



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FLOOD WARNING COMMITTEE

THE HISTORY OF FLOODS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

**PARTICIPANTS**

At the time of this Newsletter going to print, the project comprised of 9 metropolitan Work for the Dole Participants, 1 unemployed volunteer participant, 2 country participants, 2 metropolitan volunteer supervisors, 23 regional/local area supervisors and one volunteer manager.

The regional/area supervisors are in the following employment Service Areas:

Kadina	3	Murraylands	3
Pt Augusta	2	South East	3
Cooper Pedy	1	Riverland	3
Gawler	4	Kingscote	1
Victor Harbor	3		

Three of the Project's metropolitan participants completed their contracts during April and one completed his stint in May. Brett Stewart conducted newspaper research at the State Library, Con Karydis undertook palæontological research on the history of floods in SA that occurred prior to man's existence in the State, Dean Podger undertook research with various external government agencies and from newspaper and book resources and Andrew Crocker researched local histories. All four participants made valuable research contributions to the Project, and we wish each of them well in their future job-seeking endeavours.

**SEEKING PARTICIPANTS**

**Metropolitan Area**

The Project is currently seeking 3 Work for the Dole participants to work in the following areas:

Research – State Library of SA	1
Research – Indigenous Dreamtime Stories	1
Writing/Editing Flood History Information	1

**Country Area**

The Project is also seeking Work for the Dole participants in the following country areas:

Berri	1	Murray Bridge	1
Cooper Pedy	1	Mt Gambier	1
Gawler	1	Victor Harbor	1

All at the project headquarters hope that we will find the most needed Work for the Dole participants in the rural areas and in the indigenous studies area shortly.

Finding participants in the country has proved difficult in the past and it seems that task is not getting any easier.

**DATABASE**

The Project has acquired the services of a Work for the Dole Participant who is highly skilled in the use of Microsoft Access database. Thuan Nguyen has a Bachelor in Design Studies and a Bachelor in Computer Studies, and has had previous experience in computer maintenance and service. Thuan has compiled a data entry strategy that will be used for the input of the flood event records collected.

The use of the database will allow for the introduction of search, sorting and reporting strategies that will ultimately lead to the publication and valuable storage of the edited data.



Murray's Crossing, South Para River, Gawler  
15<sup>th</sup> September 1992  
Photo compliments of Graeme Fanning,  
Editorial Manager of The Advertiser

## FLOOD HISTORY RECORDS

As of the 21<sup>st</sup> May 2004, there were 1,350 flood event records. These records are currently stored in tabular Word documents on the Bureau computer network. These records will now be systematically transferred over to the Project's newly established database.

## WRITING/EDITING OF FLOOD HISTORY BOOK

Due to the amount of research material already collected by the Project's researchers, there is now a need to begin editing and re-writing that information in a format suitable for the book. At this point, the Project is seeking suitably qualified participants to undertake this task at the Bureau of Meteorology Office, Kent Town

## INTERACTIVE CD-ROM

The idea of compiling an interactive CD-Rom to accompany the book is currently being considered by the Project Steering Committee. Further information will be provided if and when a decision is made on the idea. The viability of producing such a reporting tool is currently being undertaken. It is feared that this good idea may well be beyond our financial resources.

## CAPTION AREAS MAP

Keith Casperson, one of the metropolitan supervisors, has devised a geological feature map to identify the location and boundaries of all water catchment areas and hydrological basins in South Australia, including Kangaroo Island. The map took Keith a considerable amount of time to compile, and the Project appreciates the huge effort that he put in to this task. The map will be a very valuable asset to include in the book and in reporting accurately on the location of each flood event.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION BROCHURE

The Flood History Project Description Brochure was originally written as an information source for those interested in the project. It was then used as part of the information process for the Work for the Dole participants and the Project supervisors. It outlines what the Project is about, who is undertaking the Project, and what type of work the participants are undertaking. It was originally written in October 2002 and was reviewed in January 2004.

The Brochure was reworked in March 2004 to reflect the current status of the Project. The original format has been maintained, however the content of the Brochure is now up to date.



Main Street at Swan Reach – 1956  
Photograph compliments of Mortlock Library of South Australia

## REMINDER

All of our readers are reminded that all the project Newsletters are available on the Bureau of Meteorology Website at [www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au). Click on SA on the map of Australia and scroll down to 'Other Information'. Click on 'History of Floods in South Australia' and then click on 'Newsletter' sought.

Arrangements have also been made for those readers who have indicated that they would prefer to be sent a copy of the Newsletter in Microsoft Word format. Anyone else (who has not already let us know) preferring this alternative format can contact the Project's Administrative Assistant by email at [j.dunn@bom.gov.au](mailto:j.dunn@bom.gov.au).

## FURTHER INFORMATION

If any reader would like further or more detailed information about the current status of the project you are invited to call David McCarthy on Thursdays or Fridays on 8366 2714 at the Bureau of Meteorology or contact him by email at [flood\\_history@bom.gov.au](mailto:flood_history@bom.gov.au).