



Editor – Graeme Oats

## PARK VISITS 2021

### Balcanoona and Weetootla

**16<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> April and 3<sup>rd</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> September.** To register an interest please contact either Martin [m.caon56@gmail.com](mailto:m.caon56@gmail.com) or Roger a [roger\\_mathers@yahoo.com](mailto:roger_mathers@yahoo.com) (there is an underscore between roger and mathers)

### Oocaboolina - note change of dates in red

**5<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> June and 8<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> September.** To register an interest please contact Graeme – [gdoats@bigpond.net.au](mailto:gdoats@bigpond.net.au)

The September visits have been designed to overlap between Balcanoona/Weetootla and Oocaboolina to allow members to participate in all projects. A BBQ lunch is planned at Balcanoona on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September. Members wishing to work at both are able to travel to Oocaboolina after lunch on the 9<sup>th</sup>.

## The Friends

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Will be held on

**FRIDAY 12<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2021**

7.30 pm at the

**FULLARTON PARK COMMUNITY CENTRE  
(Parkview Room)**

**Guest Speaker – Rob Brandle.**

**Senior Ecologist SA Arid Lands**

**Topic - "Reducing the risk of extinction  
for Gudgeons, Quolls and Phascogales."**

**Subject to COVID -19**

**Restrictions apply**

## AGM – SPECIAL RESOLUTION

At the AGM there is a special resolution to amend the Friends Constitution. To pass a Special Resolution a majority of members must approve the resolution.

We have 66 members eligible to vote, we need 34 "yes" votes to pass the resolution.

If you are not able to attend the meeting please send an email to President Martin Caon, ([m.caon56@gmail.com](mailto:m.caon56@gmail.com)) Vice President, Roger Mathers ([roger\\_mathers@yahoo.com](mailto:roger_mathers@yahoo.com)) Treasurer, Graeme Oats ([gdoats@bigpond.net.au](mailto:gdoats@bigpond.net.au)) or other financial member appointing him/her as your proxy and whether you intend to vote for or against the special resolution?

An apology for your absence will be recorded.

## **AGM – COVID RULES:- PLEASE TAKE SPECIAL NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING**

We have applied for and received a QR code. We will meet in the Parkview Room of the Fullarton Park Community Centre, (FPCC) **with one way movement**, entering via the Main Front Door (you will be required to **register using the FPCC QR** upon entering the building) then proceed down the passage to the Parkview Room where prior to entering the Parkview Room there will be several QR code signs for our meeting. You will be **required to register again**, if you do not have a Smartphone with the app then as you enter the Parkview Room immediately on your left will be a table on which will be a COVID entry form to be completed. Member **Jill Tugwell** has agreed to be the COVID Marshall. Jill will be handling any sign ins for those who do not have a Smartphone or the Government COVID QR reader on their Smartphone.

**Seating is restricted to 42 persons.** If you arrive and find that number has been achieved then unfortunately you will have to leave. If you have to leave and wish to vote then you should give someone your proxy on a form supplied by the Treasurer.

**One Way Movement:** - COVID Rules and the FPCC require that movement into and out of the building is **ONE WAY**. Entry is via the Main Front door. After the meeting you must exit through the side door. The side door will not be open prior to the meeting.

### **The FPCC has provided us with the following rules: -**

Practice physical distancing, wash hands or use sanitiser, maintain appropriate personal hygiene practices (especially covering coughs and sneezes), only enter and exit the building during your allotted times.

Avoid lingering in foyers and waiting areas, exit promptly after completion of your activity, and do not exceed the maximum occupancy.

**Members are also required to check in to the Centre when they enter the building. This means each person should do a double check in.**

Disinfectant spray and paper towels or cloths will be provided by the Centre.

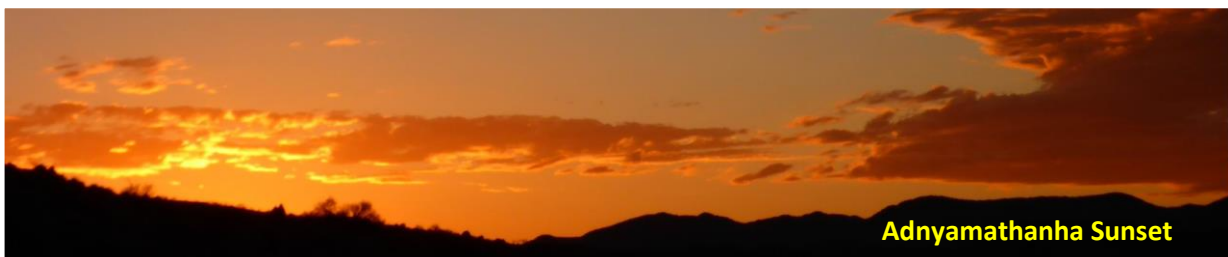
## **GRANT SUCCESSES**

### **SA Landscapes – Grassroots Grants**



The Friends group were successful in gaining a grant through the SA Landscapes Arid Lands Board for the Weetootla Fish and Water Quality Project. The grant will enable us to purchase four motion activated cameras and peripheral equipment, water testing equipment, spray backpack and chemicals for weed reduction.

The project activities will add to current knowledge of Flinders Ranges Gudgeon and the Yellow Footed Rock Wallaby in addition to other plants and animals that occur in the area that will benefit broader community understanding of the ecology of the area.



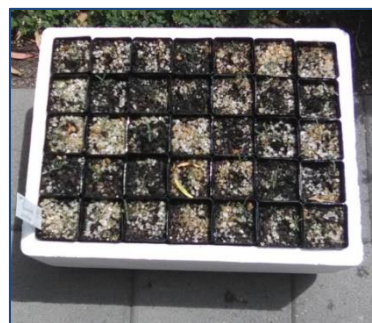
**Adnyamathanha Sunset**



### **Dept. for Environment & Water/Friends of Parks – Volunteer Support Grant.**

The Friends group were also successful in gaining a second VSG to support the continued re-vegetation of the Balcanoona Historic Precinct Revegetation Project over 2021 and 2022. The grant will enable the group to purchase more irrigation equipment, plant support and protection and signage.

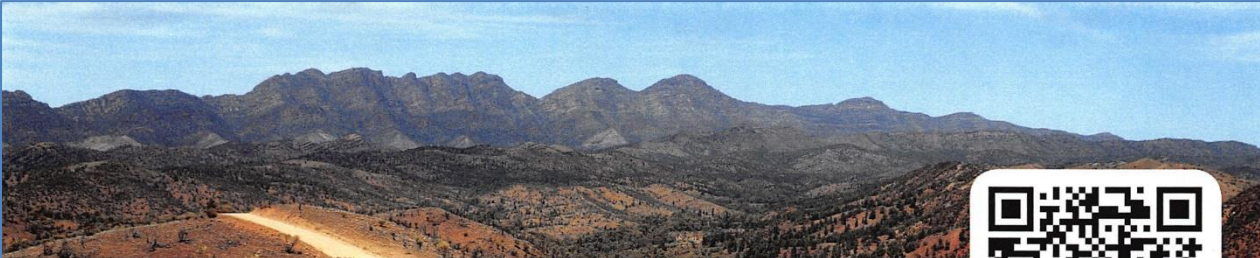
This project utilises endemic seed stock to rehabilitate a previously degraded area. Most of the plants are culturally significant. The plantings also compliment a walking trail and attract native birds and wildlife enhancing visitor experience.



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### **Friends of Ikara-Flinders Ranges NP.**


Members of the Friends of the IFRNP have developed a free app called “Discover the Flinders Ranges” You can download the app using a QR reader – the app has several “tours” including commonly seen flora and birds of the Central Flinders Ranges.




BEFORE YOU VISIT SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S FAMOUS FLINDERS RANGES


## DOWNLOAD THIS FREE APP

- Includes tours, guides, information and offers
- Free to download via your favourite app store and no in-app costs



DISCOVER THE FLINDERS RANGES



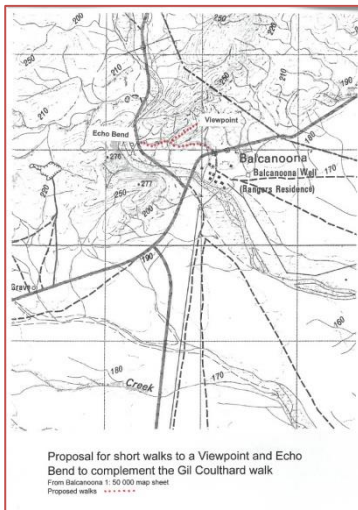
 Presented by Friends of Ikara-Flinders Ranges National Park



**Portion of the re-vegetation project at Balcanoona**



## **NEW WALKING TRAIL – BALCANOONA**



*In response visitor enquires about a local walk in addition to the existing Uncle Gil's walk, Sian Johnson, Senior Ranger at Balcanoona developed a proposal which was endorsed by the Co-Management Board of the V-GRNP.*

*The walk starts at Balcanoona Park HQ, crosses the Innaminka Road, follows part of the Old Balcanoona Road, over a low range to the West and then NW up a ridge to a **Viewing Point**, back down the ridge and ending at **Echo Point** on the Arkaroola Road.*

*In August last year, Sian led a group of Friends over the trail which provided spectacular views to the east over the Balcanoona Park HQ and the Historic Precinct, and south to the Echo Point.*



***Photos (courtesy of Richard Smith) looking at east to Lake Frome, south to Echo Point and the ridge top viewing point,.***

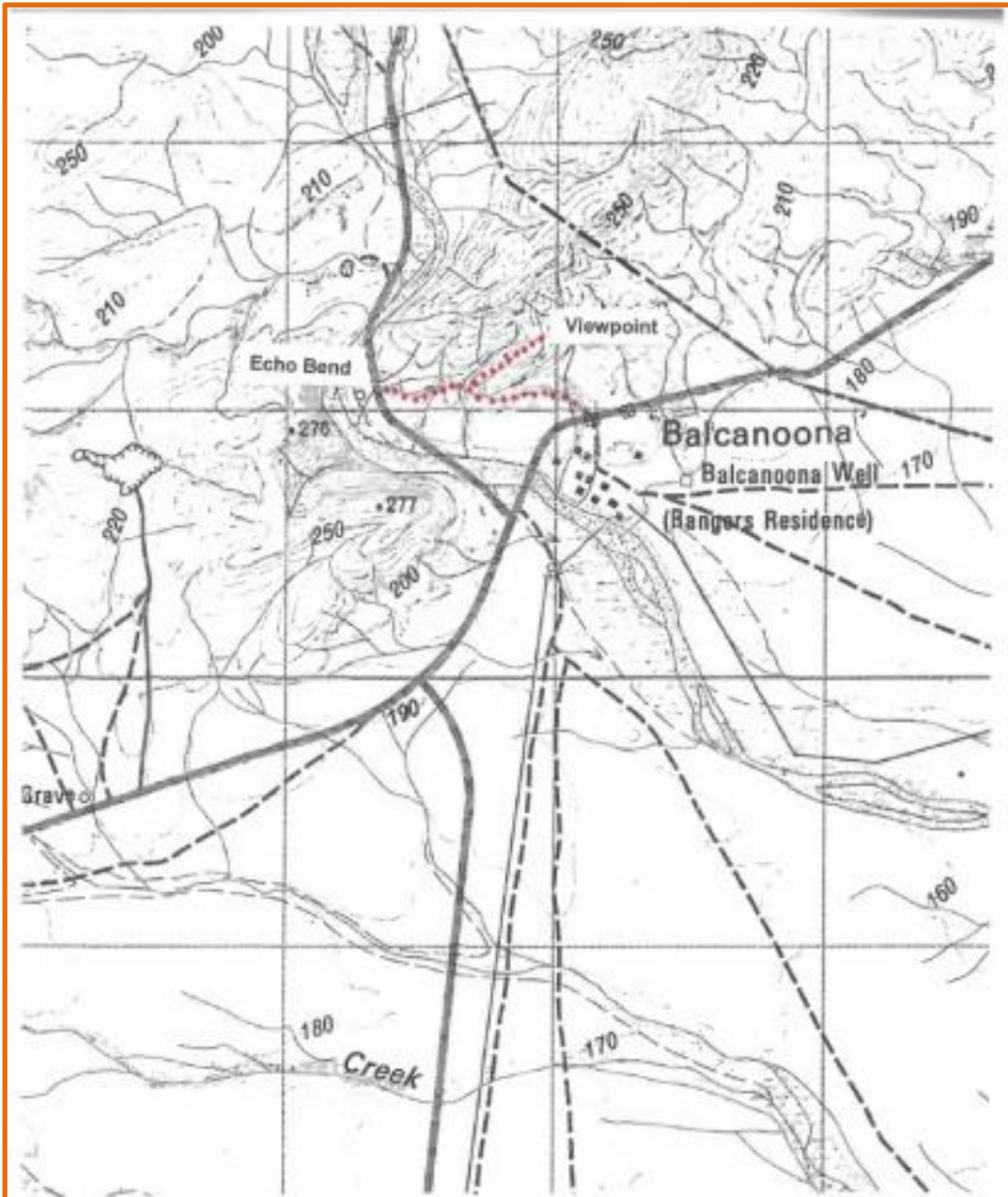
*Sian intends to use the trail to inform visitors about the area surrounding Balcanoona as well featuring the diversity of bird life found along the trail. Some examples of the birds found on the walk were taken by Chris Kirby.*



***Sparrow Hawk, White Browed Wood Swallows and Zebra Finch.***

*Sian is working with the Walking Trails Support Group to define the walk including trail markers, trail head podium, and getting quotes for signage etc. It is expected to take a couple of years to fully develop the walk. The Friends group is keen to work with Sian in the development of the walk.*

## MAP SHOWING THE PROPOSED ROUTE



Proposal for short walks to a Viewpoint and Echo Bend to complement the Gil Coulthard walk

From Balcanoona 1: 50 000 map sheet

Proposed walks . . . . .