

2014-05-HFNC-activities-events

Hi everyone

This is a reminder of what's on this month:

Thursday 15 May at 7.30 pm at HIRL – Guest speakers Ivor & Ruth Graney – they will be showing slides from a visit to Canada – landscapes, wildlife and flora seen on their 6-week stay. This will be an evening to enjoy, from two entertaining and gifted naturalists/photographers from Portland FNC.

Saturday 17 May excursion to Mt Napier (9.30 am at Visitor Centre or 10 am at Menzels Pt, Mt Napier State Park) – we will be visiting the Devil's Hole and Elmore's Cone & Natural Bridge in the Manna Gum/Blackwood forest. Those who are very energetic will no doubt also walk to the top of the mount. We may also have time for a visit to Byaduk Caves to end the day. Bring a picnic lunch. Also, remember that there are some leeches in the bracken and you should take appropriate precautions! Garry Bellesini, PV Ranger from Mt Eccles, may join us in the morning.

Tuesday 20 May Bear State Forest camera check – leaving Visitor Centre at 9.30 am to check the remote cameras that we set up a month ago to try and detect small mammals such as Antechinus, Brush-tailed Phascogale and Pygmy Possum in the Yellow Gum/Yellow Box/Brown Stringybark/Silver Banksia woodlands. This visit may take us to about 2 pm but those who have to leave early are welcome to do so. We can do the camera checking regardless of the weather so we will go despite rain.

Next month – Wed 11 June – “Fire ecology, monitoring & case studies” presentation by Glenn Rudolph (DEPI) at Brambuk Centre, Halls Gap. This presentation will be from 4-6 pm and will be hosted by Friends of the Grampians. Glenn will also talk about strategic burn plans and fire management. It would be good if some of us could attend.

[You may have noted an error in the program for the June date for the Bear SF camera check – it is not on Tues 11 June! We will try and go on Tuesday 17 June]

A note on the Red-tailed Black-cockatoo survey on 3 May – we found 16 cockies (incl. 3 adult and by inference 3 adult females and 10 juveniles) on a 73 km forest drive in the Dergholm Youpayang State Park block and the Brimboal SF. First sighting for about 5 years. The birds were found in long unburned forest where the seed crop from Brown Stringybark was plentiful – the burned sections look very stressed and there is little seed there.

Cheers
Rod Bird

Secretary
Hamilton Field Naturalists Club