



# Mid Murray Landcare SA

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## Activity Update January 2025

This activity update is for the month of January 2025. If you would like to be on our mailing list and receive this free update, please email Aimee Linke at the above email address, or view it on our webpage. These projects are from varied sources of funding including the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board's Grassroots Grants and contract work.

### Support the objectives of Mid Murray Landcare SA.

1. Managed the office, volunteers and all necessary administrations including monthly payment of bills, reports, invoicing, managing webpages and social media posts, scanned all receipts and reconciled monthly accounts in XERO.
2. Sent out monthly activity update, agenda, minutes, correspondence list, and financial report for the month to the Committee.
3. Prepared and submitted Grassroots Grant progress report for Landcare in the Murray 2025. Report has been approved, and second invoice has been sent.
4. Rowena Danks prepared and submitted Grassroots Grant progress report for 'Supporting Biodiversity Across Conservation and Production Lands.' Report has been approved, and second invoice has been sent.

### Support volunteer activities at the Cambrai Community Nursery, provide support to landholders, groups, and schools with land management projects.

5. Provided support to two landholders or groups with site visits or project support or plant identification.
6. Volunteers had a big tidy up first day back after the Christmas break, there was lots of leaves and branches that needed sorting out at the nursery, as well as weeding and sorting out the old foam propagation boxes.

7. Resowed trays of *Allocasuarina sp.*, *Eucalyptus sp.*, *Callistemon sp.* after someone turned off the water and we lost plants.



### **Manage Meldanda on behalf of the Cambrai Primary School Governing Council**

8. Continued with managing the volunteers, camp bookings, provision of materials and equipment and all necessary administration managing the booking page, cleaning, watered, had some potable water delivered.
9. Camp bookings - we had thirty camp nights for January, eighty-one adults and nine children, with fourteen of those booking the Astronomy Paddock.
10. Started working with a signwriter to have a new sign to help orientate campers at Meldanda when they arrive.

### **Support the River Murray International Dark Sky Reserve Committee and Mid Murray Council with projects to maintain dark sky accreditation and education on the impacts of light pollution. Chris Tugwell**

11. Annual Report to Dark Sky International.
12. Launch of Kelly Kuhn's dark sky tourism site

### **Support Citizen Science projects in the region to engage landholders and volunteers in Water Watch activities, Turtle Conservation and Feral Goat projects.**

13. Goat camera we have set up on a landholder's property caught more tree movements than anything and has since been relocated.
14. There were ten sightings submitted to FeralScan for January with approximate one hundred goats seen near Mt Mary, Taylorville and Calperum from three new observers.
15. Photos from a landholder with an unidentified critter in one of their possum boxes, we have since had it identified as an introduced rat, it was not cute enough to be a pygmy possum. It was hard to be certain of what it was until we could see a photo of its tail that had rings on it, which our native ones do not have, thanks to Helen Crisp for helping us to identify this.



Figure 1 *Rattus* sp. occupying WPP box.

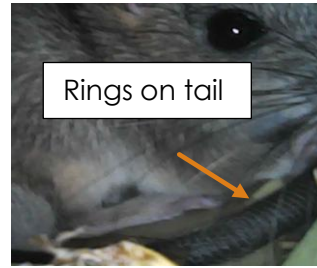


Figure 2 photo of tail.

## **Murray Darling Carpet Python Project – Aimee Linke.**

16. We had a report of a MD Carpet Python at Mannum near one of the local reserves which we asked the sighters to add to iSPYthon, they had seen the old 'Have you seen a Carpet Python' sign on the ferry. Looking into getting some updated signage on the ferries.
17. We undertook a night field search for pythons at Yookamurra Sanctuary with Mel Burford, Harrison Kent, Sheralee Warren, and Aimee Linke, after our site induction from Helen Crisp. We spent a few hours searching along the tracks, we did not see any pythons but saw some great habitat hollows and fallen logs. We did get to see some of the local resident Bettongs.
18. Compiled a list of potential habitat assessment locations to prioritise, working with Mel Burford to determine priorities and which locations will be done by boat.

## **Native Grasslands Project 2023-2026 – Aimee Linke**

19. Changed the SD cards in the grass trial cameras, took some site photos. There were some fence breaches into Site 2 (a stiff stay enclosure) of a kangaroo pushing under the fence where contour lines are, I filled it in with rocks. There was evidence of kangaroos in Site 1, this is not a stiff stay fence, so the enclosure that allows kangaroos but not sheep to be able to access. Dropped the SD cards off to volunteer Bob White to review the photos for me.
20. Watered Tilqua and left water trailer with local groups to continue watering for Nature Foundation. Emma Llewellyn from Burra organised ten volunteers to help on the day, we also fixed up all the tree guards to protect the plants better from herbivores.



Figure 3 volunteers watering Tiliqua plantings.



Figure 4 kangaroo pushed under the stiff stay fence.

21. Seed Production Area - seed collection of Nodding vanilla-lily, *Arthropodium fimbriatum*, Blue Devil, *Eryngium rostratum*, and Kangaroo grass, *Themeda triandra* with volunteers Cryss, Brenton, and Mick.
22. Cleaned seed up in seed storage shed with the volunteers by sieving the *Eutaxia microphylla*, pulling the seed pods off the *A. fimbriatum* stalks and laid out *Themeda triandra* to dry.