The Native Cottage Garden in Bungala Park is nearly completed thanks to a dedicated group of volunteers who gave up 3 Saturdays in a row in October to help with its construction. The path has still to be finished and identification signs put in front of all the plants.

The NNR Centre received a grant from the NRM Board last year to establish this garden. When finished it will promote water wise gardening and we encourage the local community to use this as a resource when enquiring about suitable native plantings. The project aims to increase understanding of the regions natural resources including soil choice, water use, native habitats and plant selection.

When established you will be able to meander through the garden and view the beautiful plants that grow well in this area. One of our main enquiries at the centre is what to plant in local gardens, so now we will be able send people over to the park to view first hand plants which thrive locally. With lots of flowering plants and a few habitat logs we hope to be able to attract birds and small animals to share the garden with us. Each plant will be identified and a display board will provide information about size, watering requirements and soil types.

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped, James Potter from Dirt Garden Design and the Yankalilla Council.
FREE LITTLE LIBRARY

Have you checked out our ‘Free Little Library’ in front of the Resource Centre yet! It is proving very popular with locals and tourists. This initiative has been made possible by funds gifted to the Yankalilla Community Library by Jean Jervois. The library stocks around 30 books, magazines and sometimes a few CDs. The idea is to take a book and leave a book. Anyone can access it 24 hours a day! The one pictured opposite was made by one of the centre’s volunteers and we intend to produce 3 more all different designs to erect in Second Valley, Cape Jervis and Inman Valley.

If anyone would like to create a Free Little Library for one of these locations please contact the centre. There are heaps of examples at http://littlefreelibrary.org/

LOCAL WALKS

During daylight savings we are conducting local walks on the last Thursday of each month at 5.00 pm. In November we visited Myponga Conservation Park where Lisa Blake from the NRM office in Willunga took us for a beautiful walk partly along the Heysen Trail and partly cross country. Lisa talked about weed invasion, fire control and remnant vegetation. We all decided to go back and do the walk again in winter when the waterfall was flowing.

Our next walk will be on the last Thursday in January where we will tackle Ingalalla Falls. Just contact the centre if you are interested in discovering beautiful parts of our local area with us.

PROPAGATION WORKSHOP

The Gardening Group has requested a propagation workshop early next year and has extended the invitation to any one who would like to attend. It will be held on Thursday 12th February in the early evening, please contact the centre for more details and to register.

DRY STONE WALLS

Bruce Munday who gave an excellent presentation on dry stone walls in South Australia recently is holding a workshop in April 2015 on building dry stone walls. If any one is interested in attending please visit Bruce’s website: www.storiesbehindstonewalls.com.au or contact him at: PO Box 375, Mt Torrens SA 5244 Ph: 0417 895 249
Four years ago the centre started a bird watching group called the Fantail Foodies. A name derived from the mischievous Fantail, a very common bird on our trips and the fact that we all enjoy amazing lunches. On each trip we invite a ‘bird expert’ to join us and impart their knowledge, easy now we have a reputation for delicious lunches.

In September this year the group went on a trip to Gluepot just north of Waikerie. This reserve is BirdLife Australia's first publicly funded Reserve. The park is 50,000 hectares located in the semi-arid mallee and is a birdwatchers' paradise with 190 species recorded including 6 that are nationally threatened. John Hatch from the Birds SA came up for a day and helped us spot over 30 different birds. Even though this was not a huge number over the couple of days we spent in the park, the quality of the birds was very good. Sitting in bird hides watching a variety of honeyeaters come down to the water troughs was spectacular and to glimpse the White-winged Fairy-wren just made our trip.

Bird field trips are bi-monthly and usually just local day trips. If would like to join our small group contact the centre on 8558 3644.

CALENDARS & BOOKS

Great gift ideas available at the NNR Centre

$7.50

$10

$35
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday 4th December—ReCreate*
Saturday 6th December —Veggie Swap at NNR Centre
Saturday 4th January — Veggie Swap at NNR Centre
Thursday 29th January—Local Walk*
Thursday 5th February—ReCreate*
Saturday 7th February—Veggie Swap
Thursday 12th February—Propagation Workshop*
Thursday 19th February—ReCreate*
Thursday 26th February—Local Walk*
Sunday 1st March—Clean Up Australia Day*
Thursday 5th March—ReCreate*
Saturday 7th March—Veggie Swap

*Need to book for these events by phoning 8558 3644 or by emailing the centre.