

THE FIELD NATURALIST

NEWSLETTER NO. 129: WINTER, 2017

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



Chalcid wasp (Chalcididea) galls on Red Box (*E. polyanthemus*)
(D Andrews, N Blair)



Yellow-rumped Thornbill – Walla Walla
(P Spencer)

Clitocybe clitocyboides – Magazine
Track.

[Note funnel-shaped cap and decurrent gills]
(Photo – D Andrews)

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newsletter are
welcome and should
be emailed as above.

We had a slow start to Autumn, with both April outings cancelled, however Dick & Anne shared the following report and photos from their 'reccie' to Bright (Fri 21st April)

BRIGHT

(22nd April, 2017)

The Friday before the scheduled outing was a nice day! After a coffee in Gavan St. we parked at the footbridge in Hawthorn Lane and set off along Cherry Walk. It was coolish and Wrens were all puffed up. One skink scuttled across the path and Silver-eyes flitted through the trees. One lucky photo shot caught a White-browed Scrub Wren (*Sericornis frontalis*). In the Memorial Arboretum female Bower-birds scratched under the trees. The only notable fungus was a clump of Spectacular Rustgill. After lunch we went to the para/hang-glider landing site and walked along Morses Creek. Some of it is very narrow so beware of mountain bikers! The only bird seen here was an Eastern Spinebill (*Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris*). A trip up to Huggins Lookout on a rough road was spoilt by a smoky atmosphere due to burning off. Finally to Bakers Gully but most of the tracks were closed due to work around the dams with only one Kookaburra and one Fly Agaric (*Amanita muscaria*) seen.

A pleasant day out - sorry you couldn't have shared it. 20+ mm of rain at Mt Buffalo on the Saturday.



White-browed Scrubwren



Eastern Spinebill



Fly Agaric

Anne and Dick Andrews

CHILTERN MT PILOT NP

7th May, 2017

Twelve members attended this outing on a cool, sunny autumn day with the sighting highlights being:

- **Regent Honeyeaters** – three birds were seen. 2 banded that belonged to the recently released group and one wild, un-banded bird. (See table below for final bird list)



(Photo - Stephanie Jakovac)



(Photo - Neil Blair)

- **Orchids** - The Large Autumn Greenhood (*Pterostylis* sp. aff. *revoluta*) and the Inland Red-tip Greenhood (*Pterostylis* sp. aff. *parviflora*) were noted.



Pterostylis sp. aff. *revoluta* (N Blair/D Andrews)

Pterostylis sp. aff. *parviflora* (D Andrews/ N Blair)

- **Fungi** – in the Pine plantation adjoining the Mt Pilot section there was an abundance of Saffron Milk Caps (*Lactarius deliciosus*): a sought after delicacy eagerly collected by our fungi gourmets.



- **Powerful Owls** – 2 were disturbed and viewed flying away from the group. They are known residents in the area.

It was a most enjoyable day in beautiful autumn weather after our 2 previous outings were cancelled due to poor weather. See next page for bird list.

Neil Blair

Chiltern Mt Pilot NP 7 th May 2017	(Glenda & Bernie Datson)
Australian Raven	Mountain Duck
Black-chinned Honeyeater	Noisy Miner
Blue-faced Honeyeater	Powerful Owl
Bronzewing	Red Wattlebird
Brown Thornbill	Regent Honeyeater
Brown Tree-creeper	Scarlet Robin
Crimson Rosella	Scissors Grinder
Eastern Rosella	Superb Blue Wren
Eastern Scrub Wren	Weebill
Fuscous Honeyeater	White-naped Honeyeater
Galah	White-plumed Honeyeater
Golden Whistler	White-throated Tree-creeper
Grey Fantail	White-winged Chough
Jacky Winter	Willy Wagtail
Little Thornbill	Wood Duck
Magpie	Yellow Robin
Magpie-lark	Yellow Tufted Honeyeater
Total = 34	

BARANDUDA

27th May, 2017

We started our outing by visiting the Department of Environment Land Water and Planning (DELWP) owned, Parklands managed Stringybark block. The fog had lifted to expose a beautiful, late autumn day, perfect for birding. At the entrance, in the adjoining council-owned buffer to the Stringybark block, we discussed the issues of bike jumps being constructed in conservation lands and rehabilitation works undertaken there to repair the damage.

This block, and the buffer strip, are part of the Wodonga Retained Environment Network of corridors and patches linking the Baranduda Range to the Kiewa River. This Network also extends to include the southern foothills of Federation and Bear's Hills, linked to Baranduda via retained corridors and patches across the Castle Creek, Drapers Hill and Kinchington Rd areas to Middle Creek.

We wandered amongst the remnant Grassy Dry Forest of Red Stringybark (*E. macrorhyncha*), Blakely's Red Gum (*E. blakelyi*), White Box (*E. albens*), Red Box (*E. polyanthemos*), Kangaroo grass (*Themeda triandra*), Wallaby grasses (*Austrostipa species*), and Juniper wattle (*Acacia ulicifolia*). Throughout were patches of plantings of Argyle Apple (*E. cinerea*) and Red Ironbark (*E. sideroxylon subspecies sideroxylon*), introduced during the days of the Albury-Wodonga Development Corporation's forward tree planting program. Although not part of Grassy Dry Forest EVC in this location, the Ironbarks do provide nectar at this time of the year when not much else is flowering (several bird species were observed amongst the blossom during our visit) and the Argyle Apple which occurs naturally near Beechworth provides stringy bark for nesting material for the Brush-tailed Phascogale, gliders, and many bird species resident here, including the White-throated Treecreeper. We noticed that recent revegetation works had introduced Spreading Wattle (*Acacia genistifolia*) and Silver Banksia (*Banksia marginata*). It was unclear as to why these had been planted although it is possible that *A. genistifolia* had been mistakenly provided as *A. ulicifolia*.



Acacia ulicifolia – N Blair



Acacia genistifolia – N Blair

Several nest boxes had been placed onto trees as part of the Baranduda Landcare nest box program which targets the threatened Squirrel Glider. Scats of Brush-tailed Phascogales have been found in these boxes in the past, along with Rosella feathers, apparently placed by the Phascogale.



Phascogale



Phascogales



Phascogale nest



Squirrel Glider. L.Lumsden

From there we moved to Ellen McDonald Drive to search for Scarlet and Flame Robins along the fences and then a quick visit was made to the triangle reserve. But things were rather quiet so we moved on to St Francis of Assisi campus (formerly Frayne College) car park. Bark differences between the local Red Box (*Eucalyptus polyanthemos subspecies vestita* – completely box-type bark) and the planted Red Box (*E. polyanthemos subspecies polyanthemos* – mostly smooth bark, flaky and peeling at base of trunk) were pointed out. The local Red Box occurs in the hills of central and eastern Victoria east of Ararat, extending into far southern New South Wales from Albury to Bombala while *E. polyanthemos subspecies polyanthemos* occurs on the central and southern tablelands south of Gulgong. Neil and Phillip had found a Fleshy Mistletoe growing on Box Mistletoe and the differences between these and Drooping Mistletoe were also discussed (see separate article below). Before lunch in this pleasant spot, we wandered through the adjoining WREN reserve, a drainage line from the Baranduda Range to the closed section of Boyes Rd. We noticed the effects on the dam from a flashstorm event which had washed large amounts of mud from the site works for the new section of Glenwood Estate through the drainage line. This was 2 months prior and is still settling out, effecting usage by resident water birds such as White-faced Heron, Grebe and ducks. The Council had constructed a walking path through part of the reserve linking with the school, and some good interpretive signage had been constructed here. Whilst reading this we heard ‘zizzing’ nearby and turned to see Golden-headed Cisticolas in the Paspalum – a rare observation (see Dick’s photo at end of article).

After a late lunch we moved to the bottom end of Drapers Road where we often see Speckled Warblers and Diamond Firetails. But no such luck today. However we all agreed it had been a very pleasant outing.



Golden-headed Cisticola (*Cisticola exilis*)
– D Andrews



Gang Gang Cockatoo (*Callocephalon fimbriatum*)
– D Andrews

Birds observed were:

BARANDUDAH, 27th May 2017	
Brown-headed Honeyeater	Raven
Buff-rumped Thornbill	Red Wattlebird
Crimson Rosella	Red-rumped Parrot
Eastern Rosella	Satin Bowerbird
Fuscous Honeyeater	Scarlet Robin
Galah	Spotted Pardalote
Gang Gang Cockatoo	Striated Pardalote
Golden-headed Cisticola	Superb Blue Wren
Grey Fantail	Weebill
Grey Shrike-thrush	White-faced Heron
King Parrot	White-naped Honeyeater
Kookaburra	White-plumed Honeyeater
Little Thornbill	White-throated Treecreeper
Magpie	White-winged Chough
Magpie-lark	Willy Wagtail
Mistletoe Bird	Wood Duck
Noisy Miner	Yellow-faced Honeyeater
Pied Currawong	Yellow-tufted Honeyeater

Glenda and Bernie Datson

NOTE: Congratulations to group members involved in the third revision of the local resource booklet, *Along the Bush Tracks*. It was launched in May with a ceremony and Border Mail newspaper coverage, including two of the original committee members – Glenda Datson & Sue Brunskill. It is a useful, well-compiled & presented publication which will continue to inspire & inform bush walkers for another 20 years.

Mistletoes

We are all familiar with the sight of Box Mistletoe (*Amyema miquelii*) and Drooping Mistletoe (*Amyema pendula*) on the local eucalyptus trees, along with Grey Mistletoe (*Amyema quandang*) on the acacias - especially Silver Wattle (*Acacia dealbata*). However there is another less conspicuous mistletoe, the Fleshy Mistletoe (*Amyema mirabilis*) that is not uncommon if looked for.

The mistletoes are stem hemiparasitic plants. The interesting point with the Fleshy Mistletoe is that it prefers to grow on other hemiparasitic plants and is most often seen growing on the top of the Box or Drooping mistletoe and is generally not noticed unless in its brilliant red flowering in mid-summer



Fleshy Mistletoe in full flower (summer)

In our outing to Baranduda we were fortunate to find a Fleshy Mistletoe on a Box Mistletoe on a Red Box (*Eucalyptus polyanthemos*) that was almost down to eye level and could be closely observed.



Fleshy Mistletoe – *A. miraculosa*



Box Mistletoe – *A. miquelii*

The different leaf appearance and flowering time was noted; the Fleshy Mistletoe was starting to bud and the Box Mistletoe had finished fruiting.

Interestingly, Eileen Collins found a Fleshy Mistletoe growing on a Cherry Ballart (*Exocarpos cupressiformis*) in the Chiltern section of the National Park.



The *Exocarpos* is of course a hemiparasitic plant but a root one rather than a stem one.

Neil Blair

A large group visited 2 locations on this outing.

The first was the Chiltern Park Wayside stop on the Hume Freeway which includes a small area of bush created by the building of the Freeway.



There is a 15 minute walk around a dam designed to provide visitors with an introduction to the natural and historical features of the park. I understand this area benefitted from the knowledge and expertise of the Friends of Chiltern.

Main bird species spotted were Red Wattlebird (*Anthochaera carunculata*) and Fuscous Honeyeater (*Lichenostomus fuscus*).

Final bird species sightings totalled 32 for the day (see list provided by Glenda & Bernie)

Undoubtedly the highlight at this site was the Yellow Footed Antechinus (*Antechinus flavipes*) - a shrew-like marsupial with an unusual sexual behaviour whereby the males engage in such frenzied mating that their immune systems become compromised resulting in death before one year old.

Second and final stop was at Sugarloaf Reserve which was reached despite one flat tyre and the leader’s usual bad navigation! The reserve is located within the same geological formation that typifies Chiltern – Mt Pilot NP but is outside the park boundary, which was of little concern to the flock of turquoise parrots which did a fly-by as we prepared for lunch.

At this stop Neil spoke about and explained the characteristics and differences of the Rockfern, Narrow Rockfern and Bristly Rockferns - *Cheilanthes austrotenuifolia*, *Cheilanthes sieberi* and *Cheilanthes distans* (see separate article below)

Sugarloaf Reserve, 18th June, 2017 (Glenda & Bernie Datson)

Red-rumped Parrot	Magpie
Australian Raven	Magpie-lark
Brown Falcon	Pardalote, Spotted
Brown Treecreeper	Pardalote, Striated
Common Bronzewing	Pied Currawong
Eastern Rosella	Red Wattlebird
Galah	Robin, Red-capped
Grey Shrike-thrush	Robin, Scarlet
Black-chinned Honeyeater	Robin, Yellow
Honeyeater, Brown-headed	Silver Eye
Honeyeater, Fuscous	Speckled Warbler
Honeyeater, White-naped	Spur-winged Plover
Honeyeater, White-plumed	Superb Blue Wren
Honeyeater, Yellow-tufted	Weebill
Laughing Kookaburra	White-throated Treecreeper
Little Grebe	Wood Duck
Total	32

David Coleman

PS Seen and photographed by Dick on his way home from Sugar Loaf.



Rock Ferns

Winter is a good time for looking at rock ferns as they are prominent in rock crevices, around boulders, in depressions as well as on slopes and valleys.

The genus name is *Cheilanthes* and there are 3 types in our region. The 2 most common are the Rock Fern (*C. austrotenuifolia*) and the Narrow Rock-fern (*C. sieberi*) and these are the most difficult to distinguish.

The Rock Fern may be erect or drooping, the fronds are triangular in shape and 3 to 10 cm wide, the pinnae ('branches') are more crowded and the pinnae and pinnules ('leaflets') are more pointed (acute) at the end. They are also more divided, mostly tripinnate.

Rock Fern – *Cheilanthes austrotenuifolia*
Mt Pilot



The Narrow Rock-fern is stiffly erect, generally taller, oblong in shape, 2-3 cm (rarely 5 cm) in width, the pinnae are more widely spaced and the pinnae and pinnules are more rounded (obtuse) rather than pointed. They are less divided, mostly bipinnate.



Narrow Rock Fern – *Cheilanthes sieberi*
Yackandandah

The third type is the Bristly Cloak-fern (*Cheilanthes distans*) which is elusive being uncommon, small and growing in rock crevices. It is readily distinguished by the presence of prominent white scales that look like hairs. I have only found it in one location in Beechworth Historic Park.



Bristly Cloak Fern – *Cheilanthes distans*
Beechworth

Five people braved the cold, cloudy but rain-free conditions for this outing. We travelled direct to the Jarvis Creek Regional Park and made 2 stops on our way to the plateau.

The main focus for the day was fungi (see separate report).

The first stop was a small, roadside gully to look at ferns amidst an understory of Common Cassinia (*Cassinia aculeata*) and Scrub Nettle (*Urtica incisa*). Four ferns were present. There were 2 Ground ferns - Bracken (*Pteridium esculentum*) and Tender Brake (*Pteris tremula*). It was noted that the less common, in our experience, Tender Brake was a lighter, brighter green and softer to the touch. The differences in the fronds, pinna and pinnules were also noted. Mother Shield-fern (*Polystichum proliferum*) was present and its bulbils (growths below tip of fronds that will root when frond droops to the ground) and spores were noted and in particular the different spore pattern compared to the ground ferns.



Mother Shield -fern (*Polystichum proliferum*)



Tender Brake - (*Pteris tremula*)

The Rock Fern (*Cheilanthes austrotenuifolia*) was also plentiful.

The second stop was higher up on the edge of the plateau. It was a tall eucalypt forest of both Narrow-leaved (*Eucalyptus radiata*) and Broad-leaved (*Eucalyptus dives*) Peppermints, Red Stringybark (*E. macrorhyncha*) and Brittle Gums (*E. mannifera*). The ground cover was Grey Tussock-grass (*Poa sieberiana*) with small shrubs of Mountain Flat-pea (*Platylobium montanum*), Grey Guinea-flower (*Hibbertia obtusifolia*) and Purple Coral-pea (*Hardenbergia violacea*), all of which showed occasional flowers. Basal leaves and seed capsules of the Large Mosquito-orchid (*Acianthus exsertus*) and rosettes of the Common Bird-orchid (*Chiloglottis valida*) were found



Common Bird-orchid in flower (Mt Big Ben)



Another lovely bush outing.

Neil Blair

Lunch was had at the picnic area sitting around a nice, warm fire - lovely. (Photo – D Andrews)

After lunch we returned to Georges Creek Rd and turned into the Granya State Park up Magazine Track. Here more fungi were seen along with the spectacular galls of the Chalcid wasp on a Red Box (*E. polyanthemos*). See cover photo.

Birds were overall quiet with the Yellow Robin the most vocal. Most sightings occurred lower down and adjacent to farmland (see bird list).

Birds - Jarvis Creek Regional Park, 24th June, 2017: Cool, cloudy.

Australian Raven (h)	Red Wattlebird
Brown Thornbill	Red-rumped Parrot
Eastern Rosella	Scarlet Robin
Galah	Straw-necked Ibis
Grey Shrike-thrush	Superb Blue Wren
Laughing Kookaburra (h)	Yellow Robin (h)
Little Raven	Yellow Thornbill
Magpie	Yellow-rumped Thornbill
Magpie-lark	Willy Wagtail
Pardalote (h)	
Total 19	

Fungi - Jarvis Creek Regional Park, 24th June, 2017:

As at our previous autumn visit in 2016, fungi were a highlight - with a similar diverse range of gilled, pored and coral fungi keeping the group's eyes mostly down.

The standout specimen was located by Neil at our second stop – a spectacular, robust and pale salmon-coloured coral fungus about 20 cm tall. It appeared to be growing in soil, with a densely branched habit and

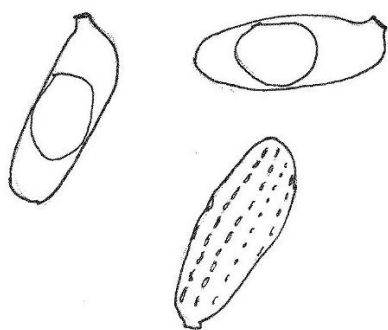
slightly flattened branches. Preliminary identification suggested *Aphelaria sp.* but subsequent investigation of spore shape and colour indicated *Ramaria sp.* Its species identification was unable to be determined.



Ramaria sp.

Coral fungi

possible *Aphelaria sp.* (*Ramaria sp.*)



Drawing and spore print of this large, unidentified coral fungus with pale brown spores – showing their general proportion, cylindrical /ellipsoidal shape, very finely ‘warty’ surface and germ pore.
 [*Aphelaria sp.* have subglobose (almost round), smooth spores and white spore print]

The Magazine Track area again delighted with sightings of species seen last year – Pretty Grisette, Green Skinhead, Rainbow fungus, Wine-glass fungus, Earth Stars, Saffron Milkcap and various unidentified others - *Hypholoma* sp., *Mycena* sp. and *Cortinarius* sp.



Amanita ochrophyloides



Chlorociboria sp.



Dermocybe austroveneta
(Green Skinhead)



Trametes versicolor
(Rainbow Fungus)



Gymnopilus junonius
(Spectacular Rustgill)



Geastrum triplex
(Earth Star)



Mycena sp.



Podocypha petaloides
(Wine Glass Fungus)

(Photos – D Andrews)

This year we also spotted some different fungi including the distinctive *Russula* sp. This genus is generally 'stout' looking, has white or cream waxy gills, a thick slightly brittle stem, cream to white spores and often characteristically pink cap.



Knocked, and a bit the worse for wear, but does show brittle stem.

Gail Steed

STANLEY

9th July, 2017

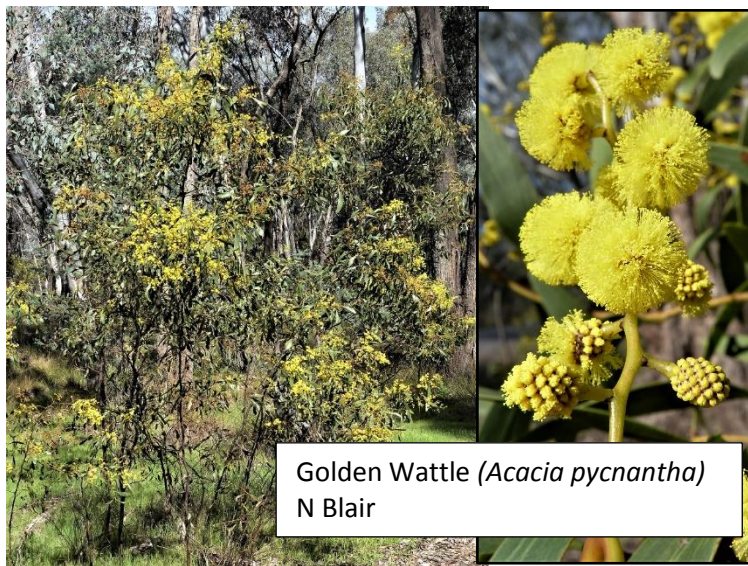
The weather intervened again, and planned activities for the day became restricted to just lunch at the pub! The only birds observed (thanks to Phillip & Judy) were Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos spotted in the distant trees as we arrived.

It was a great opportunity to down binoculars, chat as loudly as we liked, and catch up with members & partners alike. Graham bore the Secretary's mantle extremely well! Good choice Stephanie - the food, venue and company were excellent.

KILLAWARRA

22nd July, 2017

The weather was cloudy but without rain and not too cold for this outing which started at the Nature Walk off the Peechelba Community Area and Tennis Court and then moved to the Camp within the Killawarra Forest. Here we explored part of the Wildflower walk and part of the old exercise track off Telephone track. This section of the Park is an Ironbark, Stringybark, Mixed Box Eucalypt Forest with a predominantly Wattle understory of Varnish (*Acacia verniciflua*), Golden (*Acacia pycnantha*), Hedge (*Acacia paradoxa*) and Spreading (*Acacia genistifolia*) with Gold-dust (*Acacia acinacea*) noted particularly at Peechelba. The Golden Wattle was in early flower and the Spreading Wattle in late flower (see pics), all others were in bud. Amongst the smaller shrubs the Peach Heath (*Lissanthe strigosa*) was in bud and the Ruddy Beard Heath (*Leucopogon rufus*) was in early fruit. Rosettes were noted but no flowering orchids were seen.



Golden Wattle (*Acacia pycnantha*)
N Blair



Spreading Wattle (*Acacia genistifolia*)
N Blair
[Also see earlier photo, Baranduda article]



Peach Heath (*Lissanthe strigosa*)
D Andrews

35 species of birds were noted and as there was still some Eucalypt flowering, the honeyeaters predominated although a good sighting after lunch was the White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike.

It is a lovely section of the park and we resolved to return in September when many of the budding plants will be flowering.

Killawarra, 22nd July, 2017: Cool, fine

Peechelba	Killawarra
Australian Raven	Eastern Spinebill
Brown Falcon	Friarbird, Little
Galah	Friarbird, Noisy
Honeyeater, White-naped	Honeyeater, Fuscous
Honeyeater, White-plumed	Honeyeater, Black-chinned
Honeyeater, Yellow-tufted	Mistletoe Bird
King Parrot	Pied Currawong
Laughing Kookaburra	Robin, Yellow
Magpie	White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike
Red Wattlebird	White-throated Treecreeper
Straw-necked Ibis	
Striated Pardolote	
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	
Yellow-rumped Thornbill	
14	10
Total 24	

Neil Blair

WALLA WALLA

This outing was a combined outing with the Ovens and Murray Birdlife group. The weather was lovely, sunny, no wind and warm. The morning was spent at Gum Swamp and the afternoon at Morgan's Lookout.

Gum Swamp has had a number of name changes in the past with the Walla Tank a popular one. It has a large shallow swamp, largely inaccessible, on the east side and a TSR with Petrie's Creek and a man-made dam with remnants of the pump and trough system on the west side. It is a Yellow Box (*Eucalyptus melliodora*), Grey Box (*E. microcarpa*) open woodland and a River Red Gum swamp with a sparse understory and a number of woody weeds including Peppercorn Trees (*Schinus mollis*). Non-flowering Blue Burr-daisy (*Calotis cuneifolia*) was a common groundcover and some early flowering Buttercups (*Ranunculus pachycarpus*) and fruiting Nodding Saltbush (*Einadia nutans*) were found



Nodding Saltbush (*Einadia nutans*)

Buttercups (*Ranunculus pachycarpus*)

The bird life wasn't plentiful but the woodland variety was good.

Morgan's Lookout is a tall granite outcrop that provides great views of the surrounding district. It is a popular picnic spot with many visitors during our stay. It has a mixed Box Eucalypt/White Cypress Pine (*Callitris columellaris ex glaucophylla*) woodland covering the south side leading down to the Billabong Creek.

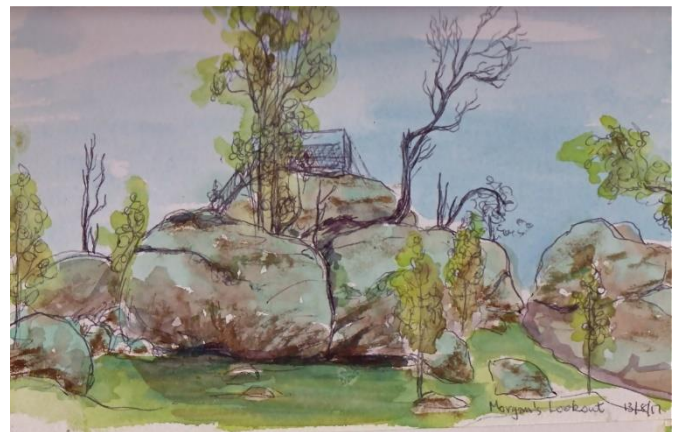


Photo & sketch – S Jakovac

The highlights were a group of male and female Flame Robins that stayed around for the duration of our stay and a rock pool with good viewing of a variety of birds bathing.



(D Andrews)



(D Andrews)

Being in the bush in such weather made it a very enjoyable combined outing.

Walla Walla, 13 August 2017: Cool, fine & still
(P Seely)

Gum Swamp Reserve		Morgans Lookout
Australian Raven	Peaceful Dove	Black-faced Cuckoo shrike
Australian Grebe	Pied Currawong	Brown Treecreeper
Brown-headed Honeyeater	Pipit	Flame Robin
Buff-rumped Thornbill	Red-capped Robin	Grey Shrike Thrush
Crested Pigeon	Restless Flycatcher	Red Browed Finch
Eastern Rosella	Shrike Tit	Rufous Whistler
Galah	Straw-necked Ibis	
Golden Whistler	Striated Pardalote	
Grey Butcher bird	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	
Grey Shrike Thrush	Superb Fairy Wren	
Kookaburra	Wedge-tailed Eagle	
Little Corella	Weebill	
Little Pied Cormorant	Welcome Swallow	
Magpie	White-plumed Honeyeater	
Mistletoe Bird	Wood duck	
Mudlark	Yellow-rumped Thornbill	
Noisy Miner	Yellow Thornbill	
Total = 34		Total = 6
		Total = 40

Neil Blair

CHILTERN / MT PILOT NP

26th August, 2016

11 members attended this outing to the Chiltern section of the Park in lovely sunny morning weather that became cloudy and cold as the day progressed.

The Golden Wattle (*Acacia pycnantha*) was spectacular especially in the northern section. Other wattles looked at were Juniper (*A. ulicifolia*), Spreading (*A. genistifolia*), Silver (*A. dealbata*), Varnish (*A. verniciflua*) and Gold-dust (*A. acinacea*).

Orchids were also present and we looked at Dwarf Greenhoods (*Pterostylis nana*), Nodding Greenhoods (*P. nutans*), Hooded Mosquito Orchids (*Acianthus collinus*) and two species of Helmut Orchids - Slaty (*Corybas incurvus*) and Veined (*C. diemenicus*).



Hooded Mosquito Orchid
D Andrews



Slaty Helmut Orchids
D Andrews



Veined Helmut Orchid
N Blair

Other highlights included the flowering Bitter Cryptandra (*Cryptandra amara*), the flowering Honey-pots (*Acrotriche serrulata*) and early flowering of the Broom Bitter-pea (*Daviesia genistifolia*).



Bitter Cryptandra
(D Andrews)



Honey Pots
(P Spencer)



Broom Bitter Pea
(N Blair)

The larger honeyeaters, Red Wattlebirds and Noisy Friarbirds, were vocal but other bird calls and sightings were sporadic. A total of 17 species were recorded.

Lunch and afternoon tea were shared with 2 spider species whose ID's are yet to be confirmed.



Small-leaf Parrot Pea (*Dillwynia phyllicoides*)
(D Andrews)



Purple Coral Pea (*Hardenbergia violacea*)
(D Andrews)

Chiltern / Mt Pilot NP, 26 August 2017: Fine & cool

CHILTERN / MT PILOT NP	
Australian Raven	Red Wattlebird
Black-chinned Honeyeater	Striated Pardalote
Brown Treecreeper	Weebill
Crimson Rosella	Welcome Swallow
Fuscous Honeyeater	White-plumed Honeyeater
Grey Shrike Thrush	White-throated Treecreeper
Little Friarbird	White-winged Chough
Magpie	Yellow-tufted Honeyeater
Noisy Friarbird	
	Total = 17 species

Another enjoyable outing full of interest.

Neil Blair

Upcoming Outings – Spring

~10th September – Killawarra, Warby Range State Park
WEDNESDAY - 20th September – Chiltern / Mt Pilot NP

~23rd September – Kentucky Forest & Redlands Hill Park

~8th October – Woomargama State Forest

~15th October – Nail Can Hill, Albury (joint outing with Friends of Nail Can Hill)

~22nd October – Frog Identification evening with David Hunter
WEDNESDAY 25th October – Nail Can Hill, Albury

~28th October – Chiltern / Mt Pilot NP

~12th November – Magpie Lane Wooragee & Beechworth Park/ Gorge

~25th November – Winton

[8th and 9th December – Porepunkah and Mt Buffalo. Christmas breakup, TBA)

Full outing details to end Feb 2017 have just been compiled & published in separate list. Please note the two weekday Spring outings. Contact Secretary for a copy or access via Friends Of Chiltern Mt Pilot National Park website.

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

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Note: Electronic Payments -

Payments to the club can be made via Internet banking using details below.

BSB: 803 070

Account No. 61019

Account Name: ALB WOD FIELD NATURALISTS INC

*(Please note, the account name should be written in its abbreviated form as shown, and don't forget to include **your** name)*