

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
Kerri Bartley : Lower Lakes and Coorong Community Revegetation Program Project Officer GWLAP Milang
Ken Strother : Revegetation Project Officer GWLAP Meningie
Joy Mayberry : Hub Office Admin assistant (part time) Milang
Robbyne Barrett : Hub Office Admin assistant (part time) Meningie

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 the initiative of the Milang and District Community Association and is part of the South Australian Government's Murray Futures program, funded by the Australian Government's Water for the Future initiative.

Barrages – continued

With the new era of transportation and travel along the River Murray in the mid 1800's it was necessary to insure that the River was navigable at all times of year. With this in mind the Governments of NSW, VIC and SA, supported by the Commonwealth Government agreed to the construction of weirs and barrages. Governments bickered over which colony would control the River, an issue that was exacerbated when irrigation schemes were put in place in the 1890's. The natural resource of the River Murray had become of paramount importance for transport, trade and agriculture. This meant that a plan needed to be formulated to assist irrigators, shipping and to regulate flow. The River Murray Commission was formed utilizing the River Murray Agreement Act of 1915. Locks 1-11, 15,26 and Goolwa and Tauwichee barrages were built between 1922 and 1940 with the remainder following. A 1902 map shows sites of an extra 40 proposed locks on the Darling, 10 on the Murrumbidgee and 14 on the River Murray that were never built. Labourers and their families set up makeshift villages that followed the construction of the locks and weirs etc, dismantling them when the current job was completed and transporting them by paddle steamer to the next campsite. A school was also constructed at each site which up to 100 children at a time. These were the years of the economic depression so life on the sites was not only hard work and dangerous but also with little financial reward.

The Barrages

The conditions governing the design of the barrage usually require the structure to withstand the water pressure from one side only, but the River Murray barrages are unique in this respect, as they are required to withstand pressure from both sides. This is brought about by the fact that they are in tidal waters, and it is possible for the tide to rise above the level of the lakes, with the result that at periods of high tide the structures will prevent ingress of salt water to the lakes, and at other times retain the fresh water in the lakes. They are also required to allow a flood to pass without raising flood levels in the lower river.

The barrages span the Goolwa, Mundoo, Boundary Creek, Ewe Island and Tauwichee channels, and each structure is designed to suit the particular foundation conditions at the respective sites, and as far as practicable permit the exchange of movable parts. The first three structures are intended to regulate the level in Lake Alexandrina by means of the stoplogs in the sluiceway, whereas the remaining two will be closed except during floods or period of high river.

References : Murray water is thicker than blood by Rob Lin, Murray River website : <http://www.murrayriver.com.au/river-towns/barrages>



Reminder this Wednesday - TALKING HEADS – Planning Priority Planting

Here is your opportunity to help guide future vegetation and conservation works across the region.

Work is underway to determine priority sites for vegetation projects over the next five (5 years).

Find out how these sites are identified and how you can give your input to develop this long term vegetation program. The Government recognizes the vast community knowledge in this area and is asking for your input.

This project is part of the South Australian Government's *Murray Futures* program, funded by the Australian Government's *Water for the Future* initiative.



WHERE	Lakes Hub MILANG	Lakes Hub MENINGIE
WHEN	Wednesday 26 th October 10.00am – 11.00am	Wednesday 26 th October 1.00pm – 2.00pm
CONTACT	Lou 85 370 808 info@lakeshub.com	Andrew 85 751 830 meningie@lakeshub.com

One of our regional treasures “The tree lady” 1917-2004

Photo and background information courtesy of Nigel Mallen.



Betty Westwood, OAM, was born in Strathalbyn in 1917 and was brought up on the land at Woodchester. She was an only child and spent much of her time exploring the native bush nearby which instilled in her a life time devotion as a field naturalist and conservationist. It is said that she personally planted over a quarter of a million trees.

As a high school graduate in the early 1930's Ms Westwood trained as a nurse and went on to work within the Armed Services and saw action in the Middle East and Borneo. On her return she became Matron at Saint Peter's Preparatory School in Adelaide. She was Matron there for some 26 years and in that time fostered more young souls with a passion for their environs.

Even in her retirement Ms Westwood continued to participate in conservation groups locally and within Adelaide and was constantly attending meetings and field plantings etc. She worked tirelessly, even when the time came to reside at the nursing home. Her limbs may have weakened but never her passion for the environment.

Some might remember seeing her little blue VW in various locations, loaded to the gunnels with plants and Ms Westwood not far away head down and with trowel in hand.

She was one of our regions truly great characters who had a positive influence on so many people, young and old, and who had such a beneficial impact on our local environmental. She was awarded an OAM in 1988, a most remarkable woman.

REMINDER : Native Grasses Workshop & Field Trip

The EcoSkills Network at Milang will be hosting a workshop on how to identify and propagate native grass species and their utilisation in land management, agricultural production and vegetation projects.

The presenters will be Bob Myers and Ellen Bennett – Native Grasses Resources Group.

There will be two sessions – All welcome but bookings essential.

Session 1 – What grass is that ? 9.15am 26th October at the Milang ACE Space, Milang Old School House

Session 2 – Field Identification & plant associations 12th November – venue to be confirmed

For more information contact

Shirley Smith office: 85 370 687 mobile :0427 186 593 Email : shirley@moshcc.com.au

Survey of 'out of the ordinary' ecological phenomena

The Nature Conservation Society of SA and O'Connor NRM are conducting a survey of 'out of the ordinary' ecological phenomena observed in South Australia. The study recognises and draws on the extensive knowledge of field naturalists and will be used to inform conservation planning by telling the story of 'out of the ordinary' ecological phenomena observed in the last year.

You are invited to share any 'out of the ordinary' ecological phenomena that you observed in South Australia between **1st July 2010** and **30th September 2011**. You can do this by completing the quick and easy online survey accessed through the link below.

To participate in this study and record your observations please go to: www.surveymonkey.com/s/ecologicalphenomena Please note that the final date for entering observations is the **30th November 2011**.

If you have any questions about completing the survey, please contact Annie Bond anthelia.bond@oconnornrm.com.au or Valerie Lawley on valerie.lawley@oconnornrm.com.au
T: (08) 8363 4448

Note: personal information will remain confidential to the study and results will be reported such that no individual can be identified.

Reminder – Stirring the Possum

Stirring the Possum - The environment in 2020: What will it look like for business, government and the community? Allan Holmes invites you to the next "Stirring the Possum" DENR event.
Wednesday 2 November, 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm (doors open at 5:15 pm)
The Sanctuary, Adelaide Zoo, Gate 1, Plane Tree Drive (off Hackney Rd)
Free Registration is essential as seating is limited. Register here <http://environment2020.eventbrite.com/>

RIVER MURRAY – weekly FLOW ADVICE

For weekly flow / level reports on the River Murray and Lakes go to the following website
www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au

Up-to-date River Murray flow and water level information can be accessed at the Department for Water, 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>

Details of river height and rainfall information in the River Murray within Victoria and New South Wales are available at the Bureau of Meteorology website:

<http://www.bom.gov.au/vic/flood>

Information on the discharge of acid drainage water into the Lower River Murray can be accessed online at
www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au

DAILY RECORDINGS – RIVER MURRAY DATA

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

DATE **OCT 17 - 21 2011**

DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	SALT (EC)
17	GOOLWA	0.825	572
18		0.826	516
19		0.818	522
20		0.770	510
21		0.828	472
	AVERAGE	0.813	518
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	SALT (EC)
17	MILANG JETTY	0.773	439
18		0.769	440
19		0.758	436
20		0.744	430
21		0.762	448
	AVERAGE	0.761	439
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	SALT (EC)
17	RAUKKAN OFFSHORE	0.765	428
18		0.750	486
19		0.745	467
20		0.742	405
21		0.738	348
	AVERAGE	0.748	427
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	SALT (EC)
17	MENINGIE JETTY	0.774	4895
18		0.779	4939
19		0.786	4933
20		0.792	4884
21		0.732	4832
	AVERAGE	0.773	4897
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	SALT (EC)
17	NORTH WARRENGIE POINT LAKE ALBERT	0.785	5168
18		0.816	5140
19		0.831	5204
20		0.820	5286
21		0.764	5288
	AVERAGE	0.803	5217

CALENDAR OF EVENTS for more info contact the Lakes Hub

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

October 2011

24	
25	Samphire workshop – Narrung Hall 10.00am RSVP by Monday 17 th October to Jo McPhee jomcphee@lakeshub.com Ph 0488 465 043 Lakes Hub office 85370808
26	TALKING HEADS – Planning Priority Planting. Milang 10.00-11.00am. Meningie 1.00pm – 2.00pm What grass is that ? Workshop – Milang ACE space Shirley Smith office: 85 370 687 mobile :0427 186 593 Email : shirley@moshcc.com.au
27	
28	
29	
30	
31	

November 2011

1	
2	Samphire workshop – Hindmarsh Island 10.00am – 1.00pm. RSPV Monday 24 th October to to Jo McPhee jomcphee@lakeshub.com Ph 0488 465 043 Lakes Hub office 85370808
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	Propagation Workshop 10am – 1.00pm Milang Nursery Contact : John 85370687
8	
9	Native fish Awareness Day at Milang School - BBQ lunch - Contact : Amanda Vivian, Milang School 85370223
10	
11	
12	
13	Meningie Carporama – Meningie yacht Club
14	
15	
16	NatureMaps workshop , Strathalbyn school internet centre. Contact Derek Fenton at derekf@activ8.net.au
17	
18	
19	Goolwa to Meningie yacht race
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	
29	
30	
31	

Disclaimer

All the links and articles in this Bulletin are provided as a courtesy to recipients. While I try and keep these links and articles as up-to-date as possible, I can't guarantee their accuracy, adequacy, timeliness, or completeness.

In addition, the existence of a link to another site or resource does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement of that site or resource. The Lakes Hub does not accept responsibility or liability for any information at any of the sites linked to from this Bulletin.

If you feel a link description, site, piece of advice or anything else mentioned here is inappropriate, do [let me know](#) and I will endeavour to correct it where necessary.