



fleurieu birdwatch

Newsletter of Fleurieu Birdwatchers Inc

February 2005

- Meetings:** Anglican Church Hall, cnr Crocker and Cadell Streets, Goolwa
7.30 pm 2nd Friday of odd months
- Outings:** Meet 8.30 am. Bring lunch and a chair — see Diary Dates
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DIARY DATES



Saturday 12 February

Normanville Beach Caravan Park, Bungala Creek
and Lady Bay

Meet in the foreshore car park, Normanville.

Friday 11 March

Annual General Meeting

Guest speaker

David Robertson: Why is it so?

Sunday 13 March

Milang and Clayton

Meet at the railway carriage, Milang

Wednesday 30 March

Winery Road

Meet at the Canoe Tree, near junction of Winery Road
and Goolwa–Strathalbyn Road, Currency Creek.

Saturday 9 April

Manning Reserve

Meet at the gate on the eastern boundary, Whiting Road,
McLaren Flat.

Thursday 21 April

Mt Billy Conservation Park

Meet at the Hindmarsh Valley Hall and tennis courts
about 200 m along Hindmarsh Tiers Road from its
junction with the Victor Harbor–Adelaide Road.

Happy New Year!

If you haven't yet served a term on the Committee — or even if you have — consider this opportunity to have a meaningful say in the club's management. Nominate at the

Annual General Meeting

7.30 pm Friday 11 March

Anglican Church Hall, cnr Crocker & Cadell Streets, Goolwa

Make decisions!

Establish directions!

**club
Your country needs you!**



Sooo sorry!

- Omitted the meeting place for Normanville outing in last *birdwatch* — see above.
- Some were unable to print clearly page 5 of *e-birdwatch*. Judith has copies of the Robins guide if you would like one.

Verle

Currency Creek Gorge

Saturday 4 December

The weather was fine and cool for our final bird walk of the year. 14 members arrived early enough to enjoy the pleasant stroll along Currency Creek to the splendid waterfalls. It was great to see some work had been done along the pathway with steps put in on the steep sections. We managed to spot 30 different birds along the way, including a Willie Wagtail with young in nest.

Back at the barbecue site several more members were gathered.



This brought our numbers up to 25. We were also lucky enough to have a special guest, a Sulphur-crested Cockatoo. During the social activities the press dropped

in to photograph the celebrities among our group. The final count before home was 34 species.

Thanks to the committee for organising a great year's program again.

Denzel Murfet

Scott Conservation Park

Friday 14 January

Fourteen members and two prospective members met for our annual twilight walk this year in Scott Conservation Park. We started from the southeast corner of the park where we left the cars. It was rather dull for a January evening but very pleasant conditions for our walk.

Birds were hard to find. Tree Martin greeted us at our meeting point, and along the track we found Striated Pardalote and Bronze-wing. Grey

Currawong were calling. We also saw White-throated Treecreeper, Golden Whistler, Yellow and Brown Thornbills and Grey Fantail. Overhead a flock of Brown-headed Honeyeater flew and a little later several Wood Duck.

The light was fading and the sunset caught our attention — a spectacular sight with the trees in silhouette and changing colours of various shades of orange and red.

The bird call was taken by Geoff wearing Judith's new light gadget, (mounted on a headband like a mini miner's lamp) as by then it was quite dark. Judith then played her disc of night bird calls, with some success. In the distance we heard a Boobook Owl calling and closer at hand, an Owlet Nightjar responded. The kangaroos were wondering why we had infiltrated their territory, and could be heard moving around us in the dark.

Pat Ashfield

Wader Watching: Goolwa channel and Murray mouth

The best time to see waders is at low tide when the mud flats are exposed. Goolwa Beach tide times are just a few minutes earlier than at Victor Harbor. Calculating times within the Murray mouth can be tricky. They depend on wind strength and direction, with or against; force of the sea, rough or calm; and the state of the entrance channel.

It takes about an hour and a half for the effect of the tide to be noticed inside the mouth. If you arrive at the low tide time given for Victor Harbor you can observe the birds as the tide recedes to its lowest point. Good luck!

WELCOME

Cora Tamm, Goolwa North

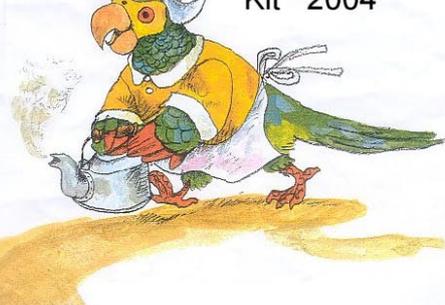


Greetings from Kit Smith, foundation member, now living interstate.

All the best to you too, Kit.



A Xmas peck to the Fleurieu Birdwatchers from an old chook. Kit 2004



Polly, put the kettle on, Polly, put the kettle on, Polly, put the kettle on, We'll all have tea.

Polly, put the kettle on, Polly, put the kettle on, Polly, put the kettle on, They've all gone away