



FRIENDS OF ANSTEY HILL



ABN: 53 952 413 248

PO Box 653

ST. AGNES SA 5097

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2024

NO: 01/2024

DIARY DATES

Wednesday 3 rd April 2024	Committee Meeting	Houghton
Sunday 14 th April 2024	Bushcare Session	Meet at The Shed Gate 18
Sunday 28 th April 2024	Bird Spotting Walk by BirdsSA	TBA
Wednesday 5 th June 2024	Committee Meeting	Houghton
Sunday 9 th June 2024	Planting Day	TBA
Wednesday 7 th August 2024	Committee Meeting	Houghton
Sunday 22 nd September 2024	Bushcare Session	TBA

WEDNESDAY BUSHCARE GROUP



ANSTEY HILL WEED PRIORITIES

The Ranger has compiled a list of priority weeds in the park, below are what are considered to be the high priority weeds for us to be on the lookout for and control. Always happy to receive input from our members if you spot any in the park, we will add it to the map and incorporate it into our bushcare schedule. If you see anything which you believe should be brought to our attention, then email location and weed type to anstey.friends@gmail.com

Priority A – Common weeds, encountered regularly in the park and are a high regional importance.

Wild Olive (*Olea europea*)



Boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*) **Weed of National Significance**



Artichoke Thistle (*Cynara cardunculus*)



Dog/Briar Rose (*Rosa canina*)



Blackberry (Rubus fruticosus spp.)
Weed of Nation Significance



Gorse (Ulex europaeus)
Weed of National Significance



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This is my first report since the Annual General Meeting on the 18th of October. As a result of the elections at the AGM I'd like to welcome Jacqueline and Roberta to the committee.

Our first committee meeting on the 1st of November was more of a brainstorming and planning session where we laid out the calendar for the year and suggested a few initiatives we can pursue during the course of the year. These included,

1. Bird Hide installed in Park. This has been discussed with the ranger and it is up to us to come up with a design and suggest a location. He could not point us to any location that had a bird hide installed so we will need to do some research. We may be able to tie it in with an upcoming bird spotting walk in the park to be led by BirdsSA.
2. Lookout to be redesigned to enhance the views. Rob agreed to lead this project, with a little help from the friends.
3. Orchid Walk to be offered to Membership.
4. Lilly removal day – along Water Gully Track.
5. Aurko's Lookout Project – This area needs to be surveyed to work out if there is a potential to enhance the site.

Also discussed was the role of the Bushcare Coordinator. A number of people have offered to lend a hand including,

- Diann to take on role as Safety Officer
- Diann/Roberta to work on a plan for bushcare activities.
- Marie will look after the shed.
- Steve Pawley has helped out with some tool maintenance and repairs.

On Sunday the 12th of November we celebrated our 35th Anniversary. We were honoured to have Susan Close, Deputy Premier and Minister for Climate, Environment and Water and Duncan MacKenzie, President, Friends of Parks to officiate at the event. As part of that recognition, Susan and Duncan presented Life Member awards and Certificates of Appreciation for length of service.

On the 26th of November, 21 members attended Propagation Day at the Friends Shed. A successful day with everyone lending a hand and then staying for the sausage sizzle, a cuppa and a chat.

The "Adopt a Patch" initiative has been running for a few months now and gives members to opportunity to focus on an area of their choosing and work on their patch when they have the time. We now have 3 areas running and hopefully others will adopt in the future.

On the 5th December we received the following letter.

OFFICIAL




Government
of South Australia

Reference: CLM23/01248

The Hon Susan Close MP
Deputy Premier
Minister for Climate, Environment and Water
Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science
Minister for Defence and Space Industries
Level 13 State Administrative Centre
289 North Square, Adelaide SA 5000
Tel: (08) 8224 8532
Email: Office@theDeputyPremier.sa.gov.au

Mr Steve Lukacs
Friends of Anstey Hill Recreation Park
PO Box 653
ST. AGNES SA 5097
Email: steve.at.foah@gmail.com

Dear Mr Lukacs 

Thank you for your application to the 2023-2024 *Friends of Parks Small Grants* program.

I am delighted to inform you that your application, *Woody Weed Control to Protect Chestnut-Rumped Heathwren Habitat at Anstey Hill Recreation Park* has been successful and will receive \$4500 from the Friends of Parks grant funding.

The Friends of Parks grant program was created to recognise the significant work undertaken by Friends of Parks groups supporting South Australia's national parks and conservation programs.

I hope that this financial contribution to your project will support positive outcomes both for your volunteer group and our environment, and I wish you every success in the implementation of your project.

Grant administrators from the Department for Environment and Water will be in touch with you in the coming days to provide you with further documentation and discuss payment details. Should you have any questions in the meantime please contact DEWVolunteers@sa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Hon Susan Close MP
Deputy Premier
Minister for Climate, Environment and Water

4 / 12 / 2023



OFFICIAL

Great news. We should have the funding available early next year so that we can engage the contractor to undertake the work.

Steve Lukacs

7th February 2024

BUSHCARE REPORT

This is a summary of activities undertaken from 1st October 2023 to 31st December 2023:

- Given the warmer weather early in the season, there were a number of sessions watering the plantings in the quarry area up from Gate 1 plus the area around the bee hotel near the shed.
- Weed control in the area near the Lookout and along Ridgetop Track past Kaurna Way
- Area up from Gate 5 (area is subject of current grant) tackling boneseed and olive with some assistance from the rangers.
- "Adopt a Patch" has now been running for several month with the first 2 areas. A third area has just been initiated.

Future activities include:

- Watering of plantings in the warmer months
- Boneseed control and olive control in area up from Gate 5

- Weed control on Wednesday Loop
- Weed control on Ridgetop Track between Kaurna and Wildflower
- Bushcare Sunday in April
- Preparation of new planting area including moving of mulch
- Remove old fencing, particularly those which include barb wire strands.

Statistics for the Bushcare Group activities for this period:

- 12 Wednesday mornings sessions including Propagation Day
- Total of 365 hours plus 57 hours from Adopt a Patch
- Average number of hours per activity is 30.
- Average number of workers per morning session is 12.

Great turnout for Propagation Day with 21 volunteers in attendance.

Steve Lukacs

7th February 2024





LOOKOUT PLAQUE - SEPTEMBER 1998



LOOKOUT PLAQUE - FEBRUARY 2024

PROPAGATION DAY







David Sheppard – 30 Plus Year Member

4WD TOUR OF PARK

This is an opportunity for Members to see the Park, especially for those who cannot walk it as much as they used to. To arrange a tour please email: anstey.friends@gmail.com with your interest and we will contact you to arrange a mutually convenient time for the tour to take place.



SUMMER in the Park

Summer in the Park sees kangaroos and koalas sleeping all through the day to escape the heat. Whilst flowering bluebells and white flowers of the Christmas Bush some of the best nature you'll see.

1. As the sun rises explore the Geological Hike (from Gate 9), read the interpretive signs to learn what the Gun Emplacement is, take in the views and spot the Common Brown butterflies
2. From Carpark 6 head onto Yellowtail Loop where you can explore the spring-fed creek, spot tadpoles and listen out for Brown Tree Frogs as they hide amongst the Bulrush
3. For a short relaxing walk head in from Gate 18 to The Lookout where you can look out over the Adelaide Plains and Gulf St Vincent. Listen out for the call of male Koalas as spring and summer is their mating season
4. For an early morning challenge head up to Wildflower Wander (walking only) or Ridge Top Walk using the Pink Gum Loop where you may see kangaroos grazing and purple Garland Lilies flowering
5. Hike along Bursaria Loop and take some time to smell the white flowers of the Sweet Bursaria (also known as Christmas Bush)
6. Hike up Quarry Views Track and find the corridor of Drooping Sheoak trees. Beneath canopies you'll find their cones on the ground – a key food for the Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo
7. At sunset head up to Quarry Views Hike or Geological Hike and find a place to watch the sky change colour as the sun sets
8. Start the day early and go for an adventure along Water Gully Track and spot the many birds along the creekline as they sing in canopies, hide in the ferns and feed on eucalypt blossoms and insects
9. Have a morning picnic at Little Quarry Loop. Watch for grazing kangaroos and keep an eye out for Common Garden Skinks as they emerge to get some morning sun
10. If you're an experienced rider and up for some downhill excitement try Wildside Downhill track which is categorised as a black diamond run.



NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our new members who have joined since our last newsletter. Hope to see you at one of the events during the year.

Steve Toth

Tom Woods

YOUR 2023-2024 COMMITTEE:

President:

Steve Lukacs

Secretary:

Diann Lozoraitis

Treasurer:

Kevin Laurance

Committee Members:

Marie Mudge

Roger Collier

Rob Carthew

Christine Thomas

Jenny Carthew

Roberta Swift

Jacqueline Scaffidi

Newsletter: Diann Lozoraitis

Facebook: Christine Thomas

Bushcare: Steve Lukacs

Ranger: Taylor Heath

LIFE & HONORARY MEMBERS

Rodney Attwood

Victor Gostin

Don Bursill

Olga Gostin

Margaret Bursill

Mary Lane

Merv Fenwick

Roger Collier

Jill Fenwick

David Sheppard



Thanks go to our Sponsors:



Club of
Modbury Golden Grove



Olivia Savvas MP
MEMBER FOR NEWLAND

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OliviaSavvasNewland



FRIENDS OF PARKS
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Volunteers working for conservation



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Contact Details

Website address: <https://friendsofparkssa.org.au/members/members-directory/friends-of-anstey-hill-recreation-park>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/friendsofansteyhill>

Email: anstey.friends@gmail.com

