



# *Bandicoot Tails*

## **Newsletter of the Friends of Scott Creek Conservation Park**

No. 172

September – November 2018

### **The President's words:**

Well, there has been a fair bit happening in the nature conservation space since my last words. Back in March we had a state election and a new Liberal government was elected in. I suppose there is always a little trepidation when there is a change of government, as the saying goes, better the devil you know than the devil you don't.

The new Minister for Environment and Water, David Speirs MP, was strongly advocating for reform of natural resource management. It seems to have been some time since the environment has been a focus in an election, other than talk about water security in our driest state on the driest continent, climate change and carbon emissions, and green energy.

Time will, of course, tell, but the government has spoken of a key emphasis on soil quality, water management and pest plant and animal control. There will be landscape scale restoration programs, which are recognised as being important for sustaining high quality biodiversity.

The Natural Resources Management Act 2004 is to be replaced by a new Landscape South Australia Act, and the government is seeking input from the community regarding the reform process. We only have until 15<sup>th</sup> October to have our say, so I encourage you to do so.



You can go to the [www.yoursay.sa.gov.au/landscape-reform](http://www.yoursay.sa.gov.au/landscape-reform) website to read the discussion paper, executive summary and frequently asked questions, and can provide feedback in the online discussion forum, by emailing or posting your comments in, or by attending one of the community forums being held during August and September (details on the website above).

Always of concern is funding continuity, and I am unable to get confirmation that the funding for the third year of our Three Year Work Plan, funded under NR AMLR Sustainable Landscapes and Volunteer Support Program, will remain budgeted for.

There is a standard clause in the Plan that states “*Board funding for all components of this project will be subject to the availability of funds in the financial year for which they have been approved.*” This allows for changes to priorities, policy and budgets, which are always more likely when there is a change of government.

See below for some feedback about two of the community forums that members of our group have attended.

Also in August, Jenny and I attended the *Heysen Friends of Nature Forum* in Aldgate, at the invitation of Josh Teague MP, Member for Heysen. Josh has shown keen interest in our Friends group and has attended a couple of our Almunda Open Days.

This was an evening with guest speakers Prof. Chris Daniels, Director Cleland Wildlife Park, Natalie Stalenberg, Water For Nature Programs Manager Nature Foundation SA, Dr. Jasmin Packer, Adelaide Hills Science Hub and Research Fellow University of Adelaide, with a short video appearance from the Minister for Environment and Water.



**Above:** Prof. Chris Daniels, keynote speaker at the Heysen Friends of Nature Forum

There was a break for a cuppa and a chat, during which we could walk around and have a look at the terrific displays put up by NRM and several of the local volunteer groups (including ours, thanks entirely to Jenny, which resulted in sale of books, bird brochures, etc. totalling \$158). This break was followed by more brief presentations by staff from NR AMLR, including our very own Brent Loes telling us about the various aspects of a Park Ranger’s job, and some of the volunteer groups.

All in all it was a good evening for networking with like-minded people, and provided us with the opportunity to find out a little about what other groups are doing in the local area and let others know what we are doing. It sounds like there may be more of these forums in the future, and we were asked to provide feedback on this one and let them know what we might like to be included next time.

Peter Watton

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## **Landscape SA Legislation Reform Workshop:**

McLaren Vale 14<sup>th</sup> August 2018

The Sedge Snippet and other online information sites invited the community to join a discussion forum on the restructure of the way natural resources are managed now that we have a new State Liberal Government. Peter attended one at Victor Harbor on 13<sup>th</sup> August, and I went to the McLaren Vale one.

No two forums are exactly the same, even though they follow the same format and the same topics are discussed, because of different input and issues that are raised by those attending.

The Minister for the Environment and Water, David Speirs, attended the meeting for the first two hours and he outlined the proposed changes and answered questions. Five simple principles will help to guide the reform:

1. Decentralised decision making
2. A simple and accessible system
3. Community and landowners at centre
4. Back to basics – soil quality, water management and pest plant and animal
5. A whole landscape approach

The current NRM boundaries will be largely retained (Landscape SA) with the creation of Green Adelaide to deliver natural resources management in metropolitan Adelaide, and splitting the rest of the existing Adelaide and Mount Lofty NRM Region in two, Plains and Valleys to the north and Hills and Fleurieu to the south. Although a decision on where the line will be drawn is some time off, I don't think there is much doubt that Scott Creek CP will be in the Hills and Fleurieu Region.

Some of the discussion points at the McLaren Vale Forum were:

- People buying acreage properties require access to advice to manage those properties – enthusiasm needs technical support.
- The majority of attendees did not like the name 'Landscape SA' and the Minister said he would consider other suggestions and some of the indigenous representatives suggested the aboriginal word for 'land'.
- Not a strong emphasis on biodiversity but it was suggested that would be addressed in the next two years as well as broader water reform.
- The Minister was very interested in coastal protection, as that area will be impacted by climate change, and suggested the restoration of sea grass and referred to it as 'blue carbon'.
- A lot of the NRM levy will be spent in the areas where the money was raised but some money will be retained for large scale or whole state projects. The metropolitan area will generate most money but city dwellers will use a lot of facilities outside the city so it is difficult to factor that in. Note: this funding question was also raised at the Victor Harbor forum, and Minister Speirs stated that there would need to be some form of distribution of levy funds from Green Adelaide to the Plains and Valleys and Hills and Fleurieu regions, but this had not explored yet.

The boundary for Green Adelaide is not yet decided, e.g. does that include McLaren Vale and Willunga, the feeling of meeting was that those areas belong in the Hills and Fleurieu.

The Minister was asked about the cost of the restructure in the light of the media reporting that DEW would experience a 25% reduction in funding – to which the Minister replied that there will be no such cut. He acknowledged that spending on the environment has been reduced in the last few years.

There is a lot of information online regarding the proposed changes and the Minister seems very genuine in receiving community input. More forums are planned and people can provide feedback by email, online and by post.

Chris Thomson (with some additions by Peter)

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### **Landcare Association of SA**

Peter was approached by Glenn Gale, Executive Office for the Landcare Association of SA, to give a talk at their AGM on 30<sup>th</sup> August at the Joinery in the city.

The talk was titled *'Taking the problem of environmental funding to the community – an innovative approach'*, direct from our presentation at last year's 2017 Community Landcare Conference, held at Clare in September.

The emphasis was to be on our approach to funding for our Almanda Project, including crowd-funding, John and Proo's Open Garden, grant funding and the three year Work Plan funded under the NR AMLR Sustainable Landscapes and Volunteer Support Programs. During the presentation, the video was shown again, and this was a real hit with the attendees.

Amongst the slides, I included a list of what I thought might be some of the keys to the success of our fund-raising to date:

- Be strategic, show that you know what you are doing and are well organised, but be realistic in what you are trying to achieve.
- Utilise icons – famous or well-known people in your group, plants and animals in your park.
- Establish partnerships and spread the net wide, don't rely on any one source of funding.
- Be prepared for disappointment but celebrate successes.
- Be ready and able to change the scale of your activities depending on funding availability, but don't take on more work than you can follow-up yourselves.
- It's hard work!



As a thank you, we received a \$100 donation to go to the Almanda Project.

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## Working Bees:

Unlike our bird banding team, the Hands On Team had mostly good weather for its activities during winter, though there was one Tuesday activity that was cancelled...many apologies to Ian who missed receiving the notification, but well done for spending a couple of hours seeking out Boneseed up along Mineshaft Track.

The map below shows that there was a concentration of working bees around the Almanda Creek area of the Park. These included regular scheduled activities working on Broom at Stockyard Track, Boneseed either side of Mineshaft Track, Erica and other woody weeds east of Eys Tunnel, and Broom and Blackberry in Almanda Creek.



**Above:** our bush gardeners having morning tea in the bush, above Eys Tunnel in August.

**Left:** Jenny waving a very tall Erica in celebration of its demise.

There was also some independent spraying of Soursob and a little patch of Cape Tulip opposite the Almanda car park, and Bridal Creeper on the east side and Cape Tulip at the northern end of Almanda Valley. This was the second year that this area of Cape Tulip had been sprayed by Peter – more about this later in the report.



**Above:** Almanda Creek where the Wednesday bush gardeners have been working.

The regular Wednesday morning Almanda Creek team continues to chip away at weeds along the creekline, heading towards Matthews Road. Tangled Blackberry has been cut and swabbed and the numerous and varied herbaceous weeds that come up in this moist, fertile soil get quickly plucked out. Care is always taken to identify the native herbaceous plants that come up, so that they may be left to prosper. Broom regrowth has also been removed, to ensure it doesn't get to produce flowers and seeds in this area again. A small patch of flowering Gorse was also cut and swabbed a little further down the creek.

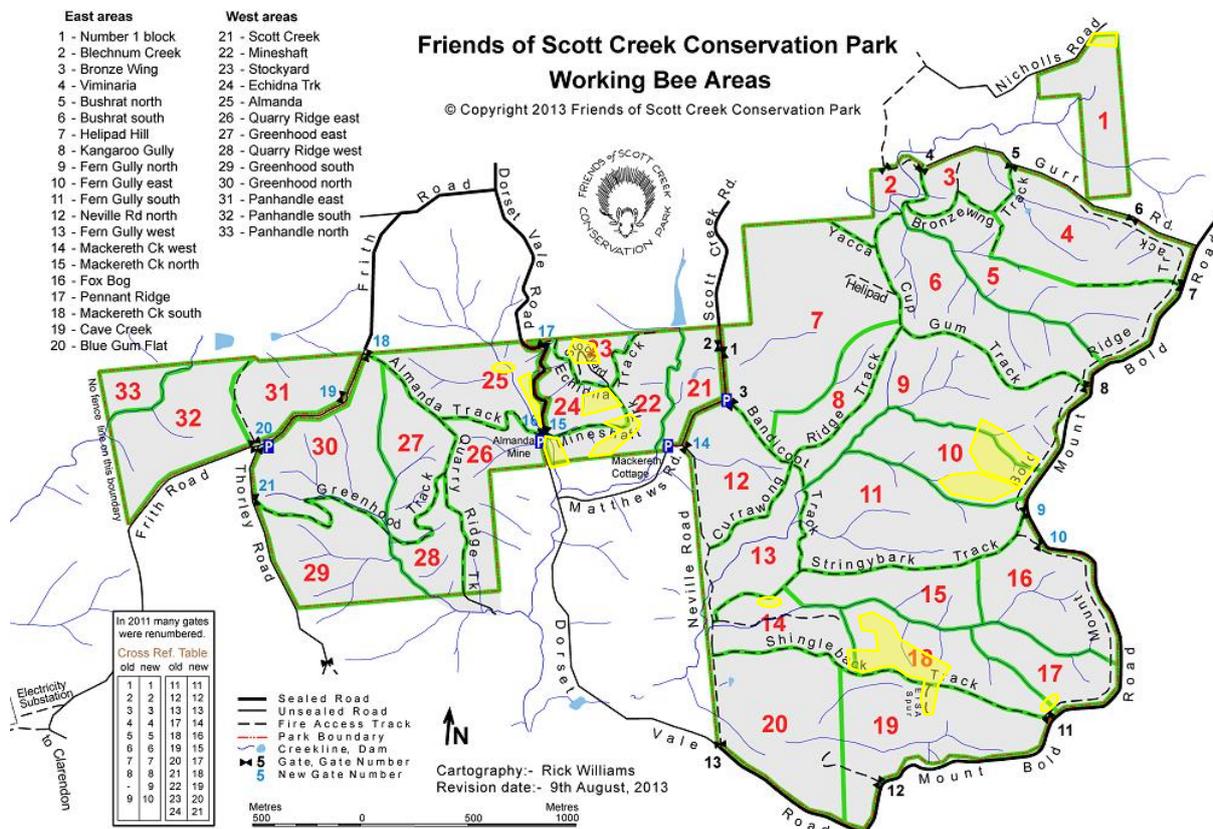
On to other areas of the Park, a small group of five turned up on a damp, chilly morning in July, to tackle the large patch of woody weeds at the top of Number 1 Block, which was discovered during our first visit there last year. While we didn't through it all, we made good progress and were pleased to find lots of evidence of a population of the nationally endangered Southern Brown Bandicoot in amongst the dense native understorey high up on the hillside.



**Above:** Ian cutting and swabbing English Broom in Number 1 Block.

We spent two working bees in the area between Brown Frog Gully and Hakea and Blackwater Creeks. Significant areas of Boneseed had been found here last year, with some quite large ones in the steeper parts closer to the creeks. With ten and seven volunteers attending the two activities respectively we made good progress, but there is more to be done. Blackberry has been sprayed in the Blackwater Creek system by contractors, but will need a return visit, while Blackberry in Brown Frog Gully will also need to be prioritised.

There were also two activities in Mackereth Creek, one tackling a fairly restricted patch of Erica below Stringybark Track, the other roaming far and wide across the hillside north of Shingleback Track looking for Boneseed. This complemented the work done in autumn, which started from Twisted Chimney at the bottom of the gully.



Cape Tulip spray trial Almanda Valley:

In October last year, Peter sprayed three adjoining areas of a large, dense Cape Tulip infestation with three different herbicides.

Ten litres of each herbicide mixture was sprayed out over an area of about 100m<sup>2</sup>. The first was with triclopyr (Garlon 600) at the rate of 1.7ml/L, the second 2,2-DPA (Dalapon) at the rate of 5g/L, and the third metsulfuron methyl (Metmac 600) at the rate of 0.01g/L. All were mixed with a non-ionic wetting agent, the surfactant alcohol alkoxyate (Chemwet 1000) at the rate of 2ml/L.

Cape Tulip spray trial, northern end Almanda Valley		
West – 15 <sup>th</sup> October 2017 10L triclopyr (Garlon 600) @ 17ml + Chemwet 20ml	Middle – 8 <sup>th</sup> October 2017 10L 2,2-DPA (Dalapon) @ 50g + Chemwet 20ml	East – 8 <sup>th</sup> October 2017 10L metsulfuron methyl (Metmac) @ 0.1g + Chemwet 20ml
		
Looking north	Looking east	Looking east
25 <sup>th</sup> August 2018 No further treatment today	25 <sup>th</sup> August 2018 Re-sprayed with same rate 10L 2,2-DPA (Dalapon) @ 50g + Chemwet 20ml	25 <sup>th</sup> August 2018 Re-sprayed with same rate metsulfuron methyl (Metmac) @ 0.1g + Chemwet 20ml
		
Looking down	Looking down	Looking down
		
Looking east	Looking east	Looking east

It is safe to say that the Garlon had no effect on the Cape Tulip, which appeared as dense in that patch as the untreated area next to it. Both the Dalapon and Metmac appeared to have reduced the density of Cape Tulip by about 80%. This is purely an estimate and no leaf counts were done.

Bearing in mind that not all bulb weeds come up each year, so many of the ones that have appeared this year may have actually been dormant underground when the spraying was done last year, this result is very encouraging.

This August, the two areas previously sprayed with Dalapon and Metmac were sprayed again, with the same rates, so that we can check effectiveness with spraying in consecutive seasons. The area treated with Garlon last year was not re-treated. Time permitting, it will be good to spray some more areas this season.

Previous trials undertaken in 2016 and 2017 in the same area, but with small quadrats, appeared fairly ineffectual. It was difficult to tell areas apart as some of the pegs marking the areas have gone missing. Another trial using Dalapon on the east side of the valley has also produced results that are not particularly evident.



**Above:** Pretty enough in flower, but a real problem in Almanda Valley – One-leaf Cape Tulip (*Moraea flaccida*), declared in SA.

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### **Totally Wild:**

During our Tuesday working bee in June, our Friends group was visited by a film crew from Totally Wild, Network Ten's national television series aimed at 8-16 year olds. The show covers stories on all sorts of environment and cultural topics in a fun and informative way.

The themes of the show about the Friends of Scott Creek CP included our work conserving threatened plant and animal species, restoration of creeks and wetlands, identifying and controlling invasive weeds, and the social aspects of the group and giving something back to nature.

Our thanks to Sophie, the Production Co-Ordinator who arranged the segment, the rest of the Totally Wild team and the film crew, in particular, for their interest in our group and our work in the park, and for making it a fun afternoon in Almanda Creek. Sophie grew up in Scott Creek, so has a special interest in the area.



**Contractor work being undertaken in the park:**

There is not much news on the contractor front since the last Bandicoot Tails. While there was a huge effort to get all of the Blackberry spraying done following approval of the NR AMLR Land Management Plan – Scott Creek Conservation Park Work Plan – there were only a few areas that had other woody weeds to be finished off, particularly in Blechnum Creek and Scott Creek.

In July, I joined Mark Fagan (District Officer), James Thiessen (Team Leader Sustainable Landscapes) and Jen Pitman for an inspection of much of the contractor work done in Number 1 Block, Blechnum Creek, Mackereth Creek, Cave Creek and Fox Bog. In general the work seems to have very successful, though follow-up will naturally still be required. In particular, the Blackberry work took precedence over other woody weeds in Scott Creek and Blechnum Creek. These woody weeds in Scott Creek were treated from the south end northwards, while in Blechnum Creek the focus was on the larger Broom that were more likely to flower and seed later this year.



**Number 1 Block**  
Mark: *“Now what Jen?”*  
Jen: *“Not sure Mark, but I think I need a lie down...”*



James: *“This is fantastic work, how did they do it?”*

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### **Bird Banding Notes:**

We have had two cancellations of weekend activities in June and July, due to poor weather. We may be having a very dry winter, but it appears to rain and blow on weekends!

Nevertheless, we can report on our successful outings, as follows:

2-3 June      Gate 20, the Panhandle      47 captures inc.14 recaptures 12 species  
We recorded a high number of species, but the predominant species were Red-browed Finch, Crescent Honeyeater and Superb Fairy-wren, as per usual. All captures were 1+ or 2+, owing to the relatively short time we have been working this site.  
The most interesting capture here was of a Collared Sparrowhawk, which, despite its formidable appearance, turned out to be very docile. Peter and Jim used up many megabytes photographing this bird.

**Right:** The Collared Sparrowhawk banded in the Panhandle.

**Below:** Jim being eyed off by the Collared Sparrowhawk as a potential meal.



14-15 July Gate 16, Mineshaft Track 18 captures inc. 5 recaptures 8 species  
 Two significant recaptures here were of a 5+ Brown Thornbill and a 7+ Superb Fairy-wren. We also recaptured the male Scarlet Robin we caught when demonstrating bird banding at our Almunda Open Day.



**Above:** our banding group along Mineshaft Track on a very chilly morning in July.



**Right:** Jenny and Ori setting up a net in the Panhandle.

18-19 August Mackereth Cottage 9 captures inc. 2 recaptures 4 species  
 Saturday was cancelled due to hesitant weather forecasting. The ground was still quite wet underfoot on Sunday and the creek was running well. There were not as many birds as usual for this site and we had a very slow start. There was also some parking ‘pressure’ from a big walking group whose calendar presumed no one would be using the car park.  
 We had a recapture of a 5+ male Superb Fairy-wren. Jen Pitman came and ordered a Scarlet Robin and got more than she bargained for with a pair of robins popping into the net for her removal. No doubt Jen’s photos are doing the DEW rounds.  
 A secondary highlight was a generous appearance of a Southern Brown Bandicoot which Peter caught on video and still photography (see photo gallery next page).

We can only hope that it rains plenty during the coming weeks, but not on weekends!

Don Reid/Jim Spiker

**Right:** A Buff-rumped Thornbill, banded along Mineshaft Track.



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**Photo Gallery:**



**Above and below:** A nationally endangered Southern Brown Bandicoot, seen foraging during our bird banding morning at Scott Creek in August, together with some of the resultant digging.



**Left:** Diggings by Southern Brown Bandicoots at the top of Number 1 Block.

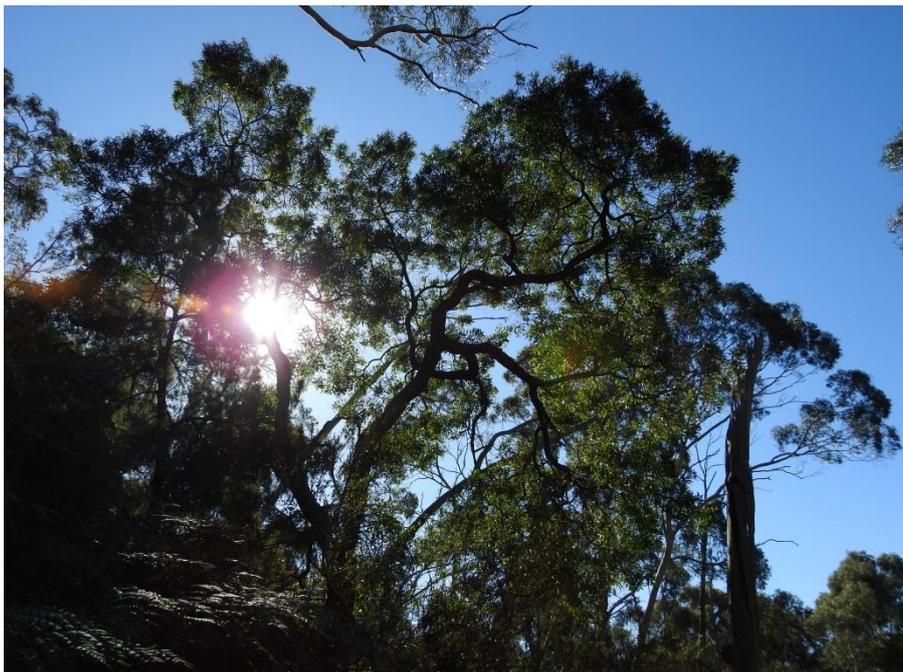


**Above:** Rocky outcrops along Blackwater Creek.



**Left:** The water trickles down Blackwater Creek, at the junction with Hakea Creek.

**Below:** The morning sun shines through the foliage of a Blackwood (*Acacia melanoxylon*) along Scott Creek.





**Above:** Bristly Guinea-flower (*Hibbertia riparia*).



**Above:** Scambling Beard-heath (*Leucopogon concurvus*).



**Right:** Broad-leaf Early Nancy (*Wurmbea latifolia* ssp. *vanessae*).



**Above:** The micro world of mosses, lichen and fungi.



**Above:** Scented Sundew (*Drosera whittakeri*).



**Above:** Shrub Violet (*Hybanthus floribundus*).



**Above:** Native Lilac (*Hardenbergia violacea*).

Some mid-season orchids...



**Above:** Nodding Greenhood (*Pterostylis nutans*).



**Above:** Blunt Greenhood (*Pterostylis curta*).



**Above:** Veined Helmet-orchid (*Corybas diemenicus* or *Corysanthes diemenica*).



**Above:** Spotted Donkey-orchid (*Diuris pardina*).



**Above:** Large Shell-orchid (*Pterostylis robusta* or *Diplodium robustum*).

At our bird banding in the Panhandle at gate 20, on the first weekend of June, Jim was pretty quick with the camera, catching three of a group of bike riders riding out of the bushland and then straight back in a little further down the hill.

None stopped for a chat, perhaps feeling a little guilty, which tends to suggest they knew they shouldn't have been riding where they were in a conservation park.

It is thought that they may have entered off Frith Road, where the fence has been partly removed and there is quite an obvious track that has been developed.

Thanks to our Ranger, Brent, who has now closed this track and installed a notice advising that it is not an authorised track.

As always, the aim is to educate Park users in the right thing to do, not have to resort to issuing compliance notices. For this reason I have decided against placing the photos of these riders here, and hope that they will chose to do the right thing in the future.

Dogs are also not allowed in Scott Creek CP, even on a lead. As a conservation park, its primary purpose is conserving the native plants and wildlife, and dogs and cats are simply not compatible with this purpose. As natural predators, the simple smell and sound of these can cause distress amongst some native animals, particularly at times when they are vulnerable, such as when breeding or when they have young.

Please choose to do the right thing, and take the opportunity to walk in the Park, have a picnic, take photos and enjoy the wildlife and wildflowers without interfering with them, or simply sit down and enjoy being in nature, but leave the pets, bikes and horses at the gate.



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## **Calendar of Environmental Events coming up:**

### **September is National Biodiversity Month**

Biodiversity Month is held in September each year and aims to promote the importance of protecting, conserving and improving biodiversity both within Australia and across the world.

*What is biodiversity?*

Biodiversity has been described as the ‘web of life’, ‘the variety of living things’ or ‘the different plants, animals and micro-organisms, their genes and ecosystems of which they are a part’.

Biodiversity encompasses every living thing that exists on our planet and the environment in which they live. From the smallest one-cell microbe to the enormous majesty of the blue whale. From the depths of the Pacific Ocean to peaks of our tallest mountains, biodiversity forms part of an intricate and interdependent web of life in which we are all a part.

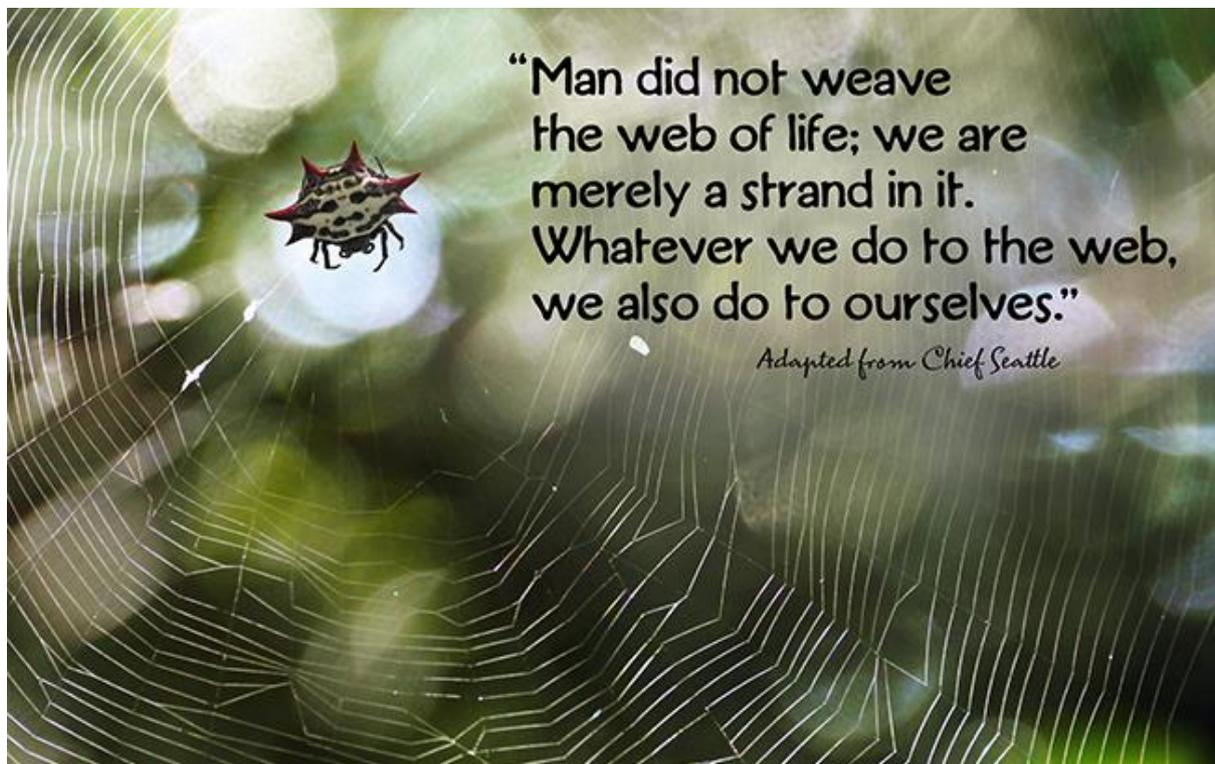
Australia is home to between 600,000 and 700,000 species, many of which are found nowhere else in the world. About 84 per cent of our plants, 83 per cent of our mammals, and 45 per cent of our birds are endemic — that is, they are only found in Australia.

The marine environment is home to thousands of marine species, some of which are unique to Australia and all of which contribute to making Australia the most biodiversity-rich developed country in the world. This includes at least 45 species of whales, dolphins and porpoises.

*Why is biodiversity important?*

Human beings depend for their sustenance, health, well-being and enjoyment of life on biodiversity. We derive all of our food and many medicines and industrial products from the wild and domesticated components of biological diversity. Biodiversity is the basis for much of our recreation and tourism, and includes the ecosystems which provide us with many services such as clean water.

<http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/biodiversity-month>



## Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> September is National Wattle Day

Since 1992 National Wattle Day has been 1 September in all of Australia's States and Territories. Before then, Australians in different States celebrated wattle day on different days. In July, August and September whenever the wattles were at their blooming best locally.

Wattles have long had special meanings for Australians and in 1988 the Golden Wattle (*Acacia pycnantha*) was officially gazetted as Australia's national floral emblem.

*National Wattle Day - why do we celebrate?*

- Wattle is our national floral emblem. It is a symbol that comes directly from our land;
- Wattle is Australian and represents us all. Unlike other national days, National Wattle Day excludes no one;
- Like our people, wattle has great diversity (with more than 1,200 species) and resilience;
- Wattle welcomes in the spring and is among the first plants to regenerate after fire, reminding us of the importance of renewal as it paints our national colours across our land; and
- Wattle is a unifying symbol for all Australians. There is no other symbol that says so much about us and our land, Australia.
- Wattle is a symbol of Australia and Australians.



*Right:* This photo of the Varnish Wattle (*Acacia verniciflua*) in flower, with the Golden Wattle (*Acacia pycnantha*) in the background, was taken in Scott Creek CP in August this year.

## Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September is National Threatened Species Day



Each year National Threatened Species Day is held on the 7<sup>th</sup> of September. This day marks the death of the last remaining Tasmanian Tiger (Thylacine) in 1936 at Hobart Zoo. The aim of the day is to reflect on extinct native species and how we can protect current threatened species into the future. Threatened Species Day is also for raising awareness, celebrating success stories and highlighting the importance of continued threatened species recovery work.

<https://www.discoverycircle.org.au/what-are-threatened-species/>

*Left:* Nationally Endangered – a Southern Brown Bandicoot (juvenile). Photo courtesy of Luke Price. Taken at Scott Creek Conservation Park, 2012.

## Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September is Bushcare's Big Day Out

Held annually in spring, Bushcare's Big Day Out (BBDO) is a national day of community participation to restore remnant bushland. BBDO is a day designed to give every one of us the opportunity to find out more about our bushland. What is being done? What can be done in the bush where we live, so that it thrives?

It's a fun day where anyone can get involved and learn alongside experts. Activities can include weed removal, tree planting, mulching or even follow up maintenance on sites where rehabilitation has already begun. BBDO events are also a fantastic opportunity for sharing knowledge and expertise through activities like bird watching, plant identification workshops and species monitoring. Come along, and bring a friend!

In 2017, Bushcare's Major Day Out merged with Conservation Volunteers Australia, and in 2018 we updated the event's name to Bushcare's BIG Day Out, or BBDO.

<http://conservationvolunteers.com.au/what-we-do/bushcares-big-day-out/>

### What's happening in Scott Creek CP this BBDO?

On the weekend of the 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> September, the Friends hope to be bird banding at our Mackereth Creek site. If you would like to join us, please contact Don Reid or Jim Spiker (contact details at end of this newsletter). This ensures you are kept up to date with any late changes to the schedule, including any cancellation due to inclement weather.

## Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> to Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October is National Bird Week

The celebration of National Bird Week has its origins back in the early 1900s when 28 October was first designated by our predecessor, the Royal Australasian Ornithologists Union, as the first 'Bird Day'. BirdLife Australia organises and promotes Bird Week with the goal of inspiring Australians to take action and get involved in bird conservation efforts.

<http://www.birdlife.org.au/get-involved/whats-on/bird-week>



### Aussie Backyard Bird Count

#### *How to get involved*

The Aussie Bird Count is a great way to connect with the birds in your backyard no matter where your backyard happens to be — a suburban backyard, a local park, a patch of forest, down by the beach, or the main street of town.

You can count as many times as you like over the week, we just ask that each count is completed over a 20-minute period. The data collected assists BirdLife Australia in understanding more about the birds that live where people live.

<https://aussiebirdcount.org.au/>

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## Spring Program of Activities September – November 2018

The Friends of Scott Creek Conservation Park welcome visitors to any of our activities, but it is best to contact us beforehand to confirm details. For enquiries or information see contact details at the end of this program or on our website.

**NOTE:** Activities in the park will be cancelled if a fire ban or severe weather warning/thunderstorms are announced for the Mount Lofty Ranges. Bird banding will also be cancelled in conditions that may adversely affect the birds.

### **Working bees: meet at 9.00am in spring at Almanda Mine Car Park, Dorset Vale Road**

This enables everyone to sign in and be brought up-to-date with last minute changes. BYO morning tea and a small back pack to carry it, in case we are working further from the cars.

Month	Date	Activity	Location
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>			
Tuesday	4	Working bee	Gate 7 Area 5: Scattered <i>Erica</i>
Sunday	9	Working bee	Gate 3 Areas 9 & 10 (west): Boneseed
Saturday, Sunday	15, 16	Bird banding	Gate 13 Mackereth Creek, 7.00am
Saturday, Sunday	15, 16	Forum	Friends of Parks Forum at Stenhouse Bay
Tuesday	18	<b>Social Lunch</b> <b>All welcome!</b>	Fred's – Aldgate at noon (220 Mt Barker Rd)
Saturday	22	Working bee	Gate 17 Area 23 Stockyard Track: Broom
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>Spring Walk</b>	<b>Celebrate the Equinox! More information later</b>
Tuesday	25	<b>General mtg</b> <b>All welcome!</b>	Cherry Gardens CFS, 294 Cherry Gardens Rd, 4.00pm
<b>OCTOBER</b>			
Tuesday	2	Working bee	Gate 13 Areas 14 & 20 (west): Boneseed, Rose
Saturday, Sunday	6, 7	Bird banding	Gate 4 end Gurr Road, 7.00am
Sunday	14	Working bee	Gate 20 Area 33 Panhandle NW: Sollya, Erica
Wednesday	17	<b>Social Lunch</b> <b>All welcome!</b>	Artisan – Blackwood at noon (down lane beside Bendigo Bank or rear via Foodland's carpark)
Saturday, Sunday	20, 21	Bird banding	Gate 9 above Fox Bog, 6.30am
Saturday	27	Working bee	Gate 3 Area 11 west: Boneseed
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Social outing</b>	<b>SA Museum: Australian Geographic Nature Photographer of 2018 exhibition, meet 10.30am in its coffee shop.</b>
<b>NOVEMBER</b>			
Saturday, Sunday	3, 4	Bird banding	Gate 20 Panhandle east, 6.30am
Tuesday	6	Working bee	Gate 3/14 Area 12: Boneseed
Sunday	11	Working bee	Gate 3 Area 7 (central): Sollya
Tuesday	13	<b>FoSCCP</b> <b>AGM</b> <b>All welcome!</b>	Cherry Gardens CFS, 294 Cherry Gardens Rd, 7.30pm – author Dr Danielle Clode discusses pioneering Australian naturalist Edith Coleman
Saturday, Sunday	17, 18	Bird banding	Gate 21 Derwentia, 6.30am
Thursday	22	<b>Social Lunch</b> <b>All welcome!</b>	Essence – Stirling at noon (beside car park to rear of Gardiners Real Estate in main street)
Saturday	24	Working bee	Gate 9 Area 11 (east): Boneseed
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>Excursion</b>	<b>Laratinga Wetlands, Mt. Barker, 8.00am</b>

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**Office bearers:** Any queries on Friends activities, please contact your office bearers, general queries to [info@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au](mailto:info@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au)

**President:** Peter Watton (M) 0427 010 949, Email: [president@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au](mailto:president@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au)

**Vice President & Correspondence Secretary:** Jim Spiker (M) 0430 247 705, Email: [secretary@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au](mailto:secretary@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au)

**Treasurer & Minute Secretary:** Donella Peters, (H) 8339 5639 (M) 0407 417 247, 10 Boomerang Cres, Aldgate, 5154. Email: [treasurer@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au](mailto:treasurer@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au)

**Administration Assistant:** Jenny Dawes (H) 8388 2297 (M) 0427 841 425, Email: [info@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au](mailto:info@friendsofscottcreekcp.org.au)

**Membership Officer:** Lorraine Billett (H) 8278 6623 (M) 0427 093 839, Email: [lfbmrb@adam.com.au](mailto:lfbmrb@adam.com.au)

**Bird Banding Coordinator:** Don Reid (H) 8388 2123 (M) 0488 174 992, Email: [dre00249@bigpond.net.au](mailto:dre00249@bigpond.net.au)

**Working Bees:** Peter Watton (contact details above), Jenny Dawes (contact details above), John Wamsley (M) 0407 716 074, Email: [john@johnwamsley.com](mailto:john@johnwamsley.com) & Glenn Giles (M) 0413 615 514, Email: [gilesgd81@gmail.com](mailto:gilesgd81@gmail.com)

