The Year 2009

2009 has been a tremendously busy and challenging year for the Friends Group. Several members have experienced death within their families, personal health problems thus limiting their involvement during the year. Despite these hiccups the momentum to develop Glenthorne Farm according to the Deed has been maintained.

THANKS to your support and hard work plus the splendid efforts of the Member for Mitchell Kris Hanna, a great deal has been achieved. The New Year will see us continue to work in partnership with Council, politicians and an extensive range of environmental groups.

For more than a decade, we have passionately worked to ensure the property is developed to be a natural flora and fauna cultural heritage resource for generations to come. We will endeavour to see it develop as a unique, dynamic area—a rich environmental legacy to those who come after us.

How much diligent work has been done on the site is reflected in the following information for the year -

Working Bee attendees : 29,
Hours worked : 233
Contribution @$20 per hour: $4660...

This hard work and camaraderie have contributed to the regeneration project.

We depend on our Friends to keep breathing life into the campaign. I am amazed at the commitment of our members in promoting the possibilities for the Property within the local community and also for their encouragement and moral support. So when I came across this quote from Winston Churchill, I immediately thought of the Friends of Glenthorne Inc.

"We make a living by what we do, but we make a life by what we give."

Thank You, Friends for everything you do for us.... We couldn't manage without you.

Best wishes to you and your family for the Festive Season.  

Peter S. 
Chairperson 
03/12/09

Thought for 2010

“Coming together is a beginning
Keeping together is progress
Working together is success”  
Henry Ford
SA Water regrets the damage caused to the Friends’ revegetation at Glenthorne Farm. The pipeline has crossed through the Friends of Glenthorne’s second revegetation patch and has adversely affected 1.75 hectares of revegetation that was just starting to produce viable seed and attract birdlife. The damage was created due to a change to the original pipeline route that was agreed to between SA Water and the Friends of Glenthorne back in October 2008. The change in route was not communicated to Kelly Westell in the Stakeholder Relations Dept in time to correct the problem and re-route the pipeline away from the revegetation. SA Water, through Kelly Westell, regrets this unfortunate chain of events. The Friends were not aware of this situation until the working bee of September 20th 2009, when two lines of bunting were seen crossing the revegetation and by then it was too late to stop it. The pipe is sourced from Queensland and this has created a schedule that could not be altered at such late notice.

In an effort to assist the Friends to recover from this disappointing situation, SA Water have agreed to provide valuable funding to assist future revegetation efforts and in addition, are organising for members of the Friends, with botanist Vicki Hagan, to visit the Happy Valley Reservoir over summer to collect valuable locally indigenous seeds. The efforts of Kelly and her team, not only in dealings with the Friends of Glenthorne, but also with archaeologists from Flinders University and other local groups and residents, are to be commended. SA Water have consulted with the local Community before the project started and continuously throughout the works phase and it is expected that their remediation efforts will continue after the pipe laying stage has been completed. They are consulting some of the best local biodiversity experts and are using mainly native local species to revegetate along the Lonsdale Highway.

It is expected that the local biodiversity and open space generally in the local area will benefit from the revegetation work being implemented by SA Water and it should be remembered that many of the trees and shrubs being removed for the pipeline strip are not locally indigenous and will be replaced with valuable plants of local providence.

SA Water has consulted directly with residents around Nari Drive Reserve and many of Simon Wheaton’s valuable native plants have been protected and saved.

The working bees for 2010 are as follows, subject to possible change at late notice.
17th January 2010 am
21st February 2010 am
21st March 2010 am
18th April 2010 am
16th May 2010 am
20th June 2010 (afternoon 1pm -4pm)
18th July 2010 am
15th August 2010 am
19th September 2010 am
17th October 2010 am
21st November 2010 am
December 2010 - To Be Advised

Working Bee-Functions

- To improve flora re-generation and identification skills
- To support each other as Volunteers from the local area
- To know the features of the property and its vegetation types
- Learn or update skills in plant identification

2010 Objectives

- Reveg with David Paton
- Building network contacts
- Participate in community engagement activities
- Expand Data base
- Utilize & expand Web-site
- Photo Gallery

AWARD

At the City of Marion presentation for Community Groups, Secretary Alan Burns, accepted on behalf of FOG the MARION HEROS Award, for sustained environmental efforts over a long period of time.
The event was held at the Marion Domain.
Congratulations to ALL – Well Done..