

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.

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**Lakes Hub contacts**

Milang Office  
 phone 08 8537 0808  
 Email  
[info@lakeshub.com](mailto:info@lakeshub.com)

Meningie Office  
 phone 08 8575 1830  
 Email  
[meningie@lakeshub.com](mailto:meningie@lakeshub.com)

Web [www.lakeshub.com](http://www.lakeshub.com)

- Louise Mawson :**  
Lakes Hub Coordinator
- Andrew Dawes :**  
Lakes Hub - Info. & Admin. Officer  
Meningie
- Jo McPhee :**  
Lakes Hub—Community Nursery  
Network Coordinator
- Will Miles :**  
GWLAP—Project Officer Coordinator
- Regina Durbridge :**  
GWLAP—Monitoring & Evaluation  
Project Officer
- Aaron Cheesman :**  
GWLAP—Revegetation Planner/  
Coordinator -shared position
- Leah Sullivan :**  
GWLAP—Revegetation Planner/  
Coordinator -shared position
- Kerri Bartley :**  
GWLAP—Lower Lakes and Coorong  
Community Revegetation Program  
Project Officer
- Ken Strother :**  
GWLAP—Revegetation Project Officer  
Meningie
- Joy Mayberry :**  
Lakes Hub Office Admin assistant  
(part time ) Milang
- Robbyne Barrett :**  
Lakes Hub Office Admin assistant  
( part time) Meningie

**The last week of duties for Carole Richardson**



Carole Richardson started with the Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Association (GWLAP) in May 2009 as Coorong Lower Lakes Murray Mouth Monitoring & Evaluation Project Officer and moved on in 2012 to become the Project Coordinator of the CLLMM program . Carole has been stationed at the Lakes Hub in Milang from the project inception and during that time has connected with many people from all walks of life.

During her employ Carole has been involved with every facet of the Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth project and has been a mentor and educator to many community members, landholders, and employees in the region.

Carole has also worked closely with both state and federal government personnel and has been a great conduit for consultation between government bodies and community members.

Big shoes to fill for Will Miles who will be taking over Carole’s position from the beginning of July. More on Will in next week’s issue.



**Farewell Carole and best wishes from the Lakes Hub**

## Community planting in full swing

The Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Association (GWLAP) is managing the Community Planting for the DENR's Coorong Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth (CLLMM) Program in 2012.

Approximately 340,000 plants are being grown by local community network nurseries around the lower lakes region to be planted this season by local community groups.

The GWLAP have appointed 10 site managers to assist 28 community groups to plant varying amounts of plants on particular sites throughout the region. There are 47 sites in the CLLMM region that will be planted out by community groups this season, the season beginning in May and finishing early August, 2012.

Community groups relish in this opportunity to partake in the project as it gives them both an opportunity to raise funds for their group and to increase the biodiversity of their region. It also offers a fantastic opportunity to raise awareness and educate communities about the importance of looking after our Environment by increasing habitat and resilience and controlling weeds and erosion.

So far this season just over 85,000 seedlings have been planted by 18 Community Groups around Lake Albert, Hindmarsh Island, Lake Alexandrina and adjoining tributaries.

Some of the groups include Milang & District Community Association, Meningie Football Club and Pony Club, Meningie Area School, Eastern Fleurieu School - Milang Campus, and Encounter Lutheran College – Victor Harbor.

Kerri Bartley is the GWLAP Lower Lakes and Coorong Community Revegetation Program Project Officer and is responsible for scheduling the community planting program.

*"It is wonderful to have such a great interest from the local schools, it allows for a 'hands on learning experience' to enrich and enhance students current Environmental Studies in the class room" says Kerri Bartley.*

*"It has also been very beneficial having follow-up rains after the initial plantings – it gives the plants an extra boost and a great start to becoming established".*



Pictures during one of the Milang and District Community Association (MDCA) planting days earlier this month.

## Murray Darling Basin Authority—meetings and events

To keep updated with the MBDA's meetings and events in relation to the Murray Darling Basin Plan click on the icon to the right.



## Invitation to attend the exhibition 'Earth Connections'

The Feature Artist for this exhibition is Freda Jaadawa Mills, who has worked in particular with a book of 'scar tree' photographs, taken originally over the past 30 years or more, by the late Jack McLean of the Angas Plains-Milang district. Freda, Trevor McLean (Jack's son) and photographer friend Graeme McVitty have been travelling around the Fleurieu revisiting the sites of the original photographs and rediscovering the trees. They have put together an absolutely amazing collection of photographs of the trees in their current state.

The exhibition is open to view from Wednesday 20 June to Sunday 29 July, 10am-4pm.

Stationmaster's Art Gallery , 20 South Terrace in Strathalbyn.

## 100% water allocation for irrigators

South Australia is still receiving above average inflows onto the river system with flows into the state during May double the long term average. About 880 gigalitres flowed across the SA border last month compared to an average flow of 380GL.

Most major storages are at capacity at this point and so irrigators have been 100% of their water allocation for 2012/13 by the SA Department for Water.

## Fluctuations in lake levels explained

Landholders and community members may have noticed a recent drop in the pool level of both Lakes Albert and Alexandrina recently which may seem confusing with the higher than usual inflows from the River Murray and tributaries.

In the first week of June the lake levels were around 0.65m AHD (above sea level). Last week the levels had dropped to approximately 0.55m AHD due low tide and low swell conditions in the Southern Ocean adjacent to the Murray Mouth which allowed maximum outflows from the barrages.

Currently operations are being undertaken to reduce outflow from the barrages to increase the water level in the Lower Lakes. Lake levels will be raised slowly to approximately 0.75 m AHD in the following weeks. The cycle of lowering and re-raising water levels is part of a longer-term trial aimed at flushing salt from Lake Albert.



The Tauwitchere Barrage heading towards Ewe Island.

## 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:

<https://www.waterconnect.sa.gov.au/RMWD/Pages/default.aspx>

[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 2012 JUN 18 - 22

DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
18	GOOLWA	0.547	17,739
19		0.558	8514
20		0.472	2540
21		0.639	2994
22		0.524	6010
	AVERAGE	0.548	7559
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL ( AHD)	SALT (EC)
18	MILANG JETTY	0.555	382
19		0.556	380
20		0.430	387
21		0.535	373
22		0.584	366
	AVERAGE	0.532	378
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
18	RAUKKAN OFFSHORE	0.554	638
19		0.548	644
20		0.540	639
21		0.540	584
22		0.561	519
	AVERAGE	0.549	605
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
18	MENINGIE JETTY	0.621	4121
19		0.603	4167
20		0.637	4208
21		0.633	4111
22		0.598	4013
	AVERAGE	0.618	4124
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
18	NORTH WARRENGIE POINT LAKE ALBERT	0.658	4354
19		0.647	4444
20		0.691	4430
21		0.676	4370
22		0.617	4318
	AVERAGE	0.658	4383

## 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.

JUNE 2012	
1	<b>Turkindi – Reconciliation week celebration Mt Barker – For more information <a href="http://www.dcmtbarker.sa.gov.au">www.dcmtbarker.sa.gov.au</a></b>
2	<b>Rodwell Creek/Wistow Landcare Group Inc</b> Field Day - Native Food Plants. More info Jill Taylor, 8537 5265, Ian Blight 8391 2536, Beryl Belford 8536 4052 or <a href="mailto:bbelford@activ8.net.au">bbelford@activ8.net.au</a>
3	
4	
5	<b>World Environment Day</b> <b>Milang</b> : Community Planting season opening -planting day. Pobbybonk Point Milang – all welcome Contact Deb Melville 0448959699 <b>Meningie</b> : Community planting season opening – panting day. Meningie foreshore – all welcome Contact Andrew Dawes 8575 1830 or 0427751488 <b>Trees For Life</b> – Intro bush regeneration workshop, Strathalbyn. More info ; phone 8406 0500 <b>MDBNRM workshop</b> – Murray Darling Basin Plan – Community prioritisation workshop –Goolwa Info : RSVP to <a href="mailto:samdbenquiries@sa.gov.au">samdbenquiries@sa.gov.au</a> or
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11	<b>Public holiday—Queens birthday</b>
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17	<b>Community planting—Milang.</b> Volunteers needed Contact : Deb Melville <a href="mailto:mecnursery@lakeshub.com">mecnursery@lakeshub.com</a> or 85370808
18	
19	<b>MDBNRM workshop</b> – Murray Darling Basin Plan – Project development workshops –Goolwa Info : RSVP to <a href="mailto:samdbenquiries@sa.gov.au">samdbenquiries@sa.gov.au</a> or ph:
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