

Friends of Glenthorne Inc

March 2008



Activities for 2008

WORKING BEES

Members and Volunteers are asked to meet at the front gate of Glenthorne Farm before 10.00am so that signing in can be organised for insurance and OH&WS purposes.

Working Bee Volunteers are requested to be signed up members so that insurance cover applies. Membership cost just \$5.00

Activities Include:-

- **Weed Control:**
Hoing, spraying with glyphosate, cut & swab and brush cutting etc.
- **Revegetation:**
Planting and watering of indigenous trees, shrubs and riparian plants & grasses etc.
- **Seed Collection**
- **Bird Surveys**
- **Photo Opportunities**

The Friends of Glenthorne Inc. provide equipment such as brush cutters and hoes, as well as personal protective equipment for the safety of all members and volunteers. The use of Volunteers personal working bee equipment is encouraged..

ACTIVITY DATES FOR 2008

Working Bees—Assemble at Majors Road entrance **15 minutes early** to sign in.

Committee Group—O'Halloran Hill TAFE College

Open Meeting—Trott Park Neighbourhood Centre

Working Bees

20 April 1pm—4pm
18 May 10am—1pm
15 June 10am—1pm
20 July 10am—1pm
17 Aug. 10am—1pm
21 Sept. 1pm—4pm
19 Oct. 10am—1pm
16 Nov. 10am—1pm

Committee Group

20 Apr 4pm—4.30pm
18 May 1pm—2pm
15 June 1pm—2pm
20 July 1pm—2pm
17 Aug. 1pm—2pm
21 Sept. 4pm—4.30pm
19 Oct. 1pm—2pm
16 Nov. 1pm—2pm

Open Meeting

18 March 7.30pm
17 June 7.30pm (AGM)
16 Sept. 7.30pm

CARING TO IMPROVE OUR NATURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Progress of our Work at Glenthorne Farm

In 2007 our group planted 100 indigenous shrubs and grasses along the water course to compliment the already 4,500 trees and shrubs planted since September 2002.

The groups' members have received training in Brush Cutter Safety & Operations as well as Chemical Handling. With the assistance of SA Urban Forest their skill will be valuable in protecting the remnant Grey Box (*Eucalyptus Microcarpa*) trees located on the eastern side of the property along South Road. These trees have significant heritage and biodiversity value.

The Friends are very appreciative of the University of Adelaide for the use of the 2 car garage on the eastern hill, to house our equipment trailer and use it for shelter when Winter weather is extreme.

We also now have access to the toilets located in Building 23 and accept the cleaning responsibility.

Secretary, Alan has produced a promotional DVD featuring aspects of the farm. This valuable resource, in a brief space of time raises awareness of the views to the natural features, vegetation and cultural significance of the property. Copies can be obtained by contacting Alan.

(Subject to University Approval)

Project Site 2008	Top dam area and creek line planting, also around big dam and next section down stream.
Landholder	Adelaide University
Total Funding	\$15,199
Funding Stream	SA Urban Forest Million Trees Program
Funds Management	City of Marion

Project Description

1. Will maintain existing planting areas as well as providing in-fill plantings of sedges and rushes along the top dam and in the creek line.
2. Will provide woody weed removal, particularly olives and willow trees around the big dam and in the section downstream
3. Broadleaf weeds and perennial exotic grasses will be managed and controlled in both the top dam and along planted creek line.

Partner	<u>PROJECT CONTACTS</u> Title/Position	Role in Project
Adelaide University	Bob O'Reilly, Office of the Executive Director, Finance & Infrastructure	Manager of Property
Martindale Holdings Lease Holder	Bill Foord—Land Manager	Agronomic business running sheep, manages access.
Dept. Environ. & Heritage Urban Biodiversity Unit	Chris Gibson, Project Delivery Co-ordinator Carolyn Woods Biodiversity Project Officer	On ground vegetation management works. Planning & implementation
City of Marion	Suzy Stiles, Manager Strategy	Council Liaison
Friends of Glenthorne	Alan Burns, Group Co-ordinator	Holds monthly working bees in top dam area and along planted creek line.

News from Alan (Secretary)

Thanks to Andrew Nicholls

Back in September 2006 Bob Kirby, Leighton Smith and I (Alan Burns) were fortunate enough to attend an informative training seminar conducted by Andy Nicholls on the correct use and handling of chemicals. Andy's obvious wealth of knowledge, experience and ability to entertain as well as teach those in attendance, meant that we all left that evening with valuable training that would assist us to control weeds but at the same time protect the environment from incorrect use of chemicals.

Recently the Friends of Glenthorne were looking to purchase a Hardi Spray Back Pack, as Andy had recommended 18 months previously, so I gave Andy a call to get some advice. He mentioned that he had one that was surplus to his needs and that if I wanted to call into his place that evening, I could make an offer on behalf of the Friends. The unit has been used only as a demonstration sprayer and was in excellent condition. They are very expensive to buy new, so I shot up to Oakbank that Wednesday evening after work, hoping to get a bargain. After explaining that we were a volunteer group working to save Glenthorne Farm from housing, Andy kindly donated the unit complete with nozzle and accessories free of charge. The Friends of Glenthorne want to thank Andy for his kindness and it was Andy's 60th birthday that weekend, so from all associated with our group, we sincerely hope that you had a great day and enjoyed your mystery weekend away with your wife

February 2008 Working Bee Report

Leighton and Carly cut the phalaris grass on the western and southern side of the small dam and Bob, Alan and Don cut 9 large chaff bags of thistles which we removed from the second reveg. area.

I have filled two wheelie bins with the thistles and disposed of them through the council pickups. We also pulled numerous olives.

Extract from letter to Birds S.A.

I am the Secretary /Treasurer of the Friends of Glenthorne which works within the local community for the protection of Glenthorne Farm located at Majors Road, O'Halloran Hill. This site is approximately 200 hectares and has been controlled by the University of Adelaide since 2001. Our group has been working for its protection since 1996. Since 2002 we have held working bees.

This year we will be working in partnerships with the DEH of SA, Urban Forests, Million Trees Program to plant around 700 more plants and remove woody weeds from the large dam which lies down the stream from two current revegetation sites.

Glenthorne Farm is a site that has been isolated from the public since 1913 when it was used by the army to agist horses for 2 world wars and in 1947 the CSIRO took over. Following their departure, the University was given control in 2001, under the supervision of the State Government. Before that it was settled by Major Thomas O'Halloran in 1839 and heritage buildings remain, although the lack of protection sees them deteriorating every year.

For 12 years I have worked with others in our group for protection of this wonderful site which is located near the Happy Valley Reservoir, the O'Halloran Hill Recreation Park and the Field River. Over this time I have seen the power of the people's will to strengthen the protection of this site. Without our group there would be over 1,000 more houses in the south and 200 hectares less land for the local wildlife and biodiversity to survive in.

FOG.

Friends of Glenthorne Inc

CARING TO IMPROVE OUR NATURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Historical Background

A condensed chronology of the Glenthorne property which falls under the parent title of CT4129/765 (Vol. 5377, Folio 7) is given below.

- **1839:** Major O'Halloran arrives with his wife and two sons on the Rajasthan to take up his land grant
- **1839:** O'Halloran family moves to Lizard Lodge, 10 miles from Adelaide
- **1840:** O'Halloran appointed Major Commandant of the S.A. Militia and Commissioner of Peace
- **1842:** O'Halloran resigns his positions and enters Legislative Council
- **1870:** O'Halloran dies at the age of 83
- **1878:** O'Halloran Estate purchased by Thomas Porter, who renamed the estate Glenthorne
- **1879:** Construction of Glenthorne House
- **1903:** Estate purchased by George Brookman, MLC
- **1910:** Estate purchased by Harold Charles Drew
- **1913:** Glenthorne compulsorily acquired by the Commonwealth and established as No. 9 Remount Station
- **1932:** Glenthorne House gutted by fire and remains razed by military engineers who leave little evidence of the original house
- **1947:** CSIRO (then CSIR) acquires the property to establish Glenthorne Field Station
- **1996:** FOG hold first meeting in the office of the then Federal MP for Kingston Susan Jeanes
- **1998:** Friends of Glenthorne Inc becomes an incorporated entity

- **2001:** University of Adelaide purchases Glenthorne property from the CSIRO with a \$7.0 million grant from John Olsen State Government
- **2002:** First FOG working bee held at Glenthorne Farm

Objects & Purposes

To preserve and enhance the Natural and Cultural heritage assets of the property for perpetuity

- To maintain integrity of current legislation at State and Local Government levels that ensures long term certainty for maintaining the area as 'Open' space
- To assist with formulating a long term VISION for the establishment of a Integrated Management Plan for the Property.

**We look forward to you joining us.
If you would like further information,
Contact -
FRIENDS OF GLENTHORNE INC.**

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