



NEWSLETTER December 2015

AUSTRALIAN YOUTH CLIMATE COALITION (AYCC) SA BRANCH presentation to WACRA

Rose Crocker and Cassy Petho presented an enlightening overview of the values, objectives, actions and events of AYCC to the November General meeting.

AYCC is active at a grassroots level campaigning to reduce pollution and promote sustainability, through their local action group structure. They run a schools' program providing students with the tools to take action on climate change.

WACRA were invited to be an active participant in the recent Climate Change March and it was great to be a part of over 6,000 people caring about our global future.



A reminder to you all that it is important to remain a financial member of WACRA and to share with us your ideas in helping the Association to meet our collective objectives in Building Healthy Community. You will find a membership form if you go to our Web Site www.wacra.org.au and we are also on FaceBook

Jet Ski Exclusion Zone - all at sea.

After two years of Jet Ski peace between the Torrens River outlet and Grange road neither the State Government or City Charles Sturt can reach agreement on who is responsible for any liability in the event of an accident.

For the past two years Council have accepted liability as the Applicant however the Council have advised the State that they believe it is a State responsibility so we have a "stand off" that has left the community all at sea. WACRA is continuing our lobbying, pointing out the success of the past two years and also that excluding the jet skis reduces the liability.



For more information go to www.aycc.org.au

To support their ongoing action WACRA presented Rose and Cassy with a \$200 donation.

Coast Park - a clear pathway emerging.

After many years of discontent by residents opposed to a continuous pathway along the coastal dunes there seems to be a clearer passage emerging. WACRA supports a natural earth continuous pathway and have advised Council and the State Government of our position.

The recent dedication by Minister Hunter to declare the Tennyson Dunes a Conservation Reserve has taken the management and control out of the hands of council opening up more positive dialogue. A management group from Natural Resources (NRM), local government, expert environmental planners and members of the Tennyson dunes group are presently working on two options that will include a continuous pathway through the dunes with minimal damage. The two plans include significant improvement to the existing paths and will provide much needed disability access.

Torrens River Wetland (third stage)let the river run clean

After many years of lobbying the State for a 3rd and final wetland from Tapleys Hill Road to the Gulf St Vincent outlet \$50,000 was allocated to the NRM to conduct a community consultation with the objective of knowing more about what the community wants. Meetings and open forums have been conducted and a "stake holder group" established to work on the results of the open consultations and to find some agreement on two options for consideration. This is proving to be a difficult task as there are 20 roaming horses to consider and this is known to be poor environmental practice of having stock on or near a waterway.

Negotiations are still taking place and WACRA have voiced concerns with the various unauthorised actions taken by the Riding club at a time when all other stakeholders are trying to bring forward options for the community to consider.

It is looking likely that further community involvement will take place in the new year. The environment needs your help so we urge you to email the Manager NRM Steve Gatti Steven.Gatti@sa.gov.au supporting the wetland and removing the horses from the Torrens banks and waterway.



Coastal Management – where has West Beach gone?

That's the big question and is subject to close scrutiny by resident action groups along the whole of the metropolitan coastline. WACRA led the community blockade in 1997/8 protesting against the West beach boat launching facility because science and practical experiences knew that sand would not bypass the rockwall and in turn damage and denude West beach and beaches north. West beach dunes are all but gone and there is no beach at mid tide in front of the SLSC. Presentations have been made to the Environment Resources Development Committee of Parliament and also the very recent Coastal Conference held at Adelaide Shores. There is no doubt that the metropolitan beaches are in a perilous situation that all the trucks and sand pipe

pumping is not sufficient to save the beaches. If we factor in sea level rise and the lack of any acceptable off coast sand source, then we are facing huge problems and threats to homes and properties off shore. WACRA is part of a larger group of concerned residents, and geological experts wanting to work with government to trial some methods of redirecting and holding sand to slow down/prevent certain destruction if nothing is done.



Groundwater escape from H20/Baju Development - 4 years and counting

This development breached the conditions of the Water Act by failing to secure groundwater from escaping from the two levels of underground car parking.

82,000 litres of groundwater a day is spewing onto Henley Beach just north of the redeveloped \$8.4 million Square. This equates to almost 600,000 litres of precious groundwater in one week. Negotiations have been ongoing between the Department of Environment Water and Natural Resources and the Developer for over 3 years with limited success. WACRA have been calling on DEWNR and Minister Hunter to legally force the Developer to comply and make him install a recirculating system that will stop the escape and also stop the intrusion of seawater inland. This should have been resolved well before money was spent on the Henley Square

because if it is not rectified then properties could be at serious risk.



Car parking and Traffic management - first in best park but not in my driveway thanks..

Visitors to Henley mostly travel by car and on a warm or hot day/night they are having problems finding a park. The redevelopment of the Henley Square is certainly going to bring more people BUT where are the car parks? Residents have big problems in their streets, surrounding the Henley Square, with staff employed in retail and other outlets parking in these streets sometimes at 6am to stack shelves or early starts.

When the Developer of H20/Baju agreed to the development approval, a condition was that his multi level car parks would be open & free to staff and for paid for extended hours to the public on weekends/public holidays. The Developer reneged on this condition and Council have allowed him to get away with it with residents suffering the consequences. WACRA are continuously calling on Council to take action for the Developer to comply, but they refuse to do so.

WACRA proposed greater use of public transport by introducing a 'Blue Line Bus' service running a 'ring route' from Glenelg to Grange and to utilise nearby car parks...we have to think outside the SQUARE on this one so your ideas are welcome.

Poles Apartdon't brush off this project

Soon you will be seeing a transformation on the stobie poles along Main street when more than 20 residents commence working with three artists in recognising the character, culture and diversity of this significant place.

The themes will be 'coastal' walking toward the beach and Mount Lofty Ranges and local diversity when walking east towards the ranges.

The designs will be painted on boards that will clip onto the poles and will bring new life and vitality to the main entrance to the Square.

PUBLIC ART

WACRA has taken pride in initiating significant public art works along the Coast and on the banks of the Torrens River. Follow this YouTube link <https://youtu.be/bdNOpO19IRg> which will show a short video showcasing the Mosaic Sea Creature trail and public sculptures by Indiana James

MOSAIC SEA CREATURE TRAIL

The 30 mosaic sea creatures attached to the Esplanade rock wall between Henley Square and Marlborough Street were a community activity as part of SA Living Artists. Over 80 mums, dads and kids made these wonderful creatures all to be found in Gulf St Vincent.



TORRENS RIVER BIODIVERSITY PATHWAY

If you venture down to the banks of the Torrens River near the Kidman bridge on Henley Beach Road you will find a splendid artistic crossed pathway of stepping stones made of mosaic birds, animals, plants and creatures who habitat in and along the banks of the river. This path was the work of over 100 community members who took great pride and skills in creating their pieces of work. Take a walk along the pathway and see if you can name them. The feature piece is the platypus who holds right of way as the Totem for the Torrens. It is our collective aim to make the water in the Torrens River clean enough for the platypus to return to its natural home. Follow this YouTube link <https://youtu.be/NdWP-HV6EO0> which will show a short video showcasing the Biodiversity Pathway.

Wetlands are wonderful as they greatly improve water quality, create habitats for bird life, bring greater biodiversity of plants and provide magnificent recreational opportunities.



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