

HFNC Lake Linlithgow Excursion - report for 17 February 2007

Rod Bird

Nine members met at 7 am at the Cypress (CE corner of the lake, Chatsworth Road). It was a fine and hot day, very windy later. We saw 20 Red-capped Plovers off The Point but the lake was dry, hence no other waterbirds except one White-faced Heron on a dead tree near Boonawah Creek. There was a little water in Boonawah Creek.

We noted 5 Blue-winged Parrots (the most seen in the area) on the East Bank near our 1975 Tree Block. Other birds seen included White-eared Honeyeater, New Holland Honeyeater, Willie Wagtail, Brown Thornbill, Australian Magpie, Magpie-lark, Swamp Harrier (1), Wedge-tailed Eagle (1), Brown Falcon (6), White-fronted Chats, Australian Pippit, Skylark, European Goldfinch, Common Starling, Musk Lorikeet, Red-rumped Parrot, Yellow-rumped Thornbill, Rufous Songlark.

A significant feature of the vegetation on the foreshore of Linlithgow were the clumps of *Eutaxia microphylla* – a small pea-flower shrub that that was never seen here in the period before grazing was stopped (see photo below).

We had morning tea in the shade of trees planted by HFNC in 1975.

Krauses Swamp and Bullrush Swamp were both dry and grassy. Lake Kennedy was dry, after a film of water present some 3 weeks earlier.

