



BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION SA INC.

# NEWSLETTER

No. 31: July, 2008.

TEN YEARS COMMEMORATIVE ISSUE

## THE FIRST TEN YEARS by Chairman David Keane

It all began with a trip to England in 1997 with my partner Beth. As members of Butterfly Conservation UK and encouraged by the success of the Kent butterfly group and conservation activities across the British Isles, I was inspired by recollections of a childhood living in the countryside with abundant butterflies and moths. It was time to bring together the knowledge of the butterfly experts with the work of others in the conservation field to help prevent extinction here. The call went out to get the gurus of Lepidoptera on board, and with initial help from the ubiquitous batman, Terry Reardon coupled with the enthusiasm and energy of the museum's collection manager of invertebrates, Jan Forrest OAM, a meeting was held and Butterfly Conservation SA Inc (BCSA) was formed and off to a flying start.

It was discovered that here in South Australia we had a vast pool of butterfly knowledge and information, both at the museum and with private enthusiasts. The vital support of Bob Fisher, Lindsay Hunt, Roger Grund, Mike Moore, and others gave the professional standing needed to launch a campaign to save our butterflies and their habitats. The structure of the organisation was established by Beth, who was the inaugural chairperson until the twins arrived. With Jan as the first (and only!) secretary the committee produced its first newsletter in June 1999, with a membership of 40. The four newsletters produced each year provide information on what is happening in butterfly conservation, events and activities of the group, and habitat preservation.



The early butterfly conservation issues were to find out what butterflies were in decline, to move from anecdotal to data based evidence of habitat and numbers, and define their protection needs. Education for bushcare workers on how to provide specific butterfly habitat requirements was high on the agenda. Initial projects to survey, replace and secure habitats, and nominate species for protection under the Endangered Species Protection Act were undertaken. Educational materials



Our emblem the Wood White *Delias aganippe* photo Lindsay Hunt

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BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION SA. INC. for membership enquiries and annual membership payments (\$10):

Treasurer: 20 Thornton Avenue, KENSINGTON

**FRIENDS OF PARKS 2008 FORUM**

15th - 17th August 2008 at Old Wilpena Station Flinders Ranges National Park. Hosted by Friends of the Flinders Ranges.

Further information from flindersfriendsforum.org.au

**REVIEW OF AUSTRALIAN BUTTERFLIES**

Dunn, K.L. and Dunn, L.E. (2006) Annotated version CD-ROM. Published by the authors and available from www.calodema.com for \$45 includes postage and handling.

The atlas set, 'Dunn & Dunn 1991', has become a landmark publication in the history of Australian butterfly collecting. Although long out of print, continued requests for copies have resulted in it now being made available as a single compilation on CD.

- Embeds the original text as PDF files, incorporating all original charts and map figures, as well as extras re-compiled from the original data set (more than 960 figures, mostly in colour).
- Enhanced by annotations: documentation of errors, programming and project history, methodology, data representativeness and other background information.
- Easy to search text using the platform tool bars – maps can be 'cut and pasted' if required.

Requirements: Acrobat Reader 5 or above, Windows 98, ME or XP operating systems. May not auto-load on some systems (eg. 98 & ME) but can be loaded manually from Windows Explorer or similar file systems.

No regular user of the original work can afford to be without this annotated digital version.

PLEASE NOTE: This is an annotated reprint of the 1991 original – it is not a field guide but a distributional species atlas. This CD-ROM as with the original volumes has not been peer reviewed. Published by the authors.

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**THE FIRST TEN YEARS MONTAGE OF VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS - see page 3**

Top row: Beth Keane (nee Rostron), Lois Hasenohr, Bob Fisher, Jill Davy-Warren.

Second Row: Andy Young, Roger Grund, Jan Forrest.

Third row: Trevor Rowe, David Keane, Rowan Moore.

Fourth row: Mike Moore, Tim Gudgon, Bob Edge, Maria Johns.

Bottom: Kevin Parken, Lindsay Hunt, Marcus Pickett and John Hunwick.

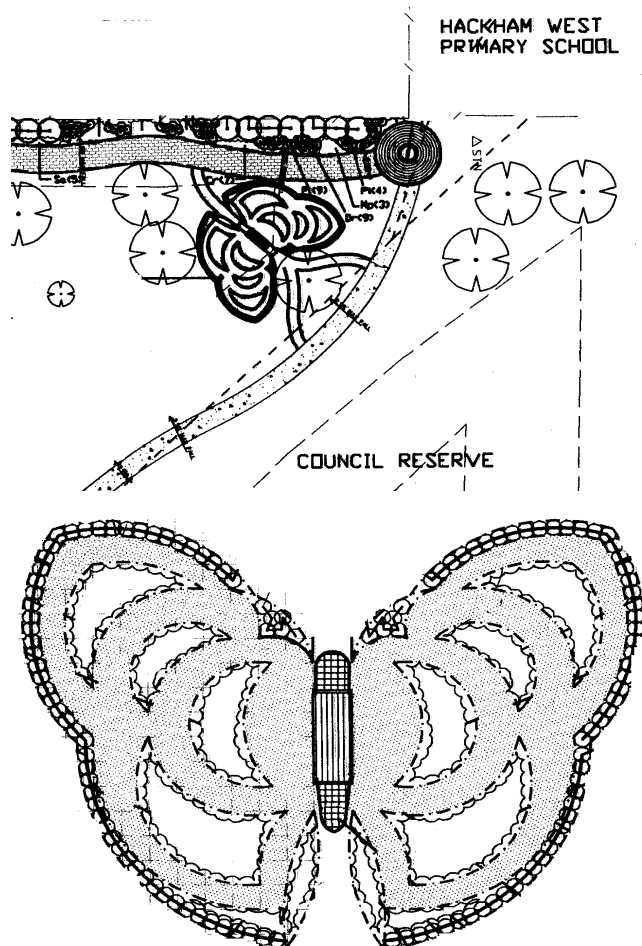
**HACKHAM WEST CHILDRENS CENTRE BUTTERFLY GARDEN**

BCSA recently received an application for a butterfly site for the Hackham West Childrens Centre. Located adjacent to the Hackham West Primary School and Vinters Walk this site was made possible through a community grant from "Communities for Children". The opening is planned for June or July.

Families will adopt a bed and plant and care for plants. The garden will feature a mosaic made by families and children from terracotta clay tiles and these will be embedded into the concrete 'body' of the butterfly.

20 engraved plaques will be glued to concrete to encourage parent to child communication "Can you see any butterflies? Can you hear any birds in the trees?"

We look forward to hearing more about this exciting project. Congratulations to all those involved.



**MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR THE 2009/2010 FINANCIAL YEAR ARE NOW DUE**

You may pay in advance for up to three years. Members with fees outstanding will receive a reminder letter in this newsletter. Members who have joined since March 08 do not need to renew however advice of your email address would be appreciated as many new applications have not included email addresses or they have been hard to read!

*THE FIRST TEN YEARS OF BC&A*

*Some of our volunteer committee members and supporters*



see page 2 for names

## BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION SOUTH AUSTRALIA

## MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING

*The first meeting of the Butterfly Conservation group was held on Saturday, 25 July 1998 in the Natural Science Building of the South Australian Museum. The meeting commenced at 2pm and closed at 4.30pm. Minutes prepared by Beth Rostron.*

Present: David Keane, Beth Rostron, Terry Reardon, Bob Fisher, Roger Grund, Mike Moore, Marcus Pickett, Lindsay Hunt and Jan Forrest. (A copy of the name, address and phone contact details of those present was distributed at the meeting)

Apologies: Vicki-Jo Russell

### 1. Introductions

Each member of the group gave a brief introduction outlining their interest in and experience with Lepidoptera and their interest in this group.

David Keane spoke about his reasons for instigating this group, outlined the range of activities conducted by the British Butterfly Conservation Society, and brought examples of their publications, catalogues, newsletters, survey forms and posters. He highlighted the need for the incorporation of scientific information and expert field knowledge into Bushcare and Landcare land management practices, so that conservation can happen “on the ground” in conjunction with work already being done with native vegetation.

David passed on his sincere appreciation of Terry Reardon’s efforts and support in bringing people together to discuss the formation of a butterfly conservation group.

### 2. Discussion:

Discussion was held on the present status of butterfly populations and their distribution in South Australia. The group also shared information on conservation activities in the UK, and displays and information sheets produced by the South Australian Museum and the Threatened Species Network previously.

Areas where conservation activity could be focused included:

- General public awareness campaigns, which could be linked to Museum displays, release of Australia Post butterfly stamps, and co-ordinated articles on conservation with the Advertiser.
- Information displays, which could be used for environment days or school visits.
- Education and involvement campaigns, such as engaging the public in counts and surveys, publishing articles in Environment SA magazine.
- Preservation of specific sites and populations under threat, such as encouraging Local Government and Government Agency involvement in protecting and promoting the growth of food plants.
- Utilising existing Landcare, Bushcare and Trees for Life networks to enhance habitat and especially food plant propagation, range, distribution and density.
- Performing a Watchdog role in identifying and protecting patches of native vegetation.
- Research, including database update and possibly publications.
- Liaison with the Native Grasses Resource Group inc.

Some specific strategies raised were:

- Waterfall Gully: restoration of habitat in conjunction with Mitcham and Bumside Councils.
- Introduction of *Gahnia* spp., the saw-sedges, into wetland areas as a food plant through local councils.
- Ensure *Gahnia* population remains intact in the Millicent pine forests.

There is a need to identify the specific requirements of each species or population, and to tailor recovery program to their needs.

continued next page

## BCSA THE FIRST MEETING Continued from page 4.

**3. Objectives and Initial Activities**

The group agreed that it would not take the “hands on action” role in the field. Members saw themselves as providing expert knowledge and advice, co-ordination and leadership roles, to form a focal point for conservation activities.

The organisation would focus on South Australia only to begin with, and could expand to national and international arenas further down the track. Although the promotion and conservation of SA species is paramount, it was recognised that the attractiveness of other more flamboyant and eye-catching species would be utilised in public awareness campaigns. It was agreed that butterflies only would be the focus at this stage.

Initially the activities would focus on conservation of butterfly habitats and public awareness campaigns. Displays and targeted information campaigns could be more effective to begin with, using contacts known to group members and strategies with a high likelihood of success to achieve tangible results. The principle of beginning in small, attainable steps was advocated. More resource intensive activities such as brochures, publications and merchandising material will be considered later.

The objectives of the British Butterfly Conservation Society were considered.

Funding options, such as grants and projects in conjunction with the Threatened Species Network, were discussed to supplement membership fees. Potential sponsorship by Butterfly House was raised.

It was agreed that this core group would continue with the setting up of a formally recognised body, setting of an organisation constitution etc., and developing strategies for conservation activities prior to advertising the existence of the group more broadly and inviting greater membership. The group identified two or three others who are knowledgeable regarding butterflies and who would be interested in joining, but were unable to be present today.

In launching the organisation a readily identifiable name and logo must be decided.

An Internet Web site could be set up to disseminate information once the group is established.

We could build on the release of butterfly stamps by Australia Post (issue date 3 September 1998) with joint displays, information advertising the existence of the group and providing a “What can we do to help?” brochure and food plant lists for SA species.

- ACTION: Beth Rostron will research the requirements and procedures for formally constituting the new organisation, and report to the next meeting for discussion and decisions.
- ACTION: Marcus Pickett will contact Vicki-Jo Russell, Co-ordinator of the Threatened Species Network, to discuss the implications of a relationship with the network, both for possible financial support and practical joint ventures.
- ACTION: Jan Forrest will research the continued use of the Natural Science Building as a meeting ~
- ACTION: All members will consider an appropriate name for the group and which butterfly would perform best as our logo. Decision at the next meeting.
- ACTION: Jan Forrest will investigate the potential for a display at the Museum, and the likely timing involved (most likely to be Nov — Dec).
- ACTION: Jan Forrest will explore the potential of a joint display at the Museum in conjunction with the release of the butterfly stamps by Australia Post.
- ACTION: Marcus Pickett will contact Butterfly House to determine their interest in assisting the group with sponsorship.
- ACTION: All members will invite other interested experts they are aware of to attend the next meeting, and provide them with a copy of the minutes of this meeting for information.
- ACTION: All members to consider the priorities for action, including species, populations, campaigns and strategies for discussion and decision at the next meeting.

**4. Next Meeting**

Date: Tuesday 11 August 1998,  
 Time: 6.00pm  
 Venue: Natural Science Building, SA Museum  
 Catering: Pizzas will be ordered

Thank you to all participants for their time, enthusiasm and support in creating this exciting direction for butterfly conservation in SA, and especially to Bob Fisher for his valued knowledge and participation.

***“DEDICATED TO SAVING WILD BUTTERFLIES AND THEIR HABITAT”***

BCSA 'AGM' – Monday 11th AUGUST 2008 at 7.30pm  
at the Urrbrae Wetlands Resource Centre, Cross Rd, Urrbrae.

TALK BY DAVID KEANE

**“THE FASCINATING WORLD OF MOTHS”**



*Mr Mistachio*



*Mr Big Nose*

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**If you would like to join the committee** please copy the nomination slip below and bring to the meeting or post to secretary Jan Forrest. Further forms will be available at the meeting.

We meet bi-monthly, usually the second Monday of the months of February, April, June, August (AGM), October and December.

Management of BCSA is vested in a committee of not less than five persons including chairman, secretary, and treasurer.

**NOMINATION FORM**

I nominate the following BCSA member: .....

to the position of :.....

Proposer name: ..... Signature: .....

Seconder name: ..... Signature: .....

I agree to accept this nomination: signature of nominee .....

## EXCURSION

on Saturday 12th July to  
Waterfall Gully  
meet at the Waterfall Gully Carpark  
at 11.00am.  
Bring you lunch and good walking  
shoes.

In the past Wanderer butterflies have  
be observed clustering in this area so  
we are hopefull of seeing this phenom-  
ena as well as sighting some *Hesperilla*  
skipper butterflies.

Andy Young will lead the excursion.

If you are planning to come please  
leave your contact details with Jan  
Forrest 8297 8230 so that we may  
contact you if there is a change to the  
arrangements.



## HELP PROTECT THE BIRDS OF THE FLEURIEU!

By purchasing some 'Birds of the Fleurieu' greeting  
cards from supporter Elizabeth Steele-Collins from  
Clifftop Creations.

45 different cards are available for \$3ea plus  
postage. An order form is available from secretary  
Jan Forrest or email Elizabeth on seawings@wait-  
pingacliffs.com.

Proceeds from card sales go towards a habitat  
restoration project at Sea Wings at Waitpinga Cliffs  
on the Fleurieu Peninsula.

## ROSTER OF HELPERS AT DISPLAYS

If you are not available to join the committee  
but would like to **help out on one of our BCSA  
display stands** at publicised community events  
please let the Secretary Jan Forrest know so that  
she may contact you to ascertain your availabil-  
ity.

It is very rewarding and you get to talk to inter-  
ested members of the public.

## BCSA NATURE QUIZ No.2 by D. Keane

1. What do the letters GM stand for in plant  
cloning?
2. How many petals do daisy flowers have?
3. What is the green colouring in plants called?
4. What are platinas and puggles?
5. What kind of gum tree is South Australia's  
foundation tree?
6. What plant is used as an antidote for toxins in  
stinging nettles?
7. What insect causes plant growths called oak  
apples?
8. What is the opposite of maculate, as in  
*Eucalyptus maculata*?
9. From which tree is aspirin obtained?
10. What "puzzle tree" related to Bunya pines  
originating in Chile?

## ULTIMATE CONSERVATION !!



The Far Side © by Gary Larson

1. Genetically Modified 2. None 3. Chlorophyll 4. Baby monotemes  
5. SA Blue Gum, 6. Dock 7. Wasp 8. Immaculate 9. Willow 10. Monkey.

*THE FIRST TEN YEARS - continued from Page 1.*

and events followed, to broaden public awareness. Members assisted the SAMuseum to mount the successful Exhibition "Where have all the butterflies gone". Initially launched at Carrick Hill it then moved to the S.A.Museum, Cleland Wildlife park and several other venues alerting the community to the plight of many of our 78 species of butterflies. This also led to many field trips with the experts to teach us about food plants, eggs, caterpillars and what habitats butterflies need to survive. Roger's fantastic website provided the foundation of technical knowledge of species, with plant information and pictures of all the butterflies. He has been chairman of the group from 2001 to 2007.

Increasing exposure of BCSA at events such as native plant sales, expos, garden shows and in many talks to community groups attracted more members wanting to play a part in saving butterflies. Our stalwart band of committee members and volunteers has provided enthusiastic support advocating for butterflies and their needs. A National action plan workshop for butterfly conservation was delivered in Adelaide by the CSIRO, compiling ideas and strategies into a national framework. Work instigated by Jan Forrest, through the committee, saw production of fact sheets for distribution at natural resources field days, events, exhibitions and schools. These further enhanced the "Out Reach" program with talks to environmental and community groups.

"Butterfly Watch" was launched at the SA Museum in May 2006 during the "Bring butterflies back to Adelaide" campaign. This was initiated to promote and encourage the planting of host and nectar plants in gardens, and culminated in 'Butterfly Month'.

2007 saw the sad loss of Bob Fisher and Lindsay Hunt, who together were major contributors to the knowledge, collections and photography of our Lepidoptera spanning 40 years. Their donations to the museum are gratefully acknowledged, a resource BCSA can proudly use and pass on to future generations.

The "Butterfly Gardening Website", the SAMuseum exhibition "Bringing Back the Butterflies" with a visitation of over 29,000 people and the launch of our new book "Attracting Butterflies to your Garden" were major achievements in 2007. The book, compiled over two years and with many exhaustive hours of work, is authored by Hunt, Grund, Keane and Forrest. It is very beautiful, very useful, and a tribute to Jan's vision, tenacity and endurance. It promotes the use of indigenous flora as food plants and nectar sources in the Adelaide region, with photographs to identify all the butterflies and their caterpillars.

BCSA now boasts a membership of over 250. The future is in good hands with a dedicated group of committee members and continued support of the SA Museum.

## BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION SA Inc.

Chairman: David Keane

Secretary and Newsletter Editor: Jan Forrest OAM C/- South Australian Museum, North Terrace, ADELAIDE, 5000 ph (08) 8207 7503.

email <forrest.jan@saugov.sa.gov.au > or <forrestjan@adam.com.au>

Treasurer : 20 Thornton Avenue, KENSINGTON

## OUTREACH PROGRAM

The full exhibition and AO size panels from the Exhibition "Where have all the Butterflies gone?" are available from Jan Forrest at the South Australian Museum for use by Landcare and other Conservation groups at seminars, conferences and workshops or just for display. Included are five introductory panels, and seventeen panels from seven habitat areas: Coastal, Grasses, Mallee, Urban, Migration/Vagrant, Eucalyptus Forrest/Woodland, Arid, Wetland and Lower South East.

## DIARY DATES

**MEETINGS** - Committee meetings are normally held bi-monthly (usually the second Monday of the month) at 6.00pm in the Urrbrae Wetlands Resource Centre, Cross Roads, Urrbrae. All members are welcome to attend. If you would like further information or receive an agenda please contact Secretary Jan Forrest.

Next Meeting: 13th October, 2008 at 6.00pm

AGM Monday 11th August, 2008 at 7.30pm.

## WEB SITES

"Butterfly Gardening" - [www.butterflygardening.net.au](http://www.butterflygardening.net.au)

'Butterfly Conservation SA Inc.' <http://www.chariot.net.au/~bcsa/index.htm>

'South Australian Butterflies' (Roger Grund private site)

- <http://www.chariot.net.au/~rgrund/index.htm>

'Butterfly Watch' - SAMuseum website

[www.samuseum.sa.gov.au](http://www.samuseum.sa.gov.au) then click on 'Media' then 'online exhibitions'.

**Teacher Resources** (Jackie Miers) - [http://www.teachers.ash.org.au/jmresources/butadelaide/Butterflies\\_of\\_Adelaide.html](http://www.teachers.ash.org.au/jmresources/butadelaide/Butterflies_of_Adelaide.html)

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

**A BURG**

Paul RUTTER

David COSTELLO

Ian JACKSON

Edwin GALBREATH

Danny

BOMBARDORNI

Merily KUCHEL

David BLIGHT

Pam BARNETT

Anne BYRNE

LM DAVY

Helen BULIS

Petra WIESNER

Gerry BUTLER

Fiona KOCH

Bill and Cathy NEW

Anni CASTINE

Benjamin DUNK

