

SACTCG WATERWATCH BULLETIN JULY 2021

Greetings teams,

A sad but fitting farewell was had at Jerrabomberra wetlands at the start of the month for our lovely Molonglo Waterwatch captain (and amazing IT guru) **Deb Kellock**. So I have made the exec decision to embarrass her this month and do a (probably inaccurate) mini feature on her. In her muddy shoes (waders?) has stepped **Jed Pearson**, who will bring news skill and personality to a complex and challenging job.

Cheers,

Martin Lind

Waterwatch Coordinator.



Deb Kellock; Molonglo Waterwatch Coordinator 2015-2021. 'P.O.S.M' Parkcare Waterwatcher 2010-Present

Deb had been an active member of the Parkcarers of Southern Murrumbidgee(P.O.S.M) for some time before she took up the waterwatch reigns in 2010. Back then she was living in a rustic shack on Lanyon homestead with her cheeky chum Rocky, (who is still with us but a bit slower these days). Deb has monitored 3 waterways, the 'bidgee, Gudgenby and the creek that is the focus of much of POSM's rehabilitation work. Deb is an IT wizard. I still use the work laptop she helped me buy in 2010. During that shopping trip I experienced Deb's unshakable tenacity and scary depth of knowledge. The poor shop assistants at the computer stores could not techno-haggle with Deb. But she was tiring of the virtual world and wanted to escape into anything closer to her heart. Around 2013 she was talked into taking a job leading a minibus load of young unemployed 'volunteers' for the 'Green Jobs' initiative. This was a precursor to the successful Green Army *but* the youngsters had the choice of participating or losing their unemployment benefits. You can imagine how motivated they weren't. But she did a great job in difficult circumstances. In 2014 she won the 'best job in the world' and became the WW coordinator for the Molonglo Catchment Group. There she captained a mix of 32 individuals and teams. By the time she left, Deb had swollen the ranks of the Molonglo Waterwatch program to 47 individuals and teams. Over a dozen Waterwatchers brought food to her farewell such is the fondness her volunteers have for her. Lastly and probably unbeknownst to most volunteers is the work Deb has done behind the scenes (and screens) moderating and ensuring our/your database is always functioning as it should. She casts an eagle eye over the data each year for the CHIP report and has been our fearless IT interpreter when negotiating the complex business of housing Waterwatch on the Atlas of Living Australia.

The Waterwatch community will be lesser without you Deb. Our hearts are with you on your next big adventure.



Deb doing what she enjoys most. (Photo: C Barbosa)

Southern ACT Catchment Group news and events;
Head to [SACTCG Calendar/News](#) for the latest on the SACTCG website.



Canberra environmental groups gain multi-year funding from ACT budget. [Read more](#)

ACT Government Waterway updates;



[Waterway closures.](#)

[Recreational Water Quality](#)

[Bacteria alerts](#)

For water and sewerage faults and emergencies phone 02 6248 3111 (option 1)

Icon Water Eflow releases;



Below is a summary of water releases from Icon Water dams in the Southern ACT, courtesy of Chris Martin, Icon Water. This data is operational information and subject to change.

Bendora

Currently overflowing. Flow below Bendora Dam approximately 440 ML/d. Release currently at licence requirements: 7 July 104.5 – 108 MLD 1.14 – 1.15 m 14 July 32.9 – 36.2 MLD 0.93 – 0.94 m

Licence requirements: 7 July 106.5 MLD 14 July 35.5 MLD

Corin

Currently overflowing. Flow below Corin Dam approximately 320 ML/d. Release currently at licence requirements:

8 July 64.5 – 68.7 MLD 0.43 – 0.44 m 15 July 22.3 – 24.2 MLD 0.29 – 0.30 m

Licence requirements: 8 July 67.5 MLD 15 July 22.5 MLD

Cotter

Currently overflowing. Current flow approximately 625 ML/d below dam. Current release is approximately 15 ML/d from the dam.

Licence release requirements:

Base release flow of >15 ML/d, with bi-monthly riffle release of >100 ML/d for >24 hours. OR

Flow requirements as described in M2C section of the Water Abstraction EMP.

Other newsletters and links;

The views expressed in some media releases and opinion pieces are not necessarily the same as SACTCG or UMWW. But they make interesting reading and all sites linked to here are bonafide.



Murray Darling Basin Authority

- **Extra water releases from Menindee Lakes cease this week.** The amount of water released into the Lower Darling River from the Menindee Lakes has been reduced to 500 megalitres per day, marking the end of the water order made by the Murray-Darling Basin Authority on behalf of Basin state governments. [Read more](#)

Dear UMCN Members and Associates,

Thanks to all who attended our second mini-forum, Production and Biodiversity; Landscape, Community and Personal Resilience.

The day was a great success with loads of knowledge sharing, networking and hands-on fun playing with soils.

Check out the [UMCN News Page](#) for presentation videos, photo gallery and powerpoint slides from the day.

Kind regards,

Claire



Here is a news feature on the recent floating wetlands installation in **Lake Tuggeranong**, Canberra. ACT Minister for Climate Change and Sustainability, Shane Rattenbury, and Healthy Waterways Program Manager, Ralf Ogden, talk about how the FTWs will absorb excess nutrients and suppress algal blooms in the lake:



Lake Tuggeranong Motion “During the previous sitting, I moved a motion calling on the ACT Government to improve amenities around Lake Tuggeranong and consult with residents about any upgrades. This motion received support from all parties so I am now looking forward to the next steps towards improvements around the lake foreshore.”

Canberra Environment Centre [Newsletter: Winter Solstice](#)



Invasive Species Council [Feral Herald](#)



Murrumbidgee Landcare [Newsletter](#)



National Tree Day Planting [Saturday 24 July](#)



CSIRO [ECOS newsletter](#) [Snapshot Newsletter](#)



A banner for the ACT Government. On the left is the ACT Government logo. Next to it is a circular graphic with the text 'Keep CBR safe & strong'. Below the logo is the text 'For updates visit: covid19.act.gov.au'. In the center, the text reads 'Things can change quickly. Check the latest health and travel advice.' On the right is a map of Australia with the ACT region highlighted in green.