



- **Our Website**

For a comprehensive overview of Paiwalla, its past and present history and to learn about our commitment to the environment access our website at [www.paiwalla.org.au](http://www.paiwalla.org.au)  
Here you will find a wealth of information.

- **Friends of Paiwalla**

Welcome to those who accepted our invitation, issued in 'Paiwalla Update #1' back in September, to join our 'FoP' group. We had a good response with several more applications following our successful 'Art Retreat' weekend (more about that below).

If you have not yet subscribed and would like to get involved and support us please go to the 'Friends' tab on our website where you will find an invitation and full registration details. If you know of anyone who shares our commitment please forward our newsletter.

We will endeavour to send regular news of wetland happenings with our 'Paiwalla Update' together with invitations to special events and happenings for subscribed 'Friends'.

- **2020 Art @ Paiwalla**

'Experimenting with Art in Nature'

The long weekend in October brought together 23 artists who wanted to express their connection with the inspirational surroundings of the wetland and 'have a go' at painting or drawing their impressions as a landscape.

Paiwalla was the canvas and artist Maxie Ashton was the guide.

The weather was threatening but fortunately held off until Sunday night.

Annie O'C was Covid Marshal and Catering Manager extraordinaire and to top the weekend off the group were treated to a 'camp oven feast' as a finale on the Sunday evening.

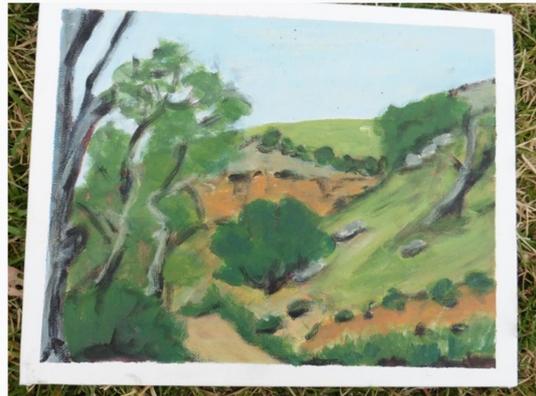
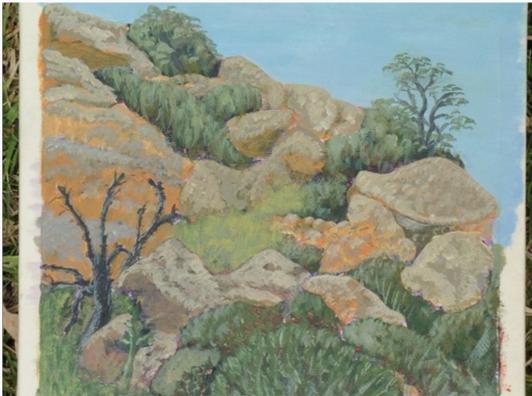
See our gallery below for a few of the highlights or go to our website for a full review.

Feedback from one attendee:

..."Paiwalla, the cliffs, the lagoon, the variety of plant and bird life provided so many possible subjects for drawing and painting. Many thanks to Maxie Ashton, artist, who led our group, step by step, using creative approaches that allowed us to respond to this beautiful place. Under her guidance beginners and advanced artists produced some startling artwork. Thank you also to the Paiwalla volunteers who made us feel welcome and who made the weekend workshop possible."...

'Art @ Paiwalla' was an open event, no experience was required, only a desire to explore the nature and beauty of Paiwalla using painting and drawing as a medium. It is hoped this workshop will become an annual event.

Watch this space!



- **Volunteer Hours 2019/2020**

As a reporting requirement for our Volunteer Insurance, we are required to record the volunteer hours worked. It is also good to have an idea of the time spent to maintain the wetland.

We have recorded all the hours worked at the wetland, but have had to estimate the time spent in the office by the various people who carry out the administration. We have made no calculation for travel time.

This year we calculate we have spent 2027 hours, about 253 days.

Well done volunteers.

- **Monarto Zoo Trip**

As part of our encouragement of volunteers we have made an arrangement with the Monarto Zoo to organise an excursion on a Thursday (instead of doing jobs at the wetland!). Peter Moyo, our neighbour at Paiwalla and a Zoo employee, has offered to arrange a tour for us. There is a cost of \$30/person to cover the bus and entrance, and we will give further notice on the date.

- **Turtles**

For some time now we have been focusing on the turtles at Paiwalla.

A recent project was with the

“1 Million Turtles Community Conservation Program” which was to assess the impacts of foxes through Citizen Science. <https://1millionturtles.com/>

By the end of November there was plenty of evidence of the turtle nests being destroyed, whether by foxes/cats or Echidnas it is difficult to ascertain, but the damage has been done. Even an Ibis was captured on a monitoring camera disturbing a nesting area.

Early last year, Claudia Santori from Sydney used Paiwalla as a trial site for some of her field work towards her PhD into the ...“Ecology, behaviour and citizen science of Murray River turtles: implications for future conservation and management”... We have received a copy of her thesis but as yet have not fully assessed it for recommendations.

Our present approach is to look at options for dealing with the foxes and cats. This could be shooting, trapping or poisoning, but whichever way we go we have to be careful as Paiwalla hosts many visitors. Closure of the wetland for feral control is always posted on our website.

- **The Cultural Heritage of Paiwalla**

During the year we commissioned a Cultural Heritage Consultant, Taryn Debney, to investigate the Indigenous cultural heritage at Paiwalla using a Volunteers Small Grant received from Natural Resource Management.

Taryn reported back to Paiwalla with a written report and also spoke at our recent AGM. She has presented us with a very comprehensive report not only of the important Aboriginal heritage and how we need to proceed with honouring that but also detailed some very interesting post-colonial development of the area surrounding the wetland.

Her report has identified several areas where we can further our discovery. The report identified 27 probable and possible cultural scar trees and five shell middens.

Paiwalla lies at the undefined edge of three distinct Aboriginal territories. We need to consult with the relevant stakeholder groups with regard to the Aboriginal cultural heritage sites at Paiwalla, establish relationships and invite them to be involved in how best to manage these sites.

- **Our Facebook Page**

We endeavour to make regular postings to our Paiwalla Facebook page. Activities that take place on our regular Thursday working day, and photos that we think are of interest are posted. Have a look and 'like us' - that gives us an indication of our audience out there in “electronic media land”.

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**Our mailing address is:**  
paiwallawetland@gmail.com