FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Mount Osmond Golf Club secures grant funding to save critically-endangered Cryptic sun-moth

ADELAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Mount Osmond Golf Club has successfully secured funding through Round 7 of the Green Adelaide Grassroots Grants to create habitat for the critically-endangered Cryptic sun-moth (*Synemon theresa*).

The project aims to establish a protected refugium for the species by integrating dedicated habitat corridors into the golf course layout.

This project highlights the essential role that cross-sector collaboration plays in biodiversity preservation, building upon existing conservation efforts led by the City of Burnside and Green Adelaide.

Key actions in this project include:

- conducting comprehensive on-site entomological and ecological surveys across the course to identify, map, and evaluate remnant indigenous grasslands and high-potential habitat zones
- establishing an on-site indigenous nursery to propagate site-specific larval host plants
- educating club staff, members, and visitors on the ecological significance of grassland habitats
- delivering specialised training for staff and volunteers in native seed collection, insect-friendly course management, and ongoing biodiversity monitoring via iNaturalist.

The Club is working with Monina Gilbey from Green Gecko Studios who is a prominent voice in the turf industry for biodiversity conservation. The City of Burnside has already provided planting support for the Club and will be a key partner throughout the project. Specialist technical support and scientific advice is provided by Alex Stolarski from EntoSearch.

Quotes attributable to Damian Wrigley, General Manager, Mount Osmond Golf Club:
"This grant is a game-changer for our Club and our local environment. We are incredibly proud to build on the foundation laid by the City of Burnside and Green Adelaide, proving that golf courses can be dynamic sanctuaries for wildlife.

"If we are going to safeguard our natural heritage for the next generation, organisations must step up and work together. Securing this Grassroots Grant allows us to permanently integrate conservation into our Course Vegetation Management Plan – ensuring Mount Osmond isn't just a great place to play, but a safe haven for the Cryptic sun-moth, native pollinators, and local biodiversity for decades to come."

Quotes attributable to Monina Gilbey, Green Gecko Studios:
"I am absolutely thrilled to collaborate with Mount Osmond Golf Club, the City of Burnside, and EntoSearch on this project. Research-grade sightings of the Cryptic sun-moth on the course boundary highlight a rare and urgent opportunity to turn out-of-play areas into crucial habitat corridors for the Cryptic sun-moth.

"Protecting our endangered native species isn't something any single group can achieve alone. This project shows the power of cross-sector partnerships, demonstrating how golf courses can actively drive species recovery on a landscape scale."

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Photo: Matt Endacott, Cryptic sun moth