

Hello Members of HFNC

HFNC's Newsletter for Activities in November 2020:

We welcome the partial relaxation of the Covid-19 restrictions on gatherings and travel. That will help make attendance at our various activities less problematic for some. However, we will not be able to hold our November meeting with guest speaker Tien Hynh – an expert on the culture and restoration of native orchids. Tien has kindly agreed to present that talk at the same time in 2021.

Upcoming events:

Nigretta Flora Reserve control of African Weed Orchid (AWO) – this was for **Sunday 15 November**, however the work on that date will be POSTPONED because the river height is currently too high to ensure an easy – and safe – crossing of the river. The activity will be held on **Saturday 28 November** (see details below)

Special Club Meeting – **Fri 20 November**, 7.30 pm at HIRL – MEETING CANCELLED.

Excursion to Cobra Killuc Grassland Reserve – **Saturday 21 November** – we leave the Visitor Centre at 9.0 am. This area will be 'new' to most of our members and there should be a good display of grassland wildflowers.

Nigretta Flora Reserve control of African Weed Orchid (AWO) – **Saturday 28 November** (we will meet at 9.15 am at the Nigretta Falls swimming pool area). It will be too late to herbicide-wipe the AWO so we will either dig or pull up the plants, depending on numbers. Bring a stout screwdriver (we have a few extra) and a bag for the AWO. It would be a big help if active members could attend, to ensure that we are able to remove remaining AWO that would otherwise spread seed over the reserve and make our previous efforts rather pointless (during October, 6 members herbicide-wiped 8,335 AWO in 2 visits, with 56 person-hours).

Bear State Forest Fauna Nest Box Inspection – **Sunday 29 November** (we leave the Visitor Centre at 9.30 am). Latecomers can catch us in the forest (from the Henty Highway, drive west along East-West Rd, turn into Hallams Rd and take the left fork). We will continue the annual inspection of the 10 nest boxes that were placed in trees in 2012. This is a very pleasant place to visit but the track is a little tricky for low-slung vehicles, due to the many – and rather large – water-diversion humps across the track.

Reports of previous excursions are attached

- **Dundas Range excursion Sat 19 September 2020** [2020-09-dundas-range-scenic-reserve-excursion.pdf]
- **Dorodong/Roseneath State Forest excursion Sun 18 October 2020** [2020-10-dorodong-roseneath state -forest-excursion.pdf]

A reminder – with all of our current activities we ask members, when gathering, to observe social distancing and the wearing of a face mask.

Cheers

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Secretary
Hamilton Field Naturalists Club