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Paiwalla Update

Issue #7 - October 2022



Welcome again to our newsletter.

Visit our website www.paiwalla.org.au for a comprehensive overview of our organisation.

To any new friends of Paiwalla, thanks for joining us, we value your support. Please forward our newsletter to friends or family who may find Paiwalla as interesting as we do.

Full details are on the 'Friends of Paiwalla' tab on the website.

Charity status

Congratulations.

We are pleased to confirm that WETLAND HABITATS PAIWALLA ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED (ABN: 54681965797) has been registered as a charity with the ACNC.

The date from which the charity is registered is 1/07/2022.

Kind regards,

Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission.

This allows us to receive contributions for the continuance of the objectives of Paiwalla and the donors can claim a tax deduction. So get in touch with your friendly wealthy benefactor. We still need to replace equipment that was stolen in Feb 22.

Art Weekend 2022



Paiwalla Art Weekend participants and "support staff" - photo Heather B.

The third weekend in September saw the 4th Paiwalla Art Weekend, which seems to be becoming an institution. About 20 people descended on Paiwalla, most camping for Friday and/or Saturday nights and some coming for one day only. A bit more than half were actually planning to do art stuff, the rest doing maintenance jobs, or going for walks or canoe paddles.

On Saturday morning, Maxie Ashton once again started us on our path of discovery, encouraging us to look at the overlooked, and somehow transfer to paper tiny things, textures, stones, soil, bark, leaves...only limited by our imaginations.

Gaynor Hartvigson led our Saturday afternoon session, which dovetailed beautifully into our morning's "work". We looked about for things that we could dip into ink to make a mark. Some of the marks ended up on fingers and clothing, but that was all part of the fun.

After a sociable barbecue tea, everyone sloped off to their tents or campers, ready for the next day's artistic endeavours.

On Sunday morning, Maxie started us off doing lots of small pictures of the unconsidered trifles we'd looked at the day before. The results were varied and amazing. We had a quick show-and-tell with the non-participants, then ate our lunch and packed up before the rain set in again.



L - Making marks with improvised pens / brushes - messy and fun. Photo - Gaynor H.



R - an array of pictures for the Sunday show-and-tell. Photo - Heather B.

Thanks to Maxie and Gaynor for inspiring us, to Michelle for organising us, and to all of the Paiwalla crew for sorting out all the logistics, as well as the coffee making, camping and paddling gear. Roll on 2023! - *Fred B.*

Handing Over

Judith is gradually handing over her responsibilities that relate to Paiwalla. Her financial recording and management is, after about 12 years, gradually being given to Ceris Crosby. Ceris will have the advantage of Judith looking over her shoulder as the two of them come to grips with the new financial package that Judith implemented. We have been running the old and the new in tandem for the 6 months prior to the 30th June this year. After completing the 2021/22 financial year to the satisfaction of the auditor, Judith is confident the new system can cope.

The other responsibility that Judith is handing over is the production of this newsletter. Our new editor Fred is prepared to put up with the chairperson's poor English, missed deadlines and late articles/photos to produce this occasional newsletter. (Ha! A misplaced comma! My favourite - Ed)

A special thanks to Judith for her hours of volunteering behind the scenes to keep Paiwalla functioning. Her time probably matched the combined time of volunteers on Thursday, and without mentioning age, she is allowed to take a break from her duties. Judith will still be a part of Paiwalla and she will be

keeping an eye on the new recruits. - Steve S.

Walk on Country

The walk on country, which was to be hosted by Elder Mark Koolmatrie last month, was unfortunately cancelled.

Mark is of the Ngarrindjeri and its Lakinyeri of Ramindgjeri, Yaralde, Meintangk, Warki and Tangani Kukabrak Tribes.

We are still trying to get attendance from the various groups to visit and give us their ideas of how Paiwalla can operate while respecting the original land users.

Bittern listening

Birdlife Australia have commenced a survey to establish the current status of both the Australasian Bittern and the elusive Australian Little Bittern. The aim of the survey is to

- a) obtain data that will inform development of an estimate of population size in the longer term, and
- b) record the number of sites where 'booming' males are heard as well as the number of individuals calling.

This should provide information about the number of breeding and non-breeding birds, as well as data about the wetlands in which they are recorded. Paiwalla has agreed to undertake the survey this year and will be 'listening' from October to about February.

For further information contact BirdLife Australia Bittern Survey Project
ph (03) 9347 0757 e-mail bitterns@birdlife.org.au

Turtle Fence

We have received a grant from Gallagher through the Landcare structure for \$8000 to erect a fence to protect the turtle laying area from foxes. Last year we counted 186 predated turtle nests and as part of the One Million Turtles program we are trying to reduce the predation. Egg lay season starts in October (weather permitting) and because we have the three types of turtles at Paiwalla the egg laying season can go until March. We hope to erect the fence in time to protect the nesting sites for at least part of this coming breeding season, and

we will be “watching and recording” turtles as they come ashore. - *Annie O.*



Long-necked turtle Chelodina longicollis, one of the 3 species at Paiwalla. Photo - Heather B.

Rain Water tanks

Last funding round we received a grant from the Landscape Board to refurbish the toilet and provide a water tank on the shelter. The works for this grant is nearing completion. We decided to add an extra water tank to the toilet and to provide a table and seats for the shelter. All we have to do now is get the paving finished. - *Paul G.*



New rainwater tanks on shelter shed and toilet. Photos - Heather B.

Defibrillator now onsite

Another grant received from the Landscape Board was for the purchase of a defibrillator for Paiwalla. From the time of the application and the actual purchase the price and model had increased, and so the defibrillator received a co-contribution from Paiwalla. The defibrillator will be accessible in the toilet in the car park, and signs will be placed at the shed to identify the location.

A couple of our older volunteers thought they might give it a try to see if it works.



Peter S. and Vincent L. wondering if they should test the new defibrillator. Photo - Steve S.

AGM reminder

Paiwalla Pty Ltd and Wetland Habitats Paiwalla Assoc/Inc are holding their AGM on October 30th from 11:30 at the Paiwalla Shed.

An agenda and minutes from the last meeting have been circulated by email. Everybody welcome.



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