

ReLeaf

Trees For Life
Summer 2008
Number 109

TFL achievements
highlighted at AGM

\$34,000 in cash, prizes up
for grabs in lottery

Growing season starts for
volunteers

Community group connects
with Australian bush



Trees For Life

Still waiting for global action

"Hurt not the earth nor the sea nor the trees"
- Revelation 7:3

River reds planted in the Sahara with the help of some oil industry by-product as a binding agent! Sounds just a bit wacky? Well imagine how radical it would have been in the 1970s. Yet this was one of the early responses to the deforestation of our planet by the man hailed as the inspirational talisman of our organisation.

I recently had the pleasure of listening to a radio broadcast recorded in 1980 at the University of Western Australia by Dr Richard St Barbe Baker. Now digitalised and in the Trees For Life archives, it is a stunning insight into the mind and philosophy of someone who could legitimately be called a prophet in his own lifetime. With the benefit of nearly 30 years hindsight I'm not sure that all of his ideas or solutions still withstand scrutiny. Nevertheless his underlying message about the need to maintain at least one third of the earth's natural cover if the planet is to remain sustainable seems at last to have achieved universal acceptance. More significantly Richard signalled the need for a global response involving nations and governments of all types and political persuasions. We are still waiting.

In 1980 he used the term State of Emergency and called upon the federal and state governments to introduce revegetation programs and to make efforts to create corridors and link national parks to optimise the declining areas of remnant vegetation. We are still waiting. In September 1981 St Barbe Baker literally climbed from his sick bed to address the best part of 1000 people at a public meeting in Adelaide and encouraged them to join the recently formed branch of Men of the Trees. Some 200 new recruits turned up for the next branch meeting and the rest is history. From small beginnings great things grow and it seems to me that if you really want something to happen, put your trust in ordinary folk and don't wait for governments to act.

Speaking of our early beginnings, I heard recently from Lolo Houbein, with partner Burr Dodd a founder of the organisation. Active as ever, Lolo has had another book published by Wakefield Press. It's entitled *One Magic Square* and features food plot designs for all seasons in temperate climates. Ensuring as always that her tread upon the earth is light, Lolo explores how you can start your own productive food garden on a single square metre. Seek her book out in your local bookshop or public library and I'm sure you'll find it worthwhile.

It's always great to hear from our pioneering members. In the winter edition of *ReLeaf* Carmel Dundon called for memories from members with low membership numbers. Those who only have three or even four digit numbers compared to my five always impress me! We are already looking towards our 30th birthday and exploring meaningful ways of commemorating the event. Your comments and suggestions are always welcome. Incidentally I wonder how those river red gums are faring in the Sahara?

That's about it for 2008. On behalf of all at TFL thanks for your support throughout a challenging year and best wishes for the Christmas season and beyond. I have no doubt that 2009 will be tough but don't forget that you are part of a great family and that together we truly can achieve anything. At least we don't intend to die wondering.

- David Mitchell

(Ed's note: If you were at Richard St Barbe Baker's talk in 1981 or at the first meeting which followed, we'd love to hear your story.)

Thank you for help and support in 2008

By Carmel Dundon, CEO

To our volunteers, members, supporters and staff who were unable to join us for the annual TFL Christmas Party held at May Tee on November 26, I would like to extend sincere thanks to each of you for your personal contribution to the work of Trees For Life.

Together we have now grown over 27.5 million native trees and shrubs as tubestock and direct seeded 3270 kms of cleared land to rehabilitate country SA and have 4000 ha of remnant bushland under management to conserve biodiversity and increase the resilience of our native flora and fauna.

Whether your contribution has been through time volunteered, funds donated or support given you have actively contributed to this extraordinary effort.

I look forward to your continued interest and support and wish you a safe and enjoyable holiday season.

Office closure over Christmas

The Trees For Life office and Betty Westwood Nursery in Brooklyn Park will be closed for the Christmas period from 12 noon Wednesday, December 24, reopening Monday, January 5. Management and staff of TFL wish all members and volunteers a safe and happy Christmas and New Year. We look forward to your company in 2009.



Green ReLeaf

ReLeaf's format is made possible through the generous sponsorship of Fusion and Finsbury Green Printing.

ReLeaf is printed on 100% post-consumer recycled paper and printed with 100% vegetable-based inks, ensuring the 'greenest' possible publication. The sponsorship has also enabled major savings in printing costs and postage, enabling the product to be designed at no extra cost.

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Achievements highlighted at AGM

Around 40 members attended ATFL's 2008 AGM in October to receive the annual report and to meet fellow members, staff and Board.

The new Board was elected unopposed and comprises David Mitchell (President), Mary-Anne Healy (Vice President), David Bradley (Treasurer), Megan Harper (Secretary), David Grybowski, Warren Hilton and Jonathan Lambert.

In his report the President acknowledged the significant contribution made by retiring member Don Clifton who played a major role in the acquisition of the new Brooklyn Park premises and the Carbon Neutral initiative.

A list of the organisation's achievements were tabled and can be found on our website. They include:

- Tree Scheme – total seedlings grown 914,400
- Direct Seeding – 488kms sown (195ha); approximate number of plants 156,160
- Seedbank seed processing volunteer hours 1250
- Bush For Life – 4047ha under BFL management; 334 BFL sites; 685 BFL volunteers; 26,030 volunteer hours on sites
- 4094 Bush Action Team volunteer hours; 269 Bush Management Days volunteer hours
- Carbon Neutral – 8900 tonnes CO2 offset
- 4760 tubestock planted by volunteer planting teams

Post script: At the November meeting of the Board, member Michael Cain was appointed to fill the vacancy left by Don Clifton.

Good news comes in threes

Trees For Life is thrilled to announce the receipt of three important grants from various sectors, ensuring the development of some vital future projects.

Foster's Community Grant

The Foster's Community Grants program has chosen to support the Tree Scheme's 'Growing SA's Future' project, enabling TFL to provide better support to both new and more experienced growers.

The \$40,000 grant means TFL can offer significantly more propagation workshops and for the first time we will be able to undertake some home visits to growers experiencing difficulties with germination.

Our help hotline will operate both ways, with staff receiving calls from growers needing advice and also making calls to new growers to see how they are going.

In presenting the cheque to President David Mitchell at the AGM, Foster's Director Wine Production Australia & New Zealand, Stuart McNab, said the Volunteer Growers Support Project was one of only a handful nationally to be selected from a field of more than 400 applicants.

TFL's Grant Coordinator Simon Kalucy said the project would have educational, capacity building and long term ecological benefits including:

- A radically improved training program that would support volunteers more effectively and be used as a model for future years
- A program orientated towards developing better relationships with Tree Scheme volunteers to ensure their participation in future years and increasing our pool of growers
- Production by volunteers of better quality seedlings, which will have a better chance of survival once planted by landholders



Foster's Director, Wine Production Australia & New Zealand, Stuart McNab, right, presents the community grant cheque worth \$40,000 to TFL President David Mitchell.

Australian Ethical

Trees For Life is also the happy and very appreciative recipient of a small Australian Ethical grant which will be used to purchase a second set of BAT equipment so that two teams can be in the field at any one time. Australian Ethical donates 10% of its profit to community groups each year. This year a total of \$200,891 was allocated to 25 social and conservation projects including ours.

Trust Company Limited

Our marketing and youth participation initiatives will also benefit from the generous support of Trust Company Limited, which has approved a grant of \$18,000.

The funding will enable TFL to update its marketing material, with greater focus on our younger demographic, as well as offer more opportunities for younger people in office-based and field-based volunteer activities.

Do you need help with planting?

The Fleurieu Trees For Life Volunteer Tree Planting Team works on sites on the Fleurieu Peninsula, from the South Eastern Freeway to Cape Jervis and Callington to Yankalilla.

If your planting site is in this area then we may be able to help you.

Contact Bunti Pellen, Planting Coordinator, from January 2009 to organise a time. The team plants from May to September. It is essential to book early as in previous years it has been extremely popular and places are limited.

Phone Bunti on 8387 4652 or 0429 016 335 or email buntipellen@optusnet.com.au (please don't call after 7pm Sunday–Thursday).

Bunti coordinates this program on a voluntary basis. Our thanks go to her for this valuable initiative.

Queen's honour richly deserved

It's a belated but heartfelt congratulations TFL sends to one its staunchest supporters, Penny Paton, who received the Member of the Order of Australia in this year's Queen's Birthday Honours.

She received the honour for her contribution to conservation and the environment through the management of natural resources and ecosystems, and as a contributor to environmental and ornithological research projects.

Penny, who is on TFL's Technical Advisory Panel, is well known within federal and state environmental circles through her membership of several boards and committees including The Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board, National Parks and Wildlife Council and its Wildlife Advisory Committee (DEH), Urban Forest Biodiversity Program Steering Group and the Mt Lofty Ranges INRM Group.

Penny is also an active member of TFL, as a bushcarer on BFL sites and a volunteer grower.

In what was a family affair, her husband Dr David Paton also received a Member of the Order of Australia for his service to conservation and the environment through research into the ecology and behaviour of Australian birds, to the management and restoration of the natural environment, and to education.

BFL receives Australia Post grant

An Australia Post-Landcare Community Development Grant has enabled the Bush For Life program to buy extra equipment.

The \$3300 was awarded to TFL earlier this year and went towards buying 15 new drills to carry out the bushland management technique 'drilling and filling', used to target woody weeds such as olives, pines, ash and boneseed.

BFL's Bush Action Team Coordinator Garry Forrest said the 'drilling and filling' technique killed the weed, but left the dead tree in place, providing habitat, and minimising disruption to the site due to soil disturbance.

"The purchase of extra drills has allowed Bush For Life – TFL's conservation program – to supply more equipment to volunteers and preserve more of our precious native species," Garry said.

Backyards for Wildlife begins

A new environmental initiative has been established through the Million Trees Program, promoting greater use of local native plants in Adelaide's gardens.

Backyards for Wildlife was recently launched by the new Environment Minister, the Hon. Jay Weatherill, with the announcement of a new website and information resources.

The website includes useful information on Adelaide's biodiversity, environmentally friendly gardening resources, and even a local native plant database.

The database has been set up to provide a list of the plants suitable to each suburb area of Adelaide – allowing simplified plant selection using local native provenance principles.

You can check out the new website at www.backyards4wildlife.com.au.



Growing a great future is the goal of the State Government's SA Urban Forests Million Trees Program, which is dedicated to planting three million local native trees and associated understorey across metropolitan Adelaide by 2014.

The Million Trees Program has had another busy year in 2008, with 57 sites across the Adelaide metropolitan area being planted with over 250,000 local native seedlings and the program celebrating the cumulative total of over 1.5 million plants since it was established in 2003.

Sites in 2008 included 19 targeted projects, 19 community projects and 19 school projects, ranging from large scale habitat restoration to smaller amenity and display gardens.

Major targeted projects this year saw continued work on long term projects such as the Gawler Buffer green belt, Mangroves to Mallee, Edinburgh Corridor, O'Halloran Hill and Onkaparinga National Park, while planting also began on some new projects including Craighburn Farm, Maslins Beach and the Hart Road Wetland near Aldinga Beach.

Restoring Craighburn Farm

According to Project Delivery Coordinator Chris Gibson, helping to restore some of the native vegetation on Craighburn Farm so it can be added to the Sturt Gorge Recreation Park is a really exciting new project.

"Craighburn Farm is 180 hectares, which will equate to a 70% increase for the reserve," he said. "An increase of this size is of great significance for Adelaide's biodiversity and is a rare event."

The parcel of land, containing patches of Grey Box (*Eucalyptus microcarpa*) woodland with an abundance of Sheoak (*Allocasuarina verticillata*) and SA Blue Gum (*Eucalyptus leucoxylon*)

was once part of Minda Farm at Blackwood.

It connects and buffers the Sturt Gorge Recreation Park which contains some of the largest and intact remnant communities of Grey Box woodland in the Adelaide region.

The project intends to restore the landscape through the control of woody weeds, revegetation with local native species and native grassland management.

Thanks to volunteers

The Million Trees Program would like to thank all of the volunteers who supported it this year by growing plants, attending planting days or spreading the word.

Plants grown by Trees For Life volunteers supported projects at Mt Bold, Gawler, Darlington and Onkaparinga River National Park and were of a very high standard, which always ensures the projects get a strong start.

If you would like to find out more about the Program, please visit our newly revised website at www.milliontrees.com.au or contact the office on 8278 0600.



Government of South Australia

Andrew wins 2008 weed award

Bush For Life's Operations Manager (North), Andrew Allanson, has won the inaugural SA Weed Management Society's Award for Outstanding Contribution to Weed Management in South Australia.

The announcement was made during the first SA Weeds Conference, held in October.

To be eligible for the award, nominees "must have made a significant contribution to the science, technology and/or practice of weed management in the fields of research, teaching, administration, extension and/or implementation of weed control programs".

As the founder of Trees For Life's Bush For Life program, Andrew was an obvious choice for nomination according to BFL manager Mark Ellis.

"Andrew has been instrumental in the inception and development of the Bush For Life program, SA's foremost community based program that involves volunteers in minimal disturbance environmental weed control in remnant native vegetation," he said. Congratulations Andrew.



Andrew Allanson, with the inaugural Weed Management of SA award.

Students use GPS for property plan

A group of Immanuel College students recently used GPS mapping technology to help develop a property plan for Trees For Life members Michael and Deb Cain.

The Cains own a former dairy farming property between Meadows and Prospect Hill and last season ordered 500 seedlings for the property. The seedlings were grown by Kangarilla resident and Immanuel College teacher Rob Ruediger.

Michael said when they picked up their "very healthy trees" from Rob, he asked if they would like any help planting them.

"We said yes to his idea of having his students come and help, while at the same time incorporating environmental lessons," Michael said.

About 20 students from the Year 8 Studies of Society & Environment (SOSE) elective class travelled to the Cain's property and got a first-hand look at what damage had been caused to the land because of previous farming. Michael said it was also a great opportunity to talk to the students and discuss its rehabilitation and the trees' use as windbreaks and for erosion control.

As well as the planting side of the activity, Rob said each tree was mapped by GPS technology and imported into Google Earth on their return to school.

The data they collected was then being used by students to construct a property plan for planting future seedlings and monitoring the progress of this year's efforts.

Michael said it was a great initiative "and if we could get other schools to do the same thing across SA, just think how many trees we would get planted!"



The Right Hon. Eucalyptus camaldulensis, painted by renowned South Australian artist Garry Duncan, is second prize in this year's TFL lottery. The landscape painting is valued at \$15,000.

Cash, painting top prizes in annual lottery

Prizes worth an estimated \$34,500 – including \$10,000 cash and a landscape painting valued at \$15,000 by renowned South Australian artist Garry Duncan – are the main prizes in Trees For Life's annual lottery.

The lottery is our organisation's main fundraiser each year and last year helped raise \$97,138 to support TFL's environmental programs.

We are hopeful this year's lottery will be as successful, and thank all businesses and individuals involved in donating 26 of the prizes available.

Overall, there are 27 excellent prizes, including the first prize of \$10,000 cash. Second prize is the magnificent landscape painting, pictured above, by Garry Duncan.

Other prizes include: B&B for 8 people at Penny's Hill and a dozen bottles of Woop Woop wine; \$1000 gift voucher from The Global Village; 5000 litre water tank from Team Poly and accommodation at Cape Cassini Wilderness Retreat for a family of four; \$500 gift voucher and annual subscription to New Internationalist; Working with Wildlife tour at Monarto Zoological Park, tickets to the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra Masters Series, wine, dinner vouchers and more.

A big thank you also to ACER, which has donated a PC as the top ticket seller's prize. Tickets are just \$2 and can be bought from most TFL members or the TFL office in Brooklyn Park. If you would like to sell some tickets, or want to purchase tickets, phone us on 8406 0500. The lottery will be drawn on February 5, 2009.

Garry Duncan

Garry Duncan is an advocate for trees in every sense. He has depicted their magic and majesty (as a renowned artist for over 30 years), and captured the ever changing and increasingly stressed landscape. He is a conservationist who continues to revegetate his own River Murray property along with protecting his 1600 acre heritage listed mallee property, *Big Scrub*.

Now once again he is making another major contribution through his donation to the Trees For Life Lottery. Garry has created the painting for the lottery, *The Right Hon. Eucalyptus camaldulensis*, which celebrates the strength of the natural landscape even in the dry times.

"I encourage all of the Trees For Life members to get behind the lottery. Every step we take is a step towards a healthier environment," Garry said.

"I welcome you to have a look at my new web site."

To see more go to www.garryduncanlimited.com.au.

'D' days very successful

November 15 and 16 was distribution weekend for most regions and once again, it was heartening to see the enthusiasm from those within our volunteer workforce – both growers and depot helpers.

Our new Tree Scheme Volunteer Grower Coordinator Corey Jackson visited several depots throughout the weekend, meeting depot managers and volunteers and offering advice to growers.

One family, Mark Shelvin and his daughter Sian-Lee, were collecting materials from the Mitcham depot for 11-year-old Jaya Shelvin. Jaya is a first-time grower with TFL and despite her age, has her sights firmly set on going to Urrbrae Agriculture High School. She found out about TFL through the internet and thinks her environmental experience might help her in future years. While they were collecting Jaya's materials, Mark, Sian-Lee and friend Abbey got

a lesson in filling tubes from depot volunteer Paul Schmerl, so they could help Jaya.

Another couple, Ian and Janis Richardson, have been volunteer growers for 19 years and grow 10 boxes annually. They also grow five backup boxes for themselves in case some seedlings aren't successful. Ian has recently retired and says he's looking forward to having more spare time to get involved with TFL.

As well as the distribution days, the boxing up days are also hard work for our many valued depot volunteers.

In a special note from Woodville depot Manager Lee-Ann Palm, she said with extra hands on deck, their boxing up was completed in an hour – compared to the usual three hours.

"It just goes to show how a few extra hands make a mighty task light work," Lee-Ann said.

Thank-you to all those who helped ensure the distribution and boxing up days went smoothly and to those of you who are growing for us this year, good luck!



TFL Volunteer Grower Coordinator Corey Jackson, top left, with Green Corps members Michael Tomlinson, Natasha Penney, Adam Shemaikka and Matthew Endacott (Green Corps Team Leader); bottom from left: Chris Dart, Matthew Corby, Scott Ward and Liam Whennan.

Green Corps teams lend helping hand

The beginning of the active Tree Scheme season starts with 'boxing up' days.

This is a big task, with TFL volunteers from all around the state helping by boxing up potting mix at their local depot. These volunteers also help put together the propagation kits which are handed out on distribution day.

Those propagation kits will this year go to 696 landholders who are growing their own seedlings, and the 1023 growers assigned to grow for landholders or projects.

As well as numerous volunteers, TFL was recently lucky enough to receive a helping hand from Mission Australia Green Corp teams, which undertook boxing up days at the Betty Westwood Nursery in Brooklyn Park and the Christies Beach depot.

Green Corp team leaders Matthew Endacott and Dana Miles oversaw the work.

Green Corps is an Australian Government initiative for young people aged between 17 and 20 years. The program provides youth development and environmental training opportunities by encouraging participants to use their time and effort in the conservation of

Australia's natural environment and cultural heritage.

Trees For Life has welcomed the opportunity to partner with a new generation of environmentally minded young adults and hopes that the Green Corps program will encourage them to become TFL volunteers.

Scott Creek & Southern Ranges Biodiversity Protection Program team member Natasha Penney, who is currently participating in the last month of her Green Corps contract, said she is interested in working in the environmental field after she has finished travelling next year. Liam Whennan, also from the same team, is now setting his sights on becoming a mentor or team leader.

Trees For Life would like to thank the Green Corp teams for their hard work and looks forward to future partnerships with Mission Australia.



Mark and Sian-Lee Shelvin, with friend Abbey, are shown how to fill tubes by Mitcham depot volunteer Paul Schmerl.



Ian and Janis Richardson have been volunteer growers for 19 years.

Family brought up with TFL philosophy

By Dorothy and Trevor Rowe

I cannot quite remember which year we joined TFL but our first windbreak was planted with seedlings which we obtained from The Men of the Trees.

Back in the early 1950s our scrub block at Stewarts Range, west of Naracoorte, was being cleared and developed. The area of almost 1800 acres consisted of flat country covered with low growing heath and tea-tree, rising to range country where the scrub consisted of large timber – eucalypts (*leucosydon*, *fasciculosa*, *viminalis* and stringy barks) and a variety of under-storey eg. acacias, banksias, callistemon, casuarinas, grevilleas, hakeas, leptospermums, melaleucas, yaccas, calytrix, correas, kennedias, tetraheca etc.

During the clearing of the range we made sure that the contractors weaved their way through the scrub so that many individual trees and groups of trees were left to provide shade and shelter for the stock which would eventually inhabit the paddocks.

When we estimated that approximately 600 acres of scrub was still standing, we stopped clearing altogether because we so enjoyed the pleasure of having hikes and picnics among the trees that we wanted to preserve this large area (about one-third of the farm). We often saw kangaroos and sometimes echidnas, the birdlife was prolific – everything from blue wrens and honey-eaters to wedge-tailed eagles.

Since that time this has come under a Heritage Agreement, so it will be there forever.

A year or so after the first shelter belt was established on the western side of the cattle yards, we obtained another batch of TFL seedlings to plant in the middle of one of the flat paddocks, so that the stock could shelter from cold



Dorothy and Trevor established effective windbreaks along many of the paddocks on their Stewarts Range property.

winds from all four directions.

Soon after that we began to collect seed from the vegetation in the scrub and by means of direct seeding, have finished up with very effective windbreaks along many of the paddocks.

Although we became independent from TFL in this way, we maintained our membership because we agree so wholeheartedly with the philosophy, and admire what is still being done.

Our children, having also acquired the interest in planting trees, still continue to do so.

Our daughter Jill and her husband have been growing seedlings for TFL in their backyard at Coromandel Valley. Our other daughter Susan and her husband have filled their five-acre block, just out of Naracoorte, with trees that they have ordered from you.

Our two sons have a grazing property each in South-West Victoria, where they have planted thousands of trees and shrubs along their creeks and fence lines.

We now live on two-and-a-half acres where the previous owners had filled it up with (you've guessed it) native trees and shrubs from TFL.

** Dorothy and Trevor's letter is just one of several we have received from original TFL members in preparation for our 30th anniversary. We welcome all contributions!*

Growers receive SA Water permits

SA Water has issued exemption permits to all eligible TFL growers.

The approval means our dedicated volunteer growers will be able to water their seedlings at any time with a hand held hose fitted with a nozzle trigger.

Tree Scheme Manager Maureen Redfern said it was an excellent situation for our growers, and TFL is extremely grateful to SA Water.

Despite continuation of the unprecedented water shortage in the state, SA Water is committed to providing a sustainable and secure water supply for the community and minimising the impact on the environment.



TFL's new Volunteer Grower Coordinator Corey Jackson.

Corey new coordinator

Corey Jackson recently started working for Trees For Life as the Volunteer Grower Coordinator within the Tree Scheme.

Corey will be helping the 1023 volunteers who will be growing for landholders and TFL projects, and the 696 landholders growing for their own properties this season.

The new role of Volunteer Grower Coordinator will be a challenging and rewarding one, helping volunteers grow more than one million trees this year.

Corey has years of experience in the environmental and horticultural industries, working with a range of organisations, government departments, community groups and volunteers.

In his spare time he is a keen surfer and he has linked this with his interest in the environment through the Surfrider Foundation - a not for profit environmental organisation.

Last year Corey received a 'Coastal Hero' award from the AMLR NRM Board for his environmental efforts with the Surfrider Foundation and the Friends of Moana Sands Conservation Park.

Corey works in the TFL office and nursery full time and is available to help volunteer growers with support and advice on producing top quality seedlings for revegetation projects and landholders this growing season.

Acacia find excites carers

Bushcarer Sue Rodwell recently sent TFL some images of *Acacia gunnii*, which she and fellow carer Lyn Wegener found on their site at Mt Barker Road, Bridgewater.

Commonly known as the Ploughshare Wattle, this particular acacia is quite hard to discern among other plants, according to Sue. However since taking the original photographs (as shown below), they have found another *Acacia gunnii* in a different part of the site.

“We are so privileged to have rare plants on our site,” Sue said.

“I did manage to get some seeds from the plant to germinate a few years ago (they produced the tiniest pods imaginable) but they did not thrive when planted back. It’s probably better to let them reproduce by themselves and just keep any weeds away from them.”

Sue and Lyn have been caring for their Bridgewater site since 1996, removing “tonnes of woody weeds, bulbs, non-local wattles and grasses”. More than 70 indigenous plants, including many orchids, have also been identified on the site.



Islamic group connects with Australian bush

By Sunita Miranda Ramchandani*

When members of the ‘AYN Academy began looking for environmental volunteer opportunities, they found it difficult to identify an organisation with a longer-term vision.

That was until they found Trees For Life’s Bush For Life program.

Sumeja Skaka, director of the academy, remembers their discussion with Mark and Samantha from the Bush For Life program, and the instant feeling of relief to have found exactly what they had been looking for.

The ‘AYN Academy is an Islamic community group, which believes that in order for knowledge to become beneficial, it must be put into action - thus their desire to become involved in on-ground environmental works.

Members of the group have adopted a Bush For Life site at Bridgewater Reserve and volunteer two hours each month working alongside Angela Cullen, a BFL Regional Coordinator, treating environmental weeds that threaten native species.

The group admits to initially finding it challenging to identify weeds.

But now they can spot the notorious bulbil watsonia from a distance and realise at once that it simply doesn’t belong.

Sumeja commends the simple yet very significant message that BFL operates in its conservation work, to tackle isolated weeds first to preserve areas of good bush.

The team has chosen not to use herbicide and therefore their work is purely physical, which translates into good exercise.

“Through BFL, it is wonderful to have been allocated a site to look after,” Sumeja said.



Members of the ‘Ayn Academy at their Bridgewater Reserve site.



“This enables all of us to connect better with our patch of land and feel like we are indeed doing our bit for environmental conservation. The sense of achievement we get when we see an entire area weed-free can only be described as heartfelt joy.”

Sumeja said the collaborative effort had offered a deeper meaning to the group.

“Muslim women in Australia often feel alienated, but through our work at the site, we have discovered a feeling of belonging to the land.”

The group’s BFL Regional Coordinator, Angela Cullen, has been very impressed by the team’s dedication and enthusiasm.

“Most of the members are immigrants who don’t know too much about the Australian bush, and that, in fact, is great because it has made the group all the more keen to learn about native plants,” she said.

Angela recalls the morning when the team was first introduced to the Bridgewater Reserve, situated within a stringy bark forest.

“A large flock of black cockies perched on a tree right beside us, and the whole group was excited to see them. Many had never seen a black cockie before – and that made it an amazing

moment – quite like a sign!”

The Bush For Life program is open to all community groups interested in actively helping to preserve our fragile native environment. BFL workshops run for one day at various locations around South Australia. Please contact Samantha Buxton on 8406 0500 for more details about volunteering.

** Sunita is a TFL volunteer, who has supported our marketing team this year.*

‘The Bushcarer’ is out now

The BFL team is proud to announce the first edition of *The Bushcarer* newsletter is now available.

While our *ReLeaf* pages are more newsy for the general membership *The Bushcarer* contains technical articles to help bushcarers better manage their bushland and is sent to all current bushcarers in spring and autumn each year.

Any bushcarers who did not receive a copy in the mail can access the newsletter from the Trees For Life website or by calling the Bush For Life Support Officer Sam on 8406 0542.

Passion drives Generation Y rarity

A genuine concern about our environment has continued to grow throughout the wider community since issues such as climate change and limited water resources have come to the fore. But the 'hands-on' sector - the people who actually give their time to helping restore and conserve our environment - is still disappointingly small, especially within the younger age groups. One of our members, 25-year-old Darren Longbottom, of Happy Valley, is a Gen Y rarity in setting a great example to others through his involvement in the environment - and hopes more people his age will start taking an interest.

How long have you been involved with Trees For Life?

Since 2005. I started as a volunteer grower before moving onto Bush For Life after completing several workshops with Trees For Life. These included BFL and Plant ID workshops. I now also help (Regional Coordinators) Tom Bradley and Leanne Lawrence manage roadside marker system vegetation throughout the City of Onkaparinga.

What prompted you to take an interest in Australian bushland - then progress to Bush For Life?

Growing up I was always outdoors and lived in an area where there was remnant vegetation close by, so at any given chance I would be amongst it catching critters and so on. Today my love for the environment continues and with this comes a lot of enjoyment whether it be walking, taking photographs or just watching wildlife. As I am passionate about conserving Australia's natural environment, Bush

For Life seemed like, and is an excellent opportunity, to contribute positively back to the bush, an area where I personally gain so much satisfaction and enjoyment.

Tell us about your bush site

I took on my first Bush For Life site during 2006 and it is located at Hope Forest, between Meadows and Willunga. The site is predominantly Stringy Bark forest with a creek flowing through the centre so there is also several large River Red Gums along the creek line. Spring time would definitely be my favourite time of year up there as several orchid species begin to flower. The main species on the site are Montpellier broom and Watsonia. I currently work on the site alone and occasionally my girlfriend and family may lend a hand if I ask nicely enough. I spend about six hours a month at the site and I enjoy being at the site as it is extremely peaceful - several echidnas and kangaroos also call it home, so it is great to stumble across their path occasionally. I also find it extremely rewarding when I begin to see results from the work I've put in.

What do your friends think of you having your own bush site?

Many of my friends, while they may not share the same passion for the environment, do appreciate the fact that I have my own Bush For Life site and they have been known to help out on the odd occasion. If any of my friends are reading this they are more than welcome to help me out any time they like!

What are your other interests?

Besides volunteering with Trees For Life, I am currently in my last year of study at Flinders University. I study a Bachelor of Environmental Management and Trees For Life has provided the opportunity to gain valuable hands on experience to complement my study. I also volunteer with the Surf Rider Foundation as surfing is another passion of



BFL volunteer and bushcarer, Darren Longbottom (inset) and his bush site.

mine and manages to consume a lot of my time. With this comes the opportunity to travel to beautiful parts of Australia and the world. Photography and mountain bike riding are also pastimes that I enjoy.

Do you have any concerns about the state of the environment?

Within South Australia my biggest concern with the environment is the current state of our water resources and the associated strain that is placed on the natural environment. I feel the condition of the Murray Darling Basin and lower lakes is extremely poor at the expense of humans over consumptive water usage and this needs to change soon. If the river system as a whole is to remain healthy or regain health, immediate action needs to be taken to utilise our water resources more efficiently so environmental flows become available. Initiatives such as waste water reuse and aquifer storage and recovery are excellent examples of more sustainable practices that will reduce the dependency

placed on river systems and their associated flora and fauna.

Do you think more young people should take an active interest in the environment?

I would love to see more young people become involved with Trees For Life and gain a lot of enjoyment helping to preserve the state's native bushland whether it be through Bush For Life or grower programs. I feel there is often a lot of negativity associated with the state of the environment in both media circles and the views gained from media by the general public, with a lot of daunting news on climate change etc. Trees For Life provides, and has provided me, with the opportunity to get out and put a positive spin on the environment through several very rewarding and enjoyable initiatives and I love it. I have learnt that there are many positive and beautiful facets associated with Australia's natural environment and Trees For Life is one of them. So to everyone out there, get involved and I will see you in the bush!

'Initiatives such as waste water reuse and aquifer storage and recovery are excellent examples of more sustainable practices that will reduce the dependency placed on river systems and their associated flora and fauna.'

Korean tourists lend a hand

On a cold wet rainy day in July, with 2500 seedlings to plant on the ElectraNet site at Tungkillo, we were very happy to have the assistance of our own wonderful TFL volunteers plus a group of enthusiastic Korean tourists working through our colleagues, Conservation Volunteers Australia.

The work was hard with a driving wind and constant rain, but to their credit, everyone stayed in good humour.

The plantings support a larger direct seeding project which will be undertaken next autumn to revegetate and increase the habitat value of the Tungkillo substation site. The planting site was quite rocky and inhospitable in some places and we purchased a hole digger to make the work easier. The digger will be available for hire by members next season. See the Autumn 2009 edition of *ReLeaf* for details.



The Korean tourists, through CVA, helped with planting on the Tungkillo site in cold and windy conditions.

Biodiversity important ingredient at Willow Ponds

Home-made pasta, the Heysen Trail and carbon sequestration may seem like an odd mix but they are all coming together on a 1700-hectare Gladstone property run by TFL members David and Andrea Catford.

The property, known as 'Willow Ponds', has been owned by Andrea's family since 1880, when her great grandfather came north from the family property at Smithfield (Andrea's maiden name is Smith).

'Willow Ponds' house was built on the banks of the Rocky River, which features some water holes and *Acacia salicina* trees (Port Broughton willows).

David and Andrea have worked the property since 1997, focusing on cereal crops, beef cattle and sheep.

However the Catfords are also self-proclaimed "long term tree planters", so earlier this year decided to join TFL's Carbon Neutral program.

"We felt this scheme was a logical next step in helping the environment. If everyone in our position (landholders) planted, say, 5% of the farm with local trees and shrubs, it must surely help with carbon storage, and species protection," David said.

TFL's Direct Seeding (DS) team, David Hein and Dennis



Preparing to direct seed on the Catford's Gladstone property.



Property owner Andrea Catford and TFL volunteer Alan Dandie plant tubestock at Willow Ponds.

Hayles, carried out 41kms of direct seed rows within a 28ha site on Willow Ponds in August for the CN program.

Also seeded was 6ha along the Rocky River adjacent Willow Ponds homestead to assist in habitat creation, water quality and beautification. According to the TFL assessment, the site comprised small pockets of remnant vegetation which would be protected and enhanced through the new planting, and areas of gully erosion would be stabilised as the revegetation established.

"A section of the popular Heysen Trail runs along the southern perimeter of the site and its many visitors will benefit from the improved biodiversity being created."

The direct seeding was conducted using TFL's disc seeder, which is towed behind a 4WD and incorporates a chemical control for weeds.

According to the DS team, an estimated 17,000 trees should grow on the site as a result of this year's planting. The program also involved planting 550 tubestock seedlings of *Acacia salicina* (Port Broughton Willow).

According to David and Andrea, the season unfortunately dried off very quickly after the direct

seeding, with just 12mm of rain falling in September, compared to the usual 50mm.

"This has meant no germination of seeds yet, but we have our fingers crossed for next year," David said.

While the Catfords wait for some early germination, they remain focused on another enterprise – growing Durum wheat which is being made into pasta.

David said they are members of a group of six farmers who grow Durum wheat, who have joined forces to value add to that wheat by making it into pasta.

"We sell it under the name 'Southern Supreme' as we live in the Southern Flinders Ranges. At present we are only stocking it in local shops, but plan to expand next year," he said.

"We have it manufactured by Labruzzese in Adelaide, and have used only the best quality wheat to make our pasta a very tasty and attractive product. Two types of pasta we have as unique are a wholegrain Durum wheat pasta, and a red lentil/Durum mix: both available as plain, or in a range of flavours such as Saltbush, Garlic and Pepper, Sun Dried Tomato and Spinach."

Adelaide Rotary sets example to other clubs

The Rotary Club of Adelaide is offsetting its carbon dioxide emissions through Trees For Life's Carbon Neutral program.

The club's former Environmental Committee Chairman Brian Brooks said the President asked the committee to investigate offsetting emissions caused through their weekly meetings.

According to Brian, the club has about 180 members and it was estimated about 100 vehicles were used to get members to and from meetings each week, many of them driving 15-20 kilometres. That equated to about 5000 trips done to and from Rotary Club meetings each year.

The weekly get-together included "a fairly substantial meal", Brian said, and so it was estimated the emissions caused through food production, transport and other related issues also needed to be taken into account.

The Rotary Club of Adelaide currently offsets a total of 226 tonnes of CO2 emissions, generated through the weekly luncheon, fellowship and district meetings.

The annual subscription to the program results in biodiverse plantings (canopy and understorey) being established on sites throughout SA.

"I think most of our members are appreciative that we are offsetting our emissions. There is a good case to say greenhouse gases are a very real problem ... and the evidence seems to be there ... so most members accept that we have a responsibility," Brian said.

"I guess another objective was to set an example to other Rotary clubs and the community. Adelaide Rotary Club is the biggest and oldest Rotary Club in our district (which extends to Alice Springs), so if you like we're the parent club to others

in our district and we have thousands of members.

"We wanted other Rotary clubs to know what we're doing and generally create an awareness about how we can all take responsibility for the environment."

Joining the CN program is just one of many environmental initiatives the club has taken on in recent years. Members have undertaken many volunteer hours at Cleland Wildlife Park, last year constructing a \$17,000 bird aviary for the endangered Mallee Fowl, planting trees and stopping kangaroos from ringbarking trees in the area.

Club members also help the Adelaide City Council with weed eradication, watering and mulching in the western parklands.

New carbon scheme may benefit TFL landholders

Under the Federal Government's proposed new Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme, it is likely that landholders will be able to participate more easily in the creation of tradable carbon credits.

The model currently being considered by government allows landholders to 'opt in' and claim carbon from existing plantings, including those not specifically planted as a carbon forest sink.

Estimates will be done using satellite imagery and will apply to increases in plant growth (indicating carbon sequestration) from a specific date to be set, and assessed annually.

If you are interested in finding out more, simply email us at info@treesforlife.org.au with the subject heading 'Carbon Scheme' and we will notify you of opportunities as details of the scheme evolve.



A site at Mannum is direct seeded as part of the Carbon Neutral program and since being carried out on this particular property in June, germination of species such as *Rhagodia parabolica* (inset) has begun.

Satisfac's support positive for all

Satisfac Credit Union, the Teacher's Credit Union, now contributes 50% of car loan application fees to Trees For Life's Carbon Neutral program.

Satisfac's move to contribute was based on its ongoing commitment to corporate social responsibility (CSR) and the environment, according to Sales & Marketing Support spokesman James Wade.

"When choosing Trees For Life, we wanted to support an environmental development organisation that was South Australian based and also well known in the community for its good work. So for us, Trees For Life was an easy choice," James said.

"Our involvement in the Trees For Life program has given us the opportunity to make a positive impact in our community, which our members really appreciate and are vocal about."

Satisfac Credit Union offers a full suite of financial products tailored to the needs of the SA education community.

Carbon Neutral 2007-08

Tonnes CO2 offset - 8900
Hectares carbon pool established - 61
Business subscribers - 53
Individual subscribers - 95

The Carbon Neutral program has completed its first full year and has been supported by TFL members who are hosting biodiversity plantings on their land. Five sites were planted over the period and are now fully subscribed by individuals and businesses wishing to reduce their environmental impact.

Joining forces to help the environment

Year 9 Wilderness School students and Walkerville Rotary Club members recently spent a week in Port Lincoln planting 2500 native seedlings on a property damaged in the 2005 bushfire disaster.

Both members of Trees For Life, the school and Rotary Club propagated the seedlings themselves and it was the second year in a row they had undertaken planting on the property.

The project was also made possible through a \$3000 donation from South Australia's Police Credit Union.

Rotary member and Walkerville councillor Rex Adams said the project was a great example of how organisations could come together for a worthwhile cause, in this case, to benefit Eyre Peninsula's environment.

The Walkerville Rotary Club grows thousands of seedlings through TFL's Tree Scheme each year and is very active within its community in promoting the environment.

Shopping offer for members

On-line supermarket bananablue has signed up as a sponsor of Trees For Life by pledging to donate funds to cover the cost of planting three trees for each new on-line customer.

To launch the initiative bananablue is offering TFL members a special deal. To take advantage all you have to do is: Log onto bananablue.com.au

- Type in promotion code 300
- Receive a \$10 credit towards your first shopping experience (new customers only)
- Trees For Life will plant 3 trees on your behalf



TFL staff active fundraisers

Congratulations to several members of TFL staff who have recently been raising funds for charitable organisations including Trees For Life.

Alison, the TFL Office Manager, and husband Steve took part in the City to Bay Fun Run in September. They raised nearly \$500 in donations for Trees For Life. This is the fifth year the pair have participated in the event, and hope that next year they might be joined by a team of TFL enthusiasts!

Garry, our BAT Coordinator, happily agreed to shave his head in support of CanTeen and raised \$360 for the charity in the process. The charity shave was organised by TFL Admin Officer Kelly, who not only showed her expertise with the clippers, but helped raise money selling bandanas in the lead up to Bandana Day.

If you are still interested in donating, log onto www.everydayhero.com.au

Need a bench?

Are you after a seedling propagation bench?

There is one seedling bench to be given away by John at Redwood Park. While he says the bench is a little roughly made, it can hold up to 12 boxes of seedlings. Please call John on 0428 848 104 if you are interested.

Alternatively, Graham Harvey makes benches that hold 10 boxes of seedlings. For more information or to place an order phone Graham on 8381 1573.



TFL Office Manager Alison at the start of the City to Bay Fun Run.



TFL Admin Officer Kelly shows off BAT Coordinator Garry's newly shaven head.



Seedling propagation bench made by Graham Harvey.

Thank You Tree Awards given to volunteers

Every year Trees For Life recognises several volunteers for their hard work and help throughout the year.

Volunteers are nominated for Thank You Tree Awards by fellow members and this year 29 awards were presented at our special Christmas function.

The recipients were:

Helen Pryor (Bush For Life volunteer); **Roy Pearce** (long-term BFL volunteer); **Roy Caldwell** (BFL volunteer and tree planting); **Barry Hedley** (volunteer grower for same landholder for 12 years); **James Hickey** (BFL administrative volunteer); **Jon Kirwan** (regular nursery volunteer and data entry); **Kevin McCormack** (regular nursery volunteer and grounds maintenance); **Tony Bass** (regular nursery volunteer); **Graham Garfoot** (regular nursery volunteer); **Emmanuel Chubaka** (volunteering skills & expertise); **Natasha Kapulski** (marketing volunteer); **Lee-Ann Palm** (grounds maintenance); **Don Clifton** (TFL Board); **Michael Keelan** (promoting TFL with great enthusiasm); **Judy Marsland**, **Joy Forrest**, **Nadia Vernari** and **Pip Cotterell** (PR volunteers); **Denis Frahn** (TFL promotion in the Riverland); **Jane Duguid**, **Christine James**, **Cathy Cox**, **Donna Bagshaw**, **Peter Lauer**, **Carole Pinnock**, **Malcolm Woods**, **Laima Guscia**, **Mike and Lyn Bartlett** (long-term bushcarers).

Our sincere thanks to these and all of our volunteers who give so much to the organisation in so many areas. Thank you.

Farewell and thanks to BATman

For the past 10 years, Garry Forrest has been the face of the Bush Action Team program.

But now, in his own words, "the time has come, I am retiring!"

Garry recently informed colleagues of his "difficult decision" and leaves us on December 24 for some well-earned relaxation and travel.

Garry joined Trees For Life in 1997, working firstly on a casual, then part-time basis with Maureen Redfern in the Tree Scheme. He had just completed a Diploma in Environmental Management at TAFE.

At that stage headquarters was located in Brookway Park, Campbelltown, and the Bush For Life program was about to take a giant leap forward.

Andrew Allanson, then BFL Manager, decided group work on bushland sites was the way of the future and subsequently gave Garry the opportunity to run these Bush Action Teams – coordinating everything from recruiting volunteers, organising equipment and generally overseeing work carried out on sites.

What started off as a part-time role coordinating the BAT program soon turned into a full-time role and the program's importance in the grand scheme of the organisation remains.

The change over those years isn't lost on Garry – from starting out with a couple of volunteers, the program now has around 130 BAT volunteers at any given time.

Garry also used to take his own campervan to the sites, loaded up with any equipment

he could get his hands on. Nowadays he has a choice of work vehicles and thanks to some very welcome funding, the BAT program is well equipped.

As well as coordinating the BAT program, Garry has also had the extra responsibility of OH&S for the volunteers.

And although he probably won't miss many of the responsibilities that have come with his job over the past 10 years, Garry said the life-long friendships he has made with many people, especially the volunteers along the way, have been the highlight.

Likewise, the friendships forged with 'his' volunteers has been very much reciprocated over the years, with volunteers never letting a special event in his life, such as a birthday, go by without some acknowledgement.

As for TFL itself, his colleagues and the Board would like to take this opportunity to thank Garry for his many wonderful years with Trees For Life.

As well as the BATs, Garry has always given freely of his time to help other staff both during work and at many events after hours and his friendship and smile will be sorely missed.

On announcing his retirement Garry said TFL was the best workplace he'd ever known. The rest of us would say it was made even better because he was part of it.

Congratulations on your retirement Garry and we look forward to seeing your cheerful face in here regularly!

Farewell event

The annual BAT Christmas picnic will be held Thursday, December 18 at Abercrombie Reserve, Tolley Road, St Agnes. TFL would like to invite all past and present BAT volunteers to come along and join us in a special farewell for Garry.

The barbecue will be free and volunteers can bring along either a salad or dessert to share.

Please RSVP to the office on 8406 0500.

Youth Action Project Team update

By BESS SCHENK

The Trees For Life Youth Action Team has been busy over the past few months working on ways to encourage participation by young members in our programs. Through attending monthly meetings and accessing an online forum, our enthusiastic team members decided that the best way to start the ball rolling was to hold a special youth event. After reviewing many great suggestions (including a game of lawn bowls, a concert, tree planting, a movie night and even a fun run) it was agreed unanimously that the Project Team would organise a quiz night.

The quiz night is to be held on February 6 at the Irish Club in Adelaide, and will be advertised in popular youth media, including the newly established MySpace page found at <http://www.myspace.com/treesforlifeinc>.

The team is currently working on securing prizes for the event and developing promotional ideas. If you would like further information about joining the Project Team or the quiz night contact Carly on 8406 0500 or carlyg@treesforlife.org.au.

Seed collection

Thurs 15 Jan	Athelstone	workshop (SW1)
Thurs 22 Jan	meet Mt Barker	collecting day (SD1)
Fri 27 Feb	Stirling	workshop (SW1)
Fri 6 Mar	meet Birdwood	collecting day (SD1)

Phone 8406 0500 to register for either workshop or collecting days.

Trees For Life

Trees For Life, 5 May Tce, Brooklyn Park 5032
 Ph: (08) 8406 0500; Fax: (08) 8406 0599
 info@treesforlife.org.au; www.treesforlife.org.au

Trees For Life Board

President - David Mitchell
 Vice President - Mary-Anne Healy
 Treasurer - David Bradley
 Secretary - Megan Harper
 Board Members - David Grybowski, Warren Hilton,
 Jonathan Lambert and Michael Cain

Trees For Life Key Contacts

Chief Executive Officer - Carmel Dundon
 Office Manager - Alison Platt
 Tree Scheme Manager - Maureen Redfern
 Bush For Life Manager - Mark Ellis
 Direct Seeding Manager - David Hein
 CN Operations (Land) - Dennis Hayles
 CN Sales - Simon Kalucy
 Seedbank Manager - Bruce Smith
 Membership - Carly Gowers
 Sponsorship - Glenys Perri
 Communications - Tania Kearney
 Fundraising - Bernie Omodei

Trees For Life Rural Contacts

<i>Gawler</i>	Sylvia Nieuwenhuizen	8406 8419
<i>Noarlunga</i>	Graham Greaves	8386 1018
<i>Willunga</i>	Joyce West	8323 7513
	Paul Rosser	8323 8189
<i>Mt Gambier</i>	Briony Schleuniger	8724 9759
<i>Mt Pleasant</i>	Ruth Charlesworth	8524 6661
<i>Clare</i>	Dean Schubert	8843 4317

Useful contacts

NRM Board Contacts

<i>Adelaide & Mt Lofty Ranges</i>	Kym Good	8273 9100
<i>Alinytjara Wilurara</i>	Lorraine Rosenberg	8357 3880
<i>Eyre Peninsula</i>	Kate Clarke	8682 5655
<i>Kangaroo Island</i>	Jeanette Gellard	8553 4300
<i>Northern & Yorke</i>		8636 2361
<i>South Australian Arid Lands</i>	John Gavin	8648 5194
<i>South Australian</i>		
<i>Murray-Darling Basin</i>	John Johnson	8532 1432
<i>South East</i>	Hugo Hopton	8724 6000

Local native seed & seedling suppliers

<i>Trees For Life</i>	8406 0500
<i>Blackwood Seeds - Fleurieu Peninsula, Mid North, Adelaide Hills & Murray Mallee</i>	8558 8288
<i>Northern Lofty Native Seeds - Northern Lofty provenance.</i>	Ph 8566 3073 Fax 8566 3630
<i>Provenance Indigenous Nursery - Adelaide coast, plains and hills</i>	8345 0300
<i>Themeda - Adelaide Plains</i>	8352 6778
<i>Wirrascape - Aldinga Plains</i>	8557 4173
<i>Fleurieu Natives - Adelaide Hills and South Coast</i>	8556 9167
<i>Yorke Seeds - Yorke Peninsula</i>	8853 1120
<i>Eucaleuca Native Services - South East</i>	8762 2061
<i>Growing Bush - Southern Mt Lofty Ranges & South Adelaide</i>	0427 722 979
<i>Alexandrina Community Nursery - Southern Fleurieu and South Coast</i>	8554 2555
<i>Eyre Native Seeds - Eyre Peninsula & Far West</i>	8682 6233
<i>Barossa Bushgardens - Barossa region</i>	0448 676 348
<i>Natural State - Mallee, Riverland, Adelaide Hills, South Coast, South East (www.naturalstate.com.au)</i>	8572 3049
<i>South Para Biodiversity Project - Etta Clark</i>	0403 188 768

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DEH Bush Management Program

The Department for Environment and Heritage is divided into two broad functional areas in relation to the conservation of Biodiversity: Park Management and Biodiversity Conservation. Phone Bush Management advisers on (08) 8222 9311.

AMLR Land Management Program

The Land Management Program is an education and advisory service provided to the rural landholders of the Mount Lofty Ranges and the Fleurieu Peninsula. Through the program, rural landholders can participate in low-cost education courses, and demonstration field days, and receive one-on-one farm advice. Phone (08) 8391 7500.

Murray River LAP

Local Action Planning groups undertake education and training programs, catchment monitoring, improved property management, wetland management and revegetation. Assistance is provided by way of direct funding or advice on technical, financial, engineering and contractual matters. Phone: (08) 8582 4477.

Aboriginal art offer for TFL members

Better World Arts specialises in Aboriginal fine art, handicrafts and cross-cultural projects.

Their Aboriginal designed rugs, cushions, paintings, jewellery and giftware can be found in galleries across Australia and Better World Arts is recognised for its unique business models which brings real economic and cultural benefits to the artists.

The gallery is a community hub for Anangu people in Adelaide, where a range of programs to assist artists and their families negotiate city life are also offered.

The gallery is situated at 144 Commercial Road, Port Adelaide. Phone 8240 3373 or people can shop on-line at www.betterworldarts.com.au

As a special offer for Trees For Life members, until

Christmas day, 20% of the value of purchases will be donated to TFL and 10% thereafter.



MyRate supports TFL programs

Non-bank lender MyRate is donating \$400 to Trees For Life for any member who settles with the finance company (purchase or refinance).

Members just need to mention Trees For Life when they fill out an enquiry form.

All MyRate loans are securely funded by ING Bank (Australia) Limited.



Can you help?

Do you work for an organisation or know of a business who may be interested in supporting our work through sponsorship?

TFL has various sponsorship levels available that can be tailored to suit specific requirements including conservation sponsor, special events sponsorship and program sponsorship. Support of TFL can help position your business as an environmentally aware operator and helps fund our commitment to education, training, and volunteer support.

For all enquiries contact Glenys Perri glenysp@treesforlife.org.au



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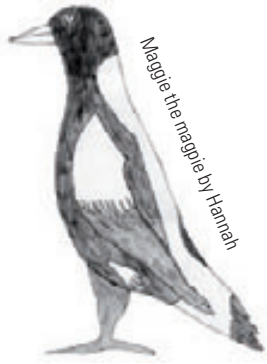
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It's summer

Have you seen Maggie? Here is the first drawing of our mascot Maggie the Magpie. If you have your own drawing of Maggie going about her business, we would love to see it! Just send it through to us anytime.

Trees For Life was lucky enough to receive a visit from Lockleys North Primary School students shortly after our last edition of *ReLeaf* went to print. The class of year 3 students (along with their teacher Ms Schutze and several parents) walked to our office in nearby Brooklyn Park. The students entertained us with their stories and poems and told us some of the things they had learnt this year about local native plants.

After a morning tea break the students were taken on a short tour of the TFL seedbank and seed drying area. The

students were generous enough to donate their beautiful drawings and poems (including native garden designs they did for a garden area near their school office). We are happy to say that some of the work has already been put on our Kids Branch website (www.treesforlife.org.au/home/kidsbranch) - thank you Lockleys North Primary School!

With the end of the school year just around the corner - we would love to hear about some of the things you have learnt this year about the environment. Maybe you will even be helping someone in your family to grow seedlings for Trees For Life this summer? Send us a drawing, photo or story of how the seedlings are going and you could win a great prize pack.

The Department for Environment and Heritage has a great educational section on its website, where you can learn all about how to reduce your environmental impact at home, school, in rural areas and by the beach. Check out the site at www.environment.sa.gov.au/education/

Send in drawings and stories to Kids Branch, 5 May Terrace Brooklyn Park SA 5032, or email kids@treesforlife.org.au.

Carly



Yacca by Jonathon.



Bark of River Red Gum by Ella

TREE POEMS

Trees
Trees
Trees
Small trees
Tall trees
Spikey trees, flowering trees
Strong trees, blossoming trees
Those are just a few.
Leafy trees,
Water trees,
Spooky, haunted, scary trees
Beautiful, pretty, safe trees
Sunny trees,
Apple trees,
Orange trees too,
Last of all
Best of all
I like Dragon Blood trees!

by Angus

Trees
Trees
Trees
Small trees
Tall trees
Boab, bunya, bottle trees
Beautiful, blossoming,
flowering trees,
Those are just a few.
Rough, lumpy, bumpy trees
Terrific trees,
Wonderful trees,
Last of all,
Best of all,
I like Butterfly trees!

by Laura

Did you know?

There is an endangered South Australian lizard that lives in the burrows of spiders! This small reptile is known as the pygmy blue tongue lizard, and grows a little over 10cm. Thought to be extinct until the remains of one was recently discovered in the stomach of a brown snake, the pygmy blue tongue lizard is found in only a few small grassy areas north of Adelaide (between Port Wakefield & Peterborough).

The lizards spend their day sitting in or near a burrow, after evicting or eating the spider, waiting for unsuspecting and tasty insects to pass by.

They sleep in their burrows at night. Their numbers are low due to factors including overgrazing, habitat destruction, predation by foxes and cats and use of insecticides.

Quiz: True or False?

Write X for your answer.

1. True False
Pygmy blue tongue lizards have a blue tongue.

2. True False
Trap door spider burrows are a pygmy blue tongues favourite.

3. True False
Pygmy blue tongue lizards feed mainly on vegetation.

Blossoming yacca, by Amy, aged 9.