



Lot 50–Kanyanyapilla, McLaren Vale

Bi-cultural Ecological and Cultural Regeneration

Newsletter No 11, December 2018

Hi Everyone

News

L50Kafe and Soapbox Saturdays

As some of you noticed this didn't happen last September. I'm afraid I hadn't been able to progress the shed facilities to the extent necessary to accommodate the proposed gatherings (still haven't) so this concept on hold for the time being. Apologies for that.

Other Stuff

Land Management

Still as demanding as ever; those pesky weeds and planting and watering trees. As many have noticed we have had an unusual weather and rainfall pattern this year, with most places experiencing well below average rainfall. At L50K we have had three months of far higher than average rainfall; May 90 mm (av. 62). August 103 mm (av. 62) and Nov. 69 mm (av. 25) with other months below. It looks like 2018 will be about 485 mm, just below the average of 500 mm. But the rains are falling at unexpected (wrong) times. L50K can cope but it's hard going for primary producers. Downy mildew spraying in the vineyards seems to be more often this season.

As I've outlined before, L50K produces hay for cattle feed at my brother's place. This partially offsets the loss of production capability from the 30 plus ha of the riparian zone along the Anacotilla River that he has taken out of agricultural production for conservation purposes. We have just finished trailering about 250 bales of hay to his place and below is what a season's supply looks like. I must admit, it is a satisfying feeling when the hay is in the shed and you know the cattle won't starve over a long dry summer (or overgraze the paddocks).



Hayshed, Anacotilla Springs

But no matter the rainfall patterns, trees, thankfully, keep growing one way or another. Here's the latest time-lapse image and to see the sequence go to http://www.timelapseadelaide.com/?page_id=1462. Thanks again to Nick Graalman and Timelapse Adelaide for the 10 year camera. Be there at 10.am on a Thursday if you want to be in it. And have a look at the difference with the banner photo above!!



10.00 am, 20/12/2018

My three year Work Plan agreement with Natural Resource Management has come to an end. NRM provided over 2,000 seedlings and assisted with tree guards, weed management and advice. My thanks to NRM for their input and support, Dana Miles and Jeff Edwards at the Willunga office in particular.



Me and Dana



Me and Yacca (photos courtesy Jeff)

You may be aware that the NRM, by political magic, is to disappear from the landscape and be replaced with the yet to be resolved (and then yet to prove itself better) Landscapes SA. I look forward with open heart and mind!!

Time Warp

From time-lapse to time-warp. Didn't think to say last newsletter but the Oaklands timber was the second truck load of tree trunks I've received from railway line upgrades. The first, five years ago to the month of the second, was from Goodwood, a wonderful Spotted Gum also in the way of the railway. It was provided courtesy of the City of Unley and delivered to Susan's then vacant block at Aldinga. The logs have since been moved over to L50K for the Dendro Theatre and elsewhere.



First Load, 2103



Second Load, 2018

Let's hope there isn't a third, not only for the sake of the trees but I won't be able to get a bigger truck through the gate!!

And this is what the Oaklands trees were once like



A Paddock Full of Utes

Now this might be a bloke thing but on 4th October there were eight white utes at L50K, seven contractors' and mine. Most were twin cabs and the majority were Toyotas.



The utes were all round the place; Dave, pretty handy with a chainsaw

The contractors were Shaun from Wirra Bush Regen and his team working on two projects on the adjacent road reserves; the clean-up and stacking of feral pine for burning, felled on the Victor Harbor Road but easiest to burn my side of the fence and another round of woody weed removal and brush cutting on the Branson Track. Again easiest to dispose of olive and box-thorn prunings on my side of the fence so had ten burn-off fires before the season closed 31.10. The burn areas will be used for planting next season. Thanks to NRM, Onkaparinga Council and DPTI (Dept. Transport) for woody weed removal, nearly complete.



Light my Fire

Visitors and Campovers

Been a steady stream of visitors with a number dossing down for a night or two.

Jaja Dare from Alice Springs is the Project Manager for the recently launched IndigiTUBE, an Indigenous version of Utube. Check it out at <https://www.indigitube.com.au/>, You can see the Bush Mechanics again.

Andrew Smith from Wales is an artist who was undertaking a residency at Sauerbier House, Port Noarlunga. An exhibition of his work during the residency is now on at Sauerbier House (15.12 2018 to 25.01.2019). There is a blog about his residency and stay at L50K, moreiastudio.blogspot.com.



Jaja and the red Troopie



Andrew and the hay bales (good name for a C&W band!!)

The biggest campover was the Adelaide Fringe staff, about 35 visited with the majority camping over for a night on the full moon in October. Organised by Karl Telfer, senior custodian, they were a great group to have over; they certainly know how to bump-in and bump-out a show.



Listening to Karl



Dawn fire at Tent City

But perhaps the most un-expected visitor was Carsten Rostalsky, a Lutheran Pastor from Dahme, Brandenburg, Germany (about 70kms south of Berlin). Arranged by Barossa based Gerhard Ruediger it all has to do with the German missionaries Teichelmann and Schumann of the Dresden Missionary Society (DSM) who in the 1840s conducted the school at Pilta wodli, the native location in Adelaide, and recorded the Kaurna language. Their work has been key in the Kaurna language revival. Teichelmann's hometown was Dahme and Carsten and his congregation are keeping alive the historic connections stretching back 180 years.

We met up at Pilta wodli in the morning with Karl, who was part of a delegation that visited Germany in 2011, before Carsten and Gerhard visited L50K in the arvo. It's a long story so please see History Snippet below for an outline. There is a thread going back to 1838 through the sailing ship the *Pestonjee Bomanjee*.



Gerhard, Karl & Carsten, Pilta wodli

Happening in the Hood

There's been a lot more fencing going in around the vineyards in the hood, Casella Wines (Yellowglen etc.) and Treasury Wine Estates (Penfolds, Wolf Blass etc.) amongst them. And it's not so much to keep the swagmen out

but to keep the jolly jumbucks in. Part of a change in vineyard management is to have sheep graze in winter for weed/grass control and additional fertiliser.



Sheep in Logan's Block next door awaiting transport

History Snippet

This is a summation of an amazing sequence of connections over geography and time relating to the *Pestonjee Bomanjee*, a barque of 595 tons. The full story will be published in due course (I'm still working on it).

- . The Dresden Missionary Society missionaries Christian Teichelmann and Clamor Schurmann arrived in South Australia on Friday, 12 October, 1838 aboard the *Pestonjee Bomanjee* ex London and Plymouth (Dept. 11th June).
- . Also aboard were Governor George Gawler, the colony's second governor, and the three Holbrook sisters, Elizabeth, Harriet & Hannah from Derby, England, as was Gawler. The sisters were part of Gawler's party.
- . Hannah is my partner Susan's great, great grandmother. Gerhard Ruediger is married to Schurmann's great, great granddaughter.
- . In April 1844 Elizabeth (Holbrook) married Samuel Klose, another Dresden missionary who arrived later in July 1840. Elizabeth lived at Piltawodli with Samuel and taught the Kurna girls domestic skills.
- . Karl Telfer visited Germany in 2011 and has seen some of the needlework made by the Kurna girls under the guidance of Elizabeth.
- . Teichelmann established a second mission for Kurna at Happy Valley. It failed and Samuel Klose then purchased the land where he, Elizabeth and daughters lived for many years.
- . Schurmann camped the night at Kanyanyapilla on 24th July, 1839, on his way to Encounter Bay with Mathew Moorhouse, Protector of Aborigines, with Kurna man Wauwitpinna and an unnamed Kurna boy. They camped there at the invitation of surveyor John McLaren (McLaren Vale named after him) who had a field camp there. Schurmann noted: *At 12 o'clock we left Adelaide. I was loaded with nearly 30 pounds of meat, Wattewattipinna [Wauwitpinna] with nearly as much bread, the boy with 12 pounds of flour, and Moorhouse with tea, sugar, and rice, approximately ten pounds. With these burdens, we walked 16 miles to Maryhutt Valley [on the first day].*
- . Schurmann recorded the name Kanyanyapilla (as did Louis Plesse, a survey assistant).
- . Also on-board the *Pestonjee Bomanjee* was James Hawker who was part of the survey party for District C in the second half of 1839. District C, now Hundred of Willunga, is the location of L50K.
- . Gawler, as Resident Commissioner, made the land grant of Section 194, District C on 7th November 1839 to William Edleston, an absentee Yorkshire land holder (speculator). L50K is half of Section 194.

And Finally

Another orbit of the Earth around the Sun comes to a conclusion soon; the two thousand and eighteenth according to the Gregorian calendar. Acknowledge and enjoy it as you may. Also enjoy the 14 hrs 30 minutes and 35 seconds length of day on this day (if reading 22nd December). Winter now approaches.

And if you're looking for some down time reading, Adelaide arts writer Chris Reid has contributed to the online publication *Fine Print* an article *The Artist as Environmental Change Agent*. L50K and the Palmer Project get a mention, available at <http://www.fineprintmagazine.com/current/#/artist-as-environmental-change-agent/>.

Cheers Gavin

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