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Welcome!

Another varied issue for you this week, from Wattles, rainfall, moths, podcasts and more! Sometimes things don't seem to link together. However, a bit like the lake levels, over a week it doesn't seem to make much sense but over the course of a month, year or decade, patterns might start to emerge.

There are certainly many threads that come together throughout the Murray Darling Basin; the threads don't always see the big picture, but all contribute.

Speaking of big pictures, my wife and I saw [The Sapphires](#) on the weekend, a fantastic film, and very moving. It is brilliant to see great Australian cinema on the big screen, and this film showcases some breathtaking performances and imagery. Not to be missed.

Kind regards,
Stuart Jones.

Wattle Day

Get your sprigs out for [National Wattle Day](#), Saturday September 1st

Australia is home to almost a thousand species of Wattles (Acacias), and is Australia's Floral Emblem, or more specifically Golden Wattle (*Acacia pycnantha*).

We love our Wattles (allergies notwithstanding), and they are a common feature of many gardens and roadsides. However, not all species are safe to plant in any given location.

There are two Wattles in particular that are classified as weeds around the Lower Lakes; the [Golden Wreath Wattle](#) (*Acacia saligna*) and the [Western Coastal Wattle](#) (*Acacia Cyclops*).

These non-local Wattles and other weeds can prevent local species from thriving.



(*Acacia rhetinocarpa*) Image courtesy of [Australian Plant Image Database](#)

There are two particularly rare and endangered Wattle species in the region:

Acacia pinguifolia, the Fat-leaved Wattle which is an endangered species ([Click here for more info](#)) and *Acacia rhetinocarpa*, the Neat Wattle or Resin Wattle (SA) which is listed as vulnerable ([more info](#)).

The Clayton Bay Community Nursery is growing approximately 2000 *Acacia pinguifolia* to be planted in 2013. They are working closely with Threatened Flora project officers to assist with the recovery of this species in the Finnis region.

For your listening pleasure

AUSTRALIA'S RIVERS: AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

RadioNational Broadcast: Wednesday 15 August 2012 8:05PM,

Professor Richard Kingsford delivers the 2012 Eric Rolls lecture and offers an environmental assessment of the current state of the Murray-Darling basin, the Paroo river, Lake Eyre and the tropical rivers in northern Australia.

Highlights of 'A Meander Down a River or Two: How Water Defines Our Continent and Its Future', National Library Canberra 17th July 2012. Presented by the Watermark Literary society.

[Click here to listen or download](#)



We welcome more new faces to the Lakes Hub at Milang!



Photo by Stuart Jones

Two Eel Tailed Catfish (*Tandanus tandanus*) a threatened native fish—now have their home in the Lakes Hub at Milang. GWLAP Project Officer Coordinator Will Miles moved the fish down from Strathalbyn with their companions, three Murray Rainbowfish (*Melanotaenia fluviatilis*). Catfish numbers have declined in the Basin since the 1970's. Their numbers are threatened by pollution and increasing salinity levels, European Carp (which compete for habitat, food and disrupt nesting sites), Redfin Perch (which eat the juvenile catfish), and modifications to

their habitat and changes to water flows (dams, locks, weirs, bunds etc). We also welcome a pair of Southern Brown Tree Frogs (*Litoria ewingii*) courtesy of Regina Durbridge, Monitoring & Evaluation Project Officer for the GWLAP.

The Lower Murray is home to two species of Tree Frogs; the Southern Brown Tree Frog and the Peron's Tree Frog (*Litoria peronii*). The Southern Brown Tree Frog is one of the few frogs to call throughout winter.—Drop in and say hello to our newest arrivals at the Lakes Hub, Milang.



Photo by Stuart Jones

This week in the News ...

High flow warning for Murray in SA (ABC News)

Daily flows at the South Australian-Victorian border had reached 40,000 megalitres last week, boosted by eastern states' rainfall. Richard Brown of the SA Department of Environment and Water said people using the river should be careful of its rapid flow.

Final SA marine parks draft released—Video (ABC News)

The SA Government has released draft management plans for its 19 proposed marine parks, as part of the final round of public consultation.

Clock ticking on MDB plan (Stock & Land)

The Federal Government is running out of time to deliver on its promise to finalise a plan for water use in the Murray-Darling Basin this year... State Governments are due to provide feedback on the latest version of the reforms on Monday (27/8/12).

The Ghost Moth

The Ghost Moth is of the family Hepialidae, of which there are at least 587 species of Moth, over 100 of which are found in Australia.

There are 22,000 species of Australian moths, according to the CSIRO, only half of which have been described.

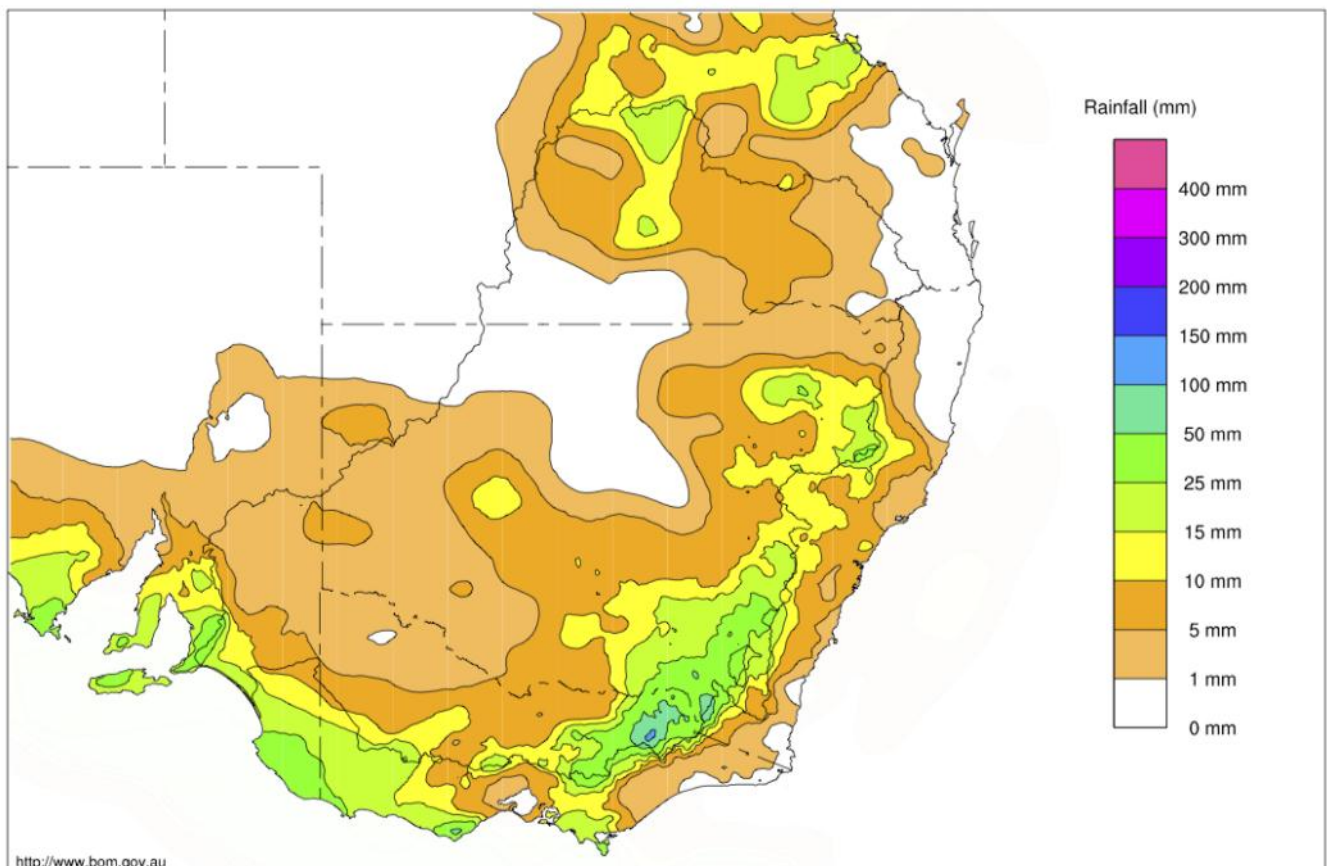
[Australian Moths Online](#) (published by the CSIRO) provides a photo gallery of a selection of Australian moths. This gallery aims to close the gap in knowledge by providing much needed images of these species and giving the unique experience of seeing some of Australia's rarely observed treasures.



Ghost moth chrysalis—photo by Regina Durbridge (GWLAP) found at Nurra Nurra Reserve 2011 revegetation site at the top of Lake Albert.

Murray-Darling Rainfall Totals (mm) Week Ending 26th August 2012

Product of the National Climate Centre



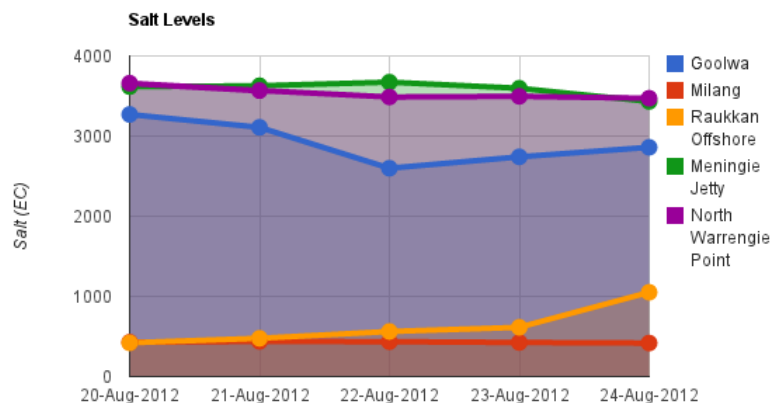
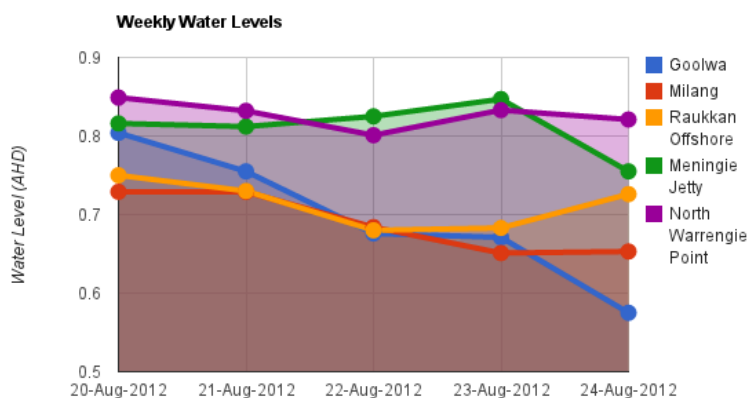
<http://www.bom.gov.au>

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On the Level

This week we have the debut of the Salt readings graph! Now compare the readings for the past week.



You can have a sneak-peek at our Levels Page while it's being put together here:
<http://lakeshub.com/lake-levels>

Daily Recordings – River Murray Data

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

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:
www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au

DATE Aug 20 24 2012			
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
20	GOOLWA	0.804	3270
21		0.755	3109
22		0.676	2599
23		0.671	2741
24		0.575	2860
	AVERAGE	0.696	2915.8
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
20	MILANG JETTY	0.729	428
21		0.729	439
22		0.684	435
23		0.651	425
24		0.653	418
	AVERAGE	0.689	429
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
20	RAUKKAN OFFSHORE	0.750	421
21		0.730	477
22		0.680	562
23		0.683	614
24		0.726	1051
	AVERAGE	0.714	625
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
20	MENINGIE JETTY	0.816	3617
21		0.812	3628
22		0.825	3673
23		0.847	3597
24		0.755	3432
	AVERAGE	0.811	3589.4
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
20	NORTH WARRENGIE POINT LAKE ALBERT	0.849	3660
21		0.832	3569
22		0.801	3488
23		0.833	3496
24		0.821	3472
	AVERAGE	0.827	3537

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.

September 2012 (Biodiversity Month)	
1	National Wattle Day
2	
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5	
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7	Ngarrindjeri Weaving Workshop—Milang More info : Email : reception@moshcc.com.au Ph : 8537 0687 National Threatened Species Day
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9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	Frogs and Frog Monitoring workshop—Ibis Siding Garden Centre, Goolwa. 6:30pm—8pm Places are limited—please phone or email to book. Regina Durbridge 8537 0808 / 0427 364 551 regina.durbridge@gwlap.org.au
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	Frogs and Frog Monitoring workshop, Lakes Hub Meningie 2:30-4:30pm Enquiries: Regina Durbridge 8537 0808 / 0427 364 551 regina.durbridge@gwlap.org.au
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30	World Rivers Day

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