FORWARD 2010

2010 has commenced with productive Working Bees, partnership formed with Friends of the Lower Field River, Messenger articles and lots of meetings and phone calls. We are excited about the range of enquiries we’ve had from people wanting to know “what is happening with Glenthorne?” and wishing to join.

The 2009 Christmas Celebration, with 42 attendees, was testimony to the commitment, dedication and physical work of so many members. It was a great way to acknowledge and celebrate their achievements. The goodwill which evolves from such support is a priceless commodity. Thank you to everyone who contributed through 2009.

Come along in 2010 and view the productive efforts of our volunteers, at any of our working bees. You will be made most welcome.

The State Election has presented opportunities to raise FOG’s profile in having candidates state their views and ideas for the property and how FOG can best be protected in the formulation of a Management Plan for the property.

We are prepared to play our part, but expect all stakeholders to work together. We want a place at the table to dialogue with the University of Adelaide, ideas and issues on behalf of our communities and to be part of the planning process.

Here’s to another exciting year. Regards - Peter S.
Chairperson

Members of the Friends of Glenthorne Inc are continuing to be active in preserving a significant part of South Australia’s heritage and environment.

Website: www.friendsofglenthorne.org.au
Points of View

Glenthorne Farm is a significant part of the journey ‘going south’ through to the attractions of the Fleurieu Peninsula. It is a significant landmark and has the economic potential from eco-tourism: sustainable, low impact, recreational, heritage and cultural activities.

The development of ‘significant attributes’ would attract visitors, both local and overseas:
- Natural landscape & unique flora
- A sense of space and parklands
- Fauna corridors
- Closeness to Adelaide (16kms)
- Easy access

Election Matters

With State Election on the horizon, FOG Members are urged to approach candidates in their electorate to find out their position and plans for the future of Glenthorne Farm. Discussions could centre around -

- priorities and long term plans
- inclusion in developing an overview plan
- future Integrated Management Plan
- support for Federal Grant assistance and funding
- area as a natural space for ‘relief’ from urban sprawl and provide recreational opportunities without having to travel vast distances.

Working Bee Dates

The working bees for 2010 are as follows, subject to possible change at late notice.

- 21st March 2010
- 18th April 2010
- 16th May 2010
- 20th June 2010
- 18th July 2010
- 15th August 2010
- 19th September 2010
- 17th October 2010
- 21st November 2010
- TBA December 2010

Of interest...

The University of Adelaide
Community Engagement Officer

We are seeking an enthusiastic individual to provide assistance in the successful delivery of community engagement activities across the University and to maintain mutually beneficial partnerships with the community in accordance with the values expressed in the University’s Strategic Plan. You should have the ability to use well developed interpersonal skills to foster and build effective stakeholder relationships and the well developed ability to communicate clearly and effectively and relate to a broad range of people in a manner that engenders confidence through telephone conversations, written correspondence and/or personal contact.

Fixed term position available from Dec. 2009 for a period of 2 years.
Salary (HEO4) $46,868—$51,112 per annum plus an employer superannuation contribution of 9% applies.
Legacy assets for sale

.....proposed sale of a spread of historic farms and stations by the University of
Adelaide raises the question of the rights of our benefactors.
.....the university is selling its huge agricultural properties.....
.....the university views it as a straightforward financial transaction. Proceeds from the sales
will help pay for the infrastructure for research into agriculture at Roseworthy College and
Waite Institute.
.....as long as the properties were kept, there
was a link between the institutions and the re-
markable men who made generous bequests of
their land-holdings.
.....the university makes it clear it has no legal
obligations to keep the properties, but
obligation has different meanings when it
comes to bequests. The university accountants’
version of obligation here is all about solving
short term problems.

Extract 'The Advertiser' Heritage Matters
by Tim Lloyd

Field River Plan

A 33 page Lower Field River concept plan-
commissioned by the Adelaide and Mt Lofty
Natural Resources Management (NRM) Board-
focusses on the area downstream of Glenthorpe
Farm, O’Halloran Hill, to the mouth of the river at
Hallett Cove.

NRM projects manager Steve Gatti said the
site was an ‘open space opportunity that’s too
good to miss”. “It’s such valuable land in that it’s
rare to have a significant open space parcel in a
heavily urbanized area”, he said.
Friends of Lower Field River Chairman David
Greenough said he supported the concept plan.

“This highlights the urgent need to resolve
the land issues of the Lower Field River.... for
the benefit of the whole community and the
environment ”, he said

Excerpts from Guardian Messenger 27/01/2010 by
Matt Turner

Glenthorpe Farm is a significant part of the whole
picture. David Greenough & David Squirrel from
Friends of Lower Field River have met with Peter and
Alan.

Fact File

Valley Plans

The report produced by Australian
Water Environments, purposes:

- Wetlands with the potential to
  harvest water to supply local homes
- Open space and picnic areas all at the
eastern and western ends of the Field
River Valley
- A mountain bike riding area
- A network of trails including at least
  one multiuse trail for walkers,
cyclists, horse riders and emergency
vehicle access
- Signage for significant Aboriginal
archaeological sites and European
structures such as the State Heritage-
listed Worthing Mine
- A revegetation of the area by planting
local indigenous species and removing
exotic trees and:
- Vegetated linkages allowing animals
to move between creek line corridors
from the Field River Valley to other
open spaces, including Glenthorpe
Farm and Hallett Cove
Conservation Park.
The Fight for Glenthorne

The Memorandum of Understanding signed in 1998 and the subsequent sale Deed of 2001, were written to protect Glenthorne Farm from any urban development. The terms stated in the original Deed were rightly upheld by the State Government in March 2009, after much Community outcry. The University of Adelaide had planned 950 homes in the fragile valley which runs through the property, in order to fund its Woodland Recovery Initiative. Since March 2009, although not being included in the planning for the future of the property, and not being advised of any developments by the University regarding revegetation, the Friends have continued to nurture a number of revegetation sites on the property. Since December 2009, members have also been propagating seed from the Happy Valley Reservoir and other local remnant trees and shrubs, and this year, for the first time, we expect to plant over 550 of our own plants. The University of Adelaide is due to produce another Concept Plan for Glenthorne for State Government consideration by June this year, and it is hoped that the Friends will be included in discussions at some point in 2010. The efforts of our group over the past 14 years cannot go unrecognized any longer.

2010 Objectives

- Building network contacts and forming partnerships with other Agencies
- Participate in community activities to promote FOG
- Expand Data Base and utilize Web-site (www.friendsofglenthorne.org.au)
- Photo Gallery to record activities
- “Re-constructing” environmental issues associated with development of Glenthorne Farm for community consumption by:-
  - Information transfer
  - Communication
  - Awareness Raising
  - Fostering debate
  - Developing a point of view

If you would like further information, contact -
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Secretary/Treasurer
Alan Burns
Tel. 83405509 (w)
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caburns1@bigpond.com

Working Bee

Functions

- Control weeds and assist in revegetation efforts.
- To support each others as local volunteers.
- To know the features of the property and identify its vegetation types.
- Bird identification, seed collection and heritage protection.