



# WEEKLY BULLETIN

December 5<sup>th</sup> 2011. No 75

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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.*

## Raukkan Café – open for business

The new Raukkan Café has been open since September 2011 much to the delight of the locals.

The local community are really happy and excited as there has not been any sort of shop at Raukkan since the 1970's and there has not been one at Narrung for the past 10 years. Even to access bare essentials it meant a trip to either Meningie ( 30 minutes away) or Murray Bridge (45 minutes away).

The Café now have cool drinks, milk shakes, homemade iced coffee, barista coffee, tea etc and all pantry and household essentials.

Special lunch days are on Thursday & Fridays from 12 - 2.00 and have on offer one particular meal each day which may be lasagne, Coorong mullet, schnitzel, salads etc. For special menu requests please order a few days ahead.

Hot chips etc are available daily.

The Café is open 5 days a week 9.30 - 5.00pm Monday to Friday and will open on other days by request.

Tours please book.

Contact the Café Phone: 8574 0058



*Carolyn Rigney showing off her barista expertise at the Raukkan Café.*



The Café will seat around 20 people with more tables and chairs outside under the veranda.

## Recent survey of 'out of the ordinary' ecological phenomena.

By Annie Bond, O'Connor Natural Resource Management

The response to the survey has been excellent and we are very pleased that many people have recorded their observations. An edited selection of the responses to date is included below for your information and interest.

**The survey deadline has been extended to 16<sup>th</sup> of December 2011.**

To allow more observations to be entered, we will keep the survey open for another two weeks. So if you haven't already done so, please add your observations to the survey. We'd love to have them recorded as part of the overall picture.

To access the survey got to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ecologicalphenomena>

Please note that we are interested to hear about absolutely any 'out of the ordinary' ecological phenomena observed in South Australia between 1<sup>st</sup> July 2010 and 30<sup>th</sup> September 2011. This includes:

- Phenomena that have been, or might be reported by others.
- Any phenomenon that doesn't usually occur, regardless of whether or not it would make the news.

### 'Out of the ordinary' ecological phenomena observed in South Australia between 1st July 2010 and 30th September 2011.

Ecological phenomenon description	Category
Population explosion of Southern Bell Frog ( <i>Litoria raniformis</i> ) at Bool Lagoon	amphibian (native)
Very high abundances of bearded dragons and sleepy lizards on the B83 highway between Hawker and Arkaroola in Aug 2011. I've travelled that road repeatedly in the last 3 years and never seen a bearded dragon before.	reptile (native)
Mass movements of various butterfly species into the South East of SA after the wide-spread rain events in eastern Australia. Species included Glasswing, Chequered Swallow-tail, Spotted Jezabel and Small Grass Yellow.	invertebrate (native)
I have had reports from fisherman and seen firsthand unusually high numbers of sand crabs in gulf waters.	invertebrate (native)
Massive increase in some sort of leaf curling spider that inhabits wetlands and the floodplain.	invertebrate (native)
Record of a normally sub-tropical moth, <i>Gammodes ocellata</i> , in the South East of SA.	invertebrate (native)
Locusts, and the massive spraying both aerial and ground that we undertook.	invertebrate (native)
Plaguing of native mice and rats.	mammal (native)
Attack upon an Eagle Ray by three Bottlenose Dolphins at American River. A never seen before occurrence.	mammal (native)
Significant range extension of Swamp Wallaby <i>Wallabia bicolor</i> in last 10 - 15 years. Extending from Victorian border up past Kingston SE. Moderate numbers living in the township of Mount Gambier, particularly young males.	mammal (native)
Sighting of Red fox cub ( <i>Vulpes vulpes</i> ) activity (tracks and scats) outside of a den observed 6/6/2011. Most cubs being born from August and September. Being that the cubs were venturing outside the den in early June is most unusual. Breeding early could be a result of high mouse and locust numbers in the mallee around the Lameroo area.	mammal (introduced)
Huge increase in rabbit numbers and associated damage.	mammal (introduced)
Increase in Buff-banded Rail observations in South East of SA.	bird (native)
No breeding by White-browed Wood swallows in the Upper South East in the spring/summer of 2010/11. Breeding has been recorded for previous 25 consecutive years.	bird (native)
Increase in painted Button Quail and Bassian Thrush.	bird (native)
Large influx of waterfowl over last 2 months. Particularly large numbers of Pacific Heron <i>Ardea pacifica</i> and large influx of hardhead ducks <i>Aythya australis</i>	bird (native)
Observed three Restless Flycatchers at Basket Range in September this year. Have only once before observed this species here.	bird (native)
What appeared to be an albino superb fairy wren observed on two occasions at Myponga Beach.	bird (native)

Ecological phenomenon description	Category
Flock of around 200 Yellow tailed Black Cockatoos at Scott Conservation Park.	bird (native)
The fungal species <i>Geoglossum umbratile</i> was officially recorded ie a collection made in August 2010 and numbers were larger than in 2009 when it was observed for the first time.	fungus (native)
The fungal species <i>Trichoglossum hirsutum</i> (Hairy Earth Tongue) was recorded for the first time in SA in winter 2010. One fruit body was found in Deep Creek. In 2011, a total of 70 fruit bodies were found in the same area.	fungus (native)
First records of fungal species in South Australia. 1. Small species of the gilled fungus <i>Volvariella</i> , 2. <i>Cortinarius (Dermocybe) globuliformis</i> is a small, gilled truffle-like underground fungus	fungus (native)
Fungal species: rare genus/species: <i>Sarcodon</i> sp.	fungus (native)
Previously collected, but rare fungi in SA	fungus (native)
The fungal species <i>Leotia lubrica</i> (Jelly babies) has not been seen in the Adelaide Hills for a number of years and certainly not since I have been regularly observing fungi. In the winter of 2011 good numbers and large fruit bodies were observed in Deep Creek, Porter Scrub CPs and Kuitpo Forest	fungus (native)
The succession of macrofungi after fire in Flinders Chase NP, Kangaroo Island. Since we have pre-fire data we can conclude that the composition of macrofungi in the Chase has not returned yet to its pre-fire status.	fungus (native)
First report of <i>Geoglossum glutinosum</i> in SA in September 2010. 86 fruit bodies recorded in Hardy's Scrub and a collection lodged in State Herbarium.	fungus (native)
Several major sea water intrusions, even during flood flows, reversing the river flow and raising salinities close to sea water levels many kms upstream from the Murray Mouth	other
Massive down pour at Mannum and surrounds in December 2010 that caused severe erosion, killed Rainbow Bee-eaters and drowned Wombats etc	other
Best flowering of <i>Pterostylis despectans</i> (lowly greenhood orchid) in 8 years of monitoring in quadrats but no seedpods. Pollinating insect unknown. This species is poor at producing seedpods but in previous years of flowering, pods have always been found.	plant (native)
Concurrent with an ongoing spot-spraying of Perennial Veldt grass in Aldinga Scrub, in current area being sprayed, there has been a 98% colony collapse of <i>Isopogon ceratophyllus</i> .	plant (native)
Widespread scarification of leaves of several eucalypt species (eg <i>E. camaldulensis</i> , <i>E. microcarpa</i> ) in the MLR to the point where young trees had 100% of leaves killed by a caterpillar (unknown species) in the winter/spring of 2011	plant (native)
A stand of 100+ <i>Corybas diemenicus</i> in a small area approx 50cmx50cm on a roadside near Victor Harbor	plant (native)
I recently discovered a native orchid I had not seen before, <i>Caladenia rigida</i> , which is classified as vulnerable. This was on Kersbrook Road in the Mount Crawford native forest	plant (native)
A large (10m+ tall and girth 4m+) red gum ( <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> ), believed dead for over 20 years and being reserved for furniture making, has started to grow again.	plant (native)
Widespread flowering of <i>Olearia magniflora</i> through Sedan, Cambrai, Black Hill area; Welcome return of orchid flowering after years of absence (drought) ( <i>Arachnorchis stricta</i> , <i>Pterostylis cynnocephala</i> ) on sand dune areas south of Murray Bridge Successful germination of <i>Acacia pycnantha</i> and <i>Euc. incrassata</i> on sandhill areas south of Murray Bridge	plant (native)
Large increase in <i>Themeda triandra</i> (kangaroo grass) population. Also, individual grasses were actually head high.	plant (native)
Huge increase in certain weed species following record summer rainfall at Palmer	plant (introduced)
Vast increase in annual weed population in "box hollows" in mallee.	plant (introduced)

## Water Security Forum - Wednesday 29th of February 2012 - Tintinara

There is significant concern being raised by landholders in regard to the large cost increases for mains water, particularly relating to stock water consumption. This has been identified as the number one issue raised in the community consultation meetings held across the Coorong District for the review of the Coorong District Local Action Plan.

The Coorong & Tatiara Local Action Planning Committees are holding a Water Security Forum in Tintinara on Wednesday the 29th of February. The forum will provide information & water saving technology expertise at a full day event focusing on practical farm based solutions. Presentations will be given by water industry experts and landholders providing case studies.

Topics will include;

- Desalination, and effluent disposal.
- Alternative energy generation.
- Leak detection & leak finding equipment (it is estimated 20% of purchased water is lost through on farm leaks).
- Effective shandyng of mains and bore water.
- Rainwater harvesting techniques.
- Matching animal nutrition to water quality.
- What you need to know about piping water from the river, lakes, or between properties.
- Using off-peak water & storage, including aquifer storage and recovery.
- Case studies of innovative water management.

Trade exhibitors will be in attendance to discuss their products with you. The Northern NRM Group, the Coorong District Council, & Tatiara District Council are our partners in this event.

To register, or obtain further information, contact Graham Gates on 0427 572330. Registration is essential for catering purposes.

## Coorong Tatiara Local Action Plan - Summary of 2012 On Ground Works Incentives

If you are a landholder, community group or school in the Coorong or Tatiara District Council areas you are eligible to apply for on ground works incentives with the Coorong Tatiara Local Action Plan. This funding is made available through the Commonwealth Caring for our Country Program, SA Murray Darling Basin NRM Board, & the vital support of the Coorong District & Tatiara District Councils. The principal aim of these incentives is to minimise wind erosion and enhance biodiversity.

An Expression of Interest Form and \*a detailed outline of the funding conditions is available at [www.coorong.sa.gov.au/goto/lap](http://www.coorong.sa.gov.au/goto/lap) or by contacting a member of the Coorong Tatiara Local Action Plan Team on 85 723611.

### On Ground Works Expressions of Interest are due in no later than the 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2012

On Ground Works Incentive	Funding Rate per ha / km	Basic Funding Conditions *
Dryland Lucerne	\$15 / ha	Maximum of 100ha per property.
Perennial Pasture	\$15 / ha	Maximum of 100ha per property. Varieties as approved by CTLAP.
Salt Tolerant & Post Drainage Pastures	\$25 / ha	Maximum of 100ha funded. Varieties as approved by CTLAP.
Native Windbreaks	\$400 / ha & \$1500 / km	Minimum width of 10 metres and 3 rows. Stock proof fence. Ongoing weed & pest control.
Native Vegetation Block	\$450 / ha & \$1750 / km	Stock proof fence. Ongoing weed & pest control.
Fencing Remnant Vegetation	\$2000 / km	Stock proof fence. Ongoing weed & pest control.
Fencing Wetlands	\$2000 / km	Stock proof fence. Ongoing weed & pest control.
Farm Forestry	\$250 / ha & \$450 / km	Species as approved by CTLAP. Stock proof fence.
Fodder Shrubs	\$90 / ha & \$450 / km	Species as approved by CTLAP. Stock proof fence.
Stabilising Sand-Drift	Up to \$100 / ha	Long term stabilisation
Earthworks & Levelling of Blowouts	Up to 30% of final costs	Long term stabilisation.
Clay Spreading	\$40 / ha	Maximum of 40 ha funded. Minimum clay spreading rate of 80 tonnes / ha.
Land Class Fencing (to separate types of land that require different management techniques to minimise the risk of wind erosion)	\$450 / km	Fencing of a significant landscape or soil type change. Stock proof fence.

## 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>

NOV 28 -

DATE      DEC 2 2011

DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	SALT (EC)
28	GOOLWA	0.683	545
29		0.660	530
30		0.574	598
1		0.678	2521
2		0.690	1644
		<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>0.657</b>
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	SALT (EC)
28	MILANG JETTY	0.681	450
29		0.686	450
30		0.609	439
1		0.653	441
2		0.699	444
		<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>0.666</b>
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	SALT (EC)
28	RAUKKAN OFFSHORE	0.673	497
29		0.673	342
30		0.648	350
1		0.664	371
2		0.654	380
		<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>0.662</b>
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	SALT (EC)
28	MENINGIE JETTY	0.685	4921
29		0.686	4674
30		0.707	4637
1		0.647	4635
2		0.605	4646
		<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>0.666</b>
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL AHD	SALT (EC)
28	NORTH WARRENGIE POINT LAKE ALBERT	0.704	5437
29		0.724	5304
30		0.668	5301
1		0.666	5074
2		0.631	5258
		<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>0.679</b>

### Monthly Averages for November 2011

GOOLWA	0.742	614
MILANG	0.743	451
RAUKKAN	0.762	445
MENINGIE	0.729	4635
WARRENGIE	0.751	5343

### THIS TIME 16 MONTHS AGO – AUGUST 2010

	WATER LEVEL AHD	PH	SALT (EC)
Clayton	0.121	8.27	15146
Milang	0.456	7.95	3581
H.Island	0.435	8.67	18924
Albert	-0.389	8.79	12159

## 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.

### December 2011

1	
2	
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4	
5	<b>International Volunteer Day Community 'On ground works' celebration 12.00-3.00pm. More information contact the Lakes Hub</b>
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9	MDBA meeting Murray Bridge
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23	
24	
25	Christmas Day
26	Public Holiday
27	Public Holiday
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31	

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