

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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New faces at the Lakes Hub in Milang

Amelia Graham joins the Lakes Hub team this week as the new Coordinator of the Lakes Hub. You might have seen Amelia around the Lakes over the last two winters as a revegetation site Manager for Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Plan Association Inc.

Prior to this she worked for Parks and Wildlife service in Northern Territory as a Park Ranger and in the Joint Management Unit working closely with Aboriginal Traditional Owners. Amelia, her husband and two year old son are currently building a straw bale house in the Hindmarsh Valley. Amelia is looking forward to working with local community in the Coorong and Lakes region.

Stuart Jones will also be working at the Hub to take over the production of the weekly Bulletin and all things 'I.T.'. Stuart will spend 2 days a week at the Hub and for the remainder of the week he will continue his work at the Milang Old School House Community Centre in the adult education field.

As this will be my last Bulletin and my last week working as the Coordinator of the Lakes Hub I would like to thank everyone that I have been lucky enough to have had contact with during the past two and half years through the Hub. It's been a great experience, a priceless education, an absolute pleasure and I will certainly miss it. Many thanks to the Milang and District Community Association for their wonderful support and I wish them every future success with their great initiative, The Lakes Hub.



Stuart Jones, Lou Mawson and Amelia Graham

Change at the top

In my role as President of the Milang & District Community Association you get to meet a lot of nice people, they become your friends and you meet them both on business and socially. When we received the task to set up "The Hubs" we knew that we had to find someone with good business skills, who knew and could understand the task ahead and above all had an ability to be able to get on with others They had to have the ease to deal with those who walked through the door seeking information.

And in walked Lou.

Lou began her role as co-ordinator at the height of the crises when water levels in the lake were at an all-time low and there was a great deal of despondence in the community. Co-ordination of programs, getting information out to the community and cooperation with Government Agencies was vitally important. Lou took control and with her calm and good humoured abilities smoothed out the problems and became the central figure in the Hub's program. She made many friends and became an identity in the community. We are sorry to see Lou leave. She has been a great person to work with and we are going to miss her abilities and good humour. I am safe in saying good fortune and best wishes Lou, come from all of us.

Mike Linscott
President MADCA



Mike Lindcott, President of the Milang and District Community Association (MDCA)

Frog day at Meningie Area School

On Friday the 10th August the Lakes Hub visited the Meningie Area School to deliver a very informative and interactive session on the frogs in the Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth region.

Regina Durbridge from the Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Association (GWLAP) and frog enthusiast was the presenter and had on hand her family of eight different local frog species all of whom performed admirably on the day.

Around 100 year reception to year five students learnt about all aspects of the frog world including their breeding, habitat, frog monitoring, voice calls and the particular species of the lakes region.



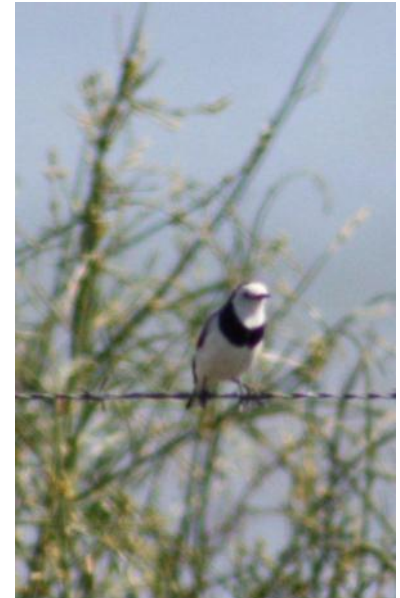
White-front Chat - *Epthianura albifrons*

Regina Durbridge has captured the White –fronted Chat during Wetland monitoring with the SA MDB NRM Board.

This bird was often called the ‘Tin-Tac’ and is quite common. In summer and autumn it gathers near the lake in flocks of 100-200. They feed on insects in lucerne pasture or feed amongst the roly-poly weed and other summer weeds. They often nest in low shrubs, tussocks and samphire.

Reference : Natural History of the Strathalbyn & Goolwa Districts, by the Strathalbyn Naturalists Club Inc.

White-fronted Chat nest taken at Waltawa Swamp.
Photo by Regina Durbridge



White –fronted Chat -Narrung Wetland
Photo by Regna Durbridge

Bridal Creeper Workshop

WHEN: Friday 24th August from 1.00pm-3.30pm

WHERE: Milang Environmental Centre—Community Nursery. Jupiter St, Milang

WHAT : Hands on workshop—learn how to control Bridal Creeper biologically

BOOKINGS: Phone or drop in to the Milang Old School House (MOSHCC) 85370687
24-25 Daranda Tce, Milang or email reception@moshcc.com.au

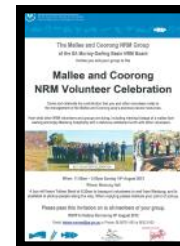
MILANG & DISTRICT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC.

AN AMALGAMATION OF THE MILANG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC. & MILANG INSTITUTE INC.

Mallee & Coorong NRM Volunteer celebration day

The Mallee and Coorong Natural Resource Management group invite their volunteers to a celebration day on Sunday the 19th August.

For more information click on the icon to the right.



Barrage operations to reduce water levels

The water levels of Lake Alexandrina and Lake Albert will be reduced over the next few weeks in a bid to reduce the salt levels in Lake Albert which is still hovering around the 3,600ec unit level. Lake Alexandrina has an average ec units level of 450 at this time.

Barrage operations will endeavour to reduce the water level in the lakes which will draw saline lake Albert water out through the narrows at Narrung for flushing out to sea through the Murray Mouth. Further barrage manipulations will encourage fresh water from the Murray flows to wash into Lake Albert .

At present the water level in Lake Albert is approximately 82cm AHD and the level in Lake Alexandrina is approximately 80cm AHD. It is hoped that the levels can be gradually reduced to about 55cm AHD over the next few weeks depending on tides, wind changes and additional rainfall.

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:

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

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

DAILY RECORDINGS – RIVER MURRAY DATA

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

DATE Aug 6 -10 2012

DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
6	GOOLWA	0.734	720
7		0.774	602
8		0.661	531
9		0.598	481
10		0.734	484
	AVERAGE	0.700	563.6
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
6	MILANG JETTY	0.741	532
7		0.744	432
8		0.709	433
9		0.680	463
10		0.731	432
	AVERAGE	0.721	458.4
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
6	RAUKKAN OFFSHORE	0.736	428
7		0.772	592
8		0.747	488
9		0.713	533
10		0.736	505
	AVERAGE	0.741	509.2
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
6	MENINGIE JETTY	0.802	3854
7		0.797	3788
8		0.772	3728
9		0.803	3426
10		0.875	3552
	AVERAGE	0.810	3669.6
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
6	NORTH WARRENGIE POINT LAKE ALBERT	0.803	3827
7		0.872	3641
8		0.827	3704
9		0.800	3724
10		0.763	3672
	AVERAGE	0.813	3713.6

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.

NOTE : all past Bulletins are available on the Lakes Hub website
www.lakeshub.com

August 2012	
1	River Murray Water Justice —free forum. Adelaide. See Bulletin No 107 or phone 83020215
2	Invigorating Agriculture - www.invigoratingag.com.au or see Bulletin no 104 page 2
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17	MDBANRM Carbon Farming Forum. Murray Bridge. See Bulletin No 108 of phone 8532 9100
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22	Fisheries & Aquaculture meeting Conservation Council of SA - see Bulletin No 109 pg 2 for more info
23	Public consultation—National Food plan ‘Green’ paper - more info in Bulletin No 109 pg 3 Find out more about the green paper and stakeholder consultation opportunities
24	Bridal Creeper workshop —biological control. 1-3pm Milang Community Nursery Bookings—85370687 or email reception@moshcc.com.au
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31	Native Vegetation Council Research Grant applications close —see DEWNR website or Bulletin No 108

Disclaimer

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