

**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  
**Aaron Cheesman** : Revegetation Planner / Coordinator 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](mailto:info@lakesub.com)  
 Meningie Office [meningie@lakeshub.com](mailto:meningie@lakeshub.com)  
 Web [www.lakeshub.com](http://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.*

## Peron's Tree Frog found at Clayton

*Thanks to Jane Hylton, Marian Thompson & Fred Bullock.*



*Photograph courtesy of Fred Bullock*

Marian from Clayton and others saw a Peron's Tree Frog at Clayton recently. It was sighted at the Boat Hire Beach in the Caravan Park between mid to late afternoon. Calls from other frogs that were thought to also be Peron's Tree Frogs were heard in the vicinity of the caravan park at the same time. The frog is about 4.5 cm long, head to tail, and although they are not visible in this picture has bright yellow with black markings under its legs and down its sides. It has bright aqua spots and is a greyish-beige colour. The colouring in the photo is fairly accurate.

More information on the Peron's Tree Frog "Litoria peronii" .

The Peron's Tree Frog is considered a frog of the Lower Murray and its distribution had previously only been noted as far south as Langhorne Creek, the last sighting in the Langhorne Creek area being in 1996. The species was recorded in Goolwa for the first time during the annual September Frog Census in 2010 by the Signal Point Riverine Environment Group and has now been identified at Clayton.

The Peron's Tree Frog is usually around 50mm in length but can vary from between 30mm and 70mm. The colour of this frog varies from cream to dark brown or grey, with irregular dark flecks and small emerald green spots, it also has a unique cross-shaped pupil. Peron's is also known as; Emerald-spotted Tree Frog, Laughing Tree Frog and the Maniacal Cackle Frog due to its distinctive call. Peron's is a large and agile climber with distinct large toe pads.

If you have found an unusual frog in your area and you would like identified take a photo and email it through to the Lakes Hub. Also the Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Association has a frog monitoring kit for loan at the Lakes Hub, Milang.

## Draft plan now available and 20 weeks of consultation begins

The Draft Basin Plan is now available and 20 weeks of consultation begins.

The Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) has released its draft Basin Plan on 28 November 2011, triggering a 20-week public consultation period.

Documents made available:

- Draft Basin Plan (a piece of draft legislation)
- Plain English Summary (a chapter-by-chapter explanation document of the draft)
- Delivering a Healthy, Working Basin (gives a broader context to the draft)

Copies of all documents are available on [www.mdba.gov.au](http://www.mdba.gov.au) and can be ordered by phoning 1800230067 or emailing [engagement@mdba.gov.au](mailto:engagement@mdba.gov.au). Information on how to provide submissions on the draft Basin Plan can be found at <http://freeflow.mdba.gov.au>

The MDBA has advised it will hold its first South Australian meeting in Murray Bridge on 9 December 2011. At time of print, the MDBA was still confirming the time and venue. If you are interested in attending, watch for information updates to confirm this detail on the Authority's website at [www.mdba.gov.au](http://www.mdba.gov.au)

Running in parallel to the MDBA consultation, the South Australian Government will also hold stakeholder meetings to inform South Australia's formal response to the MDBA on the draft Basin Plan. These will be held prior to Christmas and also early in 2012.

Information about South Australian Government meetings will be available on [www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au](http://www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au) where interested groups and individuals can also subscribe to receive email updates from the Department for Water. You can subscribe to receive these email updates by signing up via the 'stay informed' box at this page: <http://www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au/rivers-reservoirs-aquifers/murray-darling-basin-plan/murray-darling-basin-plan-overview/>

Recently a high level science review of the MDBA's *Guide to the proposed Basin Plan* was released by the Goyder Institute for Water Research. This scientific review considered the water recovery scenarios and the implications for South Australia outlined in the MDBA's *Guide*. This report can be viewed or downloaded at [www.goyderinstitute.org](http://www.goyderinstitute.org)

## BASIN PLAN INFORMATION SESSIONS

29<sup>th</sup> Nov – Jamie Briggs( Liberal MP) – Murray Bridge Hotel (upstairs) 3.30pm

8<sup>th</sup> Dec – Jamie Briggs( Liberal MP) – Milang Institute – 5.00pm

9<sup>th</sup> Dec – MDBA – Murray Bridge ( time / venue TBA)

## Recent interviews by the SA Country Hour regarding the MDBA Plan

On Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November the SA Country Hour journeyed down the River assessing the reaction to the Murray Darling Basin Plan.

To listen to the transcript visit :

<http://www.abc.net.au/rural/sa/content/2011/11/s3378291.htm> ( click on the  in the audio section )

## Black Tailed Native Hen

Scientific name: *Gallinula ventralis*

Heading over to Meningie last week I had to dodge flocks of Black Tailed Native Hens playing 'Russian Roulette' by running across the Princes Highway. Many of them had lost the game prior to my trip with more destined for the same gruesome end.



The Black-tailed Native-hen usually breeds near water in swamps. They prefer rank grasses or lignum near permanent or ephemeral terrestrial wetlands in low rainfall areas, in both fresh and brackish water. It is adapted to breeding rapidly when conditions are favourable and eats seeds, plant material and insects. It feeds on open ground near wetlands or at the edge of water and often feeds by running, then stopping, to stir up insects.

This bird is nomadic, taking advantage of temporary wetlands. When breeding conditions are good, large numbers of birds may suddenly arrive in an area, breed and then disappear again.

The Black Tailed Native Hen is found in plentiful numbers throughout Australia.

Reference : <http://birdsinyard.net/species/Gallinula-ventralis>

Photograph courtesy of the Kersbrook Landcare Group.

## Clayton Temporary Flow regulator progress

Picture taken 28<sup>th</sup> November 2011, 2.30pm



## 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](http://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.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](http://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 21- 25 2011**

DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	SALT (EC)
21	GOOLWA	0.730	608
22		0.650	621
23		0.659	631
24		0.739	622
25		0.763	685
	<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>0.708</b>	<b>633</b>
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	SALT (EC)
21	MILANG JETTY	0.707	451
22		0.671	454
23		0.707	456
24		0.767	461
25		0.770	454
	<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>0.724</b>	<b>455</b>
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	SALT (EC)
21	RAUKKAN OFFSHORE	0.702	456
22		0.687	434
23		0.691	455
24		0.689	448
25		0.759	423
	<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>0.706</b>	<b>443</b>
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	SALT (EC)
21	MENINGIE JETTY	0.710	4782
22		0.704	4829
23		0.688	4847
24		0.579	4889
25		0.758	4678
	<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>0.688</b>	<b>4805</b>
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	SALT (EC)
21	NORTH WARRENGIE POINT LAKE ALBERT	0.734	5082
22		0.741	5263
23		0.692	5338
24		0.613	5480
25		0.776	5475
	<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>0.711</b>	<b>5328</b>

## 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

28	Murray Darling Basin Authority – Basin Plan DRAFT release
29	
30	<b>Propagation workshop</b> – Clayton Nursery 10.00am – 3.00pm Contact Jo McPhee <a href="mailto:jomcphee@lakeshub.com">jomcphee@lakeshub.com</a> Ph : 85370808 or 0488465043
31	

### December 2011

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	<b>International Volunteer Day Community 'On ground works' celebration</b> 12.00-3.00pm. More information contact the Lakes Hub
6	
7	
8	
9	MDBA meeting Murray Bridge – more info to follow
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	Christmas Day
26	Public Holiday
27	Public Holiday
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.