

Media Release

For Release on Sunday 13 August, 2017



WARRAWONG SANCTUARY BUSY BEE ATTRACTS HUNDREDS OF SUPPORTERS. CROWD FUNDING LAUNCH AT 1PM.

At the time of writing this release, 347 passionate South Australians have registered to volunteer at the Warrawong Wildlife Sanctuary Busy Bee, this Sunday 13 August, from 8:30am 'til 4pm. To register, volunteers needed to follow a link from the Sanctuary's Facebook page and complete a simple form. In other words, registration required more than a simple 'click', suggesting Warrawong followers make the effort to support their Sanctuary.

Narelle MacPherson and David Cobbold, the new owners of Warrawong Sanctuary, are overwhelmed by the support they've received since arriving from Western Australia. Narelle said, "The people of South Australia have been so welcoming to our family. Our kids, Britt and Josh, actually asked why we didn't move here sooner." David said, "When we bought Warrawong, we know it was a significant part of Australia's conservation history. What we didn't know was how important it is to the people of South Australia. They just love it."

The couple are hoping that love translates to financial support, when they launch their crowd funding campaign on the day of the Busy Bee.

Narelle explained, "It's become very clear to us that Warrawong needs water. The ecosystem here is slowly collapsing and that means big trouble for the animals, especially the platypus."

David added, "The Sanctuary used to be about 85 acres across 9 properties. But, when Dr Wamsley was forced to sell, property developers just carved it up and sold it off, leaving Warrawong's lake on the neighbour's property."

David and Narelle hope to raise \$490 000 to buy back the lake and the 8 acres of land it sits on. In so doing, they would secure a water supply for the Sanctuary in perpetuity.

The Go Fund Me crowd funding campaign will be launched at 1pm on Sunday 13 August by the extremely special guests, Dr John Wamsley and Proo Geddes, the original founders of Warrawong Sanctuary.



Narelle cheerfully noted, "We love having John and Proo involved. They've sacrificed so much for conservation over the years. It's nice to revive Warrawong because it also honours them."

David stated, "Wamsley designed Warrawong as an ecosystem, but, without the lake, it all falls down. We can't allow that to happen."

The Busy Bee on Sunday marks the start of a 5 week crowd funding campaign for Warrawong Sanctuary. With no family or network of friends in South Australia, Narelle and David are asking Busy Bee volunteers to spread the word.

"We have absolute faith in the people of South Australia", David proclaimed. "They tried to save Warrawong 4 years ago. They've voted with their feet to support us now. People want Warrawong to succeed", he ended.

"Buy back the lake, bring back the life. It's that simple", Narelle concluded.

Narelle and David are asking people to support the Sanctuary's campaign, and learn more about the water issue, by visiting the Go Fund Me site: <https://www.gofundme.com/saving-warrawong-wildlife-sanctuary>

Sharing the campaign on social media is just as helpful as donating.

*** END RELEASE ***

A media conference is being held on site at Warrawong Wildlife Sanctuary, 47 Stock Road, Mylor, at noon on Sunday 13 August, 2017.

Media resources, including the crowd funding pitch video, video and photos of the Busy Bee, interviews with Narelle and David, plus drone footage will be added to this Dropbox folder:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/wa402df7ai3gqpy/AABfDDzv2zIM0MKeOif5VVSba?dl=0>

MEDIA CONTACT:

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7 News - https://www.facebook.com/7NewsAdelaide/?hc_ref=ARS5SVTa-3qFQOt1mGk-Wx1Wku_X54YlrYEL2Y7S4vRKI9vG2pwtfgj3yb7cB7vOnPs&fref=nf
Or - <https://www.facebook.com/7NewsAdelaide/videos/1651772501520065/>

9 News -
<http://www.9news.com.au/videos/cj6anr7tq00010hmw1fn9i7q/warrawong-sanctuary-to-reopen-after-restoration>
Or - <https://www.facebook.com/9NewsAdelaide/videos/1740167819620513/>

Weekend Notes
<https://www.weekendnotes.com/warrawong-wildlife-sanctuary/>

