



WEEKLY BULLETIN

April 16th 2012. No 93

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@lakeshub.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.

2000 plants to plant on Meningie lakefront

By Andrew Dawes, Lakes Hub Meningie

The Friends of Meningie are seeking volunteers to help revegetate the Meningie storm water culvert as part of the re-naturalization process. As can be seen from the photos this drain has undergone extensive works and will look completely different once established with plants. Approximately 2,000 plants will be planted later this month by Friends of Meningie, the Ngarrindjeri community and Meningie Area School Students followed by a BBQ lunch to be provided.

DENR staff along with GWLAP personnel will be present and provide the necessary tools and advice on plant species and their location. If you have a pair of rubber boots and gloves I suggest you bring these along as they may become useful. For further information and to confirm the date please contact the Lakes Hub.

WHAT : Planting of the Meningie storm water culvert

WHEN : **NEXT MONDAY 23rd APRIL 9.00am**

WHERE : Meningie Storm Water Lagoon – southern end of Pelican Path

If you are interested in helping with the planting, or becoming involved in the Friends of Meningie Group, please contact Andrew Dawes at the Meningie Lakes Hub on 8575 1830

Email meningie@lakeshub.com or visit the Lakes Hub at 79 Princess Highway, Meningie.



Left : before work started on the Meningie storm water drain.

Right : the storm water drain today in readiness for revegetation with 2000 plants



SAVE THE FROGS DAY EVENTS TAKING PLACE WORLDWIDE

By Dr Kerry Kriger - Founder & Executive Director of SAVE THE FROGS and Ecologist

The annual celebration of amphibians will be the largest day of amphibian education and conservation action in the planet's history. At least 150 Save The Frogs Day events are happening in 25 countries, including the United States, Canada, Brazil, Bangladesh, Ghana, and Australia. The goal is to raise awareness of the rapid disappearance of frog species worldwide.

Amphibian populations worldwide have been declining at unprecedented rates, and nearly one-third of the world's amphibian species are threatened with extinction. Up to 200 species have completely disappeared in recent years. Amphibians are faced with an onslaught of environmental problems, including climate change, pollution, infectious diseases, habitat loss, invasive species, and over-harvesting for the pet and food trades.



The Lakes Hub Save the Frogs Day Thursday 26th April

INVITATION

The Lakes Hub will be host to the 'Save the Frogs Day' on Thursday the 26th of April at the Milang Institute from 1.00pm. An invitation is extended to all community members and regional schools to attend this annual event.

Your participation in the day's activities and the various competitions is most welcome.

What you can expect on the day -:

Drumming for the frogs

Experts on hand to deliver presentations—special guest Mike Tyler, SA Museum

Live frogs on display

Identify frogs and frog calls

Static displays, digital displays

Free frogie facts information, handouts etc

Competitions – art, poster, photo and pottery competitions.

Please contact the Lakes Hub for more information and competition entry forms.



Ph : 85 370 808

Email : info@lakeshub.com

Salinity facts

Salinity = the presence of soluble salts in the soil or water. Salinity is often measured in varying values but the most common is the EC units measurement which is a good indicator of total dissolved salts.

EC units means **E**lectrical **C**onductivity units.

Other measurements used are ppm (part per million) or mg/ltr – they are of equal value.

1 EC unit = 0.64 ppm or 0.64mg/ltr

1000 EC units = 640ppm or 640mg/ltr

5000 EC units = 3200 ppm or 3200mg/ltr

which is accurate for this region but may differ away from coastal regions where the composition of the salts can vary.

Generally salt tolerant plant species can produce with water that has an EC of 1,500 – 3,000 and livestock performance will generally decline if drinking water is more than 6,250 EC units.

Power Boat racing at Goolwa

By Andrew Dawes

Thousands of people flocked to Goolwa last weekend to see the return of power boat racing a sight that hadn't been seen at Goolwa for 25 years.

The recently rebuilt Goolwa Aquatic Club Clubhouse was filled to capacity with people listening to the sounds of live music and the thundering roar of boats like the "Sting" with smaller boats like the "Linda-K" rekindling memories of records broken. The Sunday was interspersed with fly pasts of a former foreign jet fighter and the more sedate formation of 3 biplanes.

"Now that's the Goolwa we used to know and love".



100 years ago from the files of the Southern Argus

Courtesy of the Southern Argus

Mr Keith Bowman proprietor of Poltalloch Station and other owners abutting on the lakes are faced with a serious problem and things will get worse until the River Murray rises appreciably. The extremely dry season has seen low levels in the lakes which are being impregnated with salt water. Mr. Bowman has lost six valuable dogs and so far more than 100 sheep in drinking the water, a similar experience happening 15 years ago.

THE CIRCUS COMING TO TOWN.

GRAHAM BLACKWELL – 11 years old (1935) – submitted by daughter, Robynne Barrett

Sent to plough the field with his Dads team of horses, Graham was under disciplinary action for once again playing pranks on the unsuspecting. He had slid the sprinkler under the outside toilet door meticulously and turned the tap on full force to gain howls and screams from their housekeeper, Peg Schmooch - how many times had he achieved this? As usual he had bolted across the paddocks with his collie dog knowing if he stayed away for the day he would be safe. Upon his return his Father was not so ignorant and inflicted the punishment of ploughing up the front paddock with the team of horses. He had to do it on his own otherwise more punishment would come his way if he didn't finish it the next day.



The dawn broke early and fearing for more chastisement he reined up the team and off he went. He felt by mid-afternoon his job would be accomplished and all would be well until of course the Circus came through ! There, travelling right in front of him, in a long procession was a Circus heading to Milang from Port Elliot.

In the early days a road called the Port Martin road passed directly through the Blackwell property and allowed a quieter passage for the circus. Graham pulled up his team and stood very quietly. He was particularly concerned that his large team of horses would spook the long pageant of animals, such as donkeys, ponies and monkeys. It took a long time for the procession of animals to pass and once they were completely on their way he realised the day had all but finished. Being concerned by not accomplishing his tasks was overlooked by his excitement at witnessing the pageantry of the circus and he figured that once he told his father of this great occasion all would be forgiven. His father being out all day was completely stunned by Graham's lack of discipline and reprimanded him as soon as he appeared. Upon Graham's explanation "A circus walked past and I had to be kind and not spook them", his Father's reply was "You spook a poor woman while she is on the toilet, then try to explain your laziness on a passing circus you didn't want to fright, I don't think so Graham". He was not believed and was sent to bed without dinner and the field was to be ploughed the next day.

State-wide fairy tern census indicates successful breeding

Some successful breeding occurred between November 2011 and February 2012 with a state-wide count in February recording 72 free-flying juveniles.

Under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 fairy terns are listed as vulnerable, with less than 5000 mature individuals remaining in Australia.

For more information on the Fairy Tern Census click on the following link

http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/Home/Full_newsevents_listing/News_Events_Listing/120329-FairyTerns

Understanding the Carbon Farming Future & Launch of the Revised Coorong Local Action Plan

WHEN : Monday 30th of April 2012 4pm – 7pm

WHERE : Coomandook Hall

Interest in how Carbon and Carbon Legislation will affect agriculture has been growing in the Coorong District. This interest was confirmed at recent community consultation sessions for the revised Coorong District Local Action Plan.

In response, the Coorong Local Action Plan Committee has decided to combine a Carbon Information Session with the launch of the Revised Coorong Local Action Plan. This will be followed by a BBQ and refreshments.

An impressive list of speakers will be in attendance and Sharon Starick, Presiding Member of the South Australian Murray Darling Basin NRM Board will launch the Revised Coorong Local Action Plan.

The Local Action Plan, originally released in 1997 and last updated in 2000, has been completely revised, following extensive community consultation, to cover emerging issues such as climate change and water security while continuing with all of the current issues addressed by the LAP including erosion, dryland salinity, native vegetation decline and sustainable agriculture. This document will provide a blueprint for natural resource management in the Coorong District and serve as an investment document to attract implementation funding.

The revised LAP also addresses changes to NRM legislation, Government Departments, funding programs and the introduction of NRM Boards and NRM Groups.

To register, or obtain further information contact Graham Gates on 0427 572330.

On line registration is available at www.coorong.sa.gov.au/lapregistration

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

APR 9 - 13 2012

DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
9	GOOLWA	0.670	1245
10		0.716	1733
11		0.795	984
12		0.702	649
13			641
	AVERAGE	0.722	1050
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
9	MILANG JETTY	0.686	778
10		0.759	769
11		0.787	767
12		0.737	770
13		0.700	772
	AVERAGE	0.734	771
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
9	RAUKKAN OFFSHORE	0.709	428
10		0.736	442
11		0.744	392
12		0.729	493
13		0.695	428
	AVERAGE	0.723	437
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
9	MENINGIE JETTY	0.731	4972
10		0.681	4972
11		0.685	4928
12		0.712	4898
13		0.721	4878
	AVERAGE	0.706	4930
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
9	NORTH WARRENGIE POINT LAKE ALBERT	0.714	4704
10		0.749	4745
11		0.765	4816
12		0.765	4731
13		0.748	4719
	AVERAGE	0.748	4743

CALENDAR OF EVENTS for more info contact the Lakes Hub

APRIL 2012

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	School holidays begin – to 23rd
6	EASTER
7	EASTER
8	EASTER
9	EASTER
10	
11	
12	Reed harvesting for weaving –Middleton 9.30 am Contact : : Ollie Black, Project Officer, Alexandrina Council Ph: (08) 8555 7239 Mobile: 0447877447 Email: Ollie.Black@alexandrina.sa.gov.au
13	
14	Clayton Bay Fair Contact Leonie on 0407 394 907 for further information or to book a site.
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	Photo competition entries due in for Save the Frogs Day event Poster competition entries due in for Save the Frogs Day event Art competition entries due in for Save the Frogs Day event Pottery entries to be hand delivered to the Milang Institute on the 26 th prior to 10.00am
21	
22	
23	School resumes Planting the Meningie storm water lagoon. 9.00am Volunteers welcome Contact : Andrew Dawes at the Meningie Lakes Hub on 8575 1830 Email meningie@lakeshub.com or visit the Lakes Hub at 79 Princess Highway, Meningie.
24	
25	ANZAC DAY
26	SAVE THE FROGS DAY Milang Institute 1.00 – 6.00pm Interactive day with live, static and digital exhibits, Frog enthusiasts, Competitions - art, photography, clay etc. Contact Lakes Hub 85370808 info@lakeshub.com for entry comp entry forms etc. ALL FREE
27	
28	
29	
30	Understanding Carbon farming & launch of the Coorong Action Plan – Coomandook Hall 4.pm – 7pm contact Graham Gates 0427 572330 or book online www.coorong.sa.gov.au/lapregistration
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.