

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 176
3rd December 2013

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Christmas is fast approaching—*Bursaria* is flowering

Christmas must be nearly here, even if you aren't keeping a check on the calendar. How do we know—*Bursaria spinosa*, the Christmas Bush, is flowering, heralding the arrival of the summer season and Christmas.

Bursaria spinosa is of high wildlife value, as a habitat for birds and as a nectar source. It is a useful honey plant in poor seasons, producing medium to heavy quantities of pollen and average amounts of a damp amber honey. The drug aesculin is extracted from leaves and has been harvested commercially in Australia . Timber is pale fine-grained and tough; seasons well due to little shrinkage; takes polish well , however with slender trunks usually less than 19 cm diameter at breast height, the timber potential is not great .



[www.florabank.org.au/lucid/key/species%20navigator/media/html/Bursaria spinosa.htm](http://www.florabank.org.au/lucid/key/species%20navigator/media/html/Bursaria_spinosa.htm)
This plant grows widely in the Eastern States, grows widely in our region, and is one of the species planted by community in the Lakes and Coorong Community Revegetation Project managed by GWLAP.

The weekly links...

Denis Adams—The Coorong Man Part 2
Part 2 of Denis Adams' story 'The Coorong Birdman' about John Francis Peggotty, an Irishman who reportedly became a bushranger on the Coorong.
blogs.abc.net.au/sa/2013/12/denis-adams-the-coorong-birdman-part-2.html

SA Sustainable Communities recycling brochure.
A valuable resource.
sustainablecommunitiessa.files.wordpress.com/2013/11/a4-version-of-recycling-brochure-for-website-update-nov-2013-final.pdf

Cross Border environmental events calendar
Going to the South East this summer? See Nature Glenelg Trust summer edition of the cross border environmental events calendar
natureglenelg.org.au/cross-border-environmental-events-calendar/

The 12 Do's of Christmas -Planet Ark
www.d19cgyi5s8w5eh.cloudfront.net/eml/W6328680-4Y40-428Z-8XX7-4572504Z18Z7?e=greenschools%40wenlistserver.planetark.com&a=ZU0WWZ94-90YW-434U-Z8Y8-13V6799398W6&f=&t=

The Meningie Lakes Hub has moved!

During the last two weeks of November Andrew and Robynne have been busy relocating to new premises. They officially have a new address of 14 Princes Highway Meningie and are comfortably positioned in an office on the side entrance of “The Chambers” which is a beautiful old building occupied by an innovative craft co-operative called Coorong Cottage Industries.

The reasoning behind the move has been to capture more foot traffic to offer our services on information on the bio-diversity and ecology of the local area, as well as tourism information, in particular eco-and sustainable tourism. Already during the short time here there has been a significant amount of people enquiring and brochures and information have been handed out for many people interested in the birdlife, ecology, national park regulations, history and general tourist maps and lake enquiries.

The office is formatted in such a way that meetings can still be held with the large conference table in the centre of the room, in fact a Talking Heads meeting has already been held in the office with success. The phone number and hours of operation are still the same and entry is through the side door but can also be accessed through an inside door from Coorong Cottage Industries.

Andrew and Robynne look forward to any visits from Bulletin readers and will continue to work closely with the Milang Hub to educate any visitors in environmental issues in the local area.



Lakes Hub Meningie “The Chambers” —14 Princes Highway Meningie 08 8575 1830

Did you know? Environmental facts

- ◆ Australians purchase about 118,000 tonnes of plastic drink bottles a year but only recycle 35 percent of them. The 76,700 tonnes left behind goes into landfill or ends up in our environment as rubbish.
- ◆ Recycling one aluminium can saves enough energy to run a TV for three hours.
- ◆ During the time it takes you to read this sentence, 50,000 12-ounce aluminium cans are made.

The History Spot



SCENE ON THE COORONG NEAR LAKE ALBERT 1846—1847

George French ANGAS

J. W. GILES (lithographer)

<http://artsearch.nga.gov.au/Detail-LRG.cfm?>

IRN=43832&PICTAUS=TRUE

Naming the Wetland—clarification—*Plants NOT trees*

A response from a reader on the Bulletin #175 article 'Naming the Wetlands' by Anne Hartnett has shown the need for clarification on the plants planted in the Ramsar Wetlands region surrounding the Coorong, Lakes Alexandrina and Albert and their tributaries. The article stated that there was in excess of 3.5 millions "trees" in the ground. There is in fact that number of **plants**, with only approximately 10% of these trees. The rest has been middle to low storey vegetation. Most will grow to knee height once they reach maturity .

Thanks to the alert reader for pointing this out, and allaying any concerns that the plantings around the lakes will change the landscape or impinge on views . The creation of habitat for a more resilient environment is the aim (remember the drought times) and as Anne's article shows, this project has created strong partnerships , opportunity and strengthening of community.

Cryptic Bird Surveys

Just letting you know that we are doing our final cryptic bird survey around the lakes this Wednesday -Friday (4th-6th November)

Dr Jody O'Connor
Scientific Officer, Ecological Monitoring
Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources



Up-Coming Events / Opportunities



The Change & Adaptation program is a series of events, workshops and projects that aim to improve community wellbeing by increasing participation in the arts.

This program is a unique three year partnership between Health, the Environment and the Arts located in the Southern Fleurieu Peninsula, Murray Mallee, Kangaroo Island, Mt Gambier and the Coorong and Lakes communities.

By incorporating contemporary arts and cultural practices into health services and environmental community engagement programs, we seek to improve client outcomes and increase community participation.

Change and Adaptation (C&A) is a flexible, developmental program and has the capacity to accommodate community aspiration and partners requirements.

Program delivery

A Creative Producer is overseeing the project with a team of artists who are currently working on a suite of projects across the state's southern region. We are working with our partners to design, deliver and evaluate each project. Our current projects include; *Necessity the Mother of Invention*, *Drawing on Country – Plein air*, *Not a Puppet State*, *Laugh Yourself Well*, *Undressing the Building - Demolition Symphony*, *Thresholds*, *Off the Wall*, *Art Clinic*, *Special Delivery Stories*, *Dressing the Building*, *Reflections on Health*

Evaluation

To support the aims of the Change and Adaptation program an Evaluation Framework was developed by Dr Christine Putland in August 2012. The evaluation process has incorporated initial feedback from the program partners, the artistic team and Country SA staff, gathered through individual interviews and group discussions. A follow up evaluation report has been prepared to assist staff and team members to refine reporting processes, capture new observations and suggestions enabling key issues to be fed back into the future Model of Practice.

Christine has identified key indicators of progress towards achieving the program's aims as;

1. the quality of the partnerships established
2. responses by organisational staff
3. changes in how services are delivered

www.countryarts.us5.list-manage.com/track/click?u=807fb58531f9300c482851780&id=776dcbdd9d&e=5064a67bb1

The next stage of the evaluation process is currently underway and Christine is gathering feedback from agency staff who interact directly with the artists about their experiences.

Up-Coming Events / Opportunities



Coorong Tatiara Local Action Plan Summary of 2014 On Ground Works Incentives

If you are a landholder, community group or school in the Coorong or Tatiara District Council areas you are eligible to apply for on ground works incentives with the Coorong Tatiara LAP. The Coorong Tatiara LAP is supported by funding from the Australian Government & the Coorong & Tatiara District Councils.

- The principal aim of these incentives is to protect and enhance biodiversity across our region.
- An Expression of Interest Form is available at <http://www.coorong.sa.gov.au/ongroundworks>
- Or by contacting a member of the Coorong Tatiara Local Action Plan Team on 85 72 3611

On Ground Works Incentive	Funding Rate per ha /km	Basic Funding Conditions
Native Windbreaks	\$350 to \$400 / ha \$2,000 / km	Minimum width of 10 metres and 3 rows. Stock proof fence. Ongoing weed & pest control.
Native Vegetation Block	\$450 to \$600 / ha \$2,500 to \$3,000 / km	Rate depends on biodiversity value eg endangered species. Stock proof fence. Ongoing weed & pest control.
Fencing Remnant Vegetation	\$2,000 to \$4,000 / km	Rate depends on biodiversity value eg endangered species. Internal fencing offset along a boundary which protects valuable areas will be considered on a case by case basis. Stock proof fence. Ongoing weed & pest control.
Fencing Wetlands	\$2,000 to \$4,000 / km	Rate depends on biodiversity value eg endangered species. Stock proof fence. Ongoing weed & pest control.
Stabilising Sand-Drift	Up to \$100 / ha	Long term stabilisation. Site must have native grass or other native vegetation established after stabilisation.
Earthworks & Levelling of Blowouts	Up to 30% of final costs	Long term stabilisation. Site must have native grass or other native vegetation established after stabilisation.
Clay Spreading	\$40 / ha	Maximum of 40 ha funded. Minimum clay spreading rate of 80 tonnes / ha. Site must have native grass or other native vegetation established after clay spreading.



Coorong and Tatiara Local Action Plan

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Up-Coming Events / Opportunities

Volunteer to help local community and environment

Volunteers are much needed at the Milang Environment Centre Nursery (M.E.C. Nursery Milang) to help with transplanting of local native plant species for local revegetation projects.

Nursery Manager Jill Dennis has put the call out for help to transplant seedlings into individual tubes which will be planted in the region in winter of 2014. Jill commented that "Volunteering at the nursery is not only helpful to the environment, but also a great way to meet other people in the district with similar concerns for their local environment".

For further information contact :

Nursery Manager Jill Dennis

Ph. 0498 632 839



Successful Transplanting Day at Clayton Bay Nursery

CLAYTON BAY NURSERY & ENVIRONMENT GROUP

TRANSPANTING DAYS – CLAYTON BAY NURSERY

The seedling transplanting days on the 18th and 19th November were a great success. CBNEG members as well as other volunteers from Clayton and Milang joined in to make the day a success. All in 19 community volunteers put in over 100 of hours and transplanted 3000 plants, with delicious morning and afternoon teas, fine conversation and much laughter had by all.

Many thanks to those who participated – these two days of activity were a giant step in fulfilling our contact to GWLAP for 24,905 plants, and much appreciated.

Another two transplanting day are planned for late January or early February to transplant Knobby Club Rush (1720) and Spear grasses (3200) that are being sown now. I will advise of the dates after germination of these seeds.

The nursery is open for business every Monday and Tuesday. Everyone is welcome for a cuppa, a look around or for some volunteer input and company.

Carole Richardson
Nursery Manager
0459 707 876
claytonbaynee@gmail.com



Transplanting and morning teas – Clayton Bay Nursery - a great place to be.

On the Level

Lake Levels (AHD)

Date	Goolwa	Milang	Raukkan Offshore	Meningie Jetty	Nth Warrengie Point
25-Nov	0.734	0.724	0.711	0.634	0.66
26-Nov	0.744	0.711	0.704	0.677	0.704
27-Nov	0.739	0.701	0.696	0.696	0.719
28-Nov	0.631	0.656	0.685	0.713	0.722
29-Nov	0.671	0.704	0.674	0.641	0.661
Average	0.704	0.699	0.694	0.672	0.693

Salt Levels (EC)

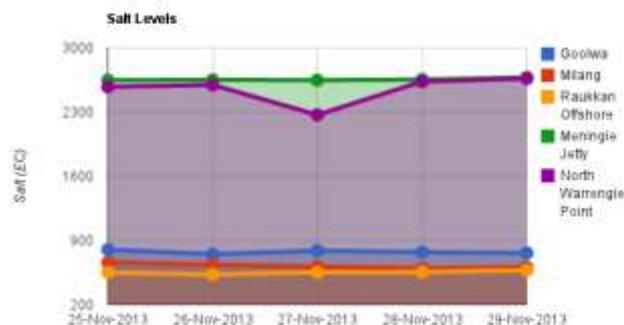
Date	Goolwa	Milang	Raukkan Offshore	Meningie Jetty	Nth Warrengie Point
25-Nov	799	660	550	2647	2574
26-Nov	749	635	528	2650	2596
27-Nov	788	613	553	2647	2268
28-Nov	771	595	555	2653	2632
29-Nov	762	608	575	2678	2664
Average	774	622	552	2655	2547

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

Lake Levels



Salt Levels (EC)



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: 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: 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.

November 2013	
23	
24	
25	
26	Flinders Uni lecture 'Are Weather Forecasts Still for Wimps' 3.45pm Level 1, 182 Victoria Square 7221 8693
27	Talking Heads DEWNR Schoenoplectus plantings for lake edge stabilisation Meningie Hub 8575 1830
28	
29	
30	

December 2013	
1	
2	
3	Talking Heads Salt Interception Scheme Peter Forward, SA Water, Milang Hub ph8537 0808
4	
5	International Volunteers Day www.volunteeringaustralia.org Friends of Meningie meeting call Lakes Hub for information 8575 1830
6	
7	
8	Goolwa Christmas Festival
9	
10	UN Human Rights Day www.un.org/en/events/humanrightsday/
11	
12	
13	Christmas Where the Angus Flows, Strathalbyn 6.30pm onwards
14	
15	
16	
17	Port Elliot Christmas Carols 5pm
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	Christmas Day

Disclaimer

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