



# FRIENDS OF ANSTEY HILL

Formed 1988

ABN: 53 952 413 248

Postal address: PO Box 653, St. Agnes, 5097.

Website address: <http://www.communitywebs.org/friendsofansteyhill>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/friendsofansteyhill>

Email: [anstey.friends@gmail.com](mailto:anstey.friends@gmail.com)

## NEWSLETTER

**May 2019**

**No: 3/2019**



**Photo courtesy Lea Crosby**

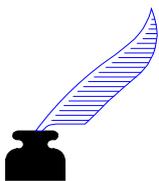
Members of the Mid-Week Working Group relax over a cuppa at the end of another month of restorative work in the Park. March 2019.

Pictured from left: John Harmer, Marie Mudge, Jim Crosby, Barry Woodward, Roger Collier, Dennis Broome and David Waterman.

Refer to President's Report on page 4.

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### From the Editor’s Desk

This issue is hitting your screen ahead of schedule because of Editor’s need to rearrange his work programme for May. It is a situation which I don’t believe has ever risen before and is unlikely to reoccur in the foreseeable future. Having made that rash prediction I rest my case.

Thankyou to those who have provided material for this issue.

In fact I have needed to place some submitted items into a transition folder for future use.

I should be so lucky!

# FOAH and DEW Contacts and Key

## Group Contact Details

**Postal:** PO Box 653, St. Agnes, S.A. 5097  
**ABN:** 53 592 413 248  
**Website:** [www.communitywebs.org/friendsofansteyhill](http://www.communitywebs.org/friendsofansteyhill)  
**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/friendsofansteyhill](http://www.facebook.com/friendsofansteyhill)  
**Email:** [anstey.friends@gmail.com](mailto:anstey.friends@gmail.com)

## Committee Contact Details:

### President & Minute Secretary

*Lea Crosby*

### Treasurer

*Jim Crosby*

### Secretary & Facebook Co-ord.

*Christine Thomas*

## Key Dates 2018-19

### Committee Meetings Wednesday 7.30pm

#### TTG Heritage Museum

- 5 June 2019
- 7 Aug. 2019
- 2 Oct. 2019 - AGM
- 6 Nov. 2019

### Scheduled Planting Days 2018-19

- Sun. 16 Jun. 2019
- Sun. 18 Aug. 2019

Meet at Friends Shed  
via Gate 18 at 9-30am

## Newsletter Issues

Issue #	Target Date
4/2019	28 Aug. 2019
1/2020	27 Nov. 2019

## General Committee Members

*Rob Carthew*

*Roger Collier*

*Nathan Lysaght*

Webmaster

*Steve Lukacs*

*John Harmer*

*Marie Mudge*

## Non-Committee Members

*Mary Lane*

*Keith Rendell*

FOAH Seed Collector

Newsletter Editor

## **DEW Contacts**

### **Gawler Office**

43 High Street  
Gawler, SA 5118  
8115 4600

### ***Black Hill Office***

115 Maryvale Rd.  
Athelstone, SA, 5076  
8336 0901

### ***Anstey Hill R.P. Sen. Ranger***

*Tammy Leggett*  
0400 740 583  
8115 4626

### **Anstey Hill Ranger**

*Nick Purdew*  
0429 537 671

### **Volunteer Support Office Central District**

*Steph Cole*  
0427 055 719

### **DEW Volunteer Support Unit - Central District**

*Pam Smith*  
8124 4784

## **President's Report**

Due to the dry conditions and poor seasonal rain forecast, our May Planting Day has been cancelled. We hope that by the next planned Planting Day (16th June) we can plant out the seedlings. The Planting Days are always a wonderful community gathering so we are crossing our fingers we will have had some Autumn rains!

Thank you again to the Wednesday Working Bee volunteers who work tirelessly each week in the park. Adverse weather conditions, travelling or health issues are the only reasons some are unable to attend on a weekly basis! The recent cooler weather has seen more volunteers help out, but we need more people. We meet at the Friends Shed via Gate 18, Range Road South on Wednesdays at 8.15 a.m. If you can help us out, even for an hour, it would be appreciated. The last Wednesday of the month we relax back at the Friends Shed at 11.30 a.m. for morning tea. See photo of such an occasion on Cover sheet of this Newsletter.

We received a letter from the President of the Legislative Council congratulating FOAH on our nomination for Outstanding Community Group of the Year Award in the 2019 City of Tea Tree Gully Australia Day Awards. We appreciate being nominated for the award by a community member who has seen the progress made by our volunteers in conservation work in the park.

Members are always welcome to attend our meetings at the Tea Tree Gully Heritage Museum on Perseverance Road. The dates for our next meetings are 5th June, 7th August and 2nd October (AGM) and commence at 7.30 p.m.

We were very fortunate to have been successful in both our recent grant applications. One is for \$5,000 for the project 'Plant a Feast' and the second is for \$10,000 to restore the degraded Water Gully Creek line. Over the next 12 months, you will notice an improved landscape along Newmans Track to the Model Nursery ruins.

Our ranger, Nick Purdew advised that the installation of interpretative signs has begun. Five signs have been installed so far at Ellis Cottage, the Quarry and Newman's Nursery.

On the 20th March, FOAH volunteers and some from other Friends groups attended the 'Introduction to Bush Regeneration' workshop at FOAH's Shed. It was a very successful workshop jointly presented by Peter Watton, Bush For Life Operations Manager and Mark Hardham, Bush for Life Program Officer. The workshop highlighted the need for minimal soil disturbance and to remove introduced species in stages. Some bird species have adapted to using these plants for habitat and/or as a food source.

We also worked in pairs on revegetation management scenarios.



**transmission**

**reception**

**absorption**



After a delicious lunch provided by DEW, we ventured out into the park for a demonstration of how to cut or 'drill and fill' introduced plants including olives and pines.

Thank you to DEW rangers, especially Amy Anderson, for their support and for organising the workshop.

Photos provided by Lea Crosby.





Thank you again to the volunteers who donate their time at the ReGEN Op Shop on Milne Road. We are fortunate to be beneficiaries to some of the profits made at the shop.

If you are able to donate your time or goods, please visit the shop. You will probably come out with more purchases than donations!

There have been more complaints on our Facebook page regarding 'doggy dropping' bags left in the park. Please remember to take the bags with you when leaving the park. Thank you to Christine who does a wonderful job of looking after our Facebook page and to those who submit photos for the page. There are some avid photographers in our community who have captured images of our flora, fauna and birdlife and shared them on our Facebook page.

Thank you also to Nathan who maintains our website for you to peruse.

The committee thanks Amy Anderson for her wonderful support and encouragement during her time with us as Volunteer Support Officer while Steph Cole was on leave. Amy was able to supply us with equipment, organise workshops and provide guidance that has been of great benefit to FOAH volunteers. Thank you Amy!

Reminders:

1. Anstey Hill Recreation Park gates are now locked at 7pm with the end of daylight saving.
2. Have you renewed your FOAH membership for 2018/2019? We appreciate your ongoing support! **You will see this appeal emphasised again on page 12! – Editor.**

**Lea Crosby  
April 2019**

# Cultural Heritage in Anstey Hill RP

Sorting through the FOAH archives, a copy of a letter was found that had been sent to the Tea Tree Gully National Trust enquiring about the history of Newman's Nursery ruins. A great-granddaughter of Charles Frederick Newman, Beth Brittle of Houghton, replied to the letter on 19 April 1972. Here is an edited version of that letter.

The property was called "WATER GULLY", and in its day was one of the 'show pieces' of the colony. It was the site of the "Model Nursery" operated by C.F. NEWMAN & SON, and as such was in existence from about 1856-1932.

Charles Frederick Newman was born Carl Freidrich Neumann and arrived in the colony with his parents and the rest of the family from Germany in 1847 when he was 13 years of age. The father was Carl Vincent Neumann, afterwards known as Charles Vincent Newman. They settled at Houghton, very close to what was afterwards called Inglewood, and on a property of 25 acres established an orchard, etc.

Records of the first local government in the area first list it in 1855 as 68 acres of partly fenced land owned by "Chas. Naumann", while the 1856 entry reads 68 acres, house and land, in the name of "Chas. Newman". According to stories handed down in the family, C.F. Newman anglicised his name because he considered he no longer had connections with Germany and as he was living and conducting business in an English country he wanted to do so as an Englishman.

In March, 1857, C.F. Newman was married in Holy Trinity Church, Adelaide, to Mary Ann Maria Bales, whose parents at that time were the licensees of the Teatree Gully Hotel. Mary Ann was born somewhere within the site of the City of Adelaide in October, 1838, and lived to the great age of 94 years....a dignified and very aristocratic old 'grande dame'. She must have been a very remarkable woman; she could not read or write but she knew every flower and plant by its botanical name, and she certainly played a major part in the creation and direction, not to mention the hard work that went into the "Water Gully" enterprise. Incidentally, she gets a passing mention in E.V. Timm's novel, "Robina", which is one of his series of novels with Australian historical backgrounds.

"Water Gully" probably reached the zenith of its fame in the 1880's and 1890's, or at any rate would have reached its maximum state of development at that time. The nursery work was extremely comprehensive; in addition to the normal propagation processes, seeds, plants, cuttings, etc. were imported and exported throughout the world. All sorts of rare and exotic plants were grown as well as some natives. There were extensive glass houses, shade houses, and hot houses – the latter heated by hot water pipes for which two furnaces had to be kept in operation. Florists work was also undertaken – seedlings, cut flowers, bouquets, wreaths, etc. Vegetables of a wide range were grown from seed and for market. There was an extensive fruit orchard sending produce to the market. Cows were kept and dairy produce sold. Sheep, cattle and pigs were kept, and of course a large number of horses had to be maintained – teams of ploughs, trollies, etc., harness horses for buggies, and saddle horses.

A relation has the "Model Nursery" catalogue for 1894/5, a booklet of some 200 pages listing all the items available and there is virtually nothing you can think of in the way of flowers, shrubs, trees, bulbs, ferns, ornamental grasses, pot plants, palms, orchids, fruit trees, vegetables, herbs, etc. that couldn't be supplied. Hardy outdoor plants, delicate indoor plants, tropical species, rare exotics from every continent – you name it, it is in the catalogue.

Everything from Sturt's Pea to Frangipani, Sunflower Seed to Watercress, even Mushroom Spawn.

Mr. & Mrs. Newman reared a large family – 8 sons and 6 daughters grew to adulthood. Charles Frederick died in 1899 from an accidental fall from his horse and left no will. After some bickering it was agreed that the business be carried on in the mother's name for her lifetime.

Mrs. Newman lived on for over 30 years after the death of her husband, the nursery being nominally managed by one or another of the sons, but as she got older the reins slackened and both management and staff grew careless and less efficient. In 1913 two disastrous flash floods, one in the Autumn and one in Spring, wreaked havoc in the gully. The glass houses were carried away, other outbuildings damaged and crops and plants severely damaged or destroyed. "Water Gully" never fully recovered, in fact it was over the hill and on the downward slide. By the time Mrs. Newman died (1932) the whole country was in the grip of the 'great depression' and, in common with many other business enterprises at that time, the nursery was fighting a losing battle for existence. There was hardly any other choice than to sell it up, clear the debts, and walk out. It was the end of an era.

The new owner set out to recover his capital by realising on any removable asset. Thus tons of slate slabs used as benches, etc. in the potting houses, shade houses, hot houses, etc. were ripped out and sold. The 70-year-old-plus pine trees that lined the long driveway from Anstey's Hill Road to the homestead were cut down and sold for case and box making. Changing ownership again, the process of dismantling and dispersing buildings and fittings went on and sheep grazed amongst the ruins which once had been the state's finest "Model Nursery". Vale "Water Gully".

Of the stories told about "Water Gully", the most widespread and persistent tale is that it was a refuge for run-a-way sailors. Throughout the sailormen's world the word seems to have been passed that if you think of jumping ship in Australia, do so in Adelaide and make for the Hills and find "Water Gully" – you'll get accommodation and a job and they'll hide you out until the hue and cry has passed. One such deserter who held a rare medal for some naval engagement married one of the Newman girls and, so the stories say, another got one of the housemaids 'in the family way'. He wasn't prepared to do the right thing and was poised for flight when the maid, a fiery tempered type, took an axe to his seachest and chopped it and its contents to pieces. Left with nothing but what he stood up in, the ex-sailorman allowed himself to be persuaded to stay on and accept his responsibilities.

In recent times the trade name of C.F. NEWMAN & SON has been revived by the family of Frederick C. Newman, one of the younger sons of "Water Gully". He was the manager at "Water Gully" for some years after his father's death and then left to start on his own as a nurseryman and florist on the Main North East Road, Teatree Gully Hill. His only son died on active service in New Guinea during World War II, but the business was carried on by Mrs. F.C. Newman and then by a daughter and son-in-law. The latter re-organised the concern as specialists in Camellias, Australian natives, and rare-type plants, and they carry on the "Water Gully" name and tradition."

*Further information on Newmans Nursery at Water Gully can be found in the Local History Room, Tea Tree Gully Library, Tea Tree Gully National Trust and the Tea Tree Gully & District Historical Society.*

**Lea Crosby**

## Some Newsletters of Interest Received

Members are encouraged to access the following three Newsletters as shown below. Excellent reading to keep you informed and encouraged.

1. **'Sedge Snippet'** is a monthly e-newsletter published by *Natural Resources Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges*, that promotes the latest volunteering opportunities around Adelaide, as well as interesting environmental stories, volunteer achievements, case studies, upcoming events, grants, and training.



To subscribe go to: [www.naturalresources.sa.gov.au/adalaidemntloftyranges/subscribe](http://www.naturalresources.sa.gov.au/adalaidemntloftyranges/subscribe)

2. **'ReLeaf'** is a quarterly publication by **Trees for Life**.

In the Autumn 2019 issue you can read about:

- Habitat Hero Lottery
- Get your grow on! Native garden workshops
- Go wild - Native Plant Sale

Control plus click to open



3. **'The Bushcarer'** is a twice yearly publication by **Bush for Life**.

[Read now](#)



In the Autumn 2019 issue you can read about:

- Join us for our Bushcare Season Launch Picnic on 2 April.
- Community engagement activities.
- Weed vs native: Boneseed vs Hop Goodenia.
- Case Study: Managing Native Grasses - a working example.

# Cultural Awareness Training Day

At the Cultural Awareness Training Day that Lea and Christine attended on 11 February 2019 information relating to a Kurna weather calendar was provided. Key features are provided below:

Further source ref: <http://www.bom.gov.au/iwk/calendars/kaurna.shtml>

## **Warlati - Summer (approximately January, February, March)**



### **Indicators**

- Warlta (hot, heat and warmth)
- Astronomical indicator is the Sun (Tirntu). The sun cross co-ordinates on the northwest corner of Victoria Square in early January
- Piturru (thunder)
- Karntu (lightning)
- Pulturru (dry breeze)

### **Plant and animal indicators**

- Kangaroo chief supply of food
- Yabbies come out of the mud

### **Seasonal lifestyle**

- A conference for all the nations to exchange knowledge and trade
- Controlled, low burning of fires lit in foothills
- Grey Teal fly north if the Murray Darling Basin floods

## **Parnati - Autumn (approximately April, May, June)**



### **Indicators**

- In April, Parna, a star near the Moon on the lower left side. Partinthe (sparkle)
- Pukarra (north/west wind)
- Cold mornings with Kudmu (fog/dew) on the ground
- highest rainfall causing kuntu and yartala (flooding), restricting movement
- Waadlawarnka (fallen trees)

### **Plant and Animal Indicators**

- Mullet netted in shallows during high tides
- Small stone fruits eaten
- Roots, possums, kangaroos, wallabies and bandicoots caught and eaten
- Wild tobacco leaves/flower chewed and small stone fruits eaten
- Roots, yams, wild cabbage, seeds eaten
- Yellowfin whiting, mullet, salmon trout in estuaries
- Reed beds turn to boggy swamp, birdlife plentiful

### **Seasonal Lifestyle**

- Wattle gum used to cut canoes and make shelters - bark stripped from trees
- Movement inland towards foothills shelters built from fallen limbs
- Skin rugs and seaweed cloaks were made for Kudlila (winter)



### **Kudlila - Winter (approximately July, August, September)**

#### **Indicators**

- Kudlinthi (to wash) - winter is when the earth is washed
- Wartapukkara (north/west wind, tempestuous weather)

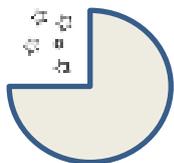
#### **Plant and Animal Indicators**

- Vegetables, grubs mainly eaten
- Bloodworms in mud
- Ducks/water birds nesting

#### **Seasonal Lifestyle**

- Grubs collected from west sclerophyll scrub covering Mount Lofty Ranges
- gum from Acacia trees collected for eating

### **Wirltuti - Spring (approximately October, November, December)**



#### **Indicators**

- The Southern Cross in Kurna culture is referred to as Wirltu (eagle's foot or eagle). Wirltuti is indicated by the position of the Southern Cross in October
- Mild warm temperatures
- Purta (to burn and blaze or rage like a storm) refers to the seasonal winds
- Warri (wind), Piturru (thunder) and Karntu (lightning)

#### **Plant and Animal Indicators**

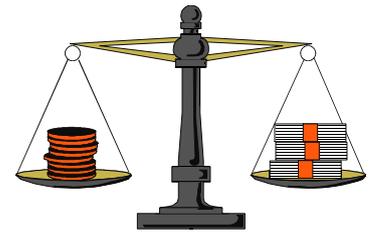
- Eggs of young birds, lizards eaten
- Blue crabs, garfish abundant in shallows, shellfish, crustaceans collected
- Grass tree: heart of tree eaten raw
- Yabbies come out of mud
- Tiger, Brown and Black snakes and lizards come out of hibernation

#### **Seasonal Lifestyle**

- Head back towards the coast
- Movement over plains to reed beds behind dunes
- Curing skin

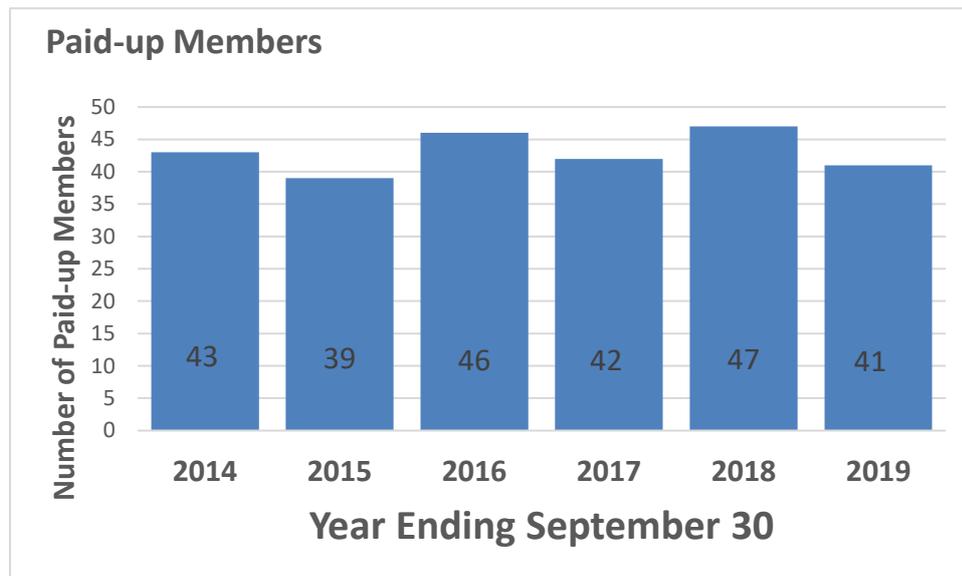
# Membership Renewal

Treasurer has been doing what treasurers do best – balancing the books! That involves encouraging current membership renewals. There are still some outstanding!



At 10 April 2019 we have 41 members who have paid up for the current year ending 30 September 2019 compared to 47 that had paid membership dues for the previous year ending 30 September 2018. Paid membership has therefore increased by 1 from the level at 5 February 2019.

Further review has shown the following group membership statistics for the past few years:



All memberships are welcomed, no matter to what extent you are able to physically or financially contribute to the group.

There are many ways in which you can support FOAH in achieving our objectives of conserving and restoring the natural and cultural environment of Anstey Hill Recreation Park, without the need to engage in some of the more physical or time-consuming activities undertaken by the group. At the most basic level, for example, the more members we have the stronger will be our voice in commenting on issues concerning the Park.

The Membership Form and Donation Advice can be found at our website:

[www.communitywebs.org/friendsofansteyhill/assets/form/membership-form.pdf](http://www.communitywebs.org/friendsofansteyhill/assets/form/membership-form.pdf)

To provide an alternative method for payment we include a Membership Form and Donation Advice at page 15 for printing, completing and posting.

Spoiled for options!

It would be nice to see the right hand element of the bar chart above sneak up towards, and maybe even rise above, the 50 level.

Wouldn't it?

Watch this space in future issues.

## More from Lea's Camera



## Tripping down Memory Lane

It's always interesting to sit down, look back and browse through records and memories to reflect upon what we were doing in earlier days. Handy, too, because it gives opportunity to reflect upon the challenges that we have faced and to assess the progress that we have made in tackling them.

Here's a scattering of random snippets scoured from the April 2005 Newsletter for retrospection:

- Roy Caldwell has been selected as the Volunteer of the Parks Award winner for 2005, an initiative of the Rotary Club of Glen Osmond. As members of the Friends of Anstey Hill, we are all aware of the immense contribution Roy has made and continues to make to the group in so many areas, some of which we have mentioned in past newsletters. However it is fair to say that a great deal of what he does goes unheralded. This award recognizes all these efforts and is richly deserved. Well done!
- Traditionally September is the month in which we venture from the comfort zone of Anstey Hill for new surroundings. In recent years we have journeyed to Moorunde (2001), Cox Scrub (2002), Roachdale (2003) and Nuriootpa (2004). This year we plan to stay close to home and will assemble at Angove Scrub for a stroll, participate in a planting/weeding working bee and afterwards enjoy a BBQ with the Friends of Angove Scrub.
- FOAH has applied for a Friends Grant to start the eradication of Fountain Grass. This grass has established itself in the southwest section of the Park in quite a number of clumps, mainly on top of the ridge. It has also been identified to the north of Lower North East Road. As there is a large infestation of this grass, more funding will be required.

**Torture Hill Track  
2004**



# Membership Form for Year 2018-19



**Membership Form and Donation Advice (for year ending 30 Sept. 2019)**  
**Friends of Anstey Hill, P.O. Box 653, St Agnes SA 5097**  
**ABN 53 952 413 248**

*Please indicate membership category by ticking appropriate boxes:*

Single \$14       Single concession\* \$12

Family\* \$16       Family concession\* \$14

Note: \* Standard definition for concession/family apply.

Group \$22      community association/club, business, government body etc.

Renewal of Membership       New Membership

I would also like to include a donation of \$..... towards future and ongoing projects.

Name/s: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (mob) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*For family memberships, please feel free to add additional names and email addresses so that all family members can be informed of FOAH activities and receive the club newsletter. Normally all correspondence will be by email, but if you wish to receive a hard copy of our newsletter (approx. 4 each year), please let us know.*

## Payment methods:

direct debit       pay by mail (see below)

1. Payment by direct debit can be made to our bank account:

**Friends of Anstey Hill, BSB: 105 155, Account no: 578 101 140**

Please include the reference 'membership fees, your surname and initials'

Post this form or, alternatively, email the above details to

[anstey.friends@gmail.com](mailto:anstey.friends@gmail.com)

2. Mail this form together with your cheque/money order/cash (no coins please) to the above address. *(as our postal address is a PO box, it should be safe to mail cash, although other forms of payment are preferred)*

For more information on FOAH refer to <http://www.communitywebs.org/friendsofansteyhill>

**Volunteer safety reminder:** if you intend to help us undertake activities in the park, you are required to complete a Department for Environment and Water 'Volunteer Activity Registration Form' which can be accessed via our website.

Submit the completed form either via email or post (see address above).