



Madurta Revegetation Project

About 1250 plants were planted recently as the first stage of the long term plan for the revegetation of the central area of Madurta Reserve, including the main creek line.

The Madurta revegetation plan was prepared by Russell Seaman, a Friends of Stirling Linear Park member and Department of Environment and Heritage revegetation specialist, with assistance from David Ragless.

It was planned that the planting would be carried out over three consecutive days in late May by volunteers from Conservation Volunteers Australia (CVA) and school students working under the guidance of CVA leaders Mathew Moar and Craig Hughes, and FoSLP members.

The first day's planting was very successful with nearly 600 plants being planted. Unfortunately, the second and third days were washed out by much needed rain. However, an additional side benefit of the rain was that we could see exactly where the creek line and other swampy areas were, so that we could better locate the appropriate plants for these conditions.

A further 650 plants were planted by school students on a rescheduled planting day in mid-June. A high proportion of the planting was *Acacia retinodes* along the creek line and in swampy areas. *Goodenia* and grasses were also planted along the creek line, together with *Acacia melanoxylon* in adjoining areas. In addition, *Leptospermum continentale* and *Acacia myrtifolia* were planted further away from the creek line.

Most of the plants were grown by Mark Fagan of the NRM Green Web (in which FoSLP is a partner organization) and were funded by an Envirofund grant. Assistance in growing the plants was provided by Adelaide Hills Council and additional plants were grown by Anne Hicks. Mark has also started work on clearing *Watsonia* from within areas of good bush towards the southwestern end of Madurta Reserve.

Philip Hicks enjoyed working in Madurta with the CVA staff, volunteers and students and appreciated their enthusiasm.

Plantings in other areas

Bob James worked with CVA volunteers in planting *A. melanoxylon* and *A. myrtifolia*, grown by Anne Hicks, in an area of Hender Reserve. In addition, Bob is undertaking a further day's work with CVA corporate volunteers planting our remaining tubestock in Stirling Park later in June.

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Recent working bees

Much of the focus of our recent monthly working bees has continued to be on Woorabinda where there are significant areas of woody weeds encroaching on good quality bush. We have recently undertaken three working bees, in March, April and May, in the southern area of Woorabinda, between Linwood Avenue and the railway line. Broom, *Acacia longifolia*, *Sollya*, blackberry and other woody weeds have been cleared from around the edges of some of the best bush in Stirling Linear Park.

The June working bee has concentrated on clearing gorse from the north western slopes of Stirling Park.

On the whole, recent working bees have been reasonably well attended with numbers ranging from 6 to 13 people, and the result has been very pleasing with the southern corner of Woorabinda cleared of woody weeds.

The annual working bee along the walking trail from this corner of Woorabinda to Madurta was cancelled due to the forecast of 40 degrees, but a fire bug did most of the work for us. Unfortunately, during their cleanup after the fire, the heavy handed approach of the Council

removed the remaining remnants of vegetation and left the area bare and vulnerable to invasion by the dreaded broom and other woody weeds.

The working bee at Madurta on 15 July will focus on *Watsonia* as it is a good time of the year to work on this seasonal weed.

In the last two weeks, eight volunteers from Conservation Volunteers Australia have spent one and a half days in Woorabinda removing most of the large infestation of *Acacia longifolia* from the corner at the bottom of the fire track that leads from the corner of Keroma Drive toward Branch Road. Our next two working bees in Woorabinda in August and September will be to clear the woody weeds from the area of good quality bush above this as a continuation of our current plan to keep these weeds from encroaching into the good bush.

The Working Bee reminder notices are now being sent out by email to the 'regulars'. If you are considering joining us on the third Sunday in the month at 10:00 am, send your email to Bob James at bobjames@chariot.net.au and he will include you on the list of working bee reminder notices.

Recent fauna sightings in Stirling Park

- A Kangaroo was present in Hender Reserve. This is probably not surprising given the large numbers of kangaroos seen in the Longwood area.
- Pairs of Scarlet Robins have been seen in Hender and Stirling Park over recent months. They are frequently seen in surrounding areas such Mark Oliphant and Cleland Conservation Parks but, until these sightings, seem to have been seen less often in Stirling Park in recent years.
- There have been a number of sightings of a Bassian Thrush in Woorabinda over the last year. As far as we are aware, these are the first sightings for some years. Until about eight years ago a pair of Bassian Thrushes was resident in Woorabinda/Hender.
- A pair of Australian White Ibis, *Threskiornis molucca*, was seen next to the lake (not a rare bird, but not seen there in recent years and not shown the published list of birds known to frequent the park).
- An Echidna was observed in Hender.
- A dead Southern Brown Bandicoot was found on a path in Woorabinda in March. Although it was late in the morning, the body was still warm, indicating that it had only just died.

Stirling Park Management Advisory Committee

The Management Strategy Plan for Stirling Linear Park, adopted by Adelaide Hills Council in mid 2006, provides for a new Management Advisory Committee to make recommendations to Council. Membership of the Committee will not be on the basis of representatives of interest groups, but on the basis of individuals with appropriate skills.

Advertisements calling for expressions of interest in membership of the Committee

appeared in October 2006. We are aware that a number of people submitted expressions of interest and that some of them have been interviewed over recent months. We understand that membership of the Committee will be finalised shortly. Indeed, it may have been finalised by the time you receive this Newsletter.

Give us your ideas for Local NRM Actions

It's Time to Get On Board - Come to a Community Workshop!

The Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board invites you to have your say in developing the first comprehensive Natural Resources Management (NRM) Plan for our region. We want you to "get on board" during June as we host a number of community workshops throughout the region to assist this process. This is your chance to come along, have a cuppa with us and give us your ideas for local NRM actions.

What can you do? These workshops will be an outstanding opportunity for both young and old to learn about NRM and the Board, and to play a part in developing the Plan. We would especially like to hear from anyone with an interest in natural resources. If you can't make any of our scheduled workshops, please spread the word by telling your friends and encourage others to get involved.

RSVP details can be found below. Hope to see you there!

The Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management (NRM) Board has commenced preparation of its first Regional NRM Plan, and we need your input and ideas for local NRM actions. Come along and play a part in developing a comprehensive plan for managing, protecting and restoring our region's precious water, land, marine, coastal and biodiversity assets.

Tell us what you think can be done locally

Assist in setting long-term targets for local NRM actions

Help identify priority areas for Board investment

Give feedback on how we can better involve and empower our communities

Learn about the current state of our Region's natural resources

Find out more about your NRM Board

Meet your local NRM Group Members

All this...and more...over a friendly cuppa!

Victor Harbor - Monday 18 June Victor Harbor Civic Centre, 1 Bay Road, Victor Harbor

Yankalilla - Tuesday 19 June Yankalilla Sporting Club, Memorial Park, Main South Road, Yankalilla

Tanunda - Wednesday 20 June Tanunda Senior Citizens Centre, 150 Murray Street, Tanunda

Hahndorf - Thursday 21 June Upper Heidi Room, Hahndorf Resort, 145 Main Street, Hahndorf

Seaford - Monday 25 June Seaford Ecumenical Centre, Main Street, Seaford Town Centre

Birdwood - Tuesday 26 June Birdwood Community Hall, Shannon Street, Birdwood

Woodville - Wednesday 27 June City of Charles Sturt Civic Centre, 72 Woodville Road, Woodville

Salisbury - Thursday 28 June John Harvey Gallery, City of Salisbury Office, 12 James Street, Salisbury

Unley - Tuesday 3 July Unley Civic Centre, Oxford Terrace, Unley

All workshops start at 7pm and finish by 9.30pm.

Refreshments are provided.

Please RSVP to the Board on phone 8273 9100 or email

reception@adelaide.nrm.sa.gov.au

no later than three days prior to your selected workshop.

www.amlrnrm.sa.gov.au

**Friends of Stirling Linear Park Committee
2005-2006**

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Disclaimer: Contributors' views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily the views of the editor, the committee or the general membership of the Friends of Stirling Linear Park Inc.

Contributors to this issue include Philip Hicks, Harry Gill, Merilyn Browne and Bob James.

Affiliations

The Friends of Stirling Linear Park Inc. is a member of Friends of Parks Inc. We are also a registered Landcare Group and a member of both Greening Australia and Trees for Life.



Friends of Stirling Linear Park Membership application/renewal

I/we would like to join/renew membership of the Friends of Stirling Linear Park Inc. (strike out words not applicable)

\$.....membership fee is enclosed.

\$.....donation is included. (Donations of \$2.00 or more are tax-deductible. A separate receipt will be issued.)

Membership fee for both individuals and family:
1 year.....\$10.00
5 years.....\$40.00

Name.....

Address.....

..... **Phone**.....

Please return to: David Ragless, Friends of Stirling Linear Park Inc., 6 Branch Road, Stirling SA 5152