

Staff Activity Report April 2017

1. Organised for Nuriootpa Scouts 1st group to camp over at Meldanda, they borrowed the batons and thought they were really good and they had a visit to Wild Woods – Sally Arnold to see rescued wildlife. They really enjoyed camping at Meldanda, they hired the tents that the school purchased and will recommend the site to other groups
2. Organised and delivered some plants from our community nursery for Sedan Hotel
3. Sent the paddock tree data that I had to Nicola Barnes to assist with her reporting on the project
4. Organised staff, financial reports, agenda, and minutes for committee meeting which we held at Meldanda. Posted February and March Minutes on the webpage. We had some guest speakers attend to discuss the Dark Sky project
5. Promoted feral goat scan on Facebook
6. Communicated the remote camera work at the Cambrai dump to Neil Cooke on the feral cat activity – or lack of
7. Supported the Animaltronics Day at Meldanda organised by the council community development officer Jarrod Manuel, there were 5 different schools that took part in the activities, it was a great day and excellent to see Meldanda used for this type of function



Figure 1 lining up to learn about Frisbee Golf at Animaltronics Day, Meldanda

8. Meeting with John Bouilly who is the Chairman of the Friends of Private Bushland to help plan their annual trip which will include camping and a tour of Meldanda
9. Worked on the Community Land Management plan priorities and proposed divestment list

10. Meeting with some university professors who were seeking support and input for a grant application to collect some samples from cliffs along the Murray to assist with a climate change project. The grant that they were considering was focused on wetlands so it was a bit of a long bow to draw.
11. Posted 10 more Simply Saltbush books to Trees for Life office in Adelaide for them to sell
12. Supported the Friends of Meldanda and trimmed up some plants as part of general garden maintenance
13. Meeting with Gaye Fischer from Waterhouse Club SA Museum about a visit to Meldanda to have a tour, guest speaker and catering
14. A new Work for Dole lady started, Emily McKenzie, who will work at Meldanda on Monday's with Sally. Irene inducted her before she began
15. Sally made contact with Conway to organise a Bushtucker workshop at Meldanda and we are meeting with him in early May to plan the event
16. Organised and promoted the Nature Maps workshop that will be held at the Mannum Council Chambers in early May, presented by Tony Randall who works for Natural Resources SA MDB, he was the GWLAP project officer and use to deliver these workshops. The workshop was promoted via email, and social media including the MMC Facebook page
17. Bob and Sharon our nursery volunteers got together the plant order for Issy Campbell for Sugar Shack, propagated and maintained plants in the nursery. They are doing a great job out there and the nursery is looking really good.
18. Took volunteer Michael Lowe to meet Scott Hutchens and sort out any necessary paperwork for him to do some weed control at the Marne Valley CP.
19. Held an Insect Hotel workshop at the Cambrai Community Nursery that Gavin Smith delivered, it was a great hands on workshop that inspired participants to create habitat for bugs at home. Posted photos of the workshop on the MMLandcare Facebook page



Figure 2 everyone busy at work making insect hotels

20. Meeting with state manager from Conservation Volunteers SA, Richard Bitell, to seek some support and potential funding to assist with the on-ground management at Meldanda
21. After speaking with Chris Tugwell, Sally drafted a letter for the Cambrai School Governing Council about the Dark Sky project and the potential opportunity for Meldanda and the potential involvement of CVA with the site. 18 litres of round-up was used around the walking trails at Meldanda. Sally and don have been working out where the irrigation system runs at Meldanda and had some input from Ross Elliker.
22. We were successful with a grant for follow-up weed control work of \$4,000 to implement works at Council Reserves from Natural Resources SA MDB
23. We were also successful with 4 small volunteer grants;
 - a. Materials to support bat box workshops \$1,000
 - b. Meldanda interpretive and safety signs \$1,000
 - c. Skills for Boards and Committees training workshop \$1,000
 - d. Materials to support volunteer planting days and workshops \$1,000
24. Have still been working with Anna Knutzelius, Project Manager, Australian Research Institute for Environment & Sustainability (ARIES) on the species list for the Habitat Stepping Stones project.
25. Amanda Pearce borrowed the Anabat detector to set up at her property in Williamstown, have analysed the calls but still need to report to Amanda and upload to the portal. Have uploaded the Murray Princess calls to the online bat portal.
26. Organised invoice for a family that camped at Meldanda over the Easter weekend.
27. The Kersbrook Landcare group volunteer their time to plants some more grasses in our grass seed orchard at Meldanda and will also donate some grasses that we were short on for the row
28. Loaned some macro-invertebrate viewing equipment to MPNRC for a workshop during the school holidays.
29. Identified 3 plant species for landholder Jill Lienert
30. Went to Banrock Station to learn how to monitor the Spiny Daisy translocation site from Tim Field in preparation for the Meldanda site project. Organising the planting day at Meldanda which will include the volunteers who helped propagate the plants at our nursery workshop and the Recovery Team
31. Supported a bat box kit making workshop at Don Lester's in Tanunda in preparation for some upcoming workshops we are supporting
32. Enjoyed a week off and went fishing!



Figure 3 Spiny Daisy Monitoring at Banrock Station