



Mid Murray Landcare SA Incorporated

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Staff Activity Report May 2017

1. Posted flier for composting workshop onto social media and emailed to contacts, we had 12 people attend the workshop at the Cambrai Community Nursery with some new attendees
2. Issy Campbell picked up their 500 tubestock and tree guards that we have been storing for them at the nursery
3. Process monthly accounts and dropped off to the accountant. Requested the accountant provides us monthly individual reports for the nursery and Meldanda
4. Applied for a NRM Agricultural Knowledge Small Grants Native Grasses and Production in the Mallee for \$3,000 to run some workshops
5. Prepared and posted the committee meeting minutes onto the webpage
6. Edited and emailed some letters Sally wrote for the school governing council about the Dark Sky Project and CVA potential involvement at Meldanda
7. Sent a certificate of appreciation to Kersbrook Landcare group on behalf of Meldanda for the native grasses that they planted for us in the orchard, they also donated some grasses that we were short of
8. Sent Amanda Pearce bat results from a survey she did at her property in Williamstown and also posted the results onto the Bat Portal
9. Kept the committee informed by forwarding on the NHS Newsletter and the Drift and other relevant correspondence
10. Site visit with Jake McVicar to Bolto and Haythorpe Reserves to survey them in preparation for putting together some draft community land management plans. Put together some draft plans for both these reserves and forwarded onto Melissa Marschall ready for review.
11. Held a successful Nature Maps workshop in Mannum, all the participants left the workshop feeling well equipped to use the software program at home and develop their own maps
12. We supported a grant application for Mid Murray Council 'Community Projects & Events Grant' with Scouts SA – Roonka Water Activity Centre to develop the Roonka Nature Trail Experience for an amount of \$2000 which was successful. Will be meeting on site with Max Jongebloed and Riverland West's Karen Bishop on the 5th of June to gps the trail marker points and start developing the trail
13. Have been helping to progress the Dark Sky project and had a great meeting on the 3rd of May with Adrian Sakko, Chris Tugwell, Peter Graves and Steve Wilkinson

14. Ron Kalertas returned a fox trap he had borrowed to use at Greenways wetland, the trap was not successful to catch the fox that is patrolling the area, but it did capture some magpies.
15. Organised to have an old air conditioner moved that was on the outside of the building down a path that leads to the nursery. It was a bit of a hazard for people walking around the corner and also in preparation for planting up the side of the house for the Habitat Stepping Stones Project.
16. Have been selling quite a lot of tubestock from the nursery, having the workshops at the nursery really helps to promote it to the community
17. Organised and paid for the insurance for the committee, paid all monthly accounts, processed them and took to the accountant. Subscribed to RAA membership as requested by the committee. Organised some work jackets for the Landcare volunteers and updated our Microsoft subscription
18. On site visits with Ngarrindjeri crew to plan the Bushtucker Workshop at Meldanda. Developed a flier for the workshop which was approved and distributed, organised catering for the event. Sally organised mulch and gravel to be delivered from the MMC for the workshop
19. Caught up with Ben Mc Callum, the new EHMPGC project officer to see what projects we could collaborate on. Assessed the native pasture trial paddock at Meldanda which needs crash grazing, Peter Graetz only has a small number of sheep to put on there which won't have the desired affect
20. Organised the Spiny Daisy planting date and sent out an invitation to the volunteers and the Recovery Team to participate in the event. Some media will also be invited. Sally has sprayed the site and mulched in preparation for the planting day. Don Morrison has marked out where the plants will go and set up the drippers.
21. Organised materials for the 2 Native Grass Seed Production Workshops that we held at Meldanda in conjunction with Murray Mallee LAP. 2 great workshops, the presenter Andrew Fairney was excellent, we learned about seed production areas and how to create one. All the feedback from the workshop was really good and these practical hands on events are what empowers people to be able to go home and implement themselves



Figure 1 sowing seed production area in foam boxes



Figure 2 sowing native grass in field demonstration

22. Sent the brief for the Spiny Daisy sign to the designer that we will have made up for the translocation site at Meldanda along with some images

23. Was requested from 'Friends of Native Wildlife' Bayside Victoria for a copy of the Bat Pack Cd which I posted
24. Supported a Malleefowl Survey at Yookamurra Sanctuary with Helen Crisp, Naomi Prunken (RBLAP), Karen Bishop (RW Landcare) and Don Morrison one of our Landcare volunteers. It was a great day of walking in the mallee, we didn't find any new mounds but we measured some existing mounds with Helen, which was great.
25. Printed and laminated the bushtucker signs that have faded or deteriorated at Meldanda as a short term solution
26. Site visit with local Sedan people to look at a planting project they want to do at the church in Sedan, where some introduced pine trees have been removed. Will assist with species selection and tubestock
27. Organised the materials and details for the Bat Box workshop at Wilabilangaloo near Berri, to support Berri Barmera Landcare group for Helga Kieskamp. Don Lester, Sharon White, Bob White and myself all carpooled up to Wilabilangaloo in the Troopie loaded with bat box kits geared up to deliver a box making workshop. It was a great day and participants got to take a box home and discovered that they could have bats in their backyard (a lightbulb moment). There are also 16 boxes left at Wilabilangaloo that will be put up and surveyed next year to see if they have any new inhabitants.



Figure 31 bat boxes made at Wilabilangalo

28. Supported the wetland officer with the keys and contact details for wetland monitoring in our region
29. Sally has been supervising a new work for dole participant and they have pruned back the recreation hut garden at Meldanda, cut back the grasses in the fire retardant display garden and hedged the grey mulga

30. The proposed car park tree planting at Meldanda has been marked out, the holes have been augured by Don M. and are ready to plant. Sally has washed all the interpretive signage in the Bushgardens and sprayed 42 litres of Round-up
31. New project from a successful Community Development Grant from the MMC 'Meldanda Animal Walking Tracks' – Sally and Tony Hannan have commenced with the painting of posts which the students from Cambrai School have started stencilling art work onto. The tracks have also been GPS'd
32. The Bush Stone -curlew shelter has also been progressing at Meldanda and there will be some upcoming workshops with school groups that Sally has organised. Emily McKenzie (volunteer) helps Tony on Mondays and George King has also been volunteering. Some roofing iron has been donated to the project by Sally Vance
33. Organised the bat island tour of Meldanda and Eremophila cutting workshop in the Cambrai Community Nursery with the Blanchetown PS Principal that will be held in early June
34. Sent an email to DEWNR Officer Brett Stephens in regard to some slashing of native vegetation at Blanchetown behind the old oval/golf club, the Crown Land there is in the process of being dedicated to the MMC and some of the locals would like the Landcare Group to manage that land. This parcel of land is one that our group was involved with years ago with the Blanchetown PS and did a revegetation project there
35. Attended a talk on the Murray Darling Carpet Pythons in Murray Bridge by Daniel Saliba from the Monarto Zoo, which was excellent. The Mid Murray region is a central location for this rare species and there could be potential projects we could get involved with or instigate
36. Completed and submitted the Threat Abatement Report for the follow-up weed control grant we got for Kannapa Springs, Towitta Springs and setting up photo points at Towitta Cemetery. Also provided a report on this project for the MMC Open Space Advisory and Recreation Committee Meeting that will be held in June
37. Started a grant application for the Threatened Species Recovery Fund, will apply for a project to help protect and recover the Silver Daisy Bush, a vulnerable species that grows in our region – grant application due on the 15th of June
38. Compiled monthly staff report, processed accounts and dropped off to the accountant, organised committee meeting, prepared the agenda and minutes from last meeting
39. Community Land Management Plan meeting with MMC project team to discuss priorities and roles with the departure of Peter Graves
40. Received the promotional material for the Habitat Stepping Stones Project and have a meeting scheduled with MMC staff to plan the next steps of the project



Figure 4 posts are in for Bush Stone Curlew Shelter