

# Friends of Port Willunga Summer update

By Stephanie Johnston, Chair, Friends of Port Willunga and Spokesperson, Southern Community Coalition

## Special points of interest:

### AGM

Sunday 20 January 2013

11am

Aldinga Community Hall

Save the date!

- \* Historic Aldinga update
- \* Character preservation legislation and the World Heritage Bid
- \* Foreshore access plan - stage 5
- \* Port Willunga foreshore dune plantings
- \* Aldinga airport
- \* Train route through Aldinga Arts Eco Village farm
- \* Mobile phone tower at Port Willunga Caravan Park
- \* Committee member updates and call for new members

## Historic Aldinga update

As the Home Grain Bakery in historic Aldinga celebrated its first birthday on 1 December, plans to upgrade the township were put on hold as issues around the connection of the town to a sewerage system are investigated.

These may tie in with new proposals for the former supermarket site. Come along to the AGM at 11am on Sunday 20 January 2013, to find out more!

## Character preservation legislation and the World Heritage bid

2012 was Year of the Farmer and the Friends of Port Willunga did our bit with two significant local initiatives seeing the light of day.

The state government finally introduced its character preservation legislation to McLaren Vale and the Barossa, with Bowering Hill included in the McLaren Vale preservation district.

This means that major project status (a mechanism by which the Planning Minister can remove planning powers from local government) does not apply,



Toasting the passing of the Barossa and McLaren Vale character preservation legislation at Chapel Hill Winery, Sunday 4 November 2012. From left owner of Inkwell Wines, Dudley Brown, Premier Jay Weatherill, Friends of Port Willunga chair, Stephanie Johnston, and Member for Mawson, Leon Bignell.

and that any proposals for residential rezoning must be scrutinised by both houses of parliament, as well as local government, making it much more difficult to move urban and township boundaries in future.

Another win was the recent decisions by four councils (Barossa Council, Adelaide Hills Council, the District Council of Mount Barker and the City of Onkaparinga) to follow the recommendations of a University of Adelaide feasibility study to pursue the first stage of World Heritage listing for the agricultural landscapes of the Mount Lofty Ranges.

The Mount Lofty Ranges working group will now seek matching state government and industry support to pursue National Heritage listing, a necessary first step in the World Heritage listing process.

Congratulations to our local City of Onkaparinga for getting behind this initiative!

## Foreshore access plan - stage 5

A draft concept plan has been developed by the City of Onkaparinga for the 4km segment of coast between the Port Willunga foreshore carpark and the Aldinga Beach boat ramp.

The concept addresses the limited cycling and

## Summer 2012-2013 update continued



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### Call for new members

We are always looking for new committee members, so if you are interested please put forward your name to Jen Bratovic at: jenbcraft@yahoo.com or 0412 901 698 by Monday 14 January 2013.

Or simply come and see one of the committee members at the AGM.

Please note the AGM will be held the weekend before the Tour Down Under long weekend!

On behalf of the committee I wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and I look forward to seeing you at the AGM in the new year!

**Stephanie Johnston**

pedestrian facilities currently available through this area.

It proposes:

- developing a new shared use path
- upgrading facilities including shelters, picnic facilities, seating and fencing
- formalising lookout areas
- landscaping that showcases local indigenous plant species
- upgrading Snapper Point as a major coastal destination.

Council is inviting feedback from the wider community on the draft concept plan and you can have your say by completing an online survey [here](#), or by printing a survey form and sending it to Projects, City of Onkaparinga, PO Box 1 NOARLUNGA CENTRE SA 5168.

Submissions will be received up to 25 January 2013. Contact Debbie Rich, Project Leader on 8384 0562 or via [email](#).

### Port Willunga foreshore dune plantings

One winter Sunday the Friends of Port Willunga once again got together for a day of dune plantings in the sandhills around the old caravan park site and Willunga Creek with plants provided by the City of Onkaparinga.

The council carried out extensive plantings on dunes and cliffs and funded new fencing to protect the revegetation. It is anticipated this work will continue in 2013, and a date of Sunday 14 July has been tentatively set for another community planting session.

### Aldinga airport

After a long campaign over 2012 by nearby residents to limit commercial activities at Aldinga airport, Aldinga Aviation is now negotiating with the Environment Protection Authority about applying for a licence, after it was found to have exceeded 20,000 aircraft movements per year.

Approval of an application to the City of Onkaparinga by Pulse Aero to service around five planes a week at the airfield has consequently been put on hold.

### Train route through Aldinga Arts Eco Village farm

After two years deliberation the state government's transport department has come up with a proposed route for a transport corridor to Aldinga which runs through the Aldinga Arts Eco Village to service a station proposed to be located near Galilee Catholic School.

The government is negotiating with the Eco Village to compulsorily acquire land on the farm to that end.

### Mobile phone tower at Port Willunga Caravan Park

The Friends of Port Willunga put in a submission opposing an application from Optus to erect a mobile phone tower at the caravan park site at Port Willunga Caravan Park until alternative sites are properly investigated.

We suggested locating the tower between Old Coach Rd and Main South Rd, where high towers servicing power lines already exist, and where the tower would not impact on the Maslin Beach to Port Willunga cliff walk views, or views from the historic townships of Aldinga and Port Willunga.

We also suggested that Optus be invited to bring a cherry picker to a site inspection to demonstrate how high the tower would be, so that members of the community can ascertain what those impacts on views might be.

### Committee member updates

In 2012 we welcomed Brian 'Mac' McPhee into the role of treasurer, and Jen Bratovic into the role of secretary. Needless to say both have been doing a brilliant job!

Former treasurer Ian Mason has now formally resigned from the committee, so we thank him for all his support and hard work over the years. Ian will continue to liaise with council officers to arrange the annual dune plantings, and he is also official "sound man" at our next AGM.