

## An Invitation to Calperum



Lake Merriti, Calperum

For more than 20 years, South Australian Rotarians have been environmental volunteers at Calperum, a former sheep station located a short drive north of Renmark in the South Australia Riverland, now managed by the Australian Landscape Trust. Over time Calperum has become Rotary's biggest environmental project!

Volunteers have assisted Calperum in its rehabilitation, research and education objectives in a variety of areas including animal, plant and water surveys, vegetation restoration, facilities maintenance and fence repair, and many other tasks besides.

Staying in 10 bed (Rotary House) or 30 bed dormitory accommodation with well-equipped kitchens, Rotarians and friends have enjoyed dozens of visits spending 2 to 4 nights at a time on the property. A visit to Calperum is a great opportunity to share a glass under the stars around the camp fire (in warmer weather) or around the pot-belly stove, in cooler seasons.

While remaining focussed on the environmental objectives visitors to Calperum have also been privileged to see a wide variety of wildlife including kangaroos, emus, goannas, echidna, dozens of native and migratory bird species and more. And the recovery of vegetation since the millennium drought has been nothing short of spectacular, demonstrating what nature can do when sheep and feral animals are removed. The beautiful Ral Ral Creek beside the homestead, is a special part of Calperum, with opportunities for kayaking, fishing and yabbying.

In the past, visiting Rotary groups have been mostly Club-based but in 2018 the *Rotary Calperum and the Environment Committee* will be trialling activity-based visits with Rotarians and friends from different Clubs and different skills and interests. The **attached list** shows a range of possible activities but there are opportunities for everyone from unskilled and inexperienced to trade and professional ... or simply enjoying a few days in the Outback!

If you are interested in coming to Calperum for work, pleasure or just a look-and-see, please contact a Rotary Booking Coordinator indicating **what interests, skills or knowledge you have to offer, and when you might like to visit**, and we will organise a party!



Wildlife abound!

### Rotary Booking Coordinators

for the *Rotary Calperum and the Environment Committee*

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## **Short List of Calperum Volunteer Tasks**

Bird surveys - Black-eared miner

    Bird surveys - Wetlands

    Bird surveys - Malleefowl

Small vertebrate surveys

Tree health surveys - General surveillance

    Tree health surveys - Monitoring for active management

Surface water quality surveys

Computing & Technical

Vegetation restoration - Material preparation, site establishment and/or planting

    Vegetation restoration – irrigation & site maintenance

    Vegetation restoration - site surveys

Old Fence removal

    Fence construction & maintenance

Buildings & grounds maintenance

    Facility maintenance and development

Track and clearing maintenance

Paddock Management

Education program support

**YOUR PROJECT???**

15 Aug 2017