



Friends
of
Belair National Park
Volunteers working for Conservation
Established 1985



Patron: Dr. David C. Paton AM

Quarterly Newsletter September 2014

President's Report

In the three months since the last newsletter the Friends have followed up on several long standing issues including the need for a Three Year Plan.

On 13th June several committee members and others met with ecologists and rangers from DEWNR as well as others who had long term understandings of the park. This meeting discussed what is known about the ecological health and weed status of the various areas in the park. It also discussed how these and other data could be used to formulate a long term plan for the Friends' involvement with the park. Central to this was discussion on whether there was any need for a survey to determine the current status of each VMU to determine future conservation plans. It was decided that those around the table could contribute all the data needed to formulate a plan without the need for further surveys. The Friends have determined to conduct a planning session later in September to discuss and finalise the three year plan.

Another long standing issue has been the Friends' need for access to the ARTC of the rail corridor fence for weeding to prevent weed incursion from the corridor. We had had a licence to permit us access under controlled conditions but this licence had lapsed. Early in August ARTC granted us an updated licence under similar conditions and this has now been signed. We will continue to encourage the ARTC to carry out this weed control themselves. They contract out this job, interestingly, to DEWNR. The discussions will prove intriguing.

In the immediate future, besides the continuing weed control operations and the Tuesday guided walks, we are looking forward to an enthusiastic attendance at the Sir John Cleland Memorial walk on 14th September.

Mark Pedlar.

PLEASE NOTE:

Daylight Saving starts on Sunday 5 October 2014 and finishes on 5 April 2015.

During Daylight Saving, Tuesday and Friday working bees start at 8.00am.



*Annual FREE walk in memory of
Professor Sir John Cleland*

**The Friends of Belair National Park
invite you to
a FREE Historic Guided Walk
in**

**Belair National Park
Sunday 14th September 2014
10 am to noon (approx)**

followed by a barbecue, (gold coin donation)

**Meet at the Volunteer Centre, Long Gully,
in Belair National Park.**

**Note: FREE entry to the Park for participants,
and free tea and coffee from the volunteers.**

BYO snacks, water.

Wear walking shoes, a hat, sunscreen and jacket

Enquiries: friendsofbelairpark@msn.com or phone 8278 2370.

While you are in Belair National Park,

Old Government House is also open for tours Sunday 1 to 4 pm.



PLEASE NOTE:

There are no activities held by the Friends in Belair National Park if there is a Total Fire Ban in the Mount Lofty Ranges on that day. (see weather forecast from 4.30pm previous day).

There are no working bees if the forecast temperature is 35 degrees or over.

FRIENDS OF BELAIR PARK

Minutes of inaugural meeting, held at the Belair Park Information Centre, on Monday, 16th September, 1985, at 7.30 p.m.

1. PRESENT

Christine Stanley (National Trust)
Peter Bird (Nature Conservation Society)
John Hunwick (Mount Lofty Ranges Consultative Committee)
Alderman Ann Rungie (Mitcham Council)
Arthur Pratt (Hills Schools)
Hugh Campbell (Friends of Old Government House)
Nicholas Newland (Acting Director, National Parks and Wildlife Service)
John Berggy (Ranger-in-Charge, Belair District)
David Conlon (Acting Regional Manager, Central)
Dene Cordes (Community Liaison Officer, National Parks and Wildlife Service)

2. APOLOGIES

Linda Niemann (Local Conservationist)
Society for Growing Australian Plants (member yet to be nominated)
Jim McHugh (Acting Manager of Operations)
Geoff Rayson (Belair Park)
Brian Sims (Blackwood Chamber of Commerce)

3. WELCOME

John Berggy opened the meeting, welcoming all present. He spoke of the historical importance of Belair Park and of the approaching 1991 Centenary of the Park and the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Nicholas Newland said that Belair is one of the most important Parks in the State, and it is appropriate that a Friends Group would address the Centenary as one of its first programmes, and that the community be involved. He sought comments from the meeting. All expressed support for the Centenary but felt that the group should be known as a Friends Group in order to avoid community confusion.

4. CENTENARY

Mr. Hunwick asked if funds for a Centenary could be channelled through the National Parks Foundation, and was advised that this could be done.

5. GENERAL COMMENTS

Mr. Campbell asked if interested individuals will be welcomed as well as Organisations, into the Friends Group, and whether the Group would be formed only until the Centenary, or longer. Mrs. Stanley,

Mrs. Rungie and Mr. Hunwick expressed support for a longer-term Friends Group, as did Mr. Cordes

Mrs. Stanley suggested payment of a subscription. She also enquired about the feelings of the staff. Mr. Newland commented that the National Parks and Wildlife Service has now had Friends Groups and Volunteer projects for over three years, and had established a fairly good base on which to work. Mr. Campbell stressed the need for Friends Groups to feel appreciated.

6. FORMATION OF GROUP

John Hunwick moved that a "Friends of Belair Park" Group be formed. Seconded by Hugh Campbell and CARRIED unanimously.

7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Moved by Ann Rungie, seconded by Christine Stanley, that John Hunwick be interim Chairman.

CARRIED

A Secretary was not able to be found. Dene Cordes was nominated and declined, but agreed to record the minutes of this meeting.

It was resolved that at the next meeting, when more people are present, the following positions will be filled:-

Chairman - interim Chairman to be endorsed.

Secretary - the National Parks and Wildlife Service to provide this facility until next meeting.

Treasurer

Publicity Officer

Five Executive Committee

8. SUBSCRIPTIONS

Resolved that subs will be \$10 per person; \$15 per family; \$30 for Corporate Bodies; \$5 for pensioners and students.

A Bank A/C will be opened. Deferred until next meeting when signatories will be chosen.

9. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The meeting agreed on the following statement of purpose for the Group. :—

"To involve the community in supporting the Belair Park achieving its management aims."

10. OBJECTIVES

To be compiled at the next meeting.

Arthur Pratt asked whether this Group and others like it should agree with the Department, or whether it can disagree sometimes. John Hunwick commented that in his view, the Friends Group should apply itself to Departmental philosophy but should be free to comment on its implementation. John Berggy pointed out that, like the National Parks and Wildlife Service Consultative Committees, consultation is encouraged.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be publicly advertised, then regular meetings will be held.

Resolved that Sunday, 27th October, 1985, be the next meeting, from 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon, to be followed by a nature walk of 3/4 hour duration.

Ann Rungie will assist John Berggy with publicity and Christine Stanley will help to distribute notices. Peter Bird offered to assist in planning the next programme. Dene Cordes will prepare address list of members.

It was resolved that organisers meet at 8 p.m. at Ann Rungie's place on 30th September, 1985, to plan the next meeting.

12. CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m., and was followed by refreshments supplied by Belair Park.

It is to be noted that this meeting included representatives from organisations who have an interest in or a managerial role of the Park.

The first meeting to which the Public were invited to form the Friends group occurred later on the 27th of October 1985.

Join us for



Bushcare's Major Day Out

Join experienced Bushcarers and those who've never tried Bushcare before. Help us rid our bushland of weeds and help our native plants thrive.

9.00am to 11.00am
Saturday 20 September 2014

Belair National Park

**Meet at the Ticket Office for your FREE entry
to the Park at 9.00am.**

Wear sturdy shoes, long sleeves & pants, a hat & garden gloves.
Tools will be provided by the Friends of Belair National Park.



Friends of Belair National Park.
Enquiries to 8278 2370
or 0410 129 681

BUSHCARE MAJOR DAY OUT September 20th 2014.

This is an Australia-wide call in September for volunteers to help preserve our bushland. The Friends of Belair National Park will be inviting the public to join our working bee on Saturday 20th September 2014 from 9am until 11am. We will meet at the Park Office before start time. The site for working that day is yet to be arranged, but details will be available on our website, or on fliers from the Park Office, closer to the day. Free entry to the Park for participants on the day. Enquiries to Barb 8278 2370.

FROM THE DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENT, WATER AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

Dear Park Pass holder,

Are you planning a trip to Mount Remarkable National Park or Innes National Park?

A new system has been introduced to make it easier and fairer to camp at sites in these parks. Camp sites must now be booked prior to arrival at www.parks.sa.gov.au.

To book your site please visit www.parks.sa.gov.au and follow these steps:

1. Select 'find a park' and find the park you wish to visit.
2. Select camping from the side bar at the left.
3. Select the campground and site at which you wish to stay.
4. Answer the booking questions. You will be asked to enter your current pass number.
5. Select 'buy now'.
6. At checkout fill in your details.

Note: If you have a Park Pass + Camping you will not be charged for camping, but the system still requires a credit card number to be entered to complete the transaction.

If you have a Park Pass without camping you will be charged for camping and you will need to enter your credit card number to complete the transaction.

The website includes information to help with your booking, such as:

- Images of individual sites.
- Information on what vehicles are suitable for the site, for example caravan, campervan, tent etc.
- Information on where the site is located in proximity to amenities such as toilets.
- Other site information such as shady site, near creek, fire pit etc.

Once you have completed your booking you will receive a confirmation email with the details of the site you have booked.

The website will only display available camp sites, giving you an indication of how busy it will be on the particular night you wish to book by the number of available sites.

If you have any enquiries please email DEWNR.OnlineBookings@sa.gov.au.

CHANGE OF VEHICLE

The process for vehicle registration changes was included in the emails that went out with each of the passes.

Pass Holders are requested to **email us directly** with the details of their change.

dewnrvolunteers@sa.gov.au

This is done for a number of reasons, including:

1. The intention is that Friends' Secretaries handle new requests and annual renewals only.
2. It saves on double and triple handling of information.
3. It avoids any typographical errors as the information comes direct from the volunteer.

Further if this process is followed, it makes the entire data handling process easier to manage at the DEWNR end.

White Cockatoos.

These photos were taken of Pines Oval No. 2 shelter. The cockatoos have chewed on every wooden surface including the table and benches. It's a good example of how destructive they can be. I have seen the damage do by galahs who have chewed the lead out of lead light stained windows.



When you see the white cockatoos in the Park, especially if they are chewing the woodwork of the structures could you please let the office know numbers, where and what direction they fly from or to. This is a request from the rangers.

Everyone seems to be in such a hurry to scream 'racism' these days.

A customer asked, "In what aisle could I find the Irish sausages?"

The assistant asks, "Are you Irish?"

The guy, clearly offended, says, "Yes I am, but let me ask you something..."

If I had asked for Italian sausage, would you ask me if I was Italian?

Or if I had asked for German Bratwurst, would you ask me if I was German?

Or if I asked for a kosher hot dog would you ask me if I was Jewish?

Or if I had asked for a Taco, would you ask if I was Mexican?

Or if I asked for Polish sausage, would you ask if I was Polish?"

The assistant says, "No, I probably wouldn't."

The guy says, "Well then, just because I asked for Irish sausage, why Did you ask me if I'm Irish?"

The assistant replied, "Because you're in Bunnings."

Mary Cole

FRIENDS OF BELAIR NATIONAL PARK

Postal Address:- PO Box 2 BELAIR SA 5052

Email:- friendsofbelairpark@msn.com

Website:- www.communitywebs.org/friendsofbelairpark

Website & Newsletter:- bandoobs@gmail.com

OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2014

PRESIDENT	Mark Pedlar	8278 1991
VICE PRESIDENT	Mike Cerchez	8270 8870
SECRETARY	Jill Salvi	8278 6736
TREASURER	Carol Parrott	8278 6783
COMMITTEE MEMBERS.	Mary Cole, Brian DuBois, Barry Palmer, Barbara Raine, Jim Trueman.	

FUNCTIONARIES

GUIDED WALKS	Barbara Raine	8278 2370
LIBRARIAN	Shirley Alford	8278 1525
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Brian & Noeline DuBois	8270 4215 bandoobs@gmail.com
SIGNIFICANT TREES	Ron Tamblyn	8393 9803
VOLUNTEER CENTRE BOOKINGS	Jill Salvi	8278 6736
MEMBERSHIP	Carol Parrott	8278 6783
WEBSITE	Brian DuBois	8270 4215 bandoobs@gmail.com
SPEAKERS	Barbara Raine	8278 2370
WORKING BEE COORDINATOR	Mary Cole	8278 3816
WORKING BEES for Tuesday or Friday,	Mary Cole	8278 3816
Sunday or Wednesday	Betty Wise	8278 3805
Monday	Vaike Aldridge	8277 9596

BELAIR NATIONAL PARK

Belair National Park Office 8278 5477

After hours Emergency 0427 556 676

Put these numbers in your mobile.

FREE GUIDED WALKS April to November

On the 4th Tuesday afternoon each month at 2.00. pm

Ask at the office, Belair National Park at 1.45 pm for meeting place and free entry.

The next Tuesday walk will be on September 23rd followed by October 28th and November 25th.

Put these dates in your diary. Enquiries to Barbara Raine on 8278 2370

SPECIAL EVENTS

Friends of Parks 30th Annual Forum to be held in 2016.

Details of the next forum will be published when available.

Professor Cleland Memorial Walk

This year, the Friends of Belair National Park, will be holding their annual Sir John Cleland Memorial Details and date in this issue.

Birthday Party

Held on the 19th of December to celebrate the birthday of Belair National Park.

MONTHLY MEETINGS 2014

Usually (**not always**) on the first Saturday of the month.

1 pm at the Volunteer Centre, Long Gully, Belair NP.

Usually with an interesting speaker first, then the meeting.

Visitors welcome

October 4th - Professor Chris Daniels "Reptiles"

November 1st - Barbecue 12.30

December 6th - Pam Catcheside "Fungi".

Pam is a Fungi expert and Honorary Research Associate at the State Herbarium of S.A.

WORKING BEES.

Meet by Belair Park Ticket Office

BEFORE 8.30am Standard daylight time or BEFORE 8am Daylight saving time

Tuesday and Friday mornings. For information phone Mary on 8278 3816

Daylight Saving starts Sunday 5th October 2014

Working Bees on other days, meet by arrangement.

For Mondays, phone Vaike on 8277 9596

For Sundays or Wednesdays phone Betty on 8278 3805

Membership Payments

- 1) Pay the treasurer at a meeting
- 2) Forward payment and **your contact details to**
The Treasurer
Friends of Belair NP
PO Box 2, Belair 5052
- 3) Pay by internet use the following account information **and email your contact information to**
acmeparrott@picknowl.com.au
Bank SA
BSB 105-078
Acc No:- 306250940
Acc Name:- Friends of Belair Park
Acc Ref:- your name (membership fees)

Annual renewal is \$10 a single, \$15 for a family regardless of when it is paid.

If joining after 30th June, your first half year is discounted to half price, so please pay \$5 for single, or \$7.50 for joint membership.