

# ReLeaf

Trees For Life  
Winter 2008  
Number 107



TFL gets the power to  
grow with Port

The disappearance of  
our majestic River Red  
Gums

Volunteer growers  
thanked for  
'outstanding' job



Trees For Life

## Trees For Life needs you!

The Prime Minister had his 2020 Summit in Canberra and two weeks earlier we had something similar at our Brooklyn Park office.

While Kevin Rudd had 1000 delegates discussing the future of the nation, we had about 40 staff, Board members and volunteers talking about the direction TFL is taking in the next few years. A bit like the PM's gabfest our meeting of minds produced few surprises but certainly focused attention on some key issues.

Our Brooklyn Park meeting was a critical point in a strategic planning process which is and will remain a work in progress. Unless we have completely lost the plot we believe that we are in the right business (revegetation and the protection of remnant vegetation), have an appropriate range of programs and are positioned nicely in the market place. The major concern is how quickly and in what precise form we continue to grow; but grow we must, for to tread water would almost certainly lead to decline. I believe it's time for a quantum leap.

The Board is truly optimistic about the future for TFL and the opportunities available. We are also committed to ensuring that we grow in a controlled fashion and within our resource capabilities. Certainly we must set ambitious targets but our reach should not exceed our aim. Neither should we jettison or stray from our basic values and philosophies of quality, integrity and technical excellence. Similarly we will not neglect our wonderful volunteers who remain our closest link to the community, keep us honest and provide a constant source of energy and inspiration. Our record for cherishing our volunteers provides our competitive edge.

TFL's core values and volunteering spirit provide the engine that drives this great organisation. If you are a financial member and want to contribute at the strategic level now is the time to think about putting your name forward. We have a strong and variously skilled Board but if you believe you have something special to offer, you will find a nomination form below.

Our AGM will be held on Thursday October 9 at Brooklyn Park, starting at 6pm. This year there will be two-year vacancies for Vice President, Treasurer and Ordinary Members (2). For further details on requirements for the position refer to the Volunteer Job Descriptions on the website at [www.treesforlife.org.au](http://www.treesforlife.org.au) or ring me on 8251 1088. The September ReLeaf will carry profiles of candidates for election at the AGM.

- DAVID MITCHELL

### TFL BOARD NOMINATION FORM

Nomination form for ...  
Vice President, Treasurer, Ordinary Board Members (2)

I nominate myself/the person below for the position of:

.....  
Name of Nominee

.....  
Membership No

.....  
Signature

.....  
Nominated by

.....  
Membership No

.....  
Signature



Chris Beardsley, left, with Centrelink Area Manager SA Brian Silkstone.

## Unique gift in recognition of service

It isn't quite the golden handshake or gold watch, but government employee Chris Beardsley may have set an environmental trend within the public service.

Chris was being recognised for her 30 years' service within Centrelink and the Department of Social Security.

And instead of receiving the usual gift, Chris suggested to her colleagues that they get her a Gift of Trees certificate from Trees For Life.

Chris now hopes she has set a precedent within the public service, with more long-term employees receiving gifts that also give. Well done Chris, and thank you!

## 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.

### STOP PRESS

## SA Water sponsors Tree Scheme

SA Water will sponsor TFL's Tree Scheme, ensuring the cost of propagation materials will remain affordable.

It is a major win for all TFL members, especially landholders. The Tree Scheme is partly subsidised by TFL members and Northern York NRM Board, however SA Water's contribution will offset the remainder of the scheme's costs.

The sponsorship also addresses SA Water's strategic objective 'to play a leading role in a sustainable future for South Australia's communities'.



## Contact us

ReLeaf is a production of Trees For Life.

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Cover photo: Drosera whittakeri by Peter Watton. See story Page 8.



Trees For Life

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Trees for Life is a community based, not-for-profit organisation.

## Want to get your hands dirty?

By BUNTI PELLEN  
TFL Planting Coordinator

If you love working in the great outdoors, you may be interested in helping to plant trees this year.

Last year, 4860 trees were planted by the Trees For Life Volunteer Planting Team in the Fleurieu region. This makes a total of 66 850 since 1993

In 2007, nine properties were visited, spanning from Wistow (near Mt Barker) in the north to Victor Harbor in the south.

There are approximately 10 plantings per year, every Sunday fortnight, from May to September, regardless of weather conditions.

The plantings run from 10am to approximately 12-1pm, followed by a luncheon provided by the landholder. It is a great opportunity to visit different locations you wouldn't normally have access to.

The only requirements are that you are a team player, organised, committed and happy.

Come and enjoy the action and good company, as well as doing something extremely positive for the South Australian environment.

### Past volunteers

I would like to thank everyone who helped out last year and look forward to catching up with those who are continuing again this year.

I have posted out a planting schedule to previous volunteers and others that have already advised they wish to help.

Much satisfaction can be gained from being a part of something so positive and many bonds of friendship are formed. So if you think tree planting is for you or you would like further information, please contact me on **(08) 8387 4652, 0429 016 335** (before 7pm Sun-Thurs) or email [buntipellen@aapt.net.au](mailto:buntipellen@aapt.net.au)

## Do you need help with planting?

The Fleurieu Trees For Life's 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, as the team has a small number of spots left in August and September.

Contact Bunti Pellen, Trees For Life's Volunteer Planting Coordinator, to discuss your requirements.

## TFL award for Urrbrae graduate

TAFE SA Urrbrae Campus graduate David Ward was recently announced as the winner of the 2007 Native Vegetation Management Award.

David, who graduated with a Diploma of Conservation and Land Management, was given the TFL-sponsored award at a special ceremony in April.

## Thanks Jack!

Trees For Life has just completed another busy round of promotions, with one of the highlights being an invitation to promote our environmental work at the Jack Johnson concert. TFL was one of just six non-profit organisations invited to be part of the global village setup. Thanks also to Jack Johnson and his charity group, TFL also received some donations on the night and through our website!



A special ticket offer is available to TFL members when Port takes on the Fremantle Dockers on National Tree Day, Sunday July 27.

## We've got the Power to grow!

### TFL-Port form alliance

The AFL match between Port Adelaide Football Club and the Fremantle Dockers on Sunday, July 27, will mark National Tree Day and kick off a new partnership between the Power and Trees For Life.

TFL will be the environmental partner of the Planet Teal program which reaches more than 200,000 children each year.

Details of the new partnership will be announced publicly soon, but members can gear up in advance by attending the National Tree Day game, which will double as the next TFL member function for 2008.

### Special member offer

Trees For Life members can buy two adult tickets for \$20 (saving approx. \$30) and children's tickets for just \$2 for the Port Adelaide vs Fremantle game on Sunday, July 27.

Ticket numbers are not restricted but adult tickets must be bought in pairs. Tickets must be ordered and paid for through TFL. Send your order and the payment to Carly Gowers, Membership Coordinator, 5 May Tce, Brooklyn Park SA 5032. The offer closes July 11. Go the Power!





At the wine industry event are, from left, Matthew Curnow, of Carbon Planet, TFL CEO Carmel Dundon, Sami Galligan from Galligan Consulting and Nick Baverstock, of the Fosters Group.

## Environmental issues discussed with wine experts

In April, Trees For Life joined forces with Streamline Environmental Consultants and Carbon Planet to give a presentation to the McLaren Vale wine industry on *Managing for Biodiversity and Climate Change*.

Attended by representatives of small, medium and large enterprises, discussion at the event covered the economic and environmental benefits of biodiversity plantings across the entire wine growing region, new legislation regarding energy use and reporting, and the opportunities and risks arising from the proposed Emissions Trading Scheme.

It is anticipated similar events will be held in other South Australian wine regions later this year.

Our thanks go to TFL sponsor Penny's Hill Winery, which provided the facilities and catering for the function.

## 10,000 trees given through ASSITEJ

Trees For Life is providing 10,000 trees and shrubs to commemorate the 16th ASSITEJ World Congress and Performing Arts Festival for Young People, which took place between May 9-18.

Under the project, 5500 plants have been given to Mt Gambier, Walkerville, Unley and Pt Lincoln councils to be planted this year, and a further 4500 will be planted next year by Victor Harbor, Charles Sturt and Marion councils.

As part of the partnership TFL also ran some competitions, including a drawing competition, with several of our members winning free tickets to festival performances.

The lucky prize winners were Storm Duke, Abel Eberhard, Madison Maltby, Jolene Peer, Ashleigh Potts, Isobel Yeend, Amelia Diebert, Natalie Webster and Helen Wilde. Work from our young budding artists can be seen on the Kids Page of this edition.



## SA URBAN FORESTS MILLION TREES PROGRAM

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.

With the arrival of winter and some long desired rain, the Million Trees Program is now finalising its plans for the planting season.

Work on over 55 project sites will start in the coming months, including weed removal, site maintenance and planting approximately 250,000 seedlings.

A big thank you to those TFL volunteer growers who contributed to our overall tally.

### Helping the Torrens

One of many exciting projects that we have recently been involved in is the riparian restoration works in the Adelaide Park Lands, at Tulya Wodli (Park 27).

In partnership with Adelaide City Council, the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges NRM Board and the Youth Conservation Corps, a section of habitat along the River Torrens has been restored by replacing weeds with local native trees, shrubs and sedges.

According to Central Project Officer Jock Conlon, the site was originally part of a *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* (Red River Gum) and *Eucalyptus leucoxylon* (SA Blue Gum) riparian vegetation association, but almost all of the native vegetation was cleared from the site during construction of the Torrens Weir in the 1860s.

Since that time woody weeds and other exotics had flourished.

Stage one of the project started in 2004 with the removal of the woody weeds and preparing the riparian zone through earthworks and erosion matting.

Stage two began in 2005 and included planting the area with local native seedlings and continued weed control through 2006. The plants included a diversity of trees, shrubs, groundcovers and grasses. Sedges were also used with erosion matting to help stabilise areas.

The final stage was conducted during 2007 with more plantings and weed control.

Future ideas for the site include promoting the educational value of this project for school and community group use. It is also being considered for bird and frog monitoring to help provide more information about the habitat benefits of restoration and revegetation activities.

### An invitation to help

The Million Trees Program is currently finalising a number of community planting events during June to September and is seeking volunteers to help with the planting activities.

If you have not signed up to receive information from the program please contact the office on 8278 0600 or send your name, postal address, email address and phone number to [info@urbanforest.on.net](mailto:info@urbanforest.on.net) so we can send you the event details once they are finalised.



**Government of South Australia**

# The long goodbye: conversations with Adelaide's old River Red Gums

By PHIL BAGUST

*"...a minor episode occurred which still stirs a memory. I had stopped to rest in the creek in the shade of a grand old gum-tree, and as I lay back on the flat pebbles I suddenly perceived above me the arresting picture of the dappled grey and white bark of the tree fork caught in the afternoon sun and contrasting with the azure sky...the simple sight struck certain chords in me, transforming the brief glimpse into a moment of truth, when suddenly I was at one with the universe..."*

**C. Warren Bonython - 'Walking the Flinders Ranges'.**

*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*, actually named after the Tuscan monastery where the species was first grown in Europe, is the most widespread eucalypt in Australia, and one of the most written about and celebrated in our popular culture.

The mythology and history of the Murray Darling basin would surely read differently if not for the River Red Gum forests that line its banks, and whose decline is now so prominent in the news.

The tree is well known to desert travellers everywhere because of its propensity to form a 'gallery woodland' along normally dry creek beds in the Flinders Ranges and points north - the sight of such thumpingly large trees in an otherwise dry landscape never ceases to surprise.

In the Mt. Lofty Ranges the tree also forms the hillside natural woodland so immortalised by Hans Heysen, often forming grand processional arches of dappled light along roadsides for tourists fitting between wineries and antique stores. With its pendulous olive drab leaves (sometimes enlivened by cream coloured flowers, often host to the busy screeches of colourful parrots), delicate mosaic of pastel trunk colours, 'skirt' of rough bark and elephantine bole, the mature River Red stamps its authority on any landscape.

But the Red Gum is not just part of our rural story, it is part of the story of urban Adelaide too. That very symbol of proclamation, the 'Old Gum Tree' near Glenelg, is after all, when you remove all that concrete embalming, a River Red.

Elsewhere I have written about the wonders of the Adelaide Plains before European settlement that made it one of the most species-rich and diverse temperate environments in the whole of Australia.

## Gigantic examples

And part of that complex matrix of forest, woodland, shrubland, grassland and wetland was the River Red. The many creeks that used to snake tentacle-like out into the plains were lined by thousands of gigantic examples. Fringing areas of the old reedbeds where the Torrens disgorged its winter floods in the western suburbs were also lined with the tree, while in the eastern suburbs the rainfall was high enough to support open woodlands, mixed with other species, well away from watercourses.

Alas, these giants are mostly gone. Not just physically but from our collective memory as well. Sure - there are plenty of good sized River Reds to be seen around in some of our larger parks - but many are planted and probably not as old as one would expect, as River Red Gums can grow at a prodigious rate.

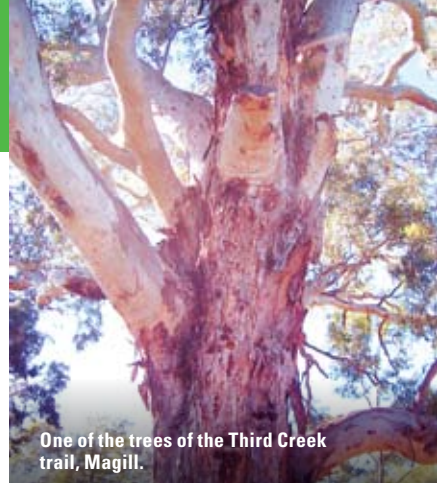
I once owned a townhouse in Parkside which had a magnificent tree - easily big enough to qualify as a 'significant tree' - in its courtyard. I felt privileged to be able to hear Boobook Owls call at night and Yellow Tailed Black Cockatoos squawk during the day from its massive limbs, and so I was amazed to learn from the previous owner that the tree was only 25 years old! No, I am talking about those massive trees with gigantic flaring bases, trees that are often fire-scarred or that show signs of having lost their upper portions to some long-past tempest, trees with the kind of large wildlife sheltering hollows and asymmetric profiles that only really develop after perhaps several centuries, trees that really do link the observer with the 'Adelaide that was'.

We are slowly losing these trees. In fact all large trees of any variety are potentially under threat as the city consolidates, as backyards contract into courtyards and as our property-value aware citizens grow more wary about things like falling limbs, invasive roots, and drain-clogging leaves. What happened to the grand old tree in the backyard of a maisonette in Kent Town I used to live in is a perfect example.

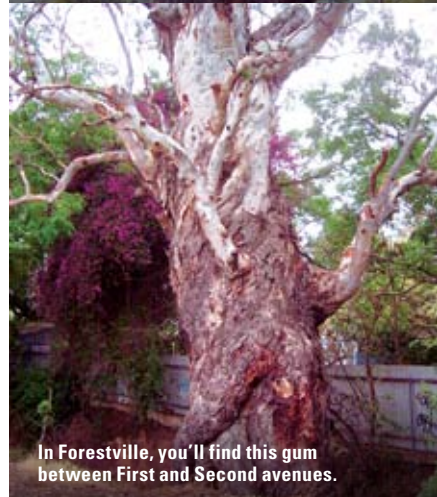
A spreading kraken-like monster that used to cover a third of the backyard and which marked out, as many trees still do, the ghostly palimpsest of the long covered First Creek, the tree was removed some years ago and replaced with new medium density housing.

## Borrowed time

In inner suburbia, most large trees on private land in Australia would seem to be living on borrowed time. In fact consolidation, unless it is handled with sensitivity, threatens to reverse the wave of greening that started to overtake formerly barren streetscapes in Adelaide during the 1970s.



One of the trees of the Third Creek trail, Magill.



In Forestville, you'll find this gum between First and Second avenues.

However, River Reds are very big trees and they need space we are running out of, and so as global warming and urban sprawl emerge into mass consciousness this is not a reactionary call for the return of the quarter acre block.

## Stop and ponder

Rather I am simply asking you, when you pass one of these grand old giants, to take a moment and ponder, as Warren Bonython seems to have done in the opening quote, what they have born silent witness to - the utter change of the Adelaide landscape, its plants, animals, people, and ways of looking at reality itself - the last 170 years has brought. I also ask you to consider the growing importance of our public land - itself under threat as governments look to rationalise assets - a last repository of these trees as many bid us their long goodbye.

*Phil Bagust is co-author with Lynda Tout-Smith of 'The Native Plants of Adelaide', published by the Urban Forest Biodiversity Program.*

*Phil's favourite gums can be seen on the TFL website: [www.treesforlife.org.au](http://www.treesforlife.org.au)*



Volunteer grower and PR volunteer Nadia Vernari, of Brooklyn Park, delivers her seedlings to the Happy Valley depot. Nadia was growing for a revegetation project.



Noriel Noble, of Fulham Gardens, has been a volunteer grower for 15 years. She proudly displays her season's efforts.



Delivering their 'other' babies to the Happy Valley depot are proud parents-to-be, Bruce and Jane Godsmark, of West Lakes Shore.

## How to prepare and plant your tubestock

**T**ransport: When transporting your seedlings it is important that you carry them in a covered vehicle so that they do not suffer wind damage or dry out.

**Holding:** Before planting keep your seedlings up off the ground, well watered and in full sunlight. Protect from snails, caterpillars, grasshoppers, dogs, footballs and other hazards, and keep them weeded.

**Too tall?** If your seedlings are too tall you can cut them back to about 15cms. They will grow bushy and be stronger than tall spindly ones.

**Watering:** Just before planting your seedlings, water them well. Cut the tube to remove the seedling. This is the best way to remove them from the soft plastic TFL tubes.

### The next step

Wearing leather gloves, cut each tube with a sharp blade. Make the incision at the bottom and slit the tube right up to the top.

Open it right out, and remove and plant the seedling in the prepared hole.

Backfill with friable soil and firm down. Water if possible. Cutting the tubes is the easiest and quickest way of getting the seedlings out, and results in least disturbance to the roots.

A sharp blade obviously works best, but please take care and prevent cuts to hands by wearing leather gloves. Don't give this job to very young members of the planting team.

Try not to lose any soil from the roots but don't discard the seedlings if this happens – just make sure to backfill soil firmly around the roots.

## Growers from all walks of life

**T**rees For Life's volunteer growers are fairly typical of many volunteers – they come from a wide range of backgrounds, comprise all ages, and they want to help in some capacity.

In our case, thankfully for South Australia, our Tree Scheme growers want to help the environment and have been doing a remarkable job over the past 28 years.

To give you an idea of just what we've all achieved in the past season, here are some facts and figures:

- 738,750 seedlings were ordered by SA landholders

- 123,800 seedlings were grown for various projects such as Urban Forests' Million Trees program
- 40,600 seedlings were grown as backup for 23 different zones across the State
- 1134 volunteers grew 510,350 seedlings (10,207 boxes)
- 720 people grew seedlings for their own properties.

Some of our volunteer growers delivered their seedlings to the Happy Valley depot in April, including Noriel Noble, Nadia Vernari, Keith and Elva Wellman and Bruce and Jane Godsmark.

The Wellmans and Mrs Noble have been long-time growers for TFL, raising seedlings for the past 15 years.

Nadia, who is also a public relations volunteer, has been

growing for the past five years and first became involved after seeing a friend raise seedlings for the Tree Scheme. Nadia said she enjoyed watching her seedlings grow, enjoyed the challenge of having to meet a target and also learnt about the different species she grew.

Bruce and Jane not only delivered their green 'babies' at the depot, but soon after delivered their most precious baby – a baby boy. The couple has grown for the Tree Scheme for the past two years, becoming involved after Bruce's dad, who was previously one of our growers, passed away. Both geologists, they feel they have a "moral obligation" to help give something back to the environment.

## Acacia acinacea too unpredictable

By BRUCE SMITH  
Seedbank Manager

Members ordering tubestock through the Tree Scheme should have their Order Forms and all the associated information by now.

The species on each of the 42 Order Forms are much the same as last year, with a total of 1472 combinations of species and zone.

This is a slight reduction from 2007, mostly due to the rather poor summer seed collection season making it difficult to obtain sufficient seed for some species and zones.

One change some members may have already noticed is that we have moved *Acacia acinacea* (Gold dust wattle) from the list of species grown by volunteers to the list that is only available to landholders who do their own propagation.

Most species included in the 'grow your own' list are there due to the sowing date not suiting the volunteer grower timetable.

However, some other species are included there for different reasons, such as regularly giving unpredictable results.

No-one likes unpredictable results, but for some volunteer propagators it can become exasperating to the point that we may lose their assistance!

So, just how unpredictable is *Acacia acinacea*? We monitor propagation difficulties through a number of means, including tallying requests for replacement seed.

For each of the last few years *Acacia acinacea* has been by far the most difficult wattle species to propagate. We have tried to address this by further winnowing of seed and increasing the quantity, but it made little difference. We offer 56 different wattle species, and the requests for *Acacia acinacea* exceeded the other 55 added together! The reasons

for the poor propagation results appear to be a consequence of some complicated genetics which may result in batches of seed, which look perfectly good, having low viability and vigour.

To landholders who are not able to do their own propagation and who would like to include *Acacia acinacea* in their revegetation, I can only say sorry, but it is giving us too many headaches!

## Inconvenient Truth project a win-win

Trees For Life has now completed the wonderful partnership with Paramount Pictures which saw us growing one tree for each copy of Al Gore's *An Inconvenient Truth* sold in Australia last year.

Through this partnership we have been able to provide free trees to a number of local councils across South Australia.

The trees will be used to revegetate public and private land and provide an ongoing environmental benefit through habitat creation, soil and erosion control and water quality improvements.

The plants are being dispersed far and wide through participating councils including Karoonda, Barunga West, Yorke Peninsula, Tatiara, Tumby Bay, Tea Tree Gully, Clare and Gilbert, Charles Sturt, Yankalilla, Marion, Murray Bridge, Victor Harbor, Goyder, Playford, Mallala and Port Pirie.



Some of the council seedlings, grown through the Inconvenient Truth project.

## Thank you growers for an excellent crop!

By MAUREEN REDFERN  
Tree Scheme Manager

The 2007/8 growing season is drawing to a close, with average rainfall in April encouraging many people to plant their seedlings early to take advantage of the long-awaited soil moisture.

Demand for backup seedlings was about average, with around 400 boxes required.

Once again, a big thank you and congratulations must go to all volunteer growers and those who are growing their own seedlings.

Despite water restrictions affecting some people and some remarkably hot weather at times, we produced an excellent crop, of which you should all be proud.

### Season in review

In reviewing the season, there are two messages which growers should keep in mind for future growing. They are:

1. To remember that seedlings are solar powered, and to get your seedlings out into full sun as soon as they germinate. The longer you delay the more difficult it is for them to adapt to the harsh Australian conditions.

2. When you do your transplanting, the smaller the seedlings, the better the results. Don't assume that bigger is always better!

Thanks again for all your hard work and we look forward to having you on-board next season.



## Knees up for Caltrop discovery

The Noarlunga Trees For Life group has created its own way of helping to remove Caltrop from the Bush For Life site at Tingira.

The group discovered that its \$2 kneeling pads were more effective than other methods it had previously tried.

"...they protect your knees and then when you get up, you stomp on them as hard as you can. Carefully lift them up and you will be amazed how many seeds are stuck to the underside of the pad," one member said.

Once they have scraped the seeds off into a bucket, they place their kneeling pads in another area and start again.

Oh, and they are careful to point out how important it is to check your boots after working in the field too!



Two Noarlunga members, Geraldine and Ann, display their technique.

## Orchid ID cards for sale

A talented Bush For Life bushcarer, Rosalie, has assembled a *50 Orchids Within 100kms of Adelaide* identification card that can be hung on the wall or used in the field.

The cards are A4 in size and have species names printed on the reverse side.

They cost just \$8 unlaminated; \$10 laminated; plus \$1 postage and handling if you would like them mailed.

Poster sized versions can also be arranged.

If you would like to purchase the card or arrange for a poster to be printed, drop into the Trees For Life office or call the Bush For Life Support Officer, Sam on 8406 0542.



Members of the Maitland BAT group, peeping through some of the dead weeds.

## Maitland project a great success

By GARRY FORREST  
Bush Action Team  
Coordinator

It's not often in bush regeneration that we can look back at our efforts and see real evidence of just how much of an impact we've had.

However, on April 24, a group of Bush Action Team (BAT) volunteers and Bush For Life staff did just that on a social visit to a private heritage agreement property in Maitland.

On this eight hectare property surrounded by cropping and grazing land, three extended BAT visits have been held in the past five years, as well as on-going work by two dedicated bushcarers, John and Ann Garnaut, with the main aim being to eradicate as many of the 2000-plus feral olive trees as possible.

BATs first visited the property in July 2003 and spent three days reducing the olive population and treating other weed invaders.

This was our first attempt at large scale olive work and many lessons were learned in the 'drill & fill' method - above all, the importance of keeping the drill bits as sharp as possible!

After this first trip, John and Ann decided they loved the site and adopted it as their own bushcare site.

In May 2004 another three day visit proved to be more successful than the first. We were able to see where previous methods could be improved (with John and Ann's advice) which caused efficiency and enthusiasm to skyrocket amongst the volunteers.

After this second visit the spread of olives had been halted by our efforts, so another BAT visit was not needed until June 2007. This third visit was planned for when previously unproductive olives were in danger of producing fruit and resulted in the BAT volunteers 'mopping up' every olive plant we could find!

Our recent social visit on Anzac Eve was an eye opener.

We discovered only about 40 olives still surviving; some which had obviously been missed or not treated properly. Starting with more than 2000 olive trees, we figure a 98% treatment success rate is pretty good - a real credit to all the volunteers involved.

And Ann the carer is keen to make sure they are "finished off" in the not-too-distant future!

The owners of the site, June and Hugh Longbottom, welcomed us on our last visit and after a tour of the site spoiled us with a wonderful lunch.

Thanks to all of our BAT volunteers, bushcarers and landowners for their hard work. Thanks to their commitment, you can now see the volunteers for the trees!

## Drosera whittakeri

*Drosera whittakeri* (Scented Sundew, Whittaker's Sundew) is a sundew that is native to South Australia and Victoria in Australia. Plants are 2 to 4 cm in height and width and often appear in colonies.

The sessile, spatulate leaves are arranged in a flat rosette and are 15 to 35 mm long and 5 to 15mm wide. The leaves may be green, bronze or red in colour. The white flowers appear at the end of thick stalks to 4 cm in length. They are perfumed and relatively large, up to 30mm in diameter. The main flowering period is May to November in its native range, but flowers may appear throughout the year.

The species was formally described by Jules Émile Planchon in *Annales des Sciences Naturelles* in 1848 as *Drosera "Whittakerii"*. There are two subspecies that are currently recognised: *Drosera whittakeri* subsp. *aberrans* Lowrie & Carlquist; *Drosera whittakeri* Planch. subsp. *whittakeri*

# Grasses turn Harrogate site into a field of dreams

By ANGELA CULLEN  
Bush For Life Field Officer

On the eastern slopes of the Mt Lofty Ranges, the Bremer River, a tributary of Lake Alexandrina, flows through a 3.5ha community reserve in the small town of Harrogate.

Although it probably didn't look like a typical 'bush block', it became a Bush For Life site in 2004.

Soon after, Bush For Life volunteers started work restoring the watercourse and red-gum grassy woodland communities, controlling hawthorn and gorse gradually, as they were the only habitat in some areas.

A small, diverse area of understorey plants was fenced off by council but a major threat to the site remained, with stock still having unrestricted and prolonged access to the watercourse and remainder of the reserve each spring. Grazing sheep on the site for several weeks during spring was seen to be one way of reducing the fire risk in the community area.

Despite initial community concerns about snakes and wildfire, and after much negotiation between volunteers and the community, the entire site was protected from grazing for the first time in 2007.

Since then, many hours have been spent by BFL volunteers managing weedy grasses by brush cutters. In time it is hoped the regeneration of groves of *Acacia pycnantha* will allow for further woody-weed removal.

The recreation areas have been maintained to community satisfaction, and safe walking trails also have been cleared.

## Grasses flourish

Since grazing ceased and more work was undertaken on the site, the proliferation and diversity of native grasses that has followed has been remarkable, and far greater than we anticipated. The meadow-like effect of the grasses is also visually stunning.

The native grasses provided cover over the soil for the entire summer, despite prolonged periods of drought, and will continue to protect fragile soil through the onset of opening rains. Then, in their turn, winter active species will take their place, and continue to safeguard the soil until spring.

These deep-rooted perennials stabilise the soil, controlling erosion and rising salinity. Soil depth and health naturally increases as coverage also increases.

Added benefits are that essential habitats and food sources are provided for woodland birds, insects and ground dwelling animals. The sheltered spaces between grasses also provide the perfect growing environment for other herbaceous understorey species.

## Reduced fire risk

Despite initial concerns over the bushfire risks, encouraging native grasses over introduced, perennial pasture grasses has actually decreased the bushfire risk. This is primarily because fuel loads are lower than that of their weedy counterparts.

To build on the success of the past year, we will monitor the site carefully and ensure that any native species favoured by grazing, or weeds suppressed by it, are taken into account.

It is important to note the issues facing this particular site also face the entire catchment area - vegetation clearance and agriculture have left a legacy of salinity, erosion, poor soil and water health, and grave declines in ecological diversity. Thankfully, we now have a better understanding of our natural systems, and our obligation to heal them.



The northern end of the Harrogate site in November, 2005.



The same area, two years later in November, 2007

The existing riparian and aquatic habitats, and their habitat potential, are also of particular significance on the Harrogate site. Their associated plant species are vital in filtering water and slowing flow, and constant vegetative cover on river banks and hillsides is required to provide habitat, secure river banks from erosion, and prevent nutrients, pollutants and silt entering the waterway.

To ensure healthy waterways, restricting stock access is crucial.

Stock pollute the water with effluent, compact soil, trample vegetation, prevent regeneration, erode banks and spread weeds – seriously lowering overall water quality.

The transformation of this Harrogate site over time has been highly motivating and exciting for us.

We can see that the rehabilitation of these hills, streams and old red gums through natural regeneration of the local understorey plants is creating a vital pocket of habitat. And an invaluable link in this intensively farmed and cleared region to other habitat on private land, reserves and roadsides.

Congratulations to all volunteers who have cared for this site, with particular thanks to Cathy Scougall for her outstanding effort.

# Unique direct seeding job reaps rewards

By TANIA KEARNEY

When Olga and Doug Farnill left suburban Sydney for a quiet retirement, they had no idea that eight years later, their lives would be busier than ever.

While renting in Adelaide, they searched for a property which had a bit of land “about 10 acres or less, close enough to Adelaide but with plenty of peace and quiet”, Olga said.

What they ended up with was an undulating 24 hectare property in Flaxley, which was in need of plenty of TLC environment-wise. And that’s what they have been doing ever since – in Olga’s words, they have never been so busy or worked so hard physically.

The Farnills knew they wanted a decent sized property and loved the thought of revegetating some land, so even while renting in Adelaide, Doug and Olga set themselves on a steep learning curve, joining landcare groups, researching and finding out about local native species and even ordering tubestock through Trees For Life.

So when they eventually bought their Flaxley property, they undertook

a plan of attack with help from local environmental and landcare specialists.

“We originally had cattle being agisted on the property but that doesn’t happen now. The first year we were on the property we planted about 250 trees and it rapidly escalated from there,” Olga said.

### Action plan

The action plan has several main aims: to try to approximate and then replicate what native vegetation originally existed (much of which has been ascertained to be a combination of stringy bark forests and grassy woodland); to promote habitat; to preserve the existing native grasses; to prevent erosion and salinity which was occurring in certain sections and to help protect the waterways (the property is located at the headwaters of the Angas River).

During their ongoing research into native species, Olga and Doug tried direct seeding, with limited success, in 2000-01. Three years ago they were successful in obtaining an Envirofund grant to revegetate five hectares, which adjoined some existing bushland; have collected seed and grown their own native seedlings and have had consultants advise them on the property’s future requirements.

## Species for the property

**Direct seeded:** *Acacia myrtifolia* (myrtle wattle); *Acacia paradoxa* (kangaroo thorn); *Acacia pycnantha* (golden wattle); *Eucalyptus fasciculosa* (pink gum); *E. leucoxyton* (southern blue gum); *E. obliqua* (messmate stringybark); *E. viminalis cygnetensis* (rough-barked manna gum); *Leptospermum continentale* (prickly tea-tree).

**Tubestock:** *Acacia acinacea* (gold-dust wattle); *Acacia myrtifolia* (myrtle wattle); *Acacia paradoxa* (kangaroo thorn); *Acacia retinodes* – hill form (wirilda); *Allocasuarina striata* (small bull oak); *Allocasuarina verticillata* (drooping sheoak); *Dodonaea viscosa spathulata* (sticky hop bush); *E. camaldulensis* (river red gum); *E. fasciculosa* (pink gum); *E. leucoxyton* (southern blue gum); *E. obliqua* (messmate stringybark); *E. viminalis cygnetensis* (rough-barked manna gum); *Leptospermum continentale* (prickly tea-tree); *Leptospermum lanigerum* (silky tea-tree); *Bursaria spinosa* (sweet bursaria).



Property owners Olga and Doug Farnill discuss their plans with Direct Seeding Manager David Hein, right.



Former work experience intern Pierre Etienne-Couture prepares part of the property while in the background circles show where hand weed spraying has been undertaken. Within each circle then goes a pinch of seed.

And this is where Trees For Life has stepped in. Olga said she had previously ordered tubestock from TFL, but decided last year to get a further 6.2ha direct seeded through TFL’s Carbon Neutral program.

Five hectares was seeded by Manager David Hein in early September, but because of the difficult terrain, 1.2ha had to be hand direct seeded in mid-September.

### First hand seeding

According to Direct Seeding Coordinator Dennis Hayles, it was the first time TFL had undertaken hand direct seeding.

“The areas were too steep for a vehicle to safely drive on, so it was pretty hard-going by foot. The areas we wanted to direct seed were sprayed four weeks prior to the hand seeding, and again at the time of planting. A group of volunteers and two staff members carried out the process by scraping the weed matter away from the seeding area, scratching the soil with a fire rake and adding a pinch of seed, which was then

tamped down,” Dennis said.

And the results? Very successful, according to both the Farnills and DS team.

“Both types of direct seeding worked very well on this site, with some plants already 300mm high,” Dennis said.

The revegetation continues again this year, with another 6.5ha to be direct seeded and 800 tubestock seedlings to be planted.

“We have already seen quite a bit more habitat activity since starting the plantings ... we’ve seen some echidnas, we have some kangaroos, the number of frog species has increased, as has the number of snake species we think, and we think we have some bandicoots on the property now. I think the range of bird species coming in has increased as well, and we’ve planted a lot of trees for the black cockatoos,” Olga said.

“It’s going to be beautiful in a few years time – well we hope so, and we especially hope that it will be self-sustaining because we’ll be a lot older then and walking up and down those hills might be too hard for us!”

# Magic of the Tarkine 'unforgettable'

By PETER WATTON  
Bush For Life Operations  
Manager (South)

**A**we-inspiring, moving, ancient, vast, fragile, peaceful, mystical, majestic, imposing, forceful, magnificent, remarkable, unforgettable... vulnerable...

Pretty powerful words, but words that inadequately describe the emotions that flowed through us all during the first of what we hope will be many trips with eco-tourism business Tarkine Trails.

Few people seem to have heard of the Tarkine, let alone know where to find it. It is even very difficult to find on any map.

It covers some 447,000ha of largely unprotected temperate rainforest located in the north-west of Tasmania, where hectares of old-growth forest are still being clear-felled for wood chips.

Tarkine Trails is an eco-tourism business that was established to help protect the Tarkine by promoting its identity and transition to a National Park – World Heritage area. They are the only operator offering guided walks in this area.

Seven Trees For Life members booked into one of these special trips, with part proceeds donated back to TFL. We had varying levels of hiking experience and were aged from late forties to mid sixties.

We were extremely fortunate to have Darvis, one of the original partners of Tarkine Trails, and Madeline as our guides.

The organisation and planning was impeccable. There was very useful information provided before we left, including equipment list, training schedule and accommodation suggestions.

Each night, or before each walk, we gathered around a map to be briefed on where

we were heading and what we needed to take. The walks were at a pace set by the group and allowed sufficient time to explore, with subtle nudges when it was time to move on. We were encouraged to keep our packs lightweight and help was on hand if required.

The meals were fantastic and seemed to magically appear with the billy from within Darvis and Maddie's backpacks when out walking or to be prepared by head lamp at night. A glass of local wine was a nice touch in the evenings around a campfire and Darvis is renowned for his plunger coffee (without the plunger!).

The trip had the perfect balance between the old growth temperate rainforest and coastal heath, visiting many remote areas. We spent two nights camped in the rainforest and one on the coast, with a couple of nights in cabin/motel accommodation in between.

Darvis imparted many stories about the Tarkine and its history, both Indigenous and European. When looking at this incredible landscape, he challenged us to consider all the events that have led to the present moment in time, whilst encouraging "maximum respect" for each other and the land.

On the final evening, we visited Geoff King's property on the coast. This was part of a farm that has been in his family for well over 100 years, which he has converted to a sanctuary for wildlife. Here we watched two Tasmanian Devils feed through the beach shack window – truly remarkable.

This was an experience that will remain with us for the rest of our lives. It was very emotive and, while we took a part of the Tarkine home with us in our hearts, we also left a piece of our hearts there.

The group became known as the "A Team", because good things happened to us, and we are already planning our first reunion.

I thoroughly recommend everyone consider booking into one of TFL's Tarkine Trails' trips to "the path less travelled"... the Tarkine needs your help.



The TFL Tarkine group, with guide Darvis far left and Peter Watton front right, and below, the natural beauty of the Tarkine.



For more information on the Tarkine, phone (03) 6223 5320, log onto [www.tarkinetrails.com.au](http://www.tarkinetrails.com.au) or email [info@tarkinetrails.com.au](mailto:info@tarkinetrails.com.au) - see page 13 for details of the next TFL trip.

### 2008 Bush For Life workshop dates (B1)

These free one day workshops are designed for members who are interested in learning about minimal disturbance bush regeneration and/or becoming a Bush For Life volunteer.

The workshop covers topics such as the values of and threats to remnant native vegetation,

strategic approaches to bush restoration, maximising biodiversity outcomes and practical minimal disturbance techniques.

Owners and managers of bushland will also find the course useful.

Wed June 18	Playford	Sat July 26	Tea Tree Gully
Sat June 21	Burnside	Tues Aug 5	Coro. Valley
Thurs June 26	Murray Bdg	Sat Aug 16	Belair
Wed July 2	Aldinga	Sat Sept 27	Victor Harbor
Sat July 12	Mitcham	Tues Oct 14	Mt Barker
Thurs July 17	Strathalbyn		

### 2008 Advanced workshops

Members who have already done the introductory workshop and want to learn more may be interested in our advanced workshops.

As places are limited preference is given to current

Bush For Life volunteers.

For more information on what these workshops cover and who they are targeted at please see details on our website or call the TFL office.

Advanced Bushcare - Strategies for Managing Bushland (B2)	Tues June 24	Woodcroft
	Sat July 19	Playford
	Thurs Aug 14	Adelaide Hills
Grassy Ecosystems - Management of Broadleaf Weeds (B6)	Tues July 8	Aberfoyle Park
Native Grasses - Basic ID and Management (B4)	Sat Oct 18	Mt Barker
Plant ID - Practical (B5)	Sat Nov 1	Brooklyn Park
	Sat Sept 20	Playford
	Wed Oct 22	Mitcham
Woody Weeds - practical strategies (B10)	Sat Sept 13	Tea Tree Gully

### 2008 seed collecting workshop dates

Wed	July 2	Belair
Tues	Aug 19	Norton Summit

### 2008 group seed collection days

Wed	July 8	Keyneton
Tues	Aug 26	Strathalbyn

## 18-30 and keen?

Are you between 18-30 and keen to become more involved with Trees For Life? We are calling for expressions of interest from those who would like to be part of a new youth action committee. Recognising that young people generally don't have a lot of spare time but are still keen to get

involved, Trees For Life would like to encourage those interested to let us know. We anticipate that the committee will meet on a regular basis (probably once every two months), and formulate ideas for TFL environmental action programs and a youth event. Please register by email to [carlyg@treesforlife.org.au](mailto:carlyg@treesforlife.org.au) or phone Carly on 8406 0500.



Dennis Hayles leading the revegetation tour at Monarto Zoo.



Margie and David Mitchell with granddaughters Madison, Phoebe and Millie waiting for a tour of the animal exhibit at Monarto Zoo.



TFL members enjoying the picnic lunch at Monarto Zoo.

## Family picnic - worth the journey

More than 130 people made the journey to Monarto on Sunday, April 6, for the TFL Family Picnic. The day began with a walk through some of the TFL revegetation plantings with Dennis Hayles and Monarto Zoo Education Officer Ian Walton. A shared picnic lunch followed and despite being a little short on bus seats, the tour of Africa was enjoyed by all and included the opportunity to feed the giraffes. Thank you to all who attended and brought food to share and to Monarto Zoo for discounted entry and being a wonderful host!

## Nominate someone exceptional

Thank You Tree awards are given each year to people who have provided outstanding service to Trees For Life, either over a short period or over many years. Nominations are accepted from Trees For Life members and nominees must also be members. Recipients receive a framed certificate and a tree is planted for them. Since 2002 the trees have been planted at Monarto Zoological Park as part of the Trees For Life revegetation program.

If you would like to nominate someone for a Thank You Tree award, please complete the form and return it to us by fax or mail. Nominations will be accepted until August 31. Successful nominees will be chosen by the Thank You Tree Committee and will be subject to acceptance by the Board and CEO.

**Thank You Tree Nomination Form**

Date: .....

Nominator: .....

TFL Member Number: .....

Nominee: .....

TFL Member Number: .....

Reason for Nomination: (give details of service provided by nominee)

.....

.....

Please return this form by fax on (08) 8406 0599 or by mail to 5 May Terrace, Brooklyn Park SA 5032

## Entertainment Book helps us

If you like to go out to restaurants, movies or want to try new activities, but still like to save money where you can, a Gold Entertainment Book is a must.

You can order a book by phoning Leean Eagle on 0407 879 726.

By ordering through Leean, Entertainment Publications will donate a percentage from every book sold to Trees For Life. You'll save money and be helping the environment out in the process!



## 2009 calendar – call for pics

Photographers interested in submitting entries for the 2009 TFL calendar must do so before July 31.

The theme for the calendar is native fauna with native flora of SA.

Ideally, we would love pictures representing the many different regions of South Australia, many different species and, of course, some exquisite colours!

Photographs should be in landscape format and have a minimum resolution of 300 dpi.

Entries can be emailed to [taniak@treesforlife.org.au](mailto:taniak@treesforlife.org.au).

Also please send accompanying information such as photographer's name, plant species, animal species, where the photograph was taken and a personal comment about the photo.

For more information or specifics, phone Tania Kearney or Bernie Omodei on (08) 8406 0500.

## Down to a tee

Our last edition of *ReLeaf* included a call for ideas on words or slogans to be printed on Trees For Life t-shirts. We were overwhelmed by the response we received, so thank you! Here are some of the great suggestions received:

1. "Get Keen and Make it Green"
2. "Element-tree my dear Watson! Trees provide us with oxygen and remove CO2 from the air! Join Trees For Life!"
3. "Turn over a new leaf! Join Trees For Life!"
4. "TFL: Have you twigged yet?"
5. "If we can't see the wood for the trees, we're on the right track!"
6. "Get going, get growing"
7. "Trees For Life – barking up the RIGHT tree"
8. "Trees For Life, Take a Leaf out of their book!"

After much decision making we are happy to announce the winning statement:

"Way to Grow!"

Congratulations Diana from Christies Beach, you have won yourself a Denali hike tent courtesy of Anaconda (valued at \$200)!



## Give away

After some tree guards? TFL Member Colin has approximately 340 to give away. They have been used once but are in reusable good condition. Please email Colin if you are interested: [colinms@activ8.net.au](mailto:colinms@activ8.net.au)

## NTD footy tickets...

In case you didn't notice our announcement on page 3, Trees For Life has a special offer to see Port Power play Fremantle on National Tree Day, on Sunday July 27. Refer to page 3 for details on how to get your tickets.

## Next Tarkine tour in Nov

The second TFL Tarkine Trails expedition will be held from November 10.

The six-day journey will take in the magnificent sights of Australia's largest temperate rain forest - with 20 per cent of all monies being donated back to TFL.

For more information phone (03) 6223 5320 or log onto [www.tarkinetrails.com.au](http://www.tarkinetrails.com.au)

## Never too old...

One of our members, Frances Coombe, says her father is a perfect example of the wide range of ages our volunteers are.

Her dad, Bob Fewsdale, is 89 years old and still grows TFL seedlings. Bob joined TFL 14 years ago and even this year took on the propagation of 10 boxes of seedlings. Frances followed his example and joined five years ago, growing six boxes this year – but Bob also volunteered to fill her seedling tubes for her!

Frances said as well as being a proud supporter of TFL, Bob is a keen gardener, keeps chooks and enjoys fishing holidays.

Thank you Bob.



## Trees For Life

Trees For Life, 5 May Tee,  
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 - Don Clifton, David Grybowski,  
Warren Hilton and Jonathan Lambert

### 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 &amp; 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 0111
<i>Northern &amp; 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</i> - Fleurieu Peninsula, Mid North, Adelaide Hills & Murray Mallee	8558 8288
<i>Northern Lofty Native Seeds</i> - Northern Lofty provenance.	Ph 8566 3073 Fax 8566 3630
<i>Provenance Indigenous Nursery</i> - Adelaide coast, plains and hills	8345 0300
<i>Themeda</i> - Adelaide Plains	8352 6778
<i>Wirrascape</i> - Aldinga Plains	8557 4173
<i>Fleurieu Natives</i> - Adelaide Hills and South Coast	8556 9167
<i>Yorke Seeds</i> - Yorke Peninsula	8853 1120
<i>Eucaleuca Native Services</i> - South East	8762 2061
<i>Growing Bush</i> - Southern Mt Lofty Ranges & South Adelaide	0427 722 979
<i>Alexandrina Community Nursery</i> - Southern Fleurieu and South Coast	8554 2555
<i>Eyre Native Seeds</i> - Eyre Peninsula & Far West	8682 6233
<i>Barossa Bushgardens</i> - Barossa region	0448 676 348
<i>Natural State</i> - Mallee, Riverland, Adelaide Hills, South Coast, South East (www.naturalstate.com.au)	8572 3049
<i>South Para Biodiversity Project</i> - Etta Clark	0403 188 768

## REVEGETATION PRODUCTS

### LIMITED STOCKS AVAILABLE NOW AT BELOW RETAIL PRICE!

Mention Trees For Life when you place your order, and JA Grigson will sponsor Trees For Life on every item ordered below:

- Tree Guards on a roll
- Typhoon Planting Tablets
- Corflute Triangular Guards
- Jute Mat Squares
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- Jute Mat Rolls
- AquaBoost Powder Water Retention Agent
- Hessian Sandbags
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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 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.

### Urban Biodiversity Unit

The Urban Biodiversity Unit is conserving our remnant vegetation and establishing three million local native plants across Adelaide through the activities of the Urban Forest Biodiversity Program and the SA Urban Forests - Million Trees Program.

Phone: (08) 8278 0600. E:info@urbanforest.on.net

## RAA cleaner and greener with TFL

As part of the AAA motoring clubs' national climate change statement, *On the road to greener motoring*, RAA has backed a landmark package of measures aimed at tackling the issue of climate change.

In announcing the package of measures, RAA has also committed to offsetting the remaining fuel-based emissions generated by its road service fleet - having successfully minimised fleet emissions in recent years through the use of dual-fuel (ULP/LPG) vehicles.

Trees For Life has been engaged along with other local offset providers to provide the offsets required.

Trees For Life, through its South Australian tree planting program, will not only see trees planted to absorb carbon emissions but these plantings will also help tackle salinity, improve water quality and provide essential habitat for native species.

The move to offset RAA patrol vehicles' emissions is part of a suite of actions the motoring clubs nationally are committed to undertaking to tackle the climate change problem.



Showing off the new trailer are, from left, TFL's Carbon Neutral Operations Manager Dennis Hayles, A&C Operations Manager Ray Pederick and Lockleys Primary School students.

### ADVERTISEMENT

## Preliminary notice of property sale by owner

Lower Hermitage (North East hills), 15 minutes to Tea Tree Gully (all facilities, including major shopping, doctors, hospital) and O'Bahn station, 40 minutes to CBD, 40 minutes to Barossa Valley

20 acres of big gum country (not grazed), beautiful views, wonderful flora (species lists available) and fauna. Roadside reserve is a recognised BFL site.

Solid brick (NE facing) house with fantastic view. Family room + informal dining, 3 bedrooms (2 with built-ins), study (built-ins), formal lounge, formal dining room, ensuite to main + walk through robe, kitchen (AEG hot plates, Miele dishwasher), walk in pantry. Combustion heater + heat transfer system, evaporative air conditioning.

Large fernery and pergola area (bbq + lighting, pond and waterfall). Two carports, double garage + 30 x 20 workshop. Bitumen drive. 30,000+ gallons filtered rainwater + bore, 11,000 gallons bore water for garden + fire fighting system. Broadband + good television reception. A light, bright comfortable home in a beautiful setting.

Property is not set up for grazing. We are looking for someone special, interested in remnant bush and native fauna.

Expected to be available for sale July/August (before the next TFL Releaf). Buyer range \$680,000 - \$710,000.

For enquiries or to register your interest please email russden@chariot.net.au or phone (08) 8380 5511.

## New trailer funded by SGIC

Trees For Life has a new trailer – complete with supplies – thanks to the generosity of South Australian insurer SGIC.

SGIC's Staff Consultative Committee raised \$4000 towards the cost of the trailer, with additional funds donated by SGIC as part of its sponsorship program.

To be used for promotional and conservation work, the new trailer has been fitted out with safety equipment, water storage and cooking facilities to support volunteers working in the field.

SGIC has been a great supporter of Trees For Life in recent years, initially helping fund the development of a seedling propagation training DVD for volunteer growers through the 2007 communityhelp grants scheme.

SGIC's State Manager, Ms Lee Jameson, said supporting conservation and environmental initiatives in South Australia was important for SGIC's employees and formed a key part of the company's community program, which focuses on risk reduction.

"Local people are best placed to tackle local issues, so we're pleased to be able to support Trees For Life in this way," Ms Jameson said.

"A financial boost such as those provided through SGIC's communityhelp grants scheme is sometimes the only way for community groups to undertake proactive initiatives that support communities at the grassroots level.

"SGIC is delighted to support Trees For Life and its volunteers."



### Disclaimer

Trees For Life takes no responsibility for the services or products featured in its quarterly magazine, ReLeaf.



## Have your say!

Hello again to our young readers! It's been a busy few months since our last edition. We've received many ideas for both a name and mascot for this page – now it's time for you to tell us what you think.

Here are the suggestions for the page name:

1. Habitat Warriors
2. Paper Bark
3. Kids Branch
4. Kids For Life\* (not available)
5. Naturally Kids
6. The Kids Page
7. Nature And I
8. Nature 4 Kids
9. Nature & Us Kids
10. Make an impact no matter how small
11. Enviro Kids
12. Kids Letter
13. Save Our Earth
14. Kids word to save the world
15. Kids Weakly Environment
16. Earthlings
17. Earth Connection
18. Out on a limb
19. Groovy Green Gang (GGG)
20. Branch Out
21. Green Gen
22. (X) Next Gen
23. Kids Zone
24. Earth Zone
25. Kids Earth Watch
26. KFF – Kids For Future
27. Saplings
28. Little Leaves
29. Cotyledons
30. Understorey

Here are the suggestions for a page mascot:

1. "Coconut" the koala
2. Rainbow Lorikeet
3. Bandicoot
4. Kangaroo
5. "Maggie" the magpie
6. Kookaburra

To vote on your favourite names, email us at [kids@treesforlife.org.au](mailto:kids@treesforlife.org.au) or post to 5 May Terrace, Brooklyn Park SA 5032, by July 25<sup>th</sup> 2008.

*Carly*



By Vincent, aged 9.



By Jolene, aged 6.



By Madison, aged 5.



By Ashleigh, aged 6.

We love receiving your letters and drawings at Trees For Life. Vince sent in an amazing set of drawings explaining how power is generated – from solar power and storage to wind power and nuclear fission. Trees For Life held a Family Picnic at Monarto Zoo in April, and we received some beautiful drawings of the giraffes from Storm, Jolene, Isobel, Madison and Abel. We want to hear from more of you, so we can share your ideas and stories with all our readers. Send in your drawings, stories and photos to [kids@treesforlife.org.au](mailto:kids@treesforlife.org.au) or 5 May Terrace Brooklyn Park SA 5032.



The giraffe keeper talk at the Trees For Life family picnic at Monarto Zoo recently.

## FROM A READER...

Hi, my name is Ashleigh and I am six years old. I go to Langhorne Creek Campus of Eastern Fleurieu School.

Our Reception and Year 1 classes are in THE HOUSE and in its yard we have a vegetable garden. This year I am in Year 2. I love my school.

We have a native fauna enclosure where we keep Bettongs and Potoroos which move too quick to count, three Sleepy Lizards, and Blue Tongue Lizards. We also keep a lot of Blue Bonnet Parrots, Finches that usually live in the desert, and a pair of Princess Parrots. We give them food and water.

When we come in to feed the animals they run up to us because they are very, very hungry. Bettongs and Potoroos

like rolled oats, apples, cooked spaghetti, uncooked spaghetti, wholemeal bread and cooked potatoes, they also like dry dog food, carrot and corn on the cob. During the holidays mum and I looked after the enclosure for three days and a Bettong stole corn from her container!

For the birds, we stick pieces of apple in the tree branches and they like corn. We give them birdseed too. They like thistles brought from home, and spinach grown at school.

My mum thinks the lizards eat the fruit we leave around for the other animals and bugs they catch by themselves.

My school plants out trees and shrubs we grow from seed that comes from Trees For Life.

## Did you know?

Most living things in the world depend on water, and although people can live without food for up to 2 months, they can't live without water after 3 days!

Two thirds of the earth's surface is covered with water, however, only a tiny 3% of this is fresh water. So it is very important that we each do our best to save as much water as possible.

Some easy ways to save water include having shorter showers, fixing dripping taps, and collecting rainwater.

## Quiz: True or False?

Write X for your answer.

1.  True  False  
Each flush of the toilet uses about 10 litres of water and on average, Australian household toilets are flushed 12 times a day.

2.  True  False  
Water makes up two thirds of our body weight.

3.  True  False  
A quick bath saves more water than a quick shower.