



**Adelaide Canoe Club**

# General Meeting

**Held at Canoe SA, 19 January 2017**

## Present

Eddie Andriessen, Ian Brunning, Peter Carter, Bernard and Frances Goble, Mark Loram, Don McDonald, Tracey Matzka, David Mallett, David Mausolf (Chair), Julie Rohde, Brian Slater, Margaret Stuart, Charles Walker

## Apologies

Shauna Ashewood, Meredith Blesing, Wayne Hooper and Libby Robertson

## Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the 17 November meeting were confirmed as circulated.

## Reports

### Secretary

Received: *Ocean Paddler* No 55 (electronic and print)  
*Seekajak* 149

Email:

TSCC Newsletter, calendar  
Southern Sea Ventures brochure  
Manuel Isorna (Spain): *Training Sprint Canoeing*  
Seagrass Restoration Project

The Estuary Care Foundation SA plans to apply for a Citizen Science grant for a seagrass restoration project in the Port River/Barker Inlet area and seeks our in-principle support for the project. Our involvement would be for members paddling in the area to observe and report the progress of test plantings and other areas of seagrasses<sup>1</sup>.

### Canoe SA

Forthcoming courses: Rolling (Sunday mornings at West Lakes), Sea Skills (leading to Wardang Island weekend trip), Get into Paddling (for novices) and the Flatwater Assessment day, 12 February.

A forum to discuss forthcoming changes to Aus Canoeing would be held Tues 24 Jan at Glenelg.

## Trip reports

Images and video of the recent whitewater trips in Victoria were shown.

## General business

Paddle For Prostate, Sun 22 Jan: To avoid parking problems at Oarsmens Reserve, members would launch from Tiranna Way.

Patawalonga swim escort, Sat 4, Sun 5 Feb: details were still to come.

Clean Up Australia Day: Kim Wooning would be coordinator.

The Holdfast Bay Paddlesports Club building was broken into overnight 14 Jan and a surf ski, K1 and K2 taken out and left on the bank.

Rapid Bay paddle, Sun 22 Jan: The paddle was planned as a peer paddle by Charles Walker. The regular metropolitan Sunday paddles were continuing.

## Notes

### 1 Seagrass restoration project

On 20 Jan I met with Catherine McMahon (Estuary Care Foundation), Jason Tanner (SARDI), and Travis Howson (Recfish SA) to discuss preparation of the grant application and aspects of the project implementation. As noted above, our role would be to monitor test sites, with the most likely initial area being the western shore of Torrens Island, south of the Quarantine station. The following comes from a project web page, <[lefevre.noticeboard.net.au/?page\\_id=979](http://lefevre.noticeboard.net.au/?page_id=979)>:

### Seagrass Restoration—Port River & Barker Inlet

Seagrass meadows are an important component of the near shore marine environment of the Adelaide metropolitan area of Gulf St Vincent. There are extensive subtidal beds of *Posidonia*

(Tape weed), and *Amphibolis* (Wire weed). There also extensive areas of *Zostera* and *Hetrozostera*, (Eel grass) on the muddy banks adjacent to the mangroves in Barker Inlet and to the north. They also extend into the subtidal zone.

Seagrasses form a complex ecosystem which supports a wide range of algae, sponges, invertebrates and fish. They are important breeding areas for fish and crustaceans. They also are very important in stabilizing sediments and mitigating the effects of wave action.

There has been extensive loss of seagrasses in the metropolitan region with significant changes to the marine ecology of the region. A major cause of the decline is decreased light due to nutrient stimulated epiphyte growth and increased turbidity. This can be linked to increased industrial and storm water discharges. There have also significant changes in sediment erosion and accretion patterns resulting from shore line modifications for harbors and revetments.

Restoring the natural seagrass beds would have major environmental benefits. Of most interest to the Estuary Care Foundation are the intertidal and subtidal *Zostera* and *Heterozostera* beds which would have previously occurred in the Port River and Barker Inlet.

When considering replanting seagrasses, it is important to know if the factors that caused the loss are still active. As mentioned above water quality and physical factors may be involved. Water quality in the Port River and Barker Inlet has improved in recent years. However, it is not clear whether it is good enough for seagrasses to re-establish. Transplant experiments is one way of determining this. In any transplant work, measures need to be taken to protect the seedlings from wave action and currents that could dislodge them. The wash from boats could be a significant issue.

Trials of seagrass restoration in the Port River and Barker Inlet are proposed by the Estuary Care Foundation SA.

	<b>Club</b>	<b>Canoe SA</b>	<b>Other</b>
<b>January 2017</b>			
Sunday 22			Paddle for Prostate
Tuesday 24	Evening Paddle: W Lakes		Canoe SA/ Aus Canoeing Forum
Thursday 26	Australia Day paddle		
Tuesday 31	Evening paddle, Seacliff		
<b>February</b>			
Sat 4 –Sun 5			Swim escort, Patawalonga
Tuesday 7	Evening paddle, N Haven		
Sunday 12	Coastal paddle	Assessment Workshop	
Thursday 16	Club meeting		
Sunday 19	Coastal paddle	Sea Skills session 1	
Tuesday 21	tba		
Sunday 26	Coastal paddle		
Tuesday 28	tba		
<b>March</b>			
Sunday 5			Clean Up Australia Day
Tuesday 7	tba		
Sat 11 – Mon 13	tba		
Thurs 16	Club meeting		
Sunday 19	Coastal paddle		
Tuesday 21	tba		
Sunday 26	Coastal paddle		
Tuesday 28	tba		