

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.

Number 166  
24th September 2013

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## National Water Week October 21-27 October

Join us on a Free tour of the Adelaide Desalination Plant with The Lakes Hub & join in a conversation about water security in SA.

Put October 23rd in your diary for The Lakes Hub tour of Kauwi Interpretive Centre & the Adelaide Desalination Plant at Port Stanvac.

Don't forget October 5th is the Milang Community Association 10th Birthday Celebrations at the MOSHCC. Also, I hope to see you at the Strathalbyn Show on Monday 7th October at the combined Lakes Hub & GWLAP stall.

Enjoy the beautiful sunshine!  
Best Wishes, Lakes Hub Team  
(Amelia, Andrew, Robynne, Stuart & Carole)

### The weekly links...

**Applications are open for Native Vegetation Heritage Grants** to assist landholders with heritage agreements to conserve and manage the native vegetation on their land.  
[www.environment.sa.gov.au/Get\\_Involved/grants-and-funding/native-vegetation-incentives-programs](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/Get_Involved/grants-and-funding/native-vegetation-incentives-programs)

**Coorong District Council are offering grants** up to \$5,000 for community groups to get community projects started. Applications close Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September.  
For info visit: [www.coorong.sa.gov.au](http://www.coorong.sa.gov.au) or ph 8572 3611

#### Adelaide Desalination Plant link:

[www.sawater.sa.gov.au/SAWater/WhatsNew/MajorProjects/ADP\\_Community.htm](http://www.sawater.sa.gov.au/SAWater/WhatsNew/MajorProjects/ADP_Community.htm)

**Aboriginal Contemporary Arts offers a range of services** including Aboriginal art & music workshops, cultural education workshops, cultural awareness sessions & bush food tours.  
[www.aboriginaldreamarts.com/culturalworkshops.htm](http://www.aboriginaldreamarts.com/culturalworkshops.htm)

#### Sustainable Table 'Give a Fork' Campaign

Here's your chance to make a real difference by joining Sustainable Table in showing that you Give a Fork! about what's on your plate. See more at: [www.sustainabletable.org.au](http://www.sustainabletable.org.au)



National Water Week aims to cultivate community understanding of water issues in Australia.

### Tour of Adelaide Desalination Plant

#### Wednesday 23rd October

Discussion with local expert about Water Security in SA, free tour, Kauwi Interpretive Centre & morning tea

Bus departs Hub 9 am  
Returning to Milang 2 pm  
\* BYO lunch

RSVP: 17th October  
Lakes Hub  
8537 0808



## Snake Bites in Animals

Article & Photos by Peter Mirtschin

Our pets love the Australian summers, with its pleasant outdoor climates and relatively wide open spaces. For a large number of pet owners though, the warmer months of the year can bring anxiety and distress to those of us who are unlucky enough to have their pet bitten by snakes.

When Australia was first colonised and up until the middle of this century tiger snakes (the *Notechis* genus), were responsible for most bites and accidents to humans and animals. In the last 25 years, probably due to vast changes to the environments, the introduction of the house mouse and the decline of frogs (favourites of tiger snakes), populations of tiger snakes have plummeted and the brown snake genus (*Pseudonaja*) has either increased or held its own. This has resulted in a shift in snake bite statistics favouring the brown snake genus.

It is estimated that 6,200 cases of snake bite are reported annually to veterinary clinics around Australia with about 78% of these in rural Australia and 22% in urban areas. It is believed there are many more that are never reported to vets. Brown snakes (76%), tiger snakes (13%), and black snakes (6%) are the main snakes responsible for bites. Cats and dogs are the most frequently reported victims. About 91% of cats and 75% of dogs will survive following the administration of antivenom whereas about 66% of cats and 31% of dogs survive without antivenom. In about 33% of cases antivenom is not used, and venom detection kits are very rarely used (only about 1% of cases).

With brown snake bites, superficially, there seems to be differences in response to the venom between humans and animals. Whereas humans are seriously affected by the clotting factors in venoms, the focus of treatment in dogs and cats has been mainly with the neurotoxins. Dogs and cats, in many instances, present to veterinarians with symptoms of apparent neurotoxicity which is predominantly manifested by degrees of paralysis. The clinical action of the haemostatic components in brown snake venoms on dogs and cats needs further consideration, especially in the light of research which has shown that the prolonged clotting times could be demonstrated in dogs as a result of the clotting components. These components can also give rise to cardiac depression and output. Whilst our antivenoms in Australia are very good, neutralisation of the clotting component could be improved.

Treatment of snakebite in animals can also be expensive. A far better approach is to try and train dogs to keep away from snakes. With cats, it is better to keep them contained in snake-proof cat runs.



Tiger snakes - *Notechis scutatus*



Eastern Brown snake - *Pseudonaja textilis*



## Home Made Mosquito Trap

The abundant recent rainfalls have created the perfect opportunity for mosquito breeding.

Items needed:

- 1 cup of water
- 1/4 cup of brown sugar
- 1 gram of yeast
- 2-litre bottle

### HOW:

1. Cut the plastic bottle in half.
2. Mix brown sugar with hot water. Let cool. When cold, pour in the bottom half of the bottle.
3. Add the yeast. No need to mix. It creates carbon dioxide, which attracts mosquitoes.
4. Place the funnel part, upside down, into the other half of the bottle, taping them together if desired.
5. Wrap the bottle with something black, leaving the top uncovered, and place it outside in an area away from your normal gathering area. (Mosquitoes are also drawn to the color black.)

Change the solution every 2 weeks for continuous control.



## White-necked heron - *Andrea pacifica*

Here's a rather blurry photo of a white-necked heron taken yesterday on the Finniss - Clayton road. I only had an iPad with me as a camera, so I crept up on it.

It watched me very closely as I crept along the road (in full view) before hiding behind a tree. As soon as I emerged, it flew 20 m or so and landed, watching closely from a little bit further away.

These are not uncommon but unusual to see. They are usually solitary, as this one is, and enjoy local fresh wetlands. I have also seen one on the wet paddocks near the Clayton corner with the Point Sturt road and also last year on the Milang - Finniss road. They have a distinctive white spot/spots on the front edge of their large wings when flying with long legs trailing and neck hunched up.

There were also a group of little black-tailed native hens hiding in the bushes. They've been there a few weeks - too far away for a photo. We even had some living around the house for several weeks last year. They didn't last - ?foxes.



White-necked heron, photo: wikipedia

White-necked heron, photo: J. Yelland

## The History Spot

### Construction of the Barrages

The total cost of the scheme was about £750,000.

Below Right - A view of the Goolwa Channel barrage, the most important section of the work, involving on expenditure of £375,000. The lock chamber is 100 ft. x 20 ft.

Below Left - The 12,000ft. Tauwitchere Barrage, largest of the series, looking towards Pelican Point on the upstream side. A portion of the lock is seen in foreground.

# The Advertiser

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 1941



## GWLAP Community Monitoring

The Goolwa to Wellington LAP, through Regina Durbridge (Monitoring & Evaluation Project Officer) are currently undertaking a range of monitoring projects with community members at CLLMM revegetation sites. One of these Projects is the Sandy Soil Planting Trial:

Due to lower survivorship rates of revegetation on sandy soils (because of low nutrient levels and poor water holding capacity) 4 trial sites have been established on 4 CLLMM revegetation sites using 6 species of plants; *Eucalyptus diversifolia*, *Allocasuarina verticillata*, *Bursaria spinosa*, *Banksia marginata*, *Kunzea pomifera* and *Austrostipa nodosa*, with 420 plants in total at each trial site. This trial compares 4 different planting methods (with half of the trial plants to be watered if rainfall is below average):

- Control plants - weed control and standard planting method - seedling planted level with the surrounding soil.
- Bowls - seedling planted with a bowl made around each plant to hold water.
- V-blading - the top 5-10cm of soil scraped away which removes competition from weeds.
- Long stem plantings of *Eucalyptus diversifolia*, *Allocasuarina verticillata* and *Bursaria spinosa* (The long-stem method requires tall plant specimens >60cm in height being planted to a depth of halfway up the stem - while this method is unconventional it has been used with success elsewhere.

Due to plant growth being measured frequently over the project timeframe plant guards have not been installed on these plants and fenced enclosures have been erected for the trial sites to exclude potential grazing from kangaroos and rabbits .



Meningie South Trial Site



Tookayerta Trial Site

## Local Snake Study - Are You Interested?

We are looking for areas on private properties to study snakes. Ideally the properties are to have reasonable numbers of snakes that can be observed frequently.

It has been shown that wild snakes taken into captivity, become very familiar with their keepers and tolerate close human contact without undue stress. In fact in outdoor snake pits, it is possible to work in the pits with the snakes present without worrying them. The purpose of the proposed study is to see if we can reproduce the same familiarity with wild snakes left in the wild. If successful, this could lead to a change in the way we deal with snakes coming into contact with humans. If it is shown that snakes that are familiar with humans are less likely to be stressed and less likely to exhibit defensive behaviour, it may well be better to leave snakes where they are rather than relocate them.

Over the last 25 years, some estimates suggest that 25,000 snakes have been relocated throughout the Adelaide and environs area. This practice could be fraught with environmental dangers and a better practice is being sought. There have been many studies carried out overseas on relocated snakes and it has been shown to be of little value and more of a problem than a solution.

It is proposed to set up study areas where there are abundant snake populations.

In these areas University researchers should be able to walk among the snakes on a frequent basis to get them used to humans. Some of the areas would be control areas where the snakes are left alone so they have little or no contact with humans. The purpose of the trials will be to show a difference in human/snake interactions and to see if they have a lower tendency to bite. There would be little disturbance to normal activities on your property. The only impact would be the visitation of researchers during the snake season.

If you have a property where snakes can be seen regularly and are interested in assisting with such a study, contact:

Peter Mirtschin -Director -Venom Science Pty Ltd  
44 Ibis Rd  
Post Office Clayton Bay  
Clayton Bay SA 5256  
Phone 08 8537 0663 Mobile: 0412 811 859  
Email: [peter@venomsupplies](mailto:peter@venomsupplies)



Tiger snake - *Notechis scutatus* photos: Peter Mirtschin

## Planting at Meningie & Narrung Pine Removal Sites

Local native seedlings will be planted at 2 Aleppo Pine removal sites this Thursday 26th and Friday 27th of September. There will be 4,500 seedlings planted at the Meningie site and 800 at the Narrung site. This planting will see the completion of the Commercial Planting Program.

Meningie Pine removal site to be planted with native seedlings this week.

Note Natural regeneration of native Adriana is already occurring!



Meningie Pine removal site to be revegetated this week  
Photo: S. Jennings

## Meningie Weed and Vermin Forum - Report

Hosted by Mallee and Coorong NRM Group and Coorong Districts LAP.

Approximately 70 people attended the Weed and Vermin forum held last Wednesday at the Lake Albert Golf Club in Meningie. Gordon Hancock opened the day on behalf of the Mallee and Coorong NRM Group before handing over to Alan Piggott (Mallee & Coorong NRM Group) who introduced the attendees to the keypads which were used to answer a range of questions.

Claire Stephenson gave an overview of the NRM plans followed by Peter Michelmore (SA MDB NRM) who explained the region and the priorities for pest and weed control in the area.

Colin Hein spoke about controlling rabbits, foxes and boxthorn on his property at Malinong and indicated that he now has these pests under control with only annual maintenance now required.

Sam Blight gave a presentation on Coorong Tatiara LAP followed by Stuart Hicks (Senior Park Ranger, DEWNR) who discussed weed and vermin control in the Coorong National Park.

Dr Peter Shaughnessy (SA Museum) gave us a history of the New Zealand Fur Seals, before Hafiz Stewart (CLLMM, DEWNR) explained the CLLMM Plantings.

The last presenter for the day was Theresa Myburgh (Project Manager Lake Albert, DEWNR) who explained the Lake Albert Scoping Study.

A BBQ followed the afternoon's presentations where community members were able to catch up with presenters from the afternoon.



Alan Piggott (Mallee & Coorong NRM Group Member) At the Weed & Vermin Forum in Meningie introducing participants to the key pads

Report & photo by Andrew Dawes



## Up-Coming Events / Opportunities

### Milang Community Centre 10th Birthday Celebrations

Including Bush Food Morning Tea provided by The Lakes Hub at 10am to coincide with the Great Scone Bake Off! Ph 8537 0687

### 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](mailto:emilsal@harboursat.com.au)




**Native Grasses**  
a field day with Bob Myers

Increase your skills in identification of grasses, and discuss options for management with one of South Australia's most experienced and informed enthusiasts in two properties near Ashbourne.

**Sunday, 13th October 2013**  
10 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

To register interest and obtain further information contact Sally Richards. Mobile: 0428 441 978. Email: [emilsal@harboursat.com.au](mailto:emilsal@harboursat.com.au)



### Making Biochar From Common Reeds

Field Day 16th October 9.30am Mypolonga and travel to Palmer 11.30am lunch provided for info

ph 8339 5528 or email:

[office@environmentsbydesign.com.au](mailto:office@environmentsbydesign.com.au)



It's time to dust off your favourite family scone recipes and join the **GREAT SCONE BAKE OFF**

Who will be judged as the Champion Scone Baker?

Interested in entering the Great Scone Bake Off? Deliver your scones to the Milang Old School House Community Centre by 9:30 am on the 5th October. You will be given an ID number.

The best 3 scones from your batch will be placed on a plate and judged on:

- Colour, Taste, Size, Texture, Top and Bottom

Local Show Judge *Suzann Bagley* will judge the entries.

Prizes will be awarded. Children are welcome to submit scones in the children's section.

Judging will take place at 10am in the ACE Space at MOSHCC and everyone is welcome to watch.

Come and join in the fun and we'll share the remainder of the scones for morning tea as part of the MOSHCC's 10th Birthday Celebrations on **Saturday 5th October, 2013** at MOSHCC, 24 Daranda Tce, Milang



**SANTFA**  
environments by design

invite you to attend making Biochar from common reed field day

16th October 2013

Where: Project site Mypolonga (near to map) 9.30am

Program:

- Site & project site 9.30-11am
- Introduction to the research project
- Review of site - conditions and site tour
- Site safety program
- Site process overview
- Current knowledge
- Practical local opportunities
- Local reed crop 11.30am-1pm
- Task conducted
- Points of interest
- Results to date
- Next steps of project
- Lunch

Please reply with attendee numbers to [office@environmentsbydesign.com.au](mailto:office@environmentsbydesign.com.au) or call 08 8339 5528 or Myra 0438 873 628

Mypolonga Feed stock trial site - start 9.30am Palmer 'Crop' trial site - start 11.30am



Environment by Design  
SANTFA  
Mypolonga  
Palmer  
MOSHCC  
Myling  
Myling Old School House  
Myling Community Centre

### Lakes Hub Coordinator Position .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. For a position description contact 8537 0687 or [moshcc@bigpond.com](mailto:moshcc@bigpond.com) or visit [www.lakeshub.com](http://www.lakeshub.com)

Applications close **Monday 30th Sept, 2013.**



### 2013 GWLAP Annual General Meeting


**Goolwa to Wellington LAP AGM** will feature a presentation by Historian and Author Robin Coles "The Ochre Warriors" - The culture and art of the Peramangk People of the Mount Lofty Ranges.

St Andrew's Hall (Cnr. Alfred Place & Russel St Strathalbyn)

**Wednesday 9th October 2013 - 7.00pm**

RSVP Tony Randall by Friday October 4th 2013

Phone: 8536 5612 email: [tony.randall@gwlap.org.au](mailto:tony.randall@gwlap.org.au)



**GOOLWA TO WELLINGTON LOCAL ACTION PLANNING ASSOCIATION INC**

Would like to invite you to our

**2013 Annual General Meeting**

Featuring a presentation by Historian and Author Robin Coles

**"The Ochre Warriors"**

The culture and art of the Peramangk People of the Mount Lofty Ranges

To be held at the St. Andrew's Hall  
(Corner of Alfred Pl. and Russell St., Strathalbyn South Australia (opposite the Strathalbyn Cafeteria))

on **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2013 commencing at 7.00pm**

All welcome.

Light refreshments will be served following the AGM and presentation.

Please RSVP Tony Randall by Friday October 4<sup>th</sup> 2013 on 8536 5612 or by email: [tony.randall@gwlap.org.au](mailto:tony.randall@gwlap.org.au)

## On the Level

DATE 16th September - 20th September 2013

### Lake Levels (AHD)

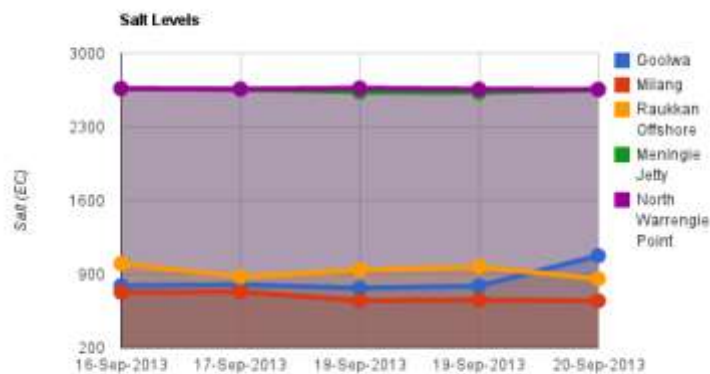
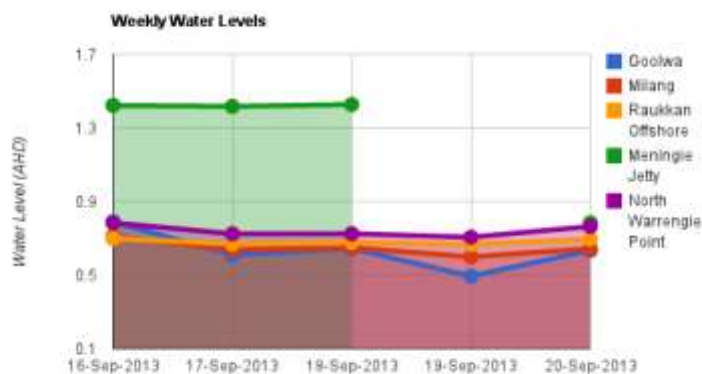
Date	Goolwa	Milang	Raukkan Offshore	Meningie Jetty	Nth Warrengie Point
16-Sep	0.79	0.712	0.699	1.422	0.784
17-Sep	0.609	0.638	0.669	1.417	0.724
18-Sep	0.644	0.649	0.678	1.427	0.725
19-Sep	0.494	0.599	0.667		0.706
20-Sep	0.634	0.644	0.696	0.784	0.764
	<b>0.634</b>	<b>0.648</b>	<b>0.682</b>	<b>1.263</b>	<b>0.741</b>

### Salt Levels (EC)

Date	Goolwa	Milang	Raukkan Offshore	Meningie Jetty	Nth Warrengie Point
16-Sep	790	727	1000	2662	2666
17-Sep	799	731	874	2660	2659
18-Sep	767	648	939	2633	2669
19-Sep	787	654	968	2627	2659
20-Sep	1074	645	856	2656	2656
	<b>843</b>	<b>681</b>	<b>927</b>	<b>2648</b>	<b>2662</b>

Data received from: [www.waterconnect.sa.gov.au/RMWD/Pages/default.aspx](http://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](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: [Water Connect](http://www.waterconnect.sa.gov.au), [Daily Flow Report](http://www.dfw.gov.au), [River Murray Storage Data](http://www.murray-darling.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](http://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	
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	Macclesfield Bushcare Group AGM 7.30pm Macclesfield Institute speaker Kylie Moritz sbradstreet@hotmail.com
27	
28	
29	
30	
October 2013	
1	
2	
3	Climate Science Conference 9am-4.30pm Aust Education Union Greenhill Rd Parkside <a href="http://www.cleansa.org">www.cleansa.org</a>
4	
5	Milang Old School House 10th Birthday Celebrations! Bush Food 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	Goolwa to Wellington LAP AGM 7pm St Andrews Hall ph 8536 5612 tony.randall@gwlap.org.au
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 Finnis Catchment Group 10am-1pm ph 0428 441978
14	
15	
16	Making Biochar from Common Reeds Field Day 9.30am ph 0408 813 628 office@environmentsbydesign.com.au National Ride to Work Day <a href="http://www.bicyclenet.com.au">www.bicyclenet.com.au</a>
17	Weed Management Society of SA AGM 4pm Waite Campus ph 0401 288 946 wmssa01@hotmail.com
18	
19	
20	Meadows Country Fair & Battunga Field Day 9am-4.30pm
21	21-27 October National Water Week <a href="http://www.awa.asn.au">www.awa.asn.au</a>
22	
23	
24	

### 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.