

Hi to members of HFNC

This is the **April 2021 Newsletter** – things to watch for in this month.

**Membership Subscriptions** – a reminder that subs are overdue, for those who have yet to attend to that matter. The membership remains at \$25 for a family or \$20 for a single. The attachment provides details of payment options.

**Next General Meeting** – this is on Thursday 15 April, 7.30 pm at HIRL. Part of this meeting will be to cover last-minute preparation for the Friday and weekend SEANA activities.

**SEANA meeting** – this begins on Friday 16 April and runs over the weekend. We are host to Field Naturalists clubs from around Victoria, with some 130 people booked in. We have excursions running to places of environmental interest – including Jenawarra/Linlithgow wetlands, Bryans Swamp, Gariwerd Serra Range walks, Budj Bim NP, Budj Bim Cultural tour to Tae Rak/Lake Condah, Tapoc/Mt Napier & Byaduk caves, Mt Rouse, Wannon River (Cavendish, Rapids, Nigretta & Wannon Falls), Walker Swamp and local Hamilton sites (Lake Hamilton, Grange & Parklands).

This meeting was supposed to have happened last April but Covid intervened. Diane Luhrs and Glenys Cayley have been the drivers of this major event, still having to work around Covid restrictions. Most of our members (and some from Warrnambool FNC, Portland FNC and Hamilton Birdlife) will be leading the excursions and attending to other tasks over the weekend. Our tour leaders have driven around the various excursion routes in preparation for that weekend – hopefully we will have good weather.

**March excursion to Gariwerd NP (Mud-dadjug/Mt Abrupt trail)** – see attachment for the report. This was a very enjoyable walk from the Piccaninny car park on a lovely day. We all managed the walk up the western trail to the Waterfall Cliff, about half way up the mountain, while three went on to the summit.

**SGAP meeting** – on Wed 14 April at HIRL (7.30 pm), Cathy Powers who works with Museum Victoria will give a talk and show picture of moths. After the meeting there will be an inspection of moths caught in light traps set up in the grounds (bring a torch!)

**Field activity** – our first work activity for the year is on **Sunday morning, 02 May** and I am giving notice of that now because it will happen before the issue of our May Newsletter. We will be removing *Acacia paradoxa* (Hedge Wattle) from the heath areas at the Wannon Flora Reserve. Please make a note of the event. There will be plenty of seedlings to pull out or cut off at ground level (long-handle loppers are ideal), as well as work on the large shrubs. Leather gloves are needed to handle the prickly plants. We will meet at 9.30 am at the reserve.

Rod Bird  
Secretary  
Hamilton Field Naturalists Club