

2019-06-HFNC-activities-events

Hello friends & members of HFNC:

This is a reminder of what is on in June 2019.

Business meeting at HIRL – Thursday 20 June at 7.30

Tree planting Working Bee Saturday 22 June at Kanawalla Rail Flora Reserve – meet 9.30 am at Hensley Park Rd/Forts Rd (park across the road from our gate). This project continues from 2018 and we have more local Drooping Sheoak, Sweet Bursaria and Silver Banksia to plant. The banksia were grown from seed collected at Yatchaw and Pierrepont Rail reserves, the Bursaria from Hensley Park Rd and Drooping Sheoak from the Old Reservoir. Despite the dry spring of 2018 and dry summer 2019, 90% of our trees planted in 2018 have survived.

Excursion to Mt Byron, Western Black Range (Burunj) on Sunday 23 June – we leave Hamilton Visitor Centre at 9.30 am. All welcome.

Reports of April & May excursions – attached are reports of our excursions

- In April to Urimbirra bush property (Blackburn Tree Society) in the Little Desert
- In May to Mt Burr Swamp, Lake McIntyre and Tantanoola Cave in SA.

Report of May Working Bee – Wannon Flora Reserve, control of *A. paradoxa* & *A. longifolia*. HFNC have tended this reserve since 1960. In recent years the invasive acacias have blocked out large areas of the reserve, suppressing the ground flora. Our project is to remove this cover in order to preserve the biodiversity of the reserve. We had 5 volunteers on the morning of 25 May making a start on the project. We will apply for funding through the Landcare Grants program to achieve most of this initial work. In future years HFNC will need to remove seedlings that will germinate after the shrubs are cut down.

Report of other meetings – HFNC members attended meetings in Hamilton and Beaufort with DELWP staff to discuss forestry issues and the next 20 years of the Regional Forest Agreement that the Commonwealth and States will sign. There has been much wrong with the past system and our wish is to get a better deal to safeguard biodiversity in future.

Bush Heritage Australia project – Roger Thompson has alerted us to a problem where Bush Heritage need assistance for a major research project at Nardoo Hills in Northern Victoria. Can anyone volunteer to assist Bush Heritage with the tagging and sorting of seedlings of Grey Box and Yellow Box (4 provenances of each species from drier areas in SA and NSW)? This will happen at Arborline nursery in Hamilton on 19, 20 or 21 June. Bush Heritage is a very worthy environmental organisation and needs to be supported. The information from this research may help to decide how we cope with revegetation works in a drying climate.

If you have time on one or more of those days could you contact Michelle Stook (email address michelle.stook@bushheritage.org.au).

Rod Bird

**Secretary,
Hamilton Field Naturalists Club**