



SAVE PROTECT RESTORE

# NATURE FOUNDATION SA

2016/2017  
ANNUAL REPORT

A landscape photograph showing a sunset or sunrise. The sky is filled with dramatic, dark blue and purple clouds, with a bright orange and yellow glow from the sun low on the horizon. In the foreground, there is a field of low-lying vegetation and a line of trees on the left side.

OUR  
VISION

Nature  
loved by  
all and  
thriving.


## NATURE FOUNDATION SA INC.


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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT



HELLO TO ALL NATURE FOUNDATION SA MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS.  
2016/2017 HAS BEEN A VERY WORTHWHILE YEAR FOR YOUR FOUNDATION.

A measure of the success of Nature Foundation SA is demonstrated in the following statements made by opinion leaders with whom we have connections but who are external to our structure

...“if all the Deductible Gift Recipient Status Environment Charities did the range of on-ground

activities that NFSA does there would be no need for the House of Representative enquiry into this sector” ...Tony Pasin MP and other enquiry members. The value of NFSA and the on-ground work it does was praised by Minister Josh Frydenberg and Tony Pasin again two months ago at a luncheon

...“Nature Foundation is by far the best example of a group using the environmental water allocation controlled by the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder and the best example of localism working as it is meant to”... David Papps CEWH

...“I could not have envisaged how incredibly important NFSA would become when I worked with Barbara to have it set up 35 years ago; you people have achieved the most remarkable success – it is an amazing organisation”... Hon David Wotton

The past 12 months has seen great advances in a number of areas where the Foundation has set out to develop business units within the day to day administration. Much of this is made possible by the Foundation's new CEO at the helm and a staff group which he has melded into the most cohesive functioning unit. The staff are producing great outcomes which, when further developed and if they are as successful as we wish them to be, will underpin the finances and future growth. Hopefully in the not-too-distant future this will allow us to engage more professionally in the various fields I've outlined below.

I heard the other day some comments about the Foundation needing new ideas. Of course we are open to new ideas, but we have to ensure those Council-approved initiatives that are already underway are given the best possible chance of success. The Foundation struggles at times to give enough time to a number of these approved programmes – to continue the amazing growth experienced over the last ten years; or we need to double the size of our current staff. It would be a very exciting period of growth if we had further staff dedicated to scientific programmes, event management, marketing, membership development, improving our brand awareness, administration, education programmes, fee-for-service operations, traditional owner liaison and tourism, including high-end high net-worth tourism.

The initiatives with the most exciting potential to produce income for the Foundation which were further developed the most last year are:-

The College Of Nature Champions which has been embraced so wholeheartedly this year by its Leader, ex-Senator Baden Teague, and is exciting all of us with its potential of raising and investing millions of dollars to solidly underpin the future of the Foundation. The philosophy of the CONC is for it to run in parallel with the Foundation's administration in a way loosely modelled on the extremely successful Waterhouse Club of the Museum, and it has the potential to be one of the most important initiatives in NFSA's 36-year history.

Volunteers For Nature: A programme that has taken a while to make its mark has finally begun to take a structured form. Most Not-For-Profit entities rely on their wonderfully committed volunteers; our approach is a little different to most. Whilst mass groupings of supporters are needed on occasions for tree planting events and large scale Grand Working Bees, we wish to develop Volunteers For Nature into a business unit, managed by a strong administrator actively seeking out volunteers with specific skills. For instance we already have a pro bono legal team in place helping us in most important ways, and are seeking to develop a pro bono accountants team. We need advice and direction in possibly setting up Limited Liability Companies to potentially weld together interested investors to purchase properties of important conservation value and a science-based group assisting NFSA to avert its monitoring and reporting responsibilities. We already have a great group of experts assisting us with developing walking and drive trails on our nature reserves. Already support in general office management is finally starting to take shape – we have up to five interns and a number of wonderful committed volunteers who take minutes, work at events, and assist in administration activities in the office. The value of this in-kind support is growing and will become a mainstay of NFSA's capacity to achieve its goals and continue to be financially successful. My guesstimate is that the mix of input into the day to day running of the Foundation in the future will be something like: Contracted Staff 45%, Council 20%, Committees 10%, VFN in its varying guises 25%.

Tourism both Eco-tourism and Geotourism: We have many initiatives under way in this area of interest – the development of great partnerships with the Marree Hotel, the Traditional Owners: the Arabunna, the Adnyamathana, the Kokatha, high end tourism operators; with leading geologists, earth scientists, and palaeontologists who have absolutely captivated us with explanations of some of the most outstanding examples of geoscientific interest. This will give NFSA the opportunity to explore Geotourism options which, in parallel with the amazing ecology of our properties bursting with the cultural influence of our first peoples and of course the pastoral history of the early European settlers, has the potential to partner with tourism enterprises to bring income to the Foundation. Already, we are being approached by companies who can see the potential of our properties, and expert Aboriginal guides offering to come on board and make this business model successful.

A perfect example of one of the most integrated opportunities to experience all the elements I have outlined can be experienced through the magnificent Hiltaba Founders Trails concept – bush walkers, of which there are hundreds of thousands in this country, now have an amazing option to visit and stay at Hiltaba with all of its beautiful refurbished accommodation or camping options. They can also walk one or five most intriguing trails of varying length and degrees of difficulty, opening up five very different features of this amazing Hiltaba Granite country with its rarest of trees and plants, wonderful wildlife and fascinating geological features, highlighting Traditional Owners petroglyphs and namma holes as well as fascinating European pastoral history. Since setting out to develop this unique attraction, the fifth trail (the David Cleland Walk) has just been started and we have developed



two superb, very well-described vehicle tours as well. This example and many more can be used to successfully attract income producing visitors to bring in income for the Foundation.

Grant applications continue to mean a significant proportion of staff time needs to be committed to this task but what a success story it is. Many of the most generous philanthropists don't respond to direct approaches so sensitivities are most important when working in this field. As the Foundation is developing a higher profile in the wider community and our people are becoming more skilled in preparing and presenting applications, some of the most important successes in our body of work for Water For Nature has exploded its programme because of being able to attract significant financial support from two leading philanthropic bodies. We continue to develop skills in this field with a view to further attracting support.

Glowing praise from the CEWH continues to be forthcoming. In the last year we have established a financial arrangement with the CEWH and his department, which enables NFSA to significantly increase the amount of watering we carry out. Currently 50 sites, under the leadership of a senior staff member, are being watered with the WFN programme breaking even financially in a very difficult operating year (high river), which is a major achievement.

Post Graduate Grant Giving Event: For some time the Foundation has spoken of developing an event to highlight the post-graduate grants programme, with a view to enhance its standing within the academic world but also to attempt to engage with corporate and business entities to connect with this most worthy of initiatives. I was very pleased that this five-year-old concept I've tried so hard to see developed was embraced by our new Vice President, and became real at a very successful presentation evening at UniSA during the year. I am looking forward to seeing this concept grow into a major success story for NFSA with the planned outcome being to attract further financial support from external donors to both enhance the programme and, develop a funding stream. This means the Foundation does not have to commit funds from its general revenue stream and can continue to develop this wonderful programme.

ALCA (the Australian Private Land Conservation Alliance) had not been very high on the Foundation's agenda for some years until the arrival of our new CEO who has been at the forefront of revitalising our connection with this group – our capacity to engage with Federal Ministers and departments has been dramatically improved. Amongst the issues being presented to the Federal Government by this body is the proposition that the Feds commit money to Conservation as had been done for many years, but largely dispensed with by Prime Minister Abbott. If ALCA and its national member bodies achieve their goals, I would expect NFSA to be as successful as it has been for most of its duration in attracting funds to continue its 36-year commitment to place more underrepresented land into the National Reserve System.

The above were all initiatives with income potential or growth, which developed significantly in the Annual Report. I'd just like to briefly highlight some other important features of 2016/2017.

The Grand Working Bees, with around 65 participants have not only achieved wonderful outcomes for the actual four days of effort annually, but has given the Foundation the opportunity to engage with an exciting group of supporters, many of whom are now very committed Foundation members and people who donate much in the way of practical support and infrastructure support throughout the year.

Whilst ALL committees are great achievers, I must mention the work of the Property Management Committee – it is an amazing success story. All properties are exceptionally well-managed, well-appointed and a credit to the Foundation. I particularly mention its work because I believe no Conservation or National Park offers options equal to those offered by the Foundation properties in this state.

Circus Oz in July last year was a fabulous success in that 4,800 people connected with the Foundation at an extremely professional enjoyable event. Financially it wasn't the success we over-budgeted for, as it didn't sell the tickets required despite a significant marketing effort. However, due to excellent financial support from the entertainment

industry (venue costs, lighting and sound etc), plus the great support of a small group of underwriters, the loss was minimal. The outstanding value, unlike anything the Foundation has ever achieved in its 35 years, was the range of patrons who attended (many with their kids or grandchildren) and were 'gob-smacked' by the performances. Our guests ranged from state and federal politicians, our Premier and family, and ministers—to donors, suppliers, our resource industry partners, our corporate and academic partners, committee members, friends, Foundation members, volunteers, media personnel, government department colleagues. It was a most wonderful direct connection with the SA Community and if the event was valued as a marketing exercise, as is the norm in these instances, the value to the Foundation would have been well in excess of \$250,000.

Kids on Country is a most worthwhile initiative, funded by Heathgate Resources, in which young Adnyamathana Port Augusta High students are invited onto Witchelina to experience the work we do. The exchange between the cultures and the appreciation from all involved makes all of us in the Foundation very proud to be involved. NFSA, with Heathgate Resources, was recognised for this work by winning the Premier's social inclusion award at the SACOME Annual Dinner. It should be mentioned that our involvement in SACOME-related activities earned the Foundation the recognition as the charity to receive income from the silent auction conducted by SACOME at its latest annual awards ceremony.

Carbon Credits: As each year passes, the opportunity for the Foundation to structure pathways to receive income from initiatives in this field have 'changed with the wind'. Nevertheless, the Carbon Committee has stayed the course and as this complicated, politicised debate rages on with the price of carbon, the concept will eventually become the norm and realise an income stream for the Foundation. The Carbon Committee, having negotiated for many months now, is poised to move tentatively into practical action in this space.

The Nature Foundation's managed investment portfolios performed well this financial year with returns in excess of 10% compared to returns of 4% or less for the previous financial year. For quite a while Council has been considering forming an investment advisory group to work with our advisors at Macquarie. It is hoped we can further improve the returns to the Foundation by doing this.

Another potential income-producing initiative is taking some shape over the last months of the Annual Report period and this is offering our expertise which exists in buckets – full in the Staff, Council and Committees and the Volunteers For Nature group – to third party entities. Already, a leading resource industry giant in this state is negotiating an MOU with us to contract us at a commercial Fee for Service.

There are many other initiatives that could have been listed such as Significant Environment Benefits (SEB), revolving funds like BushBank, events, our appeals and specific fundraising such as crowd-funding, but space does not permit me to do so.

Whilst many of the Foundation see the Foundation strictly as a conservation and science organisation it is in actual fact, based on its turnover, defined as an SME (Small to Medium Enterprise) which enjoys Deductible Gift Recipient status and is a Charity with an all-consuming interest in Conservation and Science. As President my focus has been on developing multiple income producing activities ALL of which honour the quest to improve the environment for the future.

Thank you to everyone for supporting the Foundation and thank you to all who have contributed in any way.



Bob Lott  
President

# CEO'S REPORT



THERE IS SO MUCH TO DO IN NATURE CONSERVATION THAT IT CAN BE A CASE OF NOT KNOWING WHERE TO START OR WHERE TO DIRECT OUR ENERGIES.

This is exactly the reason Nature Foundation SA has thought so deeply about developing its new five-year strategic plan, outlined on page 5. The Plan's emphasis is on people working together to spread understanding of the need for action, to inspire people to commit to making a difference, and to secure

and coordinate resources for positive change. Wouldn't it be great if every South Australian had such a heart for nature that it shaped their everyday decisions and actions? We very much look forward to reporting to you on progress based on fulfilling our new strategic plan next year.

The world is always in a state of change. Fossil discoveries and ancient geologies are testament to this. However, in our era the scale of human impact has measurably escalated. The pressures are great and growing, whether it be from a changing climate, introduced plant and animal pest species, or development pressure coming from the need to feed and house a growing global population. South Australia has an amazing diversity of plants and animals. While our state population is small, the challenge is large, as many species and ecosystems show need for help.

Nature Foundation SA is, and will, grow the difference it is making to nature conservation. The work on controlling Buffel Grass, a smothering invasive, is making excellent progress at Witchelina Nature Reserve. Extensive feral cat and fox control continues to suppress the pressure on birds, small mammals, and reptiles.

Scientific studies in partnership with universities continue to define the environmental threats, and assist in designing conservation responses. We would love to see species lost to areas of South Australia returning, such as mallee fowl at the southern end of Hiltaba Nature Reserve. On our website you can see some incredible drone footage of our nature reserves, and it will not be long before science and technology enable us to remotely monitor the response of native vegetation to conservation management.

With your support, we are working with a wide range of partners on the Mount Lofty Ranges Southern Emu-wren, which is found on

the Fleurieu Peninsula in very small numbers, including on Watchalunga Nature Reserve near Finniss. It is a great example of working together with local communities, scientists, donors, business sponsors, and particularly with volunteers on a wide range of activities to grow the population and secure the future of this tiny, shy bird.

Partnerships are vital in advancing our vision of Nature Loved By All and Thriving. The diversity of our existing or growing partnerships tells a story in its own right, and it includes a wide range of industries and businesses, Aboriginal communities, schools, universities, local Landcare groups, the philanthropic sector, our kindred environmental organisations, and local, state, and commonwealth governments and their agencies.

Our Water for Nature program also takes a partnership approach and has worked with over 200 volunteers as well as landholders, irrigators, and community groups. Over the past four years we have delivered 6,220 megalitres of Commonwealth environmental water to wetlands and floodplains in the South Australian Murray Valley. This growing environmental watering program has seen parts of the River Murray floodplain come back to life, something which could only have been dreamed of five years ago.

Nature Foundation SA, over its 36-year history, has had a role in protecting more than 1.1 million hectares of South Australia. We currently manage more than half a million hectares in our nature reserves, and have supported through grants more than 390 nature science students and projects. This annual report tells only a few of many stories made possible through your support as members, generous donors, volunteers, and as advocates for the places and species of amazing beauty, diversity, and curiosity that comprise nature in South Australia. To you, and the wonderful team at Nature Foundation SA, thank you for not only spreading the word, but also for making these achievements possible, and inspiring us to achieve even more.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Hopton'.

Hugo Hopton  
Chief Executive Officer



Witchelina Nature Reserve

# OUR STRATEGIC PLAN

WE SHARE WITH YOU OUR PURPOSE AND OUR VALUES IN THIS 2017 STRATEGIC PLAN.



## Our Vision

Nature loved by all and thriving

## Our Purpose

To advance nature conservation by raising funds, through community partnerships and by implementing science.

## Our Creed

To save, protect and restore nature

## Our Roles

- Nature conservation leader
- Community motivator
- Nature conservation land holder
- Fundraiser and funder
- Nature science advocate

## Who We Are

An apolitical, not-for-profit, science-based fundraising nature conservation charity that works on our properties and throughout South Australia to connect with and inspire others to save, protect, restore and sustainably manage South Australia's natural heritage.

## Values We Believe

- Nature is at the core of all we do
- People and their diversity matter
- In using resources very well
- Collaboration achieves more
- In being passionate, positive, curious and innovative

## Our Objectives

- Protecting and restoring more ecosystems and landscapes over a greater area
- Amplifying the funds and resources to advance nature conservation
- Involving more people and local communities in nature conservation
- Working towards best practice ecological and cultural management
- Continuously improving governance standards

## What Drives Us

- The critical need to create a future for species and ecosystems
- The need to generate funds for nature conservation
- The escalating impacts of climate change
- Increasing population and development pressures on the environment
- Conservation as a declining political priority
- The need to collaborate to do more with less
- The possibilities created by the rise of new technologies
- The opportunities created by emerging carbon and water markets
- The rising need for society to value nature for both societal and environmental purpose
- The need for growing scientific and cultural understanding of nature



Pygmy Bluetongue Lizard,  
Tiliqua Nature Reserve







# OUR RESERVES

NATURE FOUNDATION SA'S SIX RESERVES ARE MANAGED EXCLUSIVELY FOR NATURE CONSERVATION.



WITCHELINA

This 421,000 ha (4,219 sq km) nature reserve, acquired in 2010, is located 30 km north-west of Lyndhurst in South Australia's far north. The reserve spans three bio-regions and a diverse array of habitat types, providing critical habitat for a range of species.

Nature Foundation SA's active conservation efforts include removal of domestic livestock, priority weed control, removal of feral goats, tackling degradation caused by rabbits, and alleviating pressure on native fauna from fox and feral cat predation.

A stunning 682 feral cats, 200 foxes, 1668 rabbits and 2656 feral goats have been removed since 2010. Volunteers are progressing a property-wide program of mapping and control of buffel grass that has invaded creek-lines on Witchelina. Their efforts are gradually reducing the threat posed by this ecosystem-transforming weed.

Ecotourism opportunities, accommodation options, several stunning nature drives, and tag-along tours have been established to encourage visitors who seek to experience first-hand the natural wonder of this reserve. A group that regularly visits is the Scientific Expedition Group. In September 2016, SEG members made an exciting discovery of sub-fossils on Witchelina. Samples included material from the several extinct fauna species.



WATCHALUNGA

This 92 ha (0.92 sq km) nature reserve, acquired in 2014, is located near Finniss on South Australia's Fleurieu Peninsula. It is comprised of mixed samphire sedgeland, and low-lying swampland that is listed as a critically endangered ecological community under the Environment Protection and Conservation Act (1999).

The biodiversity on Watchalunga is highly significant. It includes the tiny Mount Lofty Ranges Southern Emu-wren, which is critically endangered (EPBC), as well as the Southern Bell Frog, which is listed as vulnerable (EPBC).

Nature Foundation SA's active conservation includes native flora planting to improve landscape connectivity, population monitoring, weed control, and removal of foxes to reduce predation pressure. The contributions of the Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority's Aboriginal Learning on Country team, and numerous other volunteers, have enabled vital restoration work.

Contributions received for the Summer 2017 Appeal specifically assisted incredibly important research that will improve our knowledge of the population viability of the Mt Lofty Ranges Southern Emu Wren. Similarly, surveys of Watchalunga's native fish and flora have provided vital underpinning knowledge.



HILTABA

This 78,000 ha (780 sq km) nature reserve, acquired in 2012, borders the Gawler Ranges on South Australia's Eyre Peninsula. The reserve contains diverse habitats, from acacia shrubland and casuarina woodlands to mallee forest and tussock grasslands. Numerous species of high conservation value, include 40 state-listed species and nine species listed by the Commonwealth for their conservation significance.

Nature Foundation SA's active conservation includes feral cat control and control of foxes to reduce predation on the small Yellow-footed Rock-wallaby population, and feral goat removal to reduce grazing pressure. Since 2012, an impressive program has removed 102 feral cats, 31 foxes, 324 rabbits and 11,397 feral goats. Also, volunteer effort has contributed to surveys, mapping, monitoring and general maintenance works.

Ecotourism accommodation is available for visitors seeking to connect with nature and learn about nature conservation and the cultural heritage of our landscapes. Of interest to visitors, work on establishing five bushwalks dedicated to Nature Foundation SA's Founders has progressed. These trails range from 2 to 10 km in length. Also, signposted Nature Drives have been established, with explanatory notes that detail ecological, cultural, and historical information. These improvements would not be possible with the dedicated assistance of our volunteers.





This 85 ha (0.85 sq km) nature reserve, acquired in 2010, is 10 km north-west of Burra in South Australia's mid-north district. The reserve is dedicated to the conservation of the endangered Pygmy Bluetongue Lizard.

Pygmy Bluetongues are less than 20 cm in length, and are found in native tussock grasslands containing grasses such as spear grass, wallaby grass, and the dark green iron grass.

A current five-year research project is aiming to develop simplified methodologies for monitoring Pygmy Bluetongue Lizard populations, to refine management strategies and to increase the involvement of local communities.

Another project, led by PhD students Jess Clayton and Torben Nielsen, has been investigating the impact of livestock grazing on the Pygmy Bluetongue. Pygmy Bluetongue Lizards require some grazing of pastures to access the right amount of sunlight and to be able to find and feed on grasshoppers. Too much grazing threatens this balance, so finding the right amount is a crucial factor in securing a future for the species.

Project partners include Flinders University, SA Museum, Zoos SA, Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources, Northern & Yorke Natural Resources Management (NRM) Board and the South Australian Murray Darling Basin NRM Board.



Para Woodlands is a former farming property north-east of Gawler that was generously donated by Mrs Elizabeth Law-Smith and her late husband David to Nature Foundation SA in 2003. Further connected property was purchased by DEWNR, with the combined area totalling 500 hectares. Nature Foundation SA and DEWNR are working together to restore grassy woodland ecosystems across Para Woodlands to provide critical habitat for fauna species, particularly woodland bird species that are declining in the Mount Lofty Ranges.

Creating functional habitat is a major component of ecological restoration at Para Woodlands. PhD student Monique Smith (University of Adelaide) has continued her research on native grass species establishment at Para Woodlands and honours student Amy Nicholls (University of Adelaide) has undertaken her research project on establishment of eucalypts and grasses at Para Woodlands.

Thousands of over-storey plants are established each year, and native grasses have been direct seeded – the restoration effort is challenging. Fifty hectares were revegetated in 2016/17, including plantings as part of an experiment being undertaken by Associate Professor David Paton on the inheritance of flowering timing in eucalypts. In June 2017, 920 native tree and shrub seedlings were planted and 207 kg of native seed for native grasses was sown as part of the continuing restoration of the property. Additionally, 52 ha of existing habitat was improved through weed control, and declared weeds and overabundant species were controlled over 63 ha. The strategic use of grazing was expanded over 38 ha through fencing and water infrastructure reinstatement.

Thanks to the dedicated DEWNR staff who coordinated the planting, and to corporate and volunteer groups, individuals and families who have contributed throughout the year.



This magnificent 300 ha (3 sq km) sanctuary, acquired in 2010, is located near Kingscote Airport on Kangaroo Island and owned three-ways by Nature Foundation SA, the Paton Family, and a silent philanthropic partner. Over the last 13 years former sheep paddocks have been revegetated, with nearly 400,000 plants of 200 species—most propagated in the Cygnet Park nursery—and direct seeded, taking the total to more than a million native plants.

The program of works at Cygnet Park has moved to the next stage of restoration, which involves assessing if the revegetation is self-sustaining and resilient. In 2015–17, postgraduate, honours and undergraduate students from the University of Adelaide conducted research on pollinator networks and pollination of some of the understorey plant species. The work assessed seed banks on the plants and in the soil, and whether these are adequate to allow these species to re-establish after a disturbance like fire. Research also considered the spatial arrangements of some less abundant plants, identifying those species where the individuals are widely spaced and likely to be unable to exchange pollen with conspecifics and so unable to set seed. Where pollination of some plants is challenged by long distances between individual plants the solution is in-fill planting of this species, so that they can more readily exchange pollen and set seed. Annual bird surveys are conducted as well as weed control of a few problem species.



# CONSERVATION INITIATIVES

## MOUNT LOFTY RANGES SOUTHERN EMU-WREN



Emu-wren, photo Subbu Conley

Nature Foundation SA is focusing on rehabilitating Watchalunga Nature Reserve for the benefit of a population of Mount Lofty Ranges Southern Emu-wren (*Stipiturus malachurus intermedius*), as well as a diversity of other water dependent species like native fish, frogs and water birds. The wetland reserve has exceptional natural value, for it is at the confluence of the Finniss River and Tookayerta Creek.

The Mount Lofty Ranges (MLR) Southern Emu-wren is a small, cryptic bird that persists in highly fragmented populations in the Fleurieu Peninsula Swamps. The species is listed as Endangered under the Australian Government Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (1999) and National Parks and Wildlife Act (1995).

To help the MLR Southern Emu-wren population build on the Fleurieu Peninsula, more knowledge is needed. Vegetation structure and to a lesser extent floristic composition are important habitat components for MLR Southern Emu-wrens—but their influence on population distribution, density and persistence is unknown.

Nature Foundation SA is a participant in research work that aims to better understand the relationship between habitat attributes and MLR Southern Emu-wren distribution and density at landscape and site scales. Specifically, the research aims to:

- > identify environmental and landscape attributes that influence the distribution of the MLR emu-wren across the Fleurieu Peninsula swamps (landscape scale)
- > test the relative influence of key habitat attributes on the distribution and density of the MLR emu-wren within the Tookayerta catchment (site scale).

The knowledge generated is expected to inform swamp management to improve MLR Southern Emu-wren conservation. It is hoped findings will assist land managers to develop a clearer understanding of the habitat that supports MLR Southern Emu-wren populations in the Fleurieu Swamps. Also, it is anticipated the project will provide information about habitat suitability—the likelihood of MLR Southern Emu-wren being present in a range of vegetation types.

The project is managed by Natural Resources SA MDB and The University of Adelaide in partnership with Conservation SA, Nature Foundation SA and the University of East Anglia UK.

## ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE



When considered as a proportion of South Australia's biodiversity, the species diversity at Witchelina and Hiltaba Nature Reserves is highly significant—as shown in the Table below. The importance of Nature Foundation SA's work on these properties cannot be overstated.

We look forward to seeing instances of remarkable progress in ecosystem rehabilitation in the years to come. This change would not be possible without the help of our valued donors and supporters and we are grateful for their ongoing support.

### Biodiversity represented on Nature Foundation SA Reserves

Taxon	South Australia	Hiltaba No.	Hiltaba % of SA	Witchelina <sup>1</sup> No.	Witchelina % of SA
Mammals	167	18	11	32	19.2
Birds	482	102	21	160	33.2
Reptiles	241	47	20	46	19.1
Frogs	28	-	-	3	10.7
Inverts	1000's	?	?	361	?
Vascular Plants	4800	418	9	379	7.9

<sup>1</sup> 175 undescribed species were detected by the Federal Bushblitz biodiversity survey of Witchelina in 2010.

As shown by the Table above; the species diversity at sites Hiltaba and Witchelina, when considered as a proportion of South Australia, indicates the value of Foundations SA's work.



# INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS



## Industry Engagement Program

The Industry Engagement Program (IEP) contributes to Nature Foundation SA's Strategic Plan objectives, in particular:

1. To raise funds for nature conservation through voluntary contributions and beneficial partnerships with both private and public sectors;
2. To enable the long-term protection of high conservation value land and improve biodiversity values of degraded land.

A key focus of the IEP is to target delivery of third party Significant Environmental Benefit (SEB) offset projects, such as acquiring land and protecting and funding ongoing management of those areas, and undertaking revegetation and/or restoration on that land to re-establish habitats.

The Industry Engagement Manager continues to work with industries that incur an SEB liability, such as mining and petroleum companies, to improve outcomes for nature conservation. Over the last 12 months a number of projects have gained momentum with renewables projects in particular on the rise, following a decision to actively engage with the Clean Energy Sector.

Additionally, Nature Foundation SA wishes to establish partnerships beyond SEB obligations, which contribute to the vision and objectives of the Foundation. In keeping with this, the past year has seen a few 'firsts' for the IEP program: expanding from delivering SEBs to acquiring the capacity to design offset projects to create new nature reserves. One important development is the potential to acquire new land and work with other landholders to advance nature conservation.

Nature Foundation SA signed its first renewable energy project agreement with DP Energy, which is also the first agreement with an international (Irish) company. In the lead-up to this agreement the Foundation will undertake some fee-for-service work, acting in a consultant role to design SEB programs. This capacity to advise on SEB strategy, beyond our own nature reserves, is an exciting direction for the Foundation and increasingly important in the context of the new SEB policy.

Recently the South Australian Chamber of Mines and Energy (SACOME) chose Nature Foundation SA as a charity to receive support from their Annual Gala event, which is a significant acknowledgement. The focus for the coming year will be on collaborative effort, working with industry, Traditional Owners, landholders and community groups to achieve the best outcomes for nature conservation in the future.

## Kids on Country

In 2015, Heathgate Resources established its award winning Aboriginal School Mentoring Program (ASMP), which aims to encourage students to complete school, and to develop education and career pathways into the resources sector. As part of the ASMP, Nature Foundation SA delivers a series of ecological work experience camps called Kids on Country (KoC). The KoC camps provide students with opportunities for a deepening connection to Country and to build knowledge in land management and conservation, while developing important life skills. During 2016–2017 Nature Foundation SA delivered the following activities for the ASMP:

- KoC2 immersion camp at Witchelina for year 10 and 11 students
- KoC3 was unfortunately cancelled due to extreme weather conditions but Nature Foundation SA delivered the fourth ASMP camp to Kids on Country (KoC4) at Witchelina Nature Reserve.
- In November we promoted the Kids on Country program at a Careers Day at Port Augusta Secondary School
- KoC4 immersion camp for year 8 and 9 students.

Four girls and five boys from years eight and nine from Port Augusta Secondary School attended KoC4, and loved it. In response to feedback received, the 2017 camp was extended an extra day, to four days, to provide longer immersion in the experience.

Activities included a geocaching walk where students navigated using handheld GPS's, bird and plant identification, bird communication lessons, instruction in using vehicles safely, tree-planting, data collection and data management, and a drive into the Nature Reserve where students learnt about arid zone landscapes, flora, and fauna.

Students were respectful, engaged, enthusiastic to learn, and appreciative of the opportunity and all that was on offer. Port Augusta Secondary School teacher David Buckley summed it up as 'the best thing ever!'

The ASMP built in the Kids on Country camps as a natural extension of the existing partnership between Nature Foundation SA and Heathgate Resources, who offset vegetation clearance from the Beverley Mine through SEBs on Witchelina Nature Reserve. We look forward to welcoming back some of the previous KoC students to build on their learnings.

Heathgate Resources' ASMP has inspired Nature Foundation SA to create a dedicated youth program as part of our broader education initiative. Following a successful grant application, we have secured funding for a pilot program over a 12-month period, which is currently in development.

# WATER FOR NATURE



## FROM LITTLE THINGS BIG THINGS FLOW...

A LINE OF TALL GREY FIGURES, SKELETONS OF ONCE HEALTHY RIVER RED GUMS SURROUNDING A SMALL WATERHOLE NEAR RENMARK, WAS A STARK REMINDER OF THE EFFECTS OF THE DROUGHT, SALINITY AND WATER LEVEL CHANGE WHEN TWO ORGANISATIONS FORMED AN UNLIKELY PARTNERSHIP IN 2013.

The Renmark Irrigation Trust was seeking to demonstrate the role irrigators can take in being proactive and responsible environmental stewards. Nature Foundation SA's Water for Nature program, initiated in 2008, has a vision to foster a community of environmental water practitioners to protect and restore South Australian natural wetlands and floodplains.

The two organisations, together with Renmark Paringa Council, chose Johnson's Waterhole five kilometres north-west of Renmark as the first joint project. The floodplain surrounding the waterhole once had river Red Gums and Lignum, scattered Black Box trees, and thriving Samphire and Saltbush shrubland. Prior to river regulation, the waterhole filled nearly every spring and persisted for several months, but reduced flooding and extended drought have caused extensive environmental damage through lack of freshwater flows and the impacts of highly saline groundwater.

Environmental watering commenced in November 2013 with the aim of delivering 150 Megalitres (ML) over three years. The purpose was to create temporary wetland conditions starting in late spring and persisting into summer. Under the partnership more than 300 ML was delivered using existing Renmark Irrigation Trust pipelines, and some pumping with the help of the Renmark Paringa Council.

Within three years, Johnson's Waterhole has changed from a site dominated by Samphire to a wetland with a diverse range of native semi aquatic and floodplain plant species. The site is now ringed by patches of young Eucalyptus, Acacia trees and Lignum bushes, and is visited by many hundreds of waterbirds.

The Johnson's Waterhole success demonstrated to the Renmark Irrigation Trust that it would be possible to rehabilitate other degraded sites on the Ral Ral and Bookmark Creeks floodplains with the use of Commonwealth environmental water allocations. During early 2016 the Trust entered into its own partnership with the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder, the first irrigating body in Australia to do so. The land being rehabilitated is owned by either the Trust or

the Renmark Paringa Council. The new Trust program is managed in partnership with the Renmark Paringa Council and other community representatives. Five watering sites are now operational in the Renmark area with plans for another five. In addition to overall environmental benefits the Trust program enables the routine flushing of irrigation pipelines to now be applied to the environment, a win-win outcome. It also offers local people and tourists places to enjoy nature and more opportunities for cycling, walking and other outdoor pursuits.

Sometimes when you have a big vision and you want others to share it you just have to start something – from little things big things flow.

With the initial program, Nature Foundation SA was able to offer the Trust access to its environmental water allocation from the Commonwealth Government, assistance with State and Federal Government approvals, scientific monitoring, and additional equipment and funding. This made it easier for the Trust to experiment with environmental watering and demonstrate the benefits to the community. The two organisations now have their own Commonwealth environmental watering programs but share their learning regularly and are exploring new opportunities to work together again.

Nature Foundation SA's own Water for Nature program is continuing and now has 50 sites along the South Australian stretch of the River Murray. Over the past four years it has delivered 6.22 Gigalitres (6.2 billion litres) of Commonwealth environmental water. A big part of the program's success is its 200 strong volunteer base and the partnerships we have with organisations including local Landcare groups, Men's Sheds, Progress Associations and Councils. Our volunteers help deliver environmental water by re-fuelling pumps, moving irrigation sprinklers, and conducting scientific monitoring.

If you would like to find out more about Water for Nature, are a landholder with a wetland or floodplain that needs rehabilitating, or wish to become one of our many volunteers please visit our website or contact our Water for Nature Program Manager Natalie Stalenberg on 8340 2880, or [natalie.stalenberg@nfsa.org.au](mailto:natalie.stalenberg@nfsa.org.au).

# ADVANCING SCIENCE

For more than thirty years Nature Foundation SA has supported a range of grants and scholarships to provide a scientific basis for the conservation of our flora and fauna, and to help educate and enthuse the next generations of conservationists and scientists.

Over the years our dedication to choosing high quality projects that can yield valuable information outcomes has remained constant, but the

nature of the projects has evolved. We now also encourage work on Nature Foundation SA properties, where we provide excellent facilities for researchers.

As always, we could do so much more if only we had more funds! For more information about Nature Foundation SA scholarships and grants, visit: [www.naturefoundation.org.au/grants](http://www.naturefoundation.org.au/grants)

## Research Scholarship Grants 2016/17

UNI	STUDENT	DEGREE	TOTAL GRANTED	GRANT TYPE	TITLE
Flinders University	Rebecca Schaefer	Honours	\$985.00	Scholarship	Predator recognition in little penguins
Flinders University	Tara Daniell	PhD	\$3,000.00	Scholarship	Captive breeding of the endangered pygmy bluetongue lizard, <i>Tiliqua adelaidensis</i> , and training young lizards to survive.
The University of Adelaide	Kyneta Bhoola	Honours	\$1,500.00	Scholarship	Investigation of a genetic basis for oxalate nephrosis in koalas ( <i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i> )
The University of Adelaide	Peri Stenhouse	PhD	\$3,000.00	Scholarship	Malleefowl ( <i>Leipoa ocellata</i> ) in a changing climate: can we help a threatened species adapt to a drier and hotter environment?
University of South Australia	Nicole Miller	Honours	\$1,500.00	Scholarship	The effects of Nature Connectedness and Perceived Risks on Unstructured Nature Play – a Nature Play SA Participant Survey
The University of Adelaide	Nina Wootton	Honours	\$1,500.00	Scholarship	Quantifying Fish Assemblages in South Australian Marine Protected Areas
The University of Adelaide	Hannah Bannister	PhD	\$3,000.00	Scholarship	Factors influencing the reintroduction success and population persistence of brushtail possums ( <i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i> ) in a semi-arid environment
The University of Sydney	Claudia Santori	PhD	\$3,000.00	Scholarship	The ecological role and ecosystem services provision of the Murray River turtle
			\$17,485.00		

## Research Project Grants 2016/17

GROUP	APPLICANT	TOTAL GRANTED	GRANT TYPE	TITLE
Flinders Uni	Prof Mike Gardner, Lucy Clive, Bonnie Derne, Carmel Maher	\$5,400.00	Project	Pygmy Bluetounge Project
		\$5,400.00		

## Community Grants 2016/17

GROUP	APPLICANT	TOTAL GRANTED	GRANT TYPE	TITLE
SA Museum	Remko Leijds, Katja Hogendoorn, Richard Glatz	\$2,642.00	Community	Conservation of the green carpenter bee <i>Xylocopa aeratus</i> on Kangaroo Island
Oliphant Science Awards		\$1,700.00	Community	Sponsorship of the Oliphant Science Awards
		\$4,342.00		

## Roy & Marjory Edwards Scholarship

UNI	STUDENT	DEGREE	TOTAL GRANTED	GRANT TYPE	TITLE
Adelaide	Jack Tatler	PhD	\$26,068.00	R&M Edwards	Spying on dingoes in the desert: Where do they go and how do they behave when no one is looking?
			\$26,068.00		



# FEATURING RESEARCH

## PREDATOR RECOGNITION IN LITTLE PENGUINS

REBECCA SCHAEFER RECEIVED A NATURE FOUNDATION SA RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP TO ASSIST HER INVESTIGATION OF STRESS RESPONSES THAT PREDATORS, SPECIFICALLY CATS, CAUSE IN LITTLE PENGUINS (EUDYPULA MINOR). HER FINDINGS ENLIGHTEN OUR UNDERSTANDING OF HOW TO CONSERVE LITTLE PENGUIN POPULATIONS.

Cats prey on birds, so it follows that a cat would be likely to welcome a meal of little penguin. But, is it just direct predation – being eaten – that affects little penguins, or do cats stress little penguins so much by just being present that the penguins' health, and hence survival, is affected? And, can little penguins learn to recognise the imminent threat of a cat being present and take evasive action?

Little penguin populations in South Australia are suffering effects from multiple disturbances: predation, diseases, parasites, human impacts and pollution, to name a few. In such a precarious state, little penguins are vulnerable to external pressures. Chronic stress is one such pressure. Ms. Schaefer explains how birds suffer when their stress hormones are elevated: 'The immune response system is suppressed, which disrupts foraging ability, and can lead to nest desertion and reduced reproductive success or impair development of juveniles,' she says.

The aim of Ms. Schaefer's project was to measure the stress response experienced by little penguins when cats are present, and to determine whether little penguin recognition of cats as predators is an innate ability, or whether little penguins require previous exposure to cats to perceive them as threatening. 'As efforts to eradicate introduced species from Australia are often unsuccessful, a better approach could be to help enhance antipredator behaviours in prey species,' Ms. Schaefer explains, 'and recognising a predator as a threat is a critical precursor to evasive behaviour.'

The little penguin study was implemented at two South Australian sites: Emu Bay on Kangaroo Island, where little penguins are constantly exposed to cats, and at Troubridge Island in St Vincent's Gulf, where the little penguin population is free of previous exposure to cats. At both sites cat calls and little penguin calls (as a control comparison) were played to little penguins whose nests, and behaviour, were monitored with a camera. A dummy egg, which contained a hidden heart rate sensor, was installed in each monitored nest. Also, to assess the impacts of stress on each little penguin population, rate of hatch success was recorded.

'Our results showed that little penguins exhibited a stress response after hearing cats, even when they had never been exposed previously – it appears to be an innate response,' Ms. Schaefer says, which is encouraging. 'Also, although the results indicate that constant predator disturbance raises the stress level in little penguins, there was no significant effect on hatching success.' For the level of threat that the project imposed, which was limited to predator sound, little penguins seem to be able to cope.

Ms. Schaefer thanks Nature Foundation SA for the support received for her project, which helped her fulfil the requirements of an Honours Degree in Animal Behaviour at Flinders University.



### Little penguin nesting facts

- > Little penguins are mostly monogamous, with each pair producing up to two clutches of 1–2 eggs per clutch per breeding season.
- > Incubation lasts five weeks during which adult little penguins take turns incubating the eggs and foraging at sea.
- > Adult little penguins take turns remaining in the burrow for two weeks after hatching, as young chicks cannot thermoregulate themselves.
- > Once the chicks are 2–3 weeks old both parents forage during the day and return every 1–5 nights to feed the chicks.
- > Fledging occurs 8–9 weeks after hatching.

# OUR CONTRIBUTORS



Corporate Sponsorship – Toyota HiLux vehicles  
Nature Foundation SA was delighted to receive a corporate sponsorship of two Toyota HiLux vehicles from CMI Toyota in conjunction with the CMV Group Foundation in early February 2017. The HiLuxes have both recently received Nature Foundation SA branding care of CMI Toyota. The vehicles will be used by Alex Nankivell, Conservation Programs Manager, and Natalie Stalenberg, Water for Nature Programs Manager in the delivery of NFSA's conservation programs and Water For Nature program, and look fantastic on the road and in the bush.

Nature Foundation SA would like to say a huge thank you to CMI Toyota and the CMV Group Foundation for their generous support of our conservation work. It is partnerships like these that make a very significant contribution to advancing nature conservation in South Australia and are so highly valued by Nature Foundation SA. The new Toyota HiLux are just so perfectly designed for the Australian bush and the requirements of Nature Foundation SA to deliver its purpose.

Paul Crawford (Managing Director of CMV Group) met with Hugo Hopton (NFSA CEO) and staff (Alex Nankivell and Natalie Stalenberg) recently for an official handover of the vehicles.

## Valued Members

Members are the beating heart of Nature Foundation SA – they are vital! They are our chief supporters, and we cannot do what we do for nature conservation without them. Members can be individuals, couples, families, or business who have decided to join others in helping our environment. This year, in addition to the usual Membership benefits of newsletters, events, and voting rights at our AGM, we have introduced a Membership Plus option. Members can choose Plus if they are interested in receiving discounts to services on NFSA Nature Reserves. Visit [www.naturefoundation.org.au](http://www.naturefoundation.org.au) for further information.



Volunteers at the Witchelina Grand Working Bee, April 2017



Volunteers at the World Environment Fair, June 2017

## Volunteering

Volunteering to help the environment can be both fun and rewarding, and Nature Foundation SA offers opportunities for everyone who is interested. This year around 200 volunteers supported conservation works in numerous ways, and clocked up an estimated, and impressive, 4,125 hours.

Volunteers have helped by assisting with scientific monitoring, publications, helping with event preparation, at working bees and with general maintenance on nature reserves, tree planting, working on stalls at fairs, with citizen science, grant writing and pitching in to make sure events run smoothly—to name a few!

Importantly, volunteers are the living and breathing embodiment of Nature Foundation SA's values, for they matter, they are passionate and positive, curious and innovative, and their involvement means so much more can be achieved.



# MAKING A DIFFERENCE

## THE COLLEGE OF NATURE CHAMPIONS

The College of Nature Champions established itself in 2017, under the leadership of Dr Baden Teague. The College is a network of ambassadors whose objective is to strengthen Nature Foundation SA's effectiveness and public standing, especially by building Nature Foundation SA's Perpetual Endowment Fund.

The Perpetual Endowment Fund's income each year will provide untied, recurrent money for Nature Foundation SA's necessary expenditure year on year. A target of \$5 million has been set, so that an annual investment return in the region of \$300,000 might be achieved for Nature Foundation SA projects and processes.

The Inaugural Dinner of the College was well attended on Saturday, 18 February 2017. All College events are completely paid for by the College members themselves and do not draw on NFSA funds. The dinner was a wonderful night for Nature Foundation SA with good food and wines, music and splendid speeches about College objectives. Also for six of our College members who were unable to attend the Dinner, a lunch was happily convened on the following Friday in similar style.

During May and June more than \$40,000 was donated by College Members to the Nature Foundation SA Perpetual Endowment Fund. These donations are very much appreciated. At the same time College Members are increasingly alert to respond to any major benefactor who comes to speak to any one of us about helping SA's environment protection and conservation. In the next few years we hope to respond to several persons who may be million-dollar donors. This kind of major donation is the crucial need of our Perpetual Endowment Fund.

The College of Nature Champions only meets three times each year: in February, in June, and in October. Members are also encouraged to join in other Nature Foundation SA activities during the year, as we are all regular members of Nature Foundation SA as well. Our June meeting was a scientific excursion to Burra. And what a fabulous day we all had. Our Seminar was held in the Old Railway Station conference centre. Two topics, the Tiliqua pygmy lizard and the Megafauna fossils, were addressed by our own world experts, Professor Bob Sharrad and Professor Rod Wells. After lunch, we all went out to the fossil field at Redbank as well.

Nature Foundation SA wishes to sincerely thank those who have been willing supporters to date, and who are bringing fresh thought and new energy to the College.

## OUR CHAMPIONS

Reg Nelson (Patron of NFSA)	Dean Maywald	Hon Dr Don Hopgood
Susan Nelson	Dr Baden Teague	AO
Dennis Mutton	Katherine Teague	Hon Dr Rev'd Lynn
Ruth Mutton	Mary Wilson	Arnold AO
Elizabeth Law-Smith	Dr Robert Thompson	Elaine Arnold
Dianne Davidson AM	Patricia Thompson	Sir Lynton Crosby AO
Trevor Whitelaw	David Cleland	Lady Dawn Crosby
Jo Whitelaw	Valerie Cleland	Robert Champion
Dr David Williams	Thomas Hardy	de Crespigny AC
Helen-Mary Williams	Hon David Wotton AM	Melanie Champion
Hon Karlene Maywald	Jill Wotton	de Crespigny

## NATURE FOUNDATION SA'S ECOTOURISM INNOVATIONS ARE GROWING IN POPULARITY...

### Nature drives



Nature Foundation SA welcomes visitors who want to connect with the environment at Hiltaba and Witchelina Nature Reserves.

A dedicated committee, assisted by many volunteers, has established nature drives complete with track notes that guide visitors through geological features, flora and fauna information, Aboriginal culture, and pastoral history – for both Hiltaba and Witchelina Nature Reserves.

### Walking trails



A series of nature trails is also progressively becoming available; the Warren Bonython Walking Trail and the Betty and Bob Lewis Walking Trail were launched in 2015; the Barbara Hardy Walking Trail was opened during 2017. The Mark Bonnin Walking Trail will be opened in October 2017, and the David Cleland Walking Trail is to be launched in 2018. These trails are a great base for the wider community to explore and enjoy the beauty of Hiltaba Nature Reserve.

Accommodation infrastructure now offers a very comfortable and well equipped base for visitors, who can choose from shearers quarters, cottages, and campground options.

Membership Plus benefits include Membership and discounted accommodation and nature drives at Hiltaba and Witchelina Nature Reserves.



# OUR EVENTS

## SCIENCE ALIVE

5-7 August 2016 at Adelaide Showground



Nature Foundation SA was proudly involved with a wonderfully well-attended Science Alive event where the main focus was 'hands on fun that is interactive, dynamic, fun and educational'. The excellent numbers of visitors to Nature Foundation SA's stand learnt about its nature reserves, Treasure Hunt for Nature, and volunteering opportunities. Live native animals including Spotted Marsh Frogs and a Stymson's Python were a strong draw card. Enjoyed by all was the native animal origami for kids (and the young at heart).

## BARBARY HARDY TRAIL LAUNCH

26 August 2016 at Hiltaba Nature Reserve



Nature Foundation SA's co-founder and patron Dr Barbara Hardy, pictured above with CEO Hugo Hopton, and President Bob Lott together officially opened the Barbara Hardy Walking Trail, the 3rd of the planned five Founders Walking Trails under development at Hiltaba Nature Reserve. The 6 km trail through mallee, spinifex and granite boulders leads to breathtaking views. The five trails encourage managed public access to Hiltaba Nature Reserve, giving visitors a fantastic opportunity to experience this wonderful landscape. Fauna, flora, geology and natural and cultural history are explained in easy-to-use trail notes.

## BARBARA HARDY FOSSIL LAUNCH

1 September 2016 at The Holden Street Theatres



Co-Founder and Patron of Nature Foundation SA, Dr Barbara Hardy AO, had an early Cambrian chelicerate from the Emu Bay Shale, South Australia named in her honour 'Wisangocaris barbarahardya' by Jim Jago, UniSA; Diego Garcia-Bellido, University of Adelaide and Jim Gehling, South Australian Museum.

## TILIQUA LIZARD CRAWL

11 September 2016 at Tiliqua Nature Reserve



The 5th annual Tiliqua Lizard Crawl brought together scientists, community members and people of all ages intrigued by pygmy bluetongue lizards on Tiliqua Nature Reserve and their ecology and management. The focus was on the research work which continues to monitor the population size and consider the possible relocation of lizards from areas of high disturbance, or increasing unsuitability due to climate change. The continued involvement of community volunteers has helped to widen the appreciation of this unique species, once thought to be extinct, and build on the good prospects for its survival.

## WATER FOR NATURE EXCHANGE AND WETLAND TOUR

5-6 October 2016 at Banrock Station



Nature Foundation SA has been working with local communities and partners as part of its Water for Nature program to deliver water to thirsty River Murray wetlands and floodplains that would not normally receive water. The results are dramatic and visitors who took part in the Wetland Tour were given the opportunity to experience the results in person.

The Water For Nature Exchange was held at the Banrock Station Wine and Wetland Centre. It featured a visit to Riversleigh Lagoon where Dr Anne Jensen talked to participants about how environmental water is helping to save new generations of *Eucalyptus largiflorens* (Black Box). The Exchange heard from state and Commonwealth government representatives, local volunteers and ecologists who shared their



knowledge and experiences in the very new practice of environmental watering. The 2016 Water For Nature Champions were announced at dinner aboard the Murray River Queen at Waikerie. The following day a bus-load of wetland enthusiasts from Adelaide travelled up to Waikerie to participate in a tour of some of our favourite wetlands including Ramco Lagoon and Yarra Creek.

### TREASURE HUNT FOR NATURE

30 October 2016 at Botanic Park



An adventurous nature discovery day for our community. Purchasing native plants and meeting native animals, fun activities, storytelling, and face painting were just some of the activities participants enjoyed at this interactive event. There were four nature treasure trails with different levels of challenges to choose from, passing through the Botanic Gardens and around the River Torrens, SA Museum, Art Gallery SA and SA Library. Funds were raised by individuals and corporates prior to the event and individuals made generous donations on the day making it an enjoyable experience for all.

### NATURE FOUNDATION SA 35TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER

19 November 2016 at the Adelaide Town Hall



In October 2016, Nature Foundation SA celebrated 35 years. The 130 guests enjoyed a three-course meal as well as a silent auction and a mystery wine wall. The night raised over \$10,000 from our guests to help advance nature conservation. Sincere thanks to our wonderful sponsors Macquarie and Wines by Geoff Hardy. We also appreciate the in-kind support from many generous donors who helped make the night so special.

### GRANTS PRESENTATION CEREMONY

1 June 2017 at the University of South Australia

This June saw the inaugural Science Grants Awards Ceremony. Over the years Nature Foundation SA has supported and enthused more than 390 researchers and young scientists by helping fund their research and establish their career paths. This year we elevated the profile of these awards by inviting all applicants, their families and supervisors and Nature Foundation SA members to this special awards ceremony. Professor Chris Daniels, chair of the Science and



Conservation Committee and Vice President awarded certificates to 11 recipients on the night. It was an energising evening with over 50 students, NFSA staff and supporters attending the ceremony. The drinks afterwards provided a chance to meet and mingle with the next crop of researchers. We very much look forward to hearing about their progress on the varied nature science projects funded.

### WORLD ENVIRONMENT FAIR

3–4 June 2017 at Adelaide Showground



Nature Foundation SA was an exhibitor at the inaugural World Environment Fair 'bringing together the community to celebrate the environment'. The Fair encourages interactivity so the public and broader community can learn and take home clear and easy to understand messages about how they can have a positive impact on the environment. Nature Foundation SA promoted the Foundation's conservation work to the community.

### WITCHELINA GRAND WORKING BEE

26 April–1 May 2017 at Witchelina Nature Reserve



Fifty enthusiastic and hard-working volunteers rolled up their sleeves and helped with conservation projects ranging from Buffel grass spraying and fence removal to repairing historic buildings. Everyone had a great time under the big blue skies, and it was a fantastic effort by all. Each evening Nature Foundation SA provided dinner which made for great conversation and camaraderie. After three long days of work, the volunteers enjoyed a Sunday drive around Witchelina Nature Reserve.



# HONOUR ROLL



NFSA SUPPORTERS

## INDIVIDUALS

### MAJOR BENEFACTORS

(DONATION OF AT LEAST \$5,000)

Angas, Mr Alastair† & Mrs Janet  
 Bonython, Mr Warren AO†  
 & Mrs Bunt†  
 Briggs, Mrs Gillian\*†  
 Brooks, Mr Hector†  
 Cavill, Mr Richard  
 Clark, Mrs Anne  
 Collins, Mr Peter & Mrs Val  
 Cox, Mrs Anna OAM  
 Crathern, Mr Daniel  
 Cross, Dr Diana W  
 Custance, Mr John\*† & Mrs Vi\*†  
 Daly, Mr Bob & Wendy Phillips  
 Darvall, Mrs Barbara  
 Drew, Dr Michael  
 Gerard, Mr Robert AO  
 Gray, Mr Tom  
 Hannaford, Mr Robert  
 & Alison Mitchell  
 Hardy, Dr Barbara AO  
 Hawkes, Ms Joan Dt  
 Herzberg, Mrs Susie OAM & Dr Zen  
 Holt, Dr John & Mrs Mary  
 James, Mr Kevin\*†  
 Law-Smith, Mrs Elizabeth  
 Laws, Mr Robert PSM  
 Lewis, Mrs Beth  
 Lewis, Mrs Betty\*†  
 Lewis, Ms Diana & Mr John Todd  
 Ligertwood, Miss Marion\*†  
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 & Mrs Fiona OAM  
 MacLachlan, Mrs Fiona OAM  
 McGregor, Mr Bruce & Mrs Ann  
 McLachlan, The Hon Ian AO  
 Matthews, Mr Adam, Suzanne  
 & Emma  
 Mitchell, Mrs Kathryn  
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 Preiss, Mr Kenneth  
 Radcliffe, Dr Barbara  
 Ransom, Mr Doug & Oliver  
 & Ms Helga Linnert  
 Rischbieth, Mrs Judith  
 Short, Mr Henry & Mrs Doff  
 Simpson, Mr Antony  
 & Mrs Mary Lou  
 Smith, Mr Dick AC  
 Snape, Mrs Diana & Mr Brian AM  
 Squire, Mr Jason  
 Steele Scott, Miss Jenny OAM  
 Stevens, Mr Mark  
 Teague, Dr Baden  
 & Mrs Kathy

van der Wel, Mr Bart  
 Wall, Dr Barbara  
 Wall, Mr Ian & Mrs Pamela  
 Westwood, Betty OAM\*†  
 Wilson, Retired Judge Andrew AM  
 & Mrs Susie  
 Wollaston, Mr Terence\*†  
 Young, Ms Marianne

### MAJOR SUPPORTERS

(DONATION OF BETWEEN \$2,500-4,999)

Armour, Mrs Heather  
 Beer, Mr Colin† & Mrs Joan  
 Beer, Mr Peter & Mrs Alison  
 Bird, Mr Peter  
 Bradman, Mr John  
 Bristow, Mrs Gloria  
 Buckley, Ms Kate  
 Daniels, Prof Chris  
 Dennis, Ms Hilary  
 Duguid, Mrs Jane  
 Everett, Tony & Hastings, Alison  
 Fander, Mr Hans & Mrs Judy  
 Fenner, Mr William G  
 Forward, Mr Peter & Mrs Bronwyn  
 Frankham, Mr Luke  
 Hardy, Ms Rebecca & Dolan,  
 Mr Richard  
 Hausner, Mr Ken  
 Holmes, Mr Allan  
 Howe, Ms Anne AM  
 Jeffries, Mr Lachlan  
 Jensen, Mr Peter  
 Langsford, Mr Nick & Nimmo,  
 Ms Heather  
 Lee, Mrs Margaret  
 Legoe, The Hon Christopher AO  
 & Mrs Jenny  
 Morrison, OAM, Dr Robert  
 Mutton, Mr Dennis & Mrs Ruth  
 Norrie, Dr Peter  
 O'Connor, Mr Clive & Mrs Marie  
 Paton, Dr Barbara  
 Price, Ms Rosalind  
 Reed, Mr Chris & Mrs Maria  
 Smith, Mr Gilvray  
 Verco, Mrs Katherinet  
 Williams, Mr Ric & Mrs Deni  
 Willis, Mr Richard & Mrs Gretta  
 Wood, Dr Tim & Mrs Sandra  
 Woolcock, Mr Richard & Mrs Leona  
 Wreford, Mr Richard & Mrs Beth

### SUPPORTERS

(DONATION OF BETWEEN \$500-2,499)

Adamson, Mr Peter  
 Allen, Mr Jim  
 Anderson, Mr Chris  
 Andrew, Ms Clara  
 Arnold, Hon Dr Rev'd Lynn AO  
 & Mrs Elaine  
 Bannon, Mr Greg  
 Bennett, Mr Christopher  
 & Mrs Michelle  
 Bianco, Mr Nick  
 Black, Dr Andrew OAM

& Mrs Margie  
 Bonnin, Mrs Avis†  
 Boros, Ms Catherine  
 Boxall, Ms Melody  
 Broad, Ms Margery  
 Brown, Mr Robert†  
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 Burch, Mr Robert & Mrs Leanne  
 Camens, Dr Ivant  
 Campbell, P  
 Carter, Mr Derek & Mrs Carlsa  
 Carthew, Prof Sue  
 Clegg, Mr David  
 Cleland, Mr David & Mrs Valerie  
 Cole, Mr Phil  
 Cook, Mr Lyall & Mrs Lynette  
 Cordes, Mr Dene PSM  
 Crafter, Mr Peter & Mrs Jenny  
 Crawford, Mr Michael & family  
 Crawford, Mrs Annt  
 Crawford, Mrs Josephine M†  
 Curnow, Ms Pauline &  
 Mr Harry Greet  
 Daenke, Mr John  
 Dale, Ms Cindy  
 Davidson, Ms Di AM  
 Davis, Mr Leo  
 Davis, The Hon Leigh  
 Day, Ms Rosalie  
 Doddridge, Mrs Nita  
 Downer, Lady†  
 Dyson, Ms Megan & family  
 Fellows, Ms Beverley  
 Foale, Miss Karen  
 Forwood, Mr Michael & Mrs Wendy  
 Fowler, Ms Cathy  
 Freeman, Mr Andrew  
 Freeman, Ms Wendy  
 Fung, Dr Chi Lam†  
 Furness, Dr Margaret  
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 Garrett, Mr Clinton  
 Garton, Ms Helen C  
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 Hammond, Mr Rod  
 Hansman, Dr David & Mrs Miriam  
 Hargrave, Mr Charles Lt  
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 Harvey, Mr Richard & Mrs Cecily  
 Hawdon, Ms Angela &  
 Mr Patrick Stock & Family  
 Hayman, Mr EG & Mrs EJ  
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 King, Mr Bob  
 Kernick, Ms Lorraine  
 Langman, Mr Ron  
 Leak, Ms Nina  
 Lester, Mr Kent†  
 Lewis, Mr David  
 Lippett, Mrs Elmat

Lott, Mr Bob  
 Magarey, Dr Anthea  
 McGowan, C  
 Mart, Ms Bronwyn  
 McConnell, Mr Rhett  
 McEwin, Mrs Cynthia  
 Milne, Ms Amanda  
 Mudie, Mr Paul-John  
 Muirhead-Kern, Ms Kathleen  
 Natt, Mrs Vicki  
 Neill, Mrs Jenny  
 Newland AM, Mr Nicholas  
 Oliver, Mr Ian & Mrs Margaret  
 Parsons, Mr Wolford & Mrs Marie  
 Pearce, Mr Graham & Mrs Glenys  
 Pederick, Mrs Betty  
 Peters, Mr Fred & Mrs Fleur  
 Phillips, Mr Andrew  
 Pierce, Mr Paul R  
 Pocock, Ms Rosemary  
 Powell, Mr Lange & Mrs Inara  
 Prosser, Mrs Josephine  
 Ragless, Ms Maggy†  
 Read, Mr Tony  
 Renowden, Mrs Marie & Mr John  
 Richardson, Mr David  
 & Mrs Margaret  
 Rommey, Mr Peter J  
 Roodhouse, Mr Peter  
 Rowett, Ms Sharon  
 Rowland, Mr Richard  
 Rowley, Ms Hilda  
 Ryan, Mr Michael  
 Sadlon, Ms Tania  
 Sakko, Mr Kerry  
 Sakko, Ms Rona  
 Scharfbillig, Dr Rolf  
 Schwartz, Ms Melda  
 Shiell, Mr Mark  
 Sibly, Mr John AM†  
 Slattery, Mr Peter D  
 Squire, Mr Barry & Mrs Celia  
 Stock, Mr Andrew  
 Stoecker, Mr Bernd†  
 Such, The Hon Robert†  
 Teesdale-Smith, Ms Ngaire  
 Thompson, Dr Robert & Mrs Patricia  
 Thorpe, Mr Geoffrey & Mrs Judith  
 Vasilevskis, Mr Vilis & Mrs Joan  
 Villiers, Ms Kerri  
 Vincent, Mrs Jeanine  
 Wallace, Mr Allan  
 Walters, Mr Kenneth  
 Ward, Mr Brian & Mrs June  
 Whitelaw, Mr Trevor & Mrs Jo  
 Williams, Dr David  
 & Mrs Helen-Mary  
 Williamson, Mr Paul  
 Wilson, Mr Will  
 Wilson, The Hon Iant AM  
 & Mrs Mary  
 Wotton, The Hon David AM  
 & Mrs Jill  
 Wyness, Mr David  
 Young, Prof Mike  
 Yule, Mrs Pamela  
 Zeppel, Dr Heather



# OUR PATRONS



**DR BARBARA  
HARDY AO**

Barbara is a co-founder of Nature Foundation SA. She has been working in the environmental field in a voluntary

capacity since the early 1970s, and studied Earth Sciences at Flinders University, following a Science Degree at the University of Adelaide.

Barbara has been a Commissioner of the Australian Heritage Commission, President of NFSA, President of the Investigator Science and Technology Centre, and Chairman of the South Australian Landcare Committee.

Barbara was appointed an Order of Australia in 1987, received an Honorary Doctorate from Flinders University in 1993, an Advance Australia Award in 1991, an SA Great Award in 1992, an Institution of Engineers Medal in 1992, an ABC Eureka Award for the Advancement of Science in 1994, and was named South Australian Citizen of the Year in 1996 and South Australian Senior Australian of the Year in 2014.

Barbara is the Patron of the University of South Australia's Barbara Hardy Institute, which was created in 2011 and brings together scientists, engineers and social scientists to work together with a focus on the sustainability of our society.



**DICK SMITH  
AC**

Dick, founder of Australian Geographic magazine, met Barbara Hardy in 1986 and learned of

the (then) National Parks Foundation of SA and our work at Coongie Lakes Wetlands.

We were very pleased when, in June 2011, Dick agreed to become our Patron, as we appreciate what an incredibly busy man he is – an entrepreneur, businessman, aviator and political activist.

In 1986 he was awarded Australian of the Year and in 1992 he received the Lindbergh Award, an annual worldwide award given to one individual for lifetime achievement of a balance between technical advancement and environmental preservation.

Dick was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia in 1999 for his services to the community, charity and business, and was awarded Companion of the Order of Australia (AC) in the 2015 Queen's Birthday Honours List.



**REG NELSON**

Reg is an exploration geophysicist with more than four decades experience in the minerals

and petroleum industries.

Reg's contribution has been recognised through honorary Life Membership of the Society of Exploration Geophysicists, the Prime Minister's Centenary Medal and the Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association's (APPEA) Reg Sprigg Gold Medal.

He is also a trustee of the Arkaroola Research and Education Foundation, set up by Marg and Doug Sprigg to promote environmental awareness and research at Arkaroola.

Reg has wide experience in technical, corporate and government affairs throughout Australia and internationally and was formerly Director of Mineral Development for South Australia.

He was a director for eight years of APPEA and was Chairman of its board from 2004 to 2006. Reg was Managing Director of Beach Energy Limited, a significant ASX 100 Australian-listed oil and gas explorer and producer from 1995-2015.

## DR BOB SHARRAD AM: A TRUE NFSA HERO



Dr Bob Sharrad was elected to the Council of Nature Foundation SA twenty-eight years ago in 1989, and has served as President,

Vice President, Honorary Secretary, Council member, and Committee Chair. Very appropriately, Bob's service to Nature Foundation SA and the community has been recognised by his being awarded a Member of the Order of Australia in 2013, and by Nature Foundation SA's highest honour of a Fellow of the Foundation, awarded in 2011.

The Foundation has benefitted greatly from Bob's leadership and standing as a highly respected field biologist with an interest in small vertebrates. As Vice President from 1995-2000 and President from 2001-2005, Bob guided the Foundation through a period of increased activity in land conservation and sponsorship of wildlife research. This period included the purchase of additional

land for Venus Bay Conservation Park, the Warren Bonython Link land to join the two separated sections of Mount Remarkable National Park, and Scrubby Peak Station to greatly enlarge the Gawler Ranges National Park. Bob also played an integral role initiating the visionary plan to revegetate and restore Para Woodlands, which was gifted jointly to Nature Foundation SA and DEWNR by David and Elizabeth Law-Smith in 2003.

Bob retired from the Nature Foundation SA Council in 2016, however his association continues through connections with people and organisations with whom the Foundation works, and through conducting field surveys with the Scientific Expedition Group.

We hope he will continue to enliven our annual dinners and events with his wit and encyclopaedic knowledge of natural history.

We extend thanks to Bob for his enormous contribution to the Foundation.

By David Moyle AM

## FELLOWS OF THE FOUNDATION

Clive Armour†  
Avis Bonnin†  
Dr Mark Bonnin AM†  
Warren Bonython  
AO†  
David Cleland†  
Dene Cordes PSM  
John Daenke  
Dr Barbara Hardy AO  
Eric Jackson†  
Elizabeth Law-Smith

Betty Lewis†  
Bob Lewis†  
Martha Lott  
David Moyle AM  
Reg Nelson  
William (Bill) Nankivell  
Julian Reid  
Dr Bob Sharrad AM  
John Sibly AM†  
Dick Smith AC

## HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Robert Gerard AO, Bernd Stoeckert†, Nicholas Newland AM

## ASSOCIATES OF THE FOUNDATION (FROM OCT 2016)

Mr Steve Clark, Dr Bob Inns, Mrs Maria Reed

## HONORARY RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

Mrs Susie Herzberg OAM, Prof David Paton, Dr Anne Jensen, Prof Mike Bull [deceased], Prof Pat James

†Deceased

# OUR COUNCIL



**BOB LOTT**  
PRESIDENT

Bob Lott is an owner and director of Venue\*Tix, Weslo Staff, Weslo Holdings, (trading as Thebarton Theatre and Holden Street Theatres) and Quorn Quandongs. He is also a biochemist, producer and manager of major events and a theatrical director and entrepreneur, and an enthusiastic environmentalist and supporter of Indigenous artists. Boards/Councils: SA Jubilee 150 Board (Deputy Chair), Adelaide Festival, Royal Adelaide Show, Come Out Children's Festival and the Australian National Kennel Council. NFSA Council Member since 2003, Vice President from 2007 and President since 2011.



**PROFESSOR CHRIS DANIELS**  
VICE-PRESIDENT

Professor Chris Daniels is currently Professor of Biology at UniSA, and has been extensively involved in many community, conservation, and science committees, groups and societies. Chris is presiding member of the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges NRM Board and Chair of the Nature Play SA Board. Chris has published nine books, one DVD, and over 250 scientific and community publications. Chris won the SA Premiers Science Award for Communication (2007), and the Medal for Natural History from the Field Naturalists Society (2010).



**SUSIE HERZBERG OAM**  
HONORARY SECRETARY

Susie has worked in urban, environmental and strategic planning in private practice, in Government and as a lecturer at the University of Adelaide. Susie is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. Boards/Councils: Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium (Chair), South Australian Housing Trust, Patawaalonga Catchment Water Management Board, KESAB, State Cycling Council, Playford Memorial Trust, SA Wine Industry Association Environment Committee and several private companies.



**NICHOLAS EDWARDS**  
HONORARY TREASURER

Nicholas Edwards is a practising lawyer, chartered accountant and Principal of NDEdwards & Co. He has worked in the areas of investment banking and corporate tax consultancy. He has an enthusiasm for the environment and enjoys contributing to the work of Nature Foundation.



**DR ROB MORRISON OAM**  
COUNCILLOR

Rob is a professorial Fellow at Flinders University. He is a science and natural history author and broadcaster on television and radio. In 2004 he was awarded the Order of Australia for his services to conservation and science communication. In 2008 he was named the Senior Australian of the Year for South Australia.



**DAVID MOYLE AM**  
COUNCILLOR

David Moyle AM has occupied senior academic and leadership roles at Flinders University and has been a leading environmental advocate in SA. He has served as Chair of the National Parks and Wildlife Council and Deputy Chair of the Native Vegetation Council. He is currently a Commissioner of the Environment, Resources and Development Court. David is also a past president of NFSA and the Nature Conservation Society of SA and has been a Nature Foundation SA Council Member since 1989.



**CHRIS REED**  
COUNCILLOR

Chris has a long-term passion for the land and environment. He is a fourth generation farmer and still runs the farm that has been in his family since 1866. He has served two terms as Presiding Member of the SA Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board.



**MILLIE NICHOLLS**  
COUNCILLOR

Millie has been a partner in a family farm and involved in environmental work since she completed a Science degree in 1994. She has been a member of the Native Vegetation Council, the National Parks & Wildlife Council and regional boards in the Northern and Yorke Region. She received the South Australian Individual Landcarer of the Year Award in 2011.



**SUZANNE RIDDING**  
COUNCILLOR

Suzanne has been managing her own consulting business since 2008, specialising in environmental sustainability, carbon management and climate change adaptation. Suzanne is an experienced executive, board director and company secretary, holding leadership positions in private, public and not-for-profit organisations, internationally and in Australia. Suzanne has been a Nature Foundation SA Council Member since 2014 and is Chair of the Carbon Capture and Carbon Credits Working Group.



**TONY SHARLEY**  
COUNCILLOR

Tony Sharley joined NFSA in 2015 and chairs the Water for Nature Committee. Tony's career has included working in stream and wetland ecology, soils and irrigated agriculture, wine and nature tourism, regional tourism and destination marketing. He is the creator of Murray River Walk. Boards/Councils: RAA, Country Arts SA, Conservation and Hunting Alliance of SA and RiverSmart Australia.



**DR BOB SHARRAD AM**  
COUNCILLOR

Bob is a field biologist and lectures at Flinders University. Bob was awarded a Member of the Order of Australia in 2013 for his services to science and the environment. Bob is a past President of NFSA. He has been an active participant in a number of scientific and conservation groups and committees. Bob stepped down from Council on 23rd August 2016.

# OUR PEOPLE

## OUR STAFF

Chief Executive Officer	Hugo Hopton
Conservation Programs Manager	Alex Nankivell
Industry Engagement Manager	Caroline Nefiodovas
Fundraising and Marketing Manager	Patrick Mentzel
Finance Manager	Georgie Fiedler
Administration and Marketing Coordinator	Natasha Harper
Water for Nature Program Manager	Natalie Stalenberg
Our thanks to past staff Penny Yap, Kathy Sharrad & Helen Edwards	

## FRIENDS OF NATURE FOUNDATION SA

President	Ric Williams
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## RESERVE ROTATIONAL MANAGERS

Chris and Maria Reed	John Ovenden
Brenton and Nanette Arnold	Lange and Inara Powell
Greg Bannon and Janet Thomas	John and Mary Schulze
Phil and Susan Cole	Vic Breeding and Penny Shepley
Peter and Val Collins	Barry Wright and Maureen Wright OAM
Kevin and Shirley Fahey	Fred and Petra van der Heiden
Dave and Marjory Goodenough	Dave and Anne Seller
Marina Louter and Scott Kinlock	



L to R: Patrick Mentzel, Caroline Nefiodovas, Natalie Stalenberg, Hugo Hopton, Natasha Harper, Georgie Fiedler, Alex Nankivell.

## PEST MANAGEMENT OFFICER

Paul Drummond

## Our Committees

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Bob Lott (Chair), David Moyle AM (until Oct 2016), Prof Chris Daniels (from Oct 2016), Susie Herzberg OAM and Nicholas Edwards

### CARBON FOR NATURE COMMITTEE

Suzanne Ridding (Chair), David Moyle AM, Nicholas Newland AM, Dr Tim Moore (until Dec 2016) and John Gavin (from Mar 2017)

### ECOTOURISM COMMITTEE

Chris Reed (Chair), Bob Lott, Millie Nicholls, Anne Sellar, Lange and Inara Powell, Maria Reed, Barry Wright and Maureen Wright OAM

### FINANCE & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Nicholas Edwards (Chair), Bob Lott, Susie Herzberg OAM, and Joshua Teague (leave of absence from Feb 2017)

### FRIENDS OF NATURE FOUNDATION SA COMMITTEE

Ric Williams (Chair), Dene Cordes PSM, Dr Barbara Hardy AO, Graeme Oats, Kaz Herbst, Jenny Steele Scott OAM (until May 2017), Janet Cotton, Graham Henley, Vilis Vasilevskas, Shirley Rowe, Tan Mentzel, Kym McKenny, John and Mandy Carter, Trevor Brettig, Wendy Hayward and Roger and Raelene Schmitke

### FUNDRAISING, MARKETING AND EVENTS COMMITTEE

Bob Lott (Chair), Dr Rob Morrison OAM, Dr Barbara Hardy AO, Nicholas Newland AM, Bec Hardy and Kathryn Mitchell (until Dec 2016)

### LAND ACQUISITION COMMITTEE

David Moyle AM (Chair), Bob Lott and Dr Bob Inns

### PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chris Reed (Chair), Bob Lott, David Moyle AM, Millie Nicholls, Brenton Arnold, Dr Travis How (until Nov 2016) and Kaz Herbst

### SCIENCE REVIEW COMMITTEE

Dr Bob Sharrad AM (Chair until Aug 2016), Prof Chris Daniels (Chair from Aug 2016), Dr Rob Morrison OAM, Millie Nicholls, Jody Gates (DEWNR), Travis How (until Nov 2016), Susie Herzberg OAM (until Nov 2016)

### RESEARCH, PROJECTS AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Dr Bob Sharrad AM (Chair until Aug 2016), Prof Chris Daniels (Chair from Aug 2016), Dr Rob Morrison OAM, Millie Nicholls, Jody Gates (DEWNR), Travis How (until Nov 2016), Susie Herzberg OAM (until Nov 2016)

### SCIENCE AND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE (MERGED SCIENCE REVIEW COMMITTEE AND RESEARCH, PROJECTS AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE FROM MAY 2017)

Prof Chris Daniels (Chair), Dr Rob Morrison OAM, Millie Nicholls, Dr Travis How (until Nov 2016) and Jody Gates (DEWNR), Susie Herzberg OAM (until Nov 2016)

### SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Bob Lott (Chair), David Moyle AM, Chris Reed, Trevor Whitelaw, and John Gavin

### WATER FOR NATURE COMMITTEE

Tony Sharley (Chair), Bob Lott, David Moyle AM, Phil Cole, Dr Anne Jensen, Steve Clark, Peter Forward, Dan Mollison and Andrew Beal (DEWNR)



# OUR GOVERNANCE



GOVERNANCE REFERS TO THE FRAMEWORK OF RULES, PROCEDURES, ACTIVITIES AND RELATIONSHIPS BY WHICH THE COUNCIL MAKES AND IMPLEMENTS DECISIONS, AND INCLUDES CONTINUOUS MONITORING OF SUCH PRACTICES. THE GOAL IS TO WORK AS A COLLECTIVE TO ENSURE ACCOUNTABILITY, FAIRNESS AND TRANSPARENCY IN ALL OUR DEALINGS AND TO ENSURE THAT THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF EVERYONE INVOLVED ARE CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD. THIS INCLUDES THE PARTICULAR ROLES OF COUNCIL, COMMITTEES AND THEIR MEMBERS AS WELL AS STAFF, VOLUNTEERS AND MEMBERS AS A WHOLE.

Council met ten times through the year, receiving reports and recommendations from management, including detailed financial reports. The committees formed by the Council provide advice according to their charters on their areas of responsibility, risk, opportunity and performance.

The Finance and Governance Committee continues to meet monthly, dealing not only with financial matters but also with matters of governance required of charities such as Nature Foundation SA.

In the past year, the Council has continued its practice of reviewing its Constitution, both as a reminder to Council Members of these rules and as an opportunity to consider where improvements to better practice could be made. The Special General Meeting of 1 June 2017, voted to make two changes to the constitution. The first was for an extension of the term of Office Holders from one year to two years in order to give greater stability to Nature Foundation SA. The second was to support visitors and ecotourism and to provide opportunities for promoting the appreciation of nature, by adding to the Purposes of Objects of the Foundation a new clause 3.1.(f) (a) to provide land, facilities, services or opportunities for members and the public to experience, appreciate and enjoy the natural environment.

Council adopted a new Strategic Plan. Our vision is Nature loved by all and thriving, outlining the fundamental interdependency of nature and human-kind. The plan, reflecting the tremendous progress made to date, will guide strategy, decision-making and deployment of resources for the next five years.

Council also continued its practice of monitoring, reviewing and amending its Governance Manual. Over the past year Council commenced a process of reviewing the roles, functions and powers of its committees, its investment strategy, delegations and Council succession, and expects to complete this work in the coming year.

The Finance and Governance Committee meets regularly with investment advisers to ensure it is complying with trustee responsibilities as outlined in both the Trustee Act and the Nature Foundation SA Investment Policy.

Policies included in the Operating Procedures Manual continue to guide staff contracts, conditions and entitlements as well as operating matters such as animal ethics, firearms, safety and vehicle use. This too was reviewed through the year.

Nature Foundation SA has complied with the reporting required by the Australian Tax Office, the Office of Consumer and Business Affairs and the Australian Charities and Not-for Profits Commission (ACNC).

The Council of Nature Foundation SA recognises the importance of sound governance practices and continues to comply with appropriate practices. The Council recognises that it has a responsibility to operate lawfully and according to Nature Foundation SA's Constitution to achieve its stated purpose.

## NATURE FOUNDATION SA INC.

### FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

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ABN 24 131 531 874



## COUNCIL'S REPORT

The Council members present their report together with the financial report of Nature Foundation SA Inc. for the year ended 30 June 2017 and auditor's report thereon.

### Council members' names

The names of the Council members in office at any time during or since the end of the year are:

Bob Lott (President)  
David Moyle AM (Vice President until July 2016)  
Susie Herzberg OAM (Honorary Secretary)  
Nicholas Edwards (Honorary Treasurer)  
Rob Morrison OAM  
Millie Nicholls  
Chris Reed  
Suzanne Ridding  
Bob Sharrad AM (Resigned 23 August 2016)  
Tony Sharley  
Chris Daniels (Vice President from August 2016)

The Council members have been in office since the start of the year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

### Results

The loss of the association for the year amounted to \$121,636 [2016: \$189,774].

### Significant changes in state of affairs

There were no significant changes in the association's state of affairs that occurred during the financial year, other than those referred to elsewhere in this report.

### Principal activities

The principal activities of the association during the year were:

1. To raise funds for nature conservation;
2. To enable the long term protection of high conservation value land and improve biodiversity values of degraded land;
3. To initiate and support projects and research which assist the conservation of nature and the natural resources of South Australia; and
4. To raise awareness about the needs of the natural environment in South Australia.

### Auditor's independence declaration

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration in relation to the audit for the financial year is provided with this report.

Signed on behalf of the members of the Council.



Council member: Bob Lott (President)



Council member: Nicholas Edwards (Honorary Treasurer)

Dated this 3rd day of October 2017



**NATURE FOUNDATION SA INC.**  
**ABN 24 131 531 874**

**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION**  
**TO THE MEMBERS OF NATURE FOUNDATION SA INC.**

In relation to the independent audit for the year ended 30 June 2017, to the best of our knowledge and belief there have been no contraventions of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants*.



**A P FAULKNER**  
Principal

Date: 3rd October 2017



**PITCHER PARTNERS**  
Adelaide

Pitcher Partners SA Pty Ltd ABN 36 132 219 735  
Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

Member of the network of  
**BAKER TILLY**  
INTERNATIONAL  
Offices throughout the world

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	Note	2017	2016
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017		\$	\$
Revenue	3	1,822,448	1,649,692
Other income	3	58,325	6,142
	3	1,880,773	1,655,834
Less: expenses			
Conservation management activities (land)		(569,361)	(644,516)
Conservation management activities (water)		(414,160)	(246,938)
Developing new partnerships		(73,888)	(84,341)
Bushbank expenses		(11,480)	(21,344)
Fundraising activities		(32,674)	-
Organisational support		(701,747)	(727,827)
Net movement in committed funds		12,309	313,454
Loss on sale of shares		-	(238,708)
Communities, events and education		(211,408)	(195,388)
		(2,002,409)	(1,845,608)
(Deficit) for the year		(121,636)	(189,774)
Other comprehensive income/(loss)			
Items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit and loss			
Change in fair value of available for sale financial assets, net of tax		298,354	(332,516)
(Gain) or loss on disposal of financial assets recognised in profit or loss		(25,877)	238,708
		272,477	(93,808)
Other comprehensive income/(loss) for the year	4	272,477	(93,808)
Total comprehensive income/(loss)		150,841	(283,582)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION	Note	2017	2016
AS AT 30 JUNE 2017		\$	\$
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	1,903,640	2,547,500
Receivables	6	295,709	198,617
Other financial assets	7	6,211,822	5,335,044
Total current assets		8,411,171	8,081,161
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	8	5,733,523	5,694,946
Land held for sale	9	316,390	462,390
Total non-current assets		6,049,913	6,157,336
Total assets		14,461,084	14,238,497
Current liabilities			
Payables	10	121,448	232,161
Provisions	11	97,110	73,848
Other liabilities	12	1,467,096	1,307,899
Total current liabilities		1,685,654	1,613,908
Total liabilities		1,685,654	1,613,908
Net assets		12,775,430	12,624,589
Accumulated funds			
Reserves	13	6,149,530	5,916,071
Accumulated surplus / (deficit)	14	6,625,900	6,708,518
Total accumulated funds		12,775,430	12,624,589



STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN MEMBERS FUNDS	RESERVES	RETAINED SURPLUS	TOTAL EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017	\$	\$	\$
Balance as at 1 July 2015	6,026,554	6,881,617	12,908,171
(Deficit) for the year	-	(189,774)	(189,774)
Change in fair value of financial assets	(332,516)	-	(332,516)
Loss on disposal of financial assets recognised in profit or loss	238,708	-	238,708
Total comprehensive income for the year	(93,808)	(189,774)	(283,582)
Transfer from Para Woodlands Capital Reserve	(16,675)	16,675	-
Balance as at 30 June 2016	5,916,071	6,708,518	12,624,589
Balance as at 1 July 2016	5,916,071	6,708,518	12,624,589
(Deficit) for the year	-	(121,636)	(121,636)
Change in fair value of financial assets	298,354	-	298,354
Gain on disposal of financial assets recognised in profit or loss	(25,877)	-	(25,877)
Total comprehensive income for the year	272,477	(121,636)	150,841
Transfer from Para Woodlands Capital Reserve	(39,018)	39,018	-
Balance as at 30 June 2017	6,149,530	6,625,900	12,775,430

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS	Note	2017	2016
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017		\$	\$
Cash flow from operating activities			
Receipts		1,550,449	1,244,932
Payments to suppliers and employees		(2,145,816)	(1,477,703)
Dividends received		373,914	332,720
Interest received		40,393	62,453
Finance costs		-	(331)
GST Received/(Paid)		57,648	11,234
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	15(b)	(123,412)	173,305
Cash flow from investing activities			
Proceeds from sale of investment in shares		915,020	1,310,198
Proceeds from sale of land		196,154	81,818
Payment for property, plant and equipment		(110,590)	(36,033)
Payment for investment in shares		(1,521,032)	(1,346,664)
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities		(520,448)	9,319
Reconciliation of cash			
Cash at beginning of the financial year		2,547,500	2,364,876
Net increase / (decrease) in cash held		(643,860)	182,624
Cash at end of financial year	15(a)	1,903,640	2,547,500

Nature Foundation SA Inc.  
ABN: 24 131 531 874  
For the year ended 30 June 2017

**NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The Council has determined that the association is not a reporting entity on the basis that, in the opinion of the Council, there are unlikely to exist users of the financial report who are unable to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy, specifically, all of their information needs. Accordingly, this financial report is a special purpose financial report, which has been prepared for use by the Council and members of the association.

The financial report covers Nature Foundation SA Inc. as an individual entity. Nature Foundation SA Inc. is an association, formed and domiciled in Australia. Nature Foundation SA Inc. is a not-for-profit entity for the purpose of preparing the financial statements.

The financial report was approved by the Council as at the date of the council's report.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012. The financial report complies with the recognition and measurement requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards but does not comply with the disclosure requirements of these standards other than the following:

AASB 101:	Presentation of Financial Statements
AASB 107:	Statement of Cash Flows
AASB 108:	Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors
AASB 1031:	Materiality
AASB 1048:	Interpretation and Application of Standards
AASB 1054:	Australian Additional Disclosures

The following specific accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this report:

**(a) Basis of preparation of the financial report**

**Historical Cost Convention**

The financial report has been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by revaluations to fair value for certain classes of assets and liabilities as described in the accounting policies.

**(b) Contributions – Government Grants and Donations**

A non-reciprocal contribution or grant is recognised when the entity obtains control of the contribution or grant and it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the entity, and the amount of the contribution or grant can be measured reliably. If conditions attached to the contribution or grant that must be satisfied before the entity is eligible to receive the contribution, recognition of contribution or income is deferred until those conditions are met.

A non-reciprocal donation is recognised when the right to receive a donation has been established.

When the entity receives grants but is obliged to give directly approximately equal value to the contributor, recognition of grant income will be deferred until the delivery of service.

**(c) Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand and at banks, short-term deposits with an original maturity of three months or less held at call with financial institutions, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities in the statement of financial position.

**(d) Financial instruments**

**Available-for-sale**

Available-for-sale financial assets include any financial assets not included in the above categories or are designated as such on initial recognition. Available-for-sale financial assets are subsequently measured at fair value. Unrealised gains and losses arising from changes in fair value are taken directly to equity. The cumulative gain or loss is held in equity until the financial asset is derecognised, at which time the cumulative gain or loss held in equity is reclassified from equity to profit or loss as a reclassification adjustment.

Non-listed investments for which the fair value cannot be reliably measured, are carried at cost and tested for impairment.

**(e) Property, plant and equipment**

Each class of plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

**Plant and equipment**

Plant and equipment is measured at cost. Where plant and equipment was acquired at no cost or for a nominal amount, cost is deemed to be the fair value as at the acquisition date.

**Depreciation**

Land is not depreciated. The depreciable amount of all property, plant and equipment is depreciated over their estimated useful lives commencing from the time the asset is held available for use, consistent with the estimated consumption of the economic benefits embodied in the asset.

Freehold land is carried at cost or at independent or Council valuation.

**(f) Land held for resale**

Land held for development and resale is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost includes the cost of acquisition, development, foreign currency movements, borrowing costs and holding costs until completion of development. Borrowing costs, foreign currency movements and holding charges incurred after development are expensed. Profits are brought to account on the signing of an unconditional contract of sale.

**(g) Provisions**

Provisions are recognised when the association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

**(h) Employee benefits**

**(i) Short-term employee benefit obligations**

Liabilities arising in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave and any other employee benefits (other than termination benefits) expected to be settled wholly before twelve months after the end of the annual reporting period are measured at the (undiscounted) amounts based on remuneration rates which are expected to be paid when the liability is settled. The expected cost of short-term employee benefits in the form of compensated absences such as annual leave and accumulated sick leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. All other short-term employee benefit obligations are presented as payables in the statement of financial position.

**(ii) Long-term employee benefit obligations**

The provision for other long-term employee benefits, including obligations for long service leave and annual leave, which are not expected to be settled wholly before twelve months after the end



of the reporting period, are measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflow to be made in respect of the services provided by employees up to the reporting date. Expected future payments incorporate anticipated future wage and salary levels, durations of service and employee turnover, and are discounted at rates determined by reference to market yields at the end of the reporting period on high quality corporate bonds that are denominated in the currency in which the benefits will be paid, and that have terms approximating to the terms of the related obligation. For currencies in which there is no deep market in such high quality corporate bonds, the market yields (at the end of the reporting period) on government bonds denominated in that currency are used. Any remeasurements for changes in assumptions of obligations for other long-term employee benefits are recognised in profit or loss in the periods in which the change occurs.

Other long-term employee benefit obligations are presented as current liabilities in the statement of financial position if the entity does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, regardless of when the actual settlement is expected to occur. All other long-term employee benefit obligations are presented as noncurrent liabilities in the statement of financial position.

(i) Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and purchased assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

(j) Comparatives

Where necessary, comparative information has been reclassified and repositioned for consistency with current year disclosures.

NOTE 2: ACCOUNTING STANDARDS ISSUED BUT NOT YET EFFECTIVE

The AASB has issued a number of new and amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have mandatory application dates for future reporting periods, some of which are relevant to the association. The association has decided not to early adopt any of these new and amended pronouncements. The association’s assessment of the new and amended pronouncements that are relevant to the association but applicable in future reporting periods is set out below.

AASB 9: Financial Instruments (December 2014), AASB 20147: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 (December 2014), AASB 20148: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 (December 2014) Application of AASB 9 (December 2009) and AASB 9 (December 2010) (applicable for annual reporting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2018).

These Standards will replace AASB 139: Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement. The key changes that may affect the association on initial application of AASB 9 and associated amending Standards include:

- > simplifying the general classifications of financial assets into those carried at amortised cost and those carried at fair value;
- > permitting entities to irrevocably elect on initial recognition to present gains and losses on an equity instrument that is not held for trading in other comprehensive income (OCI);
- > simplifying the requirements for embedded derivatives, including removing the requirements to separate and fair value embedded

- derivatives for financial assets carried at amortised cost;
- > requiring an entity that chooses to measure a financial liability at fair value to present the portion of the change in its fair value due to changes in the entity’s own credit risk in OCI, except when it would create an ‘accounting mismatch’;
- > introducing a new model for hedge accounting that permits greater flexibility in the ability to hedge risk, particularly with respect to nonfinancial items; and
- > requiring impairment of financial assets carried at amortised cost to be based on an expected loss approach.

Although the Council members anticipate that the adoption of AASB 9 may have an impact on the association’s financial instruments, including hedging activity, it is impracticable at this stage to provide a reasonable estimate of such impact.

NOTE 3: REVENUE AND OTHER INCOME

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Revenue		
Donations	301,079	174,278
Bequests	5,000	184,925
Commonwealth & State Government assistance	254,692	384,408
Interest & Dividend income	414,307	395,173
Grants	319,602	31,571
Significant Environmental Benefit offset payment	202,574	270,581
Corporate Sponsorship	97,069	40,000
Memberships, events income and other	228,125	168,756
	1,822,448	1,649,692
	1,822,448	1,649,692
	-	-
Other Income		
Profit on sale of land	32,448	6,142
Profit on sale of investments	25,877	-
	58,325	6,142
	58,325	6,142
	1,880,773	1,655,834

NOTE 4: OPERATING PROFIT

Profit / (losses) before income tax has been determined after:		
Depreciation	81,899	75,104
Net loss on disposal of noncurrent assets		
Loss on sale of investments	-	238,708

NOTE 5: CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash on hand	500	500
Cash at bank	727,182	453,987
Cash on deposit	1,175,958	2,093,013
	1,903,640	2,547,500

#### NOTE 6: RECEIVABLES

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Current		
Other receivables	295,709	198,617

#### NOTE 7: OTHER FINANCIAL ASSETS

Available-for-sale financial assets at fair value;		
Para Woodlands funds	4,999,794	4,337,714
Roy and Marjory Edwards Scholarship funds	442,315	378,705
Nature Foundation funds	542,163	505,775
Water Licence	227,550	112,850
Total available-for-sale financial assets at fair value	6,211,822	5,335,044

#### NOTE 8: PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Land		
Freehold and leasehold land		
At cost	5,322,295	5,322,295
Plant and equipment		
Plant and equipment at cost	627,299	610,960
Accumulated depreciation	(375,695)	(302,369)
	251,604	308,591
Motor vehicles at cost	255,451	151,312
Accumulated depreciation	(95,827)	(87,252)
	159,624	64,060
Total plant and equipment	411,228	372,651
Total property, plant and equipment	5,733,523	5,694,946

#### NOTE 9: OTHER ASSETS

Non Current		
Land held for sale	316,390	462,390

Land held for sale includes properties purchased by the Bushbank fund, which have high quality native vegetation that is considered to represent South Australia's diverse and valuable natural heritage. The protection of this diversity is achieved by applying a nature conservation covenant and reselling these properties to new owners who are required to conserve and protect this natural environment.

#### NOTE 10: PAYABLES

Current		
Unsecured liabilities		
Sundry creditors and accruals	121,448	232,161

#### NOTE 11: PROVISIONS

		2017	2016
		\$	\$
Current			
Employee benefits	(a)	97,110	73,848
(a) Aggregate employee benefits liability		97,110	73,848

#### NOTE 12: OTHER LIABILITIES

Current		
Nilpena Contribution	47,211	47,211
Orange Bellied Parrot	25,836	30,836
Reserve for Conservation from SEB funds	526,012	631,106
Perpetual Endowment Fund	198,270	150,620
Other projects	165,198	173,524
Grant income received in advance	504,569	274,602
	1,467,096	1,307,899

#### NOTE 13: RESERVES

Available for sale financial asset reserve	894,408	621,931
Capital reserves	5,255,122	5,294,140
	6,149,530	5,916,071

The available for sale financial asset reserve is used to record movements in fair values of financial assets classified as available for sale. The Capital Reserve is used to record the cash and other financial assets of which \$5million of capital funds provided by an individual donor. The intention is for the investment principal plus CPI to be preserved in perpetuity and that the annual investment earnings will be applied for restoration works on the Para Woodlands Reserve.

#### NOTE 14: ACCUMULATED SURPLUS / (LOSSES)

Accumulated surplus at beginning of year	6,708,518	6,881,617
Net profit / (loss)	(121,636)	(189,774)
Transfers from / (to) reserves	39,018	16,675
	6,625,900	6,708,518

#### NOTE 15: CASH FLOW INFORMATION

##### (a) Reconciliation of cash

Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the statement of financial position is as follows:

Cash on hand	500	500
Cash at bank	727,182	453,987
At call deposits with financial institutions	1,175,958	2,093,013
	1,903,640	2,547,500

This table continued on page 32



	2017	2016
	\$	\$
(b) Reconciliation of cash flow from operations with profit after income tax		
Profit / (loss) from ordinary activities after income tax	(121,636)	(189,774)
Adjustments and noncash items		
Depreciation	81,899	75,104
Net (gain) / loss on disposal of land	(32,448)	(6,142)
Net (gain) / loss on disposal of financial instruments	(25,877)	238,708
Changes in operating assets and liabilities		
(Increase) / decrease in receivables	(95,357)	(25,106)
(Increase) / decrease in other assets	(1,735)	(21,817)
Increase / (decrease) in grants received in advance	159,197	236,872
Increase / (decrease) in payables	(123,955)	(124,724)
Increase / (decrease) in provisions	23,262	(13,972)
GST movement	13,238	4,156
Cash flows from operating activities	(123,412)	173,305

#### NOTE 16: RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

##### (a) Transactions with Council Members

Council member Chris Reed has a contract for provision of services to Nature Foundation for which he received a pecuniary benefit of \$7,157 (\$9,051 in 2016).

Council member Millie Nicholls agisted sheep on the Para Woodlands Reserve and the Foundation received the payment of \$2,992 in 2017 financial year (\$4,735 in 2016).

Council President Bob Lott is a director of two companies which provided services to Nature Foundation and received payments of \$18,948 (Nil in 2016).

These transactions are routinely declared to the council as required by the Nature Foundation constitution.

#### NOTE 17: CAPITAL AND LEASING COMMITMENTS

##### (a) Operating lease commitments

Non-cancellable operating leases contracted for but not capitalised in the financial statements:

Payable		
- not later than one year	27,259	26,908
	27,259	26,908

The property lease commitment is for the Nature Foundation office, The Manse, 32 Holden St, Hindmarsh and is a noncancellable operating lease with a term of 5 years to 11 June 2016. The lease has been extended to 30 June 2018 with rental fee of \$27,259 per annum (GST inclusive). The rental will be subject to a CPI review on 1 January 2018.

#### NOTE 18: EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO REPORTING DATE

There has been no matter or circumstance, which has arisen since 30 June 2017 that has significantly affected or may significantly affect:

- the operations, in financial years subsequent to 30 June 2017, of the association, or
- the results of those operations, or
- the state of affairs, in financial years subsequent to 30 June 2017, of the association.

#### NOTE 19: ASSOCIATION DETAILS

The registered office of the association is:

Nature Foundation SA Inc.

32 Holden St

Hindmarsh SA

#### STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

The Council members declare that:

- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the registered entity is able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable; and
- the financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2013.



Member: Bob Lott (President)



Member: Nicholas Edwards (Honorary Treasurer)

Dated this 3rd day of October 2017

Nature Foundation SA Inc.  
 ABN: 24 131 531 874  
 For the year ended 30 June 2017

# PITCHER PARTNERS

ACCOUNTANTS AUDITORS &amp; ADVISORS

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AustraliaPitcher Partners is an association of independent firms  
Adelaide | Brisbane | Melbourne | Newcastle | Perth | SydneyNATURE FOUNDATION SA INC.  
ABN 24 131 531 874INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE MEMBERS OF NATURE FOUNDATION SA INC.

## Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

## Opinion

We have audited the financial report, being a special purpose financial report of Nature Foundation SA Inc., "the Association", which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2017, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in members funds and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the statement by members of the Council.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of Nature Foundation SA Inc., is in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 "ACNC Act", including:

- giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2017 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- complying with Australian Accounting Standards and Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

## Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the ACNC Act and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants "the Code" that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE MEMBERS OF NATURE FOUNDATION SA INC.

## Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist Nature Foundation SA Inc. to meet the requirements of the ACNC Act. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

## Other Information

The Council members are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Council's Report which was obtained as at the date of our audit report, and any additional other information included in the Company's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2017, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information identified above and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

When we read the other information not yet received as identified above, if we conclude that there is a material misstatement therein, we are required to communicate the matter to the Council members and use our professional judgment to determine the appropriate action to take.

## Responsibilities of Management and The Council Members for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the ACNC Act and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Council members are responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process.

## Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

NATURE FOUNDATION SA INC.  
ABN 24 131 531 874
 PITCHER PARTNERS
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE MEMBERS OF NATURE FOUNDATION SA INC.

## Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report (contd.)

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Council members.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Council members' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation. We communicate with the Council members regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We communicate with the Council members regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

A P Faulkner

Principal

PITCHER PARTNERS

Adelaide

Date: 26 October 2017



# CORPORATE PARTNERS

## MAJOR BENEFACTORS



## MAJOR SUPPORTERS



## INDUSTRY PARTNERS



## CORPORATE SUPPORTERS



## EVENT SPONSORS





### WE VALUE YOUR HELP...

We are an apolitical, fund-raising, nature conservation charity. We work on our own nature reserves, and throughout South Australia, connecting and inspiring others to save, protect, restore and sustainably manage South Australia's natural heritage. We cannot do this alone! Nor do we want to. We'd love you to join us.

### WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN UP?

Join with a group of people who are dedicated to improving South Australia's natural landscapes and ecosystems. Here at Nature Foundation SA we'll warmly welcome you as a member, if you are not already, because our members matter. Membership is the base from which we can influence and achieve—your membership will help make a difference. Please consider us.

### WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER?

We focus on involving people in nature conservation, on encouraging passion, curiosity and innovation that help save, protect, and restore our environment. We need every type of skill in our wonderful community of volunteers. This year volunteers have helped with working bees on our nature reserves, organising and serving at our events, planting literally thousands of native plants, assisting in our office with all sorts of duties, gathering scientific evidence, and promoting nature conservation via social media. There is, honestly, something for everyone. Please join in.

### WOULD YOU LIKE TO DONATE?

Every donation counts, whether through an appeal, monthly or regular giving, a bequest, or your choice of program. So much has been achieved for nature conservation through the generosity of our donors, who have advanced science, improved reserves, and assisted to conserve endangered species. Donations can be large or small, individual or corporate, regular or occasional. All donations assist our continuous effort to save, protect, and restore nature. Please contribute.

### HOW TO HELP...

Please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff or Council. Connect through our website, social media, phone our office, or drop in.

32 Holden Street, Hindmarsh SA 5007

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Email: [naturefoundationsa@nfsa.org.au](mailto:naturefoundationsa@nfsa.org.au)

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