



Welcome again to our newsletter. Visit our website www.paiwalla.org.au for a comprehensive overview of our organisation.

A special welcome to those who have joined our FoPs since our last issue. We value your support. Please forward our newsletter to friends or family who may share our passion.

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

Grants to date this year

Paiwalla has been quite successful recently with grant applications.

- The first is from the Murray Darling Basin Authority for \$2950, a follow up on the cultural heritage survey report we did last year. That report recommended that we liaise with the relevant Aboriginal stake holder groups that have some knowledge of Paiwalla and invite them to be involved in how best to manage our cultural heritage sites. We have had a visit from the Ngarrindjeri Aboriginal Corporation and will also extend an invitation to the Mannum Aboriginal Community Association.
- A grant was received for \$1000 that allowed us to provide a rainwater tank on the recently constructed shade structure in the carpark. This project is now near completion (see article below).
- The third grant received is from the Murray Darling Healthy Rivers Program Small Grants. This Grant is for equipment to allow us to combat the Mexican Floating Lily in Sunnyside and Willows throughout Paiwalla. The grant, for \$12,000, is for a flat bottomed boat (Tinny), the necessary battery system to power the boat and a spray rig. These items will allow us to access the shallow areas where the lily is rampant and assist willow removal.

We will continue applying for grants as they are an important source of income for the wetland.

Sun-shelter in the Carpark

The construction of the carpark shade /shelter is nearing completion. The initial grant for construction was provided by Murray Bridge Council with the grant, mentioned in the article above added, for the installation of a water tank. There is still the paving to be completed

and some furniture to be built. This will be a welcome refuge in the heat of summer.



Nearly there.....



Lifting the pavers on a cold and wet winter day

Revegetation 2021

This year we have planted 380 trees in various places in Paiwalla. The trees came from a variety of sources, and so far survival is looking very good. We will report on the success or otherwise after summer. The majority of the trees were propagated from seed harvested last year at Paiwalla. A complete list is available from Heather B.

Bird Boxes

Last year we were granted \$500 from Birds SA for replacement of Bird Boxes “because our current boxes were looking a little (lot) scruffy”

The Strathalbyn Woodshed was approached and constructed the bird boxes to our specifications. We took delivery of 16 boxes of various configurations at the end of May and these were all installed by the end of September. Although some are being occupied by possums or starlings, they are being used.



Friends of Paiwalla

For over 12 months now we have been welcoming interested persons to our newly formed ‘Friends of Paiwalla’.

To date we have enrolled 16 Individual members and 10 family memberships: 31 persons in all.

Back in May FOPs were invited to a Sunday BBQ, an information ‘walk-around’ and to

meet some of the owners of Paiwalla: a successful day with good attendance. If any reader, or anyone you know would like to give support by joining our 'Friends', please go to our FOP website page. An invitation with details is given there. <http://www.paiwalla.org.au/friends-of-paiwalla.html>

Paiwalla Art Weekend 2021

The 'Paiwalla Art Weekend' was held on the 25/26 September: a very successful weekend with Maxie Ashton leading the team. There were 18 artists in attendance displaying a wide variety of talent.

At the end of the workshop it was decided, together with the manager of the Strathalbyn Station Masters Gallery, that the work would be displayed at the gallery during November.

Visit the display – some works may be for sale.

A great example of community art.



Top left: Some of the participants in the art weekend. Top right: a mosaic of some completed pieces Bottom Left: Old Man Saltbush by Candy Scown. Bottom right: Lyn Coads impression of the wetland.

Donations

Over the recent months we have received several much appreciated donations of items to aid our work at Paiwalla.

- Firstly, a small aluminium boat. This will be used as a barge while clearing willows as all the cleared vegetation must be removed to land and dealt with.

- Secondly, 2 solar panels were donated. These will enable us to keep the batteries that will power our new boat (see Grants above) charged and ready for use.
- Another benefactor saw the need for new gloves for volunteers: 5 pairs of gloves appeared.
- 50 trees were donated from a single source to add to the 150 trees already provided by a member.
- After some searching for pavers for the shade shelter we received an offer of 996 through a Gumtree ad. Members travelled to Crafers to dig-up and pick-up, but a question remains: what to do with the 300+ that are excess to our requirement. Another project down the track?
- Regularly donated is the labour that our members and volunteers give every Thursday to maintain and improve the wetland. As one of our members says, 'we are in a state of constant improvement'

Thank you to everyone who helps to make Paiwalla 'happen'.



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Our mailing address is:
paiwallawetland@gmail.com