



Lot 50–Kanyanyapilla, McLaren Vale

Bi-cultural Ecological and Cultural Regeneration

Newsletter No 9, March 2018

Hi Everyone

News

The (Shelter) Shed

The shed is finally well under way. Although designed and approved some time ago, little progress had been made as land management was given the top priority; those pesky weeds and planting and watering trees.

The concrete floor was poured in five sessions over five months as it turned out, all with Susan's help to screed and float, the last one in the rain in December. Aaah, rain, I remember it well. Once the floor was finished the vertical element could really get cracking, stick by stick, the biggest stick with a cross-section of 240 mm by 75 mm. Thanks to Ched and Steve for assistance with roofing, Ian with wiring and Tim with internal cladding. Progress as of mid-March below.

The design picks up on a few farm building traits over time. The frame is Native pine (Callitris), Oregon and steel, the cladding galvanised iron and various timbers; Western Red Cedar, Jarrah, Native pine and more. The build is also an exercise in utilising all the salvaged timber and other building bits I have collected over time.

The shed has been named the Shelter Shed, as that's what it does for 'man and machine'. There will be a little tuck shop there too. Does anyone have any of those flavoured straws for the recess time milk? Strawberry?



History Festival Open Days – May

The annual open day has been held over to be part of the History Trust's *History Festival* in May. L50K will be open Sunday 13 May, Wednesday 16 May and Saturday 19 May, 10.00am – 5.00pm. There will be a series of presentations, details to be advised closer to the date.

Reminder - Drop the Lot

Last two Friday evening gatherings are on April 6th and May 4th, 4.00 pm onwards.

Other Stuff

1988 Landscape Painting, Haryanto (Tok) Basuki

Last issue included the painting of the Maslin Creek reed swamp. It never ceases to amaze me how things come out of the woodwork and then, what happens after that!!

Firstly that the landscape painting surfaced at all was incredible and now, it turns out that an old friend of mine, Helen, knows Haryanto or Tok quite well. He returned to Australia and has been living in Adelaide for some time and continues to paint. In fact he was a finalist in the 2016 Fleurieu Art Prize and in 2013 won the Water and Environment Prize of the Fleurieu Art Prize (now the Fleurieu Biennale).

Archaeology (Post contact)

It's time for a quick update on a slow process.

The best of the artefacts have been photographed by Eleanor Adams, who does that as a day job in the SA Museum but did this as a volunteer. Then on to Grant Gully at Flinders University for microscopic photography of the edges of the glass artefacts. This allowed full recognition of the use of the glass.

On site Tony Tonkin, a cousin and surveyor, volunteered to come down to map the site; contours, location of artefacts etc. Must have taken a hundred readings,

Which is all leading up to a paper *Aboriginal Historic Archaeological Site, Kanyanyapilla, McLaren Vale, South Australia - Glass and Hybridity* which has been submitted for journal publication. Takes a while for that process to resolve itself so we just wait now.

Distinguished senior archaeologist Peter Sutton paid a visit a few months back. Keryn, project archaeologist, invited him down to see what's going on.

Rainfall!!

After last summer's above average rainfall which gave the 2016 plantings a comfortable time, this summer is the counter in the averaging process and is particularly dry. December was patchy but January and February rainfall was well down and nothing yet to mid-March, a total of 17.6 mm from the average of about 55 mm to this point of the year, just a third of the average. Despite hand watering 1,000 plants (initially) with 2 litre milk containers, losses are mounting and will probably be about 20-25% of the 2017 plant out. I've noticed quite a few plants dying along the Southern Expressway duplication, this being their first year under stress.

Happening in the Hood

It's all about ferals this issue.

Old joke: What's the hardest things about getting rid of ferals in your neighbourhood?
Where to hide all the old Kombies.

Feral Olive Removal - *Free the Tree*

I saw a sign, praise be, and the removal of feral olives around remnant Mallee box along Branson Road soon commenced courtesy of Council and NRM.



It has been a tedious process of 'drilling and filling' the multiple olive trunks and saplings with poison and monitoring their decline before final removal. The results are now becoming apparent; praise be. And a bonus is the view into the neighbours' remnant Mallee box as well, photo next page.



Meanwhile, back at the ranch, feral olive removal has taken another leap forward along Branson Track (old road reserve) with Council and I working collaboratively. An old friend Ched has been helping with the clean-up of all the prunings for burning this winter. About twenty trailer loads I reckon.



Feral Pine Removal

And not only olives are on their way out, the stand of feral pines along Victor Harbor Road adjacent the south-west corner of L50K is going....going....gone, courtesy of NRM revealing a few native trees. The olives in that vicinity have already been removed courtesy of DPTI. This really opens up the view into L50K from the VHR and Nick and Jamie's carbon offset site in particular. That corner has the steepest and sandiest slope, former absolute beachfront, and I'm heavily vegetating it to hold it together and reduce maintenance. So, it will be a good window into the project (or a great billboard site, any offers).



Anyone remember GROAP from back in the 70s I think. Get Rid of All Pines, an activist group agitating and actioning the removal of feral pines in the Adelaide Hills. John Wamsley of Warrawong Sanctuary and 'cat for a hat' fame was involved. Their acronym certainly caught attention and did lead to action. Our good friend *Pinus radiata* has a place in construction but not in the stringy bark forests and road reserves.

Palmer Sculpture Biennial

Not quite in the hood but head east towards Mannum and the Murray and along the way is Palmer and the 8th Sculpture Biennial. Featuring works displayed in the landscape by 27 artists from South Australia, interstate and overseas it is open until Sunday 15th April on Wednesday afternoons 2.00 – 5.30 and Saturdays and Sundays 11.00 – 5.30. Located on Greg John's 160 ha hilly property, good walking shoes and water are necessary. The property is 3.5 kms north of town along the Davenport Road which is opposite the pub.

For further details see <https://palmersculpturebiennial.org/> or email palmer.sculpturebiennial@gmail.com.

The Year in Review, 2017

To maintain the tradition of reviewing each year's activities through images here's some of the activities/highlights of the last year to February 2018 (the land was acquired 17 Feb. 2015).

Rise of the Machines

Not a lot of heavy machine work this year but had the biggest daddy of all on site so far, a Stratcosaurus, to deliver the shelter shed steel. Coming in at 12 metres, or 40 feet, and weighing well over 15 tonne, Graham the handler skilfully navigated the gate and sand track and the Stratcosaurus shed some of the steel plating on its back for the shed, shed side!! I did have some awful thoughts about a Stratcosaurus stuck somewhere or having to shed its load anywhere. Phew.



Things Built or Baled



The Bullshed built



The hay baled

Critters



Big blue swamp dragonfly



A swarm above

Watching



Watching the sunrise



Watching the moonrise



Watching the sunset (when you are from the northern hemisphere)



Watching the grass grow

Fire



The ferals are burning



Paloma's ceremony

Water



Two years in a row, hat-trick unlikely



Night view, Pethick Road

Archaeological Research



Recording the big picture



Recording the detail

Carbon Neutral



Recording the doco

And Things You Can Only Do On 'Papa's Farm'



Head lice inspection



Head lice treatment

In Closing

Again my thanks to all who are supporting this project. This year particular thanks to Lexy, Nick & Jamie for their regular visits to assist. The fourth year, which will incorporate the final big plant out, is now underway.

Cheers *Gavin*

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Project Partners and Supporters



Natural Resources
Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges



Timelapse Adelaide



from little things