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Greetings all,

Activities in the reserve recently received a significant boost, with our successful application for a Mitcham Community Development grant ("Improving community access and understanding in the Waite Conservation Reserve"). We received \$3000 to put towards upgrading walking trails and installing interpretive signage pointing out key aspects of the flora and fauna. Particularly pleasing was the fact that the grant was fully funded in the face of

Lastly, some bird news: a white-throated treecreeper recently turned up, which is the first record for the reserve of this species. Listen for its explosive piping call in the Wild Dog's Glen/Urrbrae Ridge area. It will be interesting to see if it stays around, as their core habitat is the stringybark forests of the high ranges - it may just be a dispersing individual on its way somewhere else. Another first was a barn owl, calling from the top of Koala Gully – harsh screeches and an unnerving, almost human-like scream. Owls hav

advance, they are welcome to phone me and ask. Up to the minute information will also be broadcast on the Community Bulletin Board program on 891 5AN from 7am on the morning in question. It should also be pointed out that if people were to turn up at or close to the start time, transportation could be arranged. (This would also greatly assist the organisers in planning the day.)

As some will be aware, there are moves afoot to construct a new management plan to guide all works on the reserve in the foreseeable future. Strong foundations have been laid, and work is proceeding well. When this task is complete, it should in theory be possible to outline a work program for an entire season. In the meantime it falls to me to make certain management decisions on a more or less ad-hoc basis, and therefore we will have to deal with these communication and access issues. It should be remembered that, even with the most thorough plan in place, some flexibility will always be needed to accommodate seasonal variations and other contingencies. If anyone feels they have something constructive to offer to either the management plan proper, or ongoing decision-making, I hope they will feel free to discuss it with other members in general, and myself and/or Scott in particular.

Bryan Both
Working Bee Co-ordinator
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In 2001/ 2002, 40 year 8 & 9 students from Urrbrae Agricultural High School will be participating in the Activ -8 a South Australian Youth Development Program. The students will make a significant contribution to the monitoring and restoration of Waite Conservation Reserve. Acti

position with additional responsibilities for the development of the Gardens of the Urrbrae House Historic Precinct and the management of the Waite Conservation Reserve.

As an ex officio member of the Committee I will keep the Friends informed about the University's policies and management of the Reserve. I also welcome advice and suggestions from the Friends on all matters relating to the Reserve.

Chris Kaczan

I'm a local resident who enjoys walking on weekends through the Reserve. As part of these walks I am trying to "work as I walk" and pull number of olive seedlings as I stroll along.

As a teacher at Urrbrae Agricultural High School I am particularly interested in working with students on weed control and park management.

Dr. Scott Field

I am a lecturer and research associate in the Department of Applied and Molecular Ecology at the Waite Campus of the University of Adelaide. After completing my PhD in 1997 at the Waite, I spent two and a half years doing research in Israel.

In 1999 I returned to a position with Hugh Possingham in conservation biology; monitoring woodland birds and working on landscape reconstruction strategies in the Mount Lofty Ranges.

I live locally in Netherby which is handy for the work I do conducting regular bird surveys in the Waite Arboretum and the Reserve.

Andy Baker

I am 47, very happily married to Annette, with no children but we have had our niece and nephew live with us during their mid to late teens while studying in the city.

My training was as an electronic and mechanical engineer, which led me to work for the PMG/ Telecom/ Telstra for 19 years. In 1993 I joined a company developing metal detectors. This resulted in the development of a land mine detector in 1995, and to my work in many countries infested with land mines where I taught the use and maintenance of the detector until 2000. My work continues as a product development consultant. Recent developments include a tap timer, fishing products and aviation instrumentation.

I walk and run in the Reserve 3 or 4 days a week to keep fit and pull weeds.

Ian Mosel

In my life before retirement I taught a variety of biological sciences with a particular interest in plant and animal ecology, starting as a high school teacher and then at Adelaide Teachers College and Adelaide C.A.E. At the time of retirement I was teaching human physiology and genetics to nursing students at the University of South Au; Biw i o Mlr i i o Mllklp p@pesass8ufukisb \$' ikol s