



# Mid Murray Landcare SA Incorporated

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## STAFF ACTIVITY REPORT DECEMBER 2016

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1. Monthly staff activity report prepared and distributed accordingly. Processed and paid monthly accounts. Meeting with the accountant to discuss budget and provide details in preparation for financial report for our 'Connecting Communities grant'
2. Meldanda on-ground management meeting with Darren Shield and Sally Gethin-Jones (06/12/16)
3. Held 2 workshops at Meldanda on the 6<sup>th</sup> of December with Neville Bonney as guest speaker supported by Murray Mallee LAP. Workshop 1 was Native Seed Production and we had about 25 people attend. Workshop 2 was Native Grass Production and we had about 13 people attend. It was great to have so much local attendance and interest in the topics presented, great to show people around at the projects at Meldanda and really good working together with another community group like Murray Mallee LAP.



4. Organised and held our committee meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> of December at the Cambrai council Chambers, we had the new accountant Jordan Krzoska attend and discuss how we might want our monthly reports presented differently.
5. Held an end of year volunteer celebration and recognition at Meldanda with our committee and volunteers. We gave out some awards for some of our most dedicated volunteers, as without them we wouldn't be able to achieve what we do.
6. Worked on the MMC Reserves spreadsheet to prioritise reserves that need plans in preparation for meeting with Peter Graves and Joel Taggart.

7. Prepared and submitted our progress report of 38 pages for the 'Connecting Communities Grant', posted the signed copy and usb stick with all the supporting documentation, e.g. workshop flyers, attendance sheets and photos. I tallied up the volunteer contributions at the Nursery and Meldanda for the report and Meldanda in 5 months had a contribution of 1,063 volunteer hours and the Cambrai Community Nursery had 488 hours which doesn't include any workshops.
8. Meeting on site at Meldanda with Sally Gethin –Jones, Jo Clarke and Conway Johnson from Eastern Hills and Murray Plains Catchment Group to discuss the bush tucker garden and ideas on improving it. Jo and Conway both had some great ideas and Conway showed us that there is a shield tree at Meldanda where Aboriginal people cut the bark to make a shield.



9. Irene did a seed collection list for Meldanda volunteers which ties in with what we need to propagate at the nursery and also did some Rhagodia cuttings in the nursery. Irene and I put together a nursery program for the next 6 months and posted it on Facebook and put up on local notice boards
10. Meeting with Meridee Jensen from MMC to discuss and provide information for the Riverbank Slumping/Bank Erosion fact sheet the council are putting together
11. We had another bat box making workshop at Don Lester's in Tanunda on the 15<sup>th</sup> of December. We had 9 people attend including Gavin Smith, Terry Franklin and Bob White. We put together 20 bat box kits for an upcoming workshop at Kingston Primary School. The boxes that the school puts together are for a project in conjunction with Riverland West Landcare and Banrock Station, which is where the boxes will be put up.
12. Supported LAP Matters meeting at Murray Bridge Community Nursery with Eastern Hills and Murray Plains Catchment Group on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December
13. Site visit with 2 new landholders, one near Lake Moody, to assist with plant identification and weed control priorities. The other one was north of Sedan and wanted some land management advice on 20<sup>th</sup> December.
14. Drafted a feral cat project proposal and sent a copy to project partners; Helen Crisp (Yookamurra Sanctuary), Scott Hutchens (District Officer) and Nicola Barnes (Senior Project Officer Ranges to River) for comment before it goes further.

15. Meeting with Cambrai Area School Staff and School governing council to agree upon the Meldanda Committee, backed by Mid Murray Landcare SA, to manage Meldanda (including camp bookings) for a trial period of 12 months.
16. Sally has been busy at Meldanda with spraying weeds and controlling ants, organising volunteers and activities.
17. Completed and sent the last of our NRM Volunteer Small Grants Reports for the Meldanda Self-guided brochure
18. Collected some native grasses from Meldanda before the Christmas break, including the windmill grass and wheat grass, the seed orchard is doing really well and Darren Shield has finished off the fence and done some weeding in there.