



NEWSLETTER, MARCH 2001

Welcome to the first Field Nats' Newsletter of the New Millenium.

COMMITTEE FOR 2001

This year we have expanded the committee a bit, in order to spread the workload and encourage some "new blood". Members are:

President -	Dave Munro
Vice-President -	Reto Zollinger
Treasurer -	Ken Grimes
Minutes Secretary -	Diane Luhrs
Correspondence Secretary -	Megan Campbell
Newsletter Editor -	Janeen Samuel
Media Liaison Officer -	Yvonne Ingeme

If you were so unfortunate as not to be elected, don't despair! - the committee is always ready to co-opt volunteers.

It was decided at the AGM to keep membership fees at the same level as for the last few years - \$15 for an individual or \$20 for a family. We do need members - and funds! - so if you didn't pay at the AGM please fill in the enclosed slip and either bring it to the next meeting/excursion or send it with your cheque to the treasurer. If you know any people who might like to join, or people whose membership has lapsed, encourage them to send in a subscription too.

PROGRAM FOR 2001

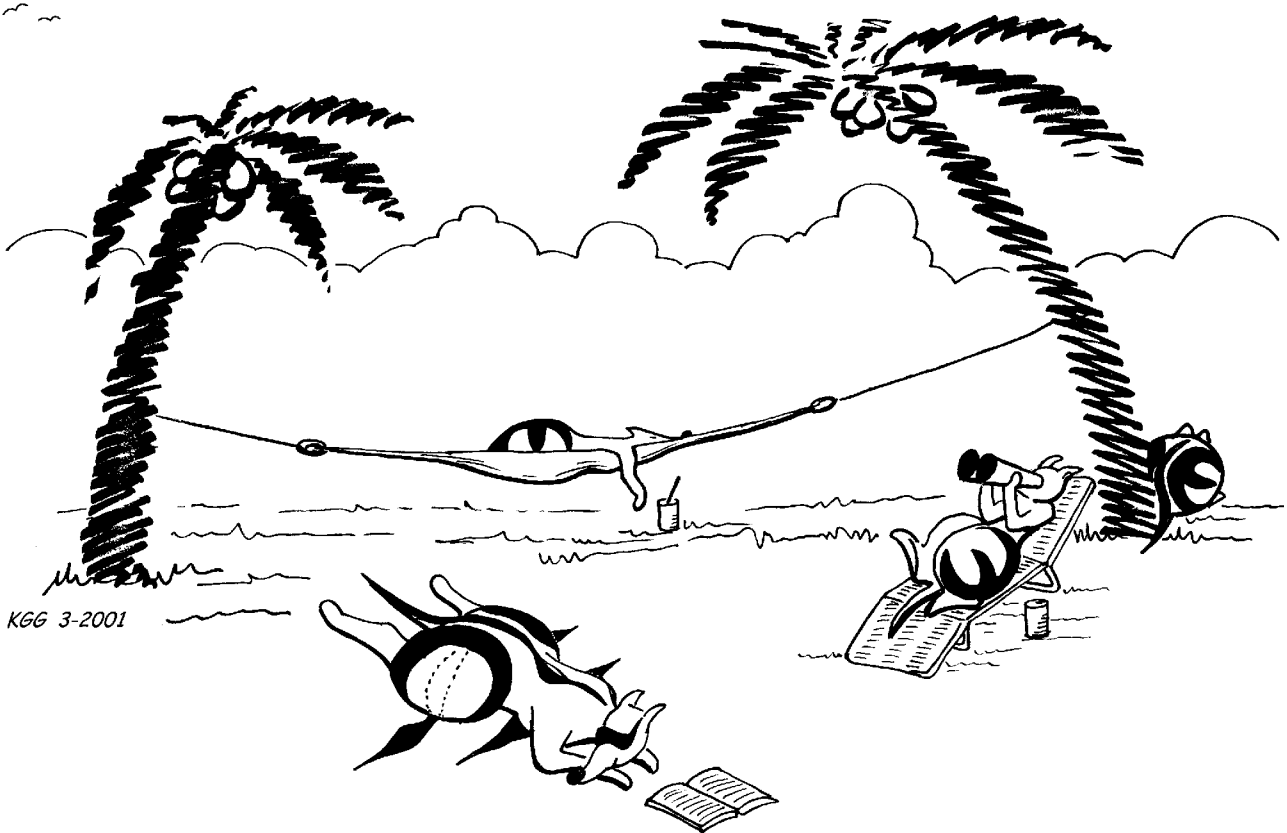
The program is enclosed. Unforeseen factors may arise and alter arrangements for some of the excursions, so it's as well to check with a committee member about the details if you can't get to the preceding meeting.

For our **March excursion** we have decided to try again for a **pelagic boat trip**, after our planned trip last April was cancelled because of the weather. This will be a trip to the edge of the continental shelf to see birds that seldom come to land, such as albatrosses (all participants will be searched for cross-bows before embarking). Unfortunately, in order to book the boat we have had to make sure of numbers before we were able to put out this newsletter, and at present we have a full boat-load of thirteen. However, there may be cancellations, so if you would like to come and have missed out, contact Rod Bird on 5572 3639. The cost of the trip will be about \$60 per person and it will be leaving (this is the crunch!) at 7.00 am from the main wharf at Port Fairy on Sunday 18th. It will return about 4 pm.

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to avoid having to cut up the cartoon!

Those of us who are not good sailors will spend the day in the Port Fairy environs, probably visiting The Craggs, a short distance along the coast to the west, which not only is a pleasant spot but is of geological and archeological interest. We shall depart from the Hamilton Visitor Information Centre at the more genteel hour of 9.00 am, and meet any friends-and-relations of pelagic boat people on the Port Fairy Wharf at 10 am.

Our **April excursion** will be to Mount Talbot, at the northern end of the Black Range. If we have time we may return via Mount Bepcha. In **May** we shall go over the Border and imbibe some gentle geology while viewing Mount Schank and the lakes of Mount Gambier.



For our next two **Special Meetings** we are going tropical. On **March 15**, Rod Bird will be showing slides - no doubt up to his usual high standard - of "Birds and Landscapes of Cape York": more specifically covering the country between Cairns and Iron Range. And on **May 17** we shall again be going "Beyond the Tropic of Capricorn", this time travelling further west, through Queensland and the Northern Territory to the Kimberleys, with Reto and Yvonne Zollinger.

We hope to see you at some or all of you at the above events, and of course at the General Meeting on April 19. Please don't forget to tell any of your friends who might be interested; it would be good to expand our membership.

And please don't forget to fill in the following form and send it, with your subscription, to: The Treasurer, Hamilton Field Naturalists' Club, PO Box 591, Hamilton 3300.

Hamilton Field Naturalists Club.	Subscription for year:
Name:	
Address:	