



WEEKLY BULLETIN

November 21st 2011. No 73

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Lakes Hub contacts

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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.

1911 - The Meningie MAIL CONTRACTOR - JOHN (JACK) WILKS

Story courtesy of Leon Ayres of Meningie

A Mail contractor who was officially recognised for his long and continuous service was JOHN (JACK) WILKS, who was born on 16th June 1888 at Pine Park near Tailem Bend.

From approximately 1911 he drove the horse mail from Meningie to Tailem Bend under contractor, the late Mr. F.G. Mason. This was a horse team, pulling an open buggy and often carried up to four passengers together with mailbags, parcels and cream cans. He would drive his team to Tailem Bend and then return to Meningie on a push bike the same day over unmade roads, the following day returning again to Tailem Bend by pushbike to pick up the buggy.

During the big flood of 1916 he had to carry his pushbike on his shoulders through some sections of the roads to and from Tailem Bend and also drove the horse team and buggy through the floods with his feet on the seat.

On January 1st 1930 he obtained his first mail contract for the return Meningie, Tailem Bend run, which was a daily run of 6 days per week and lasted for 44 ½ years. He also held other contracts from Meningie to surrounding areas. One of his favourite vehicles was a Maple Leaf Chev Truck which the local garage estimated travelled over 1 million miles. In 1972, Jack was awarded The British Empire Medal. He was told by a P.M.G. superintendent that his mail contract was considered to be the oldest, continuous running contract still operating in the world at the time.



Photo courtesy of Ken Strother, Meningie.

Propagation workshop at Clayton

A plant propagation workshop will be presented by John & Julie Barrie from the Australian Native Plant Society. The Barrie's have extensive experience and knowledge in native plant propagation and will advise attendees on cutting tools and techniques, types of cuttings, plant physiology, timing, hygiene and pathogens and what to grow.

WHERE : Clayton Bay Community Nursery, Alexandrina Drive next to the Clayton Bay Hall

WHEN : Wednesday 30th November 10.00am – 3.00pm

RSVP : By Wednesday 23rd November to Jo McPhee

CONTACT : jomcphee@lakeshub.com Ph : 85370808 or 0488465043

BRING ALONG : your own cuttings, tools, snips, gloves, cutting board, some margarine containers, pots or trays (growing media supplied)

This workshop is sponsored by the Lakes hub and hosted by the Lakes Community Nurseries Network.



World Wetlands Awards

Take this opportunity to get our fantastic Australian wetlands recognised internationally!! Especially in this lead up year to the Ramsar Conference next year, when the Awards Ceremony will occur. Go to World Wetland Network website and register your favourite wetland under threat. Nominate your favourite wetland Closing date 31 March 2012. www.worldwetnet.org/awards

Landscapes Alive Plant Selector

The [Landscapes Alive Plant Selector](#) is a comprehensive, relevant and user-friendly online resource to help achieve more sustainable urban landscapes through improved plant selections.

Plant selections include local indigenous, Australian native and exotic species that are non-invasive and require minimal supplementary water once established.

Detailed information is provided about each plant including suitability for different landscape types, soil and light preferences, physical appearance, growth habits, attraction for native fauna, common landscaping uses and other qualities and cautions.

The Plant Selector was conceived and developed by the Sustainable Landscapes Project team at the Botanic Gardens of Adelaide.

Acacia Cyclops (Western Coastal Wattle) – an Australian native weed

Although an Australian species, the *Acacia cyclops* is regarded as a weed in this region. A 'weed' can be defined as any plant that requires some form of action to reduce its effect on the economy, environment, human health and amenity. Introduced or non-local Australian natives can, therefore, be considered weeds.



The Western Coastal Wattle (*Acacia cyclops*) has been translocated from Western Australia and western South Australia and has begun to invade local remnant native vegetation which is reducing the biodiversity of the region. Active control is required to reduce their impact.

One of the most distinctive features of the Western Coast Wattle is the curly brown seed pods which are held on the bush for most of the year also the seed of this wattle has a very distinctive red 'funicle' surrounding it. The funicle has a very high oil content which

makes it very appealing to birds and ants as a food source and can therefore be distributed over relatively long distances.

The Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Association (GWLAP) has produced a good brochure on controlling *Acacia cyclops* around the lakes region. For a copy contact the Lakes Hub.



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 **NOV 14 - 18 2011**

DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	SALT (EC)
14	GOOLWA	0.678	706
15		0.707	682
16		0.807	643
17		0.717	615
18		0.769	607
	AVERAGE	0.736	651
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	SALT (EC)
14	MILANG JETTY	0.684	465
15		0.718	465
16		0.749	470
17		0.725	477
18		0.732	478
	AVERAGE	0.722	471
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	SALT (EC)
14	RAUKKAN OFFSHORE	0.736	573
15		0.730	570
16		0.724	494
17		0.717	475
18		0.723	475
	AVERAGE	0.726	517
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	SALT (EC)
14	MENINGIE JETTY	0.773	4489
15		0.765	4500
16		0.711	4558
17		0.721	4579
18		0.731	4593
	AVERAGE	0.740	4544
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	SALT (EC)
14	NORTH WARRENGIE POINT LAKE ALBERT	0.781	5255
15		0.771	5286
16		0.806	5374
17		0.746	5373
18		0.755	5472
	AVERAGE	0.772	5352

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.

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
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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
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13	Meningie Carporama – Meningie yacht Club
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16	NatureMaps workshop , Strathalbyn school internet centre. Contact Derek Fenton at derekf@activ8.net.au
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19	Goolwa to Meningie yacht race
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23	Coorong south lagoon information evening – Gemini Downs 6.30pm More info : Gemma Cunningham 82049453 gemma.cunningham@sa.gov.au
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30	Propagation workshop – Clayton Nursery 10.00am – 3.00pm Contact Jo McPhee jomcphee@lakeshub.com Ph : 85370808 or 0488465043
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Disclaimer

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