

# VILLAGE NEWS

MAGAZINE FOR THE ALDINGA ARTS ECO VILLAGE  
SEPTEMBER 2007

## MEET OUR NEW MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

As newly elected presiding officer I was asked to contribute a few words about the Management Committee side of the Aldinga Arts Eco village.



First I would like to remind everybody that all the work that is done within the Management Committee and all the listed subcommittees is carried out by volunteers, who without their effort time and time again our village would not keep rolling along in its steady evolution.

I would also encourage anyone especially those new to the eco village to join one of the many subcommittees, I can say from experience it is a great way to get to know the entity that is the Aldinga Arts EcoVillage and get to know the other people passionately involved with the day today operations and challenges.

The role of the Management committee in my view is fairly straight forward; it exists as the Aldinga Arts Eco Village community corporation's legal entity. Decisions the Management Committee make need to always be in accordance with the Community Titles Act.

I believe its main role is to pursue the tasks and directions given to it by the community and also manage day to day business.

It is the forum where the representatives of all the subcommittees meet, discuss, offer direction on issues and formalize strategies.

I believe the Management committee has a role to research and present information to the community. It may also make recommendations to the community on the best way to proceed.

In my view this year will be a very exciting time for the New Management committee; it really represents a diverse range of views and Ideas on how best to move our community forward.

I predict there will be a focus to revisit the strategic planning process as this has been mentioned at the last two AGMs.

I also think there will be more community focus on the Market Street area of the village (village Heart), and also more focus on the role the Farm has to play within the context of the Community

I believe the management committee will do its utmost to work together, creatively in the interests of the community.

To conclude I would like to remind everybody that we are all empowered as part of this community to be involved to help shape this community in terms of landscape, governance, farming, arts etc. I am hoping that more of you get involved on a committee level, but I also hope that the village will develop successful, well attended forum meetings where everyone can contribute and be heard and take responsibility on what direction we are heading as a community.

**Stefan Glockner Presiding Officer**

Presiding Officer: Stefan Glockner  
Secretary: Wayne Allen  
Treasurer: John Heij  
Building Development Coordinator: Peter Morrison  
Natural Environment Coordinator: Sandra Mason  
Community Development Coordinator: Tony Gerlach  
Communications Coordinator: Elizabeth Heij  
Arts and Culture Coordinator: Kat Worth  
Governance Coordinator: Sue Gebhardt  
Farm Coordinator: Tricia O' Donovan  
Services Coordinator: Jenni Reece

**ON BEING OWNER BUILDERS**, by Peter Morrison  
Straw bale house 19 Hakea Walk

Being an owner builder can be quite an adventure but there are many advantages. For us we have done lots of hands on work ourselves as well as coordinate trades people, materials, services etc. The more you do the more money you can save. The more recycled materials can be used, the more creative the house can be and the more personal satisfaction in the end. The cost of these advantages is time, A builder will take months, and an owner builder may take years. Jane has been involved in extensive renovation of houses before and I have built two from scratch. Somehow or other none of these projects was completed to the original dream until just before selling. We don't want that to happen this time.

We were both keen to build an energy efficient and environmentally friendly dwelling and felt this village was the ideal place to do it, because we would get lots of help and encouragement and ideas which we have.

The concept included the use of recycled items, such as timber, doors, windows, sink trough, bath etc and the incorporation of natural materials, like stone, slate, strawbale and earth (for part of the floor). We were fortunate enough to find the doors and windows and some large timber beams in time to incorporate them in the final design details.

Professional contractors were employed to put down the slab, build the timber frame and part of the roof before the straw bale work was completed by Lance Kairi. Plumbing and electrical work was also carried out during this process by local people. We were extremely satisfied with all the trades people employed and would be happy to pass on their details.

With all this work completed I thought that Jane and I would finish the rest in no time. However building interior walls, putting in ceilings, slating floors, restoring windows and doors, painting, building cupboards etc all take a very considerable effort.

One of the features of the house is a low pressure water system, operating from a header tank above the ceiling. This provides excellent service and monitoring indicates low water use, further encouraged by our bicycle powered rainwater pump used to fill the header tank. You can keep fit,



**PETER AND JANE**

save money and at the same time and avoid the sometimes annoying noise of a pressure pump cutting in and out.

We are living in the house now, but the project is ongoing including the garden of course. The final stages are probably the most rewarding with opportunity for more artistic touches to be added.

While all this is happening it is sometimes difficult to keep things in perspective, to remember that it is just a house after all, and there are far more important issues all around us like family, village life and development, social justice and human rights, nuclear proliferation, federal election, just to name a few.

Despite trials, tribulations, there are many rewards that make it all worthwhile. If you are considering being an owner builder feel free to talk to us with your questions and ideas.

**Peter is our new Building Development Committee convenor. He and other committee members will certainly help to bring a wealth of ideas and experience to our village development.**

**They are here to help residents, designers and builders and save us all much time, money and trouble.**

### **BUILDING DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE NEWS**

The BDC committee has worked hard to encourage lot owners to bring their preliminary drawings and concept designs to the committee and this is proving to be worthwhile. Most formal applications are now arriving with all the necessary documents and are satisfying the bylaws and therefore gaining approval.

A current issue for the BDC is the number of project homes (particularly Sarah Homes) that people are wanting to build. We suggest that if you are thinking of choosing this option, please check if there are similar homes nearby and talk to the neighbours who have't built to see if they are thinking of the same design. The BDC need to adhere to Bylaws (23.5.1, 23.6, and 23.9) which relate to the variety and diversity of buildings.

Another issue arising is the access to some lots. There is usually a small area of common land between the road and your lot, which sometimes contains a stormwater drain or swale. Access needs to be organised before building starts and a pipe or some other measure may be required. The NEC or Services committee may need to be contacted about this.

#### **WHAT'S GOING ON?**

Rosanne's rental house is now finished after her marathon painting effort, before going overseas, and Bridget, Michael, and Aarod have moved in, while their house is being built.

The Glovers House is at lock up.

Adrian is working tirelessly on his house at weekends.

Jill and Michael Wilson's house is moving ahead.

Two townhouses are now complete.

Nicola is close to starting her place.

**All very exciting.**

#### **PRELIMINARY REVIEWS**

LOT 40-Helen Messent-Peter Lees Loft House

LOT 39\_Ellie and Bert- Tina Collett Design

LOT 30 Dick and Annette Inwood-Tina Collett Design

## NEW APPROVALS

Lot 90-Jacqui and Toby Good-Sarah Home, Lindsay 3E

LOT 101 Hugh and Sue-Blue Planet Home

LOT16-Dheera Payler-Jack Metcalf Design

I am standing down from the BDC committee and thank all the members for their contribution and particularly Adrian for all the hours he has spent working on documentation and his knowledgeable input. I wish the new committee well

## REMINDERS.

- ❖ Additional sheds, pergolas, carports require an application to the BDC
- ❖ If you want to store building materials on a neighbours lot or Common Land you will need to obtain permission if vehicle access is required during building.

SUE ELTAHIR

## LAYING A SLATE FLOOR

### *Jane Richie*

One of the most satisfying projects for me was the slate floor in our wet areas.

Quite often other projects had enough skill+hands, so this I enjoyed learning and creating through all stages. Taking the trailer to Willunga Slate and rummaging through the piles of stone not good enough to be on the pre-sorted was a cheaper option at \$40 a good load.

Time consuming, probably more than necessary as we were searching for that special treasure each time. By the third load we were more efficient with size requirements even though a bit particular with each piece. We had assistance laying on the first day in the bathroom from Stephan Glockner to get the draining angle right which is imperative. After getting us on the right track in his easy going manner, he left us to it. Many barrows of mortar were needed to create the correct depth for our floor varying from 20-50 mms to lay the slate. Fall and relation to surrounding pieces was timely and often frustratingly precise,

Occasionally to make a special piece fit a certain spot or just to conform to shape we would grind or chip at it. Grinding maybe more reliable, as I was especially too vigorous and would shatter the slate, luckily this smaller piece would be re-directed to a new location so not all was lost. The area was cleaned up and allowed to dry for a couple of days prior to the application of the grout. The grout mixed with an amount of brown oxide for our personal colour choice was worked into the spaces between the slate which gave great definition but also made a uniform coverage to the project.

Cleaning the excess grout off the slate surface was tricky with conflicting views as to when it should be done i.e. wetter or drier.

Peter persisted trying both processes (still not sure which way was best) and did a great job, luckily I had something else to attend to at the time.

Allowing a couple of weeks to dry out before sealing due to our thick mortar, we purchased CROMMELIN, a water based slate sealer. We were very pleased with this product, easy to apply, quickly to dry and very little odour. Three applications brought out the color of the slate with a soft loss surface. I love our slate, it's beautiful to look at, easy to clean and compulsory viewing for anyone who enters our house.



## ARTIST PROFILE

### LILLIAN HARDINGHAM

ARTIST, GARDENER, PHOTOGRAPHER

OUR FIRST RESIDENT AND VISIONARY



The first meeting of the *VillageFor TheLiving Arts* was held at Lillians house in Aldinga, According to a folder around that time, 2002, the idea was

**A group of creative people, committed to establishing a village where we can work in enviromentally balanced and beautiful surroundings.**

*The ABC did an outside broadcast from her new house when she moved into the village*

Lillian has been painting since she was 15 and can remember the opening of the. Sydney Harbour bridge..

She is a Life Member of the Enfield Horticultural Society and a Judge of Floral Art.

*Lillian with her favourite watercolour and and view from her garden*

Lillian, a mother of twins (born two hours apart) has many other interests and for a Great Grandmother, still manages, apart from painting, to keep up with Bird Watching, Astrology, and Postage Stamp Collecting.

Lillian says there is a devine purpose to life and believes we are 12 different kinds of people.

### ***Kirsten Treloar – Art Therapist***

***Ph 8556 5090***



Using art to help renew our sense of joy, wonder and commitment to the world and our will and capacity to live our life with truthfulness, courage and generosity. Working with individuals and small groups in the South.

# LESSONS FROM GEESE

*Elizabeth Heij*

**Have you ever wondered why migrating geese fly in a 'V' formation?**



As with most animal behavior, there are very good reasons.

As each bird flaps its wings, it creates uplift for the bird following. In a 'V' formation, the whole flock adds at least 71% more flying range than if each bird flew alone.

Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone ... and quickly gets back into formation.

Like geese, people who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier than those who try to go it alone.

When a goose gets tired, it rotates back into the formation and another goose flies at the point position. If people had as much sense as geese, they would realize that ultimately their success depends on working as a team, taking turns doing the hard tasks, and sharing leadership.

Geese in the rear of the formation honk to encourage those up front to up their speed. It is important that our "honking from behind" be encouraging. Otherwise it's just - well - honking.

When a goose gets sick or wounded, two other geese drop out of formation and follow it down to help and provide protection. They stay with the unhealthy member of the flock until it is either able to fly again or dies. Then they launch out again with another passing flock or try to catch up with their own. May we be so caring as to be worthy of such friends in our own time of need.

You don't have to be a scientist to learn from Nature's marvelous examples; you only need to stop long enough to observe and understand.



## Village Green Preservation Society (VGPS)

***After a short recess the VGPS is back and is looking forward to a busy calendar for 2007 and 2008.***

For those who may see this for the first time The Village Green Preservation Society (VGPS) creates a community in music which is non threatening and provides a growing experience for the artist.

The event presents an informal atmosphere with 30 to 40 audience members and 6 or so artists. Both the audience and the artists are represented from within and outside the Village. The VGPS represents a variety of musical styles, instruments and material ranging from covers to originals. The format is one of an "Open Mike" with each artist having 30 minutes or so.

September 1<sup>st</sup> not only brings the first day of spring but the Opening of The Village's Wood Fired Pizza Oven and the VGPS's first outing for 2007. Drop in behind the stable area from about 1.00pm to try a Pizza and if you are so inclined to strum a tune.

***December 15<sup>th</sup> will be the Village's Christmas Party and again the VGPS will accompany the food and celebrations.***

***February 22<sup>nd</sup> to March 16<sup>th</sup> , 2008 is the Adelaide Fringe and the VGPS is looking at putting on a show as a Fringe Event.*** The thoughts at the moment are a late afternoon to early evening event in the amphitheatre, a few food and drink stalls and whatever.

Keep an eye on the Village Calendar on the web site [www.aev.net](http://www.aev.net) , visit the VGPS web page at the same address or contact me, Lou de Leeuw , at [lou@ecobusiness.com.au](mailto:lou@ecobusiness.com.au) if you want to perform or attend any of these events..

### **CLEMATIS WALK    NONIE'S GARDEN**



**Helen, Asha and Grace** working on the first stages of a biodynamic compost heap, beginning with a tunnel of sticks at the bottom, and then to have layers of mixed manure, green matter and straw added. On completion, the six BD preps will be added to activate the compost. For anyone interested in learning more, please come to the Introduction to Biodynamics workshop at **Willunga Waldorf School on 22nd September. For details call Grace Hart on 04007 16087.**

### **GAIL KINGSTON AND HOT FOOT JAZZ**

One of Australia's top Traditional Jazz bands playing and singing your favorite music of the 20's and 30's

### **JAZZ ON THE BEACH**

**First and third** Sundays of the month at Christies Beach Surf lifesaving club, Esplanade Christies Beach noon to 3pm

**JAZZ IN TOWN Last Sunday** of the month Walkerville R.S.L Walkerville Terrace Adelaide 1- 4 pm    [www.gailkingston.com](http://www.gailkingston.com)

## The Terraces @ Culture Walk

### Townhouse Progress

Eight townhouses are now in construction, and the first two are at practical completion. We have only another 3 available for purchase. The landscaping in front of the first two townhouses has been completed with the cobble raised vegetable bed the planting of around 60 natives, and 5 fruit trees. Lot 106, or 2 Tetragonia Walk is now available for rent, so call 0418 892463 if you would like to be the first to live on Culture Walk.

### Sustainable House Day

We are very pleased to be participating in Sustainable house day this year, on Sunday September the 9th from 11am.-4pm.

This is an event run by ANSES to promote and demonstrate sustainable housing. Visitors purchase tickets for \$5 per house and have the opportunity to view inside the homes, speak with the owners/builders/developers/architects, and ask questions and generally have a good look around. This is a great opportunity for promotion of the townhouses and also promotion of the village; as well as offering education and inspiration to visitors. There will be 3 houses open on the day including the single storey townhouse with 8.5 star energy rating, Adrian's house featuring straw bale walls, and Coralie's house featuring water walls. We will be hosting as many as 300 visitors as this is an annual national event well publicised accross all media. On the day we will be selling pizza from our new wood fired oven, as well as coffee and cake. Through these sales we hope to raise money towards purchase of equipment for our ampitheatre. We will also be promoting the village and townhouse sales through a village information stall.

Kind Regards, **Bridget O'Donnell Manager Client Services Sustainable Property Developments 0418 892463**

### WANTED

HELP, WITH EXCITING VILLAGE WATER CONSERVATION PROJECT

APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR PER WEEK.. FULL TRAINING GIVEN

CONTACT JOHN HEIJ

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