

The Lakes Hub is an initiative of the Milang and District Community Association Inc. 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

Meningie Office
phone 08 8575 1830
Email
meningie@lakeshub.com
Web www.lakeshub.com

Amelia Graham
Lakes Hub Coordinator
Andrew Dawes
Lakes Hub - Info. & Admin. Officer
Meningie
Jo McPhee
Lakes Hub - Community Nursery
Network Coordinator
Robbyne Barrett
Lakes Hub Office Admin assistant
(part time) Meningie
Carole Richardson
Lakes Hub Office Admin assistant
(part time) Milang
Stuart Jones
Lakes Hub Bulletin & ICT

GWLAP office 8537 0807
Web www.gwlap.org.au

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

Samantha Blight
CTLAP - Implementation Officer
Meningie 0447 900001

Good afternoon Everyone,

We held an Information Session here at the Lakes Hub last Tuesday about the Milang Snipe Sanctuary where Kate Mason (DEWNR Wetlands Project Officer) described a potential Environmental Watering trial. The trial will aim to improve the Milang Wetland for Snipe habitat by releasing small amounts of water into the Southern wetland area to prolong inundation when the Snipe are here. If you missed it and would like some more information please come in and see me at the Hub or give me a call or email.

Don't forget it is **World Environment Day** tomorrow, Wednesday 5th June. You are all welcome to join the Lakes

Hub and Goolwa to Wellington LAP at the Milang Commonage for the Official Launch of the Community Planting Season, Bush Tucker Morning Tea and planting local indigenous bush food plants! See info page 6.

Enjoy the rest of your week!

Best Wishes, Amelia



World Environment Day Celebrations at Pobbybonk 5th June 2012

The weekly links...

Want some help to start growing your own food at home?

Check out the Food Forest information and courses including a 1-day course on Fruit & Nut Growing July 6th and Organic Vegetables & Free Range Poultry July 7th for more information visit:
www.foodforest.com.au

The Australian Native Food Industry Limited

ANFIL has a fantastic website full of information on native food plants, commercial uses, recipes & research: www.anfil.org.au/rirdc-native-food-publications

Community Gardens

A great way to grow your own food (especially if you don't have your own garden) meet local people and learn about gardening. Milang Community Garden has a working bee on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday each month 10.30am Coxe St across from primary school. Or check out Kitchen Gardens SA website at www.kitchengardenssa.com.au

Hook line & thinker - a great initiative to keep our waterways clean

Onkaparinga City Council have just installed bins to capture and recycle unwanted fishing debris. Read more: www.onkaparingacity.com
They have also produced a list to help you recycle right www.onkaparingacity.com/recyclingrevolution



Update on Environmental Works and Measures Feasibility Program - Community Ideas Component

Over the past 12 months, members of the SA River Murray regional community have been involved in the process to identify and prioritise ideas to prepare for pre-feasibility proposals for improving the health of the River Murray, its floodplain, and the Coorong and Lower Lakes. Involvement has included opportunities to submit project ideas, participate in workshops to prioritise and develop the ideas and to shape the evolution of them as they progressed to pre-feasibility.

Six pre-feasibility reports have been forwarded to the Australian Government for the highest prioritised community-identified ideas.

The following project ideas were shortlisted:

- Bookmark Creek and wetland
- Martin Bend Wetlands
- Tolderol Wetlands
- Teringie Wetlands
- Woltowa Wetlands
- Reconnecting wetlands on Hindmarsh Island

Further detail about the program can be found at:

www.naturalresources.sa.gov.au/samurraydarlingbasin

This now concludes the pre-feasibility phase of this program. As advised throughout the project, the Australian Government has not committed to provide further funding at this stage. The South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resource Management Board and the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources will actively pursue opportunities to secure funds to implement these ideas.



New Environmental Watering Poster

For full report on SA's River Murray Environmental Watering for 2011-12 visit

www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au/rivers-reservoirs-aquifers/river-murray/environmental-water-management

Environmental watering of South Australia's River Murray has achieved:

- successful spawning and recruitment of the native fish Golden Perch
- over 1000 waterbirds observed at one time at Coombol Swamp on the Chowilla Floodplain
- increased numbers of the threatened Murray hardyhead in Berri Basin
- 12 months of continuous barrage outflows
- surface water salinities of Lake Alexandrina kept below 1000 EC for 12 months.

Government of South Australia
Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources

For a full report on SA's River Murray Environmental Watering for 2011-12, go to <http://www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au/rivers-reservoirs-aquifers/river-murray/environmental-water-management/>

Lomandra Germination Trials

Preliminary Germination Research of *Lomandra effusa* & *Lomandra leucocephala* for the Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Association Inc. by the Adelaide Botanic Gardens



Lomandra effusa



Lomandra leucocephala

Experiment Background

Lomandra seeds supplied by Ben Simon of the Goolwa to Wellington LAP were used for germination experiments by staff of the Adelaide Botanic Gardens to find a useful protocol for the propagation of the two species *L. effusa* and *L. leucocephala*. There has been little published germination research on these species however reports from other species have shown germination to be temperature dependent, responsive to Gibberellic Acid (GA) and pericarp removal. Lomandra species has a linear underdeveloped embryo and are likely to have morphophysiological dormancy. For this experiment we tested a range of germination treatments to try and determine a successful protocol for propagation of these species. The experiment and research work was primarily conducted by Jenny Guerin with assistance from Dan Duval, both from the Adelaide Botanic Gardens. The Project was funded by the Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Association Inc. with generous in kind contributions from the Adelaide Botanic Gardens.

Experiments included testing for effects of cold stratification, using moist sponges in lieu of water agar, after ripening and cold stratification for 12 weeks duration. The GWLAP will be advised of the germination results of this experiment upon completion.

For preliminary results and further information contact

Ben Simon GWLAP 0418828949 ben.simon@gwlap.org.au



GOOLWA TO WELLINGTON LOCAL
ACTION PLANNING ASSOCIATION INC.



Government
of South Australia
Department of Environment
and Natural Resources

Botanic Gardens
of ADELAIDE



ADELAIDE
MOUNT LOFTY
WITTUNGA

Community Benefit SA Grants

The Special Community Youth Grants Program helps young people who are at risk of entering the youth justice system, or disengaging with school, family and the community, by supporting community service providers to deliver early intervention and prevention programs that address these issues.

Grants are for one-off projects up to \$180,000 per year for a maximum of three years (to 2016).

Eligible organisations are community based not-for-profit organisations that support disadvantaged individuals, families and communities in South Australia.

Applications close on Monday 29 July 2013.

An information session for organisations who intend to apply will be held on Monday 3 June 2013.

Registrations for this session close on Wednesday 29 May 2013. As places are limited a maximum two people per organisation should attend. Call 1300 239 468 to register or email: cbsa@sa.gov.au.

Further information about the Special Community Youth Grants can be found at www.dcsi.sa.gov.au/cbsa.

THE HISTORY SPOT - Milang to Meningie

From Milang to Meningie Some notes by the way (By an Observer)

The Advertiser, Monday 17th January 1910, page 8.



From Milang to Meningie the distance across Lakes Alexandrina and Lake Albert is about 36 miles, and over this expanse of water the boats travelling have a draught of about 26 inches. It is a simple statement of fact that we "ploughed" our way across. "I have often heard of 'ploughing' the deep," commented a man on deck, "but this is a ploughing of the shallow which I have never thought of." The churn of the paddles stirred the mud, and in our wake was a track as black as any cut in the Black Soil Plains by the teams. The journey, inclusive of a short stop at Point McLeay, occupied somewhere about six hours, and as the wind was dead ahead, all the time, the trip was less pleasant than the return with a stiff breeze astern.

At Point McLeay, where the mission station is situated, we saw some fifty or more adults representing the original holders of the soil, with many young natives running about, and it is not too much to say they all looked well and hearty. Some of them are in regular employment on the stations and farms, and others appear to make a living out of fishing, shooting, and casual work. At the wharf there were a number of carts in from the farms and these were to take back the cream cans sent in by the previous boat to the butter factory at Milang, which is in regular receipt of a considerable quantity of cream from the holdings on the shores of the lakes, and from which, by the way, is put out a brand of excellent butter.

Amongst the passengers was one of the type of Henry Lawson's "Sweeney":-

*He's apparently been fighting, for his face was black and blue,
And he looked as though the horses had been treading on him too;
But an honest, genial twinkle in the eye that wasn't hurt
Seemed to hint of something better, 'spite of rags and drink and dirt.*

He confided to me that drink had got him down and beaten, and said his father had been one of the rich men of the country. This, I discovered later, was a fact, and when he returned to tell me more of his downfall, while I did not exactly "lecture him on booze," I sympathised with him, and ended by referring to the man he might have been.

*Then a wise expression struggled with the bruises on his face,
Though his argument had scarcely any bearing on the case;
'What's the good o' keepin' sober? Fellers rise, and fellers fall,
What I might have been, and wasn't, doesn't trouble me at all.'*

He seemed to know all the country round about, all the people, and all about them; and he pointed out to me the various objects on the shore, which was so far away as to be only discernible. There was the lighthouse, a landmark for the guiding of river pilots in the days when the lakes were travelled by people from the east, and the steamer traffic was a big thing. There had been changes since, and things were neither what they seemed, nor what they were. The lighthouse was no longer the home of the beacon, it was used as a hut by a boundary rider, and the steersman on the boat, had no need for the light, since he did his running in the day. This landmark is on Poltalloch station, one of the Bowman properties, which abuts on Campbell House run, another of the fine holdings of the old family. On both are bred cattle and horses of good quality, and on both are sheep whose pedigree entitles every animal in the flocks to be considered an aristocrat. Also there are ostriches on both stations, and "Sweeney" assured me if they were worked for the money that is in their plumes they would be a source of profit to the owners of the properties. "Sweeney" has no use for the ostrich. It is, in his opinion, a gaunt, ungainly creature, with the speed of an express train and the temper of a fiend. "I've seen one 'em kick a dog to pieces," he remarked, "and the dog wasn't doin' a thing to it-only nosin' round after the young 'uns."

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THE HISTORY SPOT - Milang to Meningie Continued

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More over an ostrich had chased him when he was proceeding on foot, and, if he hadn't stepped lively, it would probably have kicked him to pieces also. "They're something like a nemu," he explained, "only different." And with this lucid description of the birds, it was as well to be satisfied. "Sweeney" is an admirer of the Bowman family, and was on his way to a job on one of the estates when he altered his mind, and decided not to go to work for a while. He had a horse running somewhere in the vicinity of Meningie, and would spend a little time looking for it. If successful in his search he would sell the animal, and take a little holiday. Later in the evening, at Meningie, he told me he had not found it. but he had sold his rights, and was engaged in making the holiday.

One of the sights on the lake was the flight of a flock of pelicans, of which there must have been as many as five hundred, and judging by the spread of wing the birds were, in instances, of enormous size. There were occasional flights of duck and teal, and, in places, the ibis floated in groups. There should be ample sport for bird-hunters on the lakes, and, if one may judge from the fact that in the water dipped for the swabbing of the deck there were fish, the disciples of Izaak Walton should find amusement.

For some time after sighting the landing place at Meningie it was plain we were ploughing more diligently than before, and, a mile or so out, the "crew" of the steamer gave it as his opinion we would not make the shore. It was an exciting time. If we had to stay on board there would be some hungry men on the ship, for we had eaten nothing worth speaking of since leaving Adelaide in the morning. If we had to go ashore in the dinghey there would be some wet jackets, and there were no changes of clothing aboard. But the skipper kept his "plough" moving, and though, towards the end of the journey, it was evident we were travelling "through" land, he got up within a few feet of the jetty before the man in the chains-or the man who did duty for the leadsman-announced we were hard and fast on the bottom. A long gang plank was run out, and, by careful balancing on the part of the passengers, the shore was reached, and our journey was accomplished.

It is thirty years or thereabouts since I passed through Meningie, on a mail coach, and the town does not appear to have altered much. It has a life peculiarly its own, and its community is one not to be met with elsewhere. Self-contained to a considerable extent, and apparently contented with its lot, Meningie is one of the old settlements, which will probably be much the same kind of place a century hence. There is some fine cultivation around the lake, and the land in the vicinity is of good quality. The dairying industry seems to be establishing itself there, and it is stated, by men who know the country, that the pasture land and natural grasses are better than in other parts of the State. Wheat grows well in parts, and in other localities it used to grow well. But it is observed that in some of the sections on which the crop was rich in days gone by it will not grow at all now. A suggestion that samples of the soil should be forwarded to the Department of Agriculture for analysis, was promised consideration.

There is fine sport in the immediate vicinity of the township, and, in ten minutes, just before dark, in the evening of our arrival, a couple of shots, with the city contingent, got a brace of rabbits at the cost of two cartridges. The next morning a dozen quail were secured, and if there had been a dog to put up the birds a good bag could have been obtained before breakfast. Turkeys used to be shot in the country, but it is stated they have been thinned out as a consequence of the distribution of baits for foxes and rabbits, which the latter did not pick up, as the birds got them, and skeletons of hundreds of them are seen by sportsmen out for game. The distribution of 50,000 acres of Narrung estate has brought about the settlement of a number of farmers in the district, and there is not the smallest room to doubt that, in the course of a few years, the Meningie country will occupy a prominent position on the producing list.

From Milang to Meningie Some notes by the way (By an Observer)

The Advertiser, Monday 17th January 1910, page 8.

Up-Coming Workshops

Trees For Life

Introductory Bush Regeneration Workshop

Tuesday 25th June at Willunga

For information & bookings phone 8406 0500

www.treesforlife.org.au



Come to an
Introductory Bush Regeneration Workshop
Tuesday 25 June, 2013
WILLUNGA

Learn more about our local native vegetation and the practical steps you can take to help restore it to health. Become a Bush For Life volunteer and:

Adopt a bushland site
Come to our bush regeneration group activities
Care for bushland on your own property
Learn more through our advanced training

Bush For Life is a community based program run by Trees For Life, that trains community members in minimal disturbance bush regeneration techniques. The program currently has more than 700 active volunteers working across 300+ sites covering in excess of 3400 hectares across South Australia.

To book your place or find out more
phone 8406 0500

Trees For Life
5 May 2013 Brooklyn Park SA 5032
www.treesforlife.org.au



Christie Walk DVD Launch

Tuesday 11th June, 7pm Willunga Environment Centre. In the heart of the city of Adelaide there is a small 'urban village' of 27 homes and gardens on 2,000 sq. m (half an acre). The development combines many ecologically sustainable and community enhancing features.

Presenter Sue Gibley will launch the DVD and open up discussions about more sustainable urban living.

Phone 8556 4188 for information & bookings.



World Environment Day 2013 BUSH TUCKER MORNING TEA and PLANTING OF BUSH TUCKER PLANTS

**Official Launch of the 2013
Community Planting Season
by the Goolwa to Wellington
Local Action Planning
Association**

- Planting local indigenous food & medicinal plants
- Bush Tucker Morning Tea

Plants, tools, hot drinks & 'sustainable' morning tea will be provided. If you are interested in being involved in planting please wear appropriate clothing, footwear & hat.

RSVP to the Lakes Hub on 8537 0808 or info@lakeshub.com

**Wed 5th June
10am
Milang Common, Lake Road
(in between Jupiter & Lyon Streets)**



June 5th is World Environment Day! This year Mongolia is the host country and the theme is **Think.Eat.Save**; an anti-food waste campaign that aims to encourage you to reduce your 'food print' and make more sustainable food choices. www.unep.org/wed



Southern Fleurieu Region Soil Pit Day

Soil fertility, Root growth, structure, subsoil limitations, biological activity, clay delving & clay spreading effects, soil carbon, acidity plus more

Friday 14th June 2013 – commencing at Waitpinga - 8.30am - 1pm

RSVP & further information contact: Rod Dowie Rural Solutions SA farmscapeconsulting@bigpond.com 0427 221126 or Rebecca Tonkin Rural Solutions SA rebecca.tonkin@sa.gov.au 0427 273891



**THINK.EAT.SAVE
WORLD ENVIRONMENT
DAY 5 JUNE**

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

On the Level

Lake Levels (AHD)

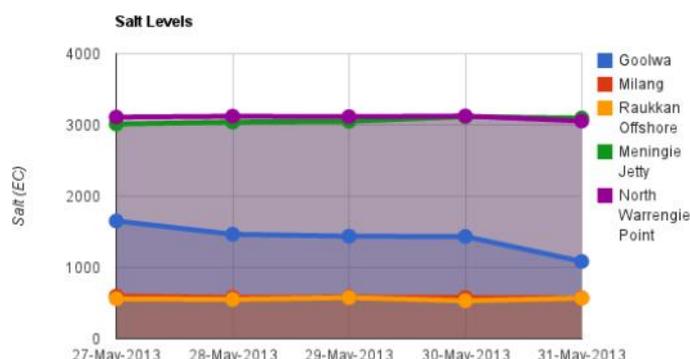
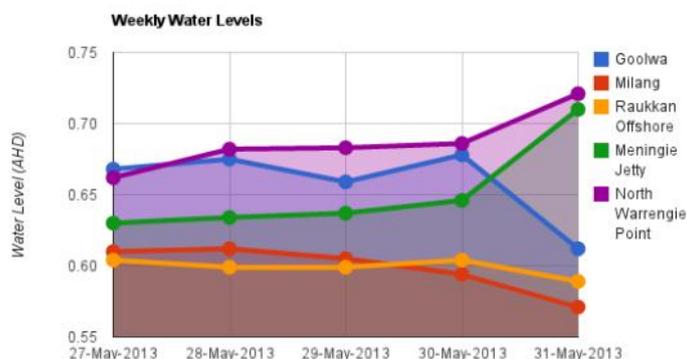
Date	Goolwa	Milang	Raukkan Offshore	Meningie Jetty	Nth Warrengie Point
27-May	0.668	0.61	0.604	0.63	0.662
28-May	0.675	0.612	0.599	0.634	0.682
29-May	0.659	0.605	0.599	0.637	0.683
30-May	0.678	0.594	0.604	0.646	0.686
31-May	0.612	0.571	0.589	0.71	0.721
Average	0.658	0.598	0.599	0.651	0.687

Salt Levels (EC)

Date	Goolwa	Milang	Raukkan Offshore	Meningie Jetty	Nth Warrengie Point
27-May	1652	598	560	3013	3110
28-May	1465	578	551	3040	3123
29-May	1438	582	576	3051	3116
30-May	1434	577	533	3117	3126
31-May	1084	571	568	3097	3055
Average	1415	581	558	3064	3106

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

Please note: salinity levels in the Goolwa Channel can be influenced by tidal ingress.



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: [Water Connect](http://www.waterconnect.sa.gov.au), [Daily Flow Report](http://www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au), [River Murray Storage Data](http://www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au)

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

For the latest River Murray Flow Report and Water Resources Update - 16th November 2012 visit: <http://www.waterconnect.sa.gov.au>

Some electrical conductivity ranges	
Water type	Electrical conductivity (µS/cm)
Deionised water	0.5-3
Pure rainwater	<15
Freshwater rivers	0 - 800
Marginal river water	800 - 1600
Brackish water	1600 - 4800
Saline water	> 4800
Seawater	51 500
Industrial waters	100 - 10000

Source: Suttar S.,
Ribbons of Blue
Handbook.
Scitech, Victoria,
1990.

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 2013	
3	1st June marks the official close of the Pipi and Rock Lobster fishing season
4	
5	World Environment Day 2013 Planting Season Launch 10am Milang Common RSVP 8537 0808 or info@lakeshub.com
6	
7	
8	World Oceans Day www.worldoceansday.org
9	
10	Public Holiday
11	Christie Walk DVD Launch Willunga Environment Centre phone 8556 4188
12	
13	
14	Soil Pit Day Waitpinga 8.30am RSVP: farmscapeconsulting@bigpond.com or 0427 221 126
15	
16	
17	Food Safety Talk Milang Old School House Community Centre 10-11.30am 8537 0687 reception@moshcc.com.au
18	
19	
20	
21	Winter solstice - Shortest day of the year (and longest night)
22	
23	
24	
25	Hub Advisory Committee meeting Meningie Trees For Life Introductory Bush Regeneration Workshop Willunga ph 8406 0500
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27	
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30	

Disclaimer

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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.