheRiverMurray/River+Murray+Levels.htm

Department for Water

<http://www.waterconnect.sa.gov.au/RMWD/Pages/default.aspx>

Information is also available from SA Water on 08 8595 2299

FURTHER INFORMATION

Up to date River Murray flow information can be accessed at the DFW, SA Water and Murray-Darling Basin Authority websites:

<http://data.rivermurray.sa.gov.au>

www.sawater.com.au/SAWater/Environment/TheRiverMurray/River+Murray+Levels.htm

<http://www.mdba.gov.au/water/live-river-data>

DAILY RECORDINGS – RIVER MURRAY DATA

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

Date : 11th April- 15th April 2011

DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	PH	SALT (EC)
11	Clayton Bay	0.683	8.25	454
12		0.689	8.27	452
13		0.617	7.65	486
14		0.621	8.11	450
15		0.641	8.15	449
	Average	0.650	8.09	458
11	Milang 7km SE	0.770	7.56	438
12		0.764	7.47	434
13		0.007	7.32	482
14		0.713	8.20	447
15		0.713	8.13	449
	Average	0.593	7.74	450
11	Hindmarsh Is. Beacon 23	0.538		4010
12		0.604		2586
13		0.520		648
14		0.531		758
15		0.548		690
	Average	0.548		1738
11	Warrenge Point Lake Albert	0.697	9.04	6677
12		0.706	9.01	6473
13		0.693	9.02	6920
14		0.771	9.04	6667
15		0.740	8.99	6668
	Average	0.721	9.02	6681

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.

April 2011	
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	Information table – Meningie Lakefront Habitat Restoration project and the updated revegetation plan for Browns Beach north - outside the Foodland Supermarket from 11.00am – 2.00pm, Meningie. For more information Andrew Dawes Lakes Hub Meningie 85751830
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	The Ranges to River NRM Group in partnership with the Eastern Hills and Murray Plains Catchment Group and Mid Murray LAP are holding a volunteer celebration in Meldanda More info Email: miranda.leckie@samdbnrm.sa.gov.au
16	Wild Wetland Day Murray Bridge RSVP SA MDB NRM 08 8532 1432 April 16th –April 20th – Murray Cod Seminar – Nick Whitrod (DENR) Port Elliot RSL 6.45pm More info. Clare Manning 0428757015
17	Coorong / Mallee volunteer celebration day – for info : Email: miranda.leckie@samdbnrm.sa.gov.au
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	EASTER BREAK
23	EASTER BREAK
24	EASTER BREAK
25	EASTER BREAK
26	EASTER BREAK
27	
28	
29	
30	The Life and Times of the Coorong – Henry Jones - Henley & Grange Community Centre Please email maxchris@adam.com.au or phone 8294 8612

May 23rd - Turtle, Tortoise and Terrapin Conservation information night at the Goolwa Bowling Club 6.45pm

May 25th – Native freshwater fish – Arkellah Hall (DENR) Port Elliot RSL 6.45pm More info.
Clare Manning 0428757015