



The Friends of Belair Park

Volunteers working for Conservation
Established 1985

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 1996

A G M



The 1996 A G M was held on 3rd February at 2pm in the Information Centre Belair Park. Sixteen members and Ranger Darren Willis attended the meeting. A number of topics were discussed including the continuing programme of weed eradication, the Tuesday walks, orchids and wildflowers observed in '95 and Telsta's wish to have a Microwave Tower in the park.

Darren expressed his appreciation for the work done either individually or in groups on spraying blackberries or pulling boneseed, monodena, pines, bridal creeper etc.

PRESIDENTS REPORT.

I wish to thank all who have held office over the past year and all those who have generously given their time at working bees. Friends of our Park have shown dedication in the fight to rid it of pest plants.

In May seven members did a "Poisons Course" One member, Doug Riley, put in a number of hours spraying blackberries up near the Belair Station end of the park.

A feature of our regular working bees is that a number of members, who do not come to meetings, have joined with us on these occasions. As well as weed control we have been involved in erosion control, blocking off tracks, seed collection, planting and maintaining areas which had been planted-revegetated and track maintenance. Mid year a small group of senior Scouts worked with me for their Queens Scout Badge, which required them to do environmental work.

Our general meetings during the year have been well attended especially on the occasions when we have had speakers. In July our secretary Lareen Newman addressed us, her subject being "The Environmental History of the Willunga Basin "1880 - 1990" This had been the subject of her thesis.





In November Graham Buckerfield spoke on the adventurous journey he did in 1950 to Timbuktu, when he was teaching in Ghana. On these occasions we've had representatives of Friends of Old Government House join us.



The popularity of the fortnightly Tuesday walks has been encouraging and thanks must go to Lynda Knight of her oversight of this activity.

The (Prof John) " Cleland Walk in Belair" in September had the theme of "Bird Watching in Belair". This was conducted by Pat Bowie and Friends of the Ornithological Asscn. Some 50 people participated. This event was widely advertised and thanks must go to Lareen for the posters and handouts she produced to publicise it.

Our tenth Birthday Tea at Pines Oval was well attended. We were joined by Friends of Old Government House and Friends of Simpson Desert and it was interesting that a number of people who go on the Tuesday walks attended with their families. On this occasion 12 Friends of the Belair Park received Appreciation Certificates for 10 years support to the Friends of Belair Park. District Ranger Darren Willis acting on behalf of the Director of National Parks and Wildlife Service, Mr Allen Holmes, made the presentations

The Annual Forum was attended by six of our members. It was held at Innes National Park. It was the highlight of the year for those who attended.

On the occasion of World Environment Day (June 4th) held in our Park, some of our members participated and we had a display. We also participated in the Walking Extravaganza and Bike S A. The display on each occasion was used and thanks must go to Daphne Johncock for mounting the display.

Thanks go to Ranger Tim Fulbohm for his interest in our group before he went on exchange to W A for 12 months.

Thanks also to Ranger Janene Kraehenhubl for her regular attendance at our meetings and for her help throughout the year. Congratulations are in order as Peter and Janene have a son Bryce.

Thank you to District Ranger Darren Willis for his ready accessibility and willingness to include each one of us in the planning of the future of the park. With the kiosk at Long Gully becoming a Volunteer Centre, a whole new dimension is opening up to us this year.

To Ray Nash our heartfelt thanks for the publication of the "Orchids of Belair National Park". In a letter to us Ray said "I hope this manuscript is of some use to the group" To Ray I say. "We appreciate your input into the Park, your manuscript will be of great value and will be greatly used".

As mentioned earlier we have advertised our activities widely this past year and here I would like to thank Meredith Nunan, who coordinates Mitcham Council's newspaper "Community News. She is a great help. The next issue to come out 3rd week in February. You will find another of our adverts in it.

Our December Newsletter of '95 gives you fuller accounts of some of the events I've mentioned. Lareen has done a great job putting our newsletter together this past year.

I've run out of thanks so I'd better close. Best wishes to all for '96
President. Ron Pitman.



The following persons were elected to office for the coming year.

PRESIDENT. Mrs Lynda Knight. 2782623



VICE PRESIDENTS. Mr Eric Cole
Mr Ron Pitman.

SECRETARY. Mrs Beth Pitman. 2769260.

TREASURER. Mrs Joyce Underdown. 2781987.

COMMITTEE
Mr Brian DuBois.
Mr Dan Jaeger.
Mr Doug Riley.

RANGER LIAISON. Mr Ian Tanner.

EDITOR OF
NEWSLETTER. Mrs Ann Ross. 2788051
29 Ashby Avenue.
BLACKWOOD. 5051

PLEASE NOTE: Subscriptions for 1996 are now due.

ITEMS FOR NEWSLETTER: Deadline for next newsletter is 23rd MAY.
Please feel free to contribute any item about our
Park, its Flora Or Fauna, that you think would
interest members.

NEXT MEETING: 30th March.

The afternoon concluded with afternoon tea and Dan Jaeger showing some of his very interesting slides of Orchids and Bandicoots taken recently in the park.

CHRISTMAS AND 10TH BIRTHDAY TEA.

Our Christmas and 10th Anniversary Tea was held on December 19th at the Pines 2 Oval. Although it was a very cold evening for the time of year about 50 people attended



including Friends of Old Government House, Friends of the Simpson Desert, Minda Bush Walkers and Tuesday Walkers. Good food and fellowship was enjoyed by all, a great success was the Blackforest cake given to us by Rangers Darren Willis and Janene Kraehenbubl. Darren and Janene also presented 12 members of Friends of Belair Park with 10 year Appreciation Certificates.



TUESDAY WALKS

These will resume in April, by which time we hope the very hot weather will have passed. April 9th will be the first walk. Walkers may like to walk in March, individually, when the Garland Lillies should be flowering, (Calostemma purpureum). These are usually in abundance very near the junction of Pines Oval Road and Gooch Road, (which leads to Playford Lake). If we have had some rain, they will soon pop up. Looking forward to an interesting year.

Lynda Knight.

FRIENDS OF BELAIR PARK CALENDER.



<u>DATE.</u>	<u>MEETING.</u>	<u>WORKING BEE.</u>
Feb. 3rd	Annual General Meeting.	
Feb 18th		Seed collection and sifting. 10am 12noon.
March 2nd	General meeting	
March 17th		Section 5, Jubilee Drive. 10am 12noon. Boneseed and Olives
March 30th	General meeting in lieu of Easter Saturday	
April 21st		Section 5, Jubilee Drive 10am 12noon Boneseed and Olives.
May 4th	General meeting.	
May 19th		Section 4. 10am 12noon.
June 1st.	General meeting.	Weed grid.
June 16th		Section 4. 10am 12noon. Locate Bridal creeper.
July 6th	General meeting.	
July 21st		Section 4 10am 12noon. Spray Bridal creeper.
Aug 3rd	General meeting.	
Aug 18th		10am 12noon Planting creek near Golf Course.
Sept 7th	Cleland Walk to be finalised.	
Sept 15th		10am 12noon Planting near Volunteer Centre.
Sept 20-22th	Friends Forum hosted by Friends of Onkaparinga	

	to be held at Noarlunga.	
Oct 5th	General meeting.	
Oct 20th		10am 12noon Collect Monodenia orchids.
Nov 2nd	General meeting.	
Nov 17th		10am 12noon Collect Monodenia orchid bulbs.
Dec 7th	General meeting. Plan for Birthday Tea and Ranger 1997 programme.	
Dec 19th	5.30pm Birthday Tea.	

As there is a need to get this programme printed, it is possible that there may be some alterations necessary to fit in with a speaker or to re-arrange venues for Working Bees etc. There are also many Friends who prefer to work in the Park at a time to suit themselves. All projects MUST be filled in on a pink departmental form, obtainable from the office.

