



ONKAPARINGA PARKWATCH

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF ONKAPARINGA PARK INC.

Note opinions and commentary in this newsletter are not necessarily the general opinion of the FOOP membership. Any complaints should in the first instance be directed to the author.

We acknowledge this land that we work on is the traditional lands for the Kaurna people and that we respect their spiritual relationship with their country.

January/February

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2025



Colin Malcolm Photo

Wetland Pond 1 looking west October 1993



Colin Malcolm Photo

Wetland Pond 1 looking west September 2005

FRIENDS OF ONKAPARINGA PARK INC

PATRON: Dr B HARDY AO

Incorporating The ONKAPARINGA RIVER RP and ONKAPARINGA RIVER NP.

Proudly a member of THE FRIENDS OF PARKS INC.,

President: Graham Thomas Vice-President: Michael Whitaker

Secretary: Jo Scheiffers 0429676433 Treasurer: Andrew McKinnon 0427826721

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

The Secretary, Friends of Onkaparinga Park Inc jo@scheiffers.net

Newsletter contributions to mackins@tpg.com.au .



This Newsletter's hard copies printed at the Electoral office of Katrine Hildyard MP

Member for Reynell

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Welcome to 2025. I am confident FOOP will collectively adapt to any needed change as we progress a different approach to assisting NPWSSA manage our parks. Whilst woody weed control will still be a prime objective, we will need to spend more time preparing sites for re-vegetation. It is proposed that we plant less but spend more time removing or controlling weeds prior to planting and dedicating time in nurturing the tube-stock.

The attendance at the 2024 AGM was disappointing; notwithstanding those elected are committed to FOOP continuing its work in assisting NPWSSA to manage the parks and ensuring our work programme meets the levels necessary to restore and improve the land we all love. Thanks to Andy, Colin, Ian, Jo, John, Michael and Richard for putting up their hands to manage the group's future endeavours.

In late 2024 it appears that a deal to legislate the framework for a Federal Environmental Protection Agency was scuttled by the Prime Minister after lobbying by powerful lobby forces from Western Australia. If emerging reports are true these forces are mining companies. Personally I find this more than disappointing, it's deflating.

Turning to more happier news at least 7 FOOP members attended the showing of *Robin Hood and the Sherwood Hoodies*; a film made by staff and students of the Old Noarlunga Primary School. A highly entertaining adaptation of the well-known story as a musical. Staff and students are to be commended on this work which featured some student actors/singers who may end up with a career in this genre. Personally I was busy identifying parts of the National Park where it was filmed including a short clip of the koala that students and staff saw when in late November 2024 they assisted us in watering the tube-stock they planted earlier in the year. Areas shown in the film included just above the ford and swing-bridge in Old Noarlunga, the Old Institute Hall in Market Square, the deconsecrated Anglican church above the town, the Primary School, and the Winnaynee Horseshoe Inn reserve wall. Full marks to everyone involved.

Annual rainfall in 2024 was, to put it simply, disappointing. At our home in Seaford we managed to record only 280mm which on average is less than 50% of the usual totals. When you put this in context after the World Meteorological Office reported that 2024 was the hottest since records have been kept it makes you wonder what climate change will do? I for one am hoping that 2025 will be better for the environment and for us as individuals.

What is disheartening is the failure by successive state and federal governments to admit that conservation costs money. Year after year we see budgets delivered that barely maintain the current level of funding for departments like DEW in SA, which in real terms is a reduction in funding inevitably leading to reduced on-ground works, etc. for parks such as ours.

Please Note: the latest advice from the Resuscitation Council is that following the use of a defibrillator [AED] and the AED is successful the patient should be placed in the left lateral recovery position.

i.e. lying on their left side

"You don't need to be a scientist to see what is happening to this world of ours. You just need a set of eyes and ears and let your brain do the rest."

— **Anthony T. Hincks**

***Congratulations
it's a Duck Duck Duck Duck***



The Blue-billed Duck (*Oxyura australis*) is classed as uncommon over much of Australia. However, a small flock of them seem to of taken up semi-permanent residence in the Onkaparinga Recreation Park. They have been around now for several years , so long as the small lake they reside in doesn't dry up completely, as does happen from time to time.

It seems they must be happy enough with the local habitat, and as they have successfully bred once more. This year, and just recently they have raised at least one more family of 4 ducklings, noticed a few days ago. Easily distinguished as the male has deep, glossy chestnut plumage along with the distinct blue bill , the females and ducklings a fairly plain brown colour. Another distinguishing feature, though maybe not quite so obvious, is they tend to float deep in the water compared to most other Ducks, but similar to the also uncommon Musk Duck.



The problem with feeding of the wild birds.

As some may know I have been having a big problem with one of my neighbours who insists on feeding literally hundreds of wild birds over the back fence of our small courtyard home. The problem is/was making our life, and well as several other neighbours difficult. The mess and damage they produced is/was intolerable. Hopefully council intervention will sort the problem out, but hoping it doesn't come to that. Something many people may not know is that in SA. and WA the feeding the wild birds is illegal. The fines for doing so can be as much as \$30,000, as was the case with a woman in the northern suburbs recently. There is much written information regarding the problems of feeding wild birds as advised by many specialists, Government bodies etc. Seriously, the birds, and animals just don't need the free handouts, and it can be detrimental to their welfare, most experts would agree. Apart from my own crazy neighbour problems, there is so much signage around theses day, particularly around lakes and waterways advising don't feed the Ducks/Birds/Animals etc, yet so many people seem to ignore the advice. ???

Grumpy rave over, but seriously, please don't feed the wild things, you would not be doing them any favours....bye.

FRIENDS OF ONKAPARINGA PARK INC. COMMITTEE 2025



	POSITION	
1	President	Graham Thomas
2	Vice-President	Michael Whitaker
3	Secretary	Jo Scheiffers
4	Treasurer & Public Officer*	Andy McKinnon
	Committee	
5		John Bekkers
6		Colin Pitman
7	Safety Officer	Ian Carr
8		Richard Spark
9		VACANT
10		VACANT

*Public Officer & Safety Officer appointed by the elected committee.



Clean up Australia day Sunday 2nd March 2025 9:00 am onward

- Meet as usual at Perrys Bend car park, Noarlunga Downs to help clean up our river and recreation park of rubbish.
- Wear stout shoes, hat and gloves.
- Sausage sizzle provided at 12:00 pm approx

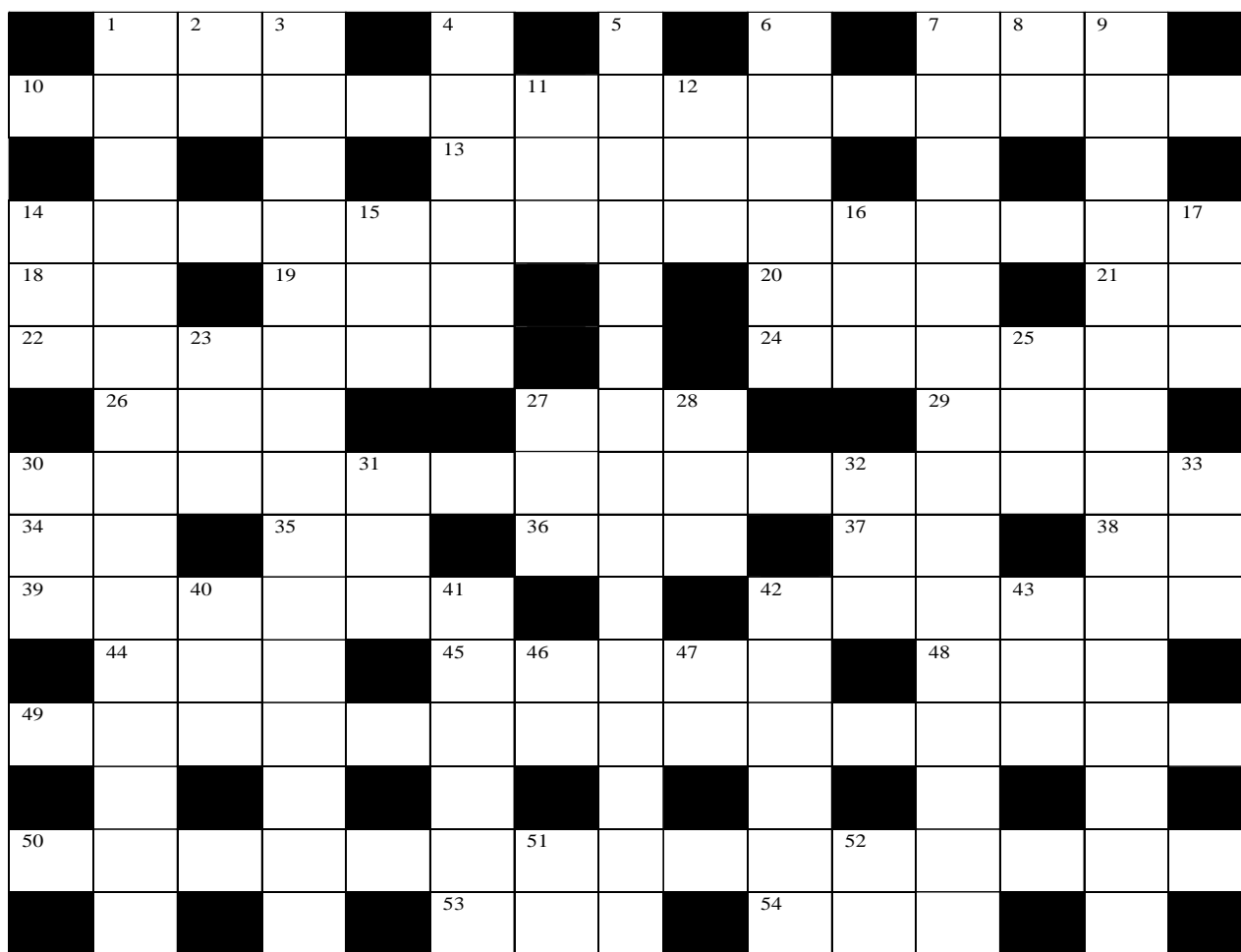


See you there .

Andy McKinnon 0427826721
Lesley McKinnon 0437219966



MICHAEL'S CROSSWORD NUMBER 48



ACROSS

1. Girl's name [3]
7. Retreat of the sea [3]
10. Middle of working week [9,6]
13. Glasgow ground where Rangers play [5]
14. You pay nothing into this [15]
18. Now called C.E. [2]
19. A shade of a colour [3]
20. Old fashioned tyre pressure unit [3]
21. Artificial Intelligence [1,1]
22. High voltage supports [6]
24. Not threatening [6]
26. Eric ? English boxer, born 1967 [3]
27. Unit of electrical current [3]
29. Sound of the seventh letter [3]
30. Fishing with one-way hooks [5,5,5]
34. Sacred sound in dharmic religions [2]
35. A name I call myself [2]
36. Pounds Sterling (abbrev) [3]
37. A blood plasma protein (abbrev) [2]
38. Aldinga Hotel [2]
39. Striped cats [6]
42. Narrow French Road [6]
44. Central European Time [1,1,1]
45. Rub out [5]
48. Acute eosinophilic leukaemia [1,1,1]
49. Inserting a medical tube into the body [15]
50. Using a two-handed hammer [15]
53. Environmental Impact Statement [1,1,1]
54. The first, first lady [3]

DOWN

1. How air and solid surfaces interreact [15]
2. Direct debit [1,1]
3. Ways to get an echo-free result [8,7]
4. Wild oxen of the Malay peninsula [6]
5. Where the honeybee attacker is found [6,4,5]
6. Int. Media Express by public broadcast [1,1,1,1,1,1] – sorry about this one!
7. Sorting out an article in a magazine [7,1,7]
8. Post code for Bradford, UK [2]
9. Tethered inflatable, to deter planes [7,8]
11. Department of Building and Trade [1,1,1]
12. Young Offended Institute [1,1,1]
14. A light sleep [3]
15. Org. of Ukrainian Nationalists [1,1,1]
16. Employ [3]
17. Opposite of 'Yan' [3]
23. An auction item [3]
25. A river in Hungary [3]
27. Donkey [3]
28. Country just to the north of Australia [3]
30. Baby bed [3]
31. Refers to a lady [3]
32. Out-dated unit of heat [1,1,1]
33. See 31 [3]
40. Acquire [3]
41. Lounge chair [6]
42. A C.V. [6]
43. A garland in Hawaii [3]
46. Reference (abbrev) [2]
47. A modern range of units [1,1]
51. Informal greeting [2]
52. Electron volts [1,1]

Safety Report

Welcome to a New Year of volunteering.

Remember we are all responsible for our safety and that of others, so work safely and be aware of your surroundings.

Following November's Newsletter advice re snake avoidance, I was asked to provide an action plan if anyone should be unfortunate enough to be bitten by a snake and I took the following advice from a respected organisation.

If you are bitten by a snake, you should treat it as a medical emergency and seek immediate medical attention:

- **Move away:** Move away from the snake and try to remember its colour and shape.
- **Immobilize:** Immobilize the bitten limb or area with a splint if possible.
- **Bandage:** Apply a broad, compressive bandage to the bite site and extend it to cover the entire limb. Wrap it firmly but not so tightly that it stops blood circulation.
- **Keep calm:** Reassure the person and advise them to remain calm and still. Movement can increase the circulation of venom.
- **Call for help:** Call Triple Zero (000) for an ambulance, even if you are out of phone reception. If you cannot call, go to the nearest emergency department.

Monitor: Monitor the person's breathing and heart rate. If they collapse or stop breathing, give cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

Here are some things you should avoid:

- Applying a tourniquet
 - Trying to suck the venom out
 - Applying ice
 - Cutting the wound
 - Washing or cleaning the wound
 - Giving alcohol, food, or stimulants
 - Taking pain-relieving medicine, such as aspirin, ibuprofen, or naproxen sodium
- Approaching and/or confronting the snake



Ian Carr - Safety Officer



MICHAEL'S SOLUTION CROSSWORD 47

P	A	R	L	I	A	M	E	N	T	A	R	I	A	N
A		A		S	I		X		A	D		G		E
R	A	I	S	E	D		T	A	S	M	A	N	I	A
E		N		R	S		R		K	I		I		R
N	U	D	G	E		B	A	D		T	I	T	U	S
T		R	O		A	R	C		O		D	E	L	I
H	A	O		E	S	A	U		F	A	E		A	G
E	X	P	O	R	T	E	R	O	F	C	A	T	C	H
T	E		P	R	E		R	E	A	L		E		T
I		M	E		R		I		L		E	R	I	E
C	L	A	N	G		O	C	T		N	A	M	E	D
A		N		R	A	N	U	L	A	E		S		N
L	A	C	R	I	M	A	L		N	G	O			E
L		H		E	I		A		T	E		D		S
Y	O	U	N	G	C	A	R	N	I	V	O	R	E	S



RON WOLF

Environment

Pollution can make flowers less attractive to insects

INSECTS may be struggling to locate flowers because air pollutants are degrading the chemical compounds responsible for their enticing floral scents.

Jeff Riffell at the University of Washington in Seattle and his colleagues have investigated the effects of ozone and nitrate radicals, pollutants created by the interaction of vehicle emissions with gases in the atmosphere. Both are known to react with compounds given off by flowers, altering their smell.

The team collected the compounds released by the pale evening-primrose (*Oenothera pallida*), a desert flower found in North America. Both pollutants broke down the scent compounds,

but nitrate radicals did so more completely.

To see if this changed the behaviour of the flowers' primary pollinators, the researchers exposed hawk moth species, including the white-lined sphinx (*Hyles lineata*, pictured above), to flowers that either emitted the natural flower scent or had been manipulated to release a degraded scent.

The primroses that released the degraded scents were visited 70 per cent less frequently than the flowers releasing natural scent (*Science*, doi.org/mf8p). This drop in visitation could affect hawk moth health, says Riffell. It could also have a knock-on effect on the wider ecosystem, because the researchers calculated that the decline in moth visitations could result in a 28 per cent drop in how much fruit the plants produce.

"This is just another reason that we should switch to energy sources that do not involve combustion," says team member Joel Thornton, also at the University of Washington. **Chen Ly**

FOOP Subscriptions Form



Subscriptions are due on the 1st November of each year.

(Financial year 1st November to 31st October)

New members who join after 1st September are covered for the year following.

Please accept my/our new/renewal subscription.

Name(s):.....

Address:.....

Telephone No.....Mob No.....

Email address.....

Please indicate if you would like to receive notices by email Yes No

Please indicate if you would like to receive newsletter by email Yes No

Please indicate if you would still like to receive newsletter by post Yes No

I am paying (please indicate the one you are paying)

Family Membership \$15.00

Single Membership \$10.00

Donation \$..... (NB., Not tax deductible)

Then detach this form and forward with payment to:

The Treasurer, Mr A McKinnon, 27 Kym Street, Port Noarlunga South 5167

Payment can also be made to the Treasurer at general meetings held the first Tuesday of the month. (except January) Payment also by **electronic transfer**, details below.

EFT Details:

Account Title: Friends of Onkaparinga Park Inc.

BSB Number: 805-007A/C Number: 00707387 (Credit Union SA)

Reference: Last name, first name, "subs".

Send email to mackins63@gmail.com to confirm payment.

If you are a **new member** please forward contact details as above.

Andy McKinnon
Treasurer
Friends of Onkaparinga Park Inc.

If you are already a member and have a friend who may be interested you could pass this on.

Subs for the new financial year 2024/25 are now due. Payment methods above.



FEBRUARY 2025 FOOP WORKING B PROGRAM.

Note Working B's in the park will be cancelled when there is a Total Fire ban in the MT Lofty Region
All Working B's start at 9:00 am & finish at 11.30am unless otherwise stated.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Gate 12 Beehives Piggott Range Road Jo 0429676433
2	3	4 Gate 8 Piggott Range Road Graham 0417802112 vk5gct@adam.com.au <u>General Meeting</u> <u>7.30pm</u> <u>Old Noarlunga Hall</u>	5	6 WB Location Graham 0417802112 vk5gct@adam.com.au Evening Walk 5pm Willunga Rose Garden Aldinga Road, Willunga Michael 0438893304	7	8 Gate 16 Hardy's Scrub Chapel Hill Road Jo 0429676433
9	10	11 Gate 20 Springs Chapel Hill Road Graham 0417802112 vk5gct@adam.com.au	12	13 WB Location Graham 0417802112 vk5gct@adam.com.au Evening Walk 5pm Pine Road Car Park Woodcroft Regional Park Tony 0405243101	14	15 Gate 19 Hardy's Scrub Chapel Hill Road Jo 0429676433
16	17	18 Gate 10 Punchbowl Piggott Range Road Graham 0417802112 vk5gct@adam.com.au	19	20 WB Location Graham 0417802112 vk5gct@adam.com.au Evening Walk 5pm Tennis Court Park Spriggs Road Onkaparinga Hills Edith 8382 1120	21	22 Gate 16A Hardy's Scrub Chapel Hill Road Jo 0429676433
23	24	25 Gate 9 Punchbowl CP Piggott Range Road Graham 0417802112 vk5gct@adam.com.au	26	27 WB Location Graham 0417802112 vk5gct@adam.com.au Evening Walk 5pm Punchbowl Car Park ORNP Gate 9 Piggott Range Road Andy 0427826721	28	1 Gate 17 Hardy's Scrub Whitings Road Jo 0429676433
2 Clean Up Day Perry's Bend 9am Andy 0427826721	3	4 Gate 10 Punchbowl Piggott Range Road Graham 0417802112 vk5gct@adam.com.au <u>General Meeting</u> <u>7.30pm</u> <u>Old Noarlunga Hall</u>	5	6 WB Location Graham 0417802112 vk5gct@adam.com.au Evening Walk 5pm Kyeema CP Woodgate Hill Road Kuitpo Michael 0438893304	7	8 No working bee