

Dedicated environmentalist

Andrew Gavin Scott

Farmer, environmentalist, community leader

Born: January 1, 1951; Melbourne

Died: January 6, 2006; Narrung

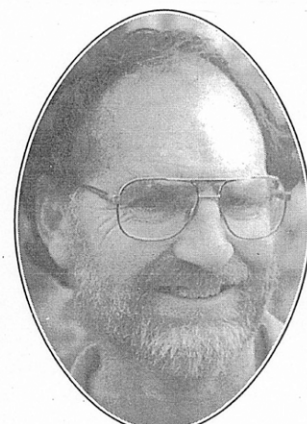
ANDREW Scott was the archetypal quiet achiever. His tragic death in a boating accident on Lake Alexandrina in January has left a large gap in the community of Willunga and surrounding districts.

A gentle, modest and intelligent man, he tended to lead from the middle. He had a great appreciation of the community and a vision for its future.

He was born in Melbourne and educated in Port Lincoln and later at Westminster School, Adelaide University and finally on the road, filling in the gaps of his formal education working in various jobs, travelling and hitchhiking.

Eventually, he decided to take up farming in partnership with his parents at Hope Forest, near The Range. After experimenting with organic vegetable farming, dairying was adopted with enthusiasm and commitment by the partnership. With his father approaching retirement age, Andrew carried the burden of the hard labour – an appropriate term as they were building up the farm from scratch. Despite this, they quickly established a prize-winning herd of cows.

Andrew met Helen in the late 1970s;



they married, settled in a small cottage on the farm and established their own family with two sons, Aaron and Jonathan. Life for the young family was in many ways idyllic, save for the increasing workload. In 1993, the farm was sold and the family moved to Willunga.

Andrew at first took up further education with a view to teaching in a Waldorf school. One had been estab-

lished in Mt Barker and later another in Willunga. Through his interest in biodynamic farming, Andrew was familiar with Rudolph Steiner's philosophies and the Waldorf system. He enthusiastically applied himself to assist with the development of the schools, which his sons attended.

Andrew applied his inquiring and analytical mind to every venture. Eventually, he decided teaching was not for him and he devoted his energies to environmental issues. He was actively involved in a number of groups including the Aldinga Scrub Group, Trees for Life, Willunga Friends of the Earth, the Soil Association, Landcare, the Friends of the Willunga Basin, Greening Australia and the Water Catchment Board.

He was a prime mover in the establishment of the Willunga Environment Centre, a co-ordination centre for all these groups. The hills behind Willunga now covered with trees will be a constant reminder of him.

An abiding love of Andrew's family was boating. This began in Port Lincoln. They always shared a recreational boat or two, and Andrew eventually acquired a trimaran.

Willunga has lost a much loved citizen. Andrew is survived by his wife, Helen, and sons Aaron and Jonathan.

Paul Rosser, Heinz Huxholl and Robin Moulds