



WEEKLY BULLETIN

February 6th 2012. No 83

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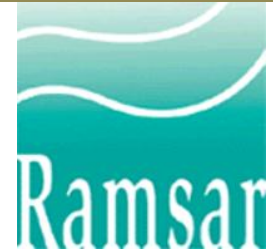
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The Lakes Hub is the initiative of the Milang and District Community Association and is part of the South Australian Government's Murray Futures program, funded by the Australian Government's Water for the Future initiative.

World wetland day - Special edition

The 2nd of February is recognised internationally as World Wetland Day. This day marks the date of the adoption of the Convention on Wetlands on 2 February 1971, in the Iranian city of Ramsar. The Lakes Hub celebrates this day annually by hosting an event relating to the World Wetlands Day theme which is announced by the Ramsar convention each year.



The 2012 theme was 'Wetlands and Tourism' and with this in mind the Lakes Hub offered a tour of the Coorong and Lower Lakes wetland regions to visitor information centre personnel. The offer was well received with 60 officers from 12 different visitor information centres registering for the wetlands tour.

The tour departed from Milang and Meningie with commentators informing participants of the Ramsar convention, historical events, the diversification of agriculture, environmental issues and current environmental projects throughout the tour.

Commentators -:

Terry Sim from the Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Association not only conveyed information regarding the projects that he is directly involved with but as a highly respected historian and naturalist, Terry's knowledge was shared freely with a very fortunate group.

Gemma Cunningham, Manager Community Engagement (Coorong, Lower Lakes Recovery Project) delivered a massive amount of fascinating information to the participants. Gemma has been involved with the recovery project for over 4 years and has a very in depth and thorough knowledge of all aspects of the region and it's wetlands.

Andrew Dawes, Information Officer at the Lakes Hub, Meningie has lived in the Meningie area all his life and has a very intimate knowledge of the region. His experience with the rural industry - agriculture and fishing in particular was of great interest.

The first stop was Raukkan. Raukkan is an aboriginal community situated 43 kms west of Narrung. Raukkan was originally known as Point McLeay, the site of a mission for Aboriginal people formed in 1859. The name was changed to Raukkan, meaning 'meeting place' or 'the ancient way', in 1982 by the request of the aboriginal community.

The buses pulled up in front of the newly developed Raukkan Café to be met by Derek Walker, the Municipal Officer for the Raukkan Community Council and Clyde Rigney, the Raukkan Community Council's Project Officer. (See photos on the web link below).

An inspection of the Raukkan community nursery followed where local, native, plant species are propagated for planting out in local revegetation projects. The tour then wandered up to the Raukkan church which is pictured on the Australian \$50 note before heading up to Raukkan's Teringie wetland lookout .



The view from the Teringie viewing platform at Raukkan. Should you wish to visit this are please call in at the Raukkan Council Office.

After departing Raukkan the next stop was for lunch at a private property on the shores of Lake Albert known as 'Nindethana' (photos on the link below). The Giles' of 'Nindethana' offer a Bed and Breakfast accommodation with the use of a private 9 hole golf course right on the banks of the lake. The property has been extensively revegetated over the past few decades and was a most relaxing and picturesque site to have a break.

Long Point was the next site stop where the visitors experienced salt water wetlands for the first time on the tour and then onto Parnka Point which is the narrowest part of the Coorong. Now mid-afternoon the tour headed off to Meningie for an afternoon tea break on the newly constructed Pelican Path, an interpretive pathway on the Meningie lakefront. Pelican Path is a Government funded project and was officially opened by Hon. Paul Caica MP in 2011.

By 4.00pm the participants were bursting with information on every aspect of the Coorong, lower lakes and the wetland systems. Along with brilliant commentary throughout the tour they had been given information packs with an itinerary, maps, brochures, site descriptions and information on Ramsar and wetlands. The knowledge learned and information gathered will, no doubt, be taken back to the various visitor information centres and conveyed to future clientele. Many of the tour participants had never visited these areas and were astounded at the scale, beauty and complexity of the lower lakes and Coorong.

For a map of the areas visited click on this icon



For more **photos of the day** and a **video clip** on Australia's amazing wetlands posted by the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities go to -:

<http://lakeshub.com/2012/02/03/world-wetlands-day-2012/>

RIVER MURRAY PUBLIC MEETING

Beyond The Draft Plan – Where To From Here?

Senator Sarah Hanson-Young invites you to attend a public meeting on the Murray Darling Basin Authority's Draft Plan. Speakers will discuss the implications of the draft plan and the survival of the river system.

Speakers Include:

Senator Bob Brown, Leader of the Australian Greens
Professor Mike Young, The Wentworth Group
Peter Owen, The Wilderness Society
Assoc. Professor David Paton, Adelaide University
Professor Diane Bell, Lower Lakes Campaigner/Conservation Council SA
Arlene Harriss-Buchan, Australian Conservation Foundation

When: 5.45pm for 6-7.30pm, Tuesday February 21

Where: The Bradley Forum, The Hawke Centre,
City West Campus, Uni SA

RSVP by Friday 17 February:

Ali Neyle – ali.neyle@aph.gov.au or 82270425

(This event is free of charge)



Authorised by S. Hanson-Young, Lvl 7, 147 Pine St, Adelaide SA 5000 | This material has been produced at Australian Government expense by Senator Sarah Hanson-Young

Threatened species, ecological communities or key threatening processes listing

From the Conservation Council of SA notices

Nominations are invited for the assessment period starting 1 October 2012, for any species, ecological communities or key threatening processes to be considered for listing under national environment law.

The conservation theme for this assessment period is corridors and connecting habitats (including freshwater habitats). Nominations consistent with this conservation theme are encouraged, but nominations outside the theme will also be considered.

Nominations close 5pm Thursday 22 March

<http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/nominations.html>

'Voices of the Murray' Fringe Parade entry.

From the Conservation Council of SA notices

The Murray River is extremely important to South Australia's and the 'Lifblood' - (Voices of the Murray) Alliance has been allocated a space in the parade. **We need a minimum of 20 voices to be part of our Murray River themed entry on Friday 24 February.**

This street theatre concept is fairly simple but will resonate and be easy for viewers to be able to understand. A flyer will be handed out explaining the campaign. You don't have to be a doctor all you need is a passion to help one of South Australia's most crucial environmental issues.

A rehearsal practice workshop will be on Thursday 16 February starting a 6pm at the old Mayfield factory on Gilbert Street in the city (it is on the cnr of Norman St, accessed through the Wicked Campervan car park).

National Acid Sulfate Soil Conference

From the Conservation Council of SA notices

This conference may be of interest to those working with your local wetlands, especially working coastally or in the Murray Darling who have had some exposure to the issues of Acid Sulfate Soils.

6 - 7 March Melbourne For more info go to -: <http://www.scu.edu.au/nationalassconference/>

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	JAN 30 -FEB 3		
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
30	GOOLWA	0.391	637
31		0.612	646
1		0.713	733
2		0.633	779
3		0.605	683
		AVERAGE	0.591
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
30	MILANG JETTY	0.539	554
31		0.658	585
1		0.626	568
2		0.643	571
3		0.613	567
		AVERAGE	0.616
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
30	RAUKKAN OFFSHORE	0.619	884
31		0.602	829
1		0.608	588
2		0.597	617
3		0.598	599
		AVERAGE	0.605
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
30	MENINGIE JETTY	0.653	5179
31		0.513	5127
1		0.485	5030
2		0.449	5021
3		0.490	5081
		AVERAGE	0.518
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
30	NORTH WARRENGIE POINT LAKE ALBERT	0.544	4710
31		0.544	4685
1		0.500	4717
2		0.475	4732
3		0.506	4775
		AVERAGE	0.514

CALENDAR OF EVENTS for more info contact the Lakes Hub

February 2012	
1	
2	WORLD WETLAND DAY
3	Point Sturt and District Landcare Group general meeting. Anne Hartnet's shed 3.00pm Contact : Bruce Allnutt 0419800574
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21	River Murray Public Meeting – 5.45-7.30pm, Bradley Forum, The Hawke Centre, City West Campus, Uni SA Bookings/ info 82270425
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29	Water Security Forum, Tintinara. To register contact Graham Gates 0427 572 330. More info http://www.coorong.sa.gov.au/page.aspx?u=221&c=3599
30	
31	

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

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.