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National Water Week

Good afternoon!

2013 marks the 20th year of National Water Week, which involves the community in thinking about, protecting and conserving **Australia's Most Precious Resource**.

Tomorrow the Lakes Hub is hosting a trip to the Adelaide Desalination plant to get people thinking about future water security issues and sustainable fresh water solutions for South Australia into the future. John Caldecott from the Water Action Coalition (WAC) will be joining us:

"The Mission of the WAC is to ensure a sustainable water future for South Australia. A future that ensures an equitable use of all water resources that does not compromise the health of independent ecosystems for future generations. To achieve these outcomes WAC will forcefully lobby and organise events to publicly advocate for water in all its forms to remain the common property of Australia and its ecosystems."

www.civictrust.net.au

Talk to you more about it in next weeks Bulletin. Have a Great Week!
The Lakes Hub Team (Amelia, Megan, Jill, Andrew, Robynne, Stuart & Carole)



The weekly links...

Ripe Near Me

New initiative to share, swap or sell what you grow, while allowing you to find, pick or buy fresh produce that is growing in your neighbours' yards. www.ripenear.me

SA Recreational Fishing Guide app

Get the latest information on SA recreational fishing rules, regulations, area closures and size and bag limits: www.pir.sa.gov.au/fisheries/recreational_fishing/recfishingapp



Denmark committed to achieving 100% renewable energy across the entire economy by 2050, applauded by WWF: www.econews.com.au/uncategorized/denmark-awarded-for-ambitious-environmental-energy-policies/

Be prepared for a bushfire season that starts in spring and stretches into autumn.

Melbourne Uni's Dr Sophie Lewis said catastrophic events such as the fires in NSW should come as no surprise, due to a dry winter and the ongoing effects of climate change: www.econews.com.au/news-to-sustain-our-world/scientists-warn-bushfire-season-much-longer/

Channel 9 Young Achiever Awards Open for Nominations:

www.awardsaustralia.com/young-achiever-awards/sa

Coorong Council New CEO - Mr Vincent Cammell

www.coorong.sa.gov.au

Wetland Care Australia photography competition gives everyone an opportunity to share their favourite wetland and take part in raising awareness about the importance of wetlands for all life on our planet. 4 categories: wetland flora, Wetland Fauna, Changing Landscapes & Our Wetlands. For info visit: www.wetlandcare.com.au/index.php?CID=639

Local Threatened Species Profile

Western Pygmy-possum (*certcartetus concinnus*)

This small nocturnal marsupial is fawn or reddish-brown above with white breast and belly. It has a long and finely- scaled, naked tail, thin rounded ears and quite noticeable whiskers. Adults only weigh an average of 13g and are about 8 cm long. In South Australia they occur in the SE, Southern Fleurieu Peninsula, Kangaroo Island & Southern Eyre Peninsula. They are found in mallee heath and dry sclerophyll forest, especially where there is undergrowth, in shrubs such as banksia, grevillea, callistemons and melaleuca. Also in the mallee and woodland restricted to shrubby areas.

The young are born in most months, and the females can rear two or three litters in close succession. She has an anterior-opening pouch with six teats. As many as twelve embryos have been known in a pouch. Averages of 3.5 young survive and young leave the pouch at around 25 days. They then remain in a nest as they are still semi-naked and dependent on their mother. The young are suckled until they reach 50 days.

They readily enter a state of dormancy particularly during periods of cold weather or rain. During this time they preserve energy.

They feed on nectar, pollen, insects and possibly small lizards.

I had the great pleasure of having a western Pygmy-possum living in my chook grain bin, directly under a large native banksia on our property near the Coorong. I placed him back in the branches of the tree each day and each morning he was back in my bin. He became a very fat possum!

Reference: Department for Environment and Heritage: www.environment.sa.gov.au
By Robynne, Lakes Hub Meningie



The History Spot - MCC Speed Meeting on Coorong

Adelaide Advertiser—Thursday 21 March 1935

Several S.A. And Australian Records Broken EXCELLENT ATTEMPTS UNDER ADVERSE CONDITIONS

The first speed meeting on the pipeclay in the Coorong was organised by the Motor Cycle Club of South Australia on the Coorong last week. Under adverse weather conditions, which postponed the meeting until the week-end, excellent riding was witnessed, and many records were established.

Although the track was in an excellent condition, and officials erected the electrical timing appliances, and measured the course, under ideal circumstances. Last Wednesday, the sudden change in weather was responsible for the water in the Coorong being blown across the pipe-clay, and on the Thursday morning, when the officials and competitors arrived at the pipe-clay, it was found to be covered with water. The change in the wind later in the day was responsible for the water receding, but a further change on Thursday night made it impossible to use the track on Friday. On Saturday morning the wind again changed, and by Saturday afternoon it was possible to use the course for the one mile standing start records, but the pipe-clay was damp and heavy, after being under water for two days. Officials were surprised to find the rapid improvement to the track once the wind began to blow the water off the track and on Sunday the pipe-clay was fully uncovered, and several miles of course were available. An early start was made on Sunday morning on electrically-timed mile events, and at the completion of these attempts, the officials took up their positions on a five-miles straight stretch for distance attempts.

Although it was not possible to crowd the four days' meeting into a day and a half, nearly every competitor was provided with the attempts he desired, and the final run was made by Bill Barker (Victorian with a sidecar outfit at 6.30 p.m.). The competitors were pleased with the track for record performances, and many records were beaten, despite the fact that the attempts were not made under the best conditions. Many enquires were received from the city concerning the condition of the pipe-clay when the weather conditions changed, and as it was not possible to give any definite information from Salt Creek, many intending competitors did not take the risk of the Coorong journey, in view of the possibility of the meeting being abandoned. The following riders made attempts:— Bill Barker <Vic>. Phil James, George Staplton. Les Potts, Harold Clisby. Wally Woollatt. The M.C.C. of S.A. is indebted to Messrs. C. C. Wakefield & Co., P. E. Farrell. proprietor of the Salt Creek Cafe, and club officials for making the Coorong meeting possible.



Local Nature Spot

Dangerous Snakes of the Lakes Area and Fleurieu Peninsula - Warm weather reminder

Summer is fast approaching indicated by the appearance of snakes and lizards on the roads in in our gardens. Whilst there is always the risk of snake bite in this region, it is very low and these snakes can live quite happily and in harmony with us. Nearly in all cases dangerous species of snakes will flee when approached by a humans or domestic animals.



Darker colour



Lighter colour

The common Brown snake *Pseudonaja textilis* (Above & left)

Brown snakes are a highly successful species and have probably held their own or even increased in numbers due to the changes man has made to the environment. Introduction of the European mouse has probably suited this species and contributed to its success. They also feed on introduced rats. There is a range of native lizards, mammals, frogs and occasional birds they eat as well

Generally, if you find a number of small brown snakes on your property, it doesn't mean you will be overpopulated with snakes. Nature takes care of that. The venom from brown snakes is highly deadly.



Juvenile

Tiger snakes *Notechis scutatus* (Right)

Tiger snakes used to be very common throughout the lake region and surrounding areas. They occupy swamps, watercourses and areas with relatively higher rainfall. Whilst the adult tiger snakes can happily survive on many types of food – frogs, mice, rats, eels, lizards and birds, the juveniles require an abundance of small frogs and tadpoles. Without the latter, no population recruitment occurs Tiger snakes occur in many color forms. They can be banded as the name suggests but equally and especially in this region, they can be un-banded being black, tan, red-brown or olive dorsally. Tiger snake bite is very serious. Although the venom is less toxic than brown snake venom (in mice), untreated tiger snake bites are more likely to be fatal in both humans and animals.



Red Bellied black snakes *Pseudechis porphyriacus* (Right)

Red bellied black snakes like tiger snakes are confined to watercourses, swamps and areas of relatively high rainfall. They often occur side by side with tiger snakes in this region but also occupy areas where no tiger snakes occur. Like tiger snakes as juveniles they have a high dependence on frogs but will eat other foods such as small lizards just as readily. Red bellied black snakes like tiger snakes are confined to watercourses, swamps and areas of relatively high rainfall. They often occur side by side with tiger snakes in this region but also occupy areas where no tiger snakes occur. Like tiger snakes as juveniles they have a high dependence on frogs but will eat other foods such as small lizards just as readily.



The Pygmy copperhead *Austrelaps labialis* (Below)



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Information adapted from article by Peter Mirtschin. Director, Venom Science Pty Ltd. Adjunct Research Fellow, School of Pharmacy & Medical Sciences, University of South Australia

To see the full guide including **what to do if bitten** follow the link
<http://lakeshub.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/Snakes-of-the-Fleurieu.pdf>

Up-Coming Events / Opportunities

Transplanting at Community Nursery

Join with other volunteers to help with transplanting some of the 25,000 plants being grown at Clayton Bay Community Nursery

WHEN: Monday 11th & Tuesday 12th November 2013

WHERE: Clayton Community Nursery, 6 Alexandrina Drive Clayton Bay (next to hall)

TIME: 9am to 3pm (or any time in between)

CONTACT: Nursery Manager 0459 707 876, cbneg@gmail.com

Snake Awareness Sessions

Geoff Coombe Sunday October 27TH 1– 3 pm Adelaide Hills NRC 1 Crescent Dv Norton Summit 83901891 or volunteer@ahnrc.org

Lucern Australia 2013 Symposium

Thursday, 14 November 2013, 9.30am-4.30pm

The Keith Institute, Heritage St, Keith, SA 5267.

Non-members \$40.00, members free-of-charge.

RSVP: Nicola Raymond, Executive Officer, Lucerne Australia 0439 538 332 or info@lucernaustralia.org.au

19th Australian Weeds Conference

Hobart 1-4 September 2014

Register your interest to receive up dates:

www.eventspro.net/leishman/getdemo.ei?id=7020146&s=62W0ZSYUB

CLAYTON BAY NURSERY & ENVIRONMENT GROUP
TRANSPLANTING DAYS
CLAYTON COMMUNITY NURSERY

Growing 25,000 plants for the region
Join local volunteers & help with transplanting seedlings. 9am–3.30pm

Monday November 11th 2013
Tuesday November 12th 2013

Come along for the day, or just for an hour.
Bring a friend for a fabulous morning & afternoon tea. BYO lunch.

Enquiries:
Nursery Manager Corale Richardson
cbneg@gmail.com
0459 707 876

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19th Australasian Weeds Conference
Science, Community and Food Security: the Weed Challenge
University of Tasmania, Hobart - 1-4 Sept 2014



ONLINE SURVEY

Here is your chance to tell us what benefits the Coorong and Lower Lakes provide

During October the CLLMM program is conducting an online survey.

The aim is to get a better idea of what the community, visitors and the broader community receive from the Coorong and Lower Lakes ecosystem.

Please complete the **Ecosystem Benefits and Community Values Survey** at https://www.research.net/s/Coorong_ES_Survey

The survey will be active from the 5th to the 30th October 2013

TOLDEROL GAME RESERVE
FISH MONITORING from 9:00am
with Natural Resources—SA Murray-Darling Basin staff
Friday 25th October 2013



Meeting at Tolderol Game Reserve Entrance gate 9:00am
A great opportunity to come and get a close look at our local native fish!

Please wear enclosed footwear and long pants
Sun protection and insect repellent
Water bottle (camera—optional)
[Car pooling available.](#)

Please RSVP Regina Durbridge 0427 364 551
regina.durbridge@gwlap.org.au



On the Level

14th - 18th October 2013

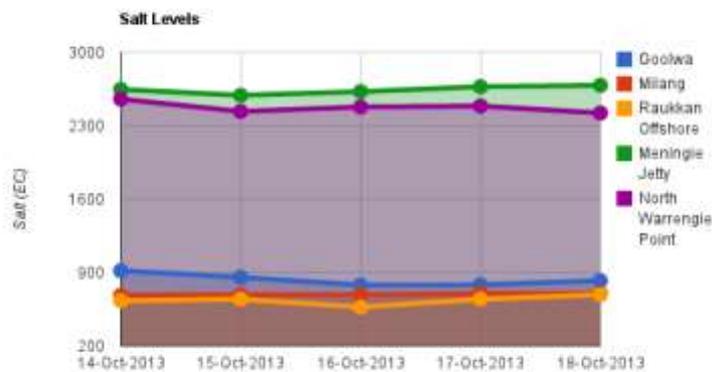
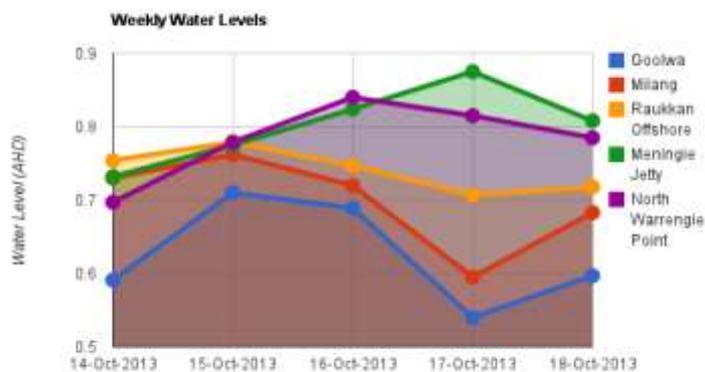
Lake Levels (AHD)

Date	Goolwa	Milang	Raukkan Offshore	Meningie Jetty	Nth Warrengie Point
14-Oct	0.591	0.73	0.754	0.732	0.697
15-Oct	0.71	0.762	0.779	0.775	0.779
16-Oct	0.689	0.72	0.747	0.824	0.84
17-Oct	0.54	0.595	0.707	0.875	0.815
18-Oct	0.597	0.683	0.718	0.808	0.785
	0.625	0.698	0.741	0.803	0.783

Salt Levels (EC)

Date	Goolwa	Milang	Raukkan Offshore	Meningie Jetty	Nth Warrengie Point
14-Oct	917	682	631	2646	2554
15-Oct	854	687	646	2590	2436
16-Oct	780	687	570	2625	2479
17-Oct	782	700	646	2672	2488
18-Oct	822	701	689	2685	2421
	831	691	636	2644	2476

Data received from: 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: [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.

October 2013	
21	21-27 October National Water Week www.awa.asn.au
22	
23	Lakes Hub Tour Adelaide Desalination Plant & Water Security Discussions 9am - 2pm ph 8537 0808
24	
25	Fish Monitoring Tolderol Natural Resources SAMDB 9am phone 0427 364 551 regina.durbridge@gwlap.org.au
26	
27	Snake Awareness Sessions for Property Owners– 1pm—3pm Adelaide Hills NRC 83901891 or volunteer@ahnrc.org
28	
29	
30	
31	

November 2013	
1	
2	Introduction to Bird Watching & Monitoring Mount Barker NRC 85801830 danielle.packer@sa.gov.au
3	
4	
5	
6	SA Landcare Conference www.landcaresa.asn.au , 0407972149 or gbutler@landcaresa.asn.au
7	SA Landcare Conference www.landcaresa.asn.au , 0407972149 or gbutler@landcaresa.asn.au
8	
9	
10	
11	Clayton Nursery Transplanting Day 9am-3.30pm Carole Richardson 0459 707 876 cbneg@gmail.com National Recycling Week 11-17th November www.recyclingweek.planetark.org
12	Clayton Nursery Transplanting Day 9am-3.30pm Carole Richardson 0459 707 876 cbneg@gmail.com
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21	World Fisheries Day www.grdc.org or check out the Facebook page

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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.