

## 2016-02-HFNC-activities-events

Hi Everyone

Welcome to the first reminder email from me for 2016! This time it is a little different, as you will see below. George has sent me this info on the fire situation in the Tasmanian Cradle Mt area and you might like to look into it.

Now, first up is our **General Meeting on Thursday 18 February at HIRL** (7.30 pm). One main objective there is to finalise the 2016 Program of Speakers and Excursions. We have a draft but need to finalise dates for some speakers AND we particularly want members to consider the following:

- Where to go for an excursion on Sun 24 April and also on Sat 21 May. One possibility is a trip to Warrnambool (Kelly Swamp, Logans Beach etc); another is a visit to Koonongwootong Reservoir where efforts have been made to restore the site.
- Whether members would like an account presented at one of our Speaker evenings of our camera fauna study at Bear and the analysis of the 4-year monthly bird counts at Lake Hamilton – we could do both on the same evening.

Our first excursion for 2016 will be on Saturday 20 February – to look at the **Restored coastal wetlands from Long Swamp to Picks Swamp in SA**. Mark Bachmann from Nature Glenelg Trust will be our leader and we will begin at Long Swamp. We will leave from Hamilton Information Centre at 8.30 am (**please note the earlier than usual starting time**). Members and visitors can leave whenever they wish but some of us will be keen to revisit Picks Swamp, the last stop of what may be a long day.

This excursion is in addition to our usual (since 1983) Sunday in February visit to **Lake Linlithgow** and associated wetlands where we conduct bird counts. Except for Lake Hamilton, Grange wetland and Yatmerone at Peshurst all of our lakes and swamps are dry and there are no waterbirds present. However, I and a couple other members will turn up at The Point at Lake Linlithgow at 7.30 am on Sunday 21 Feb (that excursion was listed on our program from 2015). Don't feel obliged to come! We will probably go direct from there to Yatmerone where there may still be some water and waterbirds – late risers could catch up with us there.

Our first Speaker for the year (on Thurs 17 March) will be Marcel Hoogentink from PFNC, who will show some amazing wildlife and landscape images from his recent trip to Alaska.

Regards  
Rod