

naturematters

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VITAL WORK APPEAL 2015

Stretching further than the eye can see Witchelina Nature Reserve is a vast area (similar in size to Kangaroo Island) that is being managed at a landscape level. Vital Work Appeal funds will help manage this, and other, NFSA properties for conservation.

PHOTO BY: Patrick Mentzel



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- Volunteer Profile


Nature
FOUNDATION SA



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Hello members and supporters

My message this time last year was based on diminishing financial results over a few years to the End of Financial Years appeal but your support in 2014 was magnificent, \$71,439 resulting in a return to the funding levels of 5 or so years ago.

It was so appreciated as over the last two years funding sources, which have been available to us for many years, are no longer being offered.

Please match your generosity of last year and hopefully we will experience a similar result to this year's Vital Works Appeal.

Almost all Federal Government support has been stopped in the last 2 years

- Caring for Our Country initiative which enabled NFSA to purchase our major properties was dropped.
- The Biodiversity Fund set up from the sale of Telstra was also closed.
- A Federal infrastructure initiative for community development along the Murray with its significant Water For Nature Component was scuttled recently.

The State Government, under very difficult financial constraints, has kept faith with the Foundation by continuing the very welcome annual grant of \$70,000 but our Land Purchase Fund has had no injection into it for 2-3 years.

Now with the downturn in the Resource industry we have lost a major grant which paid for our senior Ecologist and on-costs for 3 years – this is such a major blow. We respect the circumstances this sector faces and appreciate very much the support we've enjoyed over the last 3 years.

This downturn will impact in other ways in that a significant number of operations will cease so the level of third party offsets to the Foundation will most likely fall. These events have dictated the major thrusts of activity your Council will undertake this year.

TOURISM COMMITTEE

We have structured a Tourism Committee which is most impressively both developing Business Plans and creating Tourism 'product' such as the Hiltaba Walking Trails and Pretty Point Camping, tag-along 4WD tours including the unbelievable Sky-tour (pictured on the front cover) opening up the grandeur of the Willouran Ranges plus Walking Trails at Witchelina. As a consequence of the incredible work of our Revolving Managers and Grand Working Bees we have very attractive camping options in the Shearing Quarters and Station Home accommodation – we will work hard to maximise the returns from these options

VOLUNTEERS FOR NATURE

We are creating a new section Volunteers for Nature which will support the excellent work of our staff and committees. Already your Foundation benefits amazingly from the Volunteer work of Electricians, Grader Drivers, Office workers, Scientists, Floor Cover Experts, Painters, Project Managers and many more – we are looking for a Manager for this section to whom we will offer an honorarium to develop this to enable the Foundation to continue to grow without having to engage more staff given the present state of the economy.

For our upcoming Treasure Hunt for Nature we expect some 50 Volunteers each from BOTH SA Power Networks Employee Foundation and SANTOS.

PERPETUAL TRUST FUND

I have referred to this previously, the development of this Fund will become a major priority this year, its importance equalling that of the SEB Committee.

It is a bold initiative but most Not For Profits have a programme which connects with Philanthropic bodies, the Corporate sector and develops relationships with memberships and supporters.

We have set a target of \$5 Million so that an investment return of over \$300,000 annually might be achieved for the day to day running the Foundation so that it is not so reliant on the vagueries of which Government is in power and its environment agenda,

We are searching for the right person to head-up this initiative – one with important contacts who will elicit trust and respect from potential Donors and has the time to devote to this project. We plan to place a portion of the Bequests made to the Foundation (which our cash-flow at the time will dictate) into the Perpetual Trust Fund.

RECENT SUCCESSES

Much of what else I wish to say is covered later in the Newsletter but I must refer to:-

- The magnificent opening of Watchalunga Nature Reserve and the incredible praise heaped on NFSA by Minister Hunter, the Chair of the MDBA the Hon Neil Andrews and many of the 20 Local conservation groups.
- The joy of entertaining the families of one of our Founders Warren Bonython and our much loved Betty (and Bob) Lewis at the opening of the Walking Trails named in their honour at the Hiltaba Nature Reserve.
- The huge exciting outcomes of our Grand Working Bee at Witchelina.

BEACH FAREWELLS REG NELSON - ONE OF OUR ESTEEMED PATRONS

It was an honour to attend Beach Energy's official farewell to our Patron and Beach's retiring Managing Director Reg Nelson a few weeks ago. The Premier's praise and the incredibly high regard in which Reg is held within his Company and his industry was very evident. It re-affirmed just how fortunate we are to have Reg as one of our Patrons.

Kind regards to you all and thank you for your continued support.

BOB LOTT

Thank you!

Thanks to URPS, urban and regional planners based at Rose Park, who provided their Boardroom as the venue for the recent NFSA Annual Council Strategic Planning Day.
www.urps.com.au



Watchalunga Nature Reserve Launch



Nature Foundation SA's newest property, Watchalunga Nature Reserve (92ha of Fleurieu Swamps near Finnis on the Fleurieu Peninsula), was officially launched by the Hon Ian Hunter MLC, Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation on Saturday 21 March 2015. Murray-Darling Basin Authority Chair, The Hon Neil Andrew, attended and was most generous in his praise of the work Nature Foundation SA's Water For Nature programme does in its engagement with communities along the River Murray in South Australia as part of the Commonwealth Environment Water Office's 'localism' initiative.

Purchased because of its high conservation value in December 2014, Watchalunga Nature Reserve is located on the Finnis River, contains highly significant South Australian biodiversity and represents a significant proportion of the remaining area of good quality Fleurieu Peninsula Swamps (500ha).

Minister Hunter said "We're pleased that government funding provided to the Nature Foundation of South Australia for their Reserve System Land Purchase Fund has assisted with the purchase of this land."

Nature Foundation SA will be working to reduce identified threats and restore critical habitat to create sanctuary for at-risk wildlife. Bob Loft, NFSA President, said that "This property will be made available for all groups interested in monitoring and studying the extremely important biodiversity of the property".

Swamps of the Fleurieu Peninsula are listed as a critically endangered ecological community under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999*. The property contains two confirmed EPBC listed species, the Mount Lofty Ranges Southern Emu-wren (endangered) and the Southern Bell Frog (vulnerable).

The waters also contain high numbers of native fish (13 have been recorded) and may still be a refuge for the Yarra Pygmy Perch (vulnerable), and the Murray hardyhead (vulnerable). Previous flora (plant) surveys have identified 31 indigenous species with more species likely to occur with more thorough inspections.

Nature Foundation SA is working with key stakeholders including the Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority, Goolwa to Wellington LAP group and the Conservation Council.

The Foundation is creating linkages to the Fleurieu and broader community and will be opening Watchalunga Nature Reserve up to volunteer events supporting conservation work on the property in the future.

PHOTOS:

TOP: Bob Loft speaking to the 200 attendees PHOTO BY LEO DAVIS

LEFT: Left to right Mayor Keith Parkes (Alexandrina Council), The Hon Ian Hunter MLC (Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation) and Mr Bob Loft (NFSA President) PHOTO BY LEO DAVIS

MIDDLE: Mt Lofty Ranges Southern Emu-wren PHOTO BY MARCUS PICKETT

RIGHT: Right: Mr Neil Andrew (Chair Murray-Darling Basin Authority)

PHOTO BY LEO DAVIS



Hiltaba Nature Reserve

Walking Trails and Pretty Point Campground Launch

On Friday 10th April, approximately 50 people attended the public launch of the Hiltaba Nature Reserve Pretty Point campgrounds and the **'Betty and Bob Lewis Walking Trail'** (2km commencing Pretty Point) and the **'Warren Bonython Walking Trail'** (10km commencing Hiltaba Homestead and traversing Mt Hiltaba) by Nature Foundation SA Council Member Chris Reed.

Betty Lewis and Warren Bonython AO (both of whom died in early 2012) were great mainstays of the Foundation from the early days; both very active on the Foundation Council and playing important roles in the vital fundraising activities.

On the 9th April, NFSA Council Member Susie Herzberg had welcomed guests and invited the family members present to open the trails, with Simon Bonython (who travelled from Bangkok) and Alice Bonython opening the Warren Bonython Trail and Lewis family members Diana, David, Patricia and Margaret opening the Betty and Bob Lewis Trail. A large group of enthusiastic supporters then enjoyed walking these trails.

David Moyle (NFSA Vice-President) said "I have absolutely no doubt that both Warren and Betty would be delighted to know that their families were meeting at Hiltaba Nature Reserve to enjoy in a most sociable way the naming of two walking trails to commemorate the contribution that they made to the Foundation."

"Bob and Betty Lewis were a wonderful couple, Fellows of NFSA, who brought great credit to the Foundation. Betty was generosity and common sense personified and she understood well the human dimension of nature conservation."

David remembers fondly the grand passion that Warren (one of the Founders of NFSA) had both for nature and walking: "Warren was always interested in finding new areas to add to the National Park system and would not hesitate to offer to visit a property and walk extensively over it. In a ceremony held in the actual creek bed of Mambray Creek, the Minister named the new section the *Warren Bonython Link* in honour of Warren's



contribution to national parks in SA. Of course, Warren turned up to this formal occasion in boots and walking gear and celebrated the day with a bush walk through the Park."

Bob Lott (NFSA President) said that "The Foundation

would like to sincerely thank the

many volunteers who have contributed significant time and energy to creating the trails particularly John Ovenden, and Chris and Maria Reed, but also Phil Cole, Barry and Maureen Wright, Greg Bannon, Lange and Inara Powell, Peter and Tom Forward, Rob Alcock, Andrew Robertson from Friends of the Heysen Trail. The Foundation was pleased that Diane and Tony Pearce could attend the launch, their son Damien had a very strong connection to Hiltaba."

The Foundation is most grateful to members of the Lewis family for their very generous donation towards providing water tanks at Hiltaba.

Visitors are very welcome - walk the trails which take in some amazing views of the property. Accommodation is available at the Cottage or Shearers Quarters (for larger groups) or for campers at the newly opened Pretty Point campground.

Walking Trails - no cost

Camping at Pretty Point campground - \$5 Per Person Per Night

Cottages - \$20 Per Person Per Night

Shearers Quarters (Large Groups Only) - \$20 Per Person Per Night

Bookings are essential for any visits to Hiltaba whether Camping/Walking Trails/Accommodation - Contact the Hiltaba Homestead Ph: 8648 1885 (alternate Ph 8340 2880) or admin@nfsa.org.au

TOP: Mt Hiltaba - Warren Bonython Walking Trail - Simon Bonython (left foreground)

INSET: Lewis family members on the Betty and Bob Lewis Walking Trail

PHOTOS BY PATRICK MENTZEL AND NATASHA HARPER

Hiltaba Nature Reserve



Yellow-footed Rock Wallaby habitat
PHOTO: ALEX NANKIVELL

In early April, NFSA launched the Warren Bonython and Betty and Bob Lewis Walking Trails to the public. Members from the Bonython and Lewis family, members, NFSA Council and the public attended the launch of two stunningly picturesque Walking Trails. Fantastic weather meant that all who attended had the opportunity to complete the trails and enjoy the exceptional views from the top of Mt Hiltaba.

A great part of my job is having the opportunity to get out in the field and be a part of good conservation work in beautiful places. Recently, DEWNR conducted surveys for Yellow-footed Rock Wallabies on properties adjacent to the Gawler Ranges National Park where they were once known to exist. I was able to join the survey for the Hiltaba component that involved walking over the hills where suitable habitat was likely searching for fresh evidence of Wallabies (sightings and scats) or historical evidence (skulls and skeletons). An assessment of habitat suitability was also conducted. The good news is that we found fresh Yellow-footed Wallaby scats in a new location not yet known to the Foundation or DEWNR. This is a really encouraging sign for the Hiltaba YFRW population demonstrating that they are potentially more widespread than first thought. It is hoped that with a continued focus on predator and goat control a sustained recovery of Yellow-footed Rock Wallaby at Hiltaba Nature Reserve can be achieved.

I am looking for fit volunteers to assist me with further Yellow-footed Rock Wallaby surveys at Hiltaba. There are many other areas that need checking to better understand the status of the population and future dispersal. If you are physically able to walk 15-20km over rugged hills for several days and would like to participate in future surveys contact me at alex.nankivell@nfsa.org.au. This activity would suit recent environmental science graduates.

Witchelina Nature Reserve



TOP: Working Bee participants
PHOTO BY: PATRICK MENTZEL

The 2015 Grand Working Bee was held at Witchelina 30 April – 3 May, with 44 enthusiastic volunteers turning the property into a hive of activity for the 4 day duration. The weather was pleasantly warm, mid 20's days provided the perfect climate for working in the South Australian outback.

Participants diligently completed a range of important jobs including removal of internal fencing (a bit over 2km), erection of just over 2km of new boundary fence, renovation of the old overseers cottage, walking trail development, photopoint monitoring and Jessup transects, rabbit control monitoring, rapid creekline assessment and rabbit warren mapping to name but a few.

On the Saturday night the Foundation invited our neighbours to join us for a BBQ with volunteers, staff and members of the NFSA Council. It was a night of good food and good yarns around a campfire. It also provided the opportunity for our neighbours to catch up with staff and the Council and hear about the work that we have been doing and planning to do in a social atmosphere.

On the last day, the working bee participants were taken on a tag along tour around the property where they were able to see and experience the fantastic landscape in more detail.

To all of the volunteers who participated in the Grand Witchelina Working Bee the Foundation would like to express a very big thank you for making the effort to head up to Witchelina. The work completed by all was astounding and represents a value of approximately \$40,000 to the Foundation.

Water For Nature

How often can you look on Google and say 'We did that'? Well Nature Foundation SA can.
PHOTO BY: Google Earth



IAN ATKINSON, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Water For Nature has just achieved a significant milestone – application of a giga-litre (1,000 ML) of environmental water this financial year. Considering we used less than 100ML just two years ago this represents dramatic growth in NFSA's effort. We are active at Johnson's Waterhole, Clark's Floodplain, Thiele's Flat, Loxton Riverfront Reserve, Rilli Reach, Ramco River Terrace, Cobdogla, South Teringie, Pikes Floodplain, and at Calperum Station north of Renmark we have been delivering environmental water to six more priority wetlands; Woolpolool Inlet, Thooke Thooke, Remy Lagoons, Hunchee Crossing, Wide Water and Argo Creek. That is 15 significant areas of wetland and floodplain from the Victorian border through to Lake Alexandrina receiving Commonwealth environmental water as a result of the partnerships established by Water For Nature.

In order to conduct watering projects on the ephemeral wetlands and floodplains in SA we have to use equipment to move the water to where it is needed. To that end NFSA is accumulating an impressive range of equipment for both wetland filling, and targeted sprinkler irrigation. In summary we now manage the following pumps;

Big Red 75kW 150mm medium pressure pump, Green n Gold 30kW 100mm high pressure pump, Little Red 30kW 150mm low pressure pump, Kirby 30kW 150mm low pressure pump, Mr T 7kW 80mm high pressure pump, Baby Red 7kW 100mm low pressure pump and Regent 7kW 80mm high pressure pump.

Water For Nature from space? Recently Google Maps updated many of the satellite photos of the Riverland in SA and as a result we can now see Water For Nature in action. The image above from Google Earth is part of Clarks Floodplain (near Loxton). All the green in the middle is a result of Water For Nature. You can see the major flood-runner going from bottom right hand side

to top left hand side. The green patches above that are due to sprinkler irrigation and the dark water in a sort of S shape is another creek we filled.

NFSA plans to continue our impressive efforts working with regional communities and groups to deliver even more environmental water next financial year. However to do so we require continued financial and in-kind support from our members and sponsors.

Commonwealth Basin Tour at WFN site 'Calperum Station'



Tour group pose with NFSA's Green n Gold pump. From left; Peter Cale (Manager Calperum Station, Australian Landscapes Trust), Neil Andrew (Chair MDBA), Tony Pasin (Federal Member for Barker), Bob Baldwin (Commonwealth Parliamentary Secretary), Bob Loff (President NFSA) and Peter Duggin (Chairman, Renmark Irrigation Trust).

A touring party including Bob Baldwin (Commonwealth Parliamentary Secretary for the Environment) and Neil Andrew (Chair - Murray Darling Basin Authority) visited the Calperum Station site earlier in the year.

Buffel Grass (*Cenchrus ciliaris*)
PHOTO BY: Phil Cole

Buffel Grass

ALEX NANKIVELL – CONSERVATION PROGRAMS MANAGER

Buffel Grass (*Cenchrus ciliaris* and *C. pennisetiformis*) has been identified as a major threat to biodiversity in South Australia and was listed as a declared weed under the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004* in January this year. It is considered a true ecosystem transformer species, out-competing all native understorey species. Buffel Grass invasion can also dramatically increase the frequency and intensity of fire negatively impacting on fire-sensitive plants.

Originally from Asia and Africa, Buffel Grass is a perennial tussock grass introduced for rangeland improvement (pasture and dust suppression). It has become widespread across northern Australia. In recent years, the grass has been extending further into the South Australian pastoral and agricultural zones. Declared weed status prescribes management obligations on landholders (depending on the NRM region), including prohibition on sale and movement on public roads in all regions, a requirement to destroy all plants in the agricultural zones and a requirement to control the plant in the pastoral zones.

The weed has not yet been recorded at Hiltaba Nature Reserve but has been located at Witchelina Nature Reserve where it favours creek lines and floodplains. These habitats contain the highest diversity and are of high conservation value.

The Foundation's Science Review committee has identified Buffel Grass as the highest priority for control. In order to protect important habitats from further invasion the Nature Foundation SA has been planning a property wide management program that has mobilised managers and volunteers to map all known infestations and begin control efforts.

It is imperative that we exercise good visitor management and hygiene practices to minimise the impact and spread of Buffel Grass at NFSA reserves. So if you are visiting Witchelina only use designated tracks, observe signage and avoid long grass and if you visit an area of Buffel Grass infestation please let our managers know so they can organise a vehicle wash-down.



Thank you!

Nature Foundation SA thanks the following for their support of our conservation work.

Major Supporter (donations of between \$5000 - \$9999)

Cooper Energy \$5,000
www.cooperenergy.com.au

Lipman Karas \$5,000
www.lipmankaras.com



Supporter (donations of between \$1000 - \$4999)

Saab Australia - \$3,000
www.saabgroup.com/en/Markets/Saab-Australia/



RESEARCH FUNDED BY NATURE FOUNDATION SA



RESEARCHER: Mr. Laurence Berry BSc (Hons) - Australian National University

RESEARCH PROJECT: Large unburnt areas, not small unburnt patches, are needed to conserve avian diversity in fire-prone landscapes

What was the aim and purpose of your project?

Land managers are looking to new ideas to conserve biodiversity within our fire-prone landscapes. One such approach encourages the retention of small unburnt islands of vegetation following fire, it is thought that these islands would provide essential resources for species vulnerable to the effects of fire, allowing them to persist within burnt landscapes. However, very little is currently understood about how these unburnt habitat islands within burnt areas contributes to their use as important refuges for fauna. We used a replicated observation study to test bird responses to the size and isolation of unburnt habitat

islands in a mallee woodland area burnt by a 28 000 ha wildfire in Pinkawillinie Conservation Park on the Eyre Peninsula.

Summarise the results of your project.

To maintain avian diversity in fire-prone landscapes, our results suggest a need to shift management focus from creating networks of small unburnt patches towards preserving large, intact areas of habitat. We found that most bird species occurred more frequently in large areas of unburnt habitat beyond the extent of the fire. Bird responses to the availability and spatial distribution of unburnt habitat islands within the fire were largely influenced by their ability to tolerate recently burnt habitat. Additionally, we found evidence that highly competitive birds may monopolize resources within small unburnt patches, limiting their ability to act as refuges for other bird species. For one species, we found that recolonization following fire was likely to occur gradually over time from areas outside of the fire. To facilitate bird conservation within Mallee woodland, we suggest that land managers should limit the extent of applied burns and use narrow burns where possible. When planning large burns, practitioners should consider that a number of species of high conservation value may remain absent from those areas for several decades.

What is the most exciting thing about this work?

"The most exciting part of this project was spending two months camping and living in a remote part of the SA bush. Developing a connection with the landscape and having the privilege to observe birds in close proximity has massively contributed to my development as an ecologist and to the success of the project."

ABOVE: Mallee woodland potentially more than 100 years after fire. Note the very large Spinifex ring, which has formed over a long period of time in the absence of fire.

RESEARCH FUNDED BY NATURE FOUNDATION SA

RESEARCHER: Fernando Diaz-Aguirre (Flinders University PhD candidate)

RESEARCH PROJECT: Social Dynamics and Genetic Structure of the Newly Described, Endemic Burrunan Dolphin (*Tursiops australis*) in Eyre Peninsula, South Australia.

What was the aim and purpose of your project?

The Burrunan dolphin (*Tursiops australis*) is a recently described species endemic to southern Australian waters. Very little is known about this dolphin's ecology, which motivated us to start a research project on their social organization with the aim of providing basic information needed for their conservation and management. Since 2013 we have been conducting boat-based surveys on dolphins inhabiting Coffin Bay, South Australia. We are using a photo-identification technique and biopsy sampling for subsequent sexing and relatedness analyses of individual animals to reveal their social organization.

Summarise the results of your project.

As of March 2015 we have carried out 97 boat-based surveys photo-identifying 495 groups of Burrunan dolphins and cataloguing 248 individual animals. One hundred and six *Tursiops australis* biopsy samples have been obtained so far, of these 84 are from photo-identified individuals.

Curious mother-calf Burrunan dolphins (*Tursiops australis*) swimming under the boat in Coffin Bay, SA.
PHOTO BY: Fernando Diaz-Aguirre



Most individuals (89.5%) were seen more than once, and a great proportion of those seem to be resident to Coffin Bay. Preliminary analyses of local social structure suggested the presence of at least four dolphin communities within Coffin Bay, which preferentially inhabit the four main bays (i.e., Kellidie Bay, Mt Dutton, Port Douglas, and Point Longnose-Outer area). These results showed a remarkable fine-scale social segregation of dolphins to different areas of Coffin Bay which has strong implications for their conservation management.

What is the most exciting thing about this work?

"Getting to know individual dolphins and starting to find out that they have preferred associates and areas where they like most to live"

Volunteer Profile

DR ANNE JENSEN

MEMBER, WATER FOR NATURE COMMITTEE AND
VOLUNTEER TECHNICAL ADVISOR ON WATER FOR NATURE PROJECTS



How and when did you become involved in NFSA?

In 2008 the then NFSA CEO Jim McHugh invited me to become involved with the new initiative Water For Nature, using my expertise in wetland repair. The invitation coincided with the completion of my PhD, which focused on understanding the most effective ways of applying environmental water for best ecological outcomes.

What do you enjoy most about volunteering at NFSA? / What is one of your most memorable experiences whilst volunteering?

Nothing beats the magic of seeing water returning to wetlands, creeping across dry cracked mud, or gushing from a pipe to fill a channel, or high-throw sprinklers imitating a downpour across a field of seedlings. The other magic ingredient is the enthusiasm of community members, landholders and irrigators when they see new plants, birds and frogs.

Why is the environment important to you?

We only have one planet and collectively our impacts on its health are not sustainable. I have worked on the River Murray through all of my careers, in government policy, in a conservation NGO doing wetland repair projects, as a researcher and as a consultant, and I have witnessed the gradual decline of the River ecosystem from reduced water availability. Finally, we have opportunities to return water to the environment, and it is a major challenge to work out how to do that.

What do you think is the key message about valuing the world we live in?

Without the environment, there is no economy, and our governance needs to reflect this key fact, giving appropriate protection and funding to the resources that support Australia's quality of life.

Everyone can make a difference. Every successful watering project by Water For Nature is attracting local interest and contributions, like ripples in a pool.

Any other comments

If Water For Nature can achieve its goal of creating 'green assets', with social and economic benefits as well as environmental benefits, this will be a very significant contribution to a healthier planet.

VOLUNTEERS FOR NATURE

Nature Foundation SA just couldn't do what it does without volunteers - they are the very heart and soul of this organisation. We welcome all volunteer support, including those who are able to volunteer their specialist skills such as Dr Anne Jensen (profile above) to support our operations.

The Foundation is very keen to seek volunteer assistance with **Fundraising and Grant Writing** in particular at the moment, so if you have skills in these areas (or any other areas that relate to our operations) and you are interested in volunteering then contact us at 8340 2880 or email admin@nfsa.org.au.

How to leave a gift in your will



NIC EDWARDS – NFSA HONORARY TREASURER

The only way you can be sure your wishes will be followed after you die is by making a will. Making a will also means your loved ones know your wishes and provides clarity and certainty during a time of grief.

If you don't make a will, part or all of your estate may end up going to people you never intended to benefit because the law will dictate how your estate is distributed. If you have no next of kin and no will, your estate will pass to the Crown. If you do have relatives, they may disagree about what should happen with your estate. Your will should clearly explain your wishes and will help ensure they are carried out.

If you manage a discretionary trust, have a self-managed-superannuation-fund, own a personal company, have overseas assets or where there exist two or more family units (eg from multiple marriages or relationships), then a simple will may not be appropriate to your needs and you should seek professional legal advice on your estate.

In preparing your will, you must make important decisions such as:

Provision for loved ones

Most people wish to provide first for their loved ones. For example, you may include your children and perhaps nieces, nephews and close friends. You may even provide for your pets. You'll need to think about who is to receive what and how. Gifts can be anything you own including specific items, money, property or a percentage of your estate.

If you have children under the age of 18 you'll need to decide who you would like to take care of them if you die before they reach the age of consent.

Who will manage your affairs?

The people who manage your affairs after you've passed are called executors. They can be professionals, friends, family members or any combination of these. It's usual for two people to share the task of executing your will.

What funeral arrangements would you prefer?

Your will also offers the opportunity to say what you'd like to happen at your funeral. For example, do you wish to be buried or cremated? This can greatly help your loved ones during their time of grief.

Leaving a gift to charity

You may choose to include in your will a charity, such as the Nature Foundation SA. Your gift, regardless of the size, will be gratefully received.

Leaving a gift in your will is a great way to support the vital work of charities. Perhaps you've supported a favourite charity all your life and would like to continue that support after you've gone. Charities, such as the Nature Foundation SA, play a vital role in meeting the needs that governments and society sometimes overlook and they depend on financial support from donors to continue their work.

Different types of gifts/bequests

There are four main types of gifts you can leave in your will, including those you may leave to charity.

1. Residual

This is the remainder of your estate after first leaving gifts to your loved ones.

2. Percentage or fractional

This is a gift expressed as a percentage or fraction of your estate. Dividing your estate by percentage or fractions gives longevity to your will because the gifts aren't influenced by inflation or changes in the value or make-up of your estate.

3. Pecuniary or Specific:

This is a specified gift which can be money, property or stocks and shares.

4. Whole estate:

This comprises your entire estate and is usually left by those without family or other preferred beneficiaries, or those wanting to achieve something very significant with their gift.

Generally, gifts of property, stocks and shares left to charities under your will are exempt from capital gains tax.

If you wish to make a gift to the Nature Foundation SA, please contact your legal advisor and ask them to arrange.

Estate Gifting Information Session - Wednesday 26 August 5pm

Venue: Nature Foundation SA boardroom –
32 Holden Street, Hindmarsh
Presenter: Nic Edwards practising lawyer,
chartered accountant and
Principal of ND Edwards & Co and
NFSA Honorary Treasurer.

Registration essential

please ph: 8340 2880 or email admin@nfsa.org.au



Treasure Hunt for Nature



Sunday
16 Aug
2015

Treasure Hunt For Nature – Nature Foundation SA & SA Power Networks Sunday 16th August

NFSA's inaugural **Treasure Hunt for Nature** will start/finish at Elder Park and take in the River Torrens and North Tce precinct. There are three different courses to choose from; Nature Friendly (Family Friendly), Nature Challenging and Nature Geocaching.

Every participant goes into the draw for prizes and family friendly attractions at Elder Park include Nylon Zoo, Jumping Castle and Face Painting.

We thank all of our event sponsors - refer www.naturefoundation.org.au/help-nature/treasure-hunt-for-nature/

Treasure Hunt for Nature Official Ambassador is celebrity and media personality and Adelaide City Council Active Ambassador **Keith Conlon.**



Join the Treasure Hunt to find the natural and cultural treasures of the City of Adelaide.

- Keith Conlon.



NATURE FOUNDATION SA EVENTS CALENDAR

Special General Meeting/ Nature Roundup

Thursday 18 June, 5pm

Para Woodlands Tree Planting

Friday 19th - Saturday 20th June

Kangaroo Island Planting Festival

Friday 3th - Sunday 5th July

Treasure Hunt For Nature

Sunday 16th August

Estate Gifting Information Session

Wednesday 26 August

Tiliqua Lizard Crawl

Sunday 6th September

Annual General Meeting

Thursday 22nd October

NFSA Christmas Dinner - Adelaide Oval Cathedral Room

Saturday 28th November

*Please note that some dates may be subject to change.

For further information and bookings please contact:

Nature Foundation SA office
on 8340 2880.

Special General Meeting/ Nature Roundup Thursday 18 June, 5pm

5pm Overview of NFSA activities, 6pm Special General Meeting (financial members can vote) followed by presentations from research fund recipients and supper.

Please RSVP to naturefoundationsa@nfsa.org.au or Ph 8340 2880

SAVE OUR NATIVE ANIMALS LOTTERY

Nature Foundation SA's cash lottery has an amended close date of Friday 11 December and amended draw date of Wednesday 16 December (from 17 June 2015).

Proceeds from the lottery will support NFSA conservation activities. Top Prize \$25,000 Tickets \$50 each or 3 for \$125

To purchase a ticket call: 08 8448 5660
www.naturefoundation.org.au/help-nature/lottery/



Patron & Donor Liaison

Patron

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Dr David Hansman
Dr Rob Morrison OAM
Chris Reed
Dr Bob Sharrad AM
Greg Toop
Suzanne Ridding
Millie Nicholls
Ian Atkinson
Alex Nankivell
Dr Greg Johnston
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