

Hello everybody

## **HFNC's activities and events in May 2024**

**Special Meeting at HIRL on Friday 17 May at 7.30 pm at HIRL** – Catherine & Clive Carlyle will present their experiences off-track walking in Tasmania.

Catherine & Clive have been walking in Tasmania for 30 years and they will take us on a photographic journey along the west coast from Strahan to Kelly Basin and a further trip from Lake Gordon up the Holly River into the Spires region and ending at the King William Range.

They will also discuss gear, food preparation, maps, navigation, water and safety issues when walking off-road through the bush. No-one aspiring to such adventures should miss this presentation.

**Excursion on Saturday 18 May to Gariwerd peaks Trail from Cassidys Gap to Griffin Trailhead.** We leave the Hamilton Visitor Centre at 9.00 am, stopping briefly at Dunkeld at 9.30 am. We will organise the car shuffle there. Some will want to walk from Cassidys Gap (A) to Griffin Trail Head (B) which is 12 km, with some harder bits on the peaks (walking poles are a big help! and carry plenty of water). Others will start from (A), walk about 4 km to a scenic overhang on the peak (just before the difficult spots), have lunch there and return.

- For 1-4 walkers for the long walk, our 4WD shuffle vehicles (1 or 2, depending on how many spare seats are needed for the walkers) will go with those people in their vehicles to (B), leave their vehicles there and the shuffle cars will take all people to (A)
- For 5-9 'long walkers', depending on how many spare seats there are available, we need 2 or 3 shuffle vehicles to go to (B), along with the 'long walkers' vehicles, and the shuffle cars take all to (A).
- The 'short walkers' will drive directly to (A) on Cassidys Gap Rd. While waiting for the shuffle cars, they might explore walking a little south on the trail. Or they might start the intended walk and investigate the trail camp site N<sup>th</sup> of Cassidys Gap.

**Report on excursion to Cobboboonee NP and Mt Clay on 21 April 2024** – see attached pdf

**Forthcoming event – Working Bee at Wannan Flora Res on Sunday 26 of May, 9.30 am – 12.30 pm.** We will park on Powells Rd, on the crest and/or further down on the NW corner of the reserve. The aim is to pull out seedlings of *Acacia paradoxa* (Hedge Wattle) that have germinated since the clearing of large bushes. Leather gloves are needed for protection from spines. Where the plants are too large they may be cut off at ground level (below any shoot) with long-handled loppers (we have several sets for use).

Our last activity here in April attracted only 4 members so it would be helpful if more could lend a hand to keep this pest plant under control in this special flora reserve that we have been involved with since 1960 (for background see attached pdf report from the 1960s).

**Baimbridge College students** – about 10 students will help remove seedlings of *A. paradoxa* from the north side of the reserve. Diane will be looking after them and they will spend perhaps an hour there on a Wednesday morning in each of 6 weeks.

Rod Bird

Secretary

Hamilton Field Naturalists Club