



Friends of Southern Eyre Peninsula Parks

PO Box 1056, Port Lincoln SA 5606

Ph. Jim Egan 8682 2144 Bob DeLaine 8683 5117

NEWSLETTER NO. 191 March 2017

It was great to have an excellent rollup of members for our AGM in mid-February, and then even more members and others turn out to hear our two most informative and entertaining guest speakers on the topic of saving the bettongs and bilbies from feral predators. The AGM marked the retirement of Chris Abbott as Treasurer after 13 years in the job, and we are greatly indebted to her for leaving the finances in a healthy state and our record keeping systems in excellent order. Vicki Gould also stepped down from the office of Minute Secretary at the AGM, but has kindly elected to stay on as a committee member. Thank-you Chris and Vicki for your many years of dedicated service. Welcome to Garry Hollands and Lee Clayton who joined the committee and step into the roles of Treasurer and Secretary respectively. Minutes and reports from the AGM are appended to this newsletter, for your information.

Jim Egan

FRIENDS OF SOUTHERN EP PARKS COMMITTEE FOR 2017

The committee for the coming year, as elected at our recent AGM, is:

- President: Jim Egan
- Vice President and Trails Coordinator: Bob DeLaine
- Secretary: Lee Clayton
- Treasurer: Garry Hollands
- Committee members: Vicki Gould, Ian Phillips, Ian Abbott, Shylie O'Brien, Kym Montoya, Ross Kassebaum, Steve Pocock and Di DeLaine (Publicity Officer).

MEMBERSHIP SUBS FOR 2017

Subs for 2017 - still only \$10 per family - are now due. To be eligible for free Park entry, members need to be **both active** (i.e. help out at working bees, maintain walking trail sections, or otherwise assist in Friends activities) **and financial**.

Make cheques out to "Friends of Southern Eyre Peninsula Parks" and either post to PO Box 1056 or drop in at the DEWNR office on Tasman Terrace.

Or you can pay by EFT direct to our account at Beyond Bank, using the following details:

BSB: 325-185 Account no: 17069898 Pay to: Friends of Southern EP Parks

Please note that the BSB and our account number have changed since last year.

Also remember to include your surname and "subs" in the Reference box, so we can identify who the payment is from.

CLEAN-UP AUSTRALIA DAY WORKING BEE IN THE PARK

The following report by Vicki sums up our effort in the Park on Sunday, March 5:

Thanks for everyone's efforts today ... some had more work than others, i.e. Malcolm and Pam did a big job at McLaren Point and Neil and Lee cleaned up "big" time at Woodcutter's.

Thanks to Kym, Jan H. and Steve for 'looking after' our youngest participant, Bradley, from Cummins.

Thanks to Ursula for helping with the signing on process and to Gouldie and Graham for the BBQ.

Overall, it's very pleasing that there is far less fishing debris (rope, plastic bait bags) than there has been in the past. The fishing industry is definitely cleaning up its act.

Some campers still have a lot to learn about being responsible for their own "waste" and old bottles and cans were still easy to find.

With 28 happy participants, it was a great way to spend Sunday in church.

Cheers, Vicki G.



A total of 23 bags of rubbish was collected, plus this massive trophy found by the Russell's on Woodcutter's Beach.

At least it was very thoughtful of the polluters to also supply the rope to retrieve the trophy.

NEXT WORKING BEE, THURSDAY MARCH 23

Plan is to have another attack on Polygala, this time in several patches that were rolled and burnt two years ago. Meet at Park entrance at 9.00 am. Bring gloves, sturdy footwear, sun and fly protection, chair, drinking water, lopper or pruner, morning smoko and something for the Friends BBQ for lunch. Working bee will be cancelled if forecast temperature for Port Lincoln is 30 degrees or more.

REPORTING FERAL WEED PLANTS IN LINCOLN NATIONAL PARK

If you come across weeds in the Park that should be removed to prevent their spread, please make a note of:

- type of weed (Aleppo pine, Polygala, box thorn - we don't want to know about the horehound, onion weed, African daisy, Salvation Jane, etc);
- location - GPS reference if possible, otherwise an accurate description using landmarks and distances.

Then pass on the information to the following contacts:

- for Polygala, to Ian Phillips, email abishan@bigpond.com or phone 8682 1697;
- for all other weeds, to Di DeLaine, email di.delaine@yahoo.com.au , phone 8683 5117.

MINUTES OF FRIENDS OF SOUTHERN EYRE PENINSULA PARKS
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Lincoln Marine Science Centre, 1 Hindmarsh Street, Port Lincoln
February 15, 2017, 7.00 pm start.

Present: Jim & Robyn Egan, Ian & Margaret Phillips, Brian & Vicki Gould, Bob & Di DeLaine, Shylie O'Brien, Ross Kassebaum, Steve & Rosemary Pocock, Ian & Chris Abbott, Kym Montoya, Jan Harvey, Kye Langmead, Peter & Lana Sheridan, Steve Sawyer, Jan Hetherington, Janet Smyth, Garry Hollands, Bron Saint, Dean Jacobs, Andrew & Sue Chappell, Ken & Lynne Walmsley, Tom & Robyn Hurley, Neil Russell, Doug & Lesley Easson, Dyson Taverner (DEWNR).

Apologies: Lee Clayton, Pam Hewstone, Barry Hetherington, Warren Dickie, Helen Breakey, Malcolm Nicolai, Lee Russell

Minutes of Last AGM: April 14, at Senior Citizen's Hall, Port Lincoln.
(Previously distributed to all members)
Motion for minutes to be accepted as a true and accurate record:
Moved: D DeLaine Seconded: I Phillips - accepted.

Business Arising:

Recognition of retiring Minute Secretary, Vicki Gould
Joined in 2004, Minute Secretary since 2005, a total of 12 years: acknowledged.

Correspondence:
Carry over to next Committee meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Chris Abbott
Copies of Treasurer's Financial Report 2016 distributed to all present.

Opening balance	\$ 4371.15
Income	\$7918.05
Expenses	\$7580.14
Closing balance	\$4760.01

Committee has passed that membership fees be kept at \$10 per family for the 2017 year.

Motion that Treasurer's Report be accepted.
Moved: C Abbott Seconded: V Gould: accepted

Recognition of retiring Treasurer, Chris Abbott
Joined 1995 (Foundation member), Treasurer continuously since 2004, a total of 13 years: acknowledged.

Ranger's Report: Dyson Taverner

On behalf of Ron and myself we hope everyone had a great Christmas and an even better new year.

We would like thank the group for the work that has been undertaken over the last year. Your contribution as volunteers to the environment and efforts by your group are vital for protecting and conserving the park for the future.

Staff and DEWNR news

- Scott Giacopini our Graduate Ranger which some of the group has met, has completed his 6 month secondment with us and is moving to Kangaroo Island for his next rotation placement. A new Grad Ranger, Rebecca Brown, will commence on the 27th February.
- The Region is currently undertaking interviews for a Compliance Officer position with a focus on Marine Parks and sea mammals and at times assist with compliance issues within parks.

- I have returned to be your liaison ranger after my secondment as Fire Management Officer within Murraylands and Eyre Regions, and look forward working with the group.
- Online booking start date is fast approaching (27th February). Ranger and maintenance staff will commence installing entrance, campsite numbering and campground signs from next Monday. Not all signs will be ready prior to the 27th but it is hoped that some temporary signage will be installed for the interim.
- Green Army and our ranger Scott Giacomini have commenced repairs to Pillie Hut. Major stonework repair will be close to completion by this week. As Scott will be leaving us this week Anthony Kennedy our Regional Asset Services Officer will complete the lime wash of walls in the coming weeks.
- The region has participated in the rollout of the RHDV1 K5 (Calicivirus) within Lincoln and Coffin N.P's. Rabbit surveys are currently underway and then if numbers are consistent and of high stable numbers the virus will be released. We will keep you up to date with progress.
- Works identified in the Friend's group meetings under Business Arising are slowly progressing. Over the next few months there will be challenges for this to progress as our current works including completion of sign installation within Coffin Bay and Lincoln parks as part of online booking and the commencement of our Autumn prescribed burns will take a priority. I assure you that works will not be forgotten and will complete them as soon as time permits.

In finishing this report I would like to pass on my/our appreciation for the unfading enthusiasm and passion of the members of the committee toward the park and thank the outgoing committee members, Vicki Gould and Chris Abbott, for their involvement over the years within the Committee.

Ron and I look forward to another year working with the Friends of Southern Eyre Peninsula Parks.

President's Report: Jim Egan

As your President, it gives me pleasure to report on another busy and eventful year for the Friends of Southern Eyre Peninsula Parks in 2016.

Lincoln National Park reached a major milestone during the year - the 75th anniversary of its gazettal on August 28, 1941. We celebrated this occasion with breakfast in the Park at Stamford, followed by the unveiling of a commemorative plaque recognising the original custodians of this land. We also used this event for the release of our new brochure on the Park history, with thanks to Steve Pocock and others who brought this project to fruition.

Early in the year Lincoln National Park was featured as the NaturePlay SA "Park of the Month" for April. The family fun day that we organised as part of this provided an opportunity for kids (and their adults) to propagate plants from cuttings and plant native seedlings in the Park, as well as to search for natural treasures in the bush and on the seashore.

Our volunteer efforts in the Park amassed a grand total of almost 2200 hours recorded for the year, although I believe the real figure is even higher than this. Major time was spent on revegetation (665 hours recorded), with about 1100 seedlings planted in the new Donington Beach enclosure, and around Surfleet campground and Stamford. A final planting of sheoaks was also completed on the Wanna Flats, so it will be satisfying to watch this area regenerate in the coming years. And Ian Abbott advises we have another 500 seedlings in waiting to be planted out once the autumn rains arrive.

Weed control also accounted for many hours of volunteers' effort - 517 hours total logged. Targets included roadside and revegetation enclosure African daisies, horehound around campground and visitor areas, periwinkle, Polygala and Aleppo pines.

Keeping the extensive network of walking trails clear of fallen limbs and new growth, and clearly marked and signposted is another ongoing activity that our volunteers spend considerable effort on - 357 hours total logged in 2016. The addition of plaques with GPS coordinates on all 24 walking trail checkpoints was completed during the year, to improve safety for walkers.

Our involvement in Cleanup Australia Day helped ensure that the Park's popular beaches, campgrounds and picnic spots are clear of human litter and rubbish, providing a further 70 hours of voluntary input.

An expanding component of our role as Friends of the Park is reaching out to the wider community to inform them of the natural assets and beauty of the Park, and to educate them to respect and appreciate our natural environment. Effort expended on this will also hopefully ensure a steady stream of new (and younger) members joining our ranks to share the load. Di DeLaine has put us on the map with our Facebook page, and positive stories and photos provide a new-age method of alerting the general public to our activities and events, in addition to more traditional media promotion in the local paper, and on radio and TV.

As in previous years, we were successful in accessing government funding grants to support our activities. First aid training for members, replenishment of our first aid kits, and purchase of equipment and supplies for revegetation were made possible with such grants in 2016.

Strange as it may seem, all our on-ground activities in the Park don't just happen. I am extremely grateful to my committee members who between them have amassed an official total of 542 hours (again an underestimate I expect) in meetings and behind the scenes administrative activities to plan and run our program, keep members and others informed, etc. It's not the most exciting of voluntary work, and I know that we would all prefer to be out there doing it rather than talking about it. But without it the work of our volunteers in the Park would end up fragmented and much less effective. So thank you to all committee members, on behalf of all members.

I also wish to acknowledge the great support, cooperation and encouragement we are given by EP Natural Resources staff, including the National Parks people - Dyson Taverner, Ron Saers, John Symes and his team - and office staff - Katrina Pobke, Rachael Kannussaar and Peter Wilkins, as well as our DEWNR head office contact, Pam Smith. Thanks to you all and we look forward to your continued support in the coming year.

To finish on a lighter note, I should stress that its not been all hard work, blisters and sore backs out in the Park, or lengthy Committee meetings. Our BBQ is still one of our most valuable and hardest worked items in our shed, lovingly handled by Gouldy, to provide a relaxing social wind-down after most working bees. And once again our Christmas get-together at Donington Cottage provided an enjoyable and entertaining end to our year.

In closing, thanks once again to my committee for your support and encouragement, and tolerance of my poor jokes. To Chris who will be leaving the committee, special thanks for your long and significant contributions as Treasurer over the past 13 years. Thanks also to Vicki, who is relinquishing the job of Minute Secretary after 12 years but has nominated to continue as a committee member. To others who have elected to renominate for committee, and those who have indicated their willingness to be nominated, thanks to you all and good luck in the forthcoming election.

Accepted.

Trail Maintenance Report: Bob DeLaine

Di and I have been able to get out into the park more often in the last twelve months and I am gaining more appreciation of what we have and the work done by past and present trail maintenance volunteers. Keeping vegetation pruned back, ensuring the trails are clearly defined, collecting rubbish and replacing fading signs are just some of the tasks undertaken. Thank you all for your efforts.

Also, a big thank you to the staff, particularly Ron and Dyson, who have been very patient and supportive of our efforts. As volunteers we are there to back the staff up and to help support them in the care of the park, and certainly we all need to be mindful of their extra work load supporting us!

Last year plaques with GPS coordinates for the 24 walking trail checkpoints were put into place.

A small group also did a reconnoitre of the walking trail through the Wanna dunes. This section of the walking trail is not well known or walked. It is more difficult to access and there are problems with drifting sand, car damage and a high level of corrosion of signage. I feel that with the work done in the past to establish and maintain this section it is worth keeping it going, along with some publicity to make people more aware of what is available.

As mentioned in a newsletter at the end of last year, the committee put forward the idea of having volunteers 'adopt a campground'. I have had several people offer to take up this idea and there is room for more if you are interested in helping look after your favourite campsite in the park.

Thanks once again for your efforts.

