



## **WORKING BEE REPORT June 2-5, 2022**

### **THURSDAY, June 2**

It seems so hard to believe that yet another year has gone by, and it is planting time again! This is one of the busiest times of the year for us and every other landcare group, with lots of tubestock to get in the ground now that the weather has broken. That is such a funny expression, isn't it? How do you "break" a sunny day, or a storm cloud? We all know what it means though... the first of the late autumn/winter rains have arrived, and the ground is wet (we hope!).

Last year, we started earlier, with the help of those beautiful children from the Rapid Bay Primary School. They and their teachers put in an amazing effort and planted over 450 tubestock out in a single day... most of them before lunch! Not only did they get them in the ground, they put them in carefully.... Those plants are thriving!



We were mad keen to get the kids back this year again, after the success of last year. So our plan was, start preparing/auguring holes etc on the Thursday afternoon, work with the Rapid Bay kids on the Friday to plant 500 tubestock, finish the rest of our seedlings on the Saturday, then have a light day Sunday, cleaning up. Whew!

What could go wrong? Well, the weather for a start. Having "broken" a month before, it threatened total disintegration all week...high winds, rain... not at all pleasant to have the kids out in. Still, the school was happy to wait and see what Friday brought, and hopefully the forecast might improve.



Corey Jackson, our go-to guy for extra help, obliged by bringing down a bigger auger than the one we have. So on the Thursday afternoon, Carolyn, Liz and Corey are in the Sorata St/Shady Grove area with two augers and assorted other tools, getting 500 holes dug. The idea is to link up remnant patches to the east, with previous plantings/remnant area to the west. 500 plants will go a long way to helping achieve that!

As each hole was dug, a stake was put in the hole to mark the position. This makes it easier to find the next day. We have often “lost” holes after digging them because we can’t see them among the grasses and weed growth, sometimes.





This was just part of the prep for the day though. Carolyn had already been busy painting pegs and sorting plants. Then Carolyn and Liz had made up a heap of half-treeguards. These last two initiatives are methods we have trialled for a while now. The clothes pegs are attached to the tops of treeguards to mark new or thirsty plants; the half treeguards seem to allow our little plants at CJ a better start in life... more sun in winter, not as much trapped humidity to cause moulds, shade in summer, etc. And the rabbits are still thwarted!



Lots of prep done and dusted, weather forecast for Friday not as bad as it could be from earlier in the week... all set? Well, not quite. Rapid Bay is a small school, with 3 teachers. When two get sick in the same week, there is no way the kids can go on an excursion. So they had to cancel for the Friday, but were keen to reschedule. Instead of coming in June, they will now come in August. Quite frankly, disappointed as we were that they couldn't make it that week, we are so glad they want to come and work with us again! And we like seeing them anytime!

Carolyn put a call out that night via Facebook for anyone in the community wanting to come help out on the Friday, and we retired for the night waiting to see what the morrow would bring.

## FRIDAY, June 3

What did the Friday bring? 485 plants in the ground! We ran out of tree guards at sunset, so instead of rushing to get the other 15 of our allotted 500 in the ground, we patted ourselves on the back and called it quits.

So... how did the day progress? Usual early morning for a planting day...soak the plants in Seasol, load everything into the cars, make sure morning tea is ready, make sure we have hand sanitizer, spare gloves, all the tools, sign-in sheet, and a hundred and one other bits and pieces. Carolyn and Liz have been packing cars for this for 9 years now, so they each know the ropes. Meanwhile, Chrissy and Pedro are there making sure what doesn't go in two cars goes in the third, and nothing is left behind.

9am start, all hands on deck... or knees on the ground! Before long, those treeguards are starting to go on around the newly planted natives, and the sea of holes is becoming a totally different vista.





We were joined by Sally, from Wirrina who pitched right in. By the time morning tea time hit, we already had heaps of plants in.





Pedro had his cuppa in the car... the weather was a little unpredictable at that time, a little showery.



It's not all hard work. We are always happy to take a break and look out for what's in flower and what's new. With perhaps a dash of learning thrown in. One of the challenges on site is telling apart the good *Acacia longifolia* ssp *sophorae*, from the weedy *Acacia cyclops* (a WA weedy bully). Sally and Carolyn found an interesting leaf on a "sophorae" while working together. Here is a slightly magnified photo showing green 'bubbles' on the leaf.



We thought maybe eggs that had hatched, given the white centre of each little bubble.

We still don't know what is is, so if you know, let us know!!



After lunch a friend of Sally's, Sue joined us. Sue is a volunteer at Nixon Skinner Reserve and came from their Myponga working bee to join us. Thanks Sally and Sue,



you saved the day! With these extra hands we really churned through the plants. We did have a few short breaks...those little showers at morning tea time got a little worse late in the afternoon, so everyone headed for their cars! We had so much gear with us, it was basically one person per car... good thing we had had a chance to chat over morning tea and lunch!



By sunset, these few plants were all that were still to be planted of the 500 set aside. As we said earlier, though, we needed more guards on site to go with them, and by then, it was dark, so we called it quits for the day. It had been a long day, but a truly productive one.

What a bonus to get 10.2 mm of rain overnight to water everything in!



## SATURDAY, June 4

We couldn't have worked Sue hard enough on the Friday. Not only did she come back again on the Saturday, but she brought her husband Gregor too. And with Sally and Trevor, Suz, Vince and family, and a new volunteer and Cape Jervis resident Anne we were again blessed with a great bunch of volunteers this day. We began on the lower loop, filling in gaps along the Heysen Trail, the northern side, and a bit in the "small pretties". Looks cold out there, doesn't it! Everyone was wearing multiple layers!!!





It was all going smoothly...., tree guards were being assembled, Sally and Trevor started planting the karkalla (*Carpobrotus rossii*) along the Heysen Trail. Liz started on the auger digging holes, Jane, Sue, Anne and Carolyn were starting to plant. The sun even came out.... but just before morning tea time, our “weather watchers” monitoring the BOM site saw a big rain even coming. Morning tea was served early, from the back of Pedro & Chrissy’s Pajero (no photos). Then we madly packed the cars, some people headed home, and others headed back to Carolyn’s for what turned out to be a long lunch! What a difference a 90 mins can make!



After lunch, it was back to Sorata St., to get those 15 plants in. Who’d have thought we now had a rivulet on site!



There were still the finishing touches to put in on this part of the site. We still had to staple name tags on stakes (we do this for just about every plant), some second stakes to be hammered in, and those coloured pegs to go out... 100s of them!

We also planted some other plants Carolyn had been saving for this area. Forty plus yakkas (*Xanthorrhoea semiplana*) and other rare and/or small pretties to add biodiversity. Suz was given the task of replanting the correct species of karkalla (*Carpobrotus rossii*). Previously we had grown and planted the weedy South African species without knowing it – even though the seed was collected locally from what we thought was “a good patch”. Live and learn! Sue, Greg and Anne were busy planting the yakkas, in the shady grove, and along the track that links the shady grove with the lower loop (display garden at the ferry terminal).

One bonus of stormy weather is lots of rainbows; two pots of gold in this one?





Everyone helps out...even the 3- and 6-year olds. Look at Camellia above, using a mallet to get the stakes in. She did a great job belting them in. And Ginkgo did a great job of collecting the empty tubes ... and then making a tube train!







## SUNDAY, June 5

It had been another long day on the Saturday, so all the clean up was left til Sunday. Carolyn, Pedro and Liz unpacked cars. We then washed all the tools, cleaned the auger, repacked the shed. Then headed home after a very successful planting weekend! In all, about 800 plants went into the ground. Carolyn has since planted 'a few more' up at the drain. Not a bad effort, everyone!

Thank you all to our beautiful volunteers for their hard work, and their company. It was nice to meet the newbies, and see the oldies. Don't forget to come next month for our party!

## BETWEEN WORKING BEE – COOL STUFF



The mushroom, growing in the drain, was identified by SA Natureteers members as *Hymenopellis gigaspora*. Right: One of many spiders who had to be rehomed while removing treeguards.

## .... And the pesky weeds

Just before the morning tea deluge on the Saturday, Carolyn went up to the "early sundew" (*Drosera praefolia*) patch to see if they were flowering yet, with the idea to take the others up to see them after morning tea. Sure enough they were flowering.



Sadly she also noticed a patch of bridal creeper nearby. The rain event prevented a visit that day, but a few weeks later Carolyn went back to dig up the bridal creeper. Volunteers that are new to landcare may not realise that you can't just pull out the above ground green bits because there are underground tubers that will just keep on resprouting. Here's how much was removed from just one little area, with a trowel. It's hard not to disturb the surrounding plants, but the sedges (*Lepidosperma* spp) that were removed have been potted up and can hopefully be returned to site later.



Left: early sundew (*Drosera praefolia*). Middle: a patch of bridal creeper (before) and after (right) the tubers were dug up



Other control measures are needed for large areas of bridal creeper. There are two biological control measures, a fungus and a leaf hopper. We mostly see the fungus around this area, but it doesn't kick in till a bit later in the season, and while it doesn't kill the plants, it does a good job of reducing seed set. For more info [https://pir.sa.gov.au/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0010/145594/Fact\\_Sheet\\_BridalCreeper.pdf](https://pir.sa.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0010/145594/Fact_Sheet_BridalCreeper.pdf)

### Other noteworthy stuff

Who'd have thought, in the dead of winter, one of our volunteers would find a snake! Well that's what happened when Trevor was digging holes with the mattock and found a baby brown snake! It was not too happy at having it's nice cosy dirt home disturbed, but thankfully too cold to cause any problems. It all happened too fast to get any photos – so you will just have to believe us!



	SPECIES planted by CJCCG <i>Blue text - rare or above IUCN</i>	Common name (info for tags)	Type of plant (info for tags)	Fleurieu Bioregion Kammantoo - KAN02
1	<i>Acacia cupularis</i>	cup wattle	small shrub	Rare
2	<i>Acacia longifolia ssp sophorae</i>	coastal wattle	large shrub	
3	<i>Acacia paradoxa</i>	kangaroo thorn	large shrub	
4	<i>Acacia pycnantha</i>	golden wattle	small tree	
5	<i>Acacia rupicola</i>	rock wattle	shrub	Rare (Kan02)
6	<i>Acacia uncifolia</i>	coast silver wattle	tree	Vulnerable (Kan02)
7	<i>Acrotriche cordata</i>	coast ground-berry	small shrub	Rare (Kan02)
8	<i>Acrotriche patula</i>	shiny ground-berry	small shrub	Rare (Kan02)
9	<i>Adriana quadripartita</i>	bitter bush	shrub	near Threatened
10	<i>Allocasuarina muelleriana</i>	slaty sheoak	shrub	
11	<i>Allocasuarina verticillata</i>	drooping sheoak	large tree	
12	<i>Arthropodium strictum</i>	common vanilla-lily	lily (summer dormant)	
13	<i>Atriplex cinerea</i>	grey saltbush	large shrub	
14	<i>Atriplex semibaccata</i>	creeping saltbush	ground cover	
15	<i>Atriplex vesicaria</i>	bladder saltbush	shrub	Rare (Kan02)
16	<i>Austrostipa elegantissima</i>	elegant spear-grass	winter active grass	
17	<i>Austrostipa acroclilata</i>	graceful spear-grass	winter active grass	Rare
18	<i>Austrostipa echinata</i>	spiny spear-grass	winter active grass	Vulnerable (Rare SA)
19	<i>Banksia marginata</i>	silver banksia	tree	
20	<i>Billardiera cymosa</i>	sweet apple berry	climbing shrub	
21	<i>Brachyscome cuneifolia</i>	wedge-leaf daisy	small daisy (summer dormant)	Rare (Kan02)
22	<i>Burchardia umbellata</i>	milkmaids	lily (summer dormant)	least concern (Kan02)
23	<i>Bursaria spinosa</i>	christmas bush	shrub	
24	<i>Calocephalus citreus</i>	lemon beauty heads	small daisy	Rare (Kan02)
25	<i>Calytrix tetragona</i>	common fringe-myrtle	small shrub	
26	<i>Carpobrotus rossii</i>	karkalla, angular pigface	ground cover	
27	<i>Chloris truncata</i>	windmill grass	summer active grass	
28	<i>Chrysocephalum apiculatum</i>	common yellow button	small daisy	
29	<i>Clematis microphylla</i>	old man's beard	climber	
30	<i>Convolvulus angustissimus</i>	Australian bindweed	herb/climber	
31	<i>Cullen australasicum</i>	native scurf-pea	shrub	Rare (Kan02)
32	<i>Cyperus gymnocaulos</i>	spiny sedge	rush	
33	<i>Cyperus vaginatus</i>	flat sedge	rush	
34	<i>Dianella brevicaulis</i>	coast flax lily	lily	
35	<i>Dianella longifolia</i>	yellow-anther flax lily	lily (summer dormant)	Vulnerable (Kan02)
36	<i>Dianella revoluta</i>	spreading flax-lily	lily	
37	<i>Dichelachne crinita</i>	long-hair plume-grass	winter active grass	
38	<i>Dichondra repens</i>	tom thumb, kidney weed	ground cover	
39	<i>Dillwynia hispida</i>	downy parrot-pea	small shrub	
40	<i>Disphyma crassifolium</i>	round-leaf pigface	ground cover	
41	<i>Dodonaea viscosa</i>	sticky hop-bush	shrub	
42	<i>Einadia nutans</i>	climbing saltbush	ground cover	least concern (Kan02)
43	<i>Enchylaena tomentosa</i>	ruby saltbush	small shrub	
44	<i>Enneapogon nigricans</i>	black heads	summer active grass	
45	<i>Eucalyptus fasciculosa</i>	pink gum	tree	
46	<i>Eucalyptus gracilis</i>	yorrell, white mallee	tree	Rare (Kan02)
47	<i>Eucalyptus leucoxylon</i>	SA bluegum	tree	
48	<i>Eucalyptus porosa</i>	mallee boxy	tree	near Threatened
49	<i>Eucalyptus rugosa</i>	kingscote mallee	tree	Vulnerable (Kan02)
50	<i>Eutaxia microphylla</i>	common eutaxia	small shrub	
51	<i>Ficinia nodosa</i>	knobby club-rush	rush	
52	<i>Gahnia lanigera</i>	desert saw-sedge	sedge	least concern (Kan02)
53	<i>Glycine rubiginosa (prev clandestina)</i>	twining glycine	climber (summer dormant)	
54	<i>Gonocarpus mezianus</i>	broad-leaf raspwort	small shrub	
55	<i>Goodenia amplexans</i>	clasping goodenia	small shrub	
56	<i>Goodenia varia</i>	sticky goodenia	ground cover	
57	<i>Hakea vittata</i>	striped hakea	small shrub	Vulnerable (Kan02)
58	<i>Hardenbergia violaceae</i>	native lilac	climbing shrub	
59	<i>Helichrysum leucopsidium</i>	satin everlasting	small daisy	
60	<i>Hibbertia pallidiflora</i>	pale guinea-flower	small shrub	critically endangered
61	<i>Kennedia prostrata</i>	running postman	ground cover	
62	<i>Kunzea pomifera</i>	muntries	ground cover	
63	<i>Leiocarpa supina</i>	sprawling ixiolaena	small daisy	Rare (Kan02)
64	<i>Lepidosperma congestum</i>	clustered sword-sedge.	sedge	
65	<i>Lepidosperma gladiatum</i>	coast sword-sedge	sedge	
66	<i>Lepidosperma -spp (not congestum or gladiatum)</i>		sedge	
67	<i>Leptorhynchos squamatus</i>	scaly buttons	small daisy	
68	<i>Leucophyta brownii</i>	coast cushion bush	small shrub	
69	<i>Leucopogon parviflorus</i>	coast beard-heath	shrub	
70	<i>Logania crassifolia</i>	coast logania	small shrub	Rare (Kan02)
71	<i>Lomandra collina</i>	sharp-leaf Mat-rush	rush	near threatened (Kan02)



72	<i>Lomandra densiflora</i>	pointed Mat-rush	rush	least concern
73	<i>Lomandra effusa</i>	scented mat rush	rush	least concern
74	<i>Lotus australis</i>	austral trefoil	herb	
75	<i>Malva preissiana</i>	native hollyhock	shrub	near threatened (Kan02)
76	<i>Maireana brevifolia</i>	small-leaf bluebush	small shrub	
77	<i>Maireana rohrlachii</i>	Rohrlach's bluebush	small shrub	Rare (Kan02 & SA)
78	<i>Melaleuca decussata</i>	cross-leaved honey-myrtle, totem	large shrub	
79	<i>Melaleuca lanceolata</i>	dryland tea-tree	tree	
80	<i>Muehlenbeckia gunnii</i>	coastal lignum	climber	
81	<i>Microseris lanceolata</i>	yam daisy	small daisy (summer dormant)	
82	<i>Minuria leptophylla</i>	minnie daisy	small daisy	
83	<i>Myoporum insulare</i>	boobialla, native juniper	large shrub	
84	<i>Nicotiana maritima</i>	coast tobacco	herb	near threatened (Kan02)
85	<i>Nitraria billardieri</i>	nitre-bush	shrub	
86	<i>Olearia axillaris</i>	coast daisy-bush	large shrub	
87	<i>Olearia ramulosa</i>	twiggy daisy-bush	shrub	
88	<i>Orobancha cernua</i> var. <i>australiana</i>	Australian broomrape	herb (summer dormant)	Endangered (Kan02), Rare SA
89	<i>Opercularia turpis</i>	twiggy stinkweed	herb	
90	<i>Pelargonium australe</i>	austral stork's bill	herb	near threatened (Kan02) - stable
91	<i>Pelargonium littorale</i>	native stork's bill	herb	least concern (Kan02)
92	<i>Pimelea glauca</i>	smooth riceflower	small shrub	
93	<i>Poa poiformis</i>	coast tussock grass	winter active grass	rare (or near T) -spec dep
94	<i>Poa (halmaturina or labillardieri)</i>	Kangaroo Island poa or tussock	grass	
95	<i>Pomaderris paniculosa</i> ssp. <i>paniculosa</i>	coast pomaderris	small shrub	near Threatened
96	<i>Prostanthera aspalathoides</i>	scarlet mint bush	small shrub	Vulnerable
97	<i>Ptilotus spathulatus</i>	spoon-leaved pussy-tail	herb (summer dormant)	near threatened (Kan02)
98	<i>Pultenaea tenuifolia</i>	slender bush pea	small shrub	
99	<i>Rhagodia candolleana</i>	sea-berry saltbush	shrub	
100	<i>Rhagodia parabolica</i>	fragrant saltbush	shrub	Rare (Kan02)
101	<i>Rytidosperma caespitosum</i>	common wallaby grass	winter active grass	
102	<i>Rytidosperma</i> sp. (probably <i>setaceum</i> )	small-flowered wallaby-grass	winter active grass	
103	<i>Scaevola albida</i>	pale fan-flower	ground cover	least concern
104	<i>Scaevola crassifolia</i>	cushion fanflower	shrub	rare (Kan02)
105	<i>Schoenus apogon</i>	common bog-sedge	small rush	
106	<i>Senecio pinnatifolius</i> (prev <i>lautus</i> )	variable groundsel	small daisy (short lived)	
107	<i>Senecio odoratus</i>	scented groundsel	shrub	
108	<i>Senecio quadridentatus</i>	cotton fireweed	herb	least concern
109	<i>Setaria constricta</i>	box grass	summer active grass	Near threatened (Kan02)
110	<i>Tetragonia implexicoma</i>	bower spinach	ground cover	
111	<i>Themeda triandra</i>	kangaroo grass	summer active grass	
112	<i>Thomasia petalocalyx</i>	paper-flower	shrub	
113	<i>Threlkeldia diffusa</i>	coast bonefruit	ground cover	
114	<i>Thysanotus patersonii</i>	twining fringe lily	lily (summer dormant)	least concern
115	<i>Velleia arguta</i>	spur velleia	herb	rare (Kan02)
116	<i>Vittadinia australasica</i>	New Holland daisy	small daisy	near threatened (Kan02)
117	<i>Vittadinia cuneata</i>	fuzzy New Holland daisy	small daisy	least concern (Kan02)
118	<i>Vittadinia gracilis</i>	woolly New Holland daisy	small daisy	least concern (Kan02)
119	<i>Xanthorrhoea semiplana</i>	Tate's Grass-tree	grass tree	near threatened (Kan02), rare (SA)