

THE FIELD NATURALIST

ALBURY-WODONGA FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB INC.

Newsletter No. 109

Reg. No AOO23416K



PROGRAMME: July 2010 - December 2010

July 10 Saturday, Yackandandah

Meet 10am Acacia car park, Wodonga
Bring lunch and morning tea
Leader: David Coleman [02] 6021 2022

July 25 Sunday; Lake Moodemere

Meet 10am Acacia car park Wodonga, weather permitting
Bring lunch and afternoon tea. This is our fourth attempt
Meet 1pm Acacia car park Wodonga
Leader: Neil Blair [02] 6021 2097

August 14 Saturday, Baranduda

Meet 1pm Acacia car park Wodonga
Bring afternoon tea
Committee [02] 6021 2022

August 29 Sunday, Mungabareena

Meet 1pm Olive Street car park, opposite SS&A Club Albury
Bring afternoon tea
Committee [02] 6021 2022

September 11 Saturday, Toveys Road Chiltern

Meet 10am Acacia car park Wodonga
Bring lunch and afternoon tea
Leader: Dick Andrews [02] 6056 4112

September 26 Sunday Kentucky Forest ,Balldale

Meet 10am Olive Street car park opposite SS&A Club
Bring lunch and afternoon tea
Leader : Phillip Seely [02] 6021 5313

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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 25

October 9 Saturday, Nail Can Hill.

Meet 1pm Nail Can Hill, Pemberton St. car park

Bring afternoon tea

Leader: David Coleman [02] 6021 2022

October 24 Sunday, Tower Hill Chiltern

Meet 10am Acacia car park, Wodonga

Bring morning tea and lunch

Leader: Dick Andrews [02] 6056 4112

November 13 Saturday, Warby Ranges Wangaratta

Meet 10am Acacia car park, Wodonga

Bring morning tea and lunch

Leader: David Coleman [02] 6021 2022

November 28 Sunday, Shelley

Meet 10am Acacia car park, Wodonga

Bring morning tea and lunch

Leader: Phillip Seely [02] 6021 5313

CHRISTMAS OUTING

December 11 Saturday Lake Kerferd, Beechworth

Meet 1pm Lake Kerferd Total fire ban day meet Wonga Wetlands

Bring afternoon tea

COMMITTEE NEWS

The committee is considering a few days at Thredbo Accommodation under cover in late January or early February

They are looking for expressions of interest

Contact : Shirley Scholes (02) 60597319

The club regrets to announce the death "Louie" Nicholson a former long time member

Correction to Newsletter

Correction to Newsletter 108 : Unknown fungi is probably Parasol fungi(Macrole piota prolera)

Outing to Chiltern

On a lovely sunny day we visited Chiltern National Park, starting at Honeyeater Dam, still a dry hole in the ground and little action, Next on to Koala Track Abundant Urn Heaths . a few Hibbertias and one solitary Wahlenbergia, Then off to the Magenta Dam area to track down the Regent Honeyeaters, They have been slowly moving so Phillip and Neil led us to a new area where we could clearly hear them with some patient

assistance we found them and bands were seen on some of the recently released birds.
(Contributed by Shirley Scholes)

Some personal reflections on the SEANA Ballarat Spring Camp March 2010

by Anne and Dick Andrews

The camp was held at Pax Hill, a very well appointed Scout Camp on the outskirts of Ballarat. After registration, the first evening was given over to an outline of the programme and talks about the local area with slides of Fungi, Wattles and Grasslands, Flowers, and Lake Wendouree.

On Saturday we chose the all day Grasslands trip led by John Gregurke which included Illabrook Reserve and Rokewood Cemetery. At Illabrook the local landowners made themselves known and showed photos of flowers which weren't around in March. But we did find Parson's Bands (*Eriochilus cucullatus*) and plenty of Cranberry Heath (*Astroloma daphnoides*), but Blue Devil (*Eryngium ovinum*) was over and only the spiky seed heads remained. Under a tile we found a Whip snake (*Suta flagellum*). Next stop was at Cape Clear, miles from the sea but a light house opposite the local hotel looked authentic! John had promised us a fat-tailed Dunnart (*Sminthopsis crassicaudata*) but said the odds were worse than winning Tatts, yet he did deliver! (wonder if anyone bought a ticket!). A disused railway reserve had many ancient *Banksia* which attracted wasps and several species of Honeyeaters. Also found Blue Stars (*Chamaescilla corymbosa*). At Rokewood we did find the delightfully named Button Wrinklewort (*Rutidosia leptorhynchoides*) although they were supposed to be over! Later at a dam a feral cat was sighted.

On Sunday it was another all day trip lead by Carol Hall which started at Clarksdale, a bird sanctuary owned by BOCA where we were greeted by a flock of yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoos. A nearby lake had a European wasp's nest on an island, fully operational! We walked along the rail trail and found fungi and interesting tree shapes. Then onto Linton Flora and Fauna Reserve, owned by Trust for Nature and not grazed or burnt for a long time. Last stop was at Devil's Kitchen where the basalt cliffs, part of an extinct volcano, housed a long used Peregrine Falcon nest, but we only had a brief view of one bird.

Final day was to Lake Wendouree, almost could be called the lake with no water! , although the nearby North Gardens wetland had some. Birds seen were Nankeen Night Heron, Common Bronzewing, Black Swan, Little Pied Cormorant, Great Egret, and a variety of Ducks.

The weekend broke up at the Lake and we said our farewells, until Chinchilla or Foster later in the year.

On a personal note, a visit to the Ballarat Art Gallery found a painting by George Vicat Cole of Day's Lock on the River Thames, a spot well known to Dick!

Other trips can be found on the SEANA website <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~seana>

Our own AWFN newsletter can be found on the excellent Friends of Chiltern website, which can also be accessed through the SEANA address.



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1 Old Man of the Forest 2 Parson Bands 3 Whip Snake 4 Cranberry Heath 5 Fat Tailed Dunnart 6 Cranberry Winklewort