

HAMILTON FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB



2011.....Meetings & Excursions.....2011

Meetings are held at **H.I.R.L., 333 North Boundary Road, at 7.30 pm**, now on the **SECOND THURSDAY** of the month (except March & Nov. this year). Any change to a Special Meeting date will be noted in our Newsletter, email network, and Hamilton Spectator. Later in 2011 we will have a web site to view our publications and other information.

Special meetings are devoted to a **guest speaker**, except for a preliminary presentation of short items of local natural history interest, and for a report on the previous excursion and details of the next – so don't miss the start! We conclude with supper at about 9.30 pm, when there is an opportunity for an informal chat or an early night. [Visitors & non-members welcome.](#)

Excursions are held on the **weekend after each monthly meeting**. We often leave from the **Visitor Information Centre**. We survey birds at **Grange Wetlands** from 8-9 am on the Thursday after the excursion. [Visitors & non-members welcome.](#)

Club meetings deal with business and conservation issues. Members also give short reports of interesting natural history items.

| Month | Day | Event | Speaker & topic or detail of excursion or working bee |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------|--|
| Feb 2011 | Thurs 03 | Committee meeting | Club business and formulation of the program of speakers and excursions |
| | Thurs 17 | Club meeting | Sightings, club business & environmental issues |
| | Sun 20 | Excursion | Birds, Linlithgow & near wetlands – at 7.30 am, Cypress on Chatsworth Rd [RB] |
| March | Thurs 17 | Special meeting | Evelyn Nicholson DSE "Fire ecology of small reptiles in SW Victoria" |
| | Sat 19 | Excursion | Kangaroo Island week (from Fri 18 – participants arrange own transport) [DM]. |
| April | Thurs 14 | Club meeting | Sightings, club business & environmental issues |
| | Sat 16 | Excursion | Grampians Bradys Swamp (a walk of 3 km) – meet Visitor Centre 9.00 am [RB] |
| May | Fri 13 | Special meeting | Bill Weatherley "Studies on the ecology & behaviour of Cape Barren Geese" |
| | Sat 14 | Excursion | Great Barrier, Mt Napier SP – meet Visitor Centre 9.00am [KG] |
| June | Thurs 09 | Club meeting | Sightings, club business & environmental issues |
| | Sun 12 | Excursion | Youngs State Forest (and mammal survey) – meet Visitor Centre 9.00 am [RZ] |
| July | Thurs 14 | Special meeting | Diane Luhrs/Rod Bird "Twelve great National Parks of North America" |
| | Sat 16 | Excursion | Glenelg River (upper regions) – meet Visitor Centre 9.00 am [RZ] |
| Aug | Thurs 11 | Club meeting | Sightings, club business & environmental issues |
| | Sun 14 | Excursion | Lake Muirhead & Mt William Swamp – meet Visitor Centre 9.00 am [RB] |
| Sept | Thurs 08 | Special meeting | Tom Guthrie, Pomonal –"Objectives of the Environmental Farmers Network" |
| | Sat 10 | Excursion | Fulham Reserve – flora survey & weed control – meet at river 9.30 am [RB]. |
| | Sun 25 | Working Bee | Another day (2 weeks later) at Fulham – Cape Tulip control – 9.30 am at river |
| Oct | Thurs 13 | Club meeting | Sightings, club business & environmental issues |
| | Sat 15 | Working Bee | African Weed Orchid herbicide wiping – 10 am-3 pm, meet Nigretta Falls [RB] |
| | Sun 16 | Excursion | Wilkin Flora Reserve – meet Visitor Centre 9.00 am [JC] |
| Nov | Fri 11 | Special meeting | Ross Cayley – Wildlife & mountains of central Africa |
| | Sat 12 | Excursion | Lake Condah (water restored) – meet Visitor Centre 9.00 am [RB] |
| | Sun 13 | Working bee | AWO control at Nigretta Flora Res. – meet Nigretta 10.00 am [RB] |
| Dec | Thurs 08 | AGM & Club meeting | Meeting to elect Office-bearers for 2012 and present reports; short Club Meeting to end. |
| | Sun 11 | Excursion | Kanawalla Rail Flora Reserve – meet Hensley Pk Rd gate 3.00 pm [RB] |
| | Thurs 15? | End-of-year party | Venue and definite date to be announced later in the year |
| Feb 2012 | Thurs 02 | Committee meeting | Club business and formulation of the program of speakers and excursions |
| | Thurs 09 | Club meeting | Sightings, club business & environmental issues |
| | Sun 12 | Excursion | Birds, Linlithgow & near wetlands – at 7.30 am, Cypress on Chatsworth Rd [RB] |

ENQUIRIES: **P.O. Box 591, Hamilton, 3300** or hamiltonfnc@live.com.au

Office-bearers in 2010:

President.....John Cayley 55723737
 Vice President.....David Munro 55765485
 Correspondence Secretary.... Rod Bird 55723639
 Minutes Secretary.....Meri Macpherson 55723350
 Treasurer.....Glenys Cayley 55723737
 Publicity Officer.....David Munro 55765485

**NEW MEMBERS
WELCOME**

Visitors Welcome to all Meetings & Excursions

HAMILTON FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB

Background

The Hamilton Field Naturalists Club (HFNC) is a community group devoted to the study, enjoyment, conservation, protection and restoration of the natural environment.

The HFNC was formed in 1958 out of interest in natural history by members of the Hamilton community, and because of their concern for the conservation of unalienated Crown land in the district. They saw that unless action was taken, most of the remnant native vegetation, wetlands and associated fauna would be lost, due to pre-emptive action for farming, plantation forestry and other uses.

The founding members of HFNC set the agenda for the next 50 years of the Club's activities; to visit, study, record and promote the conservation of Aboriginal art and occupation sites, geological features and the native fauna and flora of the region. The objects of HFNC listed below in our constitution (ratified in Oct 2010) is a restatement of the aims of the founding members.

We strive today to live up to those objectives and philosophy that all species have a right to exist. We ask like-minded people to join with us in studying and enjoying the wonders of our natural world, and in helping to conserve it for future generations.

The objects of the HFNC

- To enjoy, appreciate and respect the features of the natural environment.
- To respect the Aboriginal history and presence in our region.
- To learn about the geology, fauna and flora of the region.
- To record the species of flora and fauna in our native forests, woodlands, grasslands and wetlands.
- To protect and promote the conservation of habitat, flora and fauna in natural landscapes.
- To gain long-term legislative protection of significant natural areas as National Parks, State Parks, Flora Reserves, Streamside Reserves or Wildlife Reserves.
- To understand the principles and practice of environmental management, including the use of fire, control of pathogens, and control of pest plants and animals.
- To restore degraded natural areas through appropriate revegetation, control of pest plants and animals, or restoration of water regimes in wetlands.
- To be advocates for the natural environment – to educate and persuade by means of scientific publications, articles in local newspapers, conducted excursions to natural areas, serving on committees of management, participating on government committees and reviews, and by giving assistance to schools and other groups.

HFNC is a not-for-profit organisation and is a Member Group (No. A0011936S) of the Farm Tree & Landcare Association Inc., and is covered under the Associations Incorporation Act 1981.

HFNC has adopted the Model Rules for an Incorporated Association, with modifications as follows:

- (1) Membership of HFNC is open to a person who pays the annual fee – there is no requirement to apply in writing.
- (2) HFNC business affairs are generally dealt with at Club Meetings (General Meetings, held 5 or 6 times each year).
- (3) The Committee of HFNC is the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, plus Minutes Secretary, Publicity Officer and two ordinary members; Committee Meetings may be held from time-to-time to deal with club business.