THE FIELD NATURALIST

NEWSLETTER NO. 116: March, 2013.



ALBURY-WODONGA FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB INC. Reg. No. A0023416K

PROGRAMME: 24th MARCH 2013 - 28th JULY 2013

March Chiltern Valley, Dams No.1 & 2
Sun 24th: Meet 10am Acacia Car Park Wodonga

BYO refreshments for the day.

Leader - David Coleman, ph: 60 212022

April Mt Granya State Park

Sat 13th: Meet 9.30am, Olive St. Car Park Albury (opp. SS&A Club)

BYO refreshments for the day.

Leader - Phillip Seely, ph: 60 215 313

Sun 28th: Baranduda

Meet 10am Acacia Car Park Wodonga

BYO refreshments for the day.

Leaders - Bernie & Glenda Datson, ph: 60 208104

<u>May</u>

Sat 11th: Kentucky Forest

Meet 10am Olive Street Car Park Albury (opp. SS&A Club)

BYO refreshments for the day.

Leader - Phillip Seely, ph: 60 215 313

Sun 26th: Dartmouth & Mitta area

Meet 9:30 am Acacia Car Park Wodonga.

BYO refreshments for the day. Leader - Neil Blair, ph: 6021 2097

<u>June</u>

Sat 8th: (Queen's Birthday) Yackandandah area

Meet 10 am Acacia Car Park Wodonga

BYO refreshments for the day.

Leader Dick Andrews: ph 60 564 112

Sun 23rd: Beechworth area

Meet 10:00 am Acacia Car Park Wodonga.

BYO refreshments for the day. Leader - Neil Blair, ph: 6021 2097

<u>July</u>

Sat 13th: Sandy Creek/Lockhart's Gap

Meet 10am Acacia Car Park Wodonga

BYO refreshments for the day.

Leader Dick Andrews, ph 60 564 112

Sun 28th: Social Outing - lunch at Bethanga Pub (1 pm)

(numbers will need to be confirmed to book lunch)

Meet 10am Olive Street Car Park Albury (opp. SS&A Club)

Bring morning tea/afternoon tea.

General meeting to be held on this day. Leader Veronica Robertson, ph: 60 212 120

Please confirm outing details in Saturday's Border Morning Mail and contact the outing leader in the week prior if you need a lift.

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VICE PRESIDENT Neil Blair (02) 6021 2097

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To be sent to the Treasurer, PO. Box 251, Albury, 2640 Make cheques payable to: Albury-Wodonga Field Naturalists' Club Inc.

Contributions to this newsletter are welcome and should be emailed as above, or posted to the Editor, PO Box 251, Albury, 2640.

Subscriptions are now due & remain as per 2012 (see page 1)

Many 2013 subscriptions were renewed at AGM. However, for anyone still wanting to support the group or rejoin us this year, please see renewal information on page 1.

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Sun orchid, bearded dragon and duck orchid from a beautiful spring day at Tower Hill Rd, Chiltern - 28/10/12







After a rather long summer hiatus, the Albury/Wodonga Field Nats are back in full swing. The inaugural 2013 activity was an afternoon walk and shared meal at Wonga Wetlands. The program until end of July is listed on page 1.

Consensus was that the 3 month break was too long and the 2013/14 program will incorporate some appropriate (ie cool!) outings in December or January. Again, as in 2012, we have decided to include a trip away and a winter lunch outing. It is also rumoured that a 1998 walk in the Mt Beauty area, as originally led by Ian Temple, may be recreated – so stay tuned!

This is an opportune time to thank all our members – those who participate in the outings, those who work behind the scenes to keep the wheels turning & especially those who lead outings and who are so generous with their time and knowledge.

Thank you also to Glenda for her informative presentation following the AGM, on the Wodonga Retained Environment Network (WRENs) project. She took us through its background and rationale, and the legislative framework within which it was developed. She then explained how it is used in the planning process for conservation and residential development and how designated areas are protected.

As well as AWFN outings, we endeavour to keep members advised of the other varied activities in the region with other groups such as Trust For Nature, Department of Sustainability & Environment, Upper Murray Landcare Group, Friends of Chiltern, Norman Wettenhall Foundation and Murrumbidgee Field Naturalists etc.: anything which may be of interest.

Some of these in our region can be accessed on the internet via the calendar at the 'Ecoportal' (http://ecoportal.net.au) – a site developed to support sustainability-related activities. For those who prefer a more tangible contact form, please get in touch with Veronica.

For your calendars, the SEANA Spring camp will be held on the 11-13 October, and is being run in the Murray River area by the Broken Creek Field Naturalists, based at Numurkah: details later when information is received.

For those of you with better forward-planning skills than mine, mark 16-19 May, 2014 for the SEANA 2014 Autumn camp.

Burrowa-Pine Mountain National Park, 23/11/12 - 25/11/12







Sundew, Brush Cuckoo and Thornbill

Last year's November outing to Burrowa-Pine Mountain National Park, coordinated & led by Neil was excellent; with something for everyone. It began with a Friday afternoon walk at Mountain Creek, Shelley, continued in the Mt Burrowa area on Saturday and then Pine Mountain on Sunday. Accommodation was at the Colac Colac Caravan Park and there was even a pub lunch on the way home for those who didn't have to rush.

I didn't join the group until Saturday, but for me, the Pine Mountain walk was a highlight, with plants I have never seen before – the Fan Grevillea (*G. ramosissima*) and Pine Mountain Grevillea (*G. jephcottii*).... not to mention the pretty fields of bluebells, pincushion plant & Common Brown butterflies...

And just to prove that field naturalists never rest, the shady tree providing cover for Saturday's very pleasant BBQ tea at the caravan park, was later identified by Glenda as European Linden (common Lime)











Thanks Neil and helpers for an interesting, enjoyable and meticulously organised few days; and thank you Peter for your photos.

At last things are cooling down! I look forward to seeing you all soon. Remember too, that all contributions to the newsletter are most welcome.