

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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Bush Food Morning Tea

On Saturday 5th October the Milang District Community Association is holding it's 10th Birthday Celebrations! As part of the festivities the Lakes Hub are putting on a Bush Food Morning Tea to coincide with the Great Score Bake Off. Come and taste some of our local native plant foods - All Welcome!

Don't forget September is Biodiversity Month and there are many great resources around, check out this Government website that includes lots of research, resources including downloadable posters:
www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/publications



The weekly links...

According to a United Nations report the world's food waste accounts for more greenhouse gas emissions than any country except for China and the United States. The UN says every year about a third of all food for human consumption, around 1.3 billion tonnes, is wasted.
www.econews.com.au/news-to-sustain-our-world/un-waste-food-worlds-third-biggest-carbon-source/

Citizen science help marine biologists identify kelp at this interesting website:
www.explorettheseafloor.net.au

SA first wave electricity generation application:
www.econews.com.au/news-to-sustain-our-world/first-wave-generation-application-for-south-aust/

DEWNR Information Guide available on River Murray-Darling to sea: a nationally protected ecological community:
www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/publications/pubs/river-murray-listing-guide.pdf

National Stipa Conference (November 5-8th 2013) Program out now:
<https://sites.google.com/site/nationalgrasslandsconference/program>

Snake Season first Aid guidelines fact sheet:
www.workingwithwildlife.com.au/downloadable%20pdfs

Water Connect new website - Real time Water Data -*Daily summaries (mean or total for previous 24 hours up to 6am):* www.waterconnect.sa.gov.au/Systems/RTWD/SitePages/Home.aspx

Media Release from Minister Hunters Office GWLAP Receives \$2.5 million to continue communities work with the CLLMM Program.
www.premier.sa.gov.au/images/news_releases/13_09Sep/gwlapfunding.pdf

Talking Heads Report - Scrubland Native Orchid Walk

On the 12th September, 2013 a very successful local native Orchid walk was held at Meningie. The event was kicked off with a PowerPoint presentation and discussion at the Lakes Hub Meningie by Sam Blight our Coorong-Tatiara Local Action Planning Association representative. In attendance were 19 local people all keen to learn more information on their local native orchids. Sam was a wealth of knowledge and was only too happy to oblige everyone in answering their questions and in particular explaining each orchid and the potential threats that they could encumber. After the information session we were led out to the Gun club region in Meningie where a delightful array of orchids was flowering. Sam with Ken Strother led us through the native flora and pointed out all the many species some which are endangered. For any orchid lover this was a treasure trove of native orchids in all their splendour and no-one was disappointed.

Below are some of the species that were evident:

- Coloured spider-orchid *Caladenia colorata* - endangered
- Metallic Sun-Orchid *Thelymitra epipactoides* - endangered
- Donkey orchid *Diuris* - vulnerable
- Pyrorchis sp. (red Beaks)

After exploring the region we headed back to the Lakes Hub where a light lunch was provided by the Coorong-Tatiara Local Action Planning Association and further discussion with Sam Blight. The day was considered highly successful with everyone leaving with new knowledge on the local area and its flora.



September is Biodiversity month - Plant Profile

Orchid Profile from Meningie

***Pyrorchis nigricans* - Black Fire Orchid**

A very common orchid in sandy heath and around granite outcrops, but usually the only evidence is their large fleshy oval leaves (some with dark flecks, others without). This orchid rarely flowers without the influence of a bushfire, however this week Sam Blight from CTLAP discovered a number of these species at Meningie, being contributed to the long, dry and extreme heat of the previous summer conditions.

This beautiful orchid (pictured right) was seen at Meningie in September 2013.

Looks like many more to come, and a joy to see!

By Robynne Barratt (Lakes Hub Meningie)



The History Spot - Ouch!

South Australian Register, Monday 19th November 1866, GOOLWA. [From our own Correspondent]

The Goolwa Cavalry, under the command of Major Higgins, mustered in full force on the parade-ground at Goolwa on Saturday last, when they appeared for the first time in their new uniforms. The Colonel Commandant was present and inspected the troop. The sword exercise was gone through in a most satisfactory manner, and various evolutions, both mounted and on foot, were performed in a style which drew from the Colonel the warmest commendations. The Major was highly complimented on the soldier-like bearing of the members of the troop. The new uniforms had a very fine effect.

At the termination of the inspection, the first quarterly payment was made. A great number of spectators were present, notwithstanding the unfavourable state of the weather. I understand that a brass band for the troop is about to be formed, the Goolwa people being determined not to be behind Port Elliot in that respect.

On Wednesday morning, November 14, a young man named James Clare, in the employ of Mr J. Foster, butcher, went down to the wharf for the purpose of collecting orders from the steamers. The Queen had just arrived alongside, and when in the act of jumping on board he fell between the vessel and the wharf, coming down with great violence with his legs apart upon the sharp edge of a piece of timber, the whole force of the blow meeting him in the groin. The poor fellow then rolled over into the water. With great presence of mind Mr W. Dickson jumped from the deck of the Queen, and succeeding in getting hold of him when he rose the second time, and with the assistance of several other persons, whose conduct is worthy of all praise, got him on board the steamer. Mr B. F. Laurie, S.M., and Mr T. Goode, J.P., were soon on board, and upon examination they found that the injuries were of such a frightful character that they ordered him at once to be taken home. Dr Taylor was soon in attendance, and all that medical skill and kindness could devise under the circumstances was done. On making enquiry at a late hour last night I was informed that the gravest apprehensions are entertained. The unfortunate man is well known in Goolwa, and is very much respected. He is a member of the Wesleyan Church at Goolwa.

Editor's note: Journalism in 1866 was very different to journalism today!

A Fond Farewell ...

In a few short weeks we will be wishing Amelia Graham a fond farewell from her role as the Lakes Hub Coordinator. Amelia has been working with us at the Lakes Hub for the past 14 months and we have appreciated her knowledge and ability to share it, her commitment to the environment and the community and her quiet strength and support for all around her. It has been an absolute pleasure to have her on the team and we wish her all the best with future plans in the family farming business.

We will let you know soon when the formal farewell for Amelia will be held.

In the meantime we are seeking applicants for the Lakes Hub Coordinator role. Please share the advert below with your networks.

Karyn Bradford
Executive Officer, Milang & District Community Association Inc.

LAKES HUB COORDINATOR

.8 FTE to 30th June 2014

Expressions of interest are invited for the position of Lakes Hub Coordinator based at Milang with responsibility to manage the Lakes Hub Offices at Milang and Meningie.

The successful applicant will utilise community development principles, excellent communication skills and sound natural resource management practices to:

- Continue to develop the Lakes Hub as a trusted, inclusive focal point in the community for the provision of information sharing, education and community involvement in environmental issues in the Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth region.
- Provide Executive support to the Lakes Hub Community Advisory Committee to provide community drive and ownership of the project.
- Implement a comprehensive, community developed and owned community engagement strategy which focuses on sustainability.
- Develop, coordinate, implement and evaluate the Lakes Hub project as outlined in the funding agreement with the State Government.

The successful applicant must be committed to community development principles and previous experience in natural resource management, event management and communications in a community setting will be highly regarded.

For a position description contact 8537 0687 or moshcc@bigpond.com

Applications comprising of a covering letter, current CV and statement addressing the selection criteria, should be forwarded to the Executive Officer, by email to karyn@moshcc.com.au or by post to Milang & District Community Association Inc., 24 Daranda Tce Milang SA 5256 to arrive no later than C.O.B. **Monday 30th Sept, 2013.**

MILANG & DISTRICT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC.



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GWLAP Community Monitoring

Community are involved with a number of environmental monitoring projects in the Lower Lakes through the CLLMM Revegetation Project and Natural Resources SAMDB wetland monitoring with assistance provided by Goolwa to Wellington LAP. Monitoring & Evaluation Project Officer Regina Durbridge.

Community Frog Monitoring

This year the GWLAP is assisting Natural Resources SA Murray Darling Basin with the 2013 Southern Bell Frog Monitoring project and also monitoring frog populations at the CLLMM Revegetation Demonstration sites with community members.

This season is shaping up to be a great one, with Painted frog (*Neobatrachus pictus*) having been sighted at four survey sites – this is the first time Painted frogs have been recorded during the surveys. The Painted frog is a burrowing species which breeds following heavy rains in Autumn. The population of Painted frog is listed as secure however they are not encountered frequently and there are very few records of them in the Lower Lakes.



Painted frog Teringie wetland – pictured next to a Spotted Grass frog.

As each frog species have their own distinctive mating call, volunteers are required to record these calls after dark during the months of September, October, November and December, one recording for each month. Frog monitoring equipment is available for loan and is simple and easy to use, anyone can do it!

All it takes is a five minute recording of the frogs calling during the evening and completing a data sheet – you don't need to be an expert at identifying frog calls to participate. A frog identification booklet and local frog call CD is available in the loan kit, along with detailed instructions on using the equipment and frog monitoring.

Please phone ahead to ensure a loan kits is available and for booking a Frog monitoring loan kit contact;

Goolwa Visitor Information Centre, Cadell Street, Goolwa Ph: 1300 466 592

Lakes Hub Milang, Daranda Terrace, Milang Ph: 8537 0808

Lakes Hub Meningie, Main Road, Meningie Ph: 8575 1830

Natural Resource Centre, 110A Mannum Rd, Murray Bridge Ph: 8532 9100

Strathalbyn Natural Resource Centre, 6 Catherine Street, Strathalbyn Ph: 8536 5613

Loan kits can also be dropped off on request

For more information or assistance with Frog monitoring contact;

Regina Durbridge Ph: 0427 364 551 or email regina.durbridge@gwlap.org.au

Mel Tucker Ph: 0477 348 382 or email melissa.tucker3@sa.gov.au

Milang Snipe Sanctuary

Proposed Environmental Watering Trial UPDATE September 2013

The Milang Snipe Sanctuary is a unique and diverse wetland on the fringes of Lake Alexandrina in the heart of Milang. It supports a number of aquatic flora and fauna including the Latham's Snipe (*Gallinago hardwickii*). This species is listed as migratory in Australia (EPBC Act 1999), Vulnerable in SA (NPWS Act 1972) and migratory within the Bonn Convention and JAMBA, CAMBA and ROKAMBA international migratory agreements.

What are the benefits?

The Milang Snipe Sanctuary dries out completely in October during the peak season for Latham's Snipe, when it is important for the species to feed and increase fat stores in preparation for its annual migration to Japan and eastern Russia to breed. This year an opportunity has arisen to help this species by extending the duration of inundation by two months to provide Latham's Snipe with more suitable foraging ground habitat. This would be achieved through the delivery of environmental water via pumping into the wetland.

Other added benefits of the pumping include increased habitat for other migratory and local bird and frog species and an increase in seed bank resilience for submerged aquatic plants.

About the trial

The proposed location of the trial is within the southern lagoon of the Milang Snipe Sanctuary (see figure). Pumping is anticipated to commence in October 2013 when water levels within the wetland reach below 10 cm. Prior to this, a pump will be set up near the bird hide just south of the existing shacks. Although we have been assured that noise will not be a problem (due to the small volumes of water to be pumped), hay bales will be used for noise suppression and the pump will only operate between the hours of 10am and 4pm from Monday to Friday.

Pumping into the lagoon will commence when water heights reach critical levels and will be maintained at a height of no more than 10 cm from October until mid-December (after this time the wetland will be allowed to dry completely).

Where to from here?

Monthly bird and frog surveys are currently occurring at the Milang Snipe Sanctuary. Along with these surveys, regular (weekly) surface water quality samples and photo points will be taken at selected sites around the wetland. To be involved in any of these surveys please contact Mel Tucker (Melissa.Tucker3@sa.gov.au).

This important project is a trial that will create learning opportunities for both the conservation of this threatened migratory species in Australia and will also help to manage other fringing and stormwater wetlands in the region. Recognising the interest that the local community have in this trial watering, the program staff aim to be responsive throughout the duration of the project and can be contacted if there are any further queries or if you want to be involved.



Figure: Location of proposed environmental watering trial



Photo: An adult Latham's Snipe at Milang Swan Sanctuary photographed by Alex Stone in October 2012

For more information

Mel Tucker
Murray Bridge Natural Resources centre
P (08) 8532 9100
E melissa.tucker3@sa.gov.au



Natural Resources
SA Murray-Darling Basin



Government
of South Australia

Up-Coming Events / Opportunities

Up-coming event at Willunga Environment Centre

“Current state of world biodiversity and our impoverished future life support system”

Tuesday 8th October at 7pm

Professor Bradshaw holds the Professorial Chair of Ecological Modelling at the University of Adelaide’s Environment Institute and is a leading expert in the field of Ecological Modelling. Registration for all events is Essential. Please phone 8556 4188 or email info@willungaenviro.org.au

Come join the conversation about NRM in the SA Murray-Darling Basin

The SA Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board is seeking community opinion on NRM priorities for the region and the Regional NRM Plan. The Regional NRM Plan provides the vision and the Regional Action Plan identifies actions and programs to deliver the NRM plan. These plans can be downloaded from www.environment.sa.gov.au/haveyoursay/samdb-nrmplan or you can request a copy by calling 8532 9100

Finniss Catchment Group

(at two properties near Ashbourne)

Sunday 13th October 2013, 10am—1.00pm

Native grasses - a field day with Bob Meyers

Increase your skills in identification of grasses

Contact Sally Richards ph: 0428 441 978

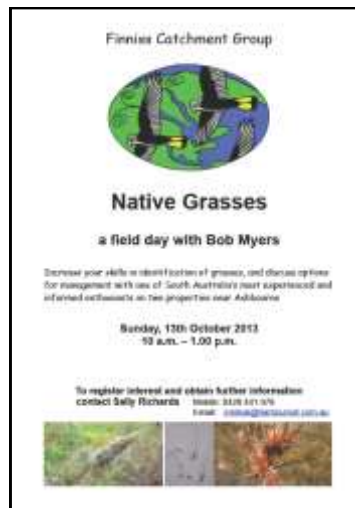
emilsal@harboursat.com.au

Weed Management Society of SA AGM

October 17th 2013 4.00pm

At the Large Meeting Room, the Soil Water Environment Centre (SWEC) Building, Waite Road, Adelaide University, Waite Campus, Urrbrae.

NRM Biosecurity will provide an overview of Phase 3 of the Review of Declared Plants, including the proposed declaration of buffel grass, gazania, white weeping broom and fountain grass. Find out how you can be involved. For more information please call Susan Ivory on 0401 288 946 or wmssa01@hotmail.com



School Holiday Program at the SA Museum: Spineless

30 September – 4 October, 10.30am-3 pm

Suits 5 -12 years. Free but some activities require bookings. There are more species of insects than all the other land animals put together. Join in the fun with workshops, trails and hands-on activities. For a full program, visit www.samuseum.sa.gov.au/learn/for-kids/school-holiday-program/spineless

Visit on 30 Sept or 1 Oct to see Harry Beauchamp and Cindy Kakoschke running Insect Hotel workshops!

For Museum enquiries, ring 08 8207 7500 or visit www.samuseum.sa.gov.au/

Knowing, Growing and Eating Edible Native Food Plants – 24 September

Neville Bonney (author of many plant books) will deliver this presentation at the Adelaide Hills Natural Resource Centre, Norton Summit. 7.15 pm for a 7.30 pm start. Includes samples to try!

- What native food plants can you grow in your garden?
- Plant requirements – soil, sun, water
- Uses – vegetables and condiments
- How to cook them

Bookings are essential: phone 8390 1891 or email valhunt@ahnrc.org

SA Landcare Conference

November 6&7th

www.landcaresa.asn.au

On the Level

DATE 9th September - 13th September 2013

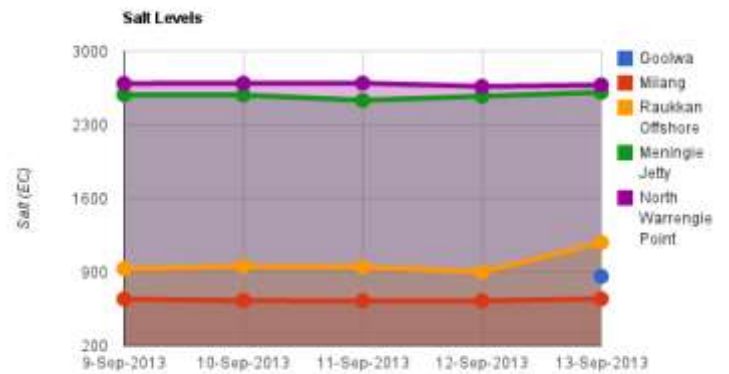
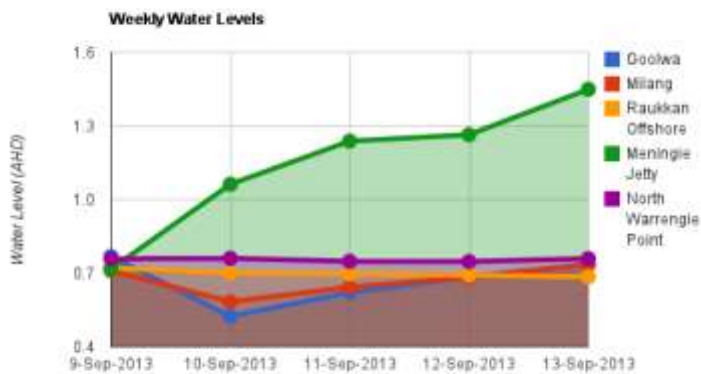
Lake Levels (AHD)

Date	Goolwa	Milang	Raukkan Offshore	Meningie Jetty	Nth Warrengie Point
9-Sep	0.768	0.71	0.721	0.716	0.758
10-Sep	0.524	0.583	0.701	1.062	0.76
11-Sep	0.621	0.643	0.697	1.238	0.748
12-Sep	0.684	0.683	0.692	1.264	0.747
13-Sep	0.736	0.735	0.685	1.449	0.759
	0.667	0.671	0.699	1.146	0.754

Salt Levels (EC)

Date	Goolwa	Milang	Raukkan Offshore	Meningie Jetty	Nth Warrengie Point
9-Sep		643	932	2587	2694
10-Sep		629	956	2584	2696
11-Sep		627	947	2534	2697
12-Sep		627	900	2573	2666
13-Sep	859	645	1181	2610	2680
	859	634	983	2578	2687

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, Daily Flow Report, River Murray Storage 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

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.

September 2013	
16	
17	Eco-wise Action course Final session ALL WELCOME 1.30-4.30pm Ace Space MOSHCC ph 8537 0687 Ranges to River NRM meeting & 'Keeping Your Soil Healthy' 10am ph 8532 9113 debbie.wilkinson@sa.gov.au
18	Weed & Vermin Forum Meningie Golf Club 2pm ph 8578 1493
19	DVD 'Iron Curtain-Ribbon of Life' Ace Space 4pm ph Lakes Hub 8537 0808
20	Yunggorrendi First Nations Centre Seminar 3pm Flinders Uni www.flinders.edu.au/events
21	Open Garden Wirrapunga Indigenous Garden Williams Rd Aldgate 10am-4.30pm
22	Open Garden Wirrapunga Indigenous Garden Williams Rd Aldgate 10am-4.30pm Open 'Bush Block' Day Walker St Macclesfield 10am-4.30pm
23	
24	Neville Bonney 'Knowing, Growing & Eating Edible Native Food Plants' 7.15pm ph 8390 1891
25	2 new short films presented by CLAWSA 6pm SA Writers Centre Rundle St Adelaide
26	
27	
28	
29	
30	
October 2013	
1	
2	
3	Climate Science Conference 9am-4.30pm Aust Education Union Greenhill Rd Parkside www.cleansa.org
4	
5	Milang Old School House 10th Birthday Celebrations! Bush Tucker Morning Tea Ace Space 10am ph 8537 0687
6	
7	Strathalbyn Show Public Holiday
8	'Current state of world biodiversity...' Corey Bradshaw 7pm Willunga ph 8556 4188 info@willungaenviro.org.au
9	
10	
11	
12	Intro to Bird Watching & Monitoring John Gitsham 9-3 Murray Bridge ph 8580 1830 danielle.packer@sa.gov.au
13	Native Grass Field Day with Bob Myers Finniss Catchment Group 10am-1pm ph 0428 441978
14	
15	
16	National Ride to Work Day www.bicyclenetwork.com.au

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.