

# C.V. - Detailed version, February 2008

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## 1. Formal Qualifications: **B.Sc.** (University of Adelaide, 1995)

Majors: **Environmental Geology & Pedology**; and **Geomorphology**)

(In 1995-6, I worked on an **Honours** project, '*Holocene stratigraphy and soils of the eastern coastal zone of Gulf St Vincent*', with SA Department of Mines & Energy, University of Adelaide Department of Soil Science and CSIRO Division of Soils which involved working with GIS, as well as analysing soil cores taken from the Gillman MFP site. Due to personal reasons I did not complete the thesis.)

## 2. Computer Skills:

**Operating Systems:** MS DOS v6, Windows (v3.11, 95, 98, XP)  
**Word Processing:** MS Word 2000, MS Publisher, OpenOffice.org  
**Spreadsheet:** MS Excel v5, OpenOffice.org  
**Database:** MS Access v2, Paradox v5  
**GIS:** ArcView v2, MapInfo v3, MapMaker v9  
**Graphic:** Photoshop v7; Paint Shop Pro v5; ACDSsee v4  
**Scanning:** OmniPage SE  
**Internet:** Netscape Navigator v6; Internet Explorer v7; Opera v6, Firefox, WS\_FTP, Outlook, Thunderbird  
**WWW Authoring:** Macromedia HomeSite+; HotDog v5.5, MapTHIS! v1.20, Dreamweaver 3  
**Photo Archiving:** MediaBin, Stellant

## 3. Previous Employment History:

**May 2003 – present** (Part-time) **Coastal Management Branch**, SA Dept. of Environment & Heritage  
- **wrote** *Maintaining Adelaide's Beaches*, an unpublished issue in the Coast Protection Board's *Coastline* series.  
- **researching**, reorganising, digitising and annotating the Board's archive of historic coastal photographs.

**Feb 2005 - July 2005** (Part-time) **EcoConnect** - a consulting group of graduates co-located in the Dept of Geographical & Environmental Studies, University of Adelaide  
- **conducting interviews** for a survey of residents and businesses in the Wakefield Regional Council area  
- **designing a coding manual and spreadsheet** for processing of survey data

**2004** **Full-time study** - Grad. Dip. Environmental Studies (incomplete)  
Department of Geographical & Environmental Studies,  
University of Adelaide.

**1997 - Present:** (Part-time) **Voluntary work** – environmental & community  
- **management, publishing**, and a variety of **'hands-on'** roles

- 1994 - 1996:** **Full-time study** – completing B.Sc. and work on Honours project
- 1984 - 1993:** **Australian Bureau of Statistics**  
 - various clerical positions to a/g ASO4 level, incl: Publications, Personnel, Social & Demography (preparing for 1991 Census), various Surveys (including 1988-89 Construction Industry Survey; Industrial Accidents). At the end of 1993, I took a voluntary redundancy, returning to full-time study in 1994.
- 1976 - 1984:** **Overseas Travel**  
 - one year travelling solo overland to (and in) Europe;  
 - seven years spent mainly in London:  
   \* studying (City of London Polytechnic)  
   \* personal development interests,  
   - working in co-operative businesses (with: FWBO).
- 1974 - 1975:** **Department of Social Security**  
 - various positions to Clerk Cl. 2/3 level

#### 4. Membership of community organisations:

##### ● I am currently a member of these organisations:

- **Friends of Patawalonga Creek** (founder and chair, since 1998)
- **Patawalonga Creek Steering Committee** (hosted by Adelaide Airport Ltd.)
- **Friends of Gulf St Vincent** (webmaster)
- **Port of Adelaide Branch, National Trust of SA** (committee member)
- a steering committee organising the 2009 **Friends of Parks Inc.** Forum to be held in Adelaide from 30 October - 1 November 2009
- and I am a Friend of the **Conservation Council of South Australia**.

##### ● I am a former committee member of:

- Steering committee, Gardens & Gardening project, Adelaide Festival of Arts 2002
- **Reedbeds Community Centre Inc** (chair of management committee, 2001 - June 2006)
- **Thebarton Residents Association**
- **West Torrens Residents Association**
- In 2003, I assisted the **Friends of Parks Inc.** steering committee organising this event:

##### ***'Banbabanbalyanendi'* - Aboriginal Culture - Getting to Know You**

The aims of this event were to bring together local Friends of Parks groups and the local Aboriginal community and to assist with mutual understanding and reconciliation.

It was held on the October Full Moon Night (10 October 2003) at the Warriparinga Living Kaurna Cultural Centre.

I acted as Minute Secretary for several committee meetings prior to the event, and was able to provide advice and contact information which enabled the event to be run successfully.

##### ● I regularly attend the meetings of:

- Port Adelaide Environmental Forum
- Port Adelaide Residents Environment Protection Group

In order to gain a perspective on wider environmental issues, and to understand what other groups are doing to address these issues and to learn from their successes and failures, I occasionally attend tree plantings, workshops, seminars or meetings of other groups

(particularly when there is an interesting speaker), eg:

- Australian Plants Society (SA) Inc.
- Biodiversity in Our Patch - seminar on Soil, Water, Plants and Animals
- Barker Inlet Port Estuary Committee
- Centre for Groundwater Studies
- Environment Protection Authority - Round-table (2001)
- Field Geology Club of SA
- Friends of Aldinga Scrub Conservation Park
- Friends of Onkaparinga Parks
- Friends of Parks Inc.
- Friends of the South Australian Museum
- Henley & Grange Dunecare
- Henley & Grange Historical Society
- Henley & Grange Residents' Association
- History of Science, Ideas & Technology Group (Royal Society of South Australia)
- Inner Northern Environmental Forum
- Karra Kundo
- Marine & Coastal Community Network
- Murray-Darling Association
- National Trust of SA - seminars on Significant Trees
- Port Adelaide Historical Society
- Royal Geographical Society of SA Inc.
- Warriparinga Living Kaurna Cultural Centre Inc., etc.

● **To increase my knowledge of environmental issues I attend open meetings of statutory bodies, including:**

- Adelaide & Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board
- including these predecessors to the AMLR NRM Board:
  - Torrens & Patawalonga Catchment Water Management Boards
  - Northern Adelaide & Barossa Catchment Water Management Board
  - Onkaparinga Catchment Water Management Board
- Natural Resources Management Council
- River Murray Catchment Water Management Board
- Arid Areas Catchment Water Management Board
- Water Resources Council

**5. Current Activities - Personal Initiatives:**

Due to an initial lack of employment offers after ceasing formal study at the end of 1996, I undertook a range of voluntary work activities, including a number of projects which I have personally initiated.

My efforts in this regard have resulted in offers of part-time work, including the work I am currently doing for the Coastal Management Branch of the SA Department for Environment & Heritage.

**These projects have included:**

● **Founding and chairing a new community group:**

In 1998 I founded and continue to chair **The Friends of Patawalonga Creek (FoPC)**.

The aim of this group is to preserve native vegetation and enhance the public amenity of the remnant section of Patawalonga Creek (on Adelaide Airport land, west of Tapleys Hill Road ), and to raise

public awareness of the importance of this site and related water and biodiversity conservation issues in the local area.

FoPC operates under the '*Our Patch*' program run by the Adelaide & Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board.

I edit and publish (in hard copy and on-line) the occasional FoPC newsletter '*Paper Bark*':  
( <http://www.chariot.net.au/~littoral/pat-ck/pb/index.htm> )

I am also Webmaster (and a past Secretary) of the **Friends of Gulf St Vincent** (FoGStV, formerly Western Suburbs Friends of Parks), which is part of the Friends of Parks Inc. network of volunteer groups assisting National Parks and Wildlife SA.

The aim of FoGStV is to help form a network of environmental groups concerned with issues around the Gulf, including Friends of Parks groups as well as other groups involved with conservation of coastal and marine habitat.

### ● **Chair of Reedbeds Community Centre Management Committee (2002–06):**

FoPC meetings were held at Reedbeds from our inception, and in September 2000 I was invited to join the Reedbeds management committee. The following year, I was elected to the position of chair of the committee, a position I held until mid-2006.

Located at the former Fulham Primary School, the Reedbeds Community Centre is owned by the City of West Torrens, but managed by an independent volunteer management committee. The venue is used by a variety of community and disability groups for a range of activities; approximately 400 people use the Centre each week.

Besides chairing monthly meetings, I supported our Centre Coordinator on a day-to-day basis, assisting with decision-making, liaising with Council, and dealing with all manner of practical issues. To further my personal development, I attended the 2002 Community and Neighbourhood Council (CANH) Conference, Adult Community Education conference and seminars, Council meetings, etc.

### ● **Developing Websites**

[www.chariot.net.au/~littoral/index.htm](http://www.chariot.net.au/~littoral/index.htm)

I created the '*Ground Truth*' website as a map-based community resource guide to the human & environmental history of South Australia, with the aim of "helping people to find out information relating to their own local area".

It is about local history, environmental and Aboriginal issues, activities of voluntary groups, and resources to assist such groups. This material is indexed according to region and local government area. Prior to putting it on-line (June 2000), I sought comment and feedback by circulating copies on floppy disk to various individuals in government and to community groups.

Since then it has become a cluster of websites around 18 Mb in size, including websites for several community groups (Friends of Patawalonga Creek, Friends of Gulf St Vincent, Friends of Hallett Cove). It is an on-going project and is expected to expand significantly through the activities listed below.

The website operates under the registered business name, Littoral Productions.

During the time I was based at the Reedbeds Community Centre, I taught classes in basic webpage design and I am a passionate advocate of the need for community groups to gain the skills necessary to develop and maintain their own websites.

### ● **Compiling databases of geoscience, environmental and local history references**

(especially to 'grey literature'), and contact details for voluntary organisations, with the intention of making these available through the Website.

In addition, I am the custodian of a large newspaper clippings archive, formerly compiled by the Conservation Council, which I am currently expanding and mining, particularly for information on coastal issues.

- **Photographic archive:**

For a number of years I have been compiling an archive of my own photographs of South Australia, dealing with the coastal zone, rivers, geomorphology, birds, native vegetation, etc.

I also assist other community groups, eg Western Adelaide Coastal Residents Association, in maintaining a photographic record of coastal erosion at the West Beach boat harbour and construction of the Barcoo Outlet.

Additionally, I am developing my skills in photojournalism and social documentary photography, through attending events ranging from protest rallies to opening ceremonies, field trips, etc.

This resource now contains over 10,000 images and I draw on it in developing the websites and for creating displays. A number of my photos have been published, eg in the City of West Torrens newspaper, '*Talking Points*', as well as in other publications.

I am currently working part-time, reorganising and scanning the historic photo archive of the Coastal Management Branch of the SA Department for Environment & Heritage.

- **Hosting 'Curry Nights':**

Beginning in 2002 at Reedbeds and from 2006 at the Henley Community Centre, I realized a long-standing dream by hosting a series of 'Curry Nights'. These take the form of a catered 3-course meal, followed by a guest speaker on a topic related to the local environment.

With the assistance of volunteers, I do the planning, publicity and catering; among the speakers I have invited are academics who are prominent in their fields, but not necessarily well-known to the general community, and other experts.

The purpose of these events is to act as a fundraiser and social event, and to provide the audience with an informative talk which touches on issues of local environmental significance. To provide a permanent record, most of the talks have been recorded on tape and converted to audio CD; I intend to develop this material further (with the speakers) to add to the website resource mentioned above.

In the period 2002-2006, I held sixteen of these events, with more than 70 people attending the most recent Curry Nights. Although I have taken a break during 2007, I intend resuming them during 2008.

- **Setting up an Environment Resource Centre (ERC):**

While formerly based at the Reedbeds Community Centre, I set up an environmental resource centre for use by the local community. It housed a portion of the great deal of printed material that I have accumulated from various sources, and a library. There was also a small plant nursery and reed garden

The ERC was furnished with shelving, a filing cabinet, leaflet displays and a computer, donated by Adelaide Airport Ltd. I was successful in gaining two FACS volunteer small equipment grants which were used to purchase knapsack sprays, tools, a laminator and a data projector.

In 2004, with the assistance of Dr Jan Carey (then of Geographical & Environmental Studies, University of Adelaide), we applied for a grant under the Commonwealth Department of Environment & Heritage's "Telling Australia's Stories" program for an oral history project:

*"Caring for our Creeks - The Stories of the Friends of Patawalonga Creek & the Reedbeds Community Centre".*

Only 22 of over 980 applicants nation-wide were funded; despite having put together a credible application, ours was not one of these. We did intend to reapply for the grant in the following year (of what was then supposed to be a three-year program), but the program was not re-advertised.

While the Reedbeds ERC enjoyed only a minor success, I still consider that the project was worthwhile and even without external funding, work on a successor can still proceed.

Although I have considered an offer to reestablish the ERC at the Grange Community Centre, which may generate additional interest in the project from local groups in the City of Charles Sturt area, I am still seeking additional support from groups in the Port Adelaide area.

## **6. Interpersonal Skills:**

Although I do not have any formal qualifications in this field, I do have a great deal of experience through having worked in an unusually broad range of areas which involved a great deal of 'people skills'. These have included:

### **● Personal Development:**

Pursuing personal development interests in England involved a six-year (1978-84) association with a Buddhist organisation (The Friends of the Western Buddhist Order, FWBO).

This involved living in residential communities and working in co-operative businesses. This experience taught me a great deal about such values as: tolerance, communication, respect for others and the environment, patience, positivity, altruism, motivation and commitment.

### **● Workplace-related skills:**

After returning to Adelaide in 1984, I worked for the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) for ten years. I have worked in several areas which have involved a great deal of 'people skills'. These have included:

Personnel - calculating entitlements, dealing with confidential personal issues and assisting in staff selection processes.

Agricultural Census, Construction Industry Survey and other surveys, where I had to deal with an extremely wide range of people (sometimes hostile), and help them to complete quite complex forms, sometimes including detailed financial data.

### **● Teaching skills:**

I have had experience of teaching small groups of adults, in a variety of settings.

- During the period I spent with the FWBO, I taught Judo within a large residential community.
- While with the ABS, I taught an informal lunchtime 'Introduction to Meditation' course (which had managerial approval as a Stress Management program).

- At the Reedbeds Community Centre, I taught a course in Basic WebPage Design (using Allaire HomeSite v4, and other computer programs).

- **Dealing with individuals at a variety of levels:**

In my Honours program and in following up my current environmental interests, I have approached a number of bodies and individuals, to get data, access to land, or to discuss my projects. These include:

- local, state and federal government departments and statutory authorities
- State and Federal Members of Parliament
- academics
- industry and community-based organisations
- members of the Aboriginal community

## 7. Other skills:

- **Proofreading and publishing:**

During the time I spent in the ABS, I spent around 2 ½ years working in the Publications Section, in the era immediately preceding the desktop publishing revolution. I found that having to learn to manually prepare (edit, proofread and layout) material for publication was a very useful discipline. This is particularly useful in my current Web-publishing activities. I also edit and publish ‘*Paper Bark*’, the newsletter of The Friends of Patawalonga Creek.

In late 1999, I was asked by Dr Vic Gostin (Associate Professor, Dept. of Geology & Geophysics, University of Adelaide), to proofread and check a chapter of a book he was editing. This book, ‘*Environmental Geology*’, was published in 2002 by the Geological Association of Australia. The chapter in question, ‘*Radiation*’ (on the relative hazards of ionising radiation), was written by Bob Major, formerly Uranium Policy Officer with the SA Department of Mines & Energy (now retired). Both Mr Major and Dr Gostin expressed their great satisfaction with my work, which involved complex calculations and conversions of obsolete measurement standards into the currently accepted standards (SI units).

- **Creating displays:**

I have also participated in creating displays on Patawalonga Creek. My contributions include my own photographs, text, computer-generated maps and layout of the displays.

These displays have been exhibited at the Reedbeds Community Centre, the Hilton and Glenelg Libraries, the electorate office of the Member for Hindmarsh (then Chris Gallus), and the Boardroom of the Patawalonga Catchment Water Management Board (for its meeting on January 17, 2001). I was also invited to show the display at the City of Charles Sturt’s *Festival of the Coast* in February 2002

- **Bushcare skills:**

I have used my involvement with the Patawalonga Creek project to further my knowledge of flora and fauna and to learn the appropriate Bushcare skills for this site. I have carried out five annual Frog Censuses and participated in removal of exotic weeds, seed collection and plant propagation. I have also co-ordinated the KESAB Clean Up Australia Day event at Patawalonga Creek for the past eight years.

I have attended a Chemical Users course through the 'Our Patch' program and have undertaken weed spraying and slashing prior to revegetation.

Additionally, I have assisted the Environment Manager of Adelaide Airport on Open Days, by acting as a tour guide for school groups visiting Patawalonga Creek.

## ● **Cooking and catering skills**

I don't have any formal qualifications in cooking, but in 1982-83, I spent two years working full-time in what was then regarded as one of the leading vegetarian restaurants in London.

This was Hockney's Restaurant, located at 96-98 High Street, Croydon, Surrey. It was operated as part of the Rainbow Cooperative Ltd, which was associated with the Croydon Buddhist Centre of the Friends of the Western Buddhist Order.

The training I received there was limited in some respects, but the cooperative nature of the workplace enabled me to make an innovative contribution through experimenting with fruit syrups (which were part of my own family tradition). These syrups were used to make flavoured yoghurt drinks.

On my return to Australia, I continued to make fruit syrups and experimented with using these as a base for making liqueurs. Having extended my repertoire to include non-vegetarian dishes, I then hosted occasional dinner parties with up to 20-25 guests; these featured three-course meals, for which I did all the catering.

Since 2002, I have used these skills to host 'Curry Nights', first at Reedbeds and now at the Henley Community Centre. With assistance from other volunteers and Friends of Patawalonga Creek, I have done most of the catering for 16 of these events so far, with over 70 participants attending.

I also make a variety of mango chutneys and have sold them through the Curry Nights in order to raise funds to set up the Environment Resource Centre, and these have proved quite popular.

## ● **Photographic skills**

In 1978-1981 while in London, I studied photography part-time at the Sir John Cass School of Art and Design in Whitechapel (at that time part of the City of London Polytechnic, which later became the London Guildhall University.)

Being part-time, the course did not lead to a formal qualification, but the nature of the institution - which had strong links with industry, and low-cost classes which attracted many international students from a variety of backgrounds - ensured a vibrant and creative learning atmosphere.

Under the tutelage of Mick Williams, the course concentrated on the creative use of black-&-white photography and included darkroom and studio work. Topics such as portrait work, landscape, still-life, macro photography, etc were covered and individual projects were encouraged.

In November-December 2003 I attended a WEA course in Adobe Photoshop.

I twice arranged for a series of classes in Digital Photography to be taught at the Reedbeds Community Centre by a professional photographer. This resulted in arousing my own interest in digital photography as well as digital video, which I hope to develop further in the near future.