



NEWSLETTER, June 2005

CHANGES TO PROGRAM

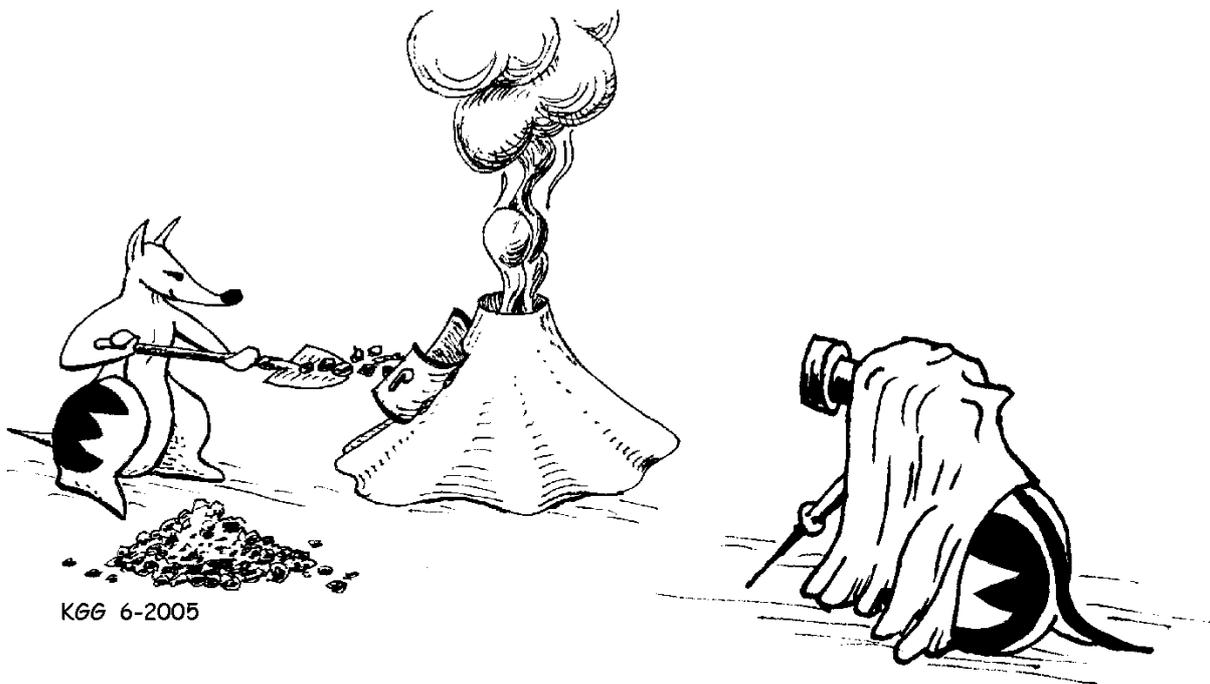
“Nothing ever happens but the unexpected”; therefore we have had to change several items on our program for 2005, as follows:

Beripna Walk

This walk, in the Mount Cole area, was scheduled for April but we had to postpone it because everybody seemed to have something else planned. It will now take place on the weekend of 25 to 26 June: (i.e. *very soon*.) This is a potential camp-out, depending on the weather forecast. Whether we camp with or without cars, and whether we do the full 21 km circuit, will depend on the preferences of the participants. We will need to discuss this beforehand, so if you are intending to come please ring Yvonne and Reto on 5571 2544 (after hours) as soon as possible.

July Special Meeting

The speaker scheduled for July, Michelle Casanova, has had to postpone her talk. Instead, we will be showing slides taken by the late **Lionel Elmore**. A foundation member of the Hamilton Field Naturalists, Lionel was a renowned amateur naturalist. He had a particular interest in Mount Napier, and the slides will include some aerial photographs he took of the mountain. The meeting will be on **Friday 22 July**, (i.e. the date listed in the



program), at HIRL, starting at 8pm.

November Special Meeting

Our program tentatively listed Damien Cook to speak on Wetland Vegetation. However, as Damien is still unsure whether he will be available, we have agreed to defer his presentation. Instead, we will have the postponed talk by **Michelle Casanova** on **Ecology of Freshwater Wetlands**. This will be on **Friday 18 November**: again starting at HIRL at 8pm.

EVENTS AS PLANNED

The rest of the events on our program are (so far!) unchanged. These include all the excursions, beginning **this Sunday 19 June**, with a relaxed 10 am start (meet at the Visitor Information Centre in Lonsdale Street as usual) and an exploration of the Hamilton Parklands and the Grange Burn.

Later excursions, for those who have mislaid their programs, are:

- ◆ 23 July - Cape Bridgewater and the springs;
- ◆ 21 August - the 18 acre reserve at the Wannon;
- ◆ 18 September - Roses Gap in the Gampians;
- ◆ 22-23 October - camp-out at Fulham Reserve;
- ◆ 19 November - Lake Doling Doling.

Contact the committee for details about any of these.

There are also a couple of **additional activities** listed in the program and still expected to go ahead as advertised. These are a day of planting and maintenance at our revegetation sites at Lake Linlithgow, on Saturday 3 September, and a vegetation survey at Kanawalla-Kyup on Sunday 27 November. For both of these we will meet at the Visitor Information Centre at 9.30am.

The September Special Meeting, as advertised, will feature Rod Bird and Diane Luhrs talking about their trip to **China and Mongolia**. That will be on **Thursday 15 September**.

ANOTHER EVENT that may be of interest to members will be a weekend of Community Planting for carbon sequestration, funded in connection with the Commonwealth Games. It will take place just north of the Hamilton Parklands, and participants are asked to meet at Marshall Road, near the Scramble Track (BYO gloves) at 10 am.

And don't forget to keep the evening of **Thursday 8 December** free for our **Christmas Outing and AGM** at the Wannon, starting at 6pm.

We hope to see all of you at some of these events, and maybe some of you at all of them.

RECENT ACTIVITIES

Our March and May events did go ahead as planned (except for the Treasurer's spending the May dates in hospital!). At the March meeting, we greatly enjoyed the three films by Grace McGugan: perhaps most of all some of the close-up shots of plants and insects in "Living Colour". At the Byaduk Caves, as well as squeezing through small spaces and admiring huge archways, we discussed ways to minimise damage by visitors to the ferns and other plants in the entrance to Harman's Cave. In May, Rebecca Sheldon gave a very interesting talk on what brologas do when they aren't nesting. The subsequent trip to Bool Lagoon was rewarding in terms of water birds, though the highlight was a pair of barking owls on a nearby property.

Congratulations to Dave Munro, our Media Liason officer, who has been successful in having several items on natural history published in *The Spectator*. But we should not leave it all to him. Suggestions, or better – draft texts, for additional items should be sent to Dave. For electronic texts, his email is: dlmunro2@bigpond.com.

COMMITTEE FOR 2005

President	John Cayley	Ph. (03) 5572 3737
Vice-President	Reto Zollinger	Ph. (03) 5571 2544
Secretary: Correspondence	Glenys Cayley	Ph. (03) 5572 3737
Secretary: Minutes	Diane Luhrs	Ph. (03) 5572 3874
Treasurer	Ken Grimes	Ph. (03) 5573 4503
Newsletter Editor	Janeen Samuel	Ph. (03) 5573 4503
Media Liaison	David Munro	Ph (03) 5577 2268

