



Mid Murray Landcare SA Incorporated

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STAFF ACTIVITY REPORT NOVEMBER 2016

1. Meeting with environmental contractor Amanda Pearce to discuss and plan on ground works at several MMC Reserves, primarily along 3 Chain Road. Drew up a services agreement for the project, had the works approved by the Ranges to River NRM Senior Project Officer Nicola Barnes and also MMC Director of Infrastructure Greg Hill. The works have commenced and will be completed early December with project final report due early January
2. Meeting at Sugar Shack with MACAI Green Army to discuss projects that we can and will support meeting outcomes include;
 - a. Regent parrot feeding surveys: team collects specimens of plants that regent parrots are feeding on (doubles as a flora survey). Action: Aimee to see if Kevin Smith can run a workshop on regent parrot feeding survey process and regent parrot id (completed)
 - b. Bat monitoring. Action: Issy to organise to borrow Anabat from Aimee Linke
 - c. Bush-stone curlew monitoring. Action: Issy to organise to borrow bush-stone curlew monitoring kit from Aimee Linke
 - d. Rabbit warren mapping Action: Aimee to organise to get some loan GPSs to Issy (completed)
3. Had some stickers made up of our Landcare logo to put over the top of the metal signs we already have so we can recycle them and use of property fences where we are involved with projects like Lenger Reserve. Gavin Smith has been kindly putting the stickers onto the signs for us, thanks Gavin
4. Parks and Sustainable Landscapes – Annual Program Gathering was held at Meldanda on the 3rd of November and I provided a tour of Meldanda at the close of the meeting
5. Printed our agendas and annual reports in preparation for the AGM and Gavin smith and Tanya Eyre's kindly bound them all for me
6. Tony Hannan has been trying to organise some engineering drawings for the Bush Stone Curlew shelter at Meldanda to satisfy some MMC queries
7. Organised some mulch for Meldanda with the MMC which was promptly delivered and the WFD participants have been landscaping with it around the carpark at Meldanda which looks fantastic
8. Processed monthly accountant and received reports back from the accountant that were sent onto the committee. Put together my monthly report for October which will be presented at the December committee meeting
9. Organised materials and morning tea for the Friends of Meldanda that was held on the first Friday of the month 4th November, Sally is away in the UK for the whole of November so no report from her. We had 3 regulars attend the friends day event

10. Things have been busy at the Cambrai Community Nursery with Bob and Sharon White being a great asset, there has been lots of propagation of plants by cutting and see. Some new wicking beds are a new feature in the nursery, I picked up a trailer load of materials for the project in the Barossa and Bob picked up the shuttle for the beds, they are being put together by Bob and are coming along nicely. We plan to remove the corrugated iron beds that are under the shade of the tree as it was too shady to grow vegetables in summer and we need more room to expand production, especially if we are going to grow plants to help support the 'Habitat Stepping Stones' project
11. Completed and sent 2 of our 3 NRM Volunteer Small Grants Reports for the new banners and signs for our Landcare group and the materials to make more bat boxes
12. Organised and held our AGM in Mannum on the PS Marion, we had a tour of the Museum and enjoyed some lunch at the Mannum Community Club
13. Was contacted by the Cambrai Agricultural Museum for some advice on plants for their new landscaped area at the front of the Museum on Kings Road. We provided them with 150 plants that Ivan Bormann picked up, they have let us put up our Landcare Sign on the fence in recognition of our donation. We will grow them some groundcovers to plant next year which will help to keep the soil cool over the hot summer months and suppress weed growth
14. Organised some afternoon tea for our site visit to Towitta Springs with the committee after our AGM to assess its potential as a Dark Sky site, the reserve has potential. Chris Tugwell contacted David Bennett with some very promising news, which I will let Chris share at the December meeting



Figure 1 Towitta Park site visit re Dark Sky project

15. Posted Weed action plans and property maps to landholders at Devon Downs and also provided Scott Hutchens with a copy as he is the contact for further information on weed control. This was a long overdue action I needed to do as part of the Landcare Grant we got to map the rare *Dodonaea* and implement some weed control
16. Have had a few more orders for Simply Saltbush which I have invoiced and posted, need to check with accountant when we break even with the cost of publishing this book so we can start to provide Nadine Brown with some money from the sales
17. Completed final report for the Aminya Attracting Butterfly Garden project to the MMC and since then the garden has been somewhat destroyed by further works at the home and Gavin Smith removed the sign we had made for the project
18. Meldanda self-guided project brochure has been completed and sent off to the printers, now just need to do final report for the project
19. Set up a Facebook page for Meldanda, so now there is a public page, a group page and also a webpage for Meldanda
20. Gavin borrowed the work car to attend a grant writing training session in Waikerie, I think the state of the car when he drove it inspired him to give it a good ole clean, thanks Gavin
21. Don Lester and I surveyed the tree hollows in the Sugar Gum tree in Cambrai that is proposed to be felled, the hollow of concern looked as though something had nested in there before but it was unattended at the time of viewing. The tree did have a lot of Pardalotes in it though and I have let the landholder know the results
22. Terry Franklin came to the office and signed the auditor's report which I posted back to Pembroke and Associates, I was also in Mt Barker so I went to Stirling and picked up our audited books
23. Went to Monarto Zoo where I delivered a bat id training workshop, afterwards Tim Jenkins gave me a tour of Wild Africa and the new developments out at the zoo
24. Put together a flier for our volunteer BBQ celebration and sent off to our key volunteers
25. Attended a meeting in Adelaide at the Museum with Sylvia Clarke, Terry Reardon and Kyle Armstrong to discuss a joint bat project. I provided Terry with a copy of all our bat calls which took about 4 hours to put on an external hard-drive. It was a fruitful meeting and we will look at developing an automated identification tool for the bat project to get more data across the MDB. Sylvia will be applying for a grant which will help to support my position if she is successful
26. Had planned to help out with mallee fowl surveys at Yookamurra on the 21st of November but there were weather warnings for Severe Fire Danger Day so decided it wasn't a safe option to go
27. Volunteer Sharon White helped me out in the office one day and entered the correspondence for me ready for the December meeting, thanks Sharon
28. Attended the Mid Murray Council Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting on 28/11/16, where they agreed to support the Habitat Stepping Stones Project
29. Feral Cat Management Planning workshop with Helen Crisp and Scott Hutchens to plan how a project may be rolled out in the MMC, who the partners would be and who would be willing to support particular aspects of the project

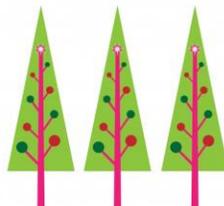
30. Site visit with Nicola Barnes and Gavin Smith to show Nicola Lenger Reserve, as she may be able to support some on ground projects there
31. Attended the Erosion Management Workshop at Strathalbyn run by GWLAP, Gavin smith attended with me, it was a good workshop and refreshed my knowledge on erosion remediation which will help with some of the erosion and slumping issues we have in the MMC region



Figures - top left erosion control workshop, bottom left and right Lenger Reserve site visit

Thank you and have a Merry Christmas see you in 2017!

Regards Aimee and staff from



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