

HAMILTON FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB

NEWSLETTER NO. 1 - 1997

Hello Folks!

The main purpose of this letter is to let everyone know that it's business as usual in the Hamilton Field Nats Club, to remind you that subscriptions are due, and to let you have a copy of the planned events for the coming year.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held on Thursday 20th February, 1997, and you will be flabbergasted to hear that the office bearers for 1996 were retained!! that is to say:

John Cayley	-	President
Janeen Samuel	-	Vice-president
Ken Grimes	-	Treasurer
Glenys Cayley	-	Secretary

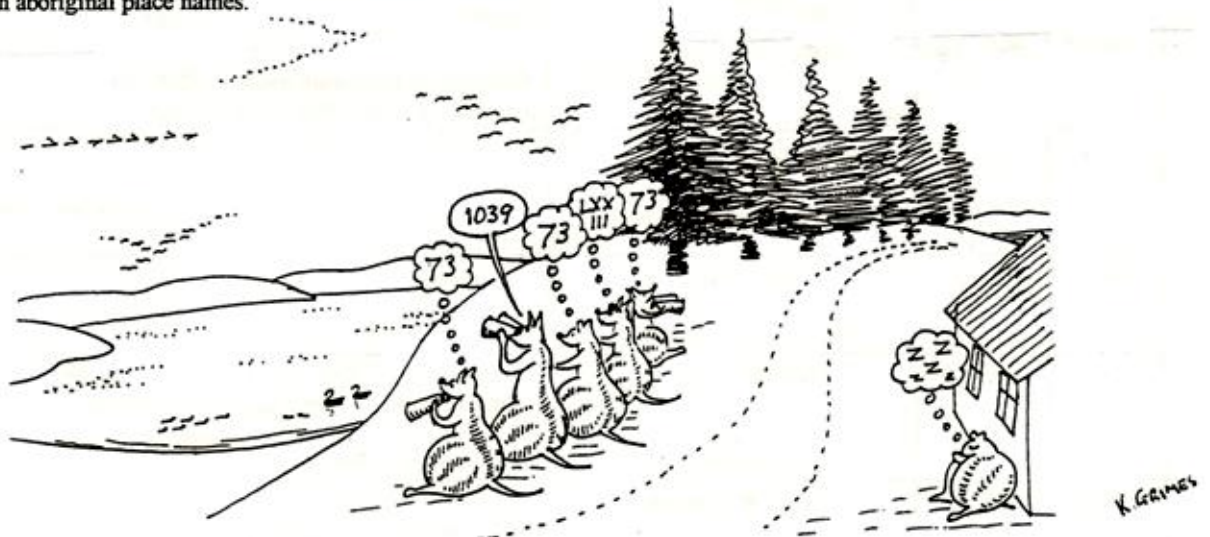
Despite a net loss in our bank account, we decided to keep our subscriptions at the same level as 1995 that is: **Single - \$15.00.**
Family - \$20.00.

This loss was not as great as last year's, due to a saving in advertizing in the paper, but it would still be nice to attract some new members.

The coming year's program (enclosed) was worked out at the meeting, and it promises to be a good year. We have some interesting speakers and excursions on the program, and two camp-outs planned. Putting a photocopy of the program on your notice board at work may attract new members.

The evening concluded with Rod's slides of the Mootwingee National Park.

We had our usual excursion to Lake Linlithgow on Saturday, 22nd February (8 people, and it was nice to see Steve Clark again - welcome back Steve!). Bird numbers were down on previous years. Rod has prepared a report on the excursion (see attached) together with aboriginal place names.



In early January (or was it late December?), Rod Bird, John and I went out to Robin and Sally Jackson's farm to look at an area of interesting basalt plains vegetation, the most conspicuous plants at this time being the Gorae leek orchid (*Prasophyllum diversiflorum*) -thank you John!. This rare plant was originally described by Cliff Beaglehole. We took some pictures, so will be able to show the slides at a meeting later in the year.

Next Meeting

March 20: Ken and Janeen Grimes will tell us (at last!) about their trip to Kangaroo Island, and we look forward to seeing you there. This will be followed by an excursion to Griffith Island, Port Fairy, in order to look at the mutton birds arriving at dusk after their daily fishing trip.

Cheers,